

BY-LAWS OF GREENWOOD CHRISTIAN CHURCH
2045 Averitt Road
Greenwood, Indiana 46143

PREAMBLE

We, the members of Greenwood Christian Church, a congregation governed as prescribed in the New Testament of the Holy Bible, to promote the work of Christ in the Spirit of Christ, do hereby adopt the following by-laws to govern the operation of Greenwood Christian Church.

ARTICLE I. NAME AND PURPOSE

Section 1.

The name of the church shall be Greenwood Christian Church, coinciding with the corporate name in which the church was registered with the Secretary of the State of Indiana, on the 22nd day of April, 1960, in accordance with Chapter 103 of the 1943 Acts of the Indiana General Assembly to meet its legal demands, but which in no way interferes with the spiritual organization of the local church as given in the New Testament.

Section 2.

The purpose of this church shall be as revealed in the New Testament, namely, to win people to faith in Jesus Christ; to commit them actively to His Church; to help them grow in grace and knowledge of Christ; to do His will; to work for unity of all Christians by restoring New Testament Christianity and with them engage in the common tasks of building the Kingdom of God.

This congregation shall continue as a local, self-governing, New Testament Church and shall not be made, nor become, subject to any ecclesiastical authority, jurisdiction or direction by or to any person, missionary society, organization or any outside board whatsoever. This congregation shall be completely autonomous within the limitations imposed by the laws of the land.

ARTICLE II. AUTHORITY

Section 1.

Authority and accountability for the properties, operation and conduct of this congregation is vested exclusively with the membership of Greenwood Christian Church. This authority and responsibility is exercised through the board of elders.

ARTICLE III. MEMBERSHIP

Section 1. Qualifications

Qualifications for membership shall be those set forth by Jesus Christ in the Gospel, preached by the apostles, and practiced by the early church, namely; faith in God and Jesus Christ as His Son, repentance from sin, confession of Jesus Christ as the Son of the Living God, and baptism by immersion into Christ in the name of the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, and faithful Christian living enjoined by the Scriptures.

Members are those at least 18 years of age, who have met the qualifications in the above paragraph and have completed a membership class. Those meeting the qualifications and uniting with the church prior to the 2011 implementation of a membership class are also considered members.

ARTICLE IV. OFFICERS

Section 1.

Only members of Greenwood Christian Church who meet the scriptural qualifications may hold office.

Section 2.

The following shall be officers of Greenwood Christian Church:

- a. Elders - Male members who meet the scriptural qualifications of 1 Timothy 3:1-7 may be selected to serve as an elder (See Article V).

A man shall be a member of Greenwood Christian Church for at least two (2) years before being considered for eldership.

The board of elders shall meet once each month or as often as the chairman, or in his absence the vice-chairman, deems necessary.

A majority of elders must be present to constitute a quorum.

The board of elders shall elect their own officers as needed to conduct their meetings.

- b. Trustees - Four (4) members will serve as the legal representatives when real property is bought or sold, when money is borrowed or any legal actions are taken by the congregation.

Trustees will be elected from the elders and staff, for a three (3) year term and will act only on congregational or the board of elders' directions.

ARTICLE V. METHOD OF SELECTION

Section 1. Initial Selection

The board of elders shall select additional elders, and other church officers as deemed necessary. Elder candidates will be expected to have previous experience in other church leadership and/or service positions.

In the case of elders, the congregation will have an opportunity to comment on each individual's spiritual qualifications during the selection process.

Section 2. Accountability and Review

The board of elders will periodically review the performance of each church official and hold them accountable to the qualifications and performance standards of their position.

An approval process of peer review for the elders is to be carried out by the board of elders

ARTICLE VI. LEAD PASTOR AND MINISTERS

Section 1.

The board of elders will select a search team to identify a candidate that meets the qualification for the lead pastor position. This male candidate must then receive the board of elders' approval and then congregational approval. The candidate shall preach a sermon at regularly scheduled Sunday morning church services. Only one candidate at a time may be considered by the congregation.

