

**THE CONSTITUTION AND BYLAWS
CHERRY LOG CHRISTIAN CHURCH
(DISCIPLES OF CHRIST)
CHERRY LOG, GEORGIA
November, 2006 REVISION**

PREAMBLE

We, the members of the Cherry Log Christian Church (Disciples of Christ) of Cherry Log, Georgia in faithful response to the will and purposes of God as revealed through Jesus Christ and God's continuing revelation in the world, do hereby adopt this Constitution and Bylaws.

ARTICLE I

Name and Affiliation

The name of this congregation shall be Cherry Log Christian Church (Disciples of Christ), hereinafter referred to as Cherry Log Christian Church or the Congregation, organized to be a nonprofit corporation under the Georgia Nonprofit Corporation Code, affiliated with and an integral part of the Christian Church (Disciples of Christ) in Georgia and the Christian Church (Disciples of Christ) in the United States and Canada.

ARTICLE II

Purpose

Cherry Log Christian Church is an open community of Christians where all people are welcome without prejudice to hear God's Word, the Good News of Jesus Christ; where they may respond to that Word in faith and faithfulness; where their faith may be nurtured through worship, study and fellowship; and where they may witness in faithfulness through service in the Congregation, the local community and the world.

ARTICLE III

Membership

Membership of this Congregation, as a part of the whole family of God on earth, shall consist of the following: those who are now members of the Congregation; those who shall unite with it by confession of faith in Jesus Christ as Lord and Savior, giving expression of their faith through baptism and commitment to Him; and those who unite by transfer of membership, thereby reaffirming their faith and commitment to Christ. Some members may wish to have an associate relationship to the Congregation because of longstanding membership in another Congregation or part-time residence in the community. In the life and leadership of the Congregation no distinction is made in types of membership. No member shall be deleted from membership records except on the basis of specific information indicating that the individual is deceased, has united with another Congregation, or desires removal of membership.

ARTICLE IV

THE CONGREGATION

Rights, Privileges, and Responsibilities

The Congregation shall manage its affairs under the Lordship of Jesus Christ; determine its faithfulness to the Gospel with respect to the basis of membership; own, control and encumber its property; organize and carry out the mission and witness of the Congregation; establish its budgets and financial policies; call its minister(s) and the other staff; and participate, through voting representatives, in regional and general assemblies of the Christian Church (Disciples of Christ) in forming the corporate judgments of the Christian Church (Disciples of Christ).

The Congregation shall demonstrate voluntarily its mutual concern for the nurture, mission, and witness of the whole church, and, among other responsibilities, it shall: proclaim the gospel; administer baptism

and the Lord's Supper; provide for the spiritual nurture of its members; grow in understanding that the church is a universal fellowship; transcend all barriers within the human family such as race and culture; be faithful in Christian stewardship, striving to share proportionately in providing resources for the total life, work and witness of the Christian Church (Disciples of Christ); choose voting representatives to the general and regional assemblies of the Christian Church (Disciples of Christ); and seek to realize the oneness of the church of Jesus Christ through cooperation with other churches of the community and with present and emerging ecumenical structures.

The Congregation shall sustain its minister(s) in faithfulness and honor, and in matters pertaining to relationships with the minister(s) seek counsel from the executive regional minister.

The Congregation shall exercise and enjoy all other rights, privileges and responsibilities requisite or appropriate to carrying out its purpose.

ARTICLE V

Officers, General Board, Elders, Deacons and Committees

Section A. Officers

The Congregation shall elect from its members a Moderator, Deputy Moderator, Clerk, Treasurer, and Deputy Treasurer. These officers shall be elected at the Annual Meeting of the Congregation and shall serve as Officers of the Congregation and the General Board as set forth in the Bylaws.

Section B. General Board

The Congregation shall have a General Board which shall be responsible to the Congregation and have authority to act on behalf of the Congregation when it is not in a Congregational meeting.

The General Board shall be composed of members as set forth in the Bylaws and for terms of office herein stated.

