

LAZY MOUNTAIN BIBLE CHURCH CONSTITUTION

ARTICLE I - NAME

The name of this organized, incorporated church is Lazy Mountain Bible Church.

ARTICLE II - PURPOSE

The purpose of this church is to honor God by:

1. Winning others to Jesus Christ in our community and throughout the world
2. Building up Christians to live pleasing to God.
3. Equipping believers for ministry.

We desire to advance this purpose through Biblical instruction, worship, prayer, mutual encouragement, and evangelism.

ARTICLE III - STATEMENT OF FAITH

1. *THE HOLY SCRIPTURES*

We believe that the Scriptures of the Old and New Testaments are verbally inspired of God and completely inerrant in the original writings, and are the supreme and final authority for faith and life. (II Tim. 3:16,17; II Peter 1:20, 21)

2. *THE GODHEAD*

We believe in the one Holy, Almighty God, eternally existing in three co-equal Persons: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit. (Deut. 6:4; John 10:30, 14:16-18; Matt. 3:16,17)

3. *SATAN*

We believe that Satan is a personal being, the enemy of God; and the author of sin and rebellion; the deceiver, corrupter and destroyer of men; who is justly condemned to be cast into the lake of fire forever. (Isa. 14:12-17; Eph. 6:10-16; I Pet. 5:8; John 8:44; II Cor. 11:13,14; Matt.25:41; Rev. 20:1-10)

4. *THE DEPRAVITY OF MAN*

We believe that man was originally created by God in His own image, but that he voluntarily sinned against God, resulting in physical decay, spiritual death, and a soul independent of God's laws. Therefore, mankind is born with a sinful nature and is guilty, incurring God's penalty which is eternal damnation. (Gen. 1:26,27, 2:17; Rom. 5:12,19, 6:23, 3:19; Eph. 2:1-3; John 3:36)

10/16/09

5. SALVATION FOR MAN

We believe that lost mankind can only receive spiritual life as a gift of God's grace, through faith in Jesus Christ. His shed blood is the basis for our forgiveness and freedom from sin's penalty, making possible our spiritual birth into the family of God by the Holy Spirit, who gives us God's life in our spirits. (John 3:16,36; Eph. 2:5-9; Rom. 3:21-26; John 1:12,13, 10:28; Rom. 8:15,16; Titus 3:5)

We believe that all who are born of the Holy Spirit are united with the Lord Jesus Christ in His death, burial, and resurrection. This relationship makes available to each believer's soul the power necessary to live abundantly and victoriously over the power of sin, our sin nature, the world, and Satan. (Rom. 6:1-14, 8:11-13; Col. 2:9-13; Eph. 1:17-21, 6:10-18; I Cor. 10:13, 12:13; I John 2:15-17, 5:3-5)

We believe that the bodies of all believers, living or dead, shall be changed at the coming of Christ to be eternally free from death and the presence and bondage of sin. Unbelievers will be resurrected to final judgment, and will continue in everlasting conscious punishment in the lake of fire. (John 5:28,29; Matt. 25:46; I Cor. 15:51-57; Rev. 20:4-6, 11-15)

6. GOD THE FATHER

We believe that salvation is an action by God which is rooted in the will, power, and glory of God the Father. The Father has initiated the salvation of all who will be saved by choosing us for Himself before creation, and drawing us to the Son by His grace, bringing many sons into glory. For those who thus trust in Christ, the Father has willed eternal safekeeping and fruit for His praise. Our relationship to the Father is now that of children in His family. Our purpose is to worship the Father and glorify Him by serving Jesus Christ. The Father's plan and ultimate purpose is that He will be glorified by all creation through out eternity. (Eph. 1:13-14; John 6:37, 44; Heb. 2:10; John 6:39-40; 15:8,16; Rom. 8:15-17; John 4:23, 24, 12:24-26; I Cor 15:24-28; Phil. 2:11; Rev. 5:13)

