

1 CONSTITUTION OF LAKE SPOKANE COMMUNITY CHURCH
2 NINE MILE FALLS, WASHINGTON
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5 ARTICLE I. NAME
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7 The name of this church shall be Lake Spokane Community Church, a congregation in Nine Mile
8 Falls, WA.
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10 ARTICLE II. PURPOSE
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12 The avowed purpose of this church shall be to worship God, to preach the gospel of Jesus Christ, and
13 to celebrate the Sacraments; to realize Christian fellowship and unity within this church and the
14 Church Universal; to render loving service toward mankind; and to strive for righteousness, justice
15 and peace.
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17 ARTICLE III. GOVERNMENT and FELLOWSHIP
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19 The government of this church is vested in its active members (see Art. VI Sec. 2) who exercise the
20 right of control in all its affairs. It is amenable to no other ecclesiastical body, but it recognizes the
21 need and privilege of cooperating with like-minded Christian groups which also seek to promote the
22 Kingdom of our Lord Jesus Christ.
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24 ARTICLE IV. POLICY
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26 The autonomy of this church is inherent and modifiable only by its own action. Nothing in this
27 Constitution shall destroy or limit the right of this church to continue to operate in the way
28 customary to it. It will have the right to: retain or adopt its own methods of organization, worship
29 and education; to retain or secure its own charter and name; to adopt its own constitution and by-
30 laws; to formulate its own covenants and confessions of faith; to admit members in its own way and
31 to provide for their discipline or dismissal; to call or dismiss its pastor or pastors by such procedure
32 as it shall determine; to acquire, own, manage and dispose of property and funds, and to control its
33 own benevolence. This church will have full power to purchase, own and control any real or
34 personal property deemed necessary to its cause.
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36 ARTICLE V. FAITH and COVENANT
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38 FAITH
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40 This church acknowledges as its sole Head, Jesus Christ, the Son of God and the Savior of man. It
41 acknowledges as brothers in Christ all who share in this confession. It looks to the Word of God in
42 the Scriptures, and to the presence and power of the Holy Spirit to prosper its creative and
43 redemptive work in the world. It claims as its own the faith of the historic church expressed in the
44 ancient creeds and reclaimed in the basic insights of the Protestant Reformers. It affirms the
45 responsibility of the church in each generation to make this faith its own. In accordance with the
46 teaching of our Lord and the practice prevailing among evangelical Christians, it recognizes two
47 Sacraments; Baptism, and the Lord's Supper (Holy Communion).
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STATEMENT OF FAITH

“What We Believe”

1. We are created in God’s image, loved by Him and are of worth to Him (Genesis 1:26-27; John 3:16)
2. We have sinned and disobeyed God’s standards by going our own way (Isaiah 53:6, Romans 3:23)
3. Sin separates us from God and condemns us to eternal hell (Isaiah 59:2, Romans 6:23)
4. God loved us enough to provide a way to restore us to Himself (II Peter 3:9, I Timothy 2:4)
5. God provided Jesus Christ, His Son, to forgive, save, and restore us by His death on the cross and His resurrection from the dead (John 14:6, I Peter 2:24, Romans 5:8-9, 1 Corinthians 15:3-4)
6. Jesus Christ was fully God and man (John 10:30, John 14:9, Philippians 2:5-8)
7. We receive what Jesus Christ has done for us by faith and we cannot earn our salvation (John 1:12, Ephesians 2:8-9)
8. By faith we must live to obey God in every area of our lives (Romans 6:11-14, Matthew 16:24)
9. As part of a local body of believers, it is our responsibility to love other Christians and share Jesus Christ with those that do not know Him (John 15:12, Colossians 3:12-14, Matthew 28:18-20)
10. The Bible is the infallible Word of God and is our authority for faith and living (II Timothy 3:16-17)
11. One God exists eternally in three persons: Father, Son and Holy Spirit (Matthew 28:18-20, II Corinthians 13:14)
12. Our Lord Jesus Christ will return to take believers to be with Him and judge the world (I Thessalonians 4:13-17, II Peter 3:1-14)
13. We believe that God has commanded that no intimate sexual activity be engaged in outside of a marriage between one man and one woman. We believe that any form of homosexuality, lesbianism, bisexuality, bestiality, incest, fornication, adultery, and pornography are sinful perversions of God’s gift of sex. We believe that God disapproves of and forbids any attempt to alter one’s gender by surgery or appearance. (Gen. 2:24; Gen. 19:5, 13; Lev. 18:1-30; 1 Cor. 5:1; 6:9; Heb. 13:4) We believe that the only Scriptural marriage is the joining of one man and one woman. (Gen. 2:24; Rom. 7:2; 1 Cor. 7:10; Eph. 5:22-23)

