

***CHRIST CHURCH
OF
OAK BROOK***

- Constitution -

Incorporated
March 11, 1965
Amended
December 5, 1968
November 30, 1981
December 2, 1985
February 28, 2006

31st & York Road
Oak Brook, Illinois 60523

ARTICLE I

NAME

The name of the Church is Christ Church of Oak Brook

ARTICLE II

PURPOSE

The general purpose of this Church is to conduct and maintain a Church for the worship and service of Almighty God according to the principles out-lined in Articles III, IV, and V of this Constitution.

ARTICLE III

COVENANT

The Covenant by which the Church exists as a distinct body, and which every member accepts, is as follows:

We profess our decided attachment to that system of the Christian religion which is designated EVANGELICAL.

WE BELIEVE that the Scriptures of the Old and New Testaments are the Word of God and the all-sufficient rule of faith and practice.

WE BELIEVE that there is one and but one living and true God, subsisting in three persons, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, equal in power and glory; that this triune God created all, upholds all, and governs all.

WE BELIEVE that Jesus Christ is the Son of God, the Saviour of the World and that through His life, death, and resurrection, an atonement was made for sin, and redemption was provided for all mankind.

WE BELIEVE that repentance for sin and the acceptance of Jesus Christ as a personal Saviour is the one and only way whereby sinful man can inherit eternal life.

WE BELIEVE the Holy Spirit regenerates the soul of the believer and brings man into saved relations with God, and that He is the Comforter and Guide of all who receive Jesus Christ as a personal Saviour.

WE BELIEVE in what is termed "Apostles' Creed" as embodying the fundamental facts of the Christian faith.

ARTICLE IV

A. THE SACRAMENTS

We believe that Jesus instituted two Sacraments for the edification of the Church, Baptism and the Lord's Supper. These Sacraments shall be administered according to the approved forms and under the supervision of the Board of Elders.

1. BAPTISM

Baptism shall be administered by sprinkling to all believers who have not been baptized and to children provided either or both parents are members of this Church.

2. The LORD'S SUPPER

The Lord's Supper shall be administered to believers at least four times each year.

B. ORGANIZATIONS

1. All organizations of the Church must submit a constitution to the Board of Elders for approval.
2. All instructors, Bible study leaders, and youth leaders must be approved by the Board of Elders.

ARTICLE V

MEMBERSHIP

- A. Any person who joins our covenant may be received into membership as an active member upon recommendation of the Board of Elders. Membership will be granted upon public confession of faith or reaffirmation of faith made in a regular worship service of the congregation, or on satisfactory presentation of a letter of recommendation from another church which holds to the truths stated in the covenant and reaffirmation of faith.
- B. The duties of the members of this Church are:
 1. To attempt to live in all their relationships according to the spirit and teachings of Jesus as revealed in the Bible.
 2. To attend faithfully the services of worship of this church.
 3. To contribute to its support, its missionary program, and benevolences according to the principles of Christian stewardship.
 4. To share in the organized work.
- C. Members who move from this Parish shall be encouraged to affiliate with another Church which is true to God's Word. The Board of Elders shall have authority to grant letters of recommendation.

ARTICLE VI

MEETINGS AND FISCAL YEAR

- A. The annual business meeting of the Church shall be held during the first quarter of each fiscal year on a date determined by the Board of Trustees for the following purposes: to elect members to the Board of Trustees and the Board of Elders; to consider the budgets for expenses, missionary program, and benevolences for the ensuing twelve months as recommended by the Board of Trustees and Board of Elders; to receive the annual report of the Church officers for the immediately preceding twelve-month period; and to consider any other matters which may properly come before the meeting and which have been processed by the Board of Trustees or Board of Elders. Notification of meetings will be published in the Church Bulletin at least two weeks before the date of the meeting, and such notice shall contain the proposed agenda, the names of nominees to the Board of Elders and Board of Trustees and the number of each to be elected.
- B. Special business meetings of the members of the Church may be held at the call of the Minister (Senior Pastor), the Board of Trustees, or the Board of Elders. Notices of such meetings shall be issued at least two weeks prior to the meeting and specify the items of business to be presented.
- C. A Quorum of the Church members shall consist of those who appear at the meetings. A two-thirds majority of those present shall be necessary for calling or dismissal of the Minister; for purchasing,

mortgaging, or selling Church property; or for amending this Constitution. A simple majority shall prevail on other matters of business.

- D. The officers of the annual or special business meetings of the Church shall be the officers of the Board of Trustees.
- E. The fiscal year of the Church shall be January 1 to December 31.

ARTICLE VII

ADMINISTRATIVE BODIES AND OFFICERS

The officers of the Church shall be the Minister, the members of the Board of Trustees, and the members of the Board of Elders.

