

PROPOSED CHANGES TO OUR RULES AND REGULATIONS

THE PROPOSED CHANGES IN THE RULES AND LANGUAGE IS IN BLUE.

THE RULES AND REGULATIONS OF THE

KING MORAVIAN CHURCH

~~P. O. BOX 392~~

228 WEST DALTON ROAD

KING, NORTH CAROLINA 27021

PREAMBLE

Recognizing that Jesus Christ is the one Lord and Head of His Body, the Church, which He has called into being so that it may serve Him here on earth, this Congregation asks our Lord's indulgence and blessings on these rules and regulations and prays that they will help us to more perfectly serve Him in all ways.

With the whole of Christendom, we share faith in God the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit. We believe and confess that God has revealed Himself once and for all in His ~~son~~ **Son** Jesus Christ, that our Lord has redeemed us with the whole of ~~man~~ **humanity** by His death and His resurrection, and that there is no salvation apart from Him. We believe that He is present with us in the ~~Words~~ **Word** and the ~~Sacrament~~ **Sacraments** that He directs and unites us through His Spirit and thus forms us into a church. We hear Him summoning us to follow Him and pray Him to use us in His service. He joins us together and binds us with His great love; so that knowing ourselves to be members of His body, we become willing to serve each other. We, therefore, hope thus to add to His radiance.

Having agreed on the Unity of these and other essentials, this Congregation of the Unitas Fratrum grants liberty to all others being bound in all things by our love of our Lord Jesus Christ and our love of each other. Help us, O Lord, to so order our words that these works may be acceptable in ~~Thy~~ **Your** sight and grant all who use them ~~Thy~~ **Your** blessing and to use them with wisdom, love, and grace in all matters that come before them. Amen.

It is the order of The King Moravian Church that these Rules and Regulations shall never be reproduced without this preamble included so that all who may be called upon to use these Rules and Regulations may have the essentials of their faith before them.

ARTICLE I
ORGANIZATION

Section 1. Name:

This church, which was organized October 5, 1924, shall be known as The King Moravian Congregation of Stokes County, State of North Carolina.

Section 2. Organization:

The King Moravian Church is organized under the Rules and Regulations of the Moravian Church in America, Southern Province, by authority of the Board of Provincial Elders of the Southern Province of the Moravian Church in America, or Unitas Fratrum. It owes its allegiance and renders its reports to the Synod of the Southern Province under whose constituted authority it carries on its work. It shall be guided and ~~lead~~ led in all things by the Book of Order of the Moravian Church in America, Southern Province, as adopted and amended ~~from time to time~~ periodically by the Provincial Synods of the Southern Province.

Section 3. Object:

The King Moravian Church's object is to be a true church of Jesus Christ and to further the interest of the Kingdom of God according to the teaching of His Holy Word and according to the doctrines and practices of the Moravian Church as determined by its Unity Synods.

ARTICLE II MEMBERSHIP

Section 1. Communicant Members:

- A. Persons applying to become communicant members of this Congregation by the Rite of Confirmation or Adult Baptism ~~on Profession of Faith~~ or **Transfer of Membership** or by Re-affirmation of Faith shall receive such instruction as their circumstances may require. When they have been prepared, their names shall be submitted to the Board of Elders, which has power to grant or refuse their application.
 - 1. No applicant shall be considered for communicant membership by the Board of Elders under this paragraph until they have been certified by the Pastor as having received not less than one hour of instruction in the essentials of our faith as outlined in the Book of Order on the Moravian Church in America, Southern Province, under Part 1, the Ground of the Unity and Part 2, Essential Features of the Unity.
- B. Persons who have been full members of another Moravian Congregation or of another Christian church, and who desire to unite with this Congregation shall present their letters of transfer or dismissal from their former church to the Pastor for presentation to the Board of Elders. In case such letters of transfer cannot be obtained, they shall submit proper evidence of their previous membership. If their applications for membership are approved, they shall be received by the Right Hand of Fellowship. Persons who have been full members of another Christian Church should receive the same instruction in the essentials of our faith as described above, and be certified by the Pastor.
 - 1. All persons becoming communicant members of this Congregation shall be provided with a copy of The Rules and Regulations of this Congregation and other literature concerning the doctrines, history, and practices of the Moravian Church.

