



Minutes of 2019 Extraordinary Congregational Meeting Bethel Presbyterian Church

Date: 7 July 2019

Time: 11.00am

Venue: Bethel Presbyterian Church (BPC) Main Sanctuary and Annex Hall

Chairman: Rev. Lim Tau Wei

Secretary: Elder Loh Li Cheng

Minutes:

1. Chairman Rev. Lim Tau Wei confirmed that there were 332 communicant members present and this exceeded the quorum 150 people required to constitute the meeting.

- 2. Chairman Rev. Lim Tau Wei called the Extraordinary Congregational Meeting (ECM) to order with an opening prayer.
- 3. Chairman Rev. Lim Tau Wei reiterated the agenda of the meeting was to consider and approve the amendment of BPC Constitution by the insertion of Draft "Article 9A Biblical Manhood and Womanhood Sexuality, Singlehood and Marriage", after Article 9 on Elders and Deacons. The full content of Draft Article 9A was shared with the members and reproduced as follows:

9A Biblical Manhood and Womanhood - Sexuality, Singlehood and Marriage

9A.1 There has been increasing confusion and distortion of human sexuality in our society. As such, alternative lifestyles and sexual conduct that are contrary to Biblical teaching have been gradually gaining acceptance in our society and BPC must watch against the tolerance and acceptance of such practices within BPC.

BPC, as instructed by Scriptures, uphold the following truths and practices:

- (i) That humanity has been created in the image of God, as male and female, to the exclusion of all others (Genesis 1:26-28);
- (ii) A substantive expression of the image of God is the marriage institution, defined clearly and uniquely as a lifelong monogamous and exclusive union between one man and one woman (Genesis 2:15-24; Matthew 19:3-9);
- (iii) That any form of sexual expression before and outside of marriage is forbidden and is reckoned as sin (1 Corinthians 6:9-20);
- (iv) That the Senior Minister, Associate Ministers and Preachers, and any candidate whom BPC intends to invite, call or appoint to serve as Senior Minister or Associate Minister or Preacher, as the case may be, must adhere to, practise and promote these Biblical teachings on sexuality, sexual conduct and marriage;
- (v) That the Senior Minister, Associate Ministers and Preachers, together with the Elders and Deacons Court (EDC), shall ensure that all ministry leaders and church staff must adhere to, practise and promote these Biblical teachings on sexuality, sexual conduct and marriage;





(vi) That the Senior Minister, Associate Ministers and Preachers, together with the Elders and Deacons Court (EDC), shall exhort their congregants to adhere to and practise these Biblical teachings on sexuality, sexual conduct and marriage as faithful witnesses of Christ; and

(vii) That all forms of sexual misconduct dishonors God and should not be condone. Any form of sexual misconduct by a Communicant Member shall be dealt with through church discipline in accordance with the Constitution and by-laws; and

9A.2 BPC shall not allow any part of its premises to be used by any persons (including organisations) who do not agree with the Biblical teachings on sexuality, sexual conduct and marriage, as described in Article 9A.1, for any activity, event or program (including weddings and celebrations of union) that does not uphold and promote these Biblical teachings.

- 4. Members who consented and accepted the proposal of the amendment of Constitution described in paragraph 3 above were invited to stand and headcount was conducted. A total headcount of 332 members was recorded.
- RESOLVED that the insertion of "Article 9A Biblical Manhood and Womanhood Sexuality, Singlehood and Marriage", after Article 9 on Elders and Deacons in BPC Constitution be and is hereby approved.
- 6. There being no other business, the EGM adjourned at 11.15am by Chairman Rev. Lim Tau Wei with a closing prayer.





2019 伯特利堂特别会友大会会议录

日期: 2019 年 7 月 7 日 时间上午 11 点正地点:长老会伯特利堂正、副堂 记录:卢丽贞长老

主席: 林道伟牧师

1. 主席林道伟牧师确定有 332 名洁名会友出席, 超过法定人数 150 人。

2. 主席林道伟牧师宣布特别会友大会开始,并带领会众祷告。

3. 主席林道伟牧师重申会议的议程是审议和批准修改本堂法规,在第9条关于长老和执事的条款之后,加入条款9A"圣经中的男性与女性-性别、单身与婚姻"草案。主席读出第9A条草案的全部内容,全文如下:

条款 9A——"圣经中的男性与女性 - 性别、单身与婚姻"

9A.1 我们的社会对人类性别的认识日倾混乱和扭曲。

故此, 违反圣经教导的替代生活方式和性行为在我们的社会中已逐渐被接纳, 而伯特利堂必须严防在伯特利堂中对这些行为的容忍与接纳。

按圣经的教导, 伯特利堂秉持以下的真理与行为:

- (i) 人类乃按着上帝的形象所造,为男性与女性,并无其他性别(创世记1章 26-28 节);
- (ii) 婚姻的设立是一种上帝形象实质性的表达,清楚并特别定义为一男一女、一夫一妻制、且是终身的结合(创世记 2 章 15-24 节;马太福音 19 章 3-9 节);
- (iii) 在婚姻之前或之外的各种性行为都是被禁止的,并被视为罪(哥林多前书6章9-20节);
- a. 所有伯特利堂有意邀请、呼召或委任为主理牧师或同理牧师或传道的主理牧师、同理牧师和传道,及任何人选,都必须谨守遵行并倡导这些关于性别、性行为与婚姻的圣经教导;
- b. 主理牧师、同理牧师和传道,及长执会(EDC),当确保所有的事工领袖和堂会员工谨守遵行并倡导这些关于性别、性行为与婚姻的圣经教导;





- c. 主理牧师、同理牧师和传道,及长执会(EDC), 当劝导他们的会众——做为基督忠心的见证人: 谨守遵行这些关于性别、性行为与婚姻的圣经教导; 并
- d. 所有不当的性行为都羞辱上帝的圣名,是不可纵容的。任何受餐会友之不当性行为都须由该堂会依照堂会法规和附则采取纪律行动。
- 9A.2 伯特利堂不可让任何不同意圣经关于性别、性行为和婚姻的教导(如条文 9A.1 所述,)的人士(包括机构)使用其任何场地,来进行任何不维护和倡导这些圣经教导的活动、项目或节目(包括婚礼和结合的庆典)。
- 4. 凡同意并接受上文第3段所述的法规修正案的会友受邀起立,并进行了点算工作。 记录的总数为332名。
- 5. 议决并批准在本堂法规第 9 条关于长老和执事的条款之后,加入条款 9A"圣经中的男性与女性 性别、单身与婚姻"。
- 6. 基于无其他事项,特别会友大会于早上 11 点 15 分由林道伟牧师带领会众祷告,会议结束。