

*Church Covenant
Confession of Faith
Constitution
of*



Revised August 2026

Constitution of Life Spring Church Spring Hill, Kansas

ARTICLE I

Name and Organization

Section 1: Name

The name of this organization shall be Life Spring Church of Spring Hill, Kansas.

Section 2: Organization

The organization of this church by the Charter Members was September 1, 2007. Independent in its organization and policy, it shall resemble other conservative, evangelical churches holding forth historic Christianity in all matters of discipline, order, and policy. Fundamentally, it shall be a church that is standing true to the Lord Jesus Christ and the Word of God.

ARTICLE II

Incorporation and Property

Section 1: Incorporation

The articles of incorporation were applied for and then obtained on June 1, 2007. The organization is registered in the State of Kansas, City of Topeka, Life Spring Church of Spring Hill, Inc.

Section 2: Property

- A. All property shall be in the corporate name of the church. The control and ownership of all assets and real property shall not be given to any outside organization but shall remain in the hands of the local constituency.
- B. No member of the church shall have any rights or privileges to any properties belonging to the church. In the event of the dissolution of this corporation for any reason, all of its assets remaining after the payment of all obligations shall be distributed to an organization(s) whose principal purposes are to carry on with the religious, educational or missionary work in accord with the doctrinal statement, positions and practices of the Life Spring Church. (This shall be in conformity to the articles of incorporation of the Life Spring Church, Inc.)

ARTICLE III

Character and Purpose

Section 1: Character

Its government is vested in the body of believers who compose it. It is subject to the control of no other ecclesiastical body, but it recognizes and sustains voluntary fellowship with other Bible-believing, conservative, evangelical churches holding forth historic Christianity.

Section 2: Purpose

Our purpose as Christ's body is to glorify God (Is. 43:7). We will glorify God by experiencing and expressing the love of God. (John 13:35).

ARTICLE IV

Ministry and Missionary Affiliation

- A. This church shall be affiliated only with ministry and missionary organizations that are consistent with the doctrinal statement of this church.
- B. Ministry and mission organizations should minister in the context of Matthew 28:19-20 and Ephesians 4:11-14.

ARTICLE V

Membership

Section 1: Qualifications

Anyone professing faith in Christ Jesus as Savior, having been baptized by immersion by a church of like faith and practice after confession of faith, giving evidence of a desire to live a Spirit-controlled life, and expressing unity with the principles and practices of this local church, is invited to become a candidate for church membership. The candidate shall follow the procedure as outlined by the Board of Elders.

Section 2: Reception of Members

- A. Those desiring to unite with this church shall be required to take a membership orientation class as approved by the Elders; and be interviewed by a team of at least two Pastors and/or Elders. If the interviewing Pastors/Elders find that the applicant meets the above requirements, they will bring their names to the Elder Board for a vote. Upon receiving an affirmative vote of the Elders, the applicant shall be presented to the congregation for affirmation. An applicant is not considered a member of the church until the congregational vote of affirmation has taken place.
- B. Former members of Life Spring Church may re-unite with the church without completing the Membership orientation process and interview under the following conditions:
 - They left Life Spring Church on good-standing and are in good-standing with their present church.
 - They complete a Membership Application affirming their agreement with the practices and beliefs of Life Spring Church.
 - They are approved for membership by the Board of Elders and by affirmation of the congregation.

Section 3: Duties of Members

- A. Members shall give testimony of a genuine experience of regeneration by both conduct and conversation.
- B. Members shall abide, for the sake of love and peace, with the Covenant, Confession of Faith, Constitution and policies of this church body, providing they do not conflict with God's Word.
- C. Members have the duties of acquiring Scriptural knowledge, growing in grace and spirituality, and maintaining consistency of character and conduct.
- D. It is the responsibility of each member to honor, esteem and regularly pray for the church's leadership. (Heb. 13:7, 17-19)

