

West Congregational Church of Peabody

Constitution

PREAMBLE

Since God is a God of order as He has shown to us in His creation, His church should also be a church of order. This congregation, in order to fulfill its purpose toward God and man, adopts the following regulations so that its affairs can be transacted in the proper order and thereby have its activities become Christ-centered in love and cooperation. By the Grace of God, our Saviour and our faith in Him, we the members of this congregation, do ordain and establish the following articles to which we voluntarily submit ourselves.

ARTICLE I -- NAME

The name of this church shall be WEST CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH of Peabody.

ARTICLE II -- PURPOSE

The purpose of this church shall be to worship God, to preach the Gospel of Jesus Christ, to celebrate the sacraments of Baptism and the Lord's Supper, to realize Christian fellowship and unity within this church and the church universal, to render loving service toward mankind and to make God's will dominant in the lives of men, individually and collectively, especially as that will is set forth in the life, teachings, death, and resurrection of Jesus Christ.

ARTICLE III -- POLITY

- A. This church acknowledges Jesus Christ as its head and finds in the Holy Scriptures, interpreted by the Holy Spirit through reason, faith, and conscience, its guidance in matters of faith and discipline.
- B. The government of this church is vested in its members, who exercise the right of control in all its affairs, subject in legal matters to the Articles of Incorporation granted it by the Secretary of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts.
- C. While this church is subject to the control of no ecclesiastical body, it does recognize and sustain the obligation of mutual counsel and cooperation with other Christian churches.

ARTICLE IV -- DOCTRINE

- A. This church recognizes the Bible as the sufficient rule of faith and practice, and holds that living in accordance with the teachings of Jesus Christ is the true test of fellowship. Each member shall have the freedom and responsibility to follow the Word of God under the guidance of the Holy Spirit. The following Statement of Faith is an expression of the spirit in which this church interprets the Word of God.

B. STATEMENT OF FAITH

1. The Bible

We believe the sixty-six canonical books of the Bible, as originally written, were given by God's divine inspiration and are free from error. Together they constitute the only

authoritative and infallible guide for the Christian life in both faith and practice.

2. The Godhead

We believe there is only one living and true God, the Creator and Preserver of all things, who is infinite in being and perfect in all His ways. He exists eternally in three Persons: the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit, who are of one substance, equal in power and glory and who act together with perfect harmony in every thought, word and deed.

3. Man

We believe Man, created in the image of God, fell from his sinless state through disobedience at the suggestion of Satan; that this fall plunged him and all of his descendants into a state of sin and spiritual death; that mankind can only be saved from this condition by the mercy and grace of God.

4. The Son

We believe the eternally preexistent Son humbled Himself through incarnation; that He was born without human father by the power of the Holy Spirit working in the virgin Mary; that in Jesus Christ divine and human natures were united in one Person, with both natures being whole, perfect and distinct; that by His death as the sinner's substitute redemption was accomplished; that He rose bodily from the dead on the third day in accordance with the Scriptures; that He ascended to the right hand of the Father; that He serves as a merciful and faithful high priest in the service of God; that He will come again, personally and visibly, to complete the eternal plan of the Godhead.

5. The Holy Spirit

We believe the Holy Spirit is the third Person of the Triune God; that He accomplishes the work of regeneration in the hearts of sinners and sets them apart unto God through the blood of Christ; that He convicts the world of sin, of righteousness, and of judgment; that He sanctifies, instructs, comforts and counsels believers while restraining the progress of evil in the world; that He empowers believers to live the Christian life; that He bears witness to Christ as they proclaim the gospel; that His indwelling presence is the guarantee of the believer's heavenly inheritance.

6. Salvation

We believe salvation is the fruit of God's mercy and is, from beginning to end, by God's grace alone; that faith in the redemptive work of Christ is an absolute necessity for salvation.

We believe God sovereignly saves those whom He chooses to save; that He effectively draws them to Himself before the cross of Christ; that He humbles them before His holiness; that He gives them the gifts of repentance and saving faith; that He forgives their sins; that He imputes the righteousness of Christ to them; that He seals them for eternity through the indwelling presence of God the Holy Spirit, through whom He produces the fruits of righteousness.

We believe God will one day glorify every believer by the resurrection of the dead and that every believer will receive the rewards of heaven.

7. The Church

We believe The Church is composed of the elect in Christ of all the ages; that it is built on the foundation of the apostles and prophets and that Jesus Christ Himself is its cornerstone.

