

I. Name

- A. This church shall be known as Mount Wolf Community Church (MWCC).

II. Purpose

A. Mission Statement

1. Mount Wolf Community Church strives to have a passion for Christ and a compassion for others.

B. Purpose

1. To encourage the church family in four key principles of church activity (W.I.F.E.)
 - a) **W**orship – The gathering of the believers to glorify God in spirit and truth through singing, praise, prayer, and celebration of the Lord’s Supper (John 4:23-24, Acts 20:7 and Eph. 18-20)
 - b) **I**nstruction – The gathering of the believers to study the Bible, to disciple, and to shepherd one another. (Acts 2:42 and II Timothy 3:16-17);
 - c) **F**ellowship – The gathering of the church family for the edification and unification of one another (Acts 2:42 and I Corinthians 12:12-31);
 - d) **E**vangelism – The sharing of the gospel and love of Jesus with unbelievers in Mount Wolf, the surrounding communities and the world (Matthew 28:18-20, I Peter 3:15 and Revelation 22:20).

III. Doctrinal Statement

- A. We believe that the scriptures of the Old and the New Testament are the verbally inspired Word of God, inerrant in the original languages and the supreme and final authority in faith and life (II Peter 1:20-21 and II Timothy 3:16-17).
- B. We believe in one God, eternally existing in three Persons: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit. (Deut. 6:4 and II Cor. 13:14).
- C. We believe that Jesus Christ was begotten by the Holy Spirit; born of the virgin Mary; lived among men; suffered, bled and died; was buried; raised from the dead; ascended to the right hand of the Father; intercedes for us; and is true God and true man (Luke 1:35, 2:6-7 & 52; Matt. 27:29-30, 35 & 50; Luke 23:50-56; John 2:1, 10:30; Acts 2:33-34 and I John 2:1, 4:2-3).
- D. We believe in the divine personality of the Holy Spirit (John 14:16-17 and 16:13).

- E. We believe that man was created in the image and likeness of God; that man sinned and thereby incurred both physical and spiritual death; that all human beings are born with a sinful nature and are sinners in thought, word and deed (Gen. 1:26-27, Rom. 3:22-23, 5:12 and Eph. 2:1-3).
- F. We believe that the Lord Jesus Christ died for our sins, according to the Scriptures, as our representative and substitutionary sacrifice; and that all who believe in Him are justified on the ground of His shed blood (I Cor. 15:3, I Peter 3:18 and Rom. 3:24-26).
- G. We believe that all who receive the Lord Jesus Christ by faith are born again of the Holy Spirit, and thereby become children of God; that they are indwelt and sealed by the Holy Spirit and are secure in Him until the day of redemption (John 1:12, 3:5 and Eph. 1:13). H. We believe that the church is composed of all believers; that we are baptized into one body, thus being members of one another (I Cor. 12:12-13).
- I. We believe that Jesus Christ instituted the Lord's Supper to commemorate His death until He returns. We believe that water baptism is an ordained testimony, portraying our identification with Christ. We believe in and practice baptism by immersion (I Cor. 11:23-26; Matt. 28:19-20 and Rom. 6:3-4).
- J. We believe in "the blessed hope," the personal and imminent coming of our Lord Jesus Christ in the air for His saints (as for the time aspect we believe that it is pre-tribulation and premillennial). We believe in the personal, the visible and the establishment of Christ's kingdom upon the earth (Titus 2:13, I Thess. 4:13-17 and Rev. 19:11-16, 20:1-6).
- K. We believe in the bodily resurrection of the just and unjust; the everlasting blessedness of the saved and the everlasting punishment of the lost (John 5:18, 14:1-3 and Rev. 20:11-15).
- L. We believe in the personality of Satan; that he is the god of this age, the adversary of Christ and His church, and that his destiny is eternal punishment (Job 1:6-7, I Peter 5:8, II Cor. 4:4 and Rev. 20:10).

IV. Membership

- A. Qualifications for New Members
 1. Must be at least eighteen years of age.
 2. Must have personally accepted Jesus Christ as both Lord and Savior.
 3. Must have been obedient to the Lord Jesus Christ by being baptized by immersion.

B. Procedures in Accepting New Members

1. Membership classes will be held quarterly for those desiring to join the church in fellowship. The Pastor and representatives from the deacon board will administer the class.
2. Prior to the membership class, applicants will be asked to complete a questionnaire and a statement of faith. Applicants will also receive a copy of the church constitution to review.
3. The names of prospective members, who have successfully completed the class, will be presented to the current membership one month prior to the scheduled quarterly business meeting.
4. Issues arising between prospective members and current members will be handled according to the Matthew 18 principle. The membership will be made official at the quarterly business meeting.

