

**BYLAWS OF
ST. JOHN'S LUTHERAN CHURCH
MOORE, OKLAHOMA**

(as amended on March 4, 2018 by the Voters' Assembly)

ARTICLE I - ELECTION OF OFFICERS

The Nominating Committee shall be the Pastor, the Chairman of the Board of Elders, the Chairman of the Board of Trustees, and one member of the Voters' Assembly, who shall be elected in the Voters' Assembly meeting of the second quarter and shall serve for one year. This committee shall present for election a slate of candidates for each office at the third quarter meeting of the Voters' Assembly. Additional nominations may be made from the floor. The election of officers shall be by ballot at the third quarter Voters' Meeting, with a majority of the voters present necessary for a choice. The officers-elect shall assume their respective duties on October 1, following. In the event of a vacancy in any office, the Voters' Assembly shall elect a successor to serve the remaining portion of the term to which the predecessor was elected.

(Revised- April -28, 2002)

ARTICLE II - CHURCH COUNCIL

Each board and auxiliary of the congregation may have representation on the Church Council. The Church Council shall function as an advisory committee to all boards, the congregation and Voters' Assembly. Its primary function will be to maintain continuity with in the different boards and serve as a conduit for communication in the ministry of the congregation. Other functions may be added to the Church Council as its members define the ministry goals of St. John's Lutheran Church; and, or, as the congregation directs the council through the Voters' Assembly. (Adopted - February 22, 2009)

ARTICLE III-TERMS AND DUTIES OF OFFICERS

The Board of Elders shall consist of at least three members, elected for a term of two years. The terms of office shall be staggered so that at least one member of the board shall be elected annually. They shall elect their own chairman and provide for their own rules of proceedings. The Board of Elders shall:

- Assist the pastor in all matters pertaining to the spiritual welfare of the congregation.
- Make every effort to induce members who have been negligent in their attendance and to foster an attitude conducive to worship among those in attendances.
- See to it that all services are conducted in such manner as to avoid needless disturbance and to foster an attitude conducive to worship among those in attendance.

- Aid the pastor in arranging for pulpit assistance, special services and guest speakers.
- Appoint and supervise ushers, organist and other assistants as the occasion arises.
- Prepare a list of candidates when the congregation is to call a pastor, Director of Christian Education or other called minister.
- Consider complaints and grievances of members of the congregation, and assume jurisdiction, at the direction of the Voters' Assembly, in matters concerning Matthew 18:15-20., and
- Be, at all times and in all places, an example of Christian conduct.
- Nominate and appoint the Board of Deacons and fill vacancies on board as they arise.
- Each Elder shall nominate at least two persons, preferably from their Elder Care list, for the office of Deacon.
- The Board of Elders shall appoint at least twelve (12) deacons from the list of nominees at their first meeting following the September voters' meeting for a one-year term.

The Board of Trustees shall consist of at least three members whose term of office shall be two years. Their term of office shall be staggered to try and maintain some experienced Trustees on the Board at all times. At least one member of the Board shall be elected every year. They shall elect their chairman and provide for their own rules of proceedings. The Board of Trustees will see that the church buildings, property and equipment are kept in good functioning order. They will recommend improvements of the property and facilities. They will be responsible for providing satisfactory custodial service.

Regular operational maintenance and repairs: The Board of Trustees is authorized to spend, without Voter's Assembly approval, either ten (10%) of their annual line item budget balance or \$1000 whichever is greater providing they have sufficient remaining balance in the budget at the time of the scheduled expenditure.

Emergency expenditures for maintenance and repairs: If in the opinion of the Board of Trustees, an emergency expenditure must be made for safety reasons and/or to prevent further damage to the church property which includes the building for the school, the ten (10%) or \$1000 may be exceeded. The Board of Trustees will inform the congregation as soon as practical. They will provide what the emergency expense and additional information as needed (ex. Why it was an emergency). They will also let the congregation know if it was paid from the annual budget and/or if it was paid from the Restricted-Repairs and Maintenance. The information will be published in the weekly bulletin and/or newsletter.