We believe each local church is to meet regularly for the purpose of worshipping God, preaching and teaching the Word of God, observing the sacraments of The Church, encouraging one another to love and good works, and proclaiming the gospel of Jesus Christ to the lost throughout the world; that a faithful proclamation of the Gospel must include the call for unbelievers to repent of their sins and turn in godly sorrow to Christ alone for forgiveness and cleansing.

We believe pastoral leadership in the local church resides in men set apart by the Holy Spirit as elders, pastor-teachers, and evangelists; that it is the responsibility of these men to give themselves as servant-leaders to oversee the congregation with humility, gentleness, compassion, and Godly wisdom; that it is the responsibility of the men not set apart as elders and the women of the church to voluntarily submit themselves to the oversight of the leaders while using their spiritual gifts for the glory of Christ and the good of the church.

8. Sacraments

We believe the sacraments of The Church are visible signs appointed by Christ as symbols of the spiritual realities of salvation; that they are not given as a means by which to be saved; that only regenerate people are to participate.

Baptism: We believe baptism is an outward sign and testimony of a believer's union with Jesus Christ in His death, burial, and resurrection; that in baptism the believer publicly testifies to salvation in Christ and resolves to live a life of separation from sin and of fellowship with God in the household of faith. We believe the baptism of believers most accurately reflects the New Testament pattern, they "*believed and were baptized.*"¹ At the same time we affirm those parents who adhere to the Covenant position of baptism.

¹Acts 18:8

The Lord's Supper: We believe the Lord's Supper is to be observed by all believers in obedience to the command of Jesus Christ: "*Do this in remembrance of Me*"²; that in remembering together Jesus' substitutionary death, we are called on repeatedly to forsake our sins, to forgive one another as He has forgiven us, and to renew our walk with God in holiness and purity.

²Luke 22:19; 1 Corinthians 11:24

9. Last Things: We believe at the end of the age, Jesus Christ will descend from heaven to exercise His sovereign authority over all creation; that He will gather unto Himself all who have trusted in Him for salvation and cast out all who have rejected the revelation of truth given to them; that those who rejected God's revelation of truth will be condemned to hell for eternity; that those who trusted in Him will share the glories of heaven for eternity.

ARTICLE V -- MEMBERSHIP

"Therefore encourage one another and build one another up, just as you are doing. But we beseech you, brethren, to respect those who labor among you and are over you in the Lord and admonish you, and to esteem them very highly in love because of their work. Be at peace among yourselves. And we exhort you, brethren, admonish the idle, encourage the fainthearted, help the weak, be patient with them all. See that none of you repays evil for evil, but always seek to do good to one another and to all. Rejoice always, pray constantly, give thanks in all circumstances; for this is the will of God in Christ Jesus for you. Do not quench the Spirit, do not despise prophesying, but test everything; hold fast what is good, abstain from every form of evil."

1 Thessalonians 5:11-22

Members are expected to be faithful to the spirit and teaching of the Scriptures for the Church as expressed in the above passage and further expand in other New Testament passages.

A. QUALIFICATIONS: Members of this church shall be persons who:

1. Accept this Constitution, including the Doctrine and Covenant of faith.
2. Have accepted Jesus Christ as personal Savior and Lord.
3. Have been baptized.
4. Have discussed their faith individually with the pastor and Board of Deacons and been approved by them, or if coming from another church by letter, provided such letter is accepted by the pastor and the Board of Deacons following discussions with the individual(s).
5. Have been formally received at a regular service of worship.

B. RESPONSIBILITIES AND PRIVILEGES

1. To celebrate faithfully the Lord's Supper with the believers of this church.
2. To attend faithfully the scheduled services of this church.
3. To give faithfully for this church's support and its missionary interests.
4. To share faithfully in this church's organized work of practical and spiritual ministries.
5. Active and associate members eighteen (18) years of age or over are eligible for all offices and to act and vote in the transactions of this church.

C. CATEGORIES OF MEMBERSHIP

1. ACTIVE MEMBERSHIP LIST - This list shall contain the names of all members of the church who are faithfully fulfilling Section B, "*Responsibilities and Privileges*" of membership, to include elderly or physically disabled members who are unable to attend.
2. ASSOCIATE MEMBERSHIP LIST - Associate membership is provided for temporary residents who are desirous of having a formal relationship with West Church while in this area. Said membership shall be granted for one (1) year and may be renewed annually by the Board of Deacons at the member's request. The qualifications, responsibilities, are the same as those of regular members.
3. JUNIOR MEMBERSHIP LIST - This list shall contain the names of young people in the ninth grade in school through eighteen (18) years of age who have been approved by the Board of Deacons and formally received at a regular service of worship, following the completion of a course of instruction pertinent to their own personal Christian life and to the nature and

purpose of the Church as the Body of Christ.

