

Long Beach Christian Fellowship elders and pastors are voting on a transition away from our current inclusive posture to one that clearly affirms LGBTQ+ people as equally part of God's creation and as loved by God. The new posture will affirm the relationships, identity, participation in leadership, and community roles of LGBTQ+ people as equal to straight and cisgender peers. While this motion will mean that Long Beach Christian Fellowship is an affirming church, it will maintain LBCF's values of fellowship, generous hospitality toward those who hold different perspectives at LBCF, and unity around the communion table.

To that end, this transition would result in a change to the language on our website to include clear affirmation of our LGBTQ brothers and sisters, stated as follows:

*"LBCF has an affirming theological view of LGBTQ+ individuals and relationships.*

*To have an affirming theology means that LGBTQ+ people and straight cisgender people are equally part of God's beautiful creation and loved by God. It is an unqualified invitation to our LGBTQ+ siblings to participate fully in the life of the church, including weddings/marriages, membership, and leadership positions. It is to say that LGBTQ+ people, their roles in the community, and their relationships are affirmed as equal to straight and cisgender peers.*

*Our affirming stance allows for generous hospitality and fellowship toward those who hold different perspectives at LBCF. We are a community that comes from different backgrounds and traditions and land in different places in our interpretations of Scripture. We celebrate that the table of Christ is wide and varied and we choose our unity in Him. We navigate with loving, gracious partnership the differences in belief, and include people of different theological perspectives at all levels of leadership while safeguarding and espousing the dignity and belovedness of LGBTQ+ individuals and families."*