

PEF STATEMENT ON CHRISTIAN MARRIAGE

Marriage is created when a man and a woman, by mutual consent form a new family by covenant before God, witnessed and affirmed by a gathering of their peers and consummated in sexual union.

Four key elements therefore constitute marriage:

- **Creation**

Male and female reflect the image of God individually and together, and the creation story provides the paradigm for marriage

- **Covenant**

A mutual commitment verbally expressed before God to love, honour and cherish in the context of life-long monogamous fidelity

- **Community**

The formation of a new family witnessed by an affirming congregation

- **Consummation**

A consensual act of sexual intercourse that would normally result in the procreation of children.

Adopted by PEF General Assembly on March 8, 2017 – Stockholm (Sweden)