7. GOD THE SON

We believe that Jesus Christ, being truly God and co-equal with the Father, was begotten of the Holy Spirit and born of the virgin Mary, becoming truly man. The Lord Jesus lived sinlessly on this earth and gave to fallen man a visible representation of the invisible God. He was crucified for our sins as a substitutionary sacrifice, and all who believe in Him are declared to be righteous on the basis of His shed blood. (John 1:1-3, 14, 10:30; Luke 1:26-28; Heb. 4:15; Col. 1:15; I Cor 15:3; Rom. 3:21-26, 5:9)

We believe in the physical resurrection of the crucified body of the Lord Jesus Christ, ascension into heaven where He is now exalted at the right hand of the Father, and His high priestly ministry as our mediator, intercessor, and advocate with the Father. (Luke 24:39, 40, 49-51; Hebrews 1:3, 8:1-2; I Timothy 2:5,6; Romans 8:34; I John 2:1)

We believe the imminent appearing of our Savior and Lord Jesus Christ to take away His bride the Church, and His pre-millennial return to set up His kingdom on earth. (John 14:3; Acts 1:11; I Thessalonians 4:16-18, 5:9-10, Revelation 1:7, 19:11-16, 20: 4-6)

8. *GOD THE HOLY SPIRIT*

We believe that the Holy Spirit is the agent of God's salvation, bringing conviction to men and illuminating them to an understanding of the Gospel. He regenerates those who believe in Christ, imparting to them a new divine nature, making them sons in the family of God. Simultaneous to this new birth, the Holy Spirit permanently indwells every believer, sealing him until the day of his final redemption. He also baptizes every believer into the Body of Christ, equipping them with spiritual gifts for mutual edification. The abiding presence of the indwelling Holy Spirit is the basis for His continuing work in the believer's life, as He desires to control, guide, and teach the believer, producing the fruit of the Spirit and good works. (John 16:8-13; Titus 3:5-8; John 3:5-6,16; II Cor. 5:17; II Pet. 1:14; Rom. 8:9,14,17; I Cor. 6:19; Eph. 4:30; I Cor. 12:12-13; Eph. 1:3; John 14:16,17; Eph. 5:18; Gal. 5:16, 22-23)

9. *THE CHURCH*

We believe that the universal Church consists of all believers from Pentecost to the return of Christ. Christ is the Head of the Church, which is His Body and espoused Bride.

We also believe that a local church is made up of fellowshipping believers in a particular place. The establishment and order of local churches is defined and taught in the New Testament Scriptures. (Eph. 1:22-23, 4:1-6, 5:22-32; Heb. 10:24-25; I Tim. 3:1-13; Titus 1:5-11)

10. *OUR COMMISSION*

We believe that those who have never heard or believed the Gospel are lost and guilty, and that it is therefore our divine commission to preach to people everywhere their need to repent of sin and believe in Jesus Christ for salvation. (Matt. 28:18-20; Luke 24:47; Acts 1:8; II Cor. 5:10-21; Rom. 1:18-19, 10:9-17)

ARTICLE IV - MEMBERSHIP

SECTION A - QUALIFICATIONS OF MEMBERS

Persons who give testimony to their faith in Christ as Savior and indicate their agreement with the Constitution and Membership Covenant of this church shall be eligible for membership.

SECTION B - HOW TO BECOME A MEMBER

Those desiring membership should familiarize themselves with the church Constitution and the Membership Covenant which may be obtained from the office secretary. A membership class will be available. They shall meet with representatives of the board of elders. Their names will then be presented to the board of elders for consideration of membership.

SECTION C - RECEPTION OF MEMBERS

Those who have been approved as members shall be welcomed into the fellowship at a church service.

SECTION D - STATUS OF MEMBERS

The membership of this church shall consist of two groups, namely active membership and inactive membership.

