

CONSTITUTION OF CENTRAL CHRISTIAN CHURCH (DISCIPLES OF CHRIST) WEATHERFORD, TEXAS

This document replaces and supersedes all other previously dated Constitution and Bylaws of Central Christian Church; it has been prepared and approved by the Official Board; submitted to and approved by the Congregation on December 12, 2010.

PREAMBLE

We, the members of the Central Christian Church (Disciples of Christ) of Weatherford, Texas, 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 on this 12th day of the month of December in the year 2010

ARTICLE I. NAME

The name of this Congregation shall be the Central Christian Church (Disciples of Christ), affiliated with and an integral part of the Christian Church (Disciples of Christ) in the United States and Canada. The Congregation is committed to the historic New Testament positions and principles of this body.

ARTICLE II. AFFIRMATION AND PURPOSE

As members of the Central Christian Church, we confess that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of the living God, and proclaim him Lord and Savior of the world. In Christ's name and by his grace we accept our mission of witness and service to all people. We rejoice in God, maker of heaven and earth, and in the covenant of love, which binds us to God and one another. Through baptism into Christ, we enter into newness of life and are made one with the whole people of God. In communion of the Holy Spirit we are joined together in discipleship and in obedience to Christ. At the table of the Lord we celebrate with thanksgiving the saving acts and presence of Christ. Within the universal church, we receive the gift of ministry and the light of scripture. In the bonds of Christian faith we yield ourselves to God that we may serve the One whose kingdom has no end. Blessing, glory and honor be to God forever. Amen.

The purpose of this Congregation is to proclaim the gospel of Jesus Christ in faithful response to God's will and purposes as revealed through Jesus Christ and in the world; to seek in all persons a faith and commitment to Jesus Christ; to serve the community of which it is a part; to bring the gospel message to bear upon society; to sustain and be sustained by the general and regional manifestations of the Christian Church (Disciples of Christ); to work cooperatively with Christians in other communions; to seek the oneness of the Body of Christ; and in all ways to seek to make known the love of God.

ARTICLE III. MEMBERSHIP

Any and all people wishing to unite with Central Christian Church may do so at any moment by

confession of their faith in Jesus Christ, our Lord and Savior and baptism or transfer of their baptism from another church. All people united with Central Christian Church will be encouraged to mature in their faith in Christ through worship study, fellowship with other members, discovering their gifts for ministry and actively participating in a form of ministry in the church or community.

ARTICLE IV. RIGHTS, PRIVILEGES AND RESPONSIBILITIES OF THE CONGREGATION

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 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 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 regional and general 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. MINISTRIES, OFFICERS, MINISTRY BOARD, ADMINISTRATION TEAM, ELDERS, DEACONS, TRUSTEES, CHECKING ACCOUNT POLICIES

SECTION A. MINISTRIES

The Congregation through its Ministry Board and Administration Team shall establish Ministries and other teams or groups necessary to fulfill Christ's calling to serve the Congregation or community as stated in the bylaws. The ministries shall represent the Congregation and its purpose to the community.

SECTION B. CONGREGATION OFFICERS

The Congregation shall elect a Chairperson, Vice-Chairperson, Secretary, and Stewardship

Chairperson. These officers shall be elected at the annual gathering of the Congregation and shall serve as officers of the Congregation and the Ministry Board and Administration Team as set forth in the bylaws.

SECTION C. MINISTRY BOARD

The Congregation shall have a Ministry 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 gathering. The Ministry Board shall be comprised of members of the Administration Team and a representative of the Congregation's various ministries.

The Ministry Board shall be a gathering where:

- Coordination of events and ministries can take place
- Each ministry can communicate their perception of the ministry represented
- Each ministry can seek input, support, and encouragement from their peers
- All matters pertaining to the policies and budget of the Congregation shall be voted
- Every person within the life of the Congregation is welcome to participate in the Ministry Board gatherings, without vote

Gatherings of the Ministry Board shall be held up to six (6) times each year, beginning on the second (2nd) full week of the second month of the official year, and thereafter on the second (2nd) full week of every other month. Special gatherings of the Ministry Board may be called at any time by the Chairperson, by the Chairperson at the request of the Senior Minister or by call of one-half (1/2) of the members of the Ministry Board. Notice of special gatherings shall be given to all Ministry Board members by telephone or announcement at a Sunday morning worship service or by mail. The purpose, date, time and place of the gathering shall be indicated in each notice. A minimum of twenty-four (24) hours notice must be given prior to any special gathering of the Ministry Board.

SECTION D. ADMINISTRATION TEAM

The Congregation shall have an Administration Team to address the church's administrative matters, serve as the church nomination committee, and report to the Ministry Board. The Administration Team shall consist of the officers of the Congregation, the Senior Minister, Church Accountant, a representative of the Trustees, and the chairpersons of Property, Staff Development and the Elders.

Gatherings of the Administration Team shall be held up to six (6) times each year, beginning on the second (2nd) full week of the first month of the official year, and thereafter on the second (2nd) full week of every other month. Special gatherings of the Administration Team may be called at any time by the Chairperson, by the Chairperson at the request of the minister or by call of one-half (1/2) of the members of the Administration Team. Notice of special gatherings shall be given to all Administration Team members by telephone or announcement at a Sunday morning worship service or by mail. The purpose, date, time and place of the gathering shall be indicated in each notice. A minimum of twenty-four (24) hours notice must be given prior to any special gathering of the Administration Team.

SECTION E. ELDERS, DEACONS AND TRUSTEES

The Congregation shall have elders, deacons and trustees composed of men and women. Their election, qualifications and responsibilities shall be as set forth in the bylaws.

SECTION F. CHECKING ACCOUNT POLICIES

All checking accounts of the Congregation shall require two signatures. Those persons on the signature cards shall be the Chairperson, the Vice-Chairperson, Stewardship Chairperson and the three Trustees.

SECTION G. STEWARDSHIP TEAM

The Congregation shall have a Stewardship Team to encourage stewardship within the Congregation and to be accountable for the church's outreaches to the community and beyond. The Stewardship Team shall consist of the Stewardship Chairperson, the three (3) Trustee representatives, Senior Minister, Church Accountant and Members of the Congregation as required in accordance with the Bylaws.

ARTICLE VI. CONGREGATIONAL GATHERINGS

Congregational gatherings shall be held at least annually, no later than the second Sunday in December. Notice of all stated special Congregational gatherings shall be announced at a regular Sunday morning worship service of the Congregation at least one week in advance of the gathering, and by means of the church newsletter or a written notice sent through the mail and postmarked at least ten (10) days before the date of the gathering. Purpose, date, time and place of the gathering shall be indicated in each notice. Voting privileges shall be accorded to all members present and voting in any Congregational gathering.

ARTICLE VII. AMENDMENTS

Upon a consensus of the Administration Team and a consensus of the Ministries Board, this constitution may be amended by a two-thirds (2/3) majority vote of the Congregation members present and voting in a stated or called gathering. The proposed amendment(s) shall be circulated to members of the Congregation at least ten (10) days prior to the vote. This shall be accomplished by posting on the Church Website and by placing a notice in Newsletter stating that they can be found on the Website and that copies will be available in the church office. The changes shall also be presented to the Congregation at or following two (2) successive Sunday morning worship services immediately prior to the time the vote is taken.

ARTICLE VIII. REVIEW

The Constitution and Bylaws shall be reviewed at least every five (5) years.