In the case of emergency, however, any trustee shall have the power to order emergency repairs. The Board of Trustees shall act only on the advice of an architect, or any other qualified authority, when any change is anticipated in all church property.

For both types of expenditures listed above the Board of Trustees have the following procedure:

1. In the event they do not have sufficient funds in the budget they will consider using the Restricted-Maintenance and Repairs as long as the expense is for maintenance and/or repairs of property, building or equipment.
2. A majority of the Board of Trustees will need to agree on either type of expenditure to be made listed above.

Annually:

Due to age of the buildings and majority of the equipment as of this revision of Article III, the Board of Trustees will be making an annual request of the congregation at the first voter's meeting each year. The request will be to transfer at least a minimum of fifty (50%) percent when there is a remaining balance of contributions that exceed the year's expenditures (excess) from the prior year to the Restricted Maintenance and Repairs account annually. At the first voter's assembly each year (or if needed more frequent) the Board of Trustees will present their current plan for improvements and/or current needs for the property, buildings, equipment and maintenance. The School Board will be consulted during their development or revisions to the plan. And the School Board will contact a member of the Board of Trustees about any emergencies that will require immediate attention. The Board of Trustees will provide an update to the voters at each quarterly meeting the list of all expenditures since the last voter's assembly and what funds were used to pay for each expenditure (annual budget or restricted).

Note: In the years that the church has the excess they can vote to transfer more than fifty (50%) percent when the Church and/or School does not have any other urgent needs or types of expenditures that need funding. This will continue as long as the Board of Trustees annual plan (which will include the projected needs for the next three years) is funded. (Revised March 4, 2018).

The President shall be elected for the term of one year, and shall preside as chairman "of the Voters' Assembly. In addition, he shall:

- Serve as an ex-officio member of all church boards and committees,
- See to it that respective duties and assignments are carried out,

- Set an agenda for each Voters' Assembly meeting and arrange that all reports be ready if possible,
- Execute such other duties and functions that ordinarily devolve upon the president of a congregation.
- No person shall hold the office of President for more than two consecutive terms.

The Vice-President shall be elected for the term of one year. His duties shall be:

- To serve as president in the absence of inability of the elected president to perform his duties,
- To serve as Chairman, Board of Stewardship.

The Secretary shall be elected for the term of one year, and shall keep an accurate record of the transactions of all Voters' Assembly deliberations in a book provided for that purpose. In addition, he shall:

- Notify new members of their acceptance into the fold,
- Keep a correct list of the voting members,
- Conduct all correspondence of the congregation not otherwise provided for,
- Record the election of all officers and the term to which they are elected,
- Assume custodial care of this Constitution and all other documents, papers, and other records which are the property of the congregation, and
- Carry out all other duties and functions which ordinarily devolve upon the office of Secretary.

The Treasurer shall be elected for the term of two years. The Treasurer shall pay all bills authorized by the Voters' Assembly as accepted in the yearly Budget or otherwise voted upon in special or regular meeting as authorized by the congregation and keep accurate records of the receipts and disbursements of the congregation in books, or by electronic means, which shall be, and remain, the property of the congregation. The Treasurer shall present a financial report at each meeting of the Voters' Assembly. (Amended - February 22, 2009)

The Assistant Treasurer shall have the same powers of the Treasurer except that the Assistant Treasurer shall work under the supervision of the Treasurer. The Assistant Treasurer shall serve

a term of two years and such term shall run alternate to the Treasurer's term so that their respective terms overlap.

The Financial Secretary shall be elected for the term of two years. The first duly-elected Financial Secretary, however, shall serve only one year so that his term of office will not expire at the same time as that of Treasurer. It shall be the duty of this officer to receive, record in books kept for such purposes, and deposit in the congregation's designated depository, all congregational monies. He shall submit weekly report of all receipts to the Treasurer.