1. Active membership shall consist of Christians who have been received in accordance with the provisions of this Constitution and they are considered full members regardless of any other church affiliation.
2. Inactive Membership shall consist of the following:
 - a. Those who are not currently residing in this area, but still desire to hold their membership in this church.
 - b. Those who have been absent from the Sunday services of this church for a period of six months without giving satisfactory reason for such absence, shall be placed on the Inactive Membership list by action of the Board.
 - c. Those who have come under the disciplinary action of the board of elders.
3. Inactive members shall not have the right to vote or hold office in the church.

SECTION E - RESPONSIBILITIES AND PRIVILEGES OF MEMBERS

All members should:

1. Be regular in their attendance of the church services and membership business meetings.
2. Submit themselves to the Word of God as the only rule of faith, doctrine, and practice.
3. Exercise their privilege and responsibility of voting on matters of church business.
4. Receive and welcome new members into the fellowship of the church.

10/16/09

SECTION F - MEMBERSHIP COVENANT

Having been born again by the grace of God through faith in the Lord Jesus Christ, and being justified on the basis of His shed blood, I do now solemnly and joyfully enter into the following covenant with my fellow members in the body of Christ at Lazy Mountain Bible Church. Being enabled by God, I commit myself to:

MY GOD. I will strive toward the discipline of daily prayer, (Ps. 86:1-11; Phil. 4:6-8) and personal study of God's Word, (Ps 1:1-6; 119:11, 105; Acts 17:11; II Tim. 3:16-17) that I might know Him better, (Exodus 34:1-8; Jer. 9:23-24; Phil. 3:8-10) trust Him more, (Prov. 3:5-6; Lam. 3:22-26) love, and obey Him more fully, (Lk. 10:27; Rom. 12:1-2; James 4:6-8).

MY FAMILY. I will consistently make an effort to strengthen the following family values that are indicated in Scripture. A love and respect for God and His word, (Deut. 31:13; Prov. 1:7; 14:26; Lk. 10:27; II Tim. 3:15-17) faith in Jesus Christ, (Acts 16:31) a love for each other, (Matt. 19:4-6; Eph. 5:25-29; Titus 2:3-5) the honor of and obedience to parents, (Ex. 20:12; Eph. 6:1-4; Hebrews 12:9-11) Biblical instruction, (Deut. 6:4-9; Ps. 78:3-7; Prov. 22:6; 23:24) and gentleness in the home (Eph. 6:4; Col. 3:19-21; I Peter 3:2-4, 7-8).

MY CHURCH. I will endeavor to fulfill my God given role by praying for others in this fellowship, (Eph. 1:15-19; 3:14-21; 6:18) by demonstrating Christian love, (I John 3:11, 16-18, 23; 4:7-12) by endeavoring to keep the unity of the Spirit in the bond of peace, (Eph. 4:1-3) by investing my skills and spiritual gifts in service to others, (I Cor. 12:1-26; I Pet. 4:10) by contributing cheerfully and regularly to its ministry, (II Cor. 9:5-15) by strengthening and encouraging one another, (Eph. 4:11-16; Heb. 10:24-25) by caring for and aiding one another in sickness or distress, (Gal. 6:9-10; James 1:27) by upholding the church's doctrine, (I Tim. 4:6, 16) and submitting myself to the Biblical leadership of the church Elders (I Tim. 5:17; Hebrews 13:17; I Pet. 5:5)

MY WORLD. I believe that God has given me a new life in Christ (II Cor. 5:17) so that I might be a visible example of Christ likeness in my home, (I Tim. 3:4-5) at work, (Eph. 6:5-9) and in the community, (Matt. 5:13-16; Rom. 12:20-21; 13:1-7; Eph. 2:8-10; Phil. 2:15-16; I Tim. 2:1-4; I Pet. 2:9-17) so that those around me will be drawn to Christ. I will share in Christ's concern for extending the Gospel to the world (Matt. 28:18-20; John 17:15, 18).

10/16/09

SECTION G - DISCIPLINE OF MEMBERS

Becoming a member includes mutual accountability and acceptance of the discipline of the church according to scripture.