Junior Members are expected to be faithful to the youth ministries and to the regularly scheduled services of the church, as well as evidence sincerity and growth in their Christian lives.

Upon reaching eighteen (18) years of age, each Junior Member will, upon request, be considered for membership in accordance with Article V, Section A and B.

4. ABSENT MEMBERSHIP LIST - This list shall contain the following:
 - a. The names of *Retired Members* who have moved to communities beyond a reasonable distance for faithful attendance.
 - b. The names of *Members Who Have Temporarily Moved* to communities beyond a reasonable distance for faithful attendance and who are away for a period of more than one (1) year. Such members shall request this status for a specified period of time from the Board of Deacons.
 - c. The names of *Members on Assignment*. This list shall contain the names of all MISSIONARY MEMBERS serving with missions boards approved by the Missions Committee.

Members on the ABSENT MEMBERSHIP LIST shall not be considered voting members, nor counted for the purpose of a quorum. Reinstatement to ACTIVE status may be considered and granted following discussion with the pastor and approval of the Board of Deacons.

5. INACTIVE MEMBERSHIP LIST - This list shall contain the names of members who have not faithfully attended the worship services and contributed to the support of the church for a period of one (1) year. Their names shall be placed on the INACTIVE LIST by vote of the Board of Deacons and reported to the church at the Annual Meeting. Each member placed on the INACTIVE LIST shall be notified by the Board of such action. The Chairman of the Board with the Pastor(s) shall determine if any further actions are appropriate on a case-by-case basis.

No member on the INACTIVE LIST shall be considered a voting member, nor counted for the purpose of a quorum. Reinstatement to ACTIVE status shall be effected when the "*Responsibilities and Privileges*" of membership have been resumed and after discussion with the pastor and approval of the Board of Deacons.

D. TERMINATION OF MEMBERSHIP

1. Any member may request and be granted a record of membership (Letter of Transfer). General letters addressed to no particular church shall not be granted.
2. A member may, for personal reasons, request in writing to be released from membership obligations. The church shall patiently endeavor to secure such member's reconciliation with the church, if such effort is unsuccessful, the Board of Deacons may grant the request to terminate membership.
3. A member whose address has been unknown for a period of one year or more shall, by vote of the Board of Deacons, be removed from the membership list of the church and reported

- at the annual meeting.
4. A member who no longer agrees with the "Qualifications" of membership, Article V, Section A, even after discussion or attempted discussion by the pastor and/or Board of Deacons, shall be removed from the membership list by vote of the Board of Deacons and reported at the annual meeting.
 5. Members who have been on the Inactive Membership List for one (1) year and have not resumed the "Responsibilities and Privileges" of membership in spite of approaches by the Board of Deacons, shall be removed from the membership list by vote of the Board of Deacons and reported at the annual meeting. In special cases, a member's name may, upon written request, remain on the Inactive List for a period exceeding one (1) year by vote of the Board of Deacons.

ARTICLE VI -- SERVICES AND MEETINGS

A. WORSHIP

1. Services of worship shall be held at given hours each Sunday.
2. The sacrament of the Lord's Supper shall be celebrated at such times as the Board of Deacons may determine. The baptism of adults and the baptism or dedication of children shall be administered at such time as the pastor, or in his absence, the Board of Deacons may appoint.
3. Other services for worship, inspiration, prayer, and study may be held as determined by the pastor or Board of Deacons.

B. BUSINESS MEETINGS

1. The annual meeting shall be held on the 4th Tuesday of January to hear the yearly reports of the officers, elected boards, organizations and departments, to elect officers, transact business, adopt the budget, and set up plans for the new year.
2. All persons elected to office shall assume their duties immediately after adjournment of the annual meeting and continue in office until their stated term comes to completion.
3. Special meetings of the church shall be called by the Clerk, at the request of any of the following: (a) the Pastor, (b) the Moderator, (c) Board of Deacons, (d) Board of Trustees, or (e) on the written request of seven voting members of the church.
4. The nature of the business to be transacted shall be stated in the call.

