

BYLAWS

The Rock of the Christian and Missionary Alliance

Nampa, Idaho

PREAMBLE

The New Testament teaches that the local church is the visible organized expression of the Body of Christ. The people of God are to live and serve in obedience to the Word of God and under the Lordship of Jesus Christ.

The Christian and Missionary Alliance operates on the presupposition that the congregation finds broader meaning and outreach in fulfilling its biblical responsibilities within the life and witness of the denomination.

The Uniform Constitution for Accredited Churches has been framed and adopted by the General Council, the denomination's highest governing body. The accredited churches of The Christian and Missionary Alliance have participated in this process through their authorized delegates. The Church can, in accordance with this Constitution and in a manner that is consistent with the bylaws of The Christian and Missionary Alliance, formulate its bylaws so as to carry out its ministry appropriately and efficiently.

The Church is an integral part of the district, national, and worldwide fellowship of The Christian and Missionary Alliance and is united in governance, fellowship, and service in order to promote unity of faith in the fullness of Jesus Christ as Savior, Sanctifier, Healer, and Coming King, and to facilitate the spread of the gospel at home and abroad under the guidance of the Holy Spirit.

BYLAW ARTICLE I—NAME

The official name under which the Church is incorporated or organized is The Rock of the Christian and Missionary Alliance.

BYLAW ARTICLE II—RELATIONSHIPS

A. AFFILIATION

The Rock of The Christian and Missionary Alliance is organized and shall be operated exclusively as a member church of the Christian and Missionary Alliance, a church denomination which operates legally as a Colorado nonprofit corporation (the “C&MA”). Accordingly, the Church shall operate under the sole ecclesiastical authority of, and be subject to the usages, doctrines and teachings of, the C&MA as set forth in The Manual of The Christian and Missionary Alliance, as such manual may be amended from time to time by the C&MA (the “Manual”).

The Church is connected with and subordinate to its parent religious organization, The Christian and Missionary Alliance, a Colorado nonprofit corporation. In consideration of the mutual benefits generated and derived from this relationship, and understanding that The Christian and Missionary Alliance is relying hereon in agreeing to initiate or continue such relationship, the Church agrees to be subject to and abide by the terms and conditions of Article XVI hereof relating to the reversion of property of accredited churches.

B. ECCLESIASTICAL AUTHORITY

The ecclesiastical authority of the C&MA shall be exercised through the district of the C&MA having jurisdiction over the Church, as such district may be determined from time to time by the C&MA (the “District”). Without limiting the foregoing, the District shall at all times have the responsibility to determine the status of the Church as either a “Developing Church” or an “Accredited Church” in accordance with and subject to the requirements of the Manual.

C. BIBLICAL CHARACTER AND STANDARDS

1. Exercise and Expression of the Church’s Biblical Beliefs.

As described in the Preamble, the Church is a Christian community of faith that exists to exercise and express its biblical beliefs within the broader community of the C&MA. These beliefs are grounded in a shared understanding of Holy Scripture including those beliefs and standards specifically addressed in the Manual. The Church exercises and expresses its biblical beliefs and standards in the following ways:

a. As a Community.

The Church understands that the local church is the visible organized expression of the Body of Christ and that the local church finds broader meaning and outreach in fulfilling its biblical responsibilities within the life and witness of the denomination. In addition, those who participate in the life of the Church, including the Church’s members and employees, are following the biblical command to live out their faith in community and association with other believers. Accordingly, the Church community is itself an exercise and expression of the Church’s biblical beliefs and standards.

b. Through its Activities.

The Church believes that all Church activities, including the responsibilities of every Church member and employee, should be rendered in service to God as a form of worship. Therefore, the Church as a community of faith exercises and expresses its biblical beliefs and standards in every activity, action, and responsibility.

2. Standards for Church Activities and Facilities.

The Church shall engage in activities and use its facilities solely to exercise and express the biblical beliefs of the Church and the C&MA and to further the mission of both. In furtherance of this mission, the Church may provide services or goods to, and may allow use of its facilities by, other groups and persons who are not members of the Church. But no Church activity, nor any use of Church facilities by another group or person, may be conducted or permitted if the Church determines that such activity or use expresses a message of support by the Church for any view contrary to the biblical beliefs of the Church and the C&MA. The determination as to whether any particular activity or use of Church facilities is not permitted requires spiritual discernment applied to each particular circumstance and shall be made in the sole discretion of the spiritual leaders of the Church designated by either the Governing Board of the Church or the senior pastor and elders. With respect to uses by other groups or persons, the Church may consider without limitation both the content of the proposed activities and whether the group or person is generally perceived as advocating views contrary to the biblical beliefs of the Church and the C&MA.