ARTICLE IV - BOARD OF STEWARDSHIP

The Board of Stewardship shall include but not be limited to the Vice President, who will be the Board Chairman, the Treasurer, and Financial Secretary. Other members of the Board, as required to fulfill the Board's duties, shall be appointed by the Chairman subject to approval of the Voters' Assembly. It shall hold regular meetings for the purpose of:

- Discovering the talents of the membership and enlisting them in the congregational program,
- Assisting in training of lay workers,
- Sponsoring stewardship and mission talks, discussions, conferences, etc., in the congregation and among its organizations.
- Working in close co-operation with the Circuit and District Stewardship committees, and encouraging larger attendance at Circuit meeting,
- Fully informing the members of their local congregation's program and the opportunities to lengthen their outreach into all the world through District and Synod,
- Giving the congregation a clear vision of the world's need of Christ and how they can supply that need,
- Instructing the people in the grace of proportionate giving to God's work in their own parish and in the world,
- Aiding in planning successful Mission Sundays and programs for young and old,
- Preparing the annual proposed budget for submission at the December Voters' Assembly and
- Supervising the raising of all funds within the congregation.

ARTICLE V - BOARD OF CHRISTIAN EDUCATION

The Chairman of the Board of Christian Education shall be elected by the Voters' Assembly for a two-year term. Other members of the Board, as required to fulfill the Board's duties, shall be issued a call by the Chairman subject to approval by the Voters' Assembly. These other members shall include, but not be limited to: Sunday School Superintendent; chairman, Adult Education Program; and Midweek School Superintendent. The duties of the Board include:

- Supervision of Sunday School, Vacation Bible School, Midweek School, Adult Education, Christian Home Training, Youth Program, library, and other educational agencies of the church.
- Meeting with teachers and leaders to discuss plans and resolve problems.
- Coordinate the development of progressive Christian education efforts to provide proper spiritual feeding of every soul in the church.
- Coordinate development of periodic teaching training programs.
- Continually review all teaching aids, media and techniques for potential use at St. John's.
- Foster efficient and effective relationship between parents and teachers.

ARTICLE VI - ST. JOHN'S LUTHERAN DAY SCHOOL BOARD

St. John's Lutheran School Board (School Board) shall consist of at least 5 members who shall be elected by the Voters' Assembly for a 3 year term. The positions for these members shall include, but not be limited to the following officer positions: Chairperson, Vice-chairperson and Secretary. The terms of office shall be staggered so that at least one member of the board shall be elected annually. The members of the School Board shall elect their own officers and provide for their own rules of proceedings. Other committees as required to fulfill the School Board's duties shall be appointed by the School Board.

The basic objectives of this School Board are to plan and supervise policies of the Christian Day School, to determine policies, to select personnel for the various classes and programs, to provide the necessary means and facilities for all school classes, functions and activities, and to direct and supervise the entire educational program of the Congregation's day school.

The powers and responsibilities of the School Board will include, but not be limited to:

- Academic Standards, Curriculum and-Materials-,
- Admissions and Discipline policies, - Personnel Policies:

- Report to the Congregation;
- Budget and Finance;
- Promotion and Advertising

(Adopted May, 1997)

The School Board shall submit a list of candidates to the Voters' Assembly when calling a tenured teacher or principal.

ARTICLE VII - BOARD OF EVANGELISM

The Chairman of the Board will be nominated by the Nominating Committee. The Chairman will be elected by the Voters' Assembly In September for a two-year term. Other members of the Board, as required to fulfill the Board's duties, shall be appointed by the Chairman. Duties of the Board include:

- Plans, promotes and carries out an evangelism program In the congregation and the community.
- Seeks ways and means for an effective outreach toward unchurched souls in the community,
- Looks for ways to develop concern in the congregation for people who do not yet have the Savior.
- Enlists aid in visiting prospective members of the church.
- Assists the Pastor in training the laity to bring unchurched to the Pastor's instruction class.
- Helps to integrate members into the life and work of the Church.
- Evaluates the congregation as a mission force and a witnessing group.