Section 4: Termination of Membership

- A. Members of the church are expected to conduct their lives in accordance with Biblical standards of holiness as they grow to become more like Christ. When a member knowingly ignores the direct commands and prohibitions of Scripture, he shall be dealt with according to the principles of restoration and discipline found in such passages as Matt. 18, Gal. 6, II Thess. 3, I Cor. 5, Matt. 7:1-5, etc. Members in the early churches were subject to confrontation for reasons such as: unwillingness to become reconciled to an offended brother (Matt. 18:15-17), unwillingness to engage in work (II Thess. 3:6-15), divisiveness in the church (Rom. 16:17,18; Titus 3:9,10), sexual immorality (I Cor. 5:11,13), false teaching (I Tim. 1:20; II Tim. 2:17,18) and general sinful conduct (Gal. 6:1).
- B. Members who unite with other churches shall inform the Life Spring Church so that their names may be dropped from the membership roll.
- C. When a member has been absent from the services of the church for an extended period of time, a Pastor, Elder or staff member shall make reasonable efforts to contact him so that the reasons may be ascertained and restoration may be affected. Where such an attempt is not successful, membership may be terminated by the Board of Elders.
- D. Infrequent attendance at services for reasons other than illness and vacations, etc. shall also prompt an informal inquiry by a Pastor, Elder or staff member as to the sincerity of the member's commitment to the health and welfare of the church. Where such infrequent attendance is determined to be the result of spiritual neglect and indifference, loving restoration will be attempted by the Elders. Where such an attempt is not successful, membership may be terminated by the Board of Elders.

Section 5: Discipline of Members

- A. The matter of discipline of the membership shall be in the hands of the Elders assisted by the Pastor(s). In the case of termination of membership, final action must be taken by the church. No member shall be terminated from membership until every effort has been made, including, if physically possible, personal visits to restore him or her to fellowship with Christ and the church. (Matt. 18:15-17; I Cor. 5:1-8; Gal. 6:1)
- B. When such action leads to the regrettable obligation of terminating a person from membership, this will be voted on by the Board of Elders and affirmed by the members of the church.

ARTICLE VI Meetings

Section 1: Spiritual Meetings

- A. Worship services shall be held regularly each Sunday.
- B. Other services shall be held as scheduled by the Board of Elders or Pastoral Staff.

Section 2: Business Meetings

- A. It is the prerogative of the Board of Elders to call a business meeting. At least a week's notice must be given to the congregation.
- B. The annual business meeting of the church shall be held prior to the close of the fiscal year.
- C. At all annual business meetings, the congregation will affirm the budget for the next fiscal year and will affirm the appointments made by the Board of Elders for the church clerk and church treasurer. If new appointments have been made for the office of Elder or Deacon, they must be affirmed by the congregation at the annual meeting if they have not been previously affirmed.
- D. The fiscal year of the church shall be as determined by the Board of Elders.
- E. At least one week in advance of a business meeting, an agenda will be posted. Only said or stated items will be considered. Any recommendations from the membership submitted to the Board of Elders at said meeting will be considered with findings and resolutions to be presented at the next business meeting.
- F. Business meetings for the purpose of calling a Pastor or for any amendment or alteration of the Constitution, shall be called by the Board of Elders. At least two weeks' notice shall be given to the congregation.

Section 3: Quorums

- A. A quorum sufficient for the purpose of conducting business will consist of the eligible voting members of the church or group in attendance at a called meeting. A simple majority of those casting ballots is required unless otherwise specified in this section. Examples of items requiring a simple majority vote are the following:
- Approval of the annual budget.
 - Approval of indebtedness exceeding 4% of the annual budget.
 - Approval of any single non-budgeted expenditure exceeding 4% of the annual budget.
 - Affirmation of Elders, Deacons, Church Clerk, and Church Treasurer.
- B. An affirmative vote of 75% of those casting ballots will be required for the following actions:
- Disciplinary action against a member.
 - The calling of any pastor.
 - Changes to the Covenant, Confession of Faith, Constitution.
- C. The quorum may include absentee ballots if the Board of Elders deems it appropriate.

Section 4: Voting Qualification of Members

Any member 18 years of age or older is qualified to vote at any called business meeting.

