**Brighton Community Church's Heterosexual Marriage Policy** Unanimously voted to approve by the Brighton Community Church Council on February 7, 2022 We believe The Holy Bible is God's inspired Word and is our final authority on all matters of faith and practice (1 Timothy 3:16). We believe that Marriage unites one man and one woman in a lifetime commitment to each other (Genesis 2:23-24; Mathew 19:4-6). Marriage provides for intimate companionship, pure sexual expression (Genesis 2:25; Ephesians 5:31-33), and procreation, and reflects the relationship of Christ and the church (Genesis 1:28; Proverbs 5:15-19; 1 Corinthians 7:1-5). We believe that God has commanded that no intimate sexual activity be engaged in outside of a marriage between one man and one woman. We believe that any form of homosexuality, lesbianism, bisexuality, bestiality, incest, fornication, adultery, and pornography are sinful perversions of God's gift of sex. We believe that God disapproves of and forbids any attempt to alter one's gender by surgery or appearance (Genesis 2:24; Genesis 19: 5,13; Genesis 26:8-9; Leviticus 18:1-30; Romans 1:26-29; 1 Corinthians 5:1; 6:9; 1 Thessalonians 4:1-8; Hebrews 13:4). Such sinful patterns, if not repented of, will be a barrier to membership, employment, and leadership in this body of believers. (to be kept permanently in a public file in BCC's Policy & Procedure folder in the main Church office along with the council minutes from 2/7/2022)