C. RULES AND REGULATIONS

1. Notices - Notices for the annual and other corporate meetings shall be given in the church calendar and from the pulpit at the two Sunday services immediately preceding the time of the meeting or by not less than six days written notice to the members.
2. Quorum - A Quorum shall consist of thirty (30) voting members or ten percent (10%) of the active membership, whichever is larger.
3. Voting
 - a. On all votes, except as otherwise required by this constitution, a majority is decisive.
 - b. Elections shall be by Australian Ballot whenever there is more than one candidate for any office.

- c. On any vote of yeas and nays a voting member may request a written paper vote and this request shall be mandatory. This requirement shall be read by the Moderator at the opening of each corporate meeting.
- d. Ballots shall be counted by tellers appointed by the Moderator.
- 4. Official Year - The official and fiscal year of the church shall be the calendar year.
- 5. Moderator - The Moderator shall conduct all corporate meetings. However, in the event of his absence, the chairman of the Board of Trustees shall preside or designate a Moderator pro tem.
- 6. Robert's Rules of Order shall be the official parliamentary guide in the conduct of all corporate and elected board meetings.
- 7. Corporate meetings may not be held on Sunday.

D. ELECTED BOARDS

- 1. Board members, having completed a full term shall, with one exception, be ineligible for reelection for an interval of one (1) year. The one exception: When the need arises, the Nominating Committee may nominate retiring members for reelection. However, under no circumstances is a Board member to serve for more than eight (8) years without a one (1) year interval before continued service on the same Board.
- 2. Elected boards shall establish their own governing rules, maintaining a copy of the same in the church files.

Governing rules shall conform to these by-laws and the following:

- a. Minutes of all meetings shall be kept in the church files.
- b. A quorum shall be at least sixty percent (60%) of the elected members.
- c. Special meetings shall require at least forty-eight (48) hours notice except that this requirement may be waived by unanimous consent for a particular meeting.

ARTICLE VII -- OFFICERS

- A. **PASTOR** - A Pastor shall be called for an indefinite time by a two-thirds vote of the church members present at a meeting called for the purpose. When a vacancy occurs in the pastorate, the Pulpit Committee, after seeking the guidance of the Holy Spirit, shall make a canvass of available ministers, settle upon the one who in their judgment should be called to the pastorate, introduce him to the church, and at a duly called meeting propose his election.
 - 1. When a Pastor has been elected and has accepted the call, if it is agreeable to him, the churches of the vicinity shall be invited to sit as an ecclesiastical council for the purpose of installing or recognizing the pastor in accordance with established usages. At his first opportunity, the Pastor shall become a member of the church.
 - 2. While the term of the Pastor shall be indefinite, the church may, at any time, by a majority vote at a meeting called for the purpose, request his resignation with the expectation that it will be presented within sixty days. Likewise, the Pastor will give sixty days notice in case he wishes to leave of his own volition.
 - 3. The Pastor shall have charge of the spiritual welfare of the church with the assistance of the Board of Deacons. He shall seek to enlist all as followers of Christ, preach the gospel, administer the sacraments, have under his care all services of public worship, and administer the activities of the church in cooperation with the various boards and

committees. He shall be ex officio an advisory member of all boards and committees without vote.

- B. **CLERK** - The Clerk shall be elected at the annual meeting. He shall keep a faithful record of the proceedings of all church business meetings. He shall see that records of church membership, baptisms and marriages are maintained in the church office. He shall be responsible for issuing letters of transfer; preserving on file all official reports; giving legal notice of all meetings when such notices are necessary; and performing such other duties as are prescribed by law or as usually pertain to the office of a clerk or secretary of an assembly.
- C. **TREASURER** - The Treasurer shall be elected at the annual meeting. He shall receive all payments on current expenses and missions; take charge of all offerings and special collections; keep an accurate account of all subscribers with periodic statements of their accounts. He shall deposit funds received in such depository as the Trustees shall order. Under direction of the Trustees he shall have the custody of all papers relating to the property of the church. The Treasurer shall pay the bills of the church on order from the Trustees or their properly appointed agent. He shall keep accurate account of all receipts and disbursements and give such bonds as the Trustees prescribe. He shall be ex officio a member of the Board of Trustees without vote.

The Treasurer shall keep a separate account of all mission funds. He shall remit such monies in accordance with the standing orders from the Board of Deacons.

