

CONSTITUTION AND BY-LAWS
MACOMB CHRISTIAN CHURCH

Original adopted by congregational vote at special
meeting, February 18, 1973, 6:00 p.m.

Amended by the congregation at a special
meeting held on July 8, 1990.

Amended by the congregation at the annual meeting
held on November 4, 2007.

Former Address: 42850 Hayes Road
Clinton Twp., MI 48038

Present Address: 13845 22 Mile Road
Shelby Twp., MI 48315

MACOMB CHRISTIAN CHURCH

CONSTITUTION

Preamble

These rules and regulations presuppose that the Bible, rightly divided, constitutes the alone and all-sufficient rule of faith and practice for the local congregation. These articles of the Constitution and By-Laws, therefore, intentionally avoid the realm of the permissive, and are designed to aid the congregation in handling her affairs with decency and order.

ARTICLE I NAME

Section 1. This congregation, which had its beginning on October 17, 1971, and incorporated as the Macomb Christian Church, shall be designated as the Macomb Christian Church.

ARTICLE II PURPOSE AND AUTHORITY

Section 1. The purpose of this corporation shall be to lead sinners to an obedient belief in Jesus Christ as the only begotten Son of God, to exalt God and the Bible as the Word of God; to provide opportunity for worship and fellowship after the New Testament pattern which includes the weekly observance of the Lord's Supper, and thereby restore New Testament Christianity and consequent union of all followers of Jesus Christ, with the Bible as the only final authority.

ARTICLE III MEMBERSHIP

Section 1. Membership shall be constituted of penitent believers in Jesus Christ as the only begotten Son of God without reservation, who have repented toward Christ, who have confessed His name before men, who have been immersed in water for the remission of sins and who have resolved to abide by the teachings of Christ as presented in the New Testament.

Section 2. Anyone who can provide satisfactory evidence that he or she has met the conditions of membership stated above (Sec. 1) may be received into membership of this congregation. Any questions regarding the satisfactory evidence shall be decided by the Elders.

Section 3. Removal of Membership

Part 1. Membership in this congregation will be withdrawn at the written request of the member, placing or holding of membership in another congregation, or death.

Part 2. Any member, upon unanimous vote of the Elders and Minister, may be removed from the rolls of the church membership for the following reasons:

- (a) Unbelief in Jesus Christ as the divine Son of God come in the flesh (2 Corinthians 6:14-18; 2 John 7:11)
- (b) Immoral behavior for which he does not repent (2 Corinthians 5:9-14)
- (c) Discordant attitude toward a brother in Christ with a refusal to be reconciled (Matthew 18:15-17)
- (d) Causing of division and offenses among brethren (Romans 16:17,18; Titus 3:10-11)
- (e) Refusal to work in order to supply the needs of his family (1 Timothy 5:3; 2Thessalonians 3:6-15)

Part 3. Said dismissed member may be reinstated to membership by demonstrating a spirit of repentance before the Elders and/or the congregation.

Part 4. Voting privileges shall be accorded all active members 15 years of age and older. An active member is one who has supported the church through regular attendance, contribution of talent and regular financial support during the six months prior to any business meeting of the members. Exceptions concerning voting privileges shall be determined by a majority vote of the Elders.

ARTICLE IV AUTONOMY

Section 1. The Macomb Christian Church is a free and autonomous body, claiming the right of free government and recognizing no outside religious authority or control except Jesus Christ. This church will not be responsible to nor be bound to any other corporate body.

ARTICLE V FINANCE

Section 1. The work of the Macomb Christian Church shall be financed by tithes and offerings.

ARTICLE VI AMENDMENTS

Section 1. This Constitution may be amended at any business meeting of the church by a two-thirds vote of the active members present and voting, provided that written notice of the proposed amendment is provided each eligible voting member at the regular Sunday morning service for two consecutive Sundays immediately preceding the date on which the vote is taken, and written notice is provided by letter to all members two weeks prior to the vote.

