



CONSTITUTION AND BYLAWS

# Constitution

## Article I

### OBJECT AND NAME

As believers in Christ, associated to maintain public worship, provide religious instruction and promote the Kingdom of God according to the Scriptures, this Church is organized as the Lakeside Christian Church, Inc. (hereinafter referred to as the Church). By such name it shall have the power to contract and be contracted with, to own, buy or sell real estate or to mortgage, or pledge its property, real or personal, and to receive gifts or devises, to sue and be sued and all other powers in connection with its corporate existence which are not inconsistent with the laws of the State of Kentucky. This constitution governs all campuses and any other properties of the Church.

## Article II

This Church adheres to and recognizes the canonical writing of the Old and New Testament as the revealed word of God, and as the only unerring guide and standard of Christian faith and life. The members of the Church are known as Christians only and shall have a strictly congregational form of government and shall have no creed or articles of faith other than those contained in the Holy Bible, and in which church the ordinances of Baptism and the Lord's Supper shall be observed, the former by immersion only and the latter each Lord's Day. The Church is a local autonomy and shall be legally and ecclesiastically independent of any and all denominations or quasi-religious organizations, by whatever names now or hereafter known, or mergers thereof, as well as denominational or interdenominational agencies, societies, funds and bureaus.

All officers, staff and Bible school teachers must be immersed believers in Jesus Christ as the Son of the Living God.

## Article III

All rights and powers granted to charitable and religious corporations by the State of Kentucky by virtue of the law of the State, not herein mentioned, shall be included in the powers of the corporation and form a part of this Constitution.

## Article IV

Article II of this Constitution shall not hereafter be amended, altered, or rescinded, in whole or in any part thereof, without the unanimous vote of all duly enrolled members of the Church, which vote shall be taken at a meeting duly called for that sole purpose, of which meeting,

written notice shall be given to each member of the Church at least once a week for three (3) weeks prior to said meeting. The voting at the meeting shall be by secret ballot.

## Article V

Articles I and V can only be changed by a unanimous vote of the Board of Elders followed by a 75% majority of ballots cast by the Church.

# Bylaws

## Article I

### MEMBERSHIP

**Section 1.** Anyone may become a member after having made a public confession of faith, belief and acceptance in Christ as the only begotten Son of God and Saviour, and accepts the Bible as the rule of his/her faith and action, and has been duly immersed or, having previously submitted to the above, has stated to a minister or an elder of the Church his/her desire to become a member. All members shall be considered active members who are supporting this Church by attendance at meetings of worship and by contributions, either monetary or personal service. The word "Church" as herein found shall for all matters of business mean the congregation of members found on the Active Member Roll as kept by the church office. The list of such members with their addresses shall herein be known as the Active Member Roll. Any active member is entitled to a list of member names upon request. If a member has not attended a regular service of the Church or has not communicated with the minister or elders of the Church in such a way as to reveal interest or sincerity over a period of one year, after due effort had been made during the year to encourage him or her through various organizations, his or her name shall be automatically removed from the Active Member Roll, and placed on the Inactive Member Roll. Members on the Inactive Member Roll shall not be entitled to vote in any Church issues. Any active member, sixteen (16) years of age or over, shall have the right of voice and vote at all congregational meetings of the Church. It shall be the duty of every member to earnestly endeavor by the aid of God's Word to lead a faithful and consecrated Christian life; to diligently endeavor to regularly attend services of the Church.

**Section 2.** A member at Lakeside Christian Church is a brother or sister in Christ, agreeing to serve as an ambassador of Jesus Christ (2 Cor. 5:20) as well as an upstanding representative of Lakeside Christian Church. If the leadership at Lakeside feels there is a misrepresentation of Jesus or behavior detrimental to Lakeside's kingdom work, this body of believers is committed to attempt to restore this individual in a Matthew 18:15-17 model. Issues requiring Lakeside to confront and attempt restoration (Hebrews 3:12-13) may include but are not limited to divisiveness and immorality. The goal of this confrontation is to lovingly restore them to a lifestyle of faithfulness, unity, repentance, good news and holiness. If attempts at restoration are unsuccessful, the last attempt at restoration shall be exclusion from fellowship (Titus 3:10, 1 Corinthians 5:9-13, Matthew 18:17).