The Statement of Faith does not exhaust the extent of our faith. The Bible itself is the sole and final source of all that we believe. We do believe, however, that the foregoing Statement of Faith accurately represents the teaching of the Bible and, therefore, is binding upon all members. (Reference – New American Standard Bible)

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COVENANT

We covenant with one another to seek and respond to the Word and Will of God. We acknowledge Jesus Christ to be our Savior and Lord; accept the Holy Scriptures as our rule of faith and practice; recognize the privilege and duty of uniting ourselves for Christian fellowship, the enjoyment of Christian ordinances, the public worship of God and the advancement of His Kingdom in the world. We do now in the sight of God and invoking His blessing solemnly covenant and agree with each other to associate ourselves as a church of the Lord Jesus Christ. We agree to maintain the institution of the gospel, to submit ourselves to the orderly administration of the affairs of the Church, and to walk together in brotherly love. This we do depending upon the aid of our Heavenly Father, of Jesus Christ our Redeemer, and of the Holy Spirit, our Comforter and Guide.

ARTICLE VI. MEMBERSHIP

1. Membership shall be extended to all who have been baptized and whose lives evidence a genuine experience of regeneration through faith in and acceptance of the Lord Jesus Christ as personal Savior; who renounce sin; who endeavor to live a consecrated life wholly unto the Lord; who fully subscribe to the Statement of Faith contained herein; who enter into the Church Covenant contained herein; who agree to submit to the authority of the church and its leaders as set forth herein. Persons desiring to be admitted to membership with this church shall, after examinations and approval by the Board of Elders, be received by the Board of Elders and presented to the congregation at any regular service of the church.
2. Members shall pledge themselves to attend the regular worship of the church and the celebration of the Lord's Supper; to live the Christian Life as described in the Bible; to share in the life and work of the church; to contribute financially to its support and benevolence; and to seek diligently the spiritual welfare of the membership and the community.

ARTICLE VII. TERMINATION OF MEMBERSHIP

1. The membership of any individual member shall automatically terminate without notice (other than a college student, military member, shut-in, or missionary) if the member in question has not actively participated with the church in the preceding twelve months.
2. The membership of any individual member shall automatically terminate without notice if the member engages in any lifestyle conduct which is in opposition to the "Statement of Faith", Biblical standards or files a lawsuit against the church or another Christian.
3. A member may resign at any time, but no letter of transfer or written statement of good standing will be issued upon such resignation, except at the discretion of the Senior Pastor and Board of Elders.
4. Upon good cause being shown to the Senior Pastor and Elder Board, this provision for termination may be waived in the case of any individual member at the discretion of the Senior Pastor and Elder Board.

ARTICLE VIII. GOVERNING BODY

The governing body of this church shall be the membership assembled in a congregational meeting. The vote of the majority of active members present at the meeting shall be the action of the church.

151 A quorum must exist to have a valid vote. A quorum shall consist of 20% of the active members (see
152 Art. VI Sec. 2). The presiding officer at congregational meetings will be the Elder Board Chairman.
153 The Chairman may, if he deems it advisable, appoint the Vice-chairman to preside in his stead. A
154 regular congregational meeting will be held annually. Special congregational meetings may be held
155 at the call of the Elder Board Chairman, the Senior Pastor, or by action of the Board of Elders, with
156 appropriate notice (see Art. XVII Sec. 3).

