

**CONSTITUTION FOR
GOOD SHEPHERD LUTHERAN CHURCH
SANDY, UTAH**

PREAMBLE

As a congregation in the Kingdom of God, we will respond in faith to the call of the Holy Spirit through the Gospel. We desire to unite together to pray, preach the Word, administer the sacraments and engage in God’s mission. Our purpose is to love one another as God has loved us, be faithful to the Gospel and its proclamation, and be salt and light to a world that is perishing in sin.

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Chapter 1 NAME AND INCORPORATION

- C1.01. The name of this congregation shall be Good Shepherd Lutheran Church.
- C1.02. For the purpose of this Constitution and the accompanying Bylaws, the congregation of Good Shepherd Lutheran Church is hereinafter designated as "the Congregation" or "this Congregation."
- C1.03. This Congregation shall be incorporated under the laws of the State of Utah.

Chapter 2 AFFILIATION

- C2.01. The Congregation shall at all times be affiliated with an organization of Lutheran churches.
- C2.02. A change in affiliation may be proposed by at least five percent (5%) of voting Members in signed petition.

Chapter 3 STATEMENT OF FAITH

- C3.01. As a biblically based Lutheran community, we stand in historic communion with all who affirm the Apostles' Creed and Nicene Creed. We worship the one and only, true and living God - eternally existent in three persons: Father, Son and Holy Spirit - who is the Creator, Redeemer, and Sanctifier. May the name of the LORD be praised forever!
- C3.02. We receive the Bible as God's inspired and unfailing Word to us, the fully authoritative and reliable statement of who God is, who we are, what we believe, and how we live. Blessed are those who live according to it.
- C3.03. We confess our own efforts cannot save us from sin and death, and we mourn the world's tragic brokenness and helplessness as consequences of human rebellion. Lord, have mercy.
- C3.04. We rejoice, for God fully reconciles us by grace alone through faith alone in Jesus Christ alone as our Savior and Lord. God the Son entered the world as truly human; He was crucified for all our sins, rose from the dead, ascended into heaven, and is Lord of all. Thanks be to God for His unspeakable gift!
- C3.05. We have hope because the Holy Spirit pours God's love into our hearts, incorporates us into the church, the body of Christ, and gives us grace and peace in lives of joyful service. Lord, may you rule on earth as in heaven.
- C3.06. We eagerly anticipate the glorious return of our Lord Jesus Christ who will judge the living and the dead. We celebrate life in Him and we invite all people to turn from death to life in Christ. Alleluia! Come, Lord Jesus!
- C3.07. We celebrate our humble Lutheran heritage of faith with gratitude in our hearts, thankful for the faithful witness of the Unaltered Augsburg Confession and Luther's Small and Large Catechisms. May we run with endurance the race set before us with joy. Lord, you are the author and perfecter of our faith. Lead us into a radical life transformation for your name's sake. Amen.

Chapter 4 STATEMENT OF PURPOSE

- C4.01. The purpose of this Congregation is to make disciples of Christ by teaching people to love God with all their heart, soul, strength and mind and to love others as Christ has loved them.

Chapter 5 MEMBERSHIP

- C5.01. Members of this Congregation are partners in the ministry of the gospel of Jesus Christ.
- C5.02. Members of this Congregation are those baptized persons on the roll of the Congregation at the time that this Constitution is adopted and those who are admitted thereafter and

who have declared and maintain their Membership in accordance with the provision of this Constitution and its Bylaws.

- C5.03. Voting Members are those Members who:
- a. are at least sixteen (16) years of age and are received or confirmed, and
 - b. profess Jesus Christ as their Lord and Savior, and
 - c. are baptized in the Christian faith, and
 - d. attend Good Shepherd Lutheran Church regularly, and
 - e. give proportionally, and
 - f. appear on the Congregational Roll, and
 - g. declare themselves a Member of Good Shepherd Lutheran Church.

Chapter 6 POWERS OF THE CONGREGATION

- C6.01. The powers of this Congregation are those necessary to fulfill its purpose.
- C6.02. The powers of this Congregation are vested in the Congregational Meeting, called and conducted as provided in this Constitution and its Bylaws.
- C6.03. Only such authority as is delegated to the Board of Trustees and other organizational units in this Congregation's Constitution and Bylaws is recognized. All remaining authority is retained by this Congregation.

Chapter 7 THE PASTORAL OFFICE

- C7.01. Authority to call a Pastor shall be in this Congregation by at least a two-thirds majority ballot vote of present Members (or online during a state of emergency/pandemic) and voting at a meeting properly called for that purpose.
- C7.02. The Pastoral Office shall consist of all Pastors contracted to this Congregation, as well as all active ministers who are commissioned by this Congregation. We recognize the service of retired clergy of this Congregation as pastors' emeriti. As gifted members of our community, we may look to them to preach and celebrate communion.

Chapter 8 BOARD OF TRUSTEES

- C8.01. The Board of Trustees shall have general spiritual oversight of the strategic, ministerial and financial life of this Congregation. As spiritual shepherds, such overseers are required to aspire to the general standard of maturity in faith as described in Titus 1 and 1 Timothy 3.
- C8.02. The Board of Trustees shall consist of eight (8) voting Members of this Congregation who are age 18 years or older, and the Senior Pastor. Members of the Board of Trustees shall be elected by this Congregation by written ballot at the Annual Meeting.
- C8.03. The Board of Trustees shall appoint the officers of this Congregation ("the Officers") from members of the Board of Trustees. The Chairman of the Board of Trustees shall serve as the President of this Congregation.
- C8.04. The Board of Trustees shall see that the provisions of this Constitution and its Bylaws are carried out and perform its duties as specified in the Bylaws.
- C8.05. The Board of Trustees shall be responsible for maintaining and protecting this Congregation's property and the management of its business and fiscal affairs. It shall have the powers and be subject to the obligations that pertain to such boards under the laws of the State of Utah, except as otherwise provided in the Constitution and Bylaws of this

Congregation.