D. LAY DELEGATE(S) TO GENERAL COUNCIL

In accordance with the Amended and Restated Constitution and Bylaws of The Christian and Missionary Alliance, an accredited church may send two lay delegates to represent the Church during the biennial General Council of the Christian and Missionary Alliance. Should the Church have 150 or more in voting membership (as reported in the most recent annual report of the church), the Church may send an additional delegate for each additional 100 voting members of fraction thereof. Lay delegates shall be appointed by the Governing Board and certified by the District.

E. LAY DELEGATE(S) TO DISTRICT CONFERENCE

In accordance with the Uniform Constitution for Districts of The Christian and Missionary Alliance, an accredited church shall be entitled to send two lay delegates to represent the Church during the District Conference. Should the Church have 150 or more in voting membership (as reported in the most recent annual report of the church), the Church may send an additional delegate for each additional 100 voting members or fraction thereof. Lay delegates shall be appointed by the Governing Board and certified by the District.

BYLAW ARTICLE III—MEMBERSHIP

A. MEMBERS

The Church shall have General Members and an Ecclesiastical Member. Subject to the rights granted to the Ecclesiastical Member in these bylaws, the qualifications, rights, and manner of admission for the General Members shall be set forth in these bylaws.

B. MEMBERSHIP

The Board of Elders, serving as the Committee on Membership shall approve an individual as a General Member upon a determination that the individual satisfies the following:

1. Confession of faith in Jesus Christ and evidence of regeneration.
2. Belief in God the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit; in the verbal inspiration of the Holy Scriptures as originally given; in the vicarious atonement of the Lord Jesus Christ; in the eternal salvation of all who believe in Him and the eternal punishment of all who reject Him.
3. Acceptance of the doctrines of the Lord Jesus Christ as Savior, Sanctifier, Healer, and Coming King as defined in relevant C&MA materials.
4. Full sympathy with the mission and core values of The Christian and Missionary Alliance, and cooperation by systematic support of its work.
5. Personal commitment to this fellowship which shall be demonstrated by such outward signs as regular attendance at its functions, regular giving of tithes and offerings in support of the local program as well as C&MA Missions, availability for local ministry assignments, maintaining unity through the practice of speaking well and honestly of the Church and its leaders as well as that of settling differences quickly in the spirit of Matthew 5:23-24 and 6:14-15.
6. Completion of the membership class and submission of the membership application.
7. Agreement to abide by the Uniform Policy on Discipline, Restoration, and Appeal of The Christian and Missionary Alliance (see Manual).

C. CLASSIFICATION OF GENERAL MEMBERS

1. Active members:
 - a. Members who live in the community where the Church is located and actively participate in the life of the church.
 - b. Members age 16 or older shall elect and remove all members of elected positions in the Church, except for the senior pastor, in accordance with the Constitution and vote, as allowed by state law, on matters brought to the membership.
2. Inactive members:
 - a. Members who have permanently moved from the community, but have not transferred their membership to another church.
 - b. Members, who for any cause, except physical disability, are temporarily absent from the community, or have not attended the regular services of the Church for six months or more.
 - c. Inactive members may be placed on the active membership list again by request to and approval of the senior pastor and Board of Elders.
 - d. Inactive members shall not be eligible to vote.
 - e. Persons moved to the inactive members list shall be sent a letter advising of the change in status.

3. Honorary members:
 - a. Members who have entered Christian service at home or abroad and have not requested a transfer of membership.
 - b. Honorary members shall only have their membership terminated by request, change of vocation, or death.
 - c. Honorary members shall not be eligible to vote on any question.

D. RECORD OF MEMBERSHIP

1. Annual Membership Update: An official record of all active, inactive and honorary members shall be filed annually. The membership record shall be revised each year by the Board of Elders prior to the Annual Meeting of the Members and filed with the annual reports.
2. Removal of Inactive Members: After attempts have been made to contact inactive members regarding their inactive status they may be removed from the membership roll by a majority vote of the senior pastor and the elders.

E. ECCLESIASTICAL MEMBER

The District shall be the Ecclesiastical Member of the Church. The voting rights of the Ecclesiastical Member and the ecclesiastical authority of the District may be exercised by such person or committee as the bylaws, constitution or other governing instrument of the District may prescribe or, in the absence of such provision, as the executive committee of the District may determine. The Ecclesiastical Member(s) shall not have the right to vote for elected members of the Governing Board.

