

# Our Design

So God created man in his own image,  
in the **image of God** he created him;  
**male and female** he created them. (Genesis 1:27)

When God created man,  
he made him in **the likeness of God**.  
<sup>2</sup> **Male and female** he created them (Genesis 5:1-2)

# On the Website of a Church in My Past

## **Statement of Welcome**


\*\*\* Church welcomes all people.

As a congregation of the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.), we invite those who respond in trust and obedience to God's grace in Jesus Christ to become part of the membership and ministry of the church.

We would be pleased to have you join us in our journey of faith, regardless of age, race, gender, sexual orientation, economic or family status, ethnic background, mental or physical abilities.”

Marriage is a gift God has given to all humankind for the wellbeing of the entire human family. Marriage involves a unique commitment between ~~a woman and a man~~ two people.

PCUSA Book of Order as amended 2015



# **The Church and Homosexuality (Romans 1:26-27)**

# The Church and Homosexuality

1. What does God say?
  - Arguments from the gay community
2. What is at stake?
3. What can we do?

# 1. What does God say?

- Genesis 2:24 / Mark 10
- Genesis 19
- Leviticus 18
- Leviticus 20
- Romans 1:26-27
- 1 Corinthians 6
- 1 Timothy 1

# Arseokoitai

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2. Roots in Leviticus (LXX)
  - Lev. 18:22 *meta **arsenos** ou koimethese **koiten** gynaikos*
  - Lev. 20:13 *hos an koimethe **arsenos koiten** gynaikos*



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## Arguments from the Gay Community

1. These passages do not condemn covenant, consensual, monogamous homosexual sex.
2. The sin of Sodom was lack of hospitality (Ezek. 16:49).
3. God is love, and that trumps everything else.
4. You're on the wrong side of history.
5. Isn't the church supposed to be a place for broken people?

## 2. What is at stake?

- The authority of the Bible
- The grand narrative of Scripture
- The flourishing of our American society

### 3. What do we do?

Answer: **Live grace and speak truth**

1. Know the Bible's teaching on homosexuality.
2. Tactfully champion the Bible's teaching on sex – heterosexual, monogamous, covenantal (marriage).
3. Love your homosexual neighbor with the love of Christ.

*You are the light of the world. A city set on a hill cannot be hidden. <sup>15</sup> Nor do people light a lamp and put it under a basket, but on a stand, and it gives light to all in the house. <sup>16</sup> In the same way, let your light shine before others, so that they may see your good works and give glory to your Father who is in heaven.*