- D. **AUDITOR** - The Auditor shall be elected at the annual meeting. He shall examine the accounts of the Treasurer and report thereon as required by the church or the Trustees, and also the accounts of the financial secretary, if there is one. The church auditor will also audit the accounts of the Deacons' Fund.
- E. **HISTORIAN** - The Historian shall be elected at the annual meeting. He shall keep a journal of all occurrences of interest to the church.
- F. **MODERATOR** - The Moderator shall be elected at the annual meeting. He shall be an elected member of the Board of Trustees. (Note Article VI, Section C 5).
- G. The church may, at its discretion, approve additional staff as needs require.

ARTICLES VIII -- BOARDS

A. BOARD OF DEACONS

1. **Membership and Structure** - The Board of Deacons shall consist of twelve (12) active church members, being composed of six (6) deacons and six (6) deaconesses, elected for terms of four years in such manner that on the even numbered years the terms of two (2) deacons and one (1) deaconess shall expire and on the odd numbered years the term of one (1) deacon and two (2) deaconesses shall expire. The board shall meet regularly as directed by its chairman, and special meetings may be called as provided for by the governing rules of

the board. The board shall elect its own officers, provide for its own committees, and determine its own mode of procedure.

2. Duties and Functions - It shall be the duty of the Board of Deacons to cooperate with the pastor(s) in ministering to the spiritual needs of the church and the community. They shall make preparation for and assist in the administration of the sacraments, in caring for the elderly, the poor, the sick, the sorrowing, and in the encouragement of Christian fellowship within the church and the Christian community. They shall act with the pastor(s) in considering applications for membership in the church and make recommendations pertaining thereto. They shall make an annual survey of the church membership lists and, at the annual meeting, submit a report to the church. They shall, with the Pastor(s), give attention to matters that require Biblical discipline within the church body. They shall provide for the supply of the pulpit in case of a vacancy and in the absence of the Pastor(s). They shall commit themselves to pray for the needs of the church and its people.

B. BOARD OF TRUSTEES

1. Membership and Structure - The Board of Trustees shall consist of eight (8) active church members, elected for terms of four (4) years in such manner that the terms of two (2) trustees shall expire annually. The board shall meet regularly as directed by its chairman, and special meetings may be called as provided for by the governing rules of the board. The board shall elect its own officers, provide for its own committees, and determine its own mode of procedure.
2. Duties and Functions - The Board of Trustees shall have the care and custody of the property of the church and have charge of its financial affairs, always subject to regulations prescribed by the laws of the commonwealth. The board shall not have power to buy, sell, mortgage, transfer property, construct or alter buildings or execute a contract over ten thousand dollars (\$10,000) without specific authorization by vote of the church. It shall have general supervision of the soliciting of funds, the preparation of a budget and have charge of disbursement of funds.

ARTICLE IX -- COMMITTEES

- A. The Board of Deacons and the Board of Trustees may establish annually various special and permanent committees to assist them in their work. Any qualified person is eligible to serve on a committee.
- B. In addition to other committees, the Board of Deacons shall provide for:
 1. Missions Committee
 2. Christian Education Committee
 3. Music Committee
 4. Pulpit Committee (to fill vacancy when needed)
- C. In addition to other committees, the Board of Trustees shall provide for:
 1. Finance Committee of not less than six (6) members
 2. Property Committee

- D. Board of Deacons and the Board of Trustees shall jointly provide for:
 - 1. Pastoral Relations Committee

- E. Nominating Committee
 - 1. Membership - The Nominating Committee shall consist of the Moderator as Chairman, the Pastor(s), the Chairman of the Board of Deacons, the Chairman of the Board of Trustees, and one other person designated by the Pastor.

 - 2. Duties and Functions - It shall be their duty to present, at the annual meeting, the names of candidates for the various offices and boards. Should a vacancy occur within the membership of any board or office, other than the office of Pastor(s), the Nominating Committee shall appoint a replacement to serve until the next annual church meeting.

ARTICLE X – FINANCES

- A. **OFFERINGS** - In accordance with the Responsibilities and Privileges of Membership, the church shall encourage all of its people to give their tithes and offerings faithfully for the support of the church and its missionary interests. The designation of monies for current expenses, missions, and specific objects shall be under plans approved by vote of the church. Ordinarily there shall be received in connection with each communion service, an offering for the Deacons' Fund to be used by the Board of Deacons for the relief of the needy.

- B. **PERMANENT FUNDS** - All legacies not specifically designated by the donors to some other purpose may be invested by the Board of Trustees or may be used for some special purpose by a two-thirds vote of the Board of Trustees.

