

1 Revised November 2020
2

3 **CONSTITUTION**
4 **Lamb of God Lutheran Church**
5 **Lake Stevens, Washington**
6

7 Article I. Name

8 The name of this congregation shall be Lamb of God Lutheran Church (LCMS) of Lake Stevens, Snohomish
9 County, Washington. Lamb of God Lutheran Church, Lake Stevens, Washington is a religious, charitable,
10 and educational organization.
11

12 Article II. Mission

13 The main purposes or missions of this congregation are to:

14 II.1 worship, both individually and as a congregation, our Lord and

15 Savior Jesus Christ and,

16 II.2 share the Good News of salvation with the people of our community and,

17 II.3 be involved, along with our District and Synod, in our Lord's Great Commission (Matthew 28: 19-20)

18 and,

19 II.4 extend a helping hand to those in need and,

20 II.5 especially emphasize Christian education and development of youth and,

21 II.6 nurture and equip this local body of Christ through Word and Sacrament in order that it can contribute to
22 each of these foregoing purposes.
23

24 Article III. Confessional Standard

25 This congregation accepts without reservation:

26 III.1 The Scriptures of the Old and New Testaments as the written Word of God and the only rule and norm
27 of faith and practice.

28 III.2 All the Symbolical Books of the Evangelical Lutheran Church as a true and unadulterated statement
29 and exposition of the Word of God, to wit: the three Ecumenical Creeds (the Apostle's Creed, the Nicene
30 Creed and the Athanasian Creed), the Unaltered Augsburg Confession, the Apology of the Augsburg
31 Confession, the Smalcald Articles, the Treatise on the Power and Primacy of the Pope, the Large
32 Catechism of Luther, the Small Catechism of Luther and the Formula of Concord.
33

34 This Article III shall be irrevocable and unalterable in its essential meaning.
35

36 Article IV. Membership

37 IV.1 Reception into membership shall be through

38 IV.1.1 Sacrament of Baptism, and any of the following as applicable

39 IV.1.2 Consent of one or both parents in the case of children who have been baptized in another Christian
40 congregation,

41 IV.1.3 Rite of confirmation,

42 IV.1.4 Transfer from a sister congregation or

43 IV.1.5 Profession or reaffirmation of faith.
44

45 IV.2 Individuals who hold membership in organizations whose principles and conduct conflict with the Word of God
46 shall not be eligible for membership.
47

48 IV.3 Reception shall be by the approval of the Pastor and the Elders of the congregation and shall be reported to the
49 congregation.

50 IV.4 Members of the congregation (as defined by the preceding 4.1 and 4.3) eighteen years of age or older shall
51 have the right to vote in congregation meetings. Such members are elsewhere referred to as “voters” or the voter’s
52 assembly in this Constitution.

53
54 IV.5 Duties. Members of the congregation shall endeavor to conform their entire lives to the rule of God’s Word and
55 to that end make diligent use of the means of grace; exercise faithful stewardship of God’s many gifts and talents;
56 impart and accept fraternal admonition, in accordance with Matthew 18: 15-20, as the need of such admonition
57 becomes apparent and be readily available for service in the Kingdom of Christ within and beyond the congregation.

58
59 IV.6 Termination.
60 IV.6.1 Membership shall be terminated by transfer to a sister congregation, release, excommunication or
61 self-exclusion.
62 IV.6.2 Termination shall be by the approval of the Pastor and the Elders of the congregation and shall be
63 reported to the congregation.

64
65 Article V. Pastors and Called Workers
66 V.1 Requirements
67 This congregation shall establish the pastoral office, which shall be conferred only on such a Pastor or
68 candidate who professes and adheres to the confessional standard set forth in Section III of this Constitution
69 and who is qualified for his work, is a member of the Synod and approved by the Synod. The same shall
70 apply to all other called workers.

71
72 V.2 Removal
73 Any Pastor or other called worker may be removed from office by a two-thirds majority vote, by secret ballot,
74 of the voters. The reasons for removal are:
75 V.2.1 persistent adherence to false doctrine
76 V.2.2 offensive conduct or scandalous behavior
77 V.2.3 neglecting the responsibilities of the office or the inability to perform them
78 V.2.4. domineering in office, this according to the 2003 CTCR document, Theology and Practice of
79 “the Devine Call.”

80
81 V.3 Resignation
82 The voters may request the resignation of a Pastor or other called worker for prolonged incapacity or
83 general incompetence.

84
85 V.4 Vacancies
86 In the case of pastoral or called worker vacancies, the congregation shall notify the President of the
87 Northwest District so that he may assist in temporarily filling the vacancy an in calling a new Pastor or called
88 worker.

89
90 Article VI. Authority of the Congregation
91 VI.1 The voter’s assembly shall be the governing body of the congregation and shall administer and manage
92 all its affairs. The establishment and conduct of all organizations and societies within the congregation or
93 directly related to it shall be subject to the approval and supervision of the voters. All matters shall be
94 decided by a simple majority vote unless otherwise specified by this constitution.

95
96 VI.2 The right of calling Pastors or other called workers shall be vested in the voters and shall not be
97 delegated otherwise.

98
99

100 Article VII. Officers, Council Leaders and School Association Representatives
101 This congregation shall have the following Officers, Council Leaders and School Association
102 Representatives in addition to any others that the voters shall authorize from time to time:
103
104 VII.1 Officers
105 VII.1.1 a President, who shall conduct the meetings of the voter's assembly and Council
106 VII.1.2 a Vice President, who is to fill the role in the President's absence or inability to act,
107 VII.1.3 a Secretary, who shall keep the minutes of the meetings of the voter's assembly and
108 Council
109 VII.1.4 a Treasurer, who shall be responsible for the financial records of the congregation and,
110 VII.1.5 a Financial Secretary who shall oversee the receipt of all monies and deposit the same in
111 an account established in the name of the congregation.
112
113 VII.2 Board of Elders, Council Leaders and School Association Representatives
114 VII.2.1 A Board of Elders which shall assist the Pastor in the spiritual life of the congregation.
115 VII.2.2 A Trustee Council Leader who shall be responsible for the physical properties of the
116 congregation.
117 VII.2.3 School Association Representative(s), whose number is governed by the School
118 Association constitution and bylaws, and who shall represent and act on behalf of the congregation
119 and the board of directors of the School Association.
120 VII.2.4 A Council Leader for Christian Education who shall be responsible for the nurturing and
121 Christian growth of the members of the congregation and shall establish, maintain and supervise
122 Christian education for everyone in the congregation.
123 VII.2.5 A Council Leader for Mission and Outreach who shall lead the members of the congregation
124 in reaching out to those in need, both spiritual and physical, in our community and beyond and
125 shall establish and maintain the programs of the congregation for mission, evangelism, social
126 ministry and fellowship.
127 VII.2.6 A Council Leader for Stewardship who shall be charged with the stimulation of the people to
128 a proper stewardship of time, talents and treasures.
129 VII.2.7 A Council Leader for Youth and Family who is responsible for nurturing and promoting the
130 spiritual welfare of the youth and young adults.
131
132 VII.3 Authority
133 VII.3.1 General: Officers, Council Leaders, School Association Representatives and other
134 committees, whether elected or appointed, shall have no authority beyond that which has been
135 conferred upon them by the voters and whatever authority may have been delegated to them may
136 at any time be altered or revoked by the voters.
137 VII.3.2 Legal Officers: The officers of the congregation empowered to sign legal documents and to
138 serve as the elected officers of the corporation are the President, the Vice President, the Treasurer
139 and the Secretary.
140
141 VII.4 Duties, responsibilities and terms of office shall be further defined, as necessary, in the By-laws.
142
143 VII.5 Removal from office shall be as defined in Article V.2 or V.3 of this Constitution.
144
145 Article VIII. Synodical Membership
146 Lamb of God Lutheran Church shall hold membership in The Lutheran Church-Missouri Synod.
147
148
149

150 Article IX. Division

151
152 IX.1 Division. If at any time a division should take place for any reason, the property of the congregation and
153 all benefits associated therewith shall remain with those members who continue to adhere in confession and
154 practice to the confessional standards set forth in this constitution, as determined by the dispute resolution
155 process described in the Bylaws of the Synod.

156
157 IX.2 Dissolution. In the event the congregation should dissolve, the property (minus any buildings on Zion
158 Lutheran School property) and all rights connected therewith shall be transferred to the Northwest District of
159 the Lutheran Church-Missouri Synod with the prospect that this money will again be used to start and grow
160 ministries for Christ in the Northwest District LCMS. (from NW District). Any building(s) on the Zion
161 Lutheran School property owned by the Lamb of God Lutheran Church will transfer to Zion Lutheran School.

162
163 Article X. Meetings

164 Regular meetings of the congregation shall be held at least once each calendar year or as prescribed by the By-laws.
165 Special meetings may be called by the President, the Pastor, the Council, the Elders, or by ten voters. Notification
166 shall be given at least two Sundays prior to all meetings. All voters present at a validly called meeting shall constitute
167 a quorum.

168
169 Article XI. Amendments

170
171 XI.1 Amendments to this may be adopted at a validly called meeting of the voters provided that the
172 proposed amendment:

173
174 XI.2 does not conflict with the provisions of Article III and,

175
176 XI.3 has been submitted in writing at a previous meeting of the voters and published prior to the meeting at
177 which it will be acted on and,

178
179 XI.4 receives an affirmative vote of two thirds of the voter's present, has the date of adoption in the
180 amendment and,

181
182 XI.5 is reviewed by the Northwest District of the Lutheran Church Missouri Synod before implementation.

183
184
185
186
187
188
189
190
191
192
193
194
195
196
197
198