## Article II

### ELDERS

**Section 1.** The Board of Elders (hereinafter referred to as the Board) has the authority and responsibility to create and maintain a vision, set direction and policy consistent with New Testament Scriptures and work with the ministry teams to foster and assure operations

consistent with the Church goals. In the main, elders are to shepherd, feed, guard and watch the flock as set forth in New Testament scriptures. The Board has the final say in any and all matters concerning the overall direction and conduct of the Church, its officers and staff.

**Section 2.** Elders shall be elected by the Board to serve for the term of four (4) years. All newly elected elders will assume their duties on July 1. The number of elders may increase with the size of the congregation or as men become willing and meet the requirements. However, the Board shall never number less than eight (8) elders including the senior pastor. In case of a vacancy appearing for any reason, the Board may fill the vacancy for the unexpired term of the member causing the vacancy.

A candidate for the Board must have been an active member of Lakeside Christian Church for at least (2) two years, be at least (18) eighteen years of age and fully subscribe to Lakeside Christian Church's mission and values.

The process for electing elders shall be as follows:

- A nominating committee comprised of two (2) elders, the senior pastor (or his designee) and two (2) at large active members shall be formed.
- Candidates will be considered and vetted by the nominating committee. Any candidate for the eldership must declare to the nominating committee that he agrees with and promises to uphold without reservation Articles I and II of the Lakeside Christian Church Constitution.
- Once a candidate has been recommended to the Board by the nominating committee, he must receive a unanimous vote from the voting members of the Board to be elected.
- When an elder's term has expired, he shall not be eligible to be re-elected to the Board for a period of at least one year.

**Section 3.** At the first regular or called meeting after election of new members the Board shall organize as follows:

- As needed to replace an outgoing Chairman the new Board shall install from their number the Chairman-elect from the prior year as Chairman for the new year. The Board shall also elect a new Chairman-elect and a Secretary. An elder is eligible to be elected as Chairman-elect in any of the first three years of his four-year elder term. The election of these officers shall be determined by the elder(s) receiving the greatest number of votes among the eligible elders, considering that the total number of votes must exceed a majority (6) votes.

An elder installed as Chairman will serve at least one (1) year but not more than two (2) years as Chairman. The Chairman does not need to be re-elected for the second (2nd) year of his term. An elder initially installed as Chairman in the fourth (4th) year of his term on the Board may serve a fifth (5th) year on the Board if he so decides. The Senior Pastor is ineligible to be installed as Chairman or Chairman-elect.

- The Chairman shall preside at all meetings of the Board. He may call special meetings when in his judgment the urgency of the situation demands, or at the request of one-third (1/3) of the members of the Board. For special meetings, all the members must be positively notified

and given reasonable notice. A quorum of two-thirds (2/3) of the voting members of the Board must be present for any official business to be conducted.

- It shall be the duty of the Chairman-elect to preside in the absence of the Chairman and assist in any way consistent with his abilities as requested by the Chairman.
- It shall be the duty of the Secretary to note the members present at all regular and special meetings, to keep the minutes of the Board and to promote other duties as required of him by the Board not inconsistent with the position of Secretary. Also, the Secretary shall preside in the absence of the Chairman and the Chairman-elect.

## Article III

### TRUSTEES

**Section 1.** The duties of the Trustees shall be to have charge of all legal documents and papers; and perform such other duties as pertaining to the major indebtedness. (A major indebtedness is such that cannot be met out of the General Fund during the current budget year.) These duties shall be executed under the direction of the Board. These duties shall and do hereby include, but are not limited to, the authority to execute instruments evidencing the borrowing of money, the mortgaging of real property and improvements thereon, and the granting of a security interest in all types and kinds of fixtures, furnishings, and personality on behalf of the corporation. A minimum of two (2) Trustee signatures is required on all legal documents and papers.

