

**THE REVISED CONSTITUTION AND BYLAWS OF
LAKE OZARK CHRISTIAN CHURCH, INC.
2015**

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OF LAKE OZARK CHRISTIAN CHURCH, INC.
LAKE OZARK, MISSOURI
2015**

PREAMBLE

We, the members of the Lake Ozark Christian Church, Inc., as a congregationally governed body, in order to promote the work of the Church in the Spirit of Christ and thus advance His Kingdom, do hereby accept this Constitution and Bylaws.

ARTICLE I. NAME AND PURPOSE

Section A. Name

The name of this organization shall be the Lake Ozark Christian Church, Inc., a congregation of the Christian Church (Disciples of Christ), and affiliated with the Christian Church (Disciples of Christ) of Mid-America, Inc., and thus committed to the principles of this historic body.

Section B. Purpose

The purpose of this church shall be as revealed in the New Testament to enable people to make a decision of faith in Jesus Christ and commit themselves actively to the Church and to the common task of building the Kingdom of God.

The Church shall conduct religious services and other functions under the auspices of the Christian Church of Mid America (Disciples of Christ), recognizing that the ultimate authority in the Lake Ozark Christian Church shall always rest with the congregation.

This Corporation is organized exclusively for religious and non-profitable purposes, including for such purposes the making of distributions to organizations that qualify as exempt organizations under Section 501(c) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1954 (or the corresponding provisions of any future United States Internal Revenue Law). Notwithstanding any other provision of these Bylaws of the Corporation, the Corporation shall not carry on any activities not permitted to be carried on (a) by a corporation exempt from Federal Income Tax under Section 501(c) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1954 (or the corresponding provisions 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 provisions of any future United States Internal Revenue Law).

Upon the dissolution of the Corporation, the Leadership Council shall, after paying or making provisions for the payment of all the liabilities of the Corporation dispose of all the assets of the Corporation exclusively for the purposes of the Corporation or distribute same to such organizations organized for religious or scientific purposes as shall at the time qualify as exempt organizations under Section 501(c) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1954 (or the corresponding provisions of any future United States Internal Revenue Law), as the Leadership Council shall determine.

ARTICLE II. MEMBERSHIP

Section A. Membership

The Membership of this Church shall consist of those who are now identified as members of this congregation and all others who shall in the future, identify themselves with the congregation through the provisions as outlined in Section B below.

Section B. Membership Qualifications

1. Confessing believers who have been baptized in this Church shall be received into the membership of this Church.
2. Persons who have been members of other churches and baptized may be received into the fellowship of this church by letter of transfer or statement of affiliation.
3. Affiliate Members. Any person otherwise qualified to be a member of the Lake Ozark Christian Church who holds membership in another church but resides in the Lake Ozark area for only part of a year may become an affiliate member of the Lake Ozark Christian Church upon application and acceptance by the Leadership Council.
 - (a) An affiliate membership in the Lake Ozark Christian Church is not intended to have the effect of removing any such person's name from the membership rolls of his or her home church. Lake Ozark Christian Church will, however, notify such person's home church of his affiliate membership unless specifically directed in writing by the affiliate member to withhold such notification. A separate roster of affiliate members will be maintained by Lake Ozark Christian Church.
 - (b) Affiliate members shall have all the rights, responsibilities and privileges accorded other members of the Church by this Constitution and Bylaws including the right to vote and hold office pursuant to its provisions and the responsibility to actively participate in the programs and services of the Lake Ozark Christian Church.
4. Active & Inactive Members. There shall be active & inactive members.
 - (a) An active member is one who has shown interest in affairs and activities of the church through attendance, giving activity or spiritual concern in the church during the course of the preceding twenty four (24) months.
 - (b) An inactive member is one who has not participated in attendance, giving activity or spiritual concern for the preceding twenty four (24) months. This member shall be kept on the membership rolls of the church in an inactive status until such time as the member either becomes active again or asks in writing to be removed from the church membership rolls or the member becomes deceased.
 - (c) Inactive members may not hold congregational office positions.
 - (d) Members who are unable to participate in attendance, giving activity or spiritual concern due to medical reasons shall receive the love and Pastoral care provided to all active members.