ARTICLE VII

Officers

Section 1: Officers

- A. Official church officers shall be the Pastor(s), Elders, Deacons, Clerk and Treasurer. Other positions may be created from time to time as may be deemed necessary by the Board of Elders.
- B. Prior to the Annual Business Meeting, the Board of Elders will appoint officers to serve for the following ministry year. Qualified individuals shall be appointed by the Board of Elders and presented to the congregation for affirmation.
- C. At any time of the year, if additional officers are deemed necessary due to resignations, additional workload, or any other reason, the Board of Elders shall have the right to appoint qualified members to that office for the balance of the year, and their name(s) shall be presented for congregational affirmation at the following Annual Business Meeting before serving a full term.
- D. The Board of Elders shall administer the affairs of the church, except for those items in the Constitution designated to the Pastor(s), Deacons, Committees, and

membership. The Board may, however, delegate certain responsibilities to the Pastor(s), the Board of Deacons, Committees, ministry groups, or individual members of the church.

E. The Pastor(s) shall have representation on the Board of Elders.

Section 2: Pastor(s)

A. Qualifications

1. The Pastor(s) shall meet the spiritual qualifications set forth in I Tim. 3:1-7 and Titus 1:1-9.
2. The Pastor(s) shall be in full agreement with the Covenant, Confession of Faith, and Constitution.
3. The Pastor(s) and his wife shall automatically become members of this church upon his acceptance of the church's call.

B. Appointment

A Pastoral Search Committee may be formed at the discretion of the Board of Elders for the purpose of calling a member of the Pastoral Staff. The committee shall include Elders and shall be chaired by an Elder.

C. Term

1. The Pastor(s) shall remain in office for an indefinite period of time.
2. A Pastor may be removed from office by a vote of the Board of Elders after giving him written notice of their intent to seek a vote of removal and upon a vote of all Elders, with the Pastor in question abstaining, if he is serving on the Board.

D. Duties

1. Such duties as are customarily associated with this office shall be performed by the Pastor(s) and at all times to the best of his ability. He shall, along with the Board of Elders, have the oversight of the spiritual growth of the church body according to the practices, patterns, and principles of the New Testament.
2. The Pastor(s) shall be an ex-officio member of the committee(s) assigned to him by the Board of Elders.

Section 3: Board of Elders

A. Qualifications

1. The Elders shall be men who meet the spiritual qualifications as set forth in I Tim. 3:1-7, Titus 1:1-9, 1 Peter 5:1-3.
2. Each must be an active member before recommendations can be made.

B. Appointment

The Board of Elders shall normally consist of a combination of member(s) of the pastoral staff and qualified men from the congregation, who shall be appointed by the Board of Elders and affirmed by the church body.

C. Term

1. Elders shall serve an indefinite term. Each Elder before the end of the ministry year shall re-examine his qualifications and desire to serve another year. Should he meet the qualifications and have the desire to serve, he shall continue to serve.
2. When an Elder ceases to meet the scriptural qualifications, he shall be required by the Board of Elders to step down.
3. An Elder may also request to be relieved from the office either temporarily or permanently if he feels unable to serve for any reason. The process of his reinstatement at a later time will be determined by the Board of Elders.

D. Duties

1. The Elders shall hold meetings on a given date established by the Board. Special meetings may be called at any time by the chairman of the Elder Board or by any Elder through the Chairman.
2. It shall be the responsibility of the Elders together with the Pastor(s) to fulfill any and all needs regarding the spiritual welfare of the church body.
3. They shall visit the sick, the needy, the distressed, and especially promote and maintain missionary, evangelistic, educational, and Bible-teaching programs.
4. The Board of Elders shall be the governing board of the church and serve as the general oversight organization (Acts 20:28). The Board of Elders shall hold meetings on a given date established by the Board of Elders. Special meetings may be called at any time by the chairman of the Board of Elders or by any Elder through the Chairman.
5. The Board of Elders has general oversight of all church staff.
6. It shall be the responsibility of the Board of Elders to oversee the reception of new members and matters of discipline.
7. The Board of Elders shall appoint all officers of the church body, subject to congregational affirmation as outlined in Article VII, Section 1, Par. B. The Board of Elders shall appoint pastors, subject to congregational affirmation as outlined in Article IX.
8. The Board of Elders shall select officers for the Board of Elders for the next year prior to the end of the Ministry Year.
9. The Board of Elders has authority of dismissal in relation to appointed officers and committee members, if deemed necessary.
10. The Board of Elders has general oversight of monies received by the church, monies disbursed, and records thereof.

Section 5: Board of Deacons

A. Qualifications

1. The Deacons are to be men who meet the spiritual qualifications as set forth in Acts 6:3 and I Tim. 3:8-13.
2. He must be an active member of the church.

