BY-LAWS
of
THE UNITED PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH OF OHIO
Sometimes known as
The Ohio United Presbyterian Church
Effective January 1, 2011

PREAMBLE

Whereas, the need of orderly and defined procedures in the affairs of the Congregation is recognized; therefore, we the members of this Congregation, ordain and establish these, our By-Laws.

ARTICLE I - Name and Relationship

The United Presbyterian Church of Ohio (Sometimes known as The Ohio United Presbyterian Church) of Hopewell Township, Beaver County, Pennsylvania being a particular Congregation of The Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.) recognizes that the Constitution of said Church is, in all its provisions, obligatory upon it and its members.

ARTICLE II - Officers

Section 1 - The Session shall be constituted with twelve (12) Elders elected to office, and the officiating minister, in accordance with the following provisions of The Constitution of The Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.): No Elder shall be elected to the Session for a term of more than three years, nor shall an Elder serve on the Session for consecutive terms aggregating more than six (6) years. An Elder, having been elected to the Session for consecutive terms aggregating six years shall be ineligible to serve thereon for a further term until at least one year has elapsed from the expiration of the last term for which that Elder was elected. There shall be three classes of Elders on the Session with four (4) in each class. One class will expire each year and the term of office shall be for three years.

Section 2 - The Session shall serve as the Board of Trustees, hence ordering a Unicameral Board. The officiating minister shall serve as the Moderator of the Session. The Clerk of Session, elected by and from the Session for a term of one (1) year, shall also serve as the Secretary for meetings of the Congregation. The Vice-Moderator of Session, elected by and from the Session for a term of (1) year, shall preside over portions of the meetings of the Congregation considering matters of the Corporation.

Section 3 - The quorum of the Session shall be met in accordance with The Book of Order of the Constitution of the Presbyterian Church (U. S. A.).

Section 4 – The Board of Deacons shall be constituted with twelve (12) elected to office, in accordance with the same constitutional provisions as the Session. There shall be three classes of Deacons with four (4) in each class.

Section 5 – Elders and Deacons shall be nominated by a committee of the Congregation. The Nominating Committee will have seven (7) members; four (4) elected from and by the congregation; two (2) elected from and by the Session, one elder serving as chairperson; one (1) elected from and by the Deacons. The Moderator of the Session shall serve on the committee but without vote.

Section 6 – All vacancies on the Session and the Deacons shall be filled by nomination from the Nominating Committee and election by the Congregation at a meeting of the Congregation.

ARTICLE III – Congregational Meetings

Section 1 –There shall be an annual meeting of the Congregation in November for the purpose of electing officers. There shall be an annual meeting of the Congregation in January for the purpose of electing the congregational representatives to the Nominating Committee, receiving annual reports, and conducting any ecclesiastical or corporate business as may appropriately come before the Congregation.

Section 2 – Special meetings of the Congregation may be called by the Session or Beaver-Butler Presbytery. Such calls shall state the purpose of such meetings and no other matter save that specified in the call may be considered.

Section 3 – All meetings of the Congregation shall be called by giving public notice of the time, place, and purpose of said meeting during the weekly service of worship on two successive Sundays prior to the meeting. The meetings may be convened following the notice on the second Sunday. In the case of a Congregational Meeting to consider the call of a pastor, public notice for the time, place and purpose of the meeting shall be given at least ten (10) days in advance, which shall include two successive Sundays.

Section 4 – A quorum for any Congregational Meeting shall be at least one-tenth (1/10) of the membership of the Church and a Moderator. The members of the Church shall be all communicant members in good standing as defined by the usage and rules of The Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.).

Section 5 - The Moderator of the Session, or someone designated by same person according to The Constitution of the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.), shall be the Moderator for the portions of Congregational Meetings dealing with ecclesiastical matters. The Clerk of Session, or someone elected by the Congregation when the Clerk is absent, shall be the Secretary of the Congregational Meeting. The Vice-Moderator of the Session, or someone designated by the Session in said person's absence, shall preside over portions of the Congregational Meetings dealing with Corporation matters. Those serving as substitutes shall be Active Members of the Congregation and shall be over eighteen (18) years of age.

Section 6 -All meetings of the Congregation shall be conducted in accordance with the General Rules for Judicatories by the General Assembly of The Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.), so far as they apply and when they do not apply, according to usual legislative rules of order. All Active Members who are present may vote on ecclesiastical matters. Only those Active Members who are eighteen (18) years of age and older may vote on matters before the Corporation.

ARTICLE IV - Amendments

These By-Laws may be amended, subject to the Charter of the Corporation, the laws of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, and The Constitution of the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.), at a duly called meeting of the congregation, by a two-thirds (2/3) vote of those present. All proposed changes in the By-Laws shall be read in full at the time the public notices are given.

Adopted October 24, 2010.