Section C. Voting Privileges

Voting privileges shall be accorded to all active church members in all congregational meetings. Each member shall be entitled to cast one (1) vote either in person, by proxy or by electronic mail on any matter submitted to the

membership.

Section D. Congregational Meetings

Regular business meetings of the church membership shall include status reports from the Leadership Council, Finance Committee and Pastor. These meetings shall be held as follows:

1. Spring meeting: On the first Sunday in June of each year. Introduction of officers and committee chairs and other business as deemed necessary.
2. Fall Meeting: On the first Monday in November of each year. Presentation of the budget for approval, elections of officers and other business as deemed necessary.
3. Special Meetings: Such meetings to be called by the Leadership Council Chair or Vice Chair, upon the request of the Leadership Council or upon written application of 10 or more members of the Church.

Section E. Notice

Notice of all regular or special business meetings of the congregation shall be given at a regular Sunday service of the church and published in the church newsletter not less than 30 nor more than 60 days in advance of the meeting. In the alternative, notice of any regular or special meeting of the congregation may be given no less than 10 nor more than 60 days prior to said meeting by electronic, first class or certified mail to each member at his or her home address.

ARTICLE III OFFICERS AND ELECTIONS

Section A. Officers to be Elected by the Membership

The following congregational officers shall be elected by the membership in such number as deemed necessary. Except for the Treasurer, the terms of these officers shall be staggered so that no more than one third shall be elected in one year:

1. Chair.
2. Vice Chair.
3. Treasurer. Elected for a term of three (3) years. The Treasurer shall be expressly authorized to appoint, with approval of the Leadership Council, such Assistant Treasurer(s) as deemed necessary.
4. Directors. Not fewer than 5 to be elected for terms as described.
5. Elders. Not fewer than 16 Elders to be elected for a three (3) year term.
6. Deacons. Not fewer than 24 Deacons to be elected for a three (3) year term.
7. The number of Elders and Deacons shall be set annually by the Leadership Council prior to the appointment of the Nominating Committee.

The terms for the Chair, Vice Chair and all Directors shall be two years and the treasurer shall be three years. Elders necessary to replace those whose terms expire. Deacons necessary to replace those whose terms expire. Elections shall be held at every First Sunday in November.

Section B. Duties of Elected Officers.

All officers are expected to be active participants in their duties, in stewardship and to lead by moral, spiritual and ethical example.

1. Chair: To give guidance and leadership in all areas of the church, to conduct regular meetings of the official Leadership Council, to make appointments as provided in the Constitution and Bylaws, ex-officio member of all committees,

- and to be the official representative of the Congregation at special meetings or activities and to call special meetings when needed.
2. Vice Chair: To assist the Chair and to act in the absence of the Chair. To act as Chair of the Operation Council.
 3. Directors: To perform all duties assigned to the Leadership Council in cooperation with the other members of the Leadership Council and such other duties as they may be assigned.
 4. Treasurer: The Treasurer shall:
 - (a) Review records of all funds and deposits into the proper Church accounts
 - (b) Review individual account record of each contributor
 - (c) Review statements of contributors before mailing as directed by the Leadership Council
 - (d) Serve as a member of the Stewardship and Finance Committees, and the Operations and Leadership Councils
 - (e) Review disbursements of Church funds
 - (f) Present reports of receipts and disbursements at each regular meeting of the Leadership Council
 - (g) Receive requests and recommendations for committee budgets from the Ministry Council and Operations Council, and prepare a proposed budget for the Church, and submit same to the Finance Committee for approval and submission to the Leadership Council pursuant to this Constitution and Bylaws.
 - (h) Provide budget information to Administrative Assistant to enter into QuickBooks
 - (i) Submit financial report to the Leadership Council for approval to be presented at both the Spring and Fall congregational meetings.
 5. Elders: The Elders, shall promote the growth and welfare of the church, provide spiritual guidance to the members and serve at the Lord's Table. Elders shall mentor the diaconate and shall assist the Pastor. Elders shall prepare communion, prepare candidates for baptism, and visit the sick, show concern for the spiritual development of the congregation and the community. Promote the policies of the Church to enable the church to fulfill its complete mission. Encourage by word and deed, the evangelistic education and stewardship responsibilities of the and to the Church.
 6. Diaconate: Deacons shall cooperate with the Elders to promote the growth and welfare of the church; welcome visitors and coordinate the greeting and ushering of all worshipers; serve the Lord's Supper and receive the offering. Take responsibility for the preparation and care of the communion service; support the church and perform such other duties as may be assigned.
 7. Elders and Deacons shall elect a Chair from their number who shall coordinate the service of each group for the duration of their term.