The General Board shall establish by its action the program and budget of the Congregation, subject to action by the Congregation at its Annual Meeting or called Congregational meeting. It shall be responsible also for conducting all legal business matters of the Congregation and carry out such other responsibilities as may be defined in the Bylaws.

The General Board shall serve as trustees of the Congregation. The General Board shall hold title to all properties of the Congregation, which shall normally include all trust funds belonging to the Congregation and shall manage the same, and shall perform such other duties as may be required of trustees by the laws of the state of Georgia. The General Board may assign duties to Standing Committees and/or Officers. The General Board must approve all financial and legal activity.

Section C. Elders and Deacons

This Congregation shall have Elders, Deacons, and Youth Deacons elected from its membership without regard to gender. Their election, qualifications, and responsibilities are set forth in the Bylaws.

Section D. Committees

The Congregation, through the General Board, shall establish Committees and other organizations, necessary for the conduct of the program and work of the Congregation. The Chair of each committee and each major constituency group shall be nominated by the General Board, to be elected by the Congregation. The Chair of each Committee, in consultation with the Nominating Committee, shall nominate members of its Committee, which shall be presented to the General Board for Confirmation.

At the initiative of the Minister(s), the Moderator, the Chair of the Finance Committee, or the committee chairs themselves, the committee chairs may be called to meet to coordinate programs, set calendars, and do budget planning.

Section E. Volunteer Coordinator

PURPOSE:

To provide volunteer human resources from the congregation to fill the needs of the church and its committees, by encouraging church members to support church programs with their time, experience, and energy.

To be creative and sensitive to specific church needs and members' willingness to serve in a capacity suitable to their particular skills and desires.

DUTIES:

1. Determine needs of Committees, Elders, Deacons, Board Moderator, Pastor, Office by personal survey and documentation.
2. With these needs in mind, survey the congregation to create a database of skills, willingness, etc.
3. Work with the Technology committee to computerize the above survey results for easy retrieval.
4. On a continuing basis fill vacancies with willing member volunteers.

Section F. Church Historian

Shall be elected for a three (3) year term of service, with no restrictions on re-election.

Shall maintain a scrapbook of church activities with photographs, newspaper articles, event programs; chronicle important events in the life of the church

ARTICLE VI

Congregational Meetings

A. Weekly Worship

The Congregation shall gather weekly to worship the living God in song, in prayer, in the preaching and teaching of God's Word and in the communion of the Lord's Supper. Because worship is one means

by which the congregation reaches out to the community with the Gospel, the worship services of the Congregation shall be open to any and all people who wish to participate. The service of the Lord's Supper shall always be open to all who profess Jesus Christ as Lord and Savior.

B. Annual Meeting

The Congregation shall hold a business meeting each year to elect officers and to ratify the ministry plan, including the budget for the following year. The annual meeting to be held in November of each year at a time and place set by the General Board. Notice of all stated or special Congregational meetings shall be announced at a regular Sunday morning worship service of the Congregation at least one week in advance of the meeting and by means of the church newsletter or a written notice sent through the mail and postmarked at least ten days before the meeting. Purpose, date, time and place of meeting shall be indicated in each notice.

C. Conduct

The Congregation whether it is gathered in worship, in fellowship or to discuss and decide on matters affecting it, is part of the universal body of Christ and shall conduct itself accordingly. The Moderator, or the Moderator Elect, in the absence of the Moderator, carries primary responsibility for the conduct and tone of the meeting which shall follow Robert's Rules of Order.

D. Quorum and Majority

Except, as specified below, congregational business shall require a minimum of one-third of the membership to be present and voting. A simple majority of the members present and voting shall decide any matters before the Congregation. To implement or amend this Constitution and Bylaws shall require a minimum of one-half of the membership to be present and voting. To call a Pastor, to terminate the services of a Pastor, to encumber property of the congregation or to otherwise place the congregation in debt shall require a minimum of one-half of the membership to be present and voting. To Disassociate the Congregation from the Christian Church (Disciples of Christ) in the United States and Canada shall require nine-tenths of the membership to be present and voting.

