



Constitution

and By Laws

May 16, 2010

Certified to be a true copy of
Eastview Community Church Constitution and By Laws
dated this 22nd day of September, 2010

Rick Hiebert, Secretary of the Leadership Board
Eastview Community Church Mennonite Brethren, Inc.

PART ONE - CONSTITUTION

Clause 1. NAME

The name of this Church shall be *EASTVIEW COMMUNITY CHURCH* Mennonite Brethren, Inc., located in and around the City of Winnipeg in the Province of Manitoba, hereafter referred to as the "Church".

Clause 2. PURPOSE AND FUNCTION

Non-Profit Status

This Corporation shall operate as a charity and shall be carried on without purpose of gain for its member, and any profits or other gains to the charity shall be used in promoting its purpose.

Vision Statement

We, the people of the Eastview Community Church, commit ourselves to:

Joyful worship in the Spirit as we meet in prayer and in the study of the Word of God. We understand worship as bringing honor to God, and as bringing ourselves to Him as an offering to be directed and guided by Him.

Introducing people to Christ who don't yet know Him.

Nurturing and discipling believers according to the Word and through practical Christian ministry.

Ministering to the needs of people in our community and beyond, and generally working out the practical implications of the gospel.

Loving fellowship with other believers and attenders of Eastview.

Mission Statement

We, the people of the Eastview Community Church, commit ourselves to leading people to Christ and on to maturity in Him.

May God enable us by the power of his Holy Spirit to so be his church in our community and throughout the world.

Clause 3. AFFILIATION

This Church is a member of the Mennonite Brethren Church of Manitoba and is thereby affiliated with the Canadian Conference of Mennonite Brethren Churches. As such we affirm the Mennonite Brethren Confession of Faith and are committed to providing moral and material support to projects and activities of the above named conferences.

Clause 4. AMENDMENTS TO THE CONSTITUTION

Amendments to the constitution may be proposed by a member with endorsers or by a committee. Proposed amendments shall be referred to the Leadership Board for examination and possible revision. A motion to amend the constitution must be given by the Leadership Board to the Membership, and a minimum of thirty days must elapse before a vote is taken. A vote to adopt the amendments can only be made at a meeting where the lesser of 20% of our membership, or 100 voting members are present. The motion will pass if there is a 75% majority of all votes cast.

Clause 5. DISSOLUTION

In the event of the dissolution of the Church, funds and assets of the Church remaining after the satisfaction of its debts and liabilities shall be transferred to the Mennonite Brethren Church of Manitoba unless otherwise decided by the members, in which event, to a registered charitable organization with similar aims.

PART TWO – BY-LAWS

ARTICLE I DEFINITIONS

A “Director” of Eastview Community Church Mennonite Brethren, Inc. means a member of the Leadership Board elected by the membership from time to time.

The “Officers” of Eastview Community Church Mennonite Brethren, Inc. means the Moderator, Vice-Moderator, and one Director appointed by the Leadership Board.

The “Moderator” is appointed by the Leadership Board from one of its Directors.

The “Vice-Moderator” is appointed by the Leadership Board from one of its Directors.

ARTICLE II AUTHORITY

The Church has the authority to borrow money upon the credit of the Corporation.

The Church has the authority to raise and receive monies and disburse the same in accordance with the stated vision and mission of the Church.

The Leadership Board may, from time to time, appoint committees as it deems necessary to assist in the work of the Church.

ARTICLE III MEMBERSHIP

Section 1. ADMISSION TO MEMBERSHIP

- 1.1 Baptism by immersion, upon personal confession of faith in the Lord Jesus Christ, evidence of Christian conduct, and willingness to submit to and support the principles and practices of the church. The interested person contacts the Pastor and agrees to participate in the required teaching sessions. The Leadership Board or their appointees will interview the Candidates. Prospective Members will then share a personal testimony of faith in Christ with the church family.
- 1.2 Testimony as to baptism upon confession of faith. The interested person contacts the Pastor and agrees to participate in the required teaching sessions. The Leadership Board or their appointees will interview the Candidates. Prospective Members will then share a personal testimony of faith in Christ with the church family.
- 1.3 Re-instatement of a dismissed member who gives evidence of genuine repentance. The dismissed Member notifies the Pastor who discusses the re-instatement process.
- 1.4 The Church may request a signed covenant as part of its procedure for admission to membership.