**Section 2.** Trustees shall be appointed by the Board annually to serve for the term of three (3) years. All newly appointed Trustees will assume their duties on July 1. In case of a vacancy appearing for any reason, the Board shall fill such a vacancy. One Trustee shall be elected each year for a three (3) year term. There shall be a total of three (3) Trustees.

**Section 3.** All candidates for Trustee must make known to the Nominating Committee that they believe, agree with, and promise to uphold without reservation the Constitution of the Church.

## Article IV

### MINISTERS/PROFESSIONAL STAFF

**Section 1.** In the event of a senior pastor vacancy (meaning acceptance of call, death, resignation or termination) the Chairman of the Board shall appoint a pulpit committee consisting of at least six (6) active members of the church of whom three (3) must be elders and one (1) must be one of the associate pastors. An elder must chair the pulpit committee. No elder who has an immediate family member on staff may serve on the pulpit committee.

The pulpit committee must conduct a thorough search for candidates. After all candidates have been vetted the committee shall present their final candidate to the Board for approval. The pulpit committee must unanimously agree on the candidate to be submitted to the Board.

Upon review by the Board of the pulpit committee's recommendation a vote shall be taken. A unanimous vote by the Board is required to elect a senior pastor. After the candidate is elected his name shall be announced to the congregation.

In the case of a unanimous board approval of a suitable, known and existing, in good standing, internal candidate for a senior pastor vacancy, the Board may appoint a Senior Pastor, without appointing a pulpit committee.

During the time of the vacancy the Board shall arrange for interim preaching by either a current associate pastor or by guest speakers or a combination of both.

The senior pastor's services may be terminated by the Board of Elders for any reason with thirty (30) day notice or immediately for cause. A resigning senior pastor should give a minimum of thirty (30) day notice in writing to the Board.

**Section 2.** To call or replace an executive level (as defined by the Church organizational chart) pastor or professional staff position, the Lead Pastor shall appoint a search committee consisting of at least three elders including the senior pastor who will lead the search. No elder who has an immediate family member on staff may serve on the search committee.

**Section 3.** The process to call or replace any other pastor or member of the professional staff shall be governed by the Church's human resources (HR) policies. Any change in the Church's HR policies must be approved by a three fourths (3/4) majority vote of the Board.

Any other pastor or member of the professional staff may be terminated by the Board for any reason with thirty (30) day notice or immediately for cause. A resigning pastor or member of the professional staff shall give a minimum of thirty (30) day notice in writing to the Board.

## ARTICLE V

### FINANCE COMMITTEE

**Section 1.** The finance committee is appointed annually by the Chairman of the Board and shall consist of no fewer than three (3) members. The finance committee must be chaired by an elder. Any active member of the Church may serve on the finance committee.

**Section 2.** The purpose of the finance committee is to oversee the Church's finances. They oversee the preparation of a consolidated budget for approval by the Board. They approve, revise or disapprove all proposed expenditures up to the dollar limits granted them by the Board. Expenditures above this leader has in the expenditure of their budgeted funds.

## Article VI

### COMPENSATION COMMITTEE

**Section 1.** The Compensation Committee is appointed annually by the Chairman and shall consist of no fewer than (3) three active Elders and the Executive Director. No member of the committee may have a family member on staff.

**Section 2.** The purpose of the committee is to recommend compensation levels for all staff. The committee shall present their recommendations for Board approval (2) two months before the upcoming fiscal year's budget is adopted.

## Article VII

### STATEMENT ON MARRIAGE AND SEXUALITY

**Section 1.** We believe that the term "marriage" has only one meaning and that is marriage sanctioned by God which joins one man and one woman in a single, exclusive union, as defined in Scripture. We believe that God intends sexual intimacy to only occur between a man and a woman who are married to each other. We believe that God has commanded that no intimate sexual activity be engaged in outside of a marriage between a man and a woman.