157 158 ARTICLE IX. BOARD OF ELDERS

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160 1. THE BOARD OF ELDERS WILL BE THE EXECUTIVE BOARD OF THIS CHURCH. The
161 Board of Elders shall act as the Board of Directors of the corporation and when authorized, shall
162 perform all necessary corporate acts. It shall be composed of at least five (5) active church members
163 and the current pastors (the pastors will not have voting privileges). A majority of its members will
164 constitute a quorum. The Board of Elders shall have the power to approve or disapprove the actions
165 of any of the other Boards or organizations of the church. All other groups are accountable to the
166 Board of Elders. The Board of Elders will meet regularly, at least once a month. Special meetings
167 may be called by the Chairman, Senior Pastor or by action of the Board of Elders.
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169 ELDERS shall be active members of the church, having gone through the “Elder Selection Process”
170 (See appendix A) and ratified by the current Board of Elders and affirmed by the Congregation. As
171 we believe elders are called by God to serve, there is not a designated length of service. Elders will
172 be considered eligible to serve in this capacity until they resign, are disqualified by biblical
173 standards, or are otherwise unable to perform the duties of an elder. The elders currently serving will
174 be reaffirmed by the congregation annually. (see 1Timothy 5:19-22)
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176 2. OFFICERS

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178 A. The officers shall be a chairman, vice-chairman, treasurer, and secretary. The Board of
179 Elders may appoint from the active members of the congregation assistants as necessary. The
180 officers shall be elected at the first meeting of the Board of Elders after the Annual
181 Congregational meeting. The term for each officer shall be one (1) year or until a successor
182 has been elected. A Elder shall hold only one (1) such office and it is recommended that he
183 shall hold the same office no longer than two (2) consecutive years.
- 184 B. Chairman - the chairman shall preside over all Congregational Business meetings and over
185 all meetings of the Board of Elders, he shall have general supervision of the administrative
186 affairs of this church as provided in this constitution and/or directed by the Board of Elders
187 or the congregation. He shall also serve as the Nominating Committee chairman.
- 188 C. Vice-chairman – the vice-chairman shall exercise the functions of the chairman in his
189 absence.
- 190 D. Treasurer – the treasurer shall have oversight of receipts, deposits and disbursements of all
191 funds, securities and books of accounts, as directed by the Board of Elders. The Treasurer
192 will submit a monthly Financial Report to the Board of Elders and an annual Financial
193 Report to the Congregation at the Annual Meeting. He shall also serve as the Budget
194 Committee chairman.
- 195 E. Secretary – the secretary shall be responsible to keep the meeting minutes of the Board of
196 Elder’s and the Congregational meetings and any other duties incident to this office.
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- 198 3. THE DUTIES OF ELDERS, as the church's ruling board, include the following responsibilities:
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- 200 A. As spiritual and administrative leaders of the church, it will be their prime responsibility to
201 endeavor diligently to see that the declared purposes of the church be fulfilled, with God's
202 help, through every area of the life of the church.
- 203 B. They will have special responsibility in the area of:
- 204 1. Evangelism.
 - 205 2. Discipleship.
 - 206 3. Missions.
 - 207 4. Worship.
 - 208 5. Fellowship.
- 209 C. They will have the responsibility of receiving and dismissing members.
- 210 D. They shall assist and support the pastor(s) in the spiritual affairs of the church.
- 211 E. When invited by the pastor(s), they shall aid in the distribution of Communion.
- 212 F. They shall have jurisdiction in matters of church discipline in cooperation with the pastors.
- 213 G. Elders shall take heed to the high calling of their office, guarding faithfully all the spiritual
214 interest of the church, maintaining order in the house of God, visiting the sick, and
215 ministering to the edification and comfort of all.
- 216 H. In the event that a church office is vacated, the Board of Elders, in consultation with the
217 Senior Pastor, may temporarily fill the position by appointment.
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219 ARTICLE X. BOARD OF DEACONS

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- 221 1. DEACONS shall be active members of the church, elected by the Congregation. The Board of
222 Deacons shall be composed of, at least, five (5) active church members. They will be elected to serve
223 for a term of three (3) years. No more than one-half of their number will be elected each year, so
224 that at least one-half of the Deacons will continue service with the newly elected Deacons, for the
225 sake of continuity of leadership. A chairman shall be elected by the Deacons each year to act as their
226 presiding officer along with a secretary to keep record of their meetings. The pastor(s) and/or
227 Treasurer will be ex-officio members of the Deacon Board. A majority of its membership will
228 constitute a quorum. The Board of Deacons will meet regularly, and by special call of its chairman
229 or the pastor(s).
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- 231 2. DUTIES OF THE BOARD OF DEACONS:
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- 233 A. Generally:
- 234 The Deacons will have oversight of and responsibility for the "temporal" or "material" affairs of
235 the church, subject only to the concurrence of the Congregation, the Board of Elders and to the
236 guidelines of the current budget.
- 237
- 238 B. Specifically:
- 239 1. The Deacons shall have the care and custody of the property, whether real or personal, of the
240 church as a sacred trust in accordance with the provisions of this Constitution under direction
241 of the Board of Elders.
 - 242 2. The Deacons may recommend to the Board of Elders any extra-ordinary expense but shall
243 have no authority to borrow money, buy, sell, lease, mortgage, or transfer real property
244 without specific authority by vote of the Congregation.
 - 245 3. The Deacons shall appoint an auditor or auditing committee annually, or more often if
246 deemed necessary, to audit the books of the church.
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ARTICLE XI. BUDGET COMMITTEE