ARTICLE XI – AMENDMENTS

This constitution may be amended by a two-thirds vote at any regular or special meeting, provided that a notice specifying the time of the meeting and the substance of the proposed amendment shall have been given from the pulpit or printed in the bulletin on the two Sundays immediately preceding said meeting; except that Articles I through IV may be amended only by a two-thirds affirmative vote of at least eighty (80) of the church members present at the annual meeting, the proposed amendment having been laid before the church in writing not less than two months previously, having been read before the congregation on three consecutive Sundays preceding such annual meeting, and copies having been made available to the members of the church.

History of Constitutional Amendments

Major Changes Between the 1883 Constitution and the 1906 Constitution

- Comparing the two documents one is left with the impression that the church started over again in 1906 when it was incorporated.
- The most notable difference is the deletion of a fairly strong Statement of Faith to the generalized statement of the Apostle's Creed.

Major Changes Between the 1906 Constitution and the 1952 Constitution

- The difference between the 1906 and 1952 constitutions is as major as the difference between the 1883 and 1906 constitutions.
- In 1952 it is clear the church adopted, with minor changes, the constitutional form of the Congregational Christian Churches put forth in 1947 by the General Council of Congregational Christian Churches.
- The Doctrinal Statement in the 1952 Constitution is actually the 1913 statement set forth by the National Council of Congregational Churches in its meeting at Kansas City that year.

Changes Between the 1952 Constitution and the 1962 Constitution

- ARTICLE VI - SERVICES AND MEETINGS: Deleted section pertaining to EDUCATION- Sunday School
- ARTICLE VII – OFFICERS: Delete: Sunday School Superintendent and Director of Every Member Canvass. Addition: MODERATOR (from the Trustees, Not the Pastor)
- ARTICLE VIII - BOARDS: Delete the BOARD OF DEACONESSES; Delete BOARD OF CHRISTIAN EDUCATION
- ARTICLE IX – COMMITTEES: Delete the Social Action Committee; the Publicity Committee. Addition: The C.E. Committee; the Music Committee; the Membership Committee; the Finance Committee; the Property Committee.

Changes Between the 1962 Constitution and The 1970 Constitution

- ARTICLE VIII – BOARDS: Delete the CHURCH COUNCIL
- ARTICLE IX – COMMITTEES: Delete the Benevolence Committee, and the Required Delegates

Changes Between the 1970 Constitution and the 1977 Constitution

- A PREAMBLE is added as the new introductory statement to the Constitution
- ARTICLE II -OBJECT is Replaced with PURPOSE and the paragraph is rewritten
- ARTICLE III- POLITY: Paragraph C is re-written
- ARTICLE IV - FAITH is Replaced with the APOSTLE'S CREED
- ARTICLE V - MEMBERSHIP: Qualifications and Termination are re-written. Addition: Responsibilities and Privileges, and Associate Members
- ARTICLE VI - SERVICES AND MEETINGS: Paragraph C. Voting is re-written
- ARTICLE IX - COMMITTEES: Eliminate: Ushers Committee, Flower Committee, and Membership Committee. Addition: Missionary Committee
- ARTICLE X - AUXILIARY ORGANIZATIONS -Eliminated

Changes Between the 1977 Constitution and the 1980 Constitution

- ARTICLE V - MEMBERSHIP: Article re-written with a Scriptural introduction. Five Categories of Membership are defined (Junior Membership is created)

Changes Between the 1980 Constitution and the 1983 Constitution

- ARTICLE VIII - BOARDS: Board of Deacons down-sized from 16 to 12

Changes Between the 1983 Constitution and the 1992 Constitution

- ARTICLE VII - OFFICERS: CLERK is re-written
- ARTICLE VIII - BOARDS: Board of Deacons: "DUTIES AND FUNCTIONS" is re-written. Board of Trustees spending limit is raised from \$2,000 to \$5,000
- ARTICLE IX - COMMITTEES: "MISSIONARY COMMITTEE" is changed to "MISSIONS COMMITTEE" Added: PASTORAL RELATIONS COMMITTEE. Delete: President of Ladies Aid Society from the Nominating Committee
- ARTICLE X - FINANCES: Paragraph is re-written.

Change in 1997

- ARTICLE IV – DOCTRINE: Statement of Faith is rewritten

Change 1998

- ARTICLE VI. D. 1. – Limit on successive years members of Deacons and Trustees can serve

Change in 2015

- ARTICLE VIII - BOARDS: Board of Trustees spending limit is raised from \$5,000 to \$10,000