

CONSTITUTION
OF
FOX RIVER COMMUNITY CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH

As Amended January 28, 2024

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ARTICLE I -- NAME

The name of this Church shall be The Fox River Community Congregational Church.

ARTICLE II – MISSION

The Mission of Fox River Congregational Church is to fulfill Christ's Great Commandment and Great Commission to encourage, equip and support all people in growing toward more Christ-like lives in their thoughts, feelings and actions by

connecting with God in a loving and intimate relationship as modeled by Christ,

connecting with Christian believers through love, caring and sharing life together,

connecting with people through lovingly serving their physical, emotional and spiritual needs, and

connecting with people outside the faith through lovingly witnessing the good news of Christ and the power of God's love for all people, leading them to accept Christ as Lord and Savior, and bringing them into congregational life.

ARTICLE III – COVENANT OF MEMMBERSHIP

As a follower of Jesus Christ, the Son of God and my Lord and Savior, I covenant with God and other members of our church to personally commit to creating an environment for richer communion with God and to

OWN the Mission of our Church

GROW toward a more Christ-like life by seeking to

connect with God in a loving and intimate relationship as modeled by Christ,

connect with Christian believers through love, caring and sharing life together,

connect with all people through lovingly serving their physical, emotional and spiritual needs, and

connect with people outside the faith through lovingly witnessing the good news of Christ and the power of God's love for all people, leading them to accept Christ as Lord and Savior, and bringing them into congregational life.

DEDICATE time, talent, and treasure to the service of God

ABIDE in the Congregational Way as understood and embraced by our fellowship

ARTICLE IV – MEMBERSHIP

The Congregation of this Church shall consist of individual adults (age eighteen years or older), referred to as Members, who have affirmed their belief in the Mission and have owned the Covenant of this Church during a worship service, during a Meeting of the Congregation or, in special circumstances, simply before a Minister of this Church. A minor may become a Member upon successfully completing a confirmation program authorized by the Congregation and meeting the aforesaid requirements.

Furthermore, if the Congregation so decides, new membership may also be conditioned upon participation in a new Member orientation program.

ARTICLE V – RESERVATION OF POWERS

Under the Headship of Christ, the governance of the Church is vested in its members who exercise the right of full and final control of its affairs. Other than the powers delegated by the Congregation in either the Church Constitution or the By-Laws, all powers are reserved to the Congregation.

ARTICLE VI – AUTONOMOUS

This Church is self governing, entirely free from external ecclesiastical and political control. It shall remain autonomous, independent and Congregational in character.

ARTICLE VII – ASSOCIATION

This Church acknowledges and accepts the obligations of mutual counsel, cooperation, courtesy and fellowship involved in the free fellowship of Congregational Christian Churches and it further declares acceptance of the Christian obligation to love, pray for and have fellowship with churches of Christ everywhere which seek to promote the Kingdom of God. However, such association with others must be free of any outside authority over this local Church.

ARTICLE VIII – BY-LAWS

The Congregation shall adopt By-Laws in furtherance of this Constitution.

ARTICLE IX – GOVERNANCE

This Church shall be governed by the Congregation which shall meet at least quarterly. However, the Congregation may meet more often in Regular and/or Special Meetings as set forth in the By-Laws. To develop policies for consideration and adoption by the Congregation, to implement policies adopted by the Congregation, and to administer the day to day affairs of the Church, the Congregation shall elect Officers and Teams as set forth in the By-Laws.

ARTICLE X – PROPERTY

The Church shall have the right to own both real and personal property and to hold the same, sell, mortgage or otherwise deal in both real and personal property, all in accordance with the laws of the State of Wisconsin. All property held by the Church shall be for the sole use and benefit of the Church.

ARTICLE XI -- AMENDMENT

This Constitution may be amended by the affirmative vote of eighty percent (80%) of the Congregation present at two successive Meetings, held at least 45 days apart, attended by at least 30% of the Membership. The proposed amendment shall be distributed to the Members at least thirty (30) days prior to each Meeting.

ARTICLE XII -- MISCELLANEOUS

(1) The purposes for which the corporation is organized are exclusively religious, charitable and educational within the meaning of section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 or the corresponding provision of any future United States Internal Revenue Law.

(2) Notwithstanding any other provision of these articles, this organization shall not carry on any activities not permitted to be carried on by an organization exempt from Federal income tax under section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code of the 1986 or the corresponding provision of any future United States Internal Revenue Law.

(3) In the event of dissolution, the residual assets of the organization will be turned over to one or more organizations which themselves are exempt as organizations described in sections 501(c)(3) and 170(c)(2) of the Internal Revenue Code of the 1986 or corresponding sections of any prior or future Internal Revenue Code, or to the Federal, State, or local government for exclusive public purpose.