C. Membership Responsibilities

1. Each member is encouraged to attend church services on a regular basis and to vote wisely during church meetings. As the Lord leads and equips, each member is strongly encouraged to serve in and to financially support the ministries of Mount Wolf Community Church.

D. Separation from and restoration of membership

1. Separation from the membership of MWCC will be effected by death.
2. A member desiring to prematurely separate from this church should submit (to the deacon board) a request to have his/her name removed from the church membership. The church shall be notified of these actions at the next church business meeting.
3. A membership separation not requested by a member may only be initiated upon a recommendation by the Pastor and the deacons. A two-thirds vote of the members present is required to confirm the recommendation. The following shall be reasons for considering such action:
 - a) Any member who willingly and habitually violates the principles taught in the Word of God.
 - b) Any member who willingly and habitually neglects membership responsibilities.
 - c) Any member whose whereabouts are unknown.

4. Restoration of a former member, separated by action of the church, is allowed. Procedures outlined in accepting new members shall be followed.

V. Officers

A. General

1. All officers shall be members of the church.
2. Any officer may remove himself/herself at any time by resignation.

B. Senior Pastor

1. Qualifications

- a) The qualifications of the Senior Pastor of MWCC shall be in accordance with the principles of Scripture (I Timothy 3:1-7; I Peter 5:1-4 and Titus 1:6-9) with interpretation of the phrase, “the husband of one wife,” as meaning never having been divorced.
- b) He shall be in agreement with, and shall adhere to, the Doctrinal Statement of the church.
- c) The Senior Pastor of MWCC shall be an ordained minister.

2. Call

- a) The pulpit committee shall be appointed by the deacons and approved by the congregation. The chairman and vice chairman of the committee shall be active deacons.
- b) The pulpit committee shall review all correspondence and interview potential candidates for the position.
- c) A prospective Pastor shall occupy the pulpit of this church for a number of services specified by the pulpit committee.
- d) Upon unanimous approval by the pulpit committee, a special business meeting shall be called to approve the prospective Pastor. A vote by secret ballot shall be taken, of which an affirmative vote of 75% of the members present is required to call a Pastor.
- e) Upon approval, the Pastor and his wife shall become members of the church.

3. Duties

- a) The Pastor of MWCC is the shepherd of the flock, concerned with spiritual and physical welfare of his people.

- b) He shall preach the Word of God in order to edify and equip the saints.
 - c) He shall proclaim the Gospel with enthusiasm.
 - d) The Pastor shall have the freedom to work within the framework of the church, but shall consult with the deacons on important matters.
 - e) He is the ex-officio member of all boards and committees, co-equal with the chairman.
 - f) The Pastor reserves the right to call for a re-vote, and serve as the tie-breaking vote on any issue deemed necessary. The Pastor may take any issue before the church membership if no resolution is reached by the deacon board.
4. Tenure
- a) The Pastor of MWCC shall be elected for no specific term.
5. Resignation
- a) The Pastor of MWCC may resign at any time; his duties will terminate thirty days from the date of his written resignation or at a time mutually agreed upon the Pastor, church leadership, and the church membership.
6. Accusations
- a) Any accusations arising must be put into writing, signed by at least two accusers of different families, and presented to the deacon board for further investigation.
 - b) The Pastor has the right to hear and defend himself of any and all accusations made against him before the deacon board and membership.
7. Dismissal
- a) If at any time the Pastor's person belief, preaching, teaching or moral conduct is not in full accord with the doctrinal standards of Mount Wolf Community Church, the Pastor shall be removed from the pulpit immediately by the deacons. The deacons shall call a special business meeting to resolve this issue. A vote for dismissal will require an affirmative vote of 75% of the members present.

8. Salary

- a) The Pastor's salary and benefits package shall be reviewed each year by the deacons. A recommendation will be made to the church at the annual business meeting. The salary and benefits package shall be approved by a majority vote of the members present.

C. Deacons

1. Qualifications

- a) The Deacons at MWCC shall meet the standards set forth in I Timothy 3:8-13, with the interpretation of the phrase, "the husband of one wife," as meaning never having been divorced.
- b) The deacons shall consist of men who have been members of MWCC for at least one year.

2. Composition

- a) The board of deacons shall consist of a maximum of seven men and a minimum of three men.
- b) Deacons will elect their own officers, including a President, Vice-President, and Secretary.
- c) The term of office for a deacon shall be for two years. A deacon serving for two consecutive terms shall be ineligible for re-election for at least one year.

3. Election Process

- a) Nominating committee
 - i. Prior to the May quarterly business meeting, the deacon board will appoint a nominating committee. The nominating committee shall consist of at least one deacon and three church members. The membership shall approve the nominating committee at the May business meeting.
 - ii. Any church member or member of the nominating committee may nominate any man who is qualified as outlined in the Constitution.
 - iii. The nominating committee shall present a ballot of qualified men for each vacant position to the congregation two consecutive weeks prior to the annual business meeting.