BYLAW ARTICLE IV – ORDINANCES

A. BAPTISM

1. The pastor or other elders shall oversee baptism. They shall provide the instruction about baptism and shall administer the baptisms themselves or choose other spiritually respected people to do these ministries.
2. The mode of baptism shall be by immersion.

B. THE LORD'S SUPPER

1. The pastor or other elders shall oversee the Lord's Supper. They shall provide the instruction about it and shall administer it themselves or choose other spiritually respected people to do these ministries.
2. The Lord's Supper will be celebrated regularly as determined by the pastor and elders.

BYLAW ARTICLE V—GOVERNMENT

A. ANNUAL MEETING OF THE MEMBERS

1. The Annual Meeting of the Members shall be held during the month of January of each year. The Governing Board shall determine the date, time and location. The Governing Board shall have the authority to change the date in a given year when necessary. Notice of the Annual Meeting of the Members shall be announced from the platform and placed in the bulletin two consecutive Sundays prior to the time of the meeting.
2. Annual reports are to be submitted by the pastor(s), Governing Board, secretary, treasurer, Elders, Diaconate, audit committee chairman, and others deemed necessary by the Governing Board. The Governing Board shall also determine the method of reporting.
3. Those to be elected at the Annual Meeting of the Members shall be the elders, officers of the church, and any at-large members of the Governing Board (see Article XV). All other ministry leadership positions shall be determined and appointed by the Governing Board in a timely manner following the Annual Meeting of the Members. This authorization does not apply to other positions that may become necessary and require election by constitutional authority.

B. SPECIAL MEETINGS OF THE MEMBERS

When determined appropriate by the Governing Board, special meetings of the members may be called. Notice of a meeting shall be announced from the platform and placed in the bulletin for two consecutive Sundays prior to the time of the meeting.

C. AUTHORITY

Roberts Rules of Order shall govern all matters of church business.

D. QUORUM

A quorum of any properly-called meeting of the members shall consist of those members who are present.

BYLAW ARTICLE VI CHURCH GOVERNANCE AUTHORITY

A. GENERAL

1. The governance authority of the Church shall be known as the Governing Board with an elder majority.
2. The Governing Board shall consist of up to nine members; the senior pastor, elders, secretary, treasurer, assistant treasurer and at-large members. At no time, (except senior pastor vacancy), shall there be less than a majority of elders serving on the Governing Board. All elders shall serve on the Governing Board.
3. The Governing Board shall conduct the affairs of the Church between Annual Meetings of the Members and shall be amenable to the membership and the district superintendent as constitutionally defined. The Church governance structure is in accordance with the governing documents of The Christian and Missionary Alliance. The responsibilities of the Governing Board and elders are defined in the Manual, the bylaws of the district, and the laws of the state. The members of the Board of Elders shall satisfy the scriptural standards for elders and shall be active members of the Church. Other members of the Governing Board are expected to maintain a lifestyle in keeping with the spirit and intent of these same references and shall be active members of the Church.
4. The senior pastor shall be chairman or, at his request, the Governing Board shall elect an elder as chairman. The Governing Board shall also elect an elder as vice chairman. Meetings shall be held as needed, and abbreviated minutes shall be reported to the Church as the Governing Board may decide. Special meetings may be called by the chairman or by written request of one-half of the Governing Board members. All officers, committees and organizations, except the Nominating Committee, are amenable to the collective oversight of the Governing Board.

B. GOVERNANCE STRUCTURE

The governance authority of the Church shall be known as the Governing Board. The number serving on the Governing Board shall be up to nine, including the senior pastor. All elected elders shall serve on the Governing Board.

C. QUALIFICATION OF ELDERS

The qualifications for elders are set out in I Timothy 3:1-13 and Titus 1:6-9. Each are expected to maintain a lifestyle in keeping with the spirit and intent of these references. Each must be an active member of the Church.

D. DUTIES OF THE GOVERNING BOARD

The duties of leaders are set forth in the Constitution, these bylaws, and position descriptions adopted by the Governing Board.

E. QUORUM

A quorum for the legal conduct of business shall be a majority of the Governing Board members currently serving.

BYLAW ARTICLE VII – OFFICERS

A. ELECTED OFFICERS

The officers shall be active members of the Church and shall satisfy the scriptural standards for church leadership. They shall consist of the following: senior pastor, secretary, treasurer, assistant treasurer, and such other officers as may be required by law. With the exception of the senior pastor, they shall be elected at the Annual Meeting of the Members.

