

Bylaws of United Spiritualists of the Christ Light

Adopted: 1/15/2001; Amended 6/13/2010

ARTICLE 1

NAME

Section 1.1 The name of this corporation is the United Spiritualists of the Christ Light (hereafter referred to in these Bylaws as "Church").

Section 1.2 This church is duly incorporated under the laws of the state of Ohio as a nonprofit religious corporation.

ARTICLE 2

PURPOSE

This corporation is a 501(c)3 public charity and nonprofit religious corporation and is not organized for the private gain of any person. It is organized under the Ohio Nonprofit Religious Corporation Law exclusively for religious purposes. The specific purposes for which this corporation is organized are religious, to wit: the operation of a local church, and to have and exercise all other powers, rights, and privileges granted by the State of Ohio.

ARTICLE 3

STATE REQUIREMENTS

Pursuant to Ohio Revised Code Section 1702.59 the Church must file a verified statement of continued existence. This certificate must be signed by a Board member or three members in good standing, setting forth the corporate name, the place where the principal office of the corporation is located, the date of incorporation, the fact that the corporation is still actively engaged in exercising its corporate privileges, and the name and address of its agent appointed pursuant to Revised code Section 1702.06. This certificate must be filed every five years commencing with the reinstatement date of 10-15-2007. The form and current fee must be sent to the office of the Secretary of State, P. O. Box 788, Columbus, Oh. 43215.

The registered statutory agent for the church shall be the President of the Board.

When a new president is elected a statutory agent update form must be filed with the current fee.

ARTICLE 4

MEMBERSHIP

Section 4.1 Requirements for membership

A. Any person over the age of eighteen (18) may apply for membership.

B. Applicants must deem themselves a Spiritualist, accept the doctrines of the church and follow church guidelines of personal responsibility. Prospective new members are required to attend one of the quarterly orientation meetings prior to Membership acceptance.

C. Any person between the ages of thirteen (13) and eighteen (18) who has the written permission of his/her parent(s) or guardian may apply for Junior Membership.

1. Upon approval of Junior Membership by the Board, the Junior Member may attend the membership

meeting and have a voice, but not a vote.

2. Junior members shall not hold office nor serve as a Medium or a Healer.

Section 4.2 Right to Vote

All active members, who have been members for a minimum of 60 days, shall be entitled to vote at the annual meeting. The said member agrees to conduct business in accordance with the bylaws of the church.

In matters concerning:

1. Disillusionment of the Church

2. Sale of Church properties

All active members have the right to vote by secret ballot. A 2/3 majority ballot vote is required for passage.

Section 4.3 Removal of Members

Membership in the Church may be terminated on the occurrence of any of the following:

(a) The member's resignation from the church.

(b) The determination by a majority of the Board of Directors that the member should be removed from membership, whether because the member has ceased to be actively involved in the affairs of the church or for due and just cause.

Section 4.4 Process of Removal. Notice of decision must be sent in writing by certified mail. The member shall have 30 days to appeal said ruling to the Board.

Section 4.5 Regular Meetings. The annual and other necessary meetings of the members shall be held in a location and time agreed upon by the Board of Directors.

Section 4.6 A Special Membership meeting: the President shall call a special membership meeting at the written request of fifteen (15) members in good standing.

A special membership meeting may be called at the board's discretion.

Section 4.7 Quorum. A total of fifteen (15) members, with at least three (3) of such members being members of the Board of Directors, shall constitute a quorum for a membership meeting.

Section 4.8 Participation in Meetings by Conference Telephone. Members of the Board, committees and directors, may participate in a meeting through the use of conference telephone, or other communications equipment.

Section 4.9 No Discrimination. No one shall be excluded from membership or rights of marriage and union due to sexual orientation, gender or race.

ARTICLE 5

PARLIAMENTARY AUTHORITY

Section 5.1 The rules contained in the current edition of Robert's Rules of Order, Newly Revised (hereafter referred to as RRONR) shall govern this organization in all cases to which they are applicable and in which they are not inconsistent with the bylaws and any special rules of order the Church may adopt.

ARTICLE 6 BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Section 6.1 Election. The officers of the corporation shall be elected at Annual General Membership Meetings. Members can be nominated for a Board position by another member or by nominating themselves.

Section 6.2 Powers. All activities of the corporation shall be under the direction of the Board of Directors (hereafter referred to in these Bylaws as "Board")

Section 6.3 Number of Directors. The Board of Directors of the Church shall consist of seven (7) members, each with one vote, until changed by the Board of Directors.

Section 6.4 Selection and Tenure of Office. The Board shall be elected by a plurality vote of the Members present at the Annual membership meeting; with Staggered Term Periods and shall serve the term set forth for the appointed office.

Any one member may serve a maximum total of six consecutive years on the Board of Directors. Two members living in the same household cannot hold Board positions concurrently.

Section 6.5 BOARD POSITIONS

Board positions shall be:

- President
- Vice President
- Secretary
- Treasurer
- Director of Ministry
- Director of Education
- Membership Representative

The corporation may also have, at the option of the Board, other staff, such as office managers, (ie) a Parliamentarian, or other officers

Section 6.6 TERMS OF OFFICE

Reference the Board of Directors Terms of Office document.

