

## ***Policy on the use of CCC premises for marriage services***

*A foundational text for understanding human sexuality is found in Genesis 1:27-28 and 2:23-24. 'So God created human beings in his own image, in the image of God he created them; male and female he created them. God blessed them and said to them, "Be fruitful and increase in number" [...]. The man said, "This is now bone of my bones and flesh of my flesh; she shall be called 'woman' for she was taken out of man." For this reason a man will leave his father and mother and be united to his wife, and they will become one flesh'. The goodness of God in his creation is exhibited in the complementarity of male and female sexuality. Genesis 2 cannot be read apart from Genesis 1. This is precisely how Jesus reads these passages in Mark 10:6-8 and Matthew 19:4-6 when he affirms that marriage is between one man and one woman.*

*Our statement of faith contains our belief in the supreme authority of the Scriptures. We believe that Scripture teaches that marriage is only between a man and a woman. Therefore, we are unable to permit the use of our premises for any other kind of marriage.*

*Our approved celebrant is in full agreement with our Scriptural understanding of marriage and if asked would refuse to conduct the blessing of a same-sex civil partnership, conduct or bless a same-sex marriage.*

*Agreed at Elders meeting 21/1/16*