- 1. The responsibility for discipline is shared by the whole church with the motive being the restoration of the offender. (Gal. 6:1)**
- 2. The occasions for discipline: Disciplinary action shall be taken by the board of elders in all cases of:**
 - a. Open sin which is recognized by a clear statement of Scripture.**
 - b. Propagating or practicing any doctrine contrary to the Word of God. (Matt. 18:15-20; I Cor. 5:1-13; Rom. 16:17-18; I Tim. 6:3-5)**
- 3. Procedure: When a member brings reproach upon the name of Christ by anything contrary to the Word of God, he shall be given private counsel, exhortation, admonishment, or rebuke by any church member in a prayerful spirit of humility, sincerity and love. If the offending members remains impenitent, the board of elders will then approach the individual similarly, confronting him with his need for repentance. If the offending member is still impenitent, the board of elders shall recommend that the matter be brought before the membership for their information and discussion. Then the board of elders shall inform the offending member of the concerns of the church and the disciplining action. If he remains unrepentant, the disciplinary action will be final. Disciplinary action may include:**
 - a. Removal from church office**
 - b. Being classified an inactive member**
 - c. Cancellation of church membership**
 - d. Prohibition from taking part in church activities.**
 - e. Other measures as necessary.**
- 4. Restoration: Disciplined members who show convincing evidence of sincere repentance will be restored again by approval of the board of elders. Fellowship will be restored immediately, but there may be limitations relative to his responsibilities and privileges in the church.**

SECTION H - TRANSFER OF MEMBERSHIP

Members who move to another place will, upon request, be given a letter of introduction and standing to another church.

10/16/09

ARTICLE V - ORDINANCES

In obedience to the Lord's command, this church observes the two ordinances instituted by Him: Baptism and the Lord's supper.

SECTION A - BAPTISM

The ordinance of Christian baptism was given by Christ in the great commission, practiced by the New Testament church, and explained in the epistles. Baptism by immersion is the believer's testimony of his identification with Christ in His death, burial, and resurrection. It signifies the believer's confession that he is dead unto sin but alive unto God, living in newness of life. Baptism shall be taught as an act of submission to Christ and testimony of faith, bringing blessing to the believer. (Matt. 28:19-20; Rom. 6:3-4; Col. 2:12-13; Acts 2:38, 41; 8:12,38; 19:5; Gal. 2:20)

SECTION B - THE LORD'S SUPPER

This ordinance of the church was instituted by the Lord as a symbolic memorial of His death for our sins, and is to be observed by the church until He returns. The bread speaks of His body, which bore our sins on the cross. The cup speaks of His blood which was shed as an offering for our sin, and instituted God's new covenant for all who believe in Christ's death. In this church, the Lord's supper shall be observed regularly as determined by the board of elders, and shall be open to any believer. (Matt. 26:26-29; I Pet. 2:24; Rom.3:25; Heb. 9:14-15; I Cor. 11:23-28)

ARTICLE VI - GOVERNMENT

SECTION A - The government of this church shall be vested in the active membership and executed through the duly elected board of elders in accord with all the provisions of this Constitution.

SECTION B - THE BOARD OF ELDERS

- 1. The board of elders shall consist of at least five men, including the Pastors.**
- 2. The terms of the board of elders shall be for three years and their election shall be arranged so that all shall not terminate at the same time.**
- 3. Three-fifths of the board of elders constitute a quorum and a majority vote of those present will be required to pass any measure.**
- 4. The board of elders shall determine the number of members necessary to direct the ministry of the church.**