Membership, for the purpose of establishing a Quorum at the annual meeting, shall be defined as those members who are active and participating in the life of the church. The numerical designation of the Membership (for determining a Quorum) will be set by the Minister, the Church Treasurer and Moderator by the last Sunday of September of each year, and announced to the General Board by its next scheduled meeting, and published in the Cherrylogue, prior to the Annual Meeting.”

E. Absentee Voting

Because of the geographical distribution of this Congregation, absentee ballots shall be allowed on all major Congregational votes. “Present and voting” allows for official numbered ballot voting. Members not able to attend Congregational Meetings should request a numbered ballot from the Church Office.

ARTICLE VII

Amendments

This Constitution may be amended at any Congregational Meeting by a two-thirds vote of the members present and voting on the amendment, provided written notice of the proposed amendment has been read before the Congregation at a Sunday morning service and sent through the mail to all members of the Congregation at least ten days prior to the time the vote is to be taken.

For these Congregational Meetings, one-half of the membership shall comprise a quorum. Members unable to attend the meeting may contact the Church Office to obtain a numbered mail-in ballot. These ballots will need to be received prior to the convening of the actual meeting in order to be counted and, as such, will comprise a part of the quorum.

BYLAWS

I. ELDERS AND DEACONS

A. Election and Term of Office

The Congregation, at its Annual Meeting, shall elect for terms of three (3) years the Elders and Deacons. Elders and Deacons shall be eligible for reelection after one full year off. Youth Deacons (members between the ages of 13 and 18) shall be elected to terms of one year.

B. Qualifications

The qualification for Elders and Deacons and Youth Deacons shall be the same as described for the Officers of the Congregation in Bylaw III, B.

C. Responsibilities

Elders shall be responsible for the spiritual life and development of the Congregation, preside at the Lord's Table, assist and share with the Minister(s) in the conduct of his or her pastoral and priestly functions and provide supportive counsel for the Minister(s) regarding the spiritual life and development of the Congregation.

Deacons shall be responsible for the maintenance and growth of the Congregation through its individual members and corporate life in witness in the community and the world. The Deacons shall represent the Congregation's ministry to the community, taking leadership roles in the Congregation's ministries of benevolence and service. The Deacons shall assist the Elders in tending to the spiritual well being of the Congregation. Although the distribution of the elements of the Lord's Supper shall not be restricted to Deacons, the Deacons publicly witness to their ministry of service in assisting with the Lord's Supper.

Youth Deacons, in close consultation with the Minister(s), shall assist the Deacons in representing the Congregation's ministry to the community. The Youth Deacons publicly witness to their ministry by participating in the service of the Lord's Supper, by serving as ushers, and by serving on Standing Committees.

Emeritus Officers

The Congregation, through election as Emeritus, may honor members who have served the Body of Christ faithfully as Elders, Deacons, or other elected officers, but who are no longer able to serve. The Congregation shall hold Emeritus Officers in high esteem.

II. GENERAL BOARD

A. Membership

1. Membership of the General Board shall be composed of the Officers of the Congregation, Elders, Deacons, Chairs of Standing Committees and the chief elected officers of major constituency groups of men, women and youth.
2. The Minister(s) of the Congregation shall serve as member(s) ex officio of the General Board.

B. Election and Term of Office

1. Officers of the Congregation shall serve on the General Board by virtue of the office held and for the current term of office. They shall serve the General Board, as well as the Congregation, as Moderator, Deputy Moderator, Clerk, Treasurer and Deputy Treasurer.
2. After Deacons and Elders have served a single, three-year term on the General Board, they shall be ineligible for re-election to the General Board through that office until one year has elapsed. As the Congregation changes in size, the number of Elders and Deacons should change in accordance with the needs of the Congregation.
3. Chairs of Standing Committees and the chief elected officers of major constituency groups of men, women, and youth shall be members of the Board by virtue of office and for their current terms

of office. The Chair of each Committee shall be a member of the Board, except, if there are Co-Chairs of a Committee, then they will be counted as one chair for quorum purposes, and shall cast only one vote on behalf of the Committee.