Section C. Elections

1. The Congregational Officers shall be elected by the congregation for a term as specified in Article III, Section A and shall assume office on the following January

1st.

2. All nominees who receive a majority of votes, cast by secret ballot of those members present and voting, shall be declared elected. This method of voting may be waived with the consent of two thirds of the members present.

ARTICLE IV. LEADERSHIP COUNCIL

The business of the church shall be governed by a Leadership Council. Said Leadership Council shall have all powers provided by law or as necessary to conduct the affairs of the church in compliance with the provisions of this Constitution and Bylaws. Notwithstanding any provision of this Constitution and Bylaws the Leadership Council shall be bound by and subject to all provisions of Chapter 355 RSMo 1994.

Section A. Members of the Leadership Council

1. The following shall be members of the Leadership Council:
 - a. Chair
 - b. Vice Chair
 - c. Five Directors
 - d. Representative Elder
 - e. Treasurer
 - f. Pastor (ex-officio)
2. All members, except ex-officio (non-voting) and Elder Representative, shall be elected by the congregation and shall be active members of the church in good standing.
3. Members who are also paid staff may not be members of the Leadership Council, excepting the Pastor who is an ex-officio member.

Section B. Nominations for the Leadership Council Officers

1. A nominating committee of five members, consisting of not more than two members of the Leadership Council whose terms do not expire at the end of the program year and a minimum of three active members of the congregation who are not members of the Leadership Council, shall be appointed by the Chair annually and approved by the Leadership Council. The nominating committee shall be announced to the congregation immediately after approval. Said nominating committee shall not be a standing committee and shall report directly to the Leadership Council.
2. The committee shall consider qualifications, secure consent from nominees, prepare a slate consisting of one nominee for each vacancy and present the slate to the Leadership Council for approval no later than three months prior to the end of the program year. The slate shall be open to other nominations for each of the above officer vacancies.
3. Following Leadership Council approval, the nominating committee shall immediately report its nominations to the congregation in writing.

Section C. Duties of Leadership Council

1. Statement of Purpose

The Leadership Council shall be the legal, governing agent of the church. It shall focus on the long term mission and well-being of the congregation rather than administrative detail. It shall advocate delegation, congregational

communications and respect the distinction between governance and ministry. It shall promote efficiency of operations within a spiritually based church.

2. Duties
 - a. To discern and articulate the congregations mission and vision.
 - b. To be responsible for and monitor the annual budget.
 - c. To establish policies and approve goals for the councils and committees.
 - d. To reduce such policies to writing and maintain them in a form accessible to all members and visitors.
 - e. To provide oversight to the Pastor and Operations Council.
 - f. To conduct church business as required.

Section D. Standing Committees.

The Leadership Council shall appoint the chairs of each of the standing committees and allocate or reallocate such committee to either the Ministry Council or the Operations Council. The Standing Committees and initial allocations are:

1. Ministry Council.
 - a. Elders
 - b. Communications
 - c. Education
 - d. Fellowship
 - e. Membership/Evangelism
 - f. Outreach
 - g. Worship
2. Operations Council.
 - a. Finance
 - b. Pastoral Relations
 - c. Personnel (Human Resources)
 - d. Property
 - e. Financial Resources
 - f. Treasurer is also a member of the Operations Council.

