

Constitutional Amendment

Currently the constitution of Valley Brook Community Church provides this definition of marriage in Article IX which reads as follows:

Definition of Marriage

We believe that marriage is a sacred institution ordained by God for the well-being of humankind and the propagation of the human race; it is the spiritual and physical union of one man and one woman according to Scripture.

Converge Worldwide has recommended to its churches that they adopt two “Doctrinal Distinctives” to bring clarity on the cultural confusion surrounding marriage and human sexuality. These statements give clarity with kindness on the orthodox Christian beliefs on marriage and human sexuality.

Therefore the Board of Elders is making a motion that we rename Article IX of our constitution called “Definition of Marriage” to the name “Doctrinal Distinctives.” And furthermore they are making a motion to replace the current definition of marriage with the two following doctrinal statements.

CHRISTIAN MARRIAGE:

We believe that Christian marriage is a sacred institution ordained by God for the well-being and propagation of humankind. It is a covenant representing the spiritual and physical union into which one man and one woman may enter for the glory of God, symbolizing the relationship of Christ to his church. As the sign of this covenant, sexual activity is reserved exclusively for the marriage relationship. According to the scriptural ideal, marriage requires sacrificial love and faithfulness to each other for life.

Genesis 1:27-28; Genesis 2:24; Matthew 19:1-12; Ephesians 5:21-33;
1 Thessalonians 4:3-8; Hebrews 13:4

HUMANITY:

We believe God created humankind immutably as male and female to reflect and bear His image. As such, human beings of every ethnicity, age, ability, as well as the pre-born deserve dignity, protection, honor, respect, and Christian love. Because of Adam and Eve’s free choice to sin, God’s image in all humankind has become distorted and relationship with God has become disrupted.

Genesis 1:26-27; Psalm 139:13-14; Romans 1:18-27; Romans 5:12;
Colossians 3:12-14; Titus 3:1-5; Revelation 7:9

Process to amend the Constitution

Our constitution may be amended by a vote of three-fourths of the members present at any special or regular membership meeting at which a quorum is present. A quorum is 25% of the membership.