10/16/09

SECTION C - QUALIFICATIONS OF THE BOARD OF ELDERS

- 1. All elders must be active members of this church.**
- 2. The qualifications set forth in I Tim. 3:1-13 and Titus 1:5-9, shall be required of all members of the board of elders.**
- 3. All of the board of elder's moral conduct should be beyond reproach and hey should practice total abstinence from carnal indulgences or such things which are harmful, offensive, a stumbling block, or out of harmony with a dedicated life as set forth in (Rom. 9:12-13, 12:1-2; 13:14; II Cor. 7:1; Gal. 5:16-25; Eph. 4:22-24; Col. 3:1-10; I Thess. 5:23; I Pet. 1:14-16; I John 3:5-9)**
- 4. All members of the board of elders should be willing to forego the use of certain rights which offend fellow believers, in order to promote peace and edification for the glory of God. (Rom. 14:12-23; 15:1-6; I Cor. 8:1-13; 9:19,27; II Cor. 6:3-4)**

SECTION D - ELECTION OF BOARD OF ELDERS

- 1. Nominating Committee**
 - a. A Nominating Committee composed of the Senior Pastor, two board elders, and two other active members of the church, shall be appointed by the board of elders at a meeting held at least two months prior to the annual meeting.**
 - b. This Committee shall meet to consider the qualifications of all active members. It shall present the candidates to the board of elders.**
 - c. The report of the Nominating Committee shall be announced from the pulpit and posted on the bulletin board one month prior to the annual meeting.**
- 2. Congregational additions or deletions:**

Members of the church who object to any part of the report or who desire to nominate additional candidates shall notify the Nominating Committee within two weeks of the day the report appears, with reasons for their action. All nominations must be approved by the Nominating Committee.
- 3. Election Procedure:**

The elders shall be elected at the annual meeting of the church. An affirmative 75% vote is required to elect each elder board member.
- 4. Vacancies:**

In the event of a board elder's position being vacated, the remaining members of the board of elders may appoint a man to fill this position until the next annual meeting of the church, at which time the church will vote on a nomination to fill the absent board of elder's unexpired term.

10/16/09

SECTION E - RESPONSIBILITIES OF THE BOARD OF ELDERS

The board of elders shall be responsible for the spiritual direction and management of the church.

- 1. Meetings:**
 - a. The board of elders shall meet monthly and other times when necessary.**
 - b. The board of elders shall arrange the details of all congregational meetings.**
 - c. The board of elders shall meet with all ministry team chairmen to evaluate and plan the programs of the church.**
- 2. Nomination of Deacons:**
 - a. The number of deacons to be determined by the board of elders**
 - b. The qualifications set forth in I Tim. 3:8-13 and Acts 6:1-6, shall be required of all members of the board of deacons.**
 - c. The deacons are to be nominated by the board of elders one month prior to the annual meeting.**
 - d. The deacons shall be elected at the annual meeting of the church. An affirmative 75% vote is required to elect each deacon.**
 - e. The terms of the deacons shall be for three years and their election shall be arranged so that not all shall terminate at the same time.**
 - f. The deacons shall be accountable to the board of elders.**
 - g. The deacons shall meet monthly.**
 - h. The deacons are to be responsible for the maintenance of all church properties so that they function properly and are in accordance with civil regulations.**
 - i. The deacons shall select trustees to help in the maintenance and operation of church properties.**
- 3. Appointments:**
 - a. The elder board officers and their responsibilities.**
 - 1) The Chairman shall call, direct, and determine the agenda of all board of elder's meetings. The Chairman shall also serve as the president of the corporation.**
 - 2) Minister of Records:**

The Minister of Records shall keep a record of all business meetings of the church and the board of elders, and of the call of such meetings. He shall maintain an up-to-date list of the names and addresses of all members and be prepared to declare the voting membership at each business meeting. He shall be the custodian of all official papers and keep an inventory of the same. The Minister of Records shall also serve as the secretary of the corporation.