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252 1. The church Budget Committee will consist of at least four (4) active church members. The four (4)
253 members will be appointed by the Board of Elders, at least two (2) months prior to the Annual
254 Budget Meeting on this basis:
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256 The Treasurer of the Board of Elders (acting chairman).
257 1 member from the Board of Deacons - 2 year term.
258 At least 2 members "at large" from the Congregation - 2 year term.
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260 2. The first year, one-half of the members will be appointed to serve for two years and one-half of the
261 members will be appointed to serve for one year, so that there will be a continuity of leadership on
262 the Budget Committee.
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264 3. The Budget Committee will establish a "Proposed Budget", which will be based upon submitted
265 requests by the various ministries or groups in the church, as they anticipate their ministry needs for
266 the coming year, in view of the Church's vision. The budget will also include projected general
267 operating expenses and salaries.
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269 4. The Budget Committee will present the "Proposed Budget" to the Elder and Deacon Boards at a
270 joint meeting for approval or revision before it is presented to the Congregation for affirmation.
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ARTICLE XII. CHURCH NOMINATING COMMITTEE

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274 1. The Nominating Committee will consist of at least four (4) active church members. The four (4)
275 members will be appointed at least two (2) months prior to the Annual Business Meeting by the
276 Board of Elders on this basis:
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278 The chairman of the Board of Elders (acting Chairman).
279 1 member from the Board of Deacons – 2 year term.
280 At least 2 members "at large" from the congregation – 2 year term.
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282 2. The first year one-half of the members will be appointed for two years and one-half of the members
283 will be appointed to serve for one year. After the first year, the church Nominating Committee will
284 always be appointed for a term of two years, one-half of its members each year.
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286 3. It will be the duty of the church Nominating Committee to present a slate of nominees for election to
287 the various church offices at the church annual congregational meeting. Nomination to the various
288 offices can also be made "from the floor" at the congregational meeting, providing that such
289 nominees have previously assured their availability and willingness if elected and are active
290 members in good standing.
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292 4. Nominees to the following offices are to be presented and voted on at the Annual Congregational
293 meeting:
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295 Deacons, Assistant Treasurer, and Financial Secretary(s)
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297 5. All other church offices are appointed by the Elder Board, in consultation with the Senior Pastor and
298 will serve a term of one (1) year (terms may run successively). Some of the possible offices include:
299 Head Usher, Assistant Usher, Historian, etc.

ARTICLE XIII. PULPIT COMMITTEE

1. The Pulpit Committee will consist of at least four (4) active church members. The four (4) members will be appointed by the Board of Elders on this basis:
The chairman of the Board of Elders (acting Chairman).
1 member from the Board of Deacons.
At least 2 members "at large" from the congregation.
2. It shall be the responsibility of the Pulpit Committee, appointed by the Board of Elders, to seek a candidate(s) for a vacancy in the office of Senior Pastor. The Pulpit Committee may seek the counsel of like-minded evangelical pastors and organizations who may be willing to help.
3. The Pulpit Committee shall present to the church the name of the candidate it recommends to fill the vacancy. The Board of Elders shall call a special congregational meeting by written notice for this purpose. An affirmative vote, by written ballot, by two-thirds of the active members present will constitute a "call" to the pastor being considered.
4. In the "call to the Pastor", the terms of the "call" shall be stated, including salary, housing, travel allowance, pension participation, health insurance, vacation, and other terms agreed upon by the candidate, the Pulpit Committee and the Board of Elders.

