

(Church Name)
In association with the Evangelical Free Church of America
(City, State)

CONSTITUTION

ARTICLE I: NAME

The name of this organization, a nonprofit Corporation, shall be _____, affiliated with the Evangelical Free Church of America and its Allegheny District.

ARTICLE II: STATEMENT OF FAITH

- 2.100 We believe the Scriptures, both Old and New Testaments to be the inspired Word of God, without error in the original writings, the complete revelation of His will for the salvation of men, and the Divine and final authority for Christian faith and life.
- 2.101 We believe in one God, Creator of all things, infinitely perfect and eternally existing in three persons: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.
- 2.102 We believe that Jesus Christ is true God and true man having been conceived of the Holy Spirit and born of the virgin Mary. He died on the cross, a sacrifice for our sins according to the Scriptures. Further, He arose bodily from the dead, ascended into heaven, where at the right hand of the Majesty on High, He is now our High Priest and Advocate.
- 2.103 We believe that the ministry of the Holy Spirit is to glorify the Lord Jesus Christ, and during this age to convict men, regenerate the believing sinner, and to indwell, guide, instruct and empower the believer for godly living and service.
- 2.104 We believe that man was created in the image of God, but fell into sin, and is therefore lost, and only through regeneration by the Holy Spirit can salvation and spiritual life be obtained.
- 2.105 We believe that the shed blood of Jesus Christ and His resurrection provide the only ground for justification and salvation for all who believe, and only such as receive Jesus Christ are born of the Holy Spirit, and thus become children of God.
- 2.106 We believe that the Lord's Supper and Water Baptism are ordinances to be observed by the church during this present age. They are, however, not to be regarded as means of salvation.
- 2.107 We believe that the true Church is composed of all such persons who, through saving faith in Jesus Christ have been regenerated by the Holy Spirit and are

united together in the Body of Christ, of which He is the Head.

2.108 We believe that only those who are thus members of the true Church shall be eligible for membership in the local church.

2.109 We believe that Jesus Christ is the Lord and Head of the Church, and that every local church has the right, under Christ, to decide and govern its own affairs.

2.110 We believe in the personal, pre-millennial and imminent coming of our Lord Jesus Christ, and that this "Blessed Hope" has a vital bearing on the personal life and service of the believer.

2.111 We believe in the bodily resurrection of the dead; of the believer to everlasting blessedness and joy with the Lord, and of the unbeliever to judgment and everlasting conscious punishment.

ARTICLE III: STANDING

3.100 This church shall maintain membership with The Evangelical Free Church of America and its branches and with the Allegheny District of the Evangelical Free Church.

ARTICLE IV: PURPOSE

4.100 (Your Purpose Statement here)

ARTICLE V: MEMBERSHIP

5.100 Membership of this church shall be composed of those individuals who, through saving faith in the Lord Jesus Christ, have been born again, who manifest the fruit of a true Christian life, who subscribe to the afore mentioned doctrinal statement, and who are willing to faithfully support the church.

5.200 Membership of the church shall elect and/or affirm its Elder Leadership Community, call and dismiss its Senior Pastor, approve the annual budget of the church, vote on the sale or purchase of property or the taking on of debt and affirm any changes in the Constitution or By-laws.

ARTICLE VI: PROPERTY RIGHTS

6.100 This church shall have the power to receive, either by gift or purchase, and to hold such real, personal, of mixed property as is authorized by the laws of the State of Ohio and as deemed necessary for the business/ministry of the church, and shall have the power to dispose of such property by mortgage, deed, or otherwise.

6.200 If the church membership votes to dissolve and cease to function as a church of like faith and practice, or if the membership should dissolve through some disaster, the property rights shall be assigned to the Allegheny District of The Evangelical Free Church of America to enable said district to renew the work or use the values thereof for further Gospel enterprises.

ARTICLE VII: GOVERNMENT

7.100 Ultimate authority lies in Christ as the Head of the Church and in the Scripture as the basis for all faith and practice. This church shall remain self-governing. The government is vested in its membership and administered by its officers. In function, final authority shall reside in the membership. They shall approve and/or affirm biblically qualified leadership to carry out Christ's purposes.

ARTICLE VIII: OFFICERS

8.100 The officers of this church shall be the Pastor(s), Elders, and other officers as deemed necessary by the membership.

ARTICLE IX: AMENDMENTS

9:100 Amendments to this constitution may be presented at the annual membership meeting for a vote when said proposed amendments have been reviewed and approved by the Leadership Community and presented to the membership in writing and posted for their review at least one year prior to the membership meeting. A two-thirds majority is required for passage. *(Consider further explanation here...2/3 of membership...2/3 of those present...etc)*

This Constitution was officially adopted by the membership of (Church Name) in (City, State) on this date: