

THE CONSTITUTION OF THE LIVING WATER EVANGELICAL CHURCH

ARTICLE I NAME AND AFFILIATION

The name of this church shall be LIVING WATER EVANGELICAL CHURCH. This church shall maintain its administrative independence and shall be governed only by its elected Church Board.

ARTICLE II CONFESSION OF FAITH

God: We believe that there is one God, who eternally exists in three persons: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.

Jesus Christ: We believe that Jesus Christ is fully God and fully man, was conceived by the Holy Spirit and born of the virgin Mary. We believe in His sinless life, in His miracles, in His vicarious and atoning death through His shed blood, and in His bodily resurrection. He ascended to the right hand of the Father and will personally return in power and glory.

The Holy Spirit: We believe in the Holy Spirit, who convicts the world of sin, sanctifies and empowers the believer to live a godly life, and enables the believer to serve the church through spiritual gifts.

The Bible: We believe that the Old and New Testaments are the inspired, inerrant, infallible, and authoritative Word of God, and are the only divine and only rule of Christian faith and practice.

Humanity: We believe that human beings were created in the image and likeness of God, but that all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God, thereby deserving physical and spiritual death and eternal separation from God.

Salvation: We believe that salvation has been provided only through Jesus Christ for all people, and those who repent of their sin and believe in Jesus Christ's death and resurrection for their sin are forgiven of their sin, receive the gift of eternal life, are indwelt by the Holy Spirit, and become children of God.

The Church: We believe that the Church consists of all who repent and believe in the Good News of Jesus Christ and that its purpose here on earth is to be Christ's witnesses and to make disciples of all nations. The local church is a community of believers who gather regularly for worship, instruction, fellowship, service, evangelism, and to observe the ordinances of Baptism and the Lord's Supper.

Christ's Return: We believe in the imminent return of Jesus Christ, which will be personal and visible. There will be a bodily resurrection of the saved and the unsaved: the saved will be raised to eternal life and will reign with Christ forever and ever, the unsaved to eternal judgment and separation from God.

ARTICLE III **PURPOSE**

The purpose of this church shall be to unite believers with the Lord in worship, fellowship and spiritual edification. Our mission shall be to propagate the Gospel according to the Scripture. Under the guidance of the Holy Spirit, we shall also assume our Christian responsibility in love and charity.

ARTICLE IV **MEMBERSHIP**

Membership of this church shall be open to all true Christian believers. This church requires that all applicants must first have been received into the Christian Community by baptism before they can be formally accepted as a member.

ARTICLE V **PLENARY MEMBERSHIP MEETING**

A plenary membership meeting of this church can be called at any time by the Church Board. A necessary quorum shall be one-half of the registered members with voting right. The plenary membership meeting shall be held at least annually.

The following decisions can only be made in a plenary membership meeting:

1. The appointment or the termination of church pastor.
2. The election and the removal of a member of Church Board.
3. The approval of an annual budget.

4. The initiation and the termination of a major financial project, such as a building program.
5. The establishment of a branch church.
6. The adoption and the amendment of the constitution and the by-laws of this church.

The adoption or approval of each of the above decisions requires a two-third majority of members who vote at the plenary membership meeting. Any other items require only a simple majority.

ARTICLE VI **THE CHURCH BOARD**

The governing body of this church shall be the Church Board (CB). Board members are elders and deacons, and they shall be elected in a plenary membership meeting. In addition, all full-time pastors of the church shall be automatically voting members of the Church Board. The duration of service of board member are specified in the by-laws.

ARTICLE VII **CHURCH FINANCE**

This church shall manage its own finance and shall be responsible for its own debt.

The general operating fund of this church shall be administered and budgeted by the Church Board. A financial report shall be prepared annually by the church treasurer, who then shall forward this financial report to the Church Board for review. Next, the financial report shall be reported at the plenary membership meeting.

The Church Board may set-up special funds for various projects and may appoint trustee(s) for each fund.

ARTICLES VIII **DISPOSITION OF CHURCH PROPERTY**

Should such conditions arise that the church work cannot be continued. The Church Board shall, upon the dissolution of the church and after paying or making provision for the

payment of all liabilities of the church, dispose of all assets of the church exclusively to such an organization or organizations operated exclusively for maintaining the same fundamental confession of faith, such recipient organizations should of course qualify as exempt organizations under Section 501 (C) (3) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1954 (or the corresponding provision of any future United States Internal Revenue Law), as the deacons shall determine.

ARTICLE IX **ADOPTION OF BY LAWS**

By-laws not in conflict with God's will and the Church Constitution may be adopted at any time during a plenary membership meeting. Church members shall be alerted to the importance of attending for the proper consideration of such proposed by-laws or amendments to the church constitution.

ARTICLE X **AMENDMENT OF THE CONSTITUTION**

An amendment of this constitution may be introduced at any plenary membership meeting provided that a written notification of the amendment has been given to the Church Board and an exposure of the amendment has been given to the full church membership at least twenty-one (21) days prior to the duly scheduled meeting.