

Constitution of the United Christian Church Lincolnvile Center, Maine

Article I: NAME

The name of this organization shall be the United Christian Church of Lincolnvile Center, Maine.

Article II: PURPOSE OF THE CHURCH

Our purpose shall be to foster mutual Christian love and growth within the congregation; to provide a family worship service for religious education of our children, young people and adults; to welcome all who choose to join us for worship and fellowship in the spirit of Christ; to honor God in the building of His Kingdom in all aspects of our lives.

Article III: MEMBERSHIP

Section 1.

In accordance with the Gospel covenant, which binds into a unity “*faithful people of all ages, tongues, and races,*” membership in the church shall be open to any person. Members shall pledge themselves to attend the worship services of the church and to live the Christian life; to share in the life and work of the church; to contribute to its support and benevolences; and to seek diligently the spiritual welfare of the membership and the community.

Section 2.

There shall be three categories of participation:

- Regular Member – Those who are not members of any other church and have received Baptism, Confirmation, or have made public confession of faith in Jesus Christ as Lord and Savior.
- Affiliate Member – Those whose membership is already in some other church and who do not wish to remove it, or those who primarily wish to be a member of this church, but who do not accept the ordinance of Baptism and only desire to accept the Constitution. Affiliate members shall have all rights and duties of the regular members in the local church, except that of becoming the Board Chairperson, Vice-Chairperson, or Treasurer.
- Regular Attendee – Those who wish to support the ministry of this church, but have not made a public confession of faith.

Article IV. OFFICERS OF THE CHURCH

Section 1. Title and Term Limits

The Board of Directors shall consist of eight people: the Pastor, the Chairperson of the Board, the Vice-Chairperson, the Chairperson of the Deacons/Deaconesses, the Chairperson of the Trustees, the Treasurer, the Secretary and the Representative-at-Large from the congregation. The terms of these offices, with the exception of Treasurer, shall be one year, not to exceed two consecutive terms. The Treasurer may serve up to six consecutive years. The Chairperson, Vice-Chairperson, and Treasurer shall be regular members of the church. All other members of the Board may be a regular member, affiliate member or regular attendee.

The Board shall be the policy-making body and shall transact the business of the church, have charge of the permanent funds of the corporation, oversee the audit and management of financial accounts, and be the custodian of all church records.

Section 2. Selection of Board of Directors

Members of the Board of Directors and of the Boards of Trustees and Deacon/Deaconesses shall be elected annually by the congregation during the Annual Meeting in October and installed with due form.

Section 3. Selection of the Pastor

The Pastor shall be chosen by the Board of Directors, a search committee (appointed by the Board of Directors), and the entire congregation. The Maine Conference of the United Church of Christ will recommend one or more candidates.

Article V. MEETINGS

The Board shall hold eight business meetings annually open to the congregation. All acts and deliberations in the business meetings are subject to the will of and revision by the governing body, the church.

In all matters not covered by the Constitution, the Board of Directors may have power to decide, and they may call in the aid of the Maine Conference of the United Church of Christ.

Article VI. QUORUM

Five officers shall constitute a Board quorum, while one-fifth of the members of the church shall constitute a congregational quorum.

Article VII. TRADITIONS AND PROCEDURES

The United Christian Church of Lincolnville Center, Maine, shall hold a regular service for public worship weekly and a family worship service monthly. The Lord's Supper shall be observed quarterly or more often, according to the wishes of the Pastor and congregation. The ordinance of Baptism may be administered according to the belief of those receiving it.

The Chairperson of the Board shall provide the congregation with an agenda one week in advance the business meetings. During the business meetings, all church members in attendance are welcome to participate in the voting process.

A two-thirds vote of regular members present shall be required in the following situations:

- Calling or dismissing a pastor
- Buying or selling church property
- Deciding to disband the church corporation

Article VIII. AMENDMENTS

Amendments and revisions may be made to this Constitution or to the By-Laws, by a two-thirds vote of the regular and affiliate members. The proposed amendment or revision shall be posted as a warrant and made available to the congregation for a minimum of two weeks prior to the vote.

This revised Constitution was adopted by the Congregation of the United Christian Church of Lincolnton Center, Maine, at the Annual Meeting on October 26, 2008.

Chairperson of the Board of Directors:

Secretary of the Board of Directors: