

LIFEBRIDGE CHRISTIAN CHURCH

By-laws

Article I: Name, Vision, and Mission

NAME:

The name of this body of believers shall be called: LIFEBRIDGE CHRISTIAN CHURCH.

VISION:

- We aspire to be a bridge where unbelievers can find their way to God.
- We desire to nurture believers in the faith.
- We claim the community for Christ and desire to find ways to show God's love to a hurting world.
- We will support the spread of the gospel the world over through our time, gifts and talents.
- We acknowledge prayer as the single most powerful weapon in the fight against evil.

“He has shown you, O'man, what is good; And what does the Lord require of you but to do justly, to love mercy, and to walk humbly with your God.” Micah 6:8

In all things we will strive to:

1. Act justly: Justice and integrity rule decisions regarding policy and program.
2. Love mercy: A love for people and relationship skills remain a high priority.
3. Walk humbly with God: A respectful relationship with God governs our strategy and lifestyle.

MISSION:

“To be and to share the good news of Jesus Christ, witnessing, loving and serving from our doorstep to the ends of the earth.” Acts 1:8

1. We seek to save the lost.
2. We are fulfilled through obedience to God's word.
3. We strive to serve people and advance God's rule.

Article II: Membership

MEMBERSHIP:

We require:

1. Public confession of faith in Jesus Christ, evidence of regeneration, and immersion into Jesus Christ by baptism according to Acts 2:38 and Acts 8:38.
2. Belief in God the Father, Son and Holy Spirit: in the divine inspiration of the Holy Scriptures as originally given in the New Testament.
3. Acceptance of the doctrines of the Lord Jesus Christ as Savior, Sanctifier, Healer, and Coming King.

MEMBERSHIP RIGHT AND RESPONSIBILITIES:

1. Every member will strive to grow in the knowledge of Christ through study of His word and to encourage and support one another through love and accountability.
2. Every member will protect the unity of the church by acting in love toward other members, by refusing to gossip, and by working cooperatively with the leadership, membership and Minister.

3. Every member will serve the ministry of the church by discovering and sharing their gifts and talents, being willing to serve along side the Minister, and developing a servant's heart.
4. Every member will share the responsibility of the church by praying for its growth, by inviting the unchurched to membership and by warmly welcoming those who attend our church services
5. Every member will support the testimony of the church through prayer and financial support as the Lord leads them, faithfully leading a godly life and giving to the church regularly.
6. Every member 16 years and older shall have the right to vote on all matters of business brought forward at a church business meeting. Members must be present to vote. Voting by proxy is prohibited.

Article III: Leadership Teams shall consist of five ministry groups listed below:

1. Ministry Team: communicates God's word (Acts 20:24, Acts 1:8, John 17:6)
2. Discipleship Team: teaches God's people (Eph 4:12-13, John 17:18)
3. Evangelism Team: demonstrates God's love (Eph 4:12, John 17:18)
4. Fellowship Team: encourages God's family (Psalm 34:3, Psalm 122:1, John 17:4)
5. Worship Team: celebrates God's presence (Psalm 34:3, Psalm 122:1, John 17:4)

The Leader of each Leadership Team is to be elected by the church congregation with a 2/3 majority vote. Staffing these Leadership Teams shall be at the discretion of the leader. Term of said Leader is 3 years unless the congregation deems otherwise. A Chairman must be elected from the five team leaders. This Chairman shall conduct all congregational meetings.

Each leadership team shall be required to carry out its function by submitting a budget and team plan for developing its ministry, reporting all progress at regular business meetings.

An annual budget shall be presented to the church congregation for approval at least two weeks prior to the November congregational meeting. Approval must be by a 2/3 vote of those present.

All leadership teams must have an odd number of members on its team to avoid ties in voting.

Article IV: Trustees

TRUSTEES

Three trustees shall be appointed by the congregation and accepted by a majority (2/3) vote of members present. Trustees shall be available as legal representatives of LifeBridge Christian Church. They shall hold legal title to all church property. They shall affix their signatures (when required) to church approved purchases, rental agreements, transfer of property, insurance, and all other legal or binding church-approved business matters. Term of the trustee shall be three years. Trustees shall be of legal age and be available to serve as needed.

Article V: Provisions for special congregational meetings

Meetings may be called by the chairman of the Leadership Team or by decision of the Leadership Team or by petition of 1/3 of the membership.

Annual business meetings shall be held the first Sunday in November to vote for church officers and approve the budget for the coming year. An optional meeting may be called mid-year if deemed necessary.

Leadership Teams shall meet once a month to discuss all business matters concerning their team or at the discretion of the team leader.

Leadership directors shall meet at least once a month to discuss business concerns regarding the church and its needs.

Article VI: Ministerial Staff

MINISTER

The Minister shall be employed for an indefinite period of time. If the Minister wishes to leave, he shall notify the Discipleship Team (90) days before he expects to leave. Should the need arise to dismiss the Minister, no action will be taken or motion made to the Minister for dismissal without a 2/3 vote of members present at a business meeting called for such purpose. Such business meeting will be called by the Chairman of the Leadership Team for such purpose and must be announced at all regular meetings of the church two weeks prior to the meeting. The Chairman will present to the church members present at this meeting all information to be used as the basis for such dismissal action. Severance compensation will be discussed and arranged.

The Minister is responsible for leading the church to function as a New Testament church. The Minister will lead the congregation, the organizations, and the church staff to perform their duties. The Minister will be the moderator of the church and will be member of all Teams. The Minister is leader of the church. As such, the Minister and church staff works with the membership to: (1) guide the church in the achievement of its mission, (2) proclaim the gospel to believers and unbelievers, (3) promote unity and fellowship in the church and (4) promote and participate in an ongoing visitation program.

CHURCH STAFF

This church shall call or employ such staff members as the church shall need. When the need for staff members is determined by the Minister and Discipleship Team, a job description shall be written and presented to the church for approval. Staff members shall be recommended to the church by the Discipleship Team upon prior approval by the Minister. Non-ministerial staff must receive at least $\frac{3}{4}$ votes of those present and voting at any regular or special business meeting in order to be employed.

Members of the church staff may resign by giving at least two weeks notice, but no more than four weeks notice to the church at either a special business or a regularly scheduled business meeting.

Article VII: Changes

Changes and amendments may be made to by-laws after approval by the congregation by a 2/3 vote.