

Christadelphian LGBT Working Group

Charter vo.1

19th October 2019

1 AIMS

The aims of the Christadelphian LGBT Working Group are to:

1. support LGBT Christadelphians;
2. support the friends and families of LGBT Christadelphians; and
3. support the wider Christadelphian community in dealing with LGBT issues.

These aims are in order of priority. The first aim is more important than the second, and the second is more important than the third.

2 MEMBERSHIP

Members of the Working Group must agree that:

1. *the BASF, Commandments of Christ, and the Doctrines to be Rejected* form a sound basis of fellowship; any efforts to add additional tests of fellowship must be opposed;
2. same-sex relationships have the same moral standing as opposite-sex relationships; and
3. people who are transgender or who are gender non-binary or gender non-conforming in any way deserve the same dignity, respect, and support as people who are cisgender. Nobody should be forced or pressured to conform to a gender identity with which they themselves do not feel comfortable.

The first membership criterion is, in effect, a succinct definition of what it means to be Christadelphian. It has its origins in *The Ecclesial Guide*, and it reflects historical and current Christadelphian practice.

The second and third membership criteria are important because the Christadelphian LGBT Working Group cannot effectively support LGBT Christadelphians if any of its members believe that same-sex relationships are morally inferior to opposite-sex relationships, or

if any of its members try to enforce a particular gender identity on anyone.

If the Working Group produces something targeted at a subsection of LGBT Christadelphians, then that work should be led by someone from that subsection. For example, the writing of an article about being bisexual and Christadelphian should be led by bisexual Christadelphians. A fellowship weekend for transgender Christadelphians should be led by transgender Christadelphians.

3 INITIAL STRUCTURE

The Working Group will initially be led by three people:

1. a chair, whose role it is to chair meetings;
2. a secretary, who is responsible for maintaining the membership list; and
3. a deputy chair, who can chair meetings in the absence of the chair.

The working group should meet face-to-face at least once a year, and meet on line at least once a quarter. Members should keep in contact by email between meetings.

4 SIGNATURES

A.R.A. McFarland Campbell

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