B. REMOVAL OF OFFICERS OR AUXILIARY OFFICIALS

In consultation with the district superintendent and the senior pastor, any officer or auxiliary official, except licensed pastoral staff, of the Church, whether elected at the Annual Meeting of the Members or appointed by the Governing Board, or any individual member of the Governing Board, may be removed by a two-thirds majority vote of the Governing Board and the approval of the district superintendent if, in the judgment of the Governing Board, the best interests of the Church will be served thereby.

BYLAW ARTICLE VIII – PASTORAL STAFF

A. APPOINTMENT

The Governing Board shall not give consideration to any candidate for the pastoral staff without the approval of the district superintendent. Pastoral staff members shall be called by the Governing Board and appointed by the district superintendent. The district superintendent shall suggest to the Governing Board the names of such workers as in his judgment have proper qualifications for pastoral staff. Upon appointment by the district superintendent, a pastoral staff member and spouse become active members of the Church. Pastoral staff include all those whose position calls for licensing as an "official worker," as defined in the General Regulations in the Manual of The Christian and Missionary Alliance.

B. RESIGNATION

Any member of the pastoral staff may resign from the Church by giving due notice of this intention to the district superintendent and the Governing Board. The Governing Board may, in conjunction with the district superintendent, ask for the resignation of any member of the pastoral staff. Before such action is taken, the Governing Board and that member shall follow the guidelines as prescribed by the district superintendent. The district superintendent, with the approval of the District Executive Committee, shall have the authority to remove or transfer a member of the pastoral staff when the Governing Board is in disagreement or whenever circumstances make such removal or transfer advisable.

C. STAFF SALARY and BENEFITS

Staff salaries and benefits will be determined by the Governing Board and presented to the members at the Annual Meeting of the Members for approval through the report of the treasurer.

BYLAW ARTICLE IX – DUTIES OF CHURCH OFFICERS

A. SENIOR PASTOR

The senior pastor shall have oversight of the Church. He shall be chairman of the Governing Board except as he may choose to proceed according to the provisions in Article VI. He shall preside at all regular or special meetings of the church membership. He is a member ex-officio of all church committees and organizations. When the Church has no pastor, the chairman or vice chairman of the Governing Board shall have oversight of the Church in conjunction with the district superintendent. The senior pastor shall be the president of the Church where such office is required by law.

B. SECRETARY

The secretary shall keep the minutes of the meetings of the members and of the Governing Board, and conduct the correspondence of the Church as directed by the Governing Board.

C. TREASURER

The treasurer shall be responsible to oversee the receipt of all monies of the Church and shall be responsible to ensure the payment of all bills on the order of the Governing Board, the keeping of proper book records of all transactions, and the filing of canceled vouchers and receipts for payments made. The Governing Board shall determine where funds of the Church shall be kept. No offerings shall be solicited from the membership except upon approval of the Governing Board.

D. ASSISTANT TREASURER

The assistant treasurer shall, with another person or persons appointed by the Governing Board, be responsible to count all monies and keep a separate record of all receipts. The assistant treasurer may be empowered to issue receipts to the donors.

E. MINISTRY DESCRIPTIONS

The Governing Board shall issue individual position descriptions regarding all ministry positions. Such position descriptions shall define responsibilities, delegate authority and specify accountability and are considered directive in nature.

BYLAW ARTICLE X – COMMITTEES AND ORGANIZATIONS

A. BOARD OF ELDERS

The call of Christ the Chief Shepherd to men to serve as elders is both discerned and confirmed by the Church membership. The senior pastor is ex-officio and serves as chairman of the Board of Elders. Elders shall therefore be male active members of the Church. The pastor and the other elders are the highest level of servant leadership in the Church. As undershepherds, elders shall serve with the senior pastor to oversee both the temporal and spiritual affairs of the local church in order to accomplish Christ's mission. They shall constitute the Committee on Membership. They shall be the Committee on Discipline in accordance with the Manual.

B. DIACONATE

The Governing Board will appoint members of the diaconate annually, who shall be active members of the Church. The Governing Board will issue a description of the responsibilities of the diaconate.

C. COMMITTEES AND ORGANIZATIONS

Additional committees and organizations may be established by the Governing Board as the need arises unless otherwise specifically provided for in these bylaws. Such committees and organizations shall not have authority to act on behalf of the Church, except to the extent expressly provided for by action of the Governing Board.

BYLAW ARTICLE XI – MISSIONS MOBILIZATION

A. The Church shall participate in the worldwide missions and church planting ministries of the Christian and Missionary Alliance.