Section 2. EXCEPTION. Article II, Article III, Section 1, Article IV and Article VI, Section 2 cannot be amended. Any attempt to amend these articles violates the intent of the founders. Those attempting such action shall forfeit their right of membership and claim to the property of the Macomb Christian Church.

MACOMB CHRISTIAN CHURCH

BY-LAWS

ARTICLE I CHURCH BUSINESS MEETINGS

Section 1 Annual Meeting. An annual meeting of the active membership of the church, for the transaction of business, shall be held within 60 days of the beginning of the calendar year, or at another time if deemed advisable by the Elders. Notice of such meeting shall be made by public announcement at two Sunday morning services immediately preceding such meeting and written notice to all active members at least two (2) weeks in advance of the meeting.

Section 2 Special meetings. If it should be deemed necessary by the Elders or not less than ten (10) voting members of the congregation to take care of some matters of business, a special meeting may be called by the Elders provided that the meeting is held immediately following the stated Lord's Day morning or evening services, and that announcement of said meeting and the nature of the business to be transacted be made from the pulpit during the regular morning service preceding.

Section 3 Quorum. At all business meetings of the congregation, a quorum shall consist of twenty-five percent (25%) of the active membership eligible to vote.

ARTICLE II OFFICERS AND DUTIES

Section 1 Officers of the church. The officers of the church shall be the ministers, Elders, Deacons, Trustees, Clerk and Treasurer. Election of church officers, including Elders, Deacons and Trustees, shall take place at the annual congregational meeting.

The Elders shall meet regularly to oversee the affairs of the church. The Elders shall have the privilege of seeking congregational action on any matter if they desire to do so, and shall be required to seek congregational action on the following matters: (a) Calling and release of a minister (b) Major changes in policy (c) Borrowing moneys in excess of 5% of the approved general budget (d) Acquiring and disposing of any real estate (e) All expenditures of moneys exceeding the amount of 5% of the approved general budget.

Section 2 The Eldership.

(1) Qualifications: The Elders shall be elected to the Scriptural qualifications of 1 Timothy 3:1-7 and Titus 1:5; 2:2. Any candidate for the eldership must make known to the Elders before his name is presented to the congregation that he believes, agrees with, and promises to uphold without reservation Article II, Article III, Sec. 1 and Article IV of the Constitution of the church as originally adopted on February 18, 1973. An Elder may be selected from those who have served as Elders before, those who are currently Deacons, or those who have proven themselves within the body in a spiritual leadership position.

(2) The eldership shall assume the oversight in all affairs of the church, both spiritual and temporal (Acts 11:30; 14:23; 15:2,4,6,22,23; 20:17-31; 1 Tim. 5:1,17,19; Titus 1:5; 1 Peter 5:1-5).

(3) The Elders and the ministers shall meet monthly.

(4) An Elder shall serve a term of three years.

Section 3 The Deacons.

Qualifications and Duties: The deacons shall be elected according to the Scriptural qualifications of 1 Timothy 3:8-13 and Titus 1:5; 2:2. They must without reservation state before the Elders that they believe, agree with and promise to uphold Article II, Article III, Sec. 1, and Article IV of the Constitution of the church as originally adopted on February 18, 1973. The deacons are the servants of Christ and His church and shall accept duties assigned them by the Elders so that every spiritual and temporal need of the congregation may be fulfilled. A deacon shall serve a term of two years.

Section 4 The Trustees: They shall be comprised of three active members selected by the congregation.

Duties: The trustees, under the direction of the Elders shall arrange for the leasing or renting of property, shall sign all contracts necessary to sell or purchase land, building or equipment on behalf of the church, and shall negotiate for and sign all applications for loans or mortgages, upon approval of a majority of the active members of the church.

Term: The trustees shall be elected in those years ending in zero or five. They shall serve a term of five years. If there is a resignation of a trustee in mid-term, a new trustee shall be elected to serve the unexpired term at the next scheduled annual congregational meeting, or at a special congregational meeting called to conduct other business.

