**DOCTRINAL STATEMENT**

**About God**

God is the Creator and Ruler of the universe. He has eternally existed in three personalities: The Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit. These three are co-equal and are one God.

*Genesis 1:1,26,27; 3:22; Psalm 90:2; Matthew 28:19; 1 Peter 1:2; 11 Corinthians 13:14*

**About Man**

Man is made in the spiritual image of God, to be like Him in character. He is the supreme object of God’s creation. Although man has tremendous potential for good, he is marred by an attitude of disobedience toward God called sin. This attitude separates man from God. We believe that all human life is sacred and created by God in His image. Human life is of inestimable worth in all its dimensions, including pre-born babies, the aged, the physically or mentally challenged, and every other stage or condition from conception through natural death.

*Genesis 1:27; Psalm 8:3-6; 139; Isaiah 53:6a; Romans 3:23; Isaiah 59:1,2*

**About Marriage, Gender, and Sexuality**

We believe that God wonderfully and immutably creates each person as male or female. These two distinct, complementary genders together reflect the image and nature of God (Genesis 1:26-27). Rejection of one’s biological sex is a rejection of the image of God within that person.

We believe that the term “marriage” has only one meaning: the uniting of one man and one woman in a single, exclusive union, as delineated in Scripture (Genesis 2:18-25). We believe that God intends sexual intimacy to occur only between a man and a woman who are married to each other (I Corinthians 6:18; 7:2-5; Hebrews 13:4). We believe that God has commanded that no intimate sexual activity be engaged in outside of a marriage between a man and a woman.

We believe that any form of sexual immorality (including adultery, fornication, homosexual behavior, bisexual conduct, bestiality, incest, and use of pornography) is sinful and offensive to God (Matthew 15:18-20; I Corinthians 6:9-10).

We believe that in order to preserve the function and integrity of Bridgeway Community Church as the local Body of Christ, and to provide a biblical role model to the Bridgeway's members and the community, it is imperative that all persons employed by Bridgeway in any capacity, or who serve as volunteers, agree to and abide by this Statement on Marriage, Gender, and Sexuality (Matt. 5:16; Phil 2:14-16; I Thess. 5:22).

We believe that God offers redemption and restoration to all who confess and forsake their sin, seeking His mercy and forgiveness through Jesus Christ (Acts 3:19-21; Romans 10:9-10; I Corinthians 6:9-11).

We believe that every person must be afforded compassion, love, kindness, respect, and dignity (Mark 12:28-31; Luke 6:31). Hateful and harassing behavior or attitudes directed toward any individual are to be repudiated and are not in accord with Scripture nor the doctrines of Bridgeway Community Church.

**About Eternity**

Man was created to exist forever. He will either exist in eternal torment with Satan and separated from God by sin, or in union with God through forgiveness and salvation. When a person is eternally separated from God, he is in Hell. To be eternally in union with Him is eternal life. Heaven and Hell are real places of eternal existence.

*John 3:16; John 2:25; John 5:11-13; Romans 6:23; Revelation 20:7-15; 1* *John*

*5:11-12; Matthew 25:31-46*

**About Jesus**

Jesus Christ is the Son of God. He is co-equal with the Father. Jesus lived a sinless human life and offered Himself as the perfect sacrifice for the sins of all men by dying on the cross. He arose from the dead after three days to demonstrate His power over sin and death. He ascended to Heaven’s glory and will return again to earth to reign as King of Kings, and Lord of Lords.

*Matthew 1:22,23; Isaiah 9:6; John 1;1-5, 14:10-30; Hebrews 4:14,15;*

*1 Corinthians 15:3,4; Romans 1:3,4; Acts 1:9-11; I Timothy 6:14,15; Titus 2:13*

**About Salvation**

Salvation is through faith alone, by grace alone, in Jesus alone.

*Romans 5:1; 6:23; Ephesians 2:8,9; John 14:6, 1:12; Titus 3:5; Galatians 3:26*

**About Eternal Security**

God gift of salvation is forever.

*John 10:29; II Timothy 1:12; Hebrews 7:25; 10:10,14; I Peter 1:3-5*

**About the Holy Spirit**

The Holy Spirit is equal with the Father and the Son as God. He is present in the world to make men aware of their need for Jesus Christ. He also lives in every Christian from the moment of salvation. He provides every Christian with power for living, spiritual gift (s), understanding of spiritual truth, and guidance in doing what is right. The Christian seeks to live under His control daily.

*II Corinthians 3:17; John 16:7-13, 14:16,17; Acts 1:8; I Corinthians 2:12, 3:16; Ephesians 1:13; Galatians 5:25; Ephesians 5:1; 1 Corinthians 12:1-31*

**About the Bible**

The Bible is God's word to all men. It was written by human authors, under the supernatural guidance of the Holy Spirit. It is the supreme source of truth for Christian beliefs and living. Because it is inspired by God, it is truth without any mixture of error.

*II Timothy 3:16; II Peter 1:20,21; II Timothy 1:13; Psalm 119:105,160, 12:6;*

*Proverbs 30:5*