Section 2. Non-Communicant Members:

All baptized children of communicant members of this Congregation shall be called Non-Communicant Members. They shall remain Non-Communicant Members until they, by their decision or by confirmation, become communicant members of this or another Moravian Congregation.

Section 3. Children of the Church:

Unbaptized children of members and children under the care of the church until their sixteenth year shall be listed as children of the Church.

Section 4. Associate Members:

A. Any communicant member of this Congregation in good standing may transfer his or her membership to another Moravian Congregation or to the Congregation of another Christian church and retain an associate membership in this Congregation provided the following conditions are fulfilled:

1. That along with his **his or her** request for a letter of transfer, ~~he/she applied~~ **he or she must apply** to the Board of Elders in writing for permission to retain an associate membership.
2. That ~~he~~ **he or she** pays in full the annual assessment for associate members as fixed by the Board of Trustees. The Board of Trustees may forgive such an annual assessment for cause if requested by the applicant for associate membership. ~~Associate members may not hold office on the official board of the congregation, but shall exercise all other rights and privileges of communicant members as long as the above conditions are fulfilled. Associate members who are communicant members in another Moravian Congregation are not included in the annual membership statistics of this church.~~

B. Associate members may not hold office on the official board of the congregation but shall exercise all other rights and privileges of communicant members as long as the above conditions are fulfilled. One exception to all rights and privileges is that associate members have the right to have their remains buried in God's Acre after payment of fees for associate members published in the Rules and Regulations Governing Funerals and Burials in the King Moravian Church Graveyard. Associate members who are communicant members in another Moravian Congregation are not included in the annual membership statistics of this church.

~~B. Students while attending school in this community, who are communicant members of another Moravian Congregation or the Congregation of another Christian church, may become associate members of this Congregation provided approval of such association is received in writing from the Congregation of which they are communicant members in good standing. These students shall not be charged an annual assessment as an associate member.~~

C. Students attending school in this community who are communicant members of another Moravian Congregation or the Congregation of another Christian church may become associate members of this Congregation provided approval of such association is received in writing from the Congregation of which they are communicant members in good standing. These students shall not be charged an annual assessment as an associate member.

~~C. Baptized children of associate members shall be Non-Communicant members in either one of the Congregations as the parent or parents may choose and will be included in the statistics of the chosen church.~~

D. Baptized children of associate members shall be Non-Communicant non-communicant members in either one of the Congregations congregations as the parent or parents may choose and will be included in the statistics of the chosen church.

Section 5 Inactive Members:

A. Members who become inactive over a period of time and who cannot for the present be reclaimed to active membership will be placed on an inactive roll by action of the Board of Elders or church Joint Board. Likewise, inactive members may be returned to the active roll by action of the Board of Elders or church Joint Board when the Board determines that such members have become active again in the life of the congregation.

B. Those placed on such an inactive roll will be informed that by virtue of their status as inactive members they:

1. Would be visited and extended the ministries of caring that other members receive, including admission to the Lord's Supper.

2. Would be eligible to receive regular communications of the church, including The North American Moravian.
3. Would be ineligible to vote at church council or hold church office.
4. Would be excluded in the statistics of the congregation.
5. Would be given a qualified letter of transfer if they request a letter of transfer.
6. Would be excluded from privileges of burial in the church designated graveyard.

Section 6. Requirements for Communicant Membership:

~~A communicant member remains in good standing as a member of this Congregation as long as he/she:~~

- ~~A. Seeks to be a sincere follower of Jesus Christ.~~
- ~~B. Attends the church services unless this requirement is forgiven for cause by the Board of Elders. Each case forgiven shall be separately considered by the Board.~~
- ~~C. Participates regularly in the Holy Communion. All communicant members shall participate in at least two Holy Communion each year to fulfill this requirement. If unable to attend church service to fulfill this requirement, they may request the Pastor to provide Holy Communion at home (or wherever else they may be within a reasonable distance of this church) and he shall do it.~~
- ~~D. Contributes to the financial support of the church as the Lord prospers him/her, and pays in full all pledges made for the support of the church or assessments made by the Board of Trustees. This contribution shall not be less than \$1.00 per year, said amount to be paid by envelope in order that credit may be given. Any member at any time may request the Board of Trustees that he/she be permitted, for cause, to reduce his/her pledge or to be excused from financial support of the Church.~~