Section 2. TERMINATION OF MEMBERSHIP

- 2.1 Transfer. The Member shall notify the Pastor who, along with the Leadership Board, shall process the request and forward a letter of recommendation to the receiving church.
- 2.2 Release. The Member shall notify the Pastor who, along with the Leadership Board, shall process the request. If a Member fails to request a release after six months of non-attendance, this Church may seek to facilitate such release. After an additional six months of unsuccessful negotiations such Member may be removed from the membership of the Church. This does not apply to students or special workers.
- 2.3 Dismissal. The Pastor together with the Leadership Board will advise the Church that disciplinary action resulting in dismissal from Membership is being taken when a Member is found to be living in open sin and who continues in his/her waywardness after receiving admonition. The action of the Church is to be in accordance with the principles set forth in Matt. 18:15-17 and 1 Cor. 5:1-3 and is to be corrective in its aim and redemptive in its process.

ARTICLE IV BUSINESS MEETINGS AND PROCEDURES

Section 1. ANNUAL BUSINESS MEETING

- 1.1 The Church shall convene for its Annual Business Meeting once a year. The exact date of the meeting shall be set by the Leadership Board and be announced at least one month in advance.
- 1.2 The fiscal year shall end July 31, or as the Church shall direct.
- 1.3 The Annual Business Meeting shall be held to receive reports from the Leadership Board and from Committees, for response to recommendations, and for elections/affirmations as may be required.
- 1.4 Items for the agenda at the business meeting shall be submitted to the Leadership Board for approval prior to the meeting.
- 1.5 The agenda, including reports, recommendations and nominations for election shall be published and distributed on Sunday, at least two weeks prior to the Annual Business Meeting.

Section 2. INTERIM BUSINESS MEETINGS

- 2.1 Interim church Business Meetings, when required, shall be called by the Leadership Board and duly announced at least one week in advance.
- 2.2 Items for the agenda at the Business Meeting shall be submitted to the Leadership Board for approval prior to the meeting to assure an orderly meeting.

Section 3. PROCEDURES

- 3.1 Qualifications for voting. Only Members may vote.
- 3.2 All elections shall be conducted by secret ballot unless otherwise unanimously agreed upon.
- 3.3 Any Church Member may ask for the floor at any Church Meeting.
- 3.4 Business procedures and debate shall be conducted as generally set forth in the Leadership Handbook, Canadian Conference of Mennonite Brethren Churches, 1984, pp 28-39.

Section 4. QUORUM AND VOTE

- 4.1 Unless stated otherwise by the Constitution, or the By-Laws, a vote can only be taken at a meeting where the lesser of 20% of our membership, or 75 voting members are present.
- 4.2 For a vote to pass, the following majorities are required.
 - General Business – majority of all votes cast
 - Special Purpose – 3/4 majority of all votes cast.
 - Calling of a Senior Pastor – 3/4 majority of all votes cast.
 - Affirming a member to the Leadership Board – 3/4 majority of all votes cast.
 - Affirming a member to lead or participate on a major committee – 3/4 majority of all votes cast.

Section 5. NOMINATION PROCEDURES

- 5.1 The Leadership Board or a Board appointed committee, shall serve as the Nominating Committee of the Church.
- 5.2 Nominations shall be solicited from the church at large.
- 5.3 The Leadership Board shall act as a discerning committee for all nominations or appoint a committee for that purpose and prepare a ballot sheet.
- 5.4 Nominations shall be published at least two weeks before elections.

Section 6. VACANCIES

Vacancies, due to resignations or other reasons which occur during the course of the term, shall be reported to the Leadership Board who shall take suitable action to fill the vacancy, and have candidates or appointees affirmed by the Church at a subsequent Church Meeting.

Section 7. DELEGATES

Provincial and Canadian Conferences. The Senior Pastor and/or members or the Leadership Board shall represent the Church as delegates if possible. Other delegates shall be appointed by the Leadership Board as required.

Section 8. WAIVER OF BY-LAWS

The Church may temporarily waive the By-Laws at any Church Meeting by a motion from the floor. The motion must be passed by 80% majority at a meeting where a minimum of 75 voting members are present.

Section 9. AMENDMENTS TO BY-LAWS

Amendments to the by-laws may be proposed by a member with endorsers or by a committee. Proposed amendments shall be referred to the Leadership Board for examination and possible revision. A motion to amend the by-laws must be given by the Leadership Board to the Membership, and a minimum of thirty days must elapse before a vote is taken. A vote to adopt the amendments can only be made at a meeting where the lesser of 20% of our membership, or 100 voting members are present. The motion will pass if there is a 75% majority of all votes cast.