

Miamisburg Christian Church

Proposed Amended Bylaw 2023 – Comparison to 2007 Amended Bylaws

5-4-23 Updates indicated by*

MCC Bylaws exist for three specific purposes;

1: to state our purpose and position on our beliefs

2: to state how we conduct the business of the church

3: to provide legal protection for our Pastors, Staff, Elders, Volunteers, and for our religious rights as a congregation

There is no change to the intent of the original Bylaws (1954) or the 2007 revision.

MCC was previously “granted” status as a non-profit organization (under U.S. Internal Revenue Code 501(c)(3)). However, that recognition of status does not specifically give MCC its own 501(c)(3) registration or entity ID/number, it is more of a “blanket” exemption.

MCC is filing for our own 501(c)(3) ID/number which would allow MCC to receive certain Non-Profit Organization discounts, sales tax exemptions, and benefits that we would otherwise not be entitled to. This filing drove an update to the Bylaws to include specific 501(c)(3) wording.

Since the Bylaws needed to be updated for the 501(c)(3) benefit and the last update was approved in 2007, the leadership felt it was time to update the Bylaws for clarification in other areas as highlighted in the 2017 Reveal Survey.

The 2023 update includes the following for clarification:

- Our beliefs are clearly listed with scriptural references
- How MCC’s Leadership governs the church, this was an item during the Reveal Survey (2017)
- Staff Roles, Titles, and Responsibilities
- Sabbatical sections added for Elder and Staff; Rest, Renewal, and Refresh
- How MCC’s finances are managed
- Business Meetings (Congregational) and Voting Requirements
- 501(c)(3) Non-profit status

Note: throughout the updated 2023 MCC Bylaws: all references to “Ministers” have been changed to “Pastors”

Article II – Purpose

A. “Vision” (2007) changed to “Purpose”, addition of wording for 501(c)(3) status.

Article III – Statement of Faith

New section, added for clarity of MCC’s beliefs

Old Article III moved to Article IV

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Article IV – Membership

- A. Qualifications – Scripture references added for clarity
- B. “Membership Transfer” section replaced with how membership is achieved
 - includes previous membership transfer for immersed believers
 - new believers section added for clarity
- C. Membership Expectation – no change
- D. New section, “Membership Status: Active / Inactive”
 - section added for clarity and defining voting eligibility
- E. “Removal” section moved from D (2007)

Article V – Leadership (section IV in 2007 revision)

- A. Elder Qualification – added statement of only “one member per family”
- B. Minimum Number – “duly elected Elder” added for clarity
- C. Elder Selection process clarified, no change to “affirmation” process
- D. Responsibility and Authorities (Prayer, Protection, Pastoral Care, Policy) – no change
 - moved other responsibilities listed in 2007 to new ELT Section 2
- E. New section, “Terms of Service” added for clarity
 - Old section E (2007) moved to H
- F. New section, “Organization of the Elders”, added for clarity
 - Old section F (2007) moved to I
- G. New section, “Sabbatical” – rest for leadership
- H. Resignation – previous section E
- I. Removal – previous section I

Section 2 – Executive Leadership Team (Replaces old Section 2 – Deacons in 2007 revisions)

Defined role of Deacon eliminated (Ministry Leaders fulfill scriptural requirements)

New Section 2 clarifies the Governance Model structure of “Elder Protected, Staff Led” at MCC -

***Clarification: “The staff is hired by the Elders to implement the vision cast by the ELT, lead ministries, and perform day to day operational matters...”**

Lead Pastor defined as “ex-officio” Elder (by virtue of holding the Lead Pastor position)

ELT responsibilities defined

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Section 3 – Ministry Leaders

A. Philosophy of Ministry – wording clarified, no change to intent

B. Qualifications – wording clarified, no change to intent

Article VI – Pastors and Staff (previously called Staff Ministers 2007)

A. Lead Pastor (previously called Senior Minister)

- responsibilities and selection process clarified

B. Executive Pastor (previously called Executive Administrator)

- responsibilities clarified

C. Other Pastors and Staff (previous section D 2007)

- hiring process clarified

D. New Section, “Sabbatical” – rest for pastoral staff

E. Removal – process clarified

Article VII – Finance (new section)

Previous Article VII Missions moved to Article VIII

A. Budget – process clarified;

***Addition: ELT Approved Annual Budget to be posted via MCC Website**

B. Handling of Funds – process clarified

C. Debt – Leadership position regarding debt clarified

Article VIII – Missions (old Article VII 2007)

B. Support – missionary support clarified

Article IX – Meetings (old Article VI 2007)

B. Business Meetings – process updated, defined, and clarified, no change to intent

C. Voting Requirements – process updated, defined, and clarified, “active members” voting

- Wording updated, no change to intent

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Article X– Indemnification (old Article VIII 2007)

Titles updated, no change to intent

Article XII – Additional Provisions (New Section)

New section for 501(c)(3) requirements

Article XIII – Dissolution (New Section)

New section for 501(c)(3) requirements

Article XIV – Amendments (old Article IX 2007)

B. Amendment – titles updated, no change to intent