Section 2.

The lead pastor shall be approved following a 75% majority vote of those members voting in a duly called congregational meeting. Other ministers do not require a congregational vote.

Section 3.

The lead pastor shall be responsible to the board of elders for all aspects of his ministry. In the event of moral or doctrinal issues, the board of elders shall take the action they deem necessary. In consultation with the elders the lead pastor is responsible for the ministers subordinate to him, for job performance and any action required due to any

moral or doctrinal issues.

ARTICLE VII. FINANCIAL OVERSIGHT

The board of elders will approve the yearly budgets for Greenwood Christian Church.

ARTICLE VIII. MISSIONS

Section 1.

Greenwood Christian Church shall support only such missions or missionaries that are in harmony with the Word of God.

ARTICLE IX. DISSOLUTION CLAUSE

Upon discontinuance of Greenwood Christian Church by dissolution or otherwise, any assets lawfully available for distribution are to be transferred to one or more organizations qualifying as an exempt organization under Section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code, as amended.

ARTICLE X. INDEMNIFICATION CLAUSE

To the fullest extent permitted by applicable law, Greenwood Christian Church shall indemnify any person who is or was a Director, Officer, Employee, or authorized agent of the Church against all expenses (including, but not limited to, attorneys' fees, judgments, fines, and settlements) actually and reasonably incurred by them in connection with any threatened, pending, or completed legal action, suit, or proceeding, whether civil, criminal, administrative, or investigative, to which they are made a party by reason of their service to the Church, if they have acted in good faith and in a manner they reasonably believed to be in the best interest of the Church.

ARTICLE XI. CONGREGATIONAL MEETINGS

Section 1. Annual Congregational Meeting

The purpose of the annual congregational meeting is to review reports of ministry, budget, and proposed church officers, and to act upon recommendations of the board of elders. In this meeting, the congregation shall affirm the recommended nominees for offices as set forth in these by-laws, including the church budget for the ensuing fiscal church year.

The annual congregational meeting shall be held at the church building in the final month of the fiscal year, unless otherwise determined by action of the board of elders.

Notice of congregational meetings shall be announced in the worship services on two (2) consecutive weekends at least two (2) weeks prior to the meeting and sent by email to every household represented in the entire active Greenwood Christian Church membership which has opted into email communications.

Notice of the annual congregational meeting shall a) state the date and time of such meeting b) contain the proposed budget as approved by the board of elders, and c) contain a listing of the names of all candidates to be affirmed by the congregation and the offices for which they have been recommended by the board of elders. Copies of this information shall be made available at the church for those members to pick up who do not have email.

Affirmation shall be constituted by a 75% majority.

All congregational meetings shall be presided over by the chairman of the elders or his designate.

Section 2. Special Congregational Meetings

Special meetings of the members of the church may be called by the board of elders, as they deem necessary, or upon written petition signed by one hundred (100) duly enrolled members of the congregation.

The congregation shall be notified of special meetings in the same manner as the annual congregational meeting giving the date, time and purpose of the meeting.

ARTICLE XII. AMENDMENTS AND PUBLICATIONS OF BY-LAWS

Section 1. Amendments

These by-laws may be amended by a 75% majority at a congregational meeting.

Section 2. Approval and Publication

These by-laws shall become effective when approved by the congregation. Copies shall be made available to all members of the congregation requesting them.

ARTICLE XIII. PROCEDURAL AUTHORITY

Section 1.

Procedures not covered in these by-laws may follow Robert's Rules of Order, Revised Edition.

All situations not covered by these by-laws shall be the responsibility of the Board of Elders.

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*These by-laws were amended on September 4, 1988.

*These by-laws were amended again on September 24, 1989.

*These by-laws were amended again on June 27, 1999.

*These by-laws were amended again on September 30, 2007.

*These by-laws were amended again on September 20, 2025.

*These by-laws were proposed on September 20, 2026.