Section 6.7 Qualifications. Each Board member must be a member of the Church and must be in good standing with the church. A board member must support the statement of faith of the Church. The Director of Ministry position may be filled by one or more Ordained Spiritualist Ministers. The Director of Education position may be filled by one or more Mediums certified with the Church. All Board members shall sign a Confidentiality Agreement upon accepting their position

Section 6.8 Removal of a Board Member

A Board Member may be removed from office by a majority ruling of the other Board members for:

- A. Dereliction of duty.
- B. Activities contrary to the interests of the corporation.

The Board member will receive a notification in writing by certified mail and have a 30 day appeal process.

Section 6.9 Meetings. The Board shall hold regular meetings, monthly at a minimum, and immediately after each annual meeting of the members.

Notification of regular Board meetings shall be via the Church bulletin a minimum of two weeks in advance. All church members in good standing are welcome to attend the Board meetings.

Section 6.10 Vacancies. The Board shall fill all vacancies which may occur on the Board between elections at the Annual Membership Meeting. Such appointees shall hold office for the remainder of the appointed term.

Section 6.11 Resignation. Should a board member wish to relinquish their position, notification of resignation shall be made in writing and submitted to the board. The board member vacating their seat shall be available for a period of 60 days from the date of resignation to assist the incoming board member to enable a smooth transition.

Section 6.12 Quorum A majority of the Board shall constitute a quorum

Section 6.13 Special Meetings. Special meetings of the Board may be called at any time by the President, or by two or more of the Board members, upon forty-eight (48) hour's notice given in person or by telephone.

Section 6.14 Emergency action without a Meeting. Any action required or permitted to be taken by the Board may be taken without a meeting, but by agreement from 2/3 vote of the Board.

ARTICLE 7 DUTIES

Section 7.1

PRESIDENT:

Shall: Open meetings at appointed time, having ascertained a quorum and called meeting to order, present agenda, state and put to a vote all legitimate questions, announce the result of each vote, expedite business, enforce rules of debate, decorum, and order, and other duties including but not limited to duties in RRONR.

VICE-PRESIDENT:

Shall: In the absence of the president, serve in his or her stead and perform the duties as described under president, assemble the election committee to submit a list of candidates for each available position, supply each candidate with a list of duties for each office, and other duties including but not limited to duties in RRONR.

SECRETARY:

Shall: Keep official minutes, committee reports, and membership rolls, call the roll, supply minutes, notify elected/appointed officials, furnish committees with necessary documents, maintain record book(s) and their amendments, conduct the general correspondence of the organization, and other duties including but not limited to duties in RONR

TREASURER:

Shall: Maintain and insure all Church funds and accounts, disburse funds as authorized by the board, submit full, formal, financial report bi-annually to the membership, and submit full, formal, financial reports at each regular board meeting, and other duties including but not limited to duties in RRONR.

MEMBERSHIP REPRESENTATIVE:

Shall: Serve as agent between membership and board, (ie. bring pertinent concerns, ideas and problems to the board), be responsible for new member orientations, keep current the official membership list, be responsible for any other meetings with the membership, and other duties including but not limited to duties in RRONR.

DIRECTOR OF EDUCATION:

Shall: Be held by one to five certified mediums, plan class schedules, choose and arrange instructions, advertise and enroll students, work with teachers to ensure optimal standards, handle all correspondence, track students throughout their training, convene panels for testing and student services, garner feedback, revise materials and classes as needed, counsel teachers and students, and interact with students concerning options, needs or concerns.

DIRECTOR OF MINISTRY:

Shall: Be held by one to five Ministers in active service at the USCL, must be Ordained with the USCL or other approved Spiritualist Institution, must be a member of the USCL in good standing, have representation at Board meetings, have jurisdiction over the Spiritual matters of the Church.

The Director of Ministry may appoint a minister to any ministerial position or location necessary for the benefit of the church.

(*) – (Rev. Rose Vanden Enden’s missive is a point of reference as a guide and it is incorporated by reference as if fully rewritten herein. The full text of the reference may be viewed by requesting a copy from the secretary.)

(*) – Robert’s Rules of Order, Newly Revised shall serve as a point of reference as a guide and it is incorporated by reference as if fully rewritten herein. The full text of the reference may be viewed by requesting a copy from the secretary.)

ARTICLE 8
CORPORATE RECORDS

Section 8.1 Records. The Corporation shall maintain correct and complete accounts, books, and records of its financial activities and properties. All the financial records shall be kept at its principal place of business in Ohio

ARTICLE 9
AMENDMENT OF BYLAWS

Section 9.1 These bylaws may be amended by a 2/3 majority vote of the Board .

ARTICLE 10
DISCIPLINARY PROCEDURES

Section 10. 1 Complaints or grievances against any member shall be made in writing and filed with the Board.

Section 10. 2 The Board shall act as the Ecclesiastical Board of the Church and shall settle all disputes within their authority using the Doctrine of the Church.

Certification of Secretary

I, the undersigned, the Secretary of the Board of Directors of the United Spiritualists of the Christ Light Church, hereby certify that the above Bylaws were adopted as the Bylaws of this corporation pursuant to the vote of the Board of Directors.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have set my hand this ____ day of _____,2010.

Printed Name of Secretary

Signature of Secretary