

April 27, 2015

Congregation,

On Tuesday, March 17<sup>th</sup>, Amendment 14F, often referred to as the marriage amendment, received the 86<sup>th</sup> affirmative vote of the presbyteries, the amount needed to be approved and become part of the Book of Order. The Book of Order serves as the authoritative document for the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A). This amendment will take effect on June 21, 2015.

In response, the Session of North Lake Presbyterian Church has taken the following actions.

1. The Session of North Lake Presbyterian Church believes that marriage is “a sacred covenant between a man and a woman” and **does not subscribe** to the recent change (amendment) that defines marriage as “between two people”. (Genesis 1:27-28, 2:24, Malachi 2:14-16)
2. The Session of North Lake Presbyterian Church will permit only marriage ceremonies in and on church property that are uniting a man and a woman that have been recommended by the pastoral staff of North Lake Presbyterian Church.

In addition all of our pastors have indicated that they will only officiate at weddings that involve a man and a woman.

These actions are taken based on the Session’s understanding of Scripture.

We believe the Scriptures of the Old and New Testaments to be the infallible Word of God, the final authority on all issues to which it speaks. Therefore sexual attitudes and behaviors are to be judged in the light of the Bible, rather than the Bible being reinterpreted, modified or overturned by current cultural trends in thought and behavior.

We also have reviewed the opinion from the Office of the General Assembly that addresses how this amendment impacts individual churches and ordained ministers. That advisory opinion can be found on our church website.

Should you have questions please contact one of our ministers or elders.

From your Elders