

Gender, Sexuality & The Church

FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH OF ORLANDO

GLOSSARY OF TERMS

LGBTQIA+ – *lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, queer/questioning, intersex, asexual, + other sexual identities*

Lesbian // Gay // Same-sex (L=Female, G=Male/Catch-all)

Bisexual – Combination of **L** and **G**

Trans(gender) – Gender identity/expression differs from physical sex (incl. non-binary)

- **Trans Woman** – A woman who was assigned male at birth
- **Trans Man** – A man who was assigned female at birth

Queer – General term for any fluid or non-conforming sexual identity

Questioning – In the process of exploring a different sexual identity

Intersex – Physical characteristics of both sexes due to chromosomal abnormality

Asexual – Lack of sexual attraction for other people

Two-spirit (2S) – Possesses both a male and female “spirit” within them

Pansexual – Ability to find any person sexually attractive at various times

Demisexual – Experiences sexual attraction (with anyone) only after an emotional bond

Cis-gender – Gender identity matches physical sex (“assigned at birth”)

Non-binary – Unstable gender identity (depends on the day; aka “genderqueer”)

Agender – No set gender identity at all (“genderless,” “neutrois”)

Bigender – Adopts two distinct genders, either at the same time or alternating

Ally – A person who is not LGBTQ+ but supports the cause

Gender Dysphoria – Clinically significant distress and sense of unease that may lead to increased levels of depression and anxiety that have a harmful impact on daily life. This distress is caused by a person’s gender identity not matching how they feel within. This often occurs when a trans person is forced to match their gender identity and expression to their assigned sex at birth. Cisgender people can also experience gender dysphoria when dressing as the opposite sex.