10/16/09

- 3) **Minister of Finance:**
The Minister of Finance shall be responsible for the integrity of the funds of the church in its various ministries and shall submit a monthly report to the board of elders. The financial books of the church shall be subject to an annual audit at the direction of the board of elders. The Minister of Finances shall also serve as the treasurer of the corporation.
- 4) **Assistant Ministers of Finance**
The Assistant Ministers of Finance may include a bookkeeper and those who help in counting the offerings and shall keep an accurate record of the same. The offerings shall be counted by at least two people. They shall be appointed by the board of elders from the active membership.
- b. **Other appointments by the board of elders:**
 - 1) At least one member of the board of elders to each of the standing ministry teams.
 - 2) All ministry team chairmen.
 - 3) The Christian Education Director
 - 4) All Sunday school superintendents.
 - 5) A moderator for the annual meeting.
 - 6) A nominating committee two months prior to the annual meeting.
 - 7) All ad hoc committees.
- c. **The approval of all ministry team members.**
4. **Membership:**
The acceptance of new members, and updating the active list.
5. **Business:**
 - a. The oversight of all business matters and legal transactions.
 - b. The presentation of the annual budget to the membership.
 - c. The supervision along with the pastor(s) of a ministry to the needy and the distribution of any benevolent funds.
6. **Administration/Personnel:**
 - a. Approval of all job descriptions.
 - b. Approval of all operational policies.
 - c. The approval of individuals whenever salaried personnel are needed.
 - d. The search for pastoral staff.

SECTION F - MEETINGS

1. Annual meetings of the membership shall be held during the third week in January of each year. The fiscal year shall be the same as the calendar year. The agenda shall include the presentation of reports by the officers, ministry teams, organizations, and Pastors of the church,

10/16/09

the annual election of elder board members, and such other matters as are deemed necessary.

2. The voting membership at any church business meeting shall be active members who are eighteen years of age or older.
3. Special business meetings of the membership may be held at any time upon call of the board of elders, or by written request to the board of elders of twenty-five percent of the voting members of the congregation. The call of such a meeting and its purpose must be announced at the morning service on two consecutive Sundays preceding the date of the meeting.
4. A quorum at the annual meeting or special meetings of the membership shall be twenty-five percent of all voting members. When less than fifty percent are present, a two-thirds majority shall be required to pass any measure. If fifty percent or more are present, a simple majority shall be required.
5. The chairman of the board of elders, or an elder board appointed moderator shall preside at the annual meeting and all special business meetings.

ARTICLE VII - MINISTERS

SECTION A - LEADERSHIP AND DUTIES OF THE PASTOR

1. **Qualifications:**
 - a. The senior pastor shall be a man who gives evidence of the call of God to the ministry of the gospel and of adherence to the scriptural principles governing church leadership.
 - b. Any man to be considered as a candidate for the position of senior pastor shall have read this Constitution and Membership Covenant and shall have signified in writing his unreserved agreement with its provisions.
2. **Call:**
 - a. The board of elders shall act as a Pulpit Committee to investigate possible candidates and arrange for them to speak at Sunday services. Investigation of a candidate shall include a questionnaire regarding training, pastoral experience, references, and biblical qualifications. A visit by members of the board of elders to his present pastorate could be made.
 - b. When a qualified candidate has spoken at two Sunday services, his name may be presented by the board of elders for a vote at a specially called membership meeting. An eighty-five percent vote of the members present shall be required to extend a call. Only one candidate shall be considered at a time.
3. **Duties:**

The senior pastor, by virtue of his office as spiritual leader and shepherd of the flock, becomes a member of this church, and his duties shall be those generally associated with his office, including the

10/16/09

ministry of the Word, administration of the ordinances, and the care of the spiritual welfare of the members. He shall be an ex-officio member of all committees and organizations of the church.

4. **Additional pastoral staff:**
All additional pastoral staff shall meet the Constitutional requirements of the senior pastor and shall be accountable to him, and carry out their duties as determined by the board of elders. An eighty-five percent vote of the members present shall be required to extend a call.
5. **Termination:**
 - a. A pastor's term of office shall be indefinite. A notice of 60 days shall be given to terminate, with remuneration and the pastor's services continued through this period, unless otherwise mutually agreed.
 - b. A vote may be taken by the congregation at any time to terminate a pastor's services subject to the following:
 - 1) A special meeting may be called for that purpose by the board of elders.
 - 2) It shall be placed on the agenda of a special meeting if a petition of twenty-five percent of the active membership has been presented to the board of elders.
 - 3) A two-thirds of the active membership shall be required to terminate a pastor's service.
 - c. In the event of a doctrinal or moral defection, a pastor's services may be terminated immediately by action of the board of elders, to be ratified by a vote of the congregation within thirty days.