ARTICLE VIII - BOARD OF DEACONS

The Board of Deacons shall consist of at least twelve (12) members and shall elect their own Chairman, Vice Chairman and Secretary. The Board may adopt procedures to accomplish their duties and may meet as deemed necessary. The purpose of the Deacons shall be to assist in fulfilling the nurturing functions of the Elders. The duties of the board Include:

- Personal ministry, for each and every member.

- Communication: having a personal way of alerting, gathering and informing the members, and of relaying members' personal concerns to the Pastor and the Board of Elders.
- Conservation: showing Immediate and systematic care of new members and nurturing established members.
- Development: helping members become aware of their talents and the opportunities for their development.

ARTICLE IX - VOTERS' ASSEMBLY

A voting member who is absent from two consecutive regular Voters' Assembly meetings, without valid excuse as determined by the Elders, shall have his name removed from the roster of voting members at the following meeting, should he be absent. Such erring members may be reinstated to voting membership by making application to the Voters' Assembly.

Voting members who are unable to attend Voters' Assembly meetings, for reasons of health or the infirmities of age, may apply to the Assembly through the Board of Elders for a standing excuse. Such excused members shall not be counted in determining a quorum.

The assembly shall meet once each quarter, preferably in February, April, September and December. Special meetings may be called as required, and said meetings shall be preceded by notices in the weekly bulletin for the two Sundays prior to each meeting.

In determining a quorum, the total membership will be the number of family units in the Voters' Assembly. A quorum will be present when more than 50% of the family units are represented by one or more voters of that family. A family unit is considered to be a household or either:

a) parent(s) and children at home; b) a single adult; or c) married adults. (Revised-April 28, 2002)

The Voters' Assembly shall approve the constitutions of all auxiliary units of the congregations.

Robert's Rules of Order, where applicable, shall govern the -conduct of business in the Voters' Assembly. Special rules of order may be adopted as the occasion arises.

The following order of business shall be adhered to in all regular Voters' Assembly meetings::

Devotion
Roll Call
Approval of the minutes
Admissions and released
Unfinished business
New business

Adjournment
Prayer

(amended May 4, 2003)

ARTICLE X - AUTHORITY FOR EXPENDITURES

The president and a member of the Board of Elders, or two members of the Elders, are authorized to expend a maximum of fifty dollars (\$50.00) for unusual or emergency items without the prior approval of the Voters' Assembly. The authority shall not extend to those items normally falling under the area of responsibility of the Board of Trustees and the Board of Education.

ARTICLE XI - PROCEDURES FOR CALLING ORDAINED AND COMMISSIONED MINISTERS, TEACHERS AND PRINCIPALS.

When a pastor, commissioned minister, teacher or principal is to be called, every member of the congregation shall have the privilege of making one or more nominations. The congregation shall also ask the President of the synodical District for recommendations. In the case of a call for a pastoral or other commissioned minister, the Board of Elders may serve as the screening committee, and in the case of the calling of a day school teacher or principal, the School Board may perform that function.

In the screening process for a pastoral candidate the respective board or committee shall submit all names to the respective District President for information and evaluation utilizing District guidelines. After receiving information and recommendations from the District President, the Board of Elders shall present to the congregation by means of a public announcement, at least two preferred candidates, together with a biographical sketch of each.

At the voters' meeting, called for the purpose of electing a new pastor, commissioned minister, day school teacher or principal, the preferred list may be amended to include any previously nominated candidates. However, the amendment may only be made by means of a two-thirds vote of those present. At that point the congregation shall be asked to agree to be satisfied with whatever selection is finally made by the voters' assembly.

Balloting shall proceed by means of a secret ballot vote. A majority is needed in order to determine the disposition of the call. If the majority of the voters' assembly elects a candidate, a call will then be sent to the prospective candidate. The call shall be conferred only on such qualified people who profess acceptance of, and adherence to, the Confessional Standard of the Evangelical Lutheran Church as stated in Article III of the Constitution of St. John's Lutheran Church.