A communicant member remains in good standing as a member of this Congregation as long as he or she follows the guidelines set forth by the Book of Order of the Moravian Church, Southern Province. In the fellowship of the church, members are called upon to witness faithfully to their dedication to Christ as Lord and Savior by:

A. Attending the public services of congregational worship.

B. Participating in the Sacrament of Holy Communion.

C. Responding to opportunities to grow in faith, love, and hope as disciples of Jesus Christ.

D. Contributing as the Lord prospers them to the work of the congregation of which they are a member.

E. Supporting the work of the Moravian Church as a whole in a way that advances the mission and service of Christ to the world.

F. Responding positively to opportunities both inside and outside the church to use abilities and time in the service of others.

Section 7. Requirements for All Members:

All members: communicant, non-communicant, and associate must adhere to the Rules and Regulations of this church as here set forth and to the Constitution and the Rules and Regulations of the Moravian Church in America, Southern Province, as set forth in the Book of Order of that Province as adopted and amended ~~from time to time~~ (proposed change to take out "from time to time") by the Provincial Synods of the Southern Province as a condition for continued membership.

Section 8. ~~Discipline Of Members~~ Church Discipline:

The Board of Elders will make every effort to determine what pain or need lies behind behavior of any one of its members who displays conduct unbecoming a Christian and will fulfill appropriate ministries to him or her. When such ministry is rejected, the Board of Elders may enact discipline that is deemed constructive for the spiritual growth of the person. ~~Members who have been disciplined shall in all cases have the right to appeal to the Provincial Elders' Conference.~~ The Board of Elders will follow the Book of Order of the Moravian Church, Southern Province. The life of the congregation is nourished by the cure and care of souls and the exercise of congregation disciples. In the exercise of corrective discipline, the following aspects are thus:

- 1) Admonition by the minister, either alone or in fellowship with other members (Congregational Council, Elders, etc.) in private in a spirit of love.
- 2) Further admonition with temporary suspension from the fellowship of the congregation as it is visibly expressed in certain privileges.
- 3) Exclusion from the membership of the congregation.
- 4) Persons who are excluded shall be welcomed back into the to the membership of the congregation after a profession of repentance on their part.

Section 9. Transfer To Other Churches:

Any member desiring a letter of transfer to another Moravian Congregation or another Christian church shall make application either in person or by letter to the Pastor, who shall issue such transfer (or dismissal) upon the approval of the Board of Elders.

ARTICLE III
CONGREGATIONAL COUNCIL

Section 1. Composition of Congregational Councils:

The Congregational Council is composed of all communicant members of the Congregation who are in good standing. Only ~~Communicant~~ **communicant** members **who are in good standing** are eligible to vote at Council meetings.

Section 2. Secretary:

Each Congregational Council shall elect a secretary who shall keep a true and accurate record of the proceedings of the Council, which ~~record~~ **(take out "record")** shall be preserved by the ~~Board of Trustees~~ **Joint Board**. The secretary shall remain in office until his/her **his or her** successor is elected.

Section 3. ~~Chairman~~ **Chairperson**, Place of Meeting, Notice of Meeting, And Duties:

- A. The Pastor shall be ~~chairman~~ **chairperson** of the Congregational Council. In his **his or her** absence, the ~~vice-chairman~~ **Vice-Chairperson** of the Board of Elders shall convene council and shall preside until a chairman is elected. This may be the ~~vice-chairman~~ **Vice-Chairperson** of the Board or any other communicant member of the congregation in good standing. When the congregation is without a pastor, the ~~Joint Boards~~ **Board** may request a Bishop of the Moravian Church or a member of the Provincial Elders Conference to preside at the Congregational Council, in which case ~~he~~ **he or she** shall act as the chairperson of that particular council.
- B. All meetings of the Congregational Council shall be announced on at least two occasions of public worship prior to the meeting as the Joint Board may determine.
- C. It shall be the duty of the Council to elect delegates and their alternates to the Provincial Synod and to elect members of the Board of Elders and Board of Trustees, the Youth Representatives of the Board of Elders and the Board of Trustees, and all other officers and boards of the church not provided for otherwise. All matters that relate to the temporal or spiritual welfare of the church may be discussed and such action taken in Council as deemed necessary at

the motion of any member or by request of the Pastor or the Boards of Elders and Trustees.

Section 4. Annual Meeting:

The annual meeting of the Council shall be held on a Sunday in November of each year at which time the Boards of Elders and Trustees must render a report of work of the previous year. The Joint Boards Board shall have the authority to postpone this meeting for up to four weeks after this Sunday in November if there is a legitimate need to do so. The time and place of holding the Congregational Council shall be determined by the Congregational Council itself or may be left to the direction of the Joint Boards Board. It should, however, be held under such conditions as will secure the largest possible attendance, interest, and cooperation of the membership. A Quorum quorum at the annual meeting shall shall be thrice the number of members of the Joint Boards Board. All actions taken during this Congregational Council after a quorum is obtained shall be valid, even though a quorum is not continuously present between that time and adjournment.

Section 5. Special Meetings:

The Joint Boards Board shall have authority at any time to convene a special meeting of the Congregational Council. Likewise, a number of members in good standing, equivalent to the number of members on the Joint Boards Board, may call a special meeting. A quorum at any special meeting of the Council shall be twice the number of members of the Joint Boards Board. All actions taken during this Congregational Council after a quorum is obtained shall be valid, even though a quorum is not present continuously between that time and adjournment. All special meetings shall be announced on at least two occasions of public worship: the first announcement of shall not be less than two weeks or more than six weeks prior to the meeting. Other methods of announcement may be used to supplement, but not replace, these notices.

Section 6. Elections:

- A. The members of the Board of Trustees and the Board of Elders elected by the Congregational Council shall continue in office until their successors are elected. All elections shall be by secret ballot, and the majority of 51% of the votes cast shall be necessary for a nominee to elect a member of the Board of Trustees and the Board of Elders. The tellers for all elections shall be the Nominating Committee plus one or more members appointed from the Council by the Chairman of the Congregational Council. They shall make their report to the Chairman of the Congregational Council who will announce it to the Congregational Council.

- B. Thirty days prior to the Congregational Council, the Joint Boards **Board** shall appoint a nominating committee **Nominating Committee** whose duty it shall be to submit to the Congregational Council names of brethren **members** eligible for election to the Board of Elders and the Board of Trustees, ~~otherwise provided for -- provided, however, that nothing in this section shall prevent nominations from the floor by any member of the Council.~~ **Nominations can come from the floor by any member of the Congregational Council.** The ~~nominating committee~~ **Nominating Committee** shall consist of five members, one of which shall be a retiring member of the Board of Elders, who shall be the Chairperson of the Nominating Committee. All nominations by this committee or from the floor by any member of the Congregational Council must first be cleared with the nominee who must state that ~~he~~ **he or she** is willing to serve in this position if elected.

Section 7. Annual Report and Fiscal Year:

The annual report of the Board of Elders and the Board of Trustees shall include a financial statement, an accurate membership roll, and shall be submitted in writing at the annual meeting together with the annual report of the Pastor and all other officers of the Church that may be directed to do so by the Boards of Elders and Trustees. The budget for the next year shall be approved by the Trustees and then presented to the Joint Board for final approval. A published budget shall be presented to the membership during the ~~church council~~ **Church Council** meeting. Copies shall be made of these reports to provide one for each communicant member who may desire one. The fiscal period shall end on December 31 of each year.