- C8.06. The Board of Trustees shall seek specific authority of the Congregation, in a properly called meeting, to buy, sell, or encumber real property.
- C8.07. The Board of Trustees shall submit a comprehensive report to this Congregation at the Regular Meeting.

Chapter 9 CONGREGATIONAL COMMITTEES

C9.01. The following congregational committees shall be established:

- a. A Call Committee shall be composed of seven (7) voting Members of this Congregation elected or appointed as specified in the Bylaws. The Call Committee shall recommend candidates to this Congregation for the Pastoral Office and the Board of Trustees.
- b. A Financial Review Committee shall be composed of three (3) voting Members of this Congregation and shall be appointed by the Board of Trustees. The Financial Review Committee shall review the financial affairs and procedures of this Congregation and report to the Pastoral Office and the Board of Trustees at one or more Board meetings and report to the Congregation at the Annual Meeting.
- c. A Staff Support Committee shall be composed of three (3) to five (5) voting Members of this Congregation and shall be appointed as needed by the Board of Trustees. The Support Committee shall investigate, review and advise the Pastoral Office and the Board of Trustees with regard to internal congregational disputes.
- d. The Missions Committee shall be composed of five (5) to ten (10) Voting Members who are not members of the Board of Trustees and shall be appointed by the Board of Trustees. Members of the Board of Trustees may serve as additional Missions Committee members if desired or appropriate. The Missions Committee shall review requests for assistance for missional funds and distribute the Congregation's benevolence. The Missions Committee shall administer the GSLC Endowment Fund ("The Spirits of Titus") and implement the guidelines to augment the mission work of Good Shepherd Lutheran Church.

C9.02. Other congregational committees may be formed or disbanded as the need arises, by decision of the Board of Trustees and in accordance with this Constitution and its Bylaws.

Chapter 10 CONGREGATION MEETING

- C10.01. The annual meeting of this Congregation ("Annual Meeting") shall be held at a time specified in the Bylaws.
- C10.02. Notice of all meetings of this Congregation shall be given at the services of worship on the preceding two consecutive Sundays, and by mail and/or email to all voting Members at least 10 days in advance of the date of the meeting.
- C10.03. A special Congregation Meeting may be called by the Senior Pastor or the Chairman of the Board of Trustees, or by written request of at least ten percent (10%) of the voting Members. The call for each special Congregation Meeting shall specify the purpose for which it is to be held and no other business shall be transacted that was not previously disclosed in the call.
- C10.04. Notice of a special Congregation Meeting of this Congregation signed by the Chairman of the Board of Trustees shall be posted conspicuously in the place where the Congregation customarily worships. Such notice shall state the time, the place, and the purpose of the

meeting. Notice of all meetings of this Congregation shall be given at services of worship on the preceding two consecutive Sundays, and by mail and/or email to all voting Members at least 10 days in advance of the date of the meeting.

- C10.05. Ten percent (10%) of voting Members shall constitute a quorum.
- C10.06. Voting by proxy or by absentee ballot shall not be permitted. During an emergency/pandemic, online voting will be permitted.
- C10.07. All actions by this Congregation shall be by majority vote except as otherwise provided in this Constitution.
- C10.08. Robert's Rules of Order, latest edition, shall govern parliamentary procedure of all meetings of this Congregation.

Chapter 11 **BYLAWS**

- C11.01. This Congregation may adopt Bylaws. No Bylaw may conflict with this Constitution.
- C11.02. The Bylaws may be amended as follows:
 - a. Amendments may be proposed by at least five percent (5%) of voting Members in signed petition or by the Board of Trustees. Proposals must be filed in writing with the Board of Trustees 60 days before formal consideration by this Congregation at its Annual Meeting, Regular Meeting, or a Special Meeting called for that purpose. The Board of Trustees shall notify the Members of the proposal with their recommendations at least 30 days in advance of the meeting.
 - b. A proposed amendment to these Bylaws shall be passed by a simple majority vote of those present and voting.
 - c. Amendments to these Bylaws approved by this Congregation shall take effect immediately.

Chapter 12 **AMENDMENTS**

- C12.01. Amendments to this Constitution may be proposed by at least five percent (5%) of voting Members in signed petition or by the Board of Trustees. Proposals must be filed in writing with the Board of Trustees 60 days before formal consideration by this Congregation at its Annual Meeting or a special meeting called for that purpose. The Board of Trustees shall notify the Members of the proposal with their recommendations at least 30 days in advance of the meeting.
- C12.02. A proposed amendment to this Constitution shall be ratified without change at the next Annual Meeting by a two-thirds majority vote of those present and voting, and have the effective date included in the resolution and noted in the Constitution.

Chapter 13 **MEMBERSHIP DIVISION**

- C13.01. In the event of a division of the membership, the corporate name and all corporate property shall be retained by those Members adhering to the Articles of Incorporation, this Constitution and the Bylaws.