(adopted May 4, 2003)

ARTICLE XII - CHURCH WORKER SCHOLARSHIP FUND

The scholarship fund will be named "The St. John's Church-Worker Scholarship Fund." The purpose of the fund is to support equally all members of St. John's. Lutheran Church who are pursuing full-time church work at a Lutheran college. Available funds will be equally distributed among eligible students and funds will be paid directly to the student.

The Scholarship Committee shall consist of three members who shall be elected by the voters' assembly for a two-year term. The terms of office shall be staggered so that at least one member of the committee shall be elected annually. The members of the committee shall elect a chairperson.

To qualify for the scholarship the recipient must be a member of St. John's Lutheran Church, be a full-time student enrolled in a Lutheran college and be preparing for full-time church work. By August 15, potential recipients must provide to the Scholarship Committee a copy of their "Letter of intent to enroll in a church worker program" or a letter of acceptance from the school they will be attending. The Scholarship Committee shall submit its recommendations to the voters' assembly for approval

The Scholarship Fund will invest no less than 25% of contributions and will distribute no less than 50% of the income generated by the Fund each year (provided there are members who qualify). Income is defined as "interest, dividends or capital gains." The Scholarship Committee will determine the actual percentage of funds to be invested and distributed annually based upon the contributions, investment growth, the number of applicants, and within the guidelines set forth above.

The Scholarship Fund will be invested in one or more of the three investment vehicles listed below. The voters' assembly shall vote annually as to which investment vehicle(s) or what percentage to each of the following investment vehicles to which the Scholarship Fund shall be invested.

- ▶ Certificates of Deposit
- ▶ Money Market Fund
- ▶ Lutheran Church Extension Fund

(adopted May 4, 2003)

ARTICLE XIII - AMENDING THE BY-LAWS

The By-laws of this congregation may be amended at any regular Voters' Assembly meeting by a two-thirds votes of members present. (Revised- February 9, 1992)

(Major revisions to the Bylaws were presented to the Voters' Assembly on September 10, 2000, and adopted by the Voters' Assembly on December 10, 2000. Other revisions were adopted by the Voters' Assembly on April 28, 2002; May 4, 2003, February 22, 2009 and March 4, 2018.)

CONSTITUTION OF ST. JOHN'S LUTHERAN CHURCH MOORE, OKLAHOMA

PREAMBLE

Whereas everything in a Christian Congregation is to be done decently and in order, according to God's Word (I Cor. 14:40, Col 2:5), whereas our forefathers have given us the example of a Christian Constitution, therefore we, the undersigned, join ourselves together in a Christian Congregation by ordaining this Constitution which shall govern the internal and external affairs of this Congregation.

ARTICLE I. NAME

The name of this congregation is: St. John's Lutheran Church of Moore, Cleveland County, Oklahoma, incorporated under the laws of the State of Oklahoma as a religious organization.

ARTICLE II. PURPOSE

The purpose of this Congregation is to foster Christian fellowship and charity among Its members, and in the community at large, through the preaching of the Word of God, and administration of the Holy Sacraments, the maintenance of sound doctrines, and the operation of agencies for Christian Education, all in accordance with the Confessional Standard of the Lutheran Church.

ARTICLE III. CONFSSIONAL STANDARDS

Section I. This congregation accepts all the canonical books of the Bible, the Scriptures of the Old and New Testaments, as the verbally inspired, infallible and inerrant Word of God, as the divine rule of faith and life.

Section II. This congregation acknowledges all the confessional Creeds of the Evangelical Lutheran Church (contained in the Book of Concord-1580) as the true and genuine exposition of Christian doctrine in full accord with the Word of God. By them shall be adjudged all the doctrinal questions and differences within the Congregation. These confessions are:

- the three ecumenical creeds (Apostles', Nicene and Athanasian),
- the unaltered Augsburg Confession of 1530,
- the Apology of the Augsburg Confession of 1530,
- the Smalcald Articles,
- Luther's Small and Large Catechisms and
- the Formula of Concord.