C. Authority

1. The General Board shall perform its duties according to the authority granted in this Constitution and Bylaws or otherwise designated to it by the Congregation.
2. In keeping with the traditions of the Christian Church (Disciples of Christ), the ultimate authority of the Congregation shall rest with the Congregation. All organizations within the Congregation shall be responsible to and report regularly to the General Board and through it to the Congregation.
3. The General Board shall concern itself with policy rather than administrative matters, taking into full account the responsibility of the Congregation to the total nurture, witness and mission of the Christian Church (Disciples of Christ) and the needs of the immediate community in which the members of the Congregation live.
4. Robert's Rules of Order (Revised) shall govern all business meetings of the General Board.
5. A simple majority of the members of the General Board shall constitute a quorum.

D. Responsibilities

1. The General Board shall conduct its affairs in harmony with this Constitution and Bylaws of the Congregation.
2. The General Board shall be responsible for conducting the business affairs of the Congregation and providing for the planning, coordinating, resourcing, evaluating and implementing the work and activities of the Congregation.
3. The General Board, acting on behalf of the Congregation, shall establish and work through Standing Committees. The following committees are related to the basic characteristics of the Congregation as church: Worship, Evangelism, Outreach Service, Christian Education, Membership, Music, Stewardship and Finance, Property, Personnel and Nominating Committee.
4. The General Board shall establish, when necessary, a Search Committee for the purpose of securing a minister for the

Congregation. Membership and responsibilities of this committee shall be as described in Bylaw III, B-1.

5. The General Board shall establish other committees as needed for the conduct of the Congregation's work.
6. The General Board shall receive regular written reports from its committees and from other organizations within the Congregation; and it shall act upon such reports with approval, disapproval, modification or referral back to the respective committee or other organization.
7. The General Board will receive the proposed annual budget of the congregation from the Stewardship and Finance Committee and recommend its approval or approval with amendment to the Congregation at the Annual Meeting. Over budget requests will be made by the responsible party and submitted to the Stewardship and Finance Committee. The Stewardship and Finance Committee may approve or disapprove amounts of \$1,000 or under. Amounts more than \$1,000 will be submitted to the General Board. The General Board's authority will be limited to 10% of the cumulative total annual expense budget. Amounts exceeding that figure will be submitted to the Congregation.
8. The General Board shall recommend to the Congregation the calling of the minister(s).
9. The General Board shall be responsible for receiving written reports from its minister(s), Elders, Deacons, Officers and the various committees within the Congregation.
10. Regular meetings of the General Board shall be held at least six (6) times each year, as set by the Moderator and the Minister. Notwithstanding the authority of the Moderator and Minister, the General Board shall have the authority, but is not required, to set its regular meetings. These meetings are open to all members of the Congregation, with only the voting members of the General Board voting. Special meetings of the General Board shall be called by the Moderator and the Senior Minister or three (3) members of the General Board. Notice of special meetings shall be made to all Board Members by telephone, by announcement at a Sunday Morning worship service, email or by mail. The purpose, date, time, and place of the meeting shall be indicated in each notice.

III. OFFICERS OF THE CONGREGATION

A. Election and Term of Office

The Congregation, at the Annual Meeting, shall elect for terms of one year the following Officers:

1. Moderator of the Congregation, who also shall serve as Moderator of the General Board.
2. Deputy Moderator of the Congregation, who also shall serve as Deputy Moderator of the General Board.
3. Clerk of the Congregation, who also shall serve as Clerk of the General Board.
4. Treasurer of the Congregation.
5. Deputy Treasurer of the Congregation.

B. Qualifications

1. Officers must have been members of the Congregation for at least one full year.
2. Due to the ministry function of Officers, it is recommended that the geographical residence of candidates be considered.
3. Officers must be active in the Congregation's life and give evidence of seeking to grow in their own understanding and practice of the Christian life. Such evidence would include the following:
 - a. Conduct of one's life in light of the teachings of Jesus Christ.
 - b. Promotion of good will and Christian fellowship in the Congregation and community.
 - c. Attendance at the worship services and stated meetings of the Congregation
 - d. Regular financial contributions to the support of the Congregation and its outreach program.
 - e. Willingness to fulfill assignments in behalf of the Congregation.
 - f. Demonstrate skills or potential for carrying out responsibilities of the particular office.