**Section 2.** We believe that any form of sexual immorality including, but not limited to, adultery, fornication, pornographic activity, homosexual behavior, bisexual conduct, bestiality, incest, or any attempt to change one's sex, or disagreement with one's biological sex, is sinful and offensive to God.

**Section 3.** We believe that in order to preserve the function and integrity of the Church as the local Body of Christ and to provide a biblical role model to the Church members and the community, it is imperative that all persons employed by the Church in any capacity, or who serve as volunteers, should abide by all and agree with to this Statement on Marriage and Sexuality and conduct themselves accordingly. We believe that God offers redemption and restoration to all who confess and forsake their sin, seeking His mercy and forgiveness through Jesus Christ. We believe that every person must be afforded compassion, love, kindness, respect, and dignity. Hateful and harassing behavior or attitudes directed toward any individual are to be repudiated and are not in accord with scripture nor the doctrines of the Church.

## Article VIII

### JOB DESCRIPTIONS AND RELIGIOUS GROUNDS FOR LIMITING EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITIES

**Section 1.** Lakeside Christian Church will not discriminate in employment on the basis of race, color, national origin or age. However, all job descriptions must support and further the

religious mission of the Church. The Church shall adhere, in all personnel decisions, to the HR policy manual.

## Article IX

### DUE DILIGENCE FOR STAFF AND VOLUNTEERS

**Section 1.** Due diligence requirements for staff and volunteers who work with children shall be followed as required by the HR policy manual.

## Article X

### FACILITY USE

**Section 1.** The Church may make its facilities available for appropriate use by outside groups that

- have a mission and/or philosophy that is consistent with (i.e., not in conflict with in any way) our Christian doctrine and beliefs;
- intend to use the facilities in ways that edify the community and would not be embarrassing or shameful to the Church;
- agree to scheduling that does not interfere with normal Church operations;
- agree to take responsibility for the facilities and equipment used and must agree to abide by the Church's rules of conduct listed in Section 4 below and as described in any additional instructions by the Church staff.

**Section 2.** The Church may allow uses for fund raising projects, providing that

- the fundraising objective does not fall within the domain of the Church's unified budget, including Missions;
- fundraising projects are targeted for purposes that are not in conflict with our Christian doctrine or our beliefs;
- the funds actually will be distributed to the intended source(s).

**Section 3.** The Operations Director and/or Facilities Manager will make the decisions regarding all usage requests. Non-ministry events will not be placed on the events calendar until a signed Facilities Usage Agreement has been received. Contact the Facilities Manager for the Agreement.

Outside groups must provide a Certificate of Insurance in order to use our facilities.

**Section 4.** Under no circumstances shall alcoholic beverages be permitted anywhere on the premises. The use of tobacco products shall not be permitted anywhere in any building on the

premises. Foul or abusive language will not be tolerated, and offenders will be required to leave the premises.

**Section 5.** The church shall charge no fee except for reasonable cleaning, staffing, or other incidental fees for the use of its facilities.

## ARTICLE XI

### PROCESS FOR CHANGING BYLAWS

**Section 1.** The Board may amend or repeal any bylaws or adopt new bylaws by a 75% majority vote.

## ARTICLE XII

### ANNUAL REPORT

**Section 1.** The Church will produce an Annual Report to the Congregation by August 1st of each calendar year. The report shall contain but not be limited to

- a detailed report of the prior fiscal year's budget performance;
- a detailed listing of the approved budget for the new fiscal year;
- a report from the Mission Ministry on the prior fiscal year's supported missions and a listing of the missions to be supported in the new fiscal year;
- the names and biographies of incoming Elders, the names of Elders going off the Board;
- the names of Trustees;
- planned projects for the upcoming fiscal year;
- a report on the progress of implementing the Church's vision.