

REVISED BY-LAWS
OF THE
CHILLICOTHE CHRISTIAN CHURCH

ARTICLE I

Name

The name of this church corporation is THE CHILLICOTHE CHRISTIAN CHURCH of Chillicothe, Illinois. The name by which the church may be designated in the community may be CHILLICOTHE CHRISTIAN CHURCH.

ARTICLE II

Membership

Membership in this church shall consist of those persons who are members at the time of the adoption of these by-laws and who have obeyed the scriptural teaching on becoming a Christian as heretofore practiced by this church. Membership in this church corporation shall consist of all members of THE CHILLICOTHE CHRISTIAN CHURCH. Membership in the Chillicothe Christian Church shall consist of those persons who are members at the time of the adoption of these by-laws and those persons who hereafter become members in the two ways by which the present members have become members. The first of these ways is for the person to obey scriptural teaching on becoming a Christian by believing that Jesus is the Christ the Son of the living God, repenting of all sins toward God, confessing a belief that Jesus is the Christ the Son of the living God, being buried with Christ by baptism in water (i.e. immersion) and thus resolve to live by the teachings of Christ and his apostles as presented in the New Testament. The second of these ways is for a person having obeyed said Scriptural teachings elsewhere to transfer membership to this church.

Resident Members:

The term resident members, as used in these by-laws, shall consist of those members who reside within a radius of 25 miles of the church building.

ARTICLE III

Church Business Meetings

Section 1. The annual business meeting of the church shall be held in the church building following morning worship services on the first Sunday in November of each year.

Section 2. Notice of the annual business meeting of the church shall be made by an announcement from the pulpit by the chairman of the joint board, or by a delegated person at the regular Sunday morning worship service on the last Sunday in October, and by written notice sent postpaid to the last known address of all resident members at least five days prior to the said annual meeting. Said written notice may be given in the church paper.

Section 3. Special business meetings of the church may be called

- (a) by a majority vote of the elders, deacons, and trustees
- (b) by a petition signed by not less than 15 members of the church presented to the church clerk. If it is not possible to contact the clerk of the church the petition may be presented to either the chairman of Joint Board, the chairman of Board of Elders or the chairman of Board of Deacons. The call must be issued within 15 days after the filing of the petition. Said call is to be made in compliance with the request in the petition should the petition contain such a request.

Section 4. Notice of special business meetings of the church shall be given by written notice in letter or postcard form mailed postpaid to the last known address of each resident member of the congregation at least 5 days prior to the special meeting. Said notice must state the time, place and purpose of the special business meeting. Such written notice may be given in the church paper.

Section 5. A quorum for annual or special church business meetings shall consist of ten per cent of the church membership or 30 members, whichever is the smaller, after due notice has been given.

Section 6. Eligibility of voters. All resident members of this church who have attained the age of 16 years are eligible to vote on all matters.

ARTICLE IV

Officers and Duties

Section 1. The officers of the church shall consist of the minister, or ministers, elders, deacons, trustees, clerk and treasurer.

In addition to the above-named officers, the Bible School and special organizations may have such special officers as they desire and need. The names of all persons who are to be elected, appointed or otherwise selected to serve as officers of the Bible School and special organizations of the church shall be submitted to the elders for approval or disapproval prior to such election, appointment or other type of selection.

Section 2. Duties of the officers

- (a) the minister, or ministers, of the church shall discharge the duties of their office as set forth in the New Testament scriptures.
- (b) the elders of the church shall discharge the duties of their office as set forth in the New Testament scriptures.
- (c) the deacons of the church shall discharge the duties of their office as set forth in the New Testament scriptures.
- (d) The trustees shall perform such duties as required by the laws of the State of Illinois, and such other duties as may be required by the church.

- (e) the clerk shall keep an accurate list of the members of the church, minutes of the annual and special business meetings of the church and of the joint board meetings, and shall perform such other duties as may be assigned him.
- (f) the treasurer shall receive and disburse all moneys upon the instruction of the joint board and make monthly reports to the joint board. He shall make an annual report to the members of the church at the annual business meeting of the church.

Section 3. Elections of the officers shall be as follows:

- (a) The ministers shall be called by the church upon the recommendation of the elders. The recommendation shall first be submitted to the joint board for approval at a regular or special business meeting. The recommendation shall be submitted then to the church for approval at a regular or special business meeting. If the recommendation is approved and the call accepted, the ministers shall serve until such time as sixty days' notice is given by either the ministers or the church.
- (b) The elders shall be elected to serve for a term of three years.
- (c) The deacons shall be elected to serve for a term of three years.
- (d) The trustees shall be elected to serve for a term of three years.
- (e) The above officers, with the exception of the ministers, shall be regularly elected by ballot at the annual business meeting of the church.
- (f) Nominations for the offices of elder, deacon, and trustee, shall be obtained in the following manner:
 - (1) The members of the joint board whose terms are not expiring at the next annual congregational meeting shall constitute a committee in charge of receiving nominations from the membership of the congregation.
 - (2) The committee shall have prepared and sent to every known resident member who is eligible to vote a form for listing nominations for the number of offices vacant. The form shall set forth the scriptural qualifications for the offices of elder and deacon in such a manner that the person making nominations can determine the scriptural qualifications of each nominee. The forms shall be mailed to the members six weeks preceding the business meeting in which the officers are to be elected. The nomination form shall be accompanied by a letter of explanation, which shall list the names of officers remaining in office and shall list the names of all the adult men who are resident members. The committee shall, prior to the sending of nomination forms present the same to the

church clerk. The church clerk shall initial the nomination forms to be sent to each member. The nomination forms in order to be considered, must be returned to the committee by the second Sunday after they are sent to the members.