C. Responsibilities

1. **The Moderator** shall preside at all stated and called meetings of the Congregation and General Board and perform such other duties normally associated with the office of Moderator. The Moderator shall prepare the agenda, anticipate the discussions,

insure that different points of view are heard, and see that all orders and resolutions of the Congregation and General Board are carried out. Each year the Moderator shall prepare and distribute a calendar of the General Board meetings for the year and publish the time for these meetings in the church newsletter.

2. **The Deputy Moderator** shall be present in all meetings in order to support the Moderator; to preside in the Moderator's absence at meetings of the Congregation and General Board or when the Moderator vacates the Chair in order to express a personal view on an issue being discussed; to serve as parliamentarian; and to perform such other duties normally associated with the office of Deputy Moderator.
3. **The Clerk** shall keep accurate minutes of the Congregation and General Board and provide for these minutes to be reviewed and approved by their respective bodies. The Clerk shall serve as archivist of all minutes of the official meetings of the Congregation, and General Board. The Clerk shall also serve as archivist of Standing Committee written reports submitted to the General Board and Congregation.
4. **The Treasurer** shall receive all income of the Congregation, pay all accounts of the Congregation as authorized by the budget or special action of the General Board when such items are not in the budget, provide accurate records of all expenditures, make monthly written reports of income and expenditures available to the General Board and Congregation.
5. **The Deputy Treasurer** shall assist and/or represent the Treasurer as needed and shall assume the office of Treasurer if for any reason the Treasurer cannot perform the duties of the office. The Deputy Treasurer shall select tellers to assist in the counting of cash contributions and in making the bank deposits. At least two members should serve as tellers at all times.

IV. STANDING COMMITTEES

1. Organization and Purpose

The Congregation shall recognize and attend to these key areas of congregational life: Worship, Evangelism, Outreach Service, Christian Education, Membership, Stewardship and Finance, Property, Personnel, Nominating and Pastoral Relations Committee. The Process as outlined in Bylaw III shall select the Chair for each area. Each area Chair shall utilize members of the Congregation who are willing and able to work in his or her area. The length of a term shall be one (1) year with a limit of three (3) consecutive terms.

2. Committees

A. Worship

The Worship Chair shall involve members in the planning and implementation of meaningful worship experiences in the life of the Congregation. Responsibilities of the Worship Committee include but are not restricted to: order of worship, general decorum, physical aids to worship, recruitment of members to participate in public worship who reflect the diversity of the congregation, preparing the table for the service of the Lord's Supper and recruiting and scheduling members to serve.

The Worship Committee shall name an ad hoc member to the Music Committee. The Music Committee shall be supplemental to the Worship Committee, to coordinate the Music Programs of the church and to report to the Worship Committee and/or the Board, as needed.

The Music Committee shall involve members in the planning and implementation of a program of music in the Congregation. Responsibilities of the Music Committee include but are not limited to: recommending and maintaining musical instruments for use in congregational worship, overseeing a program of instrumental and vocal music, utilizing talent within and outside the Congregation to proclaim the Gospel through music and enhance the Congregation's worship, and recommending paid staff as needed to support the music program.

B. Christian Education

The Education Chair shall involve members in the planning and implementation of a comprehensive program of Christian education for the Congregation. Responsibilities of the Education Committee include but are not restricted to: recruiting and training teachers and assistants, acquisition of Board approved curriculum materials, and maintaining and supervising a Church Library.

C. Outreach Service

The Outreach Service Chair shall involve members in the planning and implementation of ministry and benevolence programs to the community. Responsibilities of the Outreach Service Committee include but are not restricted to: discerning the ministry needs of the community and ways in which the Congregation can address those needs, organizing the Congregation's benevolence efforts, informing the Congregation of mission and benevolent opportunities, and recruiting and training members to take an active role in ecumenical and Congregational mission efforts. The Christian Outreach Committee will review, support and coordinate efforts of the Mission Committee. The Chair/Coordinator of the Mission Committee shall elicit advice and inform the Christian Outreach Committee and/or the Board of its programs.

