

BY-LAWS
of
TRINITY PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH (U.S.A.) CHERRY HILL, NEW JERSEY

ARTICLE I

The Trinity Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.), Cherry Hill, New Jersey, being a particular congregation of the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.), recognizes that the Constitution of said Church, is in all its provisions, obligatory upon it and its members.

CONGREGATION

ARTICLE II – Annual Ecclesiastical Meeting

There shall be an annual ecclesiastical meeting of the congregation in the church edifice as soon as practical in the first quarter of the new year for the transaction of any business properly coming before such meeting.

ARTICLE III – Special Meetings

Special meetings may be called by the session or the Presbytery for Southern New Jersey. Such calls shall clearly state the purpose of such special meeting and no other matter save that specified in the call may be considered.

ARTICLE IV – Meeting Notice

Public notice of the time, place, and purpose of all ecclesiastical meetings of the congregation shall be publicly announced from the pulpit on at least two Sundays preceding the day of the meeting.

ARTICLE V -- Moderator

The installed pastor shall ordinarily moderate all meetings of the congregation. If it is impractical for the pastor to preside, he or she shall request that the presbytery's Commission on Ministry invite another minister who is a member of the presbytery or a person authorized by the presbytery to serve as moderator. If there is no installed pastor, or the installed pastor is unable to moderate and/or to name another moderator, the presbytery shall make provision for a moderator.

ARTICLE VI -- Secretary

The clerk of the session shall be secretary of the ecclesiastical meetings of the congregation. If the clerk is unable to attend, the session shall elect a secretary for that meeting. The secretary shall record the actions of the congregation in minutes of the meeting.

ARTICLE VII – Quorum

All active members of the congregation present at either annual or special meetings are entitled to vote. A quorum shall consist of the moderator, secretary, and ten per cent of active members.

ARTICLE VIII -- Voting

Voting by proxy is not permitted.

ARTICLE IX – Rules of Order

Meetings shall be conducted in accordance with the Book of Order adopted by the General Assembly of the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.), as far as they apply, and when they do not apply, according to usual legislative rules of order.

ARTICLE X -- Prayer

All meetings shall be opened and closed with prayer.

ARTICLE XI – Electronic meetings

In the event of an emergency or public health order forbidding social gatherings, the congregation may meet by electronic means if all members have reasonable notice of the electronic meeting and the ability to discuss and vote on business items. The quorum for such a meeting shall consist of the moderator, secretary, and ten per cent of active members.

SESSION

ARTICLE XII -- Session

There shall be a sufficient number (as determined by the session) of elders-trustees to carry out the spiritual and temporal affairs of the congregation under a single board. The board will be divided into three (3) classes with one third in each class. A ruling elder who has served six consecutive years shall be ineligible for election to the session for at least one year. The session-board shall have the right to amend proposals, if need be, by corporate and legal laws of New Jersey to elect corporation officers at ecclesiastical meetings.

The session shall organize itself into committees necessary for its work and is encouraged to invite members from outside the session to serve on such committees.

ARTICLE XIII – Board of Deacons

There shall be a sufficient number (as determined by the session) of deacons divided into three (equal) classes with one third in each class, one class of whom shall be elected at the annual ecclesiastical meeting for a three-year term. A deacon who has served six consecutive years shall be ineligible for election to the same board for at least one year. The rights and duties of said deacons shall be those set forth in the Constitution of the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.). Their ministry is under the supervision and authority of the session.)

Article XIV – Electronic meetings

The session may meet by electronic means if all active elders have reasonable notice of the electronic meeting and the ability to discuss, deliberate, and discern the will of God and vote on business items.

The quorum for such a meeting is also two-thirds of active elders and one moderator, temporary or called.

Article XV -- Electronic voting

The session may take actions required or permitted to be taken at a meeting with like effect between meetings of the entity, provided that every member is contacted either in person or via email and no member objects. The following conditions shall apply:

- A. This procedure shall only be used when the motion to be voted on is of such urgency that it cannot wait until the next stated meeting or is so routine that there is not likely to be any dispute.
- B. The motion must have been moved and seconded by members of the body.
- C. Amendments are not permitted.
- D. If anyone objects to deciding this question by this process, then an in-person meeting must be called to discuss the issue. Discussion via email in lieu of a meeting is not sufficient.
- E. The results must be reported at the next stated meeting and recorded in the minutes.

Article XVI -- Emergency situations

In the event of an emergency or public health order forbidding social gatherings, the session may appoint an administrative commission made up of one teaching elder moderator, either temporary or called, and at least two members of session. These appointed members would be reviewed annually by the session. The administrative commission would have the full power of the session (and the trustees) and may take action acting as the session (and trustees). In the event that the session is able to hold a duly called special meeting with reasonable notice and quorum, either in person or by electronic means, the commission will cease its work and the session will resume its powers.