ARTICLE IV EXECUTIVE BOARDS

Section 1. Purpose of the Executive Boards:

- A. For the management of the affairs of the Congregation, there shall be two executive boards: the Board of Elders and the Board of Trustees. The Board of Elders shall have charge of the spiritual concerns and affairs of the Congregation, and the Board of Trustees shall have charge of the temporal concerns and affairs of the Congregation.
- B. The Boards of Elders and Trustees each have their separate sphere of activity and are not to interfere with one another in the performance of their respective duties: one having charge of the spiritual and the other of the temporal concerns of the church. Yet, it is desirable that they should be on terms of ~~brotherly~~ **Christian** cooperation and confer in such cases as may arise where each Board is interested or where mutual conference may result for the good of the Congregation. The presiding officer of the Board of Elders shall preside over all joint meetings.
- C. Should any issue between these Boards arise that cannot be solved by ~~brotherly~~ **Christian** cooperation, love, and prayer, it may be brought before the Congregation sitting in Congregational Council at any meeting of that Congregational Council by either or both Boards. It shall be the duty of the Congregational Council to take whatever action is necessary to resolve the problem and to instruct the Boards of its desires and decisions.

Section 2. Composition of the Church Boards, Length of Service, Elections, and Other Requirements:

A. The Board of Elders:

- 1. The Board of Elders shall consist of nine communicant members in good standing who shall be elected by secret ballot at the annual meeting of the Congregational Council and two ex-officio members. The nine elected members shall serve for three years and shall be so elected that one-third of them shall retire each year. No elected member shall be elected for more than two consecutive terms; although, ~~he/she~~ **he or she** may be re-elected after an intermission of one year.
- 2. The ex-officio members of the Board of Elders shall be the Pastor of the Congregation **and a staff member appointed by the Board of Elders.**

3. Officers of the Board of Elders:

- a. The Pastor of the Church Congregation shall serve as ~~Chairman~~ **Chairperson** of the Board of Elders and shall serve as chief executive officer of that Board. ~~He~~ **He or she** is instructed to open and close all Board meetings with a prayer to our Lord God requesting His aid and approval of the Board's deliberations and decisions.
 - b. At the first regular meeting of the Board of Elders following the annual meeting of the Congregational Council, the Board shall elect a ~~vice-chairman~~ **Vice-Chairperson** from among its elected members; he or she shall serve in the absence of the Pastor and who shall have such other duties as the Board may assign to ~~him~~ **him or her**.
 - c. At the first regular meeting, the Board of Elders shall elect a secretary from among its elected members; he or she shall have all the duties pertaining to that office and additional duties that the Board may determine.
 - d. The Board may have other officers, committees and/or boards under it as it may deem necessary.
4. A quorum of the Board of Elders shall consist of at least four elected members and the Pastor. If there is no Pastor, a quorum shall consist of at least five of the elected members.
 5. The Board of Elders shall meet ~~not less than~~ **(take out "not less than")** once per month during the year and more or less as it may deem necessary. The ~~chairman~~ **Chairperson** or any four Board members may call for a special meeting of the Board. The place, date, and time of its meeting shall be at its own discretion.

B. The Board of Trustees:

1. The Board of Trustees shall consist of nine communicant members in good standing who shall be elected by secret ballot at the annual meeting of the Congregational Council and three ex-officio members. The nine elected members shall serve for three years and shall be so elected that one-third of them shall retire each year. No elected member shall be elected for more than two consecutive terms; although, ~~he/she~~ **he or she** may be re-elected after an interval of one

year.

2. The ex-officio members of the Board of Trustees shall be the Pastor of the Congregation and the Treasurer of the Congregation.
3. Officers of the Board of Trustees:
 - a. The Pastor of the Church Congregation at the first regular meeting of the Board of Trustees after the annual meeting of the Congregational Council may choose to act as ~~Chairman~~ **Chairperson** of the Board of Trustees and as its executive officer. If ~~he~~ **he or she** does not so choose, the Board of Trustees shall elect a ~~Chairman~~ **Chairperson** from among the elected members of that Board who shall act as the chief executive officer of the Board of Trustees. The ~~Chairman~~ **Chairperson** of the Board of Trustees is instructed to open and close all meetings of that group with a prayer to our Lord God requesting His aid and His approval of the Board's deliberations and decisions.
 - b. At the first regular meeting, the Board of Trustees shall elect a ~~Vice-Chairman~~ **Vice-Chairperson** from among the elected members who shall serve in the absence of the Chairperson and who shall have such other duties as the Board may assign to ~~him~~ **him or her**.
 - c. At the first meeting, the Board of Trustees shall elect a secretary from among its elected members who shall have duties pertaining to that office and other duties that the Board may decide.
 - d. The Board may appoint other officers, committees, or boards under it as it may deem necessary.
4. A quorum of the Board of Trustees shall consist of not less than five ~~Members~~ **members**.
5. The Board of Trustees shall meet ~~not less than~~ **(take out "not less than")** once per month during the year and more **or less** as it deems necessary. The Chairperson or any four Board members may call for a special meeting of the Board. The date, place, and time of its meetings shall be at its own discretion.