The Leadership Council shall have the authority to create and allocate ad hoc committees and new standing committees.

Section E. Meetings

The Leadership Council:

1. Shall hold its regular meetings at least quarterly. Leadership Council meetings may be suspended by the Chair of the Leadership Council with approval of Leadership Council Members.
2. Shall hold special meetings as required on call of the Chair or upon request of members of the Leadership Council constituting a majority of the voting members thereof following 24 hours notice.

Section F. Quorum

At all meetings of the Leadership Council, a majority of its members shall constitute a quorum for the transaction of business, and the acts of the majority of the members of the Leadership Council present at such meetings at which a quorum is present, shall be the acts of the Leadership Council. If, at any meeting of the Leadership Council there be less than a quorum present, the majority of those present may adjourn

the meeting from time to time, but no other business may be transacted. At each adjourned meeting, any business which might have been transacted at the meeting, as originally called, may be transacted without further notice. The agreement of a member in the action of a meeting by signing and concurring in the Minutes thereof, or by submitting a written or electronic proxy prior to the meeting, shall constitute the presence of such member for the purposes of determining quorum.

Section G. Officers Appointed by the Leadership Council

The following officers shall be appointed by the Leadership Council Chair in consultation with the Pastor and with approval of the Leadership Council:

1. Clerk, for a term of two years who shall oversee that a complete record is maintained of the church membership and such vital statistics as births, deaths, baptisms and weddings; receive all applications for church letters and issue them under authority delegated by the Leadership Council.
2. Church Historian, for a term of two years who shall gather and preserve data pertaining to the history, life and work of the church, making available for publication any historical materials authorized by the church and presenting to the Leadership Council the annual historical statements.

Section H. Budget

The Leadership Council shall, on or before the November Leadership Council meeting each year prepare or cause to be prepared a budget showing estimated revenues and proposed expenditures of funds for the church's next fiscal year. Said budget shall be approved by a majority vote of Leadership Council and submitted to the members at a special congregational meeting called for that purpose. Said budget shall be approved by a majority vote of the members voting at such meeting. Said budget shall be final upon the approvals described above but may be amended by the Leadership Council upon an affirmative vote. The Leadership Council shall report any amendments to the budget to the congregation within 14 days of such amendment.

ARTICLE V. THE MINISTRY COUNCIL

Section A. Membership

The membership of the Ministry Council shall consist of:
The Pastor
Chair of Elders
Chairs of the Ministry's Committees

Section B. Meetings

The Ministry Council shall meet at least quarterly and at other times as called by Chair (Pastor). Standing Committees shall submit reports to the Ministry Council. The Ministry Council shall submit a meeting summary to the Leadership Council.

Section C. Authority

The Ministry Council shall promote the spiritual and other activities of the church other than business and financial. The Ministry Council shall perform its duties under the direction of and in keeping with the policies, church goals and priorities of the Leadership Council. The Ministry Council shall consider and recommend to the Leadership Council programs and policies for approval. The Ministry Council shall receive and review budget requests and proposed budgets from the various

committees. Following such review and any revisions deemed appropriate, the Ministry Council will submit such proposed budgets to the Treasurer for preparation of the proposed Church budget.

ARTICLE VI. OPERATIONS COUNCIL

Section A. Membership

The membership of the Operations Council shall consist of:

Vice Chair

Treasurer

Chairs of the Operation's Committees

Section B. Meetings

The Operations Council shall meet at least quarterly and at other times as called by the Leadership Council Chair or Leadership Council Vice Chair. The Vice Chair shall chair the meetings. Standing committees shall submit reports to the Operations Council. The Operations Council shall submit a meeting summary to the Leadership Council.

Section C. Authority

The Operations Council shall be in charge of the financial and business activities of the Church. The Operations Council shall perform its duties under the direction of and in keeping with the policies of the Leadership Council. The Operations Council shall consider and recommend to the Leadership Council programs and policies for approval. The Operations Council shall receive and review budget requests and proposed budgets from the various committees. The Operations Council will submit such proposed budgets to the Treasurer.

ARTICLE VII. THE PASTOR

Section A. Duties

The Pastor of the Church shall perform the duties which usually pertain to that office and as spiritual administrator of the church, and duties assigned to the Pastor by the Leadership Council. The Pastor shall be Chair of the Ministry Council, be an ex-officio member of the Leadership Council, provide advice to Councils and to all Committees when needed and shall supervise the paid staff. Pastoral duties shall be reviewed annually by the Leadership Council in consultation with the Pastor.

Section B. Selection and Term

The Pastor shall be chosen by the church as hereinafter provided:

1. A representative committee of five, nominated by the Leadership Council Chair and elected by the Leadership Council, shall serve as the search committee and be responsible for recommending a prospective Pastor to the Leadership Council. The committee shall consider recommendations by Regional clergy services.
2. The Leadership Council shall consider the recommendation of the Search Committee, and if approved, recommend the prospective Pastor to the church. It shall be the policy of the church to consider only one Pastor at a time.
3. The recommendation of the Leadership Council must be accepted by at least two-thirds majority of the members present and voting in a regular or special meeting of the church membership before a call can be extended.

4. The term of the Pastor shall be as follows:
 - (a) For an indefinite period and may be terminated by either party upon sixty (60) days written notice, or upon a minimum of thirty (30) days by mutual consent.
 - (b) Notice of resignation by the Pastor shall first be presented to and acknowledged by the Leadership Council.
 - (c) After due diligence and compliance with appropriate personnel policies and procedures, consultation with the Personnel and Pastoral Relations Committees, approval of a majority of present and voting of both the Leadership Council and the Congregation, the Pastor may be asked to resign.
5. A written statement setting forth the salary to be paid and other conditions such as: business expenses, insurance, pension, housing, vacation, educational leave, moving expenses, date pastorate is to begin and other terms which may enter into the relationship of Pastor and people, shall be written by and between the Leadership Council and the Pastor, each party retaining a copy of said agreement.
6. Prior to implementing the above policies the search committee shall consider current guidelines of the Mid-America Region of the Christian Church (Disciples of Christ).

ARTICLE VIII. VACANCIES

Vacancies in the Leadership Council or other offices shall be filled for the unexpired term by nomination of the Chair of the Leadership Council in consultation with the Pastor and approval by the Leadership Council.

ARTICLE IX. AMENDMENTS

This Constitution and Bylaws may be amended at any business meeting of the congregation by a two-thirds vote of the members present and voting on the amendment, or a majority of all votes entitled to be cast whichever is smaller, provided that written notice of the proposed amendment was provided to the members within the times prescribed by Article II Section E of this Constitution and Bylaws. The Bylaws shall be reviewed every five (5) years or as deemed necessary by the Leadership Council.

ARTICLE X. CHURCH YEAR

The financial and program church year shall be January 1 through December 31 of each year.

The Leadership Council shall cause an audit to be conducted of the financial affairs of the church at least annually and the results of said audit reported to the Congregation on or before April 1 of each year. Said audit may be conducted internally by a committee or person appointed by the Leadership Council or externally by a Certified Public Accountant chosen for said purpose.

ARTICLE XI. RULES OF ORDER

All business meetings of the Church the Leadership Council, Ministry Council,

Operations Council and Committees shall be governed by "Robert's Rules of Order," in so far as it does not interfere with the letter and spirit of this Constitution and Bylaws.

Provided, that the Leadership Council may conduct closed sessions and seal all records of such meetings for the purpose of:

1. Discussions of pending contracts.
2. Discussions of pending or threatened litigation.
3. Discussions of individual employees.

This Revised Constitution and Bylaws of the Lake Ozark Christian Church, Inc. was presented to a meeting of the Congregation on December 6, 2015 and approved by two thirds of the members present and voting.

LEADERSHIP COUNCIL SECRETARY
Revised Bylaws dated 12-06-2015