ARTICLE XVII -- Vacancies

Vacancies on the session or board of deacons may be filled at a special meeting of the congregation, the annual meeting of the congregation, or by appointment. In the event of appointment, such shall stand until the annual congregational meeting at which time the congregation, in accordance with the by-laws, shall elect a regularly nominated eligible person to fill the unexpired term of the office or offices vacated. It is further provided that: (1) as respects the session, the aforementioned appointment shall be made by the session and approved by at least a two-thirds vote of the session members present at a regularly convened meeting of said body; (2) as respects the board of deacons, such appointment shall be made by the deacons and shall be approved in the same manner, but shall require the further approval of a majority of the session members present at a regularly convened meeting.

ARTICLE XVIII-- Audit

There shall be three (3) auditors elected from the congregation annually for a term of one (1) year whose duties shall be to audit the books and accounts of the said trustees and review the by-laws annually in the last quarter or as often as directed by the session.

BOARD OF TRUSTEES

ARTICLE XXIV – Board of Trustees

The said trustees shall be incorporated under the laws of the State of New Jersey and the name by which such incorporated board shall be known is Trinity Presbyterian Church (USA), Cherry Hill, New Jersey.

ARTICLE XX – Annual Corporation Meeting

There shall be an annual business meeting of the corporation immediately following adjournment of the annual ecclesiastical meeting of the congregation.

Article XXI – Quorum

A quorum shall consist of the president, secretary, and ten per cent of active members.

ARTICLE XXII -- Special Corporation Meetings

Special business meetings of the corporation may be called by the trustees and shall be called by the trustees at the request of the session. Presbytery may call a special meeting or authoritatively direct the trustees so to do. All such calls shall clearly state the purpose of such meeting, and no other matter save that specified in the call may be considered.

ARTICLE XXIII -- Voting

The persons entitled to vote at any annual or special business meeting of the corporation shall be active members of the congregation. Voting by proxy at such meetings is not allowed.

ARTICLE XXIV – Public Notice

Public notice of the time, place, and purpose of all business meetings of the congregation as prepared by the trustees (or presbytery) shall be publicly announced at least ten days prior to the date of the meeting mentioned in the notice and shall be publicly announced from the pulpit on at least two Sundays preceding the day of the meeting.

ARTICLE XXV -- Officers

The trustees elected in accordance with Article XII preceding shall elect from among themselves every year a president and secretary, who shall serve for a one-year term.

ARTICLE XXVI -- Moderator

The pastor as moderator will preside at board meetings which have to do with spiritual matters and all others except those which come under the jurisdiction of the president of the trustees. The president of the trustees shall preside (over) at regular and special board meetings which have to do with corporate matters, including real estate.

ARTICLE XXVII --Secretary

The secretary of the board of trustees shall be the secretary of business meetings of the congregation. If the secretary is unable to serve, the board of trustees shall designate a substitute.

ARTICLE XXVIII -- Board Membership

No one shall be elected as an elder-trustee who is not an active member of the congregation.

ARTICLE XXIX -- Vacancies

Vacancies on the boards of the congregation by reason of death or resignation shall be filled at the next annual ecclesiastical meeting of the congregation unless the elder-trustees decide by resolution to call a special meeting for the purpose, or by appointment by a two-thirds majority of the members present at a regularly convened meeting of said board. Such appointment shall stand until the annual ecclesiastical meeting of the congregation at which time the congregation, in accordance with the by-laws, shall elect a regularly nominated eligible person to fill the unexpired term of the office or offices vacated.

ARTICLE XXX -- Duties

The duties of trustees shall be those only delegated to them by the laws of the State of New Jersey, the Constitution of the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.), the session of this church, and by formal actions of a meeting of this congregation. More specifically, such duties shall include:

- A. To hold title to all the property of the particular congregation including the land and buildings for church use.
- B. To execute such contracts as may be necessary and proper for the carrying out of the duties hereby delegated to them.

ARTICLE XXXI -- Reporting

The trustees shall report annually to the corporation:

- A. The receipts and payments for the previous fiscal year.
- B. An estimate of expenses and income for the year ahead.
- C. New business necessary to be undertaken for the welfare of the congregation.
- D. An exhibit of the real property, trust funds, and other resources of the congregation.

ARTICLE XXXII – Nominating Committee

Nominations shall be made by a representative nominating committee of the active members of the congregation. Not more than two members of this committee shall be designated by and from the elder-trustees, one of whom shall be named by the elders as chairperson. One member of this committee shall be designated by and from the board of deacons. One shall be designated by Presbyterian Women. In addition, three (3) at-large members of the nominating committee shall be elected by the congregation for a period of one (1) year at the annual congregational meeting. In addition, the pastor shall be a member of this committee ex-officio but without vote.

The nominating committee shall be chosen annually. In the event that either or both of such members shall resign or vacate their office for any reason, the remaining members of the nominating committee may fill such vacancy by appointment providing the appointees are selected by a two-thirds vote of the

nominating committee and providing the appointees are not officers of the church or of the
aforementioned organization.

ARTICLE XXXIII – Amendment of By-Laws

These by-laws may be amended subject to the charter of the corporation, the laws of the State of New Jersey, and the Constitution of the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.) at any annual meeting, or at any special meeting, by a two-thirds vote of the voters present, provided that a full reading of the proposed changes (or a printed distribution of the same) shall have been made in connection with the call of the meeting.

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