B. Appointment

1. Deacons will be appointed by the Board of Elders from recommendations of the deacon board (Acts 6:2-3) and affirmed by the church members.
2. The Board of Deacons shall elect a chairman annually.

C. Term

1. A Deacon shall serve an indefinite term. Each Deacon before the end of the ministry year shall re-examine his qualifications and desire to serve another year. Should he meet the qualifications and have the desire to serve, he shall continue to serve.
2. When a Deacon ceases to meet the scriptural qualifications, he shall be required by the Board of Elders to step down. A Deacon may also *request* to be relieved from the office either temporarily or permanently if he feels unable to serve for any reason. The process of his possible reinstatement at a later time will be determined by the Board of Elders in relation to attendant circumstances.

D. Duties

1. The Board of Deacons shall hold regular meetings on a given date established by the Deacon Board. Special meetings may be called at any time by the Chairman of the Board of Deacons or any Deacon through the Chairman.
2. The Deacons are to serve in an assistance capacity to the Elders and church body.
3. They shall assist the Elder Board and staff in the supervision and maintenance of the tangible and real property owned, leased, or rented by the church.
4. The Chairman of the Deacon Board shall notify the Lead Pastor and the Elder with oversight of the Deacon Board of the time, place, and agenda of each meeting of the Deacon Board. The Deacon Board shall post the minutes of each meeting in a timely manner.
5. They shall set an example in godly conduct and see that all things are done in decency and order.
6. They shall provide for the security and safety of the facilities and all those who attend the facilities.

Section 6: Clerk

A. Qualifications

He or she must be an active member of the church.

B. Appointment

The clerk shall be appointed by the Board of Elders, subject to congregational affirmation.

C. Term

The clerk shall serve one year. The clerk may be appointed for more terms if the person's name is submitted again for consideration.

D. Duties

The duties of the clerk shall be as defined by the Board of Elders.

E. Accountability

The clerk is directly accountable to the Board of Elders.

Section 7: Treasurer

A. Qualifications

He or she must be an active member of the church.

B. Appointment

The treasurer shall be appointed by the Board of Elders, subject to congregational affirmation.

C. Term

The treasurer shall serve one year. The treasurer may be appointed for more terms if the person's name is resubmitted.

D. Duties

The duties of the Treasurer shall be defined by the Board of Elders and will be accomplished in a manner consistent with the Financial Management Policy of the church.

E. Accountability

The treasurer is directly accountable to the Board of Elders.

ARTICLE VIII

Pastoral Staff

Pastoral Staff members are those so designated by the Board of Elders. They are ultimately accountable to the Board of Elders. Job descriptions will be approved by the Board of Elders.

ARTICLE IX

Pastoral Appointment

A. A Pastoral Search Committee may be formed in accordance with the provisions of Article VII, Section 2, Par. B.

B. One candidate at a time shall be presented to the congregation for their affirmation.

C. Candidates for all Pastoral staff positions shall be presented to the congregation for affirmation in accordance with the following:

1. The Chairman of the Elder Board shall present the name of the candidate to be presented to the congregation at least two weeks prior to the congregational vote. In addition to the candidate's name, a brief resume or biography of the candidate shall be made available to the membership. At such time, the date and place of the congregational vote shall be announced. Every effort shall be made to communicate this information to the entire congregation using a wide variety of means (e.g., email, website).
 2. The Pastoral candidate shall be made available to the membership for a general question and answer session prior to the vote. This meeting shall take place under the leadership of the Board of Elders, and the date and time of this meeting will be announced and publicized to the congregation.
 3. The conditions and procedures for the vote on the Pastoral position are covered under Article VI, Section 3-B.
- D. The Pastoral Search Committee shall immediately be terminated upon the filling of a Pastoral Staff position.

ARTICLE X

Committees and Leadership Positions

Section 1: Committees

The Board of Elders shall appoint other committees as they deem necessary. All other organizations or committees in the church, including youth groups, ladies' groups, men's groups, and any other group, are subject to the Constitution and the Board of Elders in their activities.

Section 2: Other Leadership Positions

Membership is a requirement for those individuals serving in the positions of Lead Teacher, Small Group Leader, Ministry Leadership Team, Pastoral Search Committee member and other committee chairpersons.