ARTICLE IV. MEMBERSHIP

The membership of the congregation includes the following:

Section I. Baptized membership

Those who have been baptized in the name of the Father, and of the Son and of the Holy Ghost, including children on the membership rolls who have not yet confirmed their baptismal vows.

Section II. Communicant membership

Communicant members are those who:

- have confirmed their baptismal vows;
- accept all the canonical books of the Old and New testaments as the only divine, authoritative rule of doctrine, faith and life;
- know and accept the Lutheran doctrines, at least as these are set forth in Luther's Small Catechism;
- lead a Christian life devoid of the manifest works of the flesh (Gal. 5:19-21);
- attend divine services faithfully if they are physically able;
- partake of the Lord's Supper frequently; submit, for the sake of love and peace, to the regulations which now are, or may be made by the Congregation, provided that these are not contrary to the Word of God;
- contribute regularly and faithfully, as God prospers them, toward the building of Christ's Kingdom in the congregation and throughout the world;
- devote their time and talents to the extension of the Kingdom of God;
- permit themselves to be fraternally admonished and corrected when they have erred; are not members affiliates, or supporters of organizations whose precepts conflict with the Word of God.

Section III. Voting Membership

In keeping with the adoption of Resolution 2-17 (Denver Convention,, 1969) Lutheran Synod--Missouri Synod, all adult communicant members are eligible for voting membership in this congregation. (amended September 10, 1974)

Section IV. Voting Membership Requirements

All Communicant members who have reached their eighteenth year, having been accepted by the Voters' Assembly, and having signed this Constitution, shall be entitled to vote and to hold office. The right to hold office must conform to the general Scriptural principles that a WOMAN neither hold the pastoral office nor "exercise authority over men," namely Board of Elders, President and/or Vice-President. (Amended September 10, 1974)

Section V. Inactive Membership

The names of those who have been absent from church for a period of more than one year and whose place of residence cannot be found shall be brought before the Voters' Assembly for consideration of placement on inactive membership list.

Section VI. Excommunication, Expulsion, Withdrawal from Membership:

An erring member of this Congregation shall be admonished according to the word of God (Matt. 18:15-20), and shall be excommunicated if such admonition remains unheeded. Should such erring member refuse to submit to church discipline, he thereby excludes himself from the fold. In either case, his membership in this congregation shall cease.

Such action shall, however require a 11«0-thirds (2/3} majority vote of the voters' assembly.

Such actions as named above shall be brought to the attention of the Board of Elders. If after being admonished, and otherwise following the commands of Matthew 18, said person is still remiss, the board of Elders shall make a recommendation to the voters' assembly for action on removal from membership.

When such matter is intended to be brought before the voters' assembly, such alleged offender shall receive an invitation, via certified mail, twenty days before such voters' meeting, in which this matter is to be acted upon, commences. At this meeting, the alleged offender shall be given an opportunity to respond to the allegations. Accurate minutes are to be kept of such meeting and a review of the minutes prior to adjournment shall be conducted.

Such excommunicated member thereby forfeits all rights and privileges of membership. This also applies to those who sever their connection with the Congregation by withdrawal or removal.

ARTICLE V. OFFICIALS OF THE CONGREGATION

Section I. The Office of Pastor shall be conferred only on such qualified people who profess their acceptance of, and adherence to, the Confessional Standard as established in Article III.

Section II. The Voters' Assembly shall elect the following officers:

Board of Elders,
Board of Trustees,
Secretary,
Treasurer,
President,
Vice President,
Financial Secretary,
Assistant Treasurer
Chairman of Board of Education,
School Board

These officers have authority as is, delegated to them by the Voters' Assembly for their respective office. The Voters' Assembly may whenever necessary, create other offices in addition to these .