Section 5 The Church Clerk. The church clerk shall keep an accurate list of the members of the church, minutes of the monthly business meetings and minutes of the annual and other special meetings of the church. The clerk shall perform other such duties as assigned by the Elders. The clerk shall keep an accurate listing of all active members of the church, updating and revising the list every six months.

Section 6 The Treasurer. The treasurer shall receive and disperse all moneys upon the instruction of the Elders and make monthly reports to the Elders. He or she shall make an annual report to the members of the congregation at the annual business meeting of the church. The records of the treasurer shall be audited annually as directed by the Elders.

ARTICLE III MINISTERS

Section 1 Selection of a minister. The Elders shall serve as a pulpit committee. The committee shall investigate and recommend a minister to the Elders and Deacons for their approval and recommendation to the congregation.

Upon examination, the candidate must receive a 3/4 majority vote of the congregation at a well publicized meeting called for the purpose of such a selection. A candidate for the position of a minister who is presented to the congregation must be voted upon before another candidate is presented.

A written agreement setting forth salary and other conditions of the call shall be executed between the minister and the church by the Elders.

Section 2 Tenure of office. A minister shall serve for an indefinite period. When the Elders determine that the interests of the congregation might better be served by a change of ministers, the Elders shall arrange a meeting with the minister at which time the matter shall be considered. After discussion, if the matter can be resolved, a minister may be put on temporary probation, meeting regularly with the Elders for consultation. In the event agreement cannot be reached, the Elders may request his resignation in writing (See Article 11, Sec. 1 a).

Written notice of resignation or termination shall be given by either party, not less than sixty (60) days in advance of severance or by any other termination agreement which is mutually acceptable to both parties. Should the Elders deem it necessary, termination of all duties to the church may be effective immediately with the disbursement of 60 days severance pay to the minister.

ARTICLE IV ELECTION AND VOTING PROCEDURES

Section 1 Nominations. Nominations shall be received through nominating ballots passed out to the congregation at least 45 days prior to each election. The Elders shall serve as the nominating committee. All nominating ballots shall be received by the Chairman of the Elders at least 21 days before the announced election.

Section 2 Ballots.

a) The ballot shall be composed of members with whom the Elders have conferred personally concerning their agreement with the essential doctrines of New Testament Christianity along with the responsibilities accompanying each office, and who have personally consented to having their name placed on the ballot for consideration by the congregation. b) Those members who are unable to attend the annual congregational meeting may request an absentee ballot from the Chairman of the Elders, if the absence is justifiable.

Section 3 The Election. The election of Elders and Deacons shall be by secret ballot. They shall be elected by a 2/3 majority of those submitting ballots. Members shall receive a sample ballot by mail during the week preceding the Lord's Day on which the election is held. Notice of the annual congregational meeting shall be made at the morning Lord's Day service(s) one week prior to the election.

ARTICLE V DISSOLUTION

Section 1 Procedures. Upon the dissolution of the corporation, the Board of Trustees shall, after paying or making provision for the payment of all the liabilities of the corporation, dispose of all of the assets of the corporation exclusively for the purposes of the corporation in such manner, or to such organization or organizations organized and operated exclusively for charitable, educational, religious, or scientific purposes as shall at the time qualify as an exempt organization or organizations under section 501 (c) (3) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1954 (or the corresponding provision of any future U.S. Internal Revenue Law), as the Board of Trustees shall determine. Any of the assets not so disposed of shall be disposed of by the Court of Common Pleas of the county in which the principal office of the corporation is located, exclusively for such purposes or to such organizations, as said Court shall determine which are organized and operated exclusively for such purposes.

Section 2 Assets. The trustees shall award such assets to a non-profit organization which agrees with the tenets of the doctrine which hold to the principle of complete selfgovernment (local autonomy), as described in Article IV of the Constitution of the Macomb Christian Church.

ARTICLE VI AMENDMENTS

Section 1. These by-laws may be amended at any business meeting of the church by a 2/3 vote of the active members present and voting, provided that written notice of the proposed amendment is provided each eligible voting member at the regular morning service for two consecutive Sundays immediately preceding the date on which the vote is taken, and written notice is provided by letter to all members two weeks prior to the vote.