B. Provision is made for the establishment of a local Missions Mobilization Team (MMT) preferably composed of at least three persons appointed annually by the Governing Board.

C. The MMT will endeavor to organize and promote:

1. Mission education
2. Missionary care
3. Participation in mission projects
4. An annual Missions Festival highlighting Alliance Missions
5. Participation in the Great Commission Fund and other missions initiatives

BYLAW ARTICLE XII DISCIPLEMAKING MINISTRIES

The Board of Elders is responsible for establishing and guiding the discipling ministries of the church. The goal is to bring people to a saving knowledge of Christ, teach biblical principles, develop a maturing relationship to Christ, emphasize missions and equip people for evangelism and Christian service.

BYLAW ARTICLE XIII – PROPERTY AND RECORDS

A. PROPERTY

1. The Church may acquire, own, dispose of, improve, encumber, and convey property, real and personal, for church purposes, in conformity with the laws of the state where the property is situated.
2. Real property may be purchased, sold, conveyed, exchanged, mortgaged, or encumbered only by order of the membership through the Governing Board, in consultation with the district superintendent.

B. RECORDS

The official records of all officers of the church and all its departments are the property of the Church. Copies of the official records shall be given to the District upon request. In the event of the death or resignation of an incumbent officer, or upon the appointment of a successor, the records shall be passed on to the newly appointed officer. All records other than current shall be kept in a secure repository selected by the Governing Board.

C. AUDIT

All financial records shall be examined annually or at more frequent intervals on order of the Governing Board. At least three persons, none of whom is a financial officer or church staff member, shall be appointed by the Governing Board to conduct the examination. They shall follow procedures set forth in the current edition of the Manual for Alliance Church Treasurers (and Pastors). The Governing Board shall authorize actions to conform to additional audit standards that may be required by the jurisdiction in which the Church is located.

BYLAW ARTICLE XIV – NOMINATING COMMITTEE

- A. A Nominating Committee shall be formed to present names of qualified active members to the membership for election of elders, secretary, treasurer, assistant treasurer and any at-large Governing Board members at the Annual Meeting of the Members.
- B. The Nominating Committee shall consist of the senior pastor (who is the Chair), two active members appointed by the Governing Board, and two active members elected by the Church membership at least six weeks prior to the Annual Meeting of the Members.
- C. The Nominating Committee shall prepare a written report of its work, and distribute it to the membership at least one week prior to the Annual Meeting of the Members.

BYLAW ARTICLE XV – ELECTIONS

A. THOSE TO BE ELECTED

Those to be elected at the Annual Meeting of the Members shall be the elders, secretary, treasurer, assistant treasurer and any at-large Governing Board members. Where only one name is presented, the ballot may be waived.

B. NOMINATIONS FROM THE MEMBERSHIP

Any active member may nominate another active member for an elected position according to the following:

1. A member wishing to place a name in nomination will submit the name to the Nominating Committee, in writing, at least thirty days prior to the Annual Meeting of the Members.
2. The Nominating Committee will satisfy itself that the person nominated meets the criteria of the Constitution and bylaws for holding elected office.
3. The Nominating Committee may consider the person nominated to be their nominee if so desired. The Nominating Committee may choose NOT to consider the person as their nominee.
4. There will be no nominations received from the floor during the election process.

C. PLURALITY

Where required, the election shall be based on the rule of plurality.

D. TERMS OF OFFICE

1. Except for the treasurer, elected Governing Board members may serve three full two-year terms before a minimum one-year absence is required. The election and term length shall be arranged so that approximately one half of the Governing Board is elected annually.
2. The Governing Board shall have the authority to appoint qualified persons to fill vacancies in unexpired terms of those elected persons as necessary.

BYLAW ARTICLE XVI – REVERSION OF PROPERTY

All of the Church's real and personal property shall be subject to the applicable property reversion provisions in the C&MA Constitution and Manual.

BYLAW ARTICLE XVI I - BYLAWS

The Church may adopt additional church-specific accredited church bylaws pursuant to the Constitution by a two-thirds majority of the votes cast at any official meeting of the active members, provided that such additional bylaws are consistent with any provision of the Manual (including the Constitution) applicable to accredited churches of the C&MA and with these Bylaws. A current copy of the Church bylaws shall be provided to the Ecclesiastical Member.

BYLAW ARTICLE XVIII – AMENDMENTS

These bylaws may be amended by a two-thirds majority of the votes cast at any official Meeting of the Members. The Governing Board shall constitute the Committee on Bylaws.

BYLAW ARTICLE XIX – CONFORMANCE WITH APPLICABLE LAW

No bylaw