Section III. Called workers and persons holding office in this Congregation may be removed from office in proper and Christian order, and so far as is applicable, In accordance with procedures prescribed by the Lutheran Church--Missouri Synod. Valid and just causes for such removal are: persistent adherence to false doctrines, pursuing a scandalous and ungodly life, or inability or persistent unfaithfulness in discharging duties of their office. The action must be in conformity with Matt. 18:15-20.

Such action shall, however, require a two-thirds (2/3) majority vote. Such actions as named above shall be brought to the attention of the Board of Elders. If after being admonished, and otherwise following the commands of Matthew 18, said person is still remiss, the Board of Elders shall make a recommendation to the voters Assembly for action on removal from office. When such matter is intended to be brought before the voters' assembly, such alleged offender shall receive an invitation, via certified mail, twenty days before such voters meeting, in which this matter is to be acted upon, commences. At this meeting, the alleged-offender shall be given an opportunity to respond to the allegations. Accurate minutes are to be kept of such meeting and a review of the minutes prior to the adjournment shall be conducted.

Section IV. All called workers such as Pastors, teachers, Directors of Christian Education (OGE), etc., shall be conferred only on such qualified people who profess their acceptance of, and adherence to, the Confessional Standard as established in Article III.

ARTICLE VI. PROPERTY RIGHTS

Section I. All property owned and controlled by this Congregation shall be entrusted to the care of a Board of Trustees who shall administer it in the name of, and in accordance with the instructions and resolutions of the Congregation. When the Board of Trustees acts in accordance with the Instruction and resolutions of the Congregation, then only the Congregation assumes responsibility and shall protect the trustees, either individually, or as a Board, against liability.

Section II. In the event that a separation or division takes place within this congregation--may God forbid--on account of doctrine, or for any other reason or cause, the property rights shall remain with those members who continue to adhere to Articles III and V of this Constitution, though it be but one member. Should the Congregation dissolve, its property and all rights connected therewith, shall be transferred to the Oklahoma District of the Lutheran Church--Missouri Synod.

ARTICLE VII. SYNODICAL CONNECTION

This Congregation shall be a member of the Lutheran Church--Missouri Synod, provided this synodical body steadfastly adheres to all the acknowledged Confessions of the Lutheran Church (Article 111). The relationship of the Synod to this Congregation shall be advisory only and not legislative.

ARTICLE VIII. CHURCH FORMS, TEXT--BOOKS, MEETINGS

Section I. Only such hymns, forms and prayers and liturgies shall be used in the public services of this Congregation, and in other ministerial acts, as conform to Article 111.

Section II. All matters of the Congregation shall be deliberated and acted upon in the regular meetings, or in special meetings of the Voters' Assembly in the manner prescribed in the By-laws. All matters of doctrine shall be decided according to the Bible and the accepted Confessions of this Congregation. (Article III)

ARTICLE IX. AUTHORITY OF THE CONGREGATION

This congregation shall, through the Voters' Assembly, have supreme authority over its affairs. The Voters' Assembly shall not make any decisions, or orders which are contrary to Article III.

ARTICLE X. BY-LAWS

This Congregation may adopt such by-laws as it seems necessary for the accomplishment of its purpose.

ARTICLE XI. AMENDING THE-CONSTITUTION

A proposal to amend this Constitution must be submitted in writing in a regular Voters' Assembly meeting. This proposal shall become a part of the Constitution upon ratification by a two-thirds majority of the voters present at the following regular Voters' Assembly meeting, provided: that the following Articles of this Constitution shall be unalterable and irrevocable:

Article III, Section I and II
Article IV, Section I and II
Article V, Section I and II
Article VI, Section II
Article IX
Article XI

No article of amendment may be added which is contrary to the accepted practices of the Lutheran Church-Missouri Synod.

(All revisions presented to the Voters' Assembly on September 10, 2000, and adopted by the Voters' Assembly on December 10, 2000)