ARTICLE XIV. OTHER CHURCH OFFICERS

1. Assistant Treasurer: The Assistant Treasurer shall be responsible for counting, tabulating and depositing all church offerings, and keeping an accurate record of all donors along with any other duties as requested by the Treasurer. The Assistant Treasurer shall serve a one (1) year term (terms may run successively).
2. Financial Secretary: The Financial Secretary shall, along with the Assistant Treasurer, receive, count and tabulate all monies. The Financial Secretary will also be advised of and tabulate all other gifts, bequests and special contributions to the church from all other sources. The Financial Secretary will keep an accurate record of all receipts. The Financial Secretary shall serve a one (1) year term (terms may run successively).
3. Head Usher: The Head Usher is responsible for ushering, taking offerings, general order and other duties specified by the Board of Elders at the worship services of the church. The Head Usher may recruit suitable helpers to carry out these functions.
4. Assistant Usher: The Assistant Usher will assist in ushering and substitute for the Head Usher when needed.
5. Church Historian: The Church Historian shall keep an accurate, chronological record of the church's history, beginning with its inception as a non-organized group of evangelical community people who gathered weekly for worship in the Lake Spokane Community Church Center building for about a year prior to the founding and organization of the church on October 7, 1973 and continuing, recording historic moments since then to the present. The record shall be kept in a permanently bound book with page numbers for chronological continuity. Erasures and deletions shall be avoided. Corrections may be made only by "official" amendment.

ARTICLE XV. THE SENIOR PASTOR

1. The Senior Pastor, to be chosen by the church whenever a vacancy occurs, shall hold his office without limitation of time. It shall be his duty to seek to enlist followers of Christ, to preach the Gospel, and administer Sacraments; have under his care all services of public worship; and administer the activities of the church in cooperation with the various boards, ministries and committees, of which he shall be an ex-officio member, excepting the Pulpit Committee seeking a new Senior Pastor, whenever one is constituted.
2. The pastoral relation may be dissolved by the Senior Pastor upon his giving written notice to the congregation three months in advance of his resignation; or three (3) months following the action of the congregation at an annual or special meeting called for that purpose. The Board of Elders shall call by written notice any special meeting of the congregation for the purpose of taking any action concerning the tenure of the pastor, and they may submit a written recommendation at such special meeting. Voting at special meetings shall be by written and secret ballot. A two-thirds vote of the active members present shall prevail. The three (3) months' notice herein referred to may be waived or reduced by the Senior Pastor when the congregation is the moving party and by the Board of Elders when the Senior Pastor is the moving party.
3. In the event of serious disharmony between the congregation and the Senior Pastor, the Elder Board Chairman may call and preside over a meeting of the Board of Elders attended by the Senior Pastor, in an effort to restore harmony in the relationship. If this fails, the Board of Elders, by a two-thirds vote, may call a special meeting of the congregation in an effort to resolve the problem, providing due notice is given in writing.
4. When the congregation or Senior Pastor decides to terminate the pastoral relationship, it shall be done by action of the congregation, after due written notice has been given (see Art. XVII).

ARTICLE XVI. ASSOCIATE PASTORS

1. The church may, at its discretion, choose an Associate Pastor(s).
2. The Associate Pastor(s) will assist the Senior Pastor, the Elders and the Deacons in fulfilling their duties or serve in any other areas as needed by the church.
3. In the "call to the Pastor", the terms of the "call" shall be stated, including salary, housing, travel allowance, pension participation, health insurance, vacation, and other terms agreed upon by the candidate and the Board of Elders.
4. The Board of Elders shall present to the church the name of the candidate it recommends to fill the position. The Board of Elders shall call a special congregational meeting by written notice for this purpose. An affirmative vote, by written ballot, by two-thirds of the active members present will constitute a "call" to the Associate Pastor being considered.

ARTICLE XVII. CHURCH MEETINGS

1. The Board of Elders shall conduct an annual meeting of the congregation within four (4) weeks after the end of the fiscal year. At this meeting, written reports shall be presented, officers elected, and necessary business conducted.