~~C. — Rules and Regulations applying to both the Board of Elders and the Board of Trustees either separately or as Joint Boards: (make a new C.)~~

1. Selection of Ex-Officio Members: (take out)

C. Youth Representatives

A Youth Representative shall be elected each year for a term of two years. In the first year of office, ~~he/she~~ he or she shall be a member of the Board of Elders; in the second year of office, he or she shall be a member of the Board of Trustees. The Youth Representative shall be nominated from the communicant members of the youth group(s) of the church. This member cannot be less than fifteen years of age or more than eighteen years of age at the time of election. The nomination(s) will be submitted by the Sunday School Class(es) that range from the tenth grade through the twelfth grade and/or a formally organized youth group of the Church to the Nominating Committee who will present them to the Congregational Council. Nominations may still be made from the floor following criteria. Willingness to serve must be secured before any nomination can be made. A Youth Representative cannot serve again in that capacity as a Board Member; however, He/She he or she may be elected as a regular Board Member of either Board by the Congregational Council after a year's intermission following the term of office as a Youth Representative.

- D. (A new D.) Rules and Regulations applying to both the Board of Elders and the Board of Trustees either separately or as ~~Joint Boards~~ a Joint Board:
 1. (changed from a. to 1.) The Pastor of the Congregation shall be called and recalled by the Joint ~~Boards~~ Board in a manner or method as is determined by the Constitution and Rules and Regulations of the Southern Province of the Moravian Church in America and other Rules and Regulations as may be promulgated by the Provincial Elders' Conference.
 2. Any vacancy occurring in a Board shall be appointed by the remaining members of the Board from communicant members in good standing who fulfill criteria as set up in these Rules and Regulations. These vacancies will be filled not longer than the next annual Congregational Council, at which time a member to fill the vacancy will be elected for the time that remains in that office so that the rotation of Board members may be retained in proper sequence. The member who was appointed may be elected to fill this vacancy or a communicant member may be appointed. Any person who fills out any term of less than three years as an elected or appointed Board member may serve two more full consecutive terms before an intermission.

3. Dismissal of an elected Board member may be enacted by a two-thirds or more vote of that Board after due process is carried out. The dismissed member may appeal to the Congregational Council if he or she so desires and may be reinstated on a motion to do so which is passed by a two-thirds or more majority of the Congregational Council present and voting. This vote shall be by secret ballot.
4. All elected members of either Board in their term of office shall remain members of the Board until their successors have been only elected and installed by the rites of this Church.
5. ~~Attendance Policy . . .~~ All elected members of both boards are expected to attend all meetings.

Section 3. Duties of the Board of Elders and the Board of Trustees:

A. Duties of the Joint ~~Boards~~ Board:

1. To cooperate with the Provincial Elders' Conference in carrying out the rules and principles enacted in Synod.
2. To confer with the Provincial Elders' Conference concerning the issuance of calls to prospective pastors and assistant pastors.
3. To confer with the ~~Board of Christian Education~~ provincial agency that is responsible concerning the transmission of letters of "commission" to prospective directors of religious education.
4. To hold oversight of the ministry of the Preschool and fiduciary responsibility regarding the Preschool's finances.

B. Duties of the Board of Elders:

1. To watch over the spiritual and moral well-being of the Congregation and to originate plans that will encourage the developments of the church's spiritual life.
2. To plan, to schedule, and to publicize the various services of the church.