10/16/09

ARTICLE VIII - MINISTRIES

SECTION A -

Regular ministries of this church will function according to policies which are set by each ministry team and approved by the board of elders.

SECTION B - STANDING MINISTRY TEAMS

- 1. The standing ministry teams shall include Christian Education, Missions, Worship, Helps, and Deacons.**
- 2. Other ministries may be established by the board of elders as the need arises.**

SECTION C - SUNDAY SCHOOL MINISTRY

- 1. This ministry shall be recognized as an extension of the Bible teaching ministry of the church. It shall be administered by the Christian Education ministry team through the Sunday school superintendents.**
- 2. The Sunday school staff shall be appointed by the Christian Education director and the Sunday school superintendents.**
- 3. The curriculum of the Sunday school must be chosen by the Christian Education ministry team and have the approval of the board of elders.**
- 4. Any missionary projects sponsored by the Sunday school must have the approval of the Missions ministry team. Any funds collected and dispersed for such projects shall be administered by the Minister of Finance through the Missionary fund.**

ARTICLE IX - FINANCES

SECTION A -

The financial program of this church shall be supported only through the freewill offerings of Christians.

SECTION B -

Any expenditure in excess of \$1,000.00 above the approved annual budget must have congregational approval.

SECTION C -

- 1. If the purpose for which funds have been previously designated is to be changed, it must be done with membership approval.**
- 2. Gifts designated through the church for a specific purpose or person shall be so used with the approval of the board of elders.**

10/16/09

ARTICLE X - PROPERTIES

SECTION A -

The title to all property of this church both real and personal shall be and remain vested in that portion of the active membership that shall remain faithful to the Statement of Faith as in Article III.

SECTION B - ACQUISITION AND SALE OF PROPERTY

- 1. The church shall have power to acquire and hold property, both real and personal, for the general purpose of the church. All property so acquired shall be in the name of the church.**
- 2. Any sale, mortgage, or transfer of real and personal property valued in excess of \$1500.00.**
 - a. Shall be approved by the board of elders.**
 - b. Shall then be approved by a two-thirds majority of the voting members present at a called business meeting.**

SECTION C - USE OF PROPERTY

All properties belonging to the church shall be available to the membership for purposes consistent with the ministry of the church, subject to permission by a pastor.

SECTION D - DISTRIBUTION AND DISSOLUTION

- 1. No part of the net earnings of this corporation shall ever accrue to the benefit of the donor, member, director or officer of the corporation or to any private individual, and no donor, member, director, officer of the corporation, or any private individual shall be entitled to share in the distribution of any of the corporation assets.**
- 2. Upon the dissolution of the corporation, the board of elders shall, after paying or making provision for the payment of all of 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 United States Internal Revenue Law), as the board of elders shall determine. Any such assets not so disposed of shall be disposed of by the Court of Common Pleas of the county in which the principle office of the corporation is then located, exclusively for such purposes or to such organization or organizations, as said Court shall determine, which are organized and operated exclusively for such purposes.**