- (3) The committee shall tabulate the nomination forms. Those members best qualified for the offices to be filled as shown by the nomination forms shall be personally contacted by the committee to determine whether the nominees will serve if elected to the office. The names of members best qualified as shown by the nomination forms who express a willingness to serve, shall be nominated by the committee.
- (4) The names of the persons so nominated shall be posted on the bulletin board of the church at least ten days prior to the business meeting at which officers are to be elected.
- (5) The nomination form above-mentioned shall contain space for making nominations for the office of trustee. The committee shall take from the nomination forms and place on ballot as nominees the names of members receiving the highest number of nominations to the office of trustee. The number of persons nominated shall be equal to the number of trustees whose terms expire plus the number of any vacancies.
- (g) The church clerk and church treasurer shall be elected by the joint board to serve for a term of one year. Such assistant clerks and assistant treasurers may be elected by the joint board for a term of one year as the joint board may deem necessary.
- (h) The offices of elder, deacon and trustee are exclusive (i.e. no man can hold more than one of the offices at any one time).
- (i) No elected officer may be elected for a second consecutive term.

Section 4. Vacancies: In case of a vacancy in any office, the church shall elect a successor at a business meeting called upon due notice.

ARTICLE V

Meeting of Officers

Section 1. Officers in related boards:

- (a) The elders shall constitute a Board of Elders, meeting as often as may be necessary for the discharge of duties pertaining to this office. A chairman may be chosen from among this number.
- (b) The deacons shall constitute a Board of Deacons, meeting

as often as may be necessary for the discharge of duties pertaining to this office. A chairman may be chosen from this number.

- (c) The trustees shall constitute a Board of Trustees, meeting as often as may be necessary for the discharge of duties pertaining to this office. A chairman may be chosen from among this number.
- (d) The elders, deacons and trustees shall constitute the joint board. The ministers shall serve as ex officio members of the joint board.

Section 2. Meeting of the joint board: The joint board shall meet on the second Sunday of each month. A majority of the members shall constitute a quorum.

The joint board shall have an organizational meeting at the December board meeting for the purpose of electing such officers as they are authorized to elect. The chairman of the joint board, chairman of the board of elders, chairman of the board of deacons and the minister may appoint such committees as the board shall deem necessary. The announcement of any regular standing committees shall be made by the chairman of the joint board no later than at the next regular meeting of the joint board after the organizational meeting.

Special meetings of the joint board shall be called upon petition signed by not less than a majority of the members and notice given to all board members at their local residence address.

ARTICLE VI

Letters of Commendation

Letters of commendation are issued by the clerk or ministers to members desiring to withdraw from our fellowship, after notification from the pulpit of such desire, and providing there is no objection from the congregation.

ARTICLE VII

Amendments

Amendments to these by-laws can be made either at a regular annual business meeting or at a special business meeting of the church, provided the amendments have been previously presented to the joint board, and provided that notification of the proposed change has been made to the membership along with due notice of the meeting. A three-fourths vote of voting members of the church present at such business meetings is necessary for adoption.

ARTICLE VIII

ABOLITION OF BY-LAWS

These by-laws may be abolished in their entirety provided the joint board has been notified of the proposal at a regular or special

meeting and notice of the proposal has been made to the membership along with due notice of the meeting. A three-fourths vote of voting members of the church present at such business meeting is necessary for abolishing the by-laws.

ARTICLE 9

This church Corporation is organized exclusively for charitable, religious, and educational purposes, including, for such purposes, the making of distributions to organizations that qualify as exempt organizations under section 501 (c) (3) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1954 (or the corresponding provisions of any future United States Internal Revenue Law).

ARTICLE 10

No part of the net earnings of the corporation shall inure to the benefit of, or be distributable to, its members, trustees, officers, or other private persons, except that the corporation shall be authorized and empowered to pay reasonable compensation for services rendered and to make payments and distributions in furtherance of the purposes set forth in Article Nine hereof. No substantial part of the activities of the Corporation shall be the carrying on of propaganda, or otherwise attempting, to influence legislation, and the corporation shall not participate in, or intervene in (including the publishing or distribution of statements) any political campaign on behalf of any candidate for public office. Notwithstanding any other provision of these articles, the corporation shall not carry on any other activities not permitted to be carried on (a) by a corporation exempt from Federal income tax under section 501 (c) (3) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1954 (or the corresponding provision of any future United States Internal Revenue Law) or (b) by a corporation, contributions to which are deductible under section 170 (c) (2) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1954 (or the corresponding provision of any future United States Internal Revenue Law).

ARTICLE 11

If this church is ever dissolved for any reason, it's assets shall be irrevocably dedicated to religious or charitable purposes connected with Churches of Christ or Christian Churches; and none of the funds or assets shall benefit any member of the Board or any church member or any private person.

ARTICLE 12

Upon the dissolution of the corporation, the Church Board shall, after paying or making provision for the payment of all of the liabilities of the corporation, dispose of all assets of the corporation exclusively for the purposes of the corporation in such manner, or to such organization or organizations organized and operated exclusively for charitable, educational, and religious purposes as shall at the time qualify as an exempt organization or organizations under Section 501 (c) (3) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1954 (or the corresponding

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provision of any future United States Internal Revenue Law), as the Board of the Church shall determine. Any of such assets not so disposed of, shall be disposed of by the Court of Common Pleas of the County in which the office of the corporation is then located, exclusively for such purposes or to such organization or organizations, as said Court shall determine, which are organized exclusively for such purposes.