A. BOARD OF TRUSTEES

1. This Board shall consist of not less than five and not more than twelve members. Each member shall be elected at a meeting of the Church (see Art. VI:A) and shall serve for a five-year term.
2. This Board shall elect officers annually from among themselves including a Vice-Chairman, Secretary, and Treasurer. The Secretary and Treasurer shall also serve as the officers of the Church.
3. This Board shall prepare nominees for the Board of Trustees for the annual business meeting of the Church.
4. This Board shall prepare and submit to the Church at its annual business meeting (see Art. VI:A) for its consideration and action, a budget showing estimated income and proposed expenditures. The securing of funds necessary to meet the current expenses shall be under the direction and control of the Board of Trustees.
5. This Board shall fix from time to time the compensation of the staff and other employees of the Church.
6. This Board shall prepare a nomination for the Minister of the Church in the event of a vacancy.
7. This Board shall arrange to supply the pulpit during the Minister's absence.
8. This Board, subject to the approval of the Minister, shall have the responsibility of the employment or termination of employment of other ministers and professional staff.
9. This Board shall make a report of its work to the Church at its annual business meeting and submit such recommendations as it may deem necessary and desirable.
10. This Board shall be responsible for maintaining the legal status of the Church, and its members shall be deemed the "Directors" described in the articles of incorporation of the Church.
11. The care, custody, and control of the real and personal property of the Church is vested in the Board of Trustees, and the Board is authorized and empowered to take such steps as are necessary or proper to protect the properties of the Church and its interests therein; to make such repairs, improvements, and alteration of the properties of the Church, and to provide for such maintenance work on said properties as shall be necessary or proper to maintain and keep them in good, safe, and serviceable condition; to regulate and control the use of the properties of the Church; to arrange for annual and special audits by a competent auditor of the books and records of the Treasurer of the Church; to invest funds of the Church, which in the opinion of this Board are not required for current payments or expenses, in such securities as may be lawful investments; to accept or reject on behalf of the Church, gifts, bequests, devises, or trusts, and to determine the manner in which said gifts, bequests, devises, or trusts shall be expended or invested, provided that

whenever a condition or direction as to its use is provided for in any such gift, bequest, devise, or trust, it shall be scrupulously complied with; to enter into or make such contracts, deeds, and other instruments as may be necessary or appropriate to carry out the powers and duties of the Board; and to exercise such other powers and perform such other duties as are provided for elsewhere in this Constitution or by law; provided, how-ever, that the Board of Trustees shall not have power, unless authorized or directed to do so by vote of the Church, to (1) sell or convey, mortgage, or encumber any real estate of the Church or any interest therein, (2) erect, construct or enlarge any building or (3) purchase any real estate or interest therein. The Chairman or Vice-Chairman and Secretary or Assistant Secretary of the Board of Trustees shall have power to execute in the name and on behalf of this Church all contracts, deeds, and other instruments authorized by the Board or by the Church.

12. This Board shall appoint such Committees as are needed for the proper administration of the Church. A list of nominees for the Committees and their Chairmen shall be prepared by the officers and ratified by the Board of Trustees.
13. Members of the Board of Trustees shall serve as members of the Board of Elders.

B. BOARD OF ELDERS

1. This Board shall consist of not less than nine members who shall be elected at the annual business meeting of the Church (see Art. VI:A) for a term of three years.
2. This Board shall elect annually from among themselves a Vice-Chairman and a Secretary.
3. This Board shall prepare a list of nominees for the Board of Elders to be presented at the annual business meeting of the Church.
4. This Board shall be the advisors of the Minister as to the spiritual interests of the Church.
5. This Board shall assist the Minister in administering the Sacraments of the Church, and shall make the necessary preparations for their observances (see Art. IV:A).
6. This Board shall assist the ministerial staff in visiting the members of the Church.
7. This Board shall deal with matters of discipline.
8. This Board shall authorize the issuance of letters of recommendation to other churches.
9. This Board shall appoint such Committees as may be necessary in the discharge of their responsibilities including:
 - a. Supervision of organizations (See Art. IV:B).
 - b. A Mission Committee with the following duties:
 1. To foster and promote missionary interest in the Church.
 2. To recommend to the Board of Elders a program for mission activity and support.
 - c. A Diaconate consisting of deacons and deaconesses with the following duties:
 1. To foster and promote the benevolent programs and interests of the Church with a view to furthering the principles of Christian stewardship.
 2. To recommend to the Board of Elders a program for benevolent activity and support.

3. To assist the ministerial staff in visiting and aiding the sick and needy in the Church or community.
10. Nominees for Committees and their Chairmen shall be prepared by the officers and ratified by the Board of Elders.

ARTICLE VIII

THE MINISTER

- A. The Minister shall be elected by the members of the Church from a nomination presented by the Board of Trustees.
- B. The duly elected Minister shall be installed by the Board of Elders at a regular worship service of the Church.
- C. He shall have the spiritual oversight of the membership; shall have charge of the exercises of public worship; shall administer the Sacraments; shall preach the Word; shall be the leader of devotional meetings of the Church; and shall perform such other duties as usually pertain to his office.
- D. He shall be Chairman of the Board of Trustees, Chairman of the Board of Elders, and an ex officio member of all committees.
- E. He shall be the executive head of the Church staff and employees.
- F. He shall make a report of his work as Minister at the annual business meeting of the Church.
- G. He shall conduct his life in keeping with the office he holds and shall preach and teach in harmony with the Scriptures and the Church Covenant.

ARTICLE IX

AMENDMENTS

This Constitution, with the exception of Articles II, III, IV, VIII, and IX, may be amended by an affirmative vote of two-thirds of the voting members present at an annual business meeting or at a special meeting called for that purpose, providing that due notice of such proposed amendment has been given by mail, at least one month prior to such meeting. Voting on all amendments shall be by ballot.