10/16/09

ARTICLE XI - ORDINATION

SECTION A - COUNCIL OF ORDINATION

- 1. When in the judgment of the board of elders, a man in this membership, or in special cases, a non-member, is called to the Christian ministry, it shall be within the power of said board of elders to call and conduct a Council of Ordination. This Council shall consist of ordained Christian ministers and, if desired, one delegate from each fundamental church invited to participate.**
- 2. The Council of Ordination shall thoroughly examine the applicant regarding his personal Christian experience, call to the ministry, educational training, doctrinal belief, reputation, and demonstrated effectiveness in Christian service. The applicant shall give evidence of his agreement with those provisions of this Constitution with respect to doctrine and scriptural qualifications for church leadership.**
- 3. Upon completion of the examination of the applicant, a unanimous vote by the Council of Ordination shall be required to recommend his ordination by the church. When so recommended, a public ordination service shall be arranged by the Council or Ordination in consultation with the pastors or other representatives of the church, and the applicant.**
- 4. The minutes of the Council or Ordination and of the public service shall be incorporated into the record of church meetings, and a Certificate of Ordination shall be provided for the newly ordained minister.**

SECTION B - DISCIPLINE OF ORDAINED MINISTERS

The board of elders shall have the power to discipline, even to the revoking of the ordination credentials of any minister ordained under this Constitution if said minister is found guilty of doctrinal or moral defection after an impartial hearing is conducted in the spirit of I Corinthians 13.

ARTICLE XII - AMENDMENTS

SECTION A

The Articles of Incorporation and this Constitution may be amended by approval of the board of elders followed by a two-thirds majority vote of the voting members with the exception of Article III, at a called meeting provided that such amendment is presented in written announcement, and as provided in Article VI, Section F.

SECTION B

Any proposed amendment of Article III must be approved by the board of elders posted for three months, and presented weekly at the Sunday services. Passage shall require unanimous vote with at least two-thirds of those who have held active membership for at least three years.

10/16/09

TEACHING POSITION OF LAZY MOUNTAIN BIBLE CHURCH

1. **The Word of God is our final authority in faith and in practice.**
II Timothy 3:15-17.
2. **The Holy Spirit can instruct us in spiritual matters as we study the scriptures.**
I Cor. 2:10-13.
3. **The ministry of teaching is to be accompanied by prayer so that the teacher and student alike will grow in grace and in the knowledge of the Lord Jesus Christ.**
Ephesians 1:18-23; 3:14-21.
4. **Media, drama and teaching curricula will be selected according to the following principles.**
 - a. **It must have a biblical purpose.**
 - b. **It must be culturally and morally tasteful.**
 - c. **It is to be in agreement with the biblical teaching of LMBC.**
 - d. **For pre-approval, the material should be presented to the responsible staff person who will, after review, present it to an elder if questions arise.**
5. **We desire that three core spiritual goals shall be fulfilled throughout the program of the church: evangelism, spiritual maturity, and the equipping of others to serve in the local church and missions.**
6. **The importance of unity in the local church is the primary guiding principle at LMBC with regard to spiritual phenomenon.**

The early church was commissioned with the priority of being a witness for Christ, Matt. 28:18-20; Mark 16:15; Luke 24:47-49; Acts 1:8.

The early church also experienced signs, wonders, and miracles which accompanied the preaching of the Word of God, Acts 4:29-33; II Cor. 12:12. Such phenomenon was evidenced by speaking in tongues, healing, raising of the dead, prophecies, disciplinary death, afflictions and miraculous deliverances.

The Scripture says, ". . . but let all things be done properly and in an orderly manner." I Cor. 14:40. It is our practice that the preaching, teaching and application of the Word of God is our priority in light of the confusion, division, and the counterfeits that accompany some of the modern movements that put a great emphasis on phenomena. We desire to be on the side of caution as signs, miracles, and wonders can be duplicated by Satan himself. II Thess. 2:8-9.

Therefore, as a matter of policy for all of those in a teaching or appointed leadership capacity, we do not promote that which would cause division in our church, such as the speaking in tongues and extra-Biblical experiences. We have come to this policy desiring to keep the unity of the Spirit in the bond of peace. Ephesians 4:2-3;

10/16/09

Romans 15:5-6; I Cor. 1:10; 14:33.

We reserve the right to refrain from cooperation in meetings where the spiritual phenomena is encouraged and practiced.

10/16/09