

**The Deacons will present the following ballot for the congregation's action at the called church conference, to be held Sunday, October 23, at 12:15 pm, in the Church Fellowship Hall. Light refreshments will be served.**

Whereas, The Deacons of University Baptist Church request the congregation to clarify its intention for access to the full rights and privileges of church membership for openly gay persons; and,

Whereas, The Deacons recognize and affirm that University Baptist Church's Members and Associate Members may hold differing views on this question among many other questions of Christian conscience, Biblical interpretation, and church practice, with each seeking the best in Christian love and concern for all persons; and,

Whereas, The Deacons recognize and affirm that while a majority of University Baptist Church's Members and Associate Members may agree to one resolution in the following motion, the majority are expressing their views only and are not assuming to represent the views of all Members or Associate Members; and,

Whereas, The Deacons recognize and affirm that while Members and Associate Members may hold differing views on this and other particular matters of conscience, the congregation "finds its unity in the common desire to live in communion with God, be obedient to Christ and build with one another a Baptist community of faith" (UBC Constitution, Article IV, Section 1); now, therefore, the Deacons move the adoption of one of the four following resolutions:

**BALLOT**  
**For Resolution of Openness Question**

(Vote for one option only)

- 1. RESOLVED, that University Baptist Church seeks to be an authentic community of Christians who love and care for each other as a family, and whose members reflect the diversity of God's world. To meet this goal, we openly welcome and include all people regardless of age, race, gender, ethnicity, sexual orientation, disability or background. We believe that all people have important gifts to share in God's family. Full rights and responsibilities of membership in University Baptist Church are open to all who publicly profess a personal faith in Jesus Christ through Christian baptism.
- 2. RESOLVED, that University Baptist Church, while welcoming all people to participate in its worship-life and activities, does not intend that its membership include persons who affirm for themselves sexual orientations and relationships other than heterosexual.
- 3. RESOLVED, that University Baptist Church desires to seek more information about sexual orientations and relationships as related to church membership and to postpone further discussion until after the church has called its next Senior Minister.
- 4. RESOLVED, that University Baptist Church defers all activity on the topic of sexual orientations and relationships as related to church membership until such time as the congregation may later decide.

## **Instructions for Voting Regarding UBC's Openness Policy**

The ballot contains four options. This means that up to three rounds of voting may be required to reach **majority approval** of one option over the other options. The voting will conclude when one option receives a majority vote.

In each round of voting, please be sure you use the correctly colored ballot. Please choose only one option and place an X in the box next to it.

- *The first ballot is yellow.* Votes will be counted immediately. If one option receives a majority of votes, the voting will end.

If none of the four options receives a majority of votes, we will then move on to the second ballot. The option that received the *fewest votes* is eliminated from consideration in this next vote.

If two options are tied in receiving the fewest votes, then both options are eliminated.

- *The second ballot is blue.* Disregard the option(s) that received the fewest votes on the first round of voting. *Please be sure you know which options remain to be voted on!*

Among the remaining choices, put an X in the box next to your choice.

If again no option received a majority in this second round of voting, we will go to a third round of voting. As before, the option that received the fewest votes is eliminated from consideration. This now means there are only two remaining options to be voted on. *Please be sure you know which two options remain to be voted on!*

- *The third ballot is green.* Of the remaining two options, put an X in the box next to your choice. The option that receives the majority of votes in this final round will be the one that is adopted.

All Members and Associate Members are entitled to vote at this called church conference, provided they are present at the conference, as provided in the UBC Constitution, Art.V (2); and By-Laws, Art. II (2.b), (5).

**The church conference for voting on these options will be held on Sunday, October 23, at 12:15pm in the Fellowship Hall. Discussion will take place on Sunday, October 16 and Wednesday, October 19, so on October 23 the ballot will be presented for a vote without further discussion. According to our by-laws, members must be present to cast a vote.**