D. Membership

The Membership Chair shall involve members in the processes that welcome new members and maintain fellowship among existing members. Responsibilities of the Membership Committee include but are not restricted to: organizing monthly Family Night Dinners, organizing fellowship events to recognize new members, developing and distributing a new member orientation packet, insuring that new members are assigned to a mentoring Elder or Deacon, and producing regular updates to the directory of Congregational Membership.

E. Stewardship and Finance

The Stewardship and Finance Chair shall involve members in the financial planning of the Congregation. Responsibilities of the Stewardship and Finance Committee include but are not restricted to: (1)preparing a budget and recommending to the General Board a plan for enlisting support for the budget, (2)planning the flow of the

congregational funds, (3) tracking the income and expenditures of the congregation against that plan, (4) preparing and presenting a complete report of the financial state of the Congregation at the Congregation's Annual Meeting, (5) maintenance of all property and liability insurance for the Congregation (as approved by the Board), and (6) providing for an annual audit of both income and expenditures to be presented to the General Board and the Congregation. The internal audit will be performed each year by the Stewardship and Finance Committee.

E. Property

The Property Chair shall involve members in the care of the church building, grounds and all general equipment. Responsibilities of the Property Committee include but are not restricted to: recommending paid custodial staff to clean the church buildings, supervising any custodial personnel or service contracted by the Congregation, securing any necessary skilled labor to perform needed maintenance and repairs that cannot be carried out by members or custodial personnel, preparing guidelines for use of the buildings by persons or agencies from outside the membership (these guidelines shall be approved by the General Board).

F. Evangelism

The Evangelism Chair shall involve members in planning and implementing programs designed to extend the message and program of the church beyond the present membership into the larger community. Such programs include but are not limited to: advertising in the media, providing appropriate signage, preparing and distributing brochures, planning classes for new and prospective members, calling on prospective members, planning occasional church-wide emphases to reach and enlist new members.

G. Pastoral Relations Committee (PRC)

The Pastoral Relations Committee (PRC) shall provide support for the pastor and be a regular channel of communication between the pastor and the congregation. Foundational aspects are acceptance, trust, and confidentiality, therefore there are no reports made to the Board, or any Committee of the Church.

The committee shall have six members, one of whom shall be an Elder and one of whom shall be a Deacon. Members shall serve three year terms, with two members rotating off each year. The Committee will choose its Chairman from among its members, notwithstanding Article V, Section D of the Constitution

H. Personnel Committee

The Personnel Committee will establish working agreements with all staff of the Congregation. This committee, in consultation with appropriate Standing Committee Chairs, shall prepare job descriptions, hold annual reviews of all staff of the Congregation and recommend to the Board salaries and benefits, and serve to counsel and advise all staff in personnel relationships. Membership of the Personnel Committee shall consist of five (5) members: the Chair of the Stewardship and Finance Committee, Chair of the Elders and Chair of the Deacons and two (2) at large members shall be elected from the congregation. Notwithstanding Article V, Section D of the Constitution, the Chair of the Elders shall serve as Chairman of this Committee.

I. NOMINATING COMMITTEE

1. Selection

Each year, at the July General Board Meeting, the General Board shall select a Nominating Committee of seven (7) members. The Chair of the Elders, the Chair of the Deacons and the Moderator shall present to the General Board a slate of candidates to serve on the Nominating Committee composed of two (2) Elders, two (2) Deacons and three (3) members who have been members of the Congregation for at least one year, one between age fourteen (14) and eighteen (18). The Minister(s), the Moderator and the Deputy Moderator shall not be members of the Nominating Committee. The General Board shall ratify appointment of the Nominating Committee.

2. Responsibilities

- a. The Nominating Committee shall prepare a list of nominees to fill the office of Elders, Deacons, Church Officers, Chairs of Standing Committees and Delegates to the Regional and General Assemblies. The Elders and Deacons shall select their own Chair

- b. The Nominating Committee shall present the slate of nominees to the General Board for approval prior to the vote of the Congregation at the Annual Meeting.
- c. When vacancies occur during the year, the Nominating Committee shall recommend replacements to the Board for the remainder of the year. The Board shall approve these replacements.
- d. Procedures
 - 1. Call for nominations from the Congregation.
 - 2. Conduct a Talent and Commitment Survey of the Congregation.
 - 3. Prepare a slate of nominees to be presented to the General Board, using the Time and Talent Survey as a significant resource.

J. Meetings of the Committee Chairs (Pastor's Cabinet)

At the initiative of the Minister(s), the Moderator, the Chair of the Stewardship and Finance Committee, or the committee chairs themselves, the committee chairs will meet to coordinate programs, set calendars, and do budget planning.

V. MINISTER (S)

A. Responsibilities

- 1. The Minister (senior) of the Congregation shall be the chief administrator of the Congregation, and, in cooperation with the Moderator of the Congregation and the General Board, encourage orderly procedures in the life and work of the Congregation in compliance with the Congregation's constitution and Bylaws and policies and procedures of the Congregation and the General Board.
- 2. The Ministers shall give special attention to the selection and training of the Congregation's leaders.
- 3. The Ministers shall be an ex officio member of all boards, committees, departments, commissions, task groups and constituency groups of the Congregation.

B. Selection

The Congregation as hereinafter described shall choose the Minister(s):

1. The General Board shall appoint a Search Committee of five (5) persons. It shall be composed of the Chairs of the Elders and Deacons, one Youth Deacon and two representatives from the Congregation who have been members of the Congregation for at least one year.
2. The Search Committee shall utilize the services of the Congregation's Executive Regional Minister for information and counsel concerning prospective candidates.
3. The Search Committee shall consult only one prospect at a time; however, information may be secured on several persons in a given period.
4. The Search Committee shall recommend a prospective minister to the General Board.
5. The General Board, at a stated or called meeting, may approve the recommendation of the Search Committee by at least two-thirds majority of those members present and voting. Upon approval, the General Board shall recommend employment of the prospective minister to the Congregation.
6. The Congregation, in a stated or called meeting, may approve the recommendation of the General Board by at least a two-thirds majority of members present and voting.
7. Upon approval of the Congregation, the General Board, on behalf of the Congregation, shall extend a call to the prospective minister.

C. Terms of Employment

1. An agreement of employment setting forth the salary to be paid to the minister and other conditions of the call shall be provided the minister, with a copy filed in the church office and with the regional office.
2. The term of ministry shall be for an indefinite period and may be terminated upon ninety days' notice.

D. Resignation

1. Voluntary resignation of the minister shall be submitted to the General Board in writing, after consultation with the Moderator and the Elders.
2. Involuntary resignation of a minister shall be dealt with confidentially between the Minister, the Moderator and, the

- Elders in consultation with the Regional Executive Minister in a stated or called meeting.
3. The General Board shall approve the resignation, voluntary or involuntary, of the Minister, by at least a two-thirds majority of members present and voting, and recommend approval to the Congregation.
 4. The Congregation, in a stated or called meeting, shall take final action in approving or disapproving the resignation of the Minister. A two-thirds majority of members present and voting is required for this action.

VI. AMENDMENTS

These Bylaws may be amended, upon a majority vote of the General Board recommending amendment(s) to the Congregation and by a majority vote of the Congregation present and voting in a stated or special meeting, provided the proposed amendment(s) has been circulated to the Congregation by mail and read before the Congregation at a regular worship service at least ten (10) days prior to the time the vote is to be taken. Members unable to attend the meeting may contact the Church Office to obtain a numbered mail-in ballot form. These ballots will need to be received prior to the convening of the actual meeting in order to be counted and, as such, will comprise a part of the quorum. A quorum for By-law changes is the same as for constitutional changes.