- b) Deacon election

- i. At the annual business meeting, the membership will vote on the ballot of qualified men from the nominating committee.
- ii. The deacon candidates receiving majority votes, or 75% affirmation, shall fill the open positions. Unfilled positions shall be left open until the following deacon election.

4. Duties

- a) Deacons will assist the Pastor as the shepherd of the membership of Mount Wolf Community Church in their physical needs.
- b) Deacons will prepare and distribute of the elements of the Lord's Supper.
- c) Deacons will oversee the affairs of the church, monitor the finances of the church, provide direction and oversight to church committees and maintain the church facilities.
- d) Deacons will give thoughtful and prayerful consideration to any charges brought against a member, in accordance with Matthew 18, and investigate all cases before reporting to the church for any necessary action. This comes under the understanding that all spiritual matters are under the supervision of the senior pastor.
- e) Assist the Pastor in the process of application for membership.

5. Meetings

- a) There shall be scheduled monthly meeting of the deacon board, moderated by the President. The pastor shall be in attendance; the Secretary shall record minutes at each meeting.
- b) The quorum for a meeting of the Deacons shall be a majority of the members of the Deacon Board.

D. The positions of Church Clerk, Church Treasurer, and Children's Ministry Coordinator

1. The church clerk, church treasurer and children's ministry coordinator shall be appointed by the board of deacons for an indefinite period of time.
2. Qualifications
 - a) Each individual must have been a member of the church for at least one year, prior to being nominated.

- b) Each person must live a consistent Christian lifestyle.
- 3. Church Clerk
 - a) Shall attend, record, and read the minutes of all business meetings. The records of the church shall be considered the property of and belong to the MWCC.
- 4. Church Treasurer
 - a) With deacon board oversight, the Church Treasurer shall oversee the finances of the church (i.e. offering, expenditures, and investments). The Church Treasurer will present monthly financial statements to the deacon board and current financial statements to the congregation at quarterly and annual business meetings.
 - b) The Church Treasurer shall prepare an annual fiscal budget for MWCC. Upon membership approval, the Treasurer shall oversee expenditures in accordance with the deacon board approval. Any expenditure greater than \$2,500, that is not included in the fiscal year budget, shall require church membership approval.
 - c) The deacon board and/or the members of the church may call for an audit of the church financial records as necessary.
- 5. The Children's Ministry Coordinator
 - a) Is responsible for the general oversight of the children's Sunday school and other children's ministries of the Church.

VI. Meetings

A. Worship and Teaching

- 1. The Church shall meet each Sunday morning and evening for public worship. Changes to the worship service schedule may be made at the discretion of the Pastor and deacons.
- 2. Weekday Bible Study, prayer and children's ministry shall be determined by the Pastor and deacons.
- 3. The ordinance of the Lord's Supper shall normally be observed on the first Sunday of each month. Additional observances of the Lord's Supper will be observed at the discretion of the Pastor.

B. Fiscal Year

- 1. The Fiscal year runs from September through August

C. Quarterly Business

1. Quarterly business meetings of MWCC will be held on the 2nd Sunday of November, February, and May.
2. The agenda will be posted two consecutive weeks prior to all quarterly business meetings. The membership may submit issues to be considered at the meeting.

D. Annual Business Meeting

1. The annual business meeting of MWCC shall be held on the 2nd Sunday of August.
2. The elections of the Deacons will be conducted at the annual business meeting by secret ballot.
3. An annual budget shall be presented to the congregation for approval.

E. Special Business Meetings

1. A special business meeting may be called by the Pastor, the deacon board, or by a written request from five church members. Notice of such meetings must be announced from the pulpit two consecutive Sundays before the meeting.

F. Rules of Order

1. The meeting shall be officiated by the pastor or the deacon board president; it shall be conducted in an orderly manner.
2. A quorum for the transaction of business in all congregational meetings shall consist of no less than 25% of the voting members of Mount Wolf Community Church.
3. Amendments to the Constitution
 - a) Proposed amendments to the Constitution shall be presented to the membership in writing at least four weeks prior to a scheduled business meeting.
 - b) An amendment shall be adopted with at least 75% of the votes cast in favor of the amendment.

VII. Dissolution

- A. In the event of the dissolution of this corporation, Mount Wolf Community Church, the legal governing board of the church shall have the duty to sell all the property of the church.
- B. If any money remains, after all debt and expenses are paid, it shall be distributed to organizations who are in agreement with our doctrinal beliefs and practice and who qualify for tax exemption under the Internal Revenue Code section 501(c) 3.