

The United Church Of Christ And Gay Marriage

The United Church of Christ, formed in 1957 with the union of the Congregational Christian Churches in America and the Evangelical and Reformed Church, is a denomination known for its liberal stand on social issues. This denomination will consider opposing resolutions on same-sex marriage at its biennial meeting in July. This is the first time the same-sex marriage issue will be debated by the church.

The UCC's General Synod previously has affirmed the ordination of lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender people and holy unions for non-married couples. Last year, the UCC caused a stir when it created a television advertising campaign that featured a gay couple, among others, being excluded from a church. CBS and NBC rejected the 30-second ads. "We believe that all people are created equal in the eyes of God and should be treated equal by our governmental bodies," said Libby Tigner, an associate minister in Long Beach, CA, at First Congregational United Church of Christ.

Despite the fact that homosexuality is becoming more accepted by society, it is still condemned by God. Romans 1:26-27 says, *"For this cause God gave them up unto vile affections: for even their women did change the natural use into that which is against nature: And likewise also the men, leaving the natural use of the woman, burned in their lust one toward another; men with men working that which is unseemly, and receiving in themselves that recompence of their error which was meet."* Denominations, desiring to appeal to carnal mankind, are accepting what is an abomination to God. Homosexuals need to repent of their sin and obey the living God for forgiveness (Acts 3:19).

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