- 400 2. A Congregational Budget Meeting to present and adopt an annual church budget shall be held during
401 the last month of the fiscal year.
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- 403 3. Special meetings of the congregation may be called by a majority vote of the Board of Elders. All
404 congregational meetings must be announced from the pulpit on two consecutive Sundays prior to the
405 meeting (the second announcement may be on the Sunday of the meeting). With each
406 announcement, the purpose or reason for calling the meeting must be clearly stated.
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408 ARTICLE XVIII. DISSOLUTION

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410 Upon dissolution of the church, its assets and all property and interests of which it shall then be possessed,
411 including any devise, bequest, gift or grant contained in any will or other instrument, in trust or otherwise,
412 made before or after such dissolution, shall be donated, given without charge or cost, to another 501c3
413 evangelical church or ministry whose purpose and objectives are similar to those of this church, as
414 expressed in Article II.
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416 ARTICLE XVIV. VOTING

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- 418 1. All active church members 16 years of age or over shall be entitled to vote at all church meetings.
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- 420 2. To be eligible to vote a member must be present at the time the voting is called for on any issue. No
421 absentee ballots will be allowed unless special permission is received by the Board of Elders.
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- 423 3. Elections of officers shall be by written ballot. All other voting shall be by voice vote unless a
424 written vote is called for by a majority vote of those present, or as otherwise provided for by this
425 constitution.
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427 ARTICLE XX. RULES OF ORDER

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429 Robert's Rules of Order shall be the guidelines for all matters of procedure not specifically covered by this
430 constitution.
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432 ARTICLE XXI. AMENDMENTS

433 Amendments to this constitution may be made at any annual or special meeting of the church by a two-
434 thirds majority vote of the active members present, provided that the substance of the amendment shall have
435 been declared in the notice of the meeting at least two (2) weeks prior.
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437 Original signers

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439 A. Vincent Carr, Founding Pastor
440 H. Irving Strong, Congregational Chairman
441 Philip Putman, Congregational Clerk
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443 Current Elder Board members:

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445 Doug Munday - Chairman
446 George Hanrahan – Vice-chairman
447 Karsten Mickelson – Secretary
448 Bill Widrig - Treasurer
449 Ray Schueler

450 **Appendix A**

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452 **Elder Selection Process**

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454 Elders shall be selected in accordance with the qualifications described in 1 Timothy 3:1-7 & Titus 1:5-9. In
455 August of each year, the Elders currently serving shall determine the number of positions, if any, to be filled
456 that year on the Board of Elders. If the Elders determine that additional Elders are needed, they shall initiate
457 the following process for Elder selection:

458 **1. Nomination Phase.** During this phase the congregation can put forth names to be considered that they
459 believe meet the biblical standard and exemplify what it means to be a Shepherd (elder).

460 The congregation shall be provided with teaching regarding the biblical qualifications for Elders and
461 their scriptural role through various means (sermons, Bible study, handouts, etc.). With the biblical
462 qualifications in mind, members of the Church will be given 30 days to prayerfully submit to the
463 Board of Elders the names of current members for consideration as Elder. Those submitting a name
464 should receive permission from the proposed nominee before his name is submitted to the Board of
465 Elders. The Board of Elders may add additional names of available men for consideration. Any
466 nominee may withdraw his name from consideration at any time.

467 **2. Vetting Phase, pt. 1.** The Elders in cooperation with the pastor(s) shall inspect the candidate pool. If any
468 of the elders, the pastor(s) or the congregation believes a candidate is not qualified they need to notify the
469 Elder Board and that candidate may be removed from consideration by a majority vote of the Elders upon
470 investigation.

471 The Board of Elders shall review the remaining names, and shall conduct interviews with those
472 nominees it considers potential candidates. After prayerfully considering each nominee (Acts 20:28,
473 1 Timothy 3:1-7 & Titus 1:5-9), the Board of Elders shall determine the final list of candidates by a
474 three-quarters majority vote. If a nominee is available to serve as a candidate but is not considered
475 by the Board of Elders to be a suitable candidate, he will be informed by the Board of Elders as to
476 the reason for this conclusion.

477 **3. Training Phase, pt. 1.** A training phase of 9 weeks (2 weeks of prayer for discernment, 1 at the beginning
478 and end, 7 weeks of study). During this phase, the candidates will be required to go through the study “The
479 Call to Lead the Church – Elders Part 1-7 by John MacArthur/Grace To You” with one of the current
480 Elders.

481 **4. Vetting Phase, pt. 2.** Those who complete that phase are then ratified by the existing Elders and pastor(s).
482 All Elders, including those newly appointed, will later be presented to the congregation at a Sunday morning
483 service for the purposes of affirmation and dedication (Acts 14:23).

484 In the event of a vacancy or special need, the Elders may refer to the previous nominees to select a
485 candidate, or may re-initiate the whole selection process, as they deem necessary. The term of office for a
486 newly selected Elder will begin on the date of the annual meeting when they are affirmed by the
487 congregation.

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