3. To determine the purposes for which the church buildings may be used.
4. To maintain the proper exercise of church discipline among the members **as needed**.
5. To assist the Pastor in the administration of church music.
6. To enact upon all names of persons presenting themselves for membership, the names of members to be transferred to other churches, and the names of members to be placed (suspended, excused, excluded, or dropped) on an inactive list as disciplined.
7. To have the oversight of the Church **Sunday** School.
8. To appoint non-salaried personnel engaged in the various activities of the church, such as Chief Usher, Head Diener, etc.
9. To carry out any other duties or tasks that would fall to an executive committee concerned with the spiritual welfare of the church.
10. To carry out any other instructions, duties, or tasks requested by the Congregational Council.

C. Duties of the Board of Trustees:

1. To plan the annual budget in consultation with the Pastor and/or others as may deem necessary.
2. To set the salaries of the Pastor or Pastors and the Director of Religious Education and to appoint other salaried personnel and set their compensation.
3. To have charge of maintenance of all church property.
4. To administer the financial program of the Congregation;
 - a. To identify members who have failed to make pledges and to assess a just and equitable amount be paid.

- b. To ascertain from the Treasurer of the Congregation those members who are making unduly small or no contributions to the church's expenses and to report to the Board of Elders the names of these members in order that the Board of Elders may take such action as is deemed necessary.
 - c. To excuse members with sufficient reason from the payment of pledges.
5. To make full settlement with the Treasurer of the Southern Province promptly before the close of the fiscal year and to readily provide the treasurer with an audited statement of the financial affairs of the Church.
 6. To provide the Provincial Financial Board a budget for the coming year.
 7. To prescribe the duties of the Treasurer of the Congregation and to manage the supervision of that office.
 8. To carry out any other duties or tasks that would normally fall to an executive committee concerned with the temporal welfare of the Church.
 9. To carry out any other instructions or duties or tasks laid upon it by the Congregational Council.

Section 4. Pastoral, Congregational and Church Board Relationships:

- A. The Pastor of the Church shall be the Chief Teaching Elder of the Congregation and shall endeavor to fulfill these duties by instruction in the faith in sermons, in classes of various sorts, in counseling, in visiting members of the Congregation and others, and in all other ways that he **he or she** may find fruitful. He **He or she** is also the Chief Spiritual Elder under our Lord Jesus Christ of this Congregation and shall lead us into those paths of righteousness that our Lord Jesus Christ in His ministry has prepared for us. The Pastor shall lead and guide the Congregation in worship services and shall provide the Sacraments as needed or arrange for such services or Sacraments to be provided. As the Pastor of this Congregation, he **he or she** shall nurture and care for it so that it may grow in faith, hope, and charity and prove to be a rich and fertile field for the propagation of our faith by its outreach and the love it brings, not only to the members of our Congregation and Community, but also to the Province and beyond to the Unity and to the World.

- B. It shall be the duty of the Church Board and the Congregation to support the Pastor in all things temporal and spiritual and in all ways possible, which shall include the active and personal involvement of the members of the Congregation in all phases of the church's activities in addition to financial support. All relationships and differences between the Pastor, the Board, and the Congregation, either as a whole or as individuals, shall be open and frank and shall be carried on and resolved with all the love, patience, forbearing, care, and constant prayer that is demanded of us by our Lord Jesus Christ in His instructions to us when He said, "~~The first of all the commandments is 'Hear, O Israel, the Lord our God is one Lord, and thou shall love the Lord thy God with all thy heart, and with all thy soul, and with all thy mind, and with all thy strength.'~~ This is the first commandment. ~~And the second is like, namely this, 'Thou shall love thy neighbor as thyself.'~~ There is no other commandment greater than these." **"The most important commandment is 'Hear, O Israel: The Lord our God, the Lord is one. Love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind and with all your strength.'** **The second is this: 'Love your neighbor as yourself.'** There is no commandment greater than these." (Mark 12:29-31 NIV)

So be it.

November, 2017 (which may change if any of these changes are approved)