

CONSTITUTION AND BYLAWS of
~~OF~~
ST. JOHN'S UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST
CHESTERFIELD, MISSOURI
(Revised January 2011)

Article 1.

NAME OF CONGREGATION

The name of the Congregation shall be: St. John's United Church of Christ, ~~in C~~ Chesterfield, Missouri, and hereafter may be known as "SJUCC", Church/church, or as otherwise identified.-

Article 2.

PURPOSE OF CONGREGATION

The purpose of this Congregation is:

1. To nurture the commitment of its members to Jesus Christ.
2. To promote and spread the Word of God, according to the gospel, and the spirit of the United Church of Christ.
3. To practice benevolence and minister according to the Holy Scriptures.

Article 3.

WAYS AND MEANS

These purposes shall be attained:

1. By preaching God's Word in public services on Sundays and Festivals.
2. By administering the Holy Sacraments according to the Word of Christ and in keeping with the standards of the United Church of Christ.
3. By pastoral and spiritual care, including lay ministry.
4. By mutual work and free-will offering.

Article 4.

CONFESSION

The Scriptures of the Old and New Testaments are recognized as the Word of God and the ultimate rule of Christian faith and practice. In statements of faith, ministers and members are allowed liberty of conscience, whose final guidance is the Word of God.

Article 5.

MEMBERSHIP ;

1. All baptized persons are members of the Universal Christian Church. Persons may be received into full communion and membership with St. John's United Church of Christ by confirmation, profession of faith or letter of transfer. They shall live righteous lives and labor faithfully to bring others to Christ.
2. All members of St. John's United Church of Christ have the right to voice and vote in all Congregational matters, except, members under the age of 18 have the right to voice and vote with the exception of the yearly budget or other issues which incur indebtedness upon the Church.
3. Any person can become a member of the Congregation if they are willing to:
 - a. Lead a Christian life.
 - b. Attend regularly the worship Services and participate in Holy Communion.

- c. Help support the financial obligations and ministries of the Church.
- d. Participate in the responsibilities of the Congregation through gifts of time and talent.
- a. Support and abide by this Constitution and Bylaws.

Article 6.

RIGHTS AND DUTIES OF MEMBERS

1. It is the right and privilege of all members and ~~theifchildren~~their children to be baptized, instructed and confirmed in the Church and receive Christian training.
2. Any member of the Church who regularly attends worship services and participates in the sacrament of Holy Communion, may hold office in the Church or any of its organizations, unless otherwise stipulated in this Constitution.

Article 7.

CHURCH CONFEDERATION

1. This Congregation will be a member of the United Church of Christ and is willing to accept the duties and rights of the members of said church.
2. Only pastor(s) of good reputation, belonging to and recommended by the United Church of Christ, can administer the office of pastor to this Congregation.

Article 8.

PASTOR AND CONGREGATION

1. It is the Pastor(s) duty:
 - a. To do all official work pertaining to the Pastor's calling.
 - a. To see that all children in the Congregation receive the needed religious education according to Christ's command: "Feed My Lambs."
 - b. To prepare children for their Confirmation.
 - c. To visit the sick and practice the pastoral care of their souls.
 - d. To set a good example for the Congregation, by the Pastor's own life and conduct.
 - e. To seek negligent members in order to redirect the fallen to Christ with meekness and love.
 - f. To keep a full record of all who are baptized, confirmed and united in wedlock, and all who have died in the Congregation, and to keep the official seal of the Congregation.
 - g. To make arrangements for services in case of the Pastor's absence.
2. If it should become necessary to discontinue the relationship between any Pastor(s) and Congregation, then either party will give the other at least three months prior notice. A simple majority of the Congregation is required to dismiss the Pastor(s) from his/her duties.
3. Should the Pastor(s) disgrace the position, or commit a vice or a crime, the Council may take immediate disciplinary action, up to and including removal of the pastor(s) from his/her position, with or without pay. The Congregation has the right to dismiss the Pastor(s) from their call by simple majority at a Congregational meeting.
4. If it is necessary to call a new Pastor(s), the Church Council must notify the Missouri Mid-South Conference ~~o~~Office of the United Church of Christ, who may propose qualified pastors to be candidates for the position. The Congregation may also ~~look for~~ seek qualified candidates for the position.
- 5. _____ The Congregation shall elect the Pastor(s) by ballot for an indefinite time. Two- thirds majority of the qualified voters present will decide the election.
6. ~~-6-~~No other Pastor has the right to officiate in the Congregation or its Church after the

new Pastor has taken charge of the Congregation without the consent of the administrative Pastor.:-

7. The administrative Pastor shall be ex officio member of all organizations, committees, and Ministry Teams, with the following exception: the Pastor, or their delegate, will attend the first meeting of the annual nominating committee session and then maintain an open dialogue with the chair.

Article 9.

CHURCH COUNCIL

1. The Council is responsible to see that the order and dignity of worship is maintained, that the property of the Church is kept in good order and will assist the Pastor(s) in performing pastoral duties.
2. If disagreements should arise, regarding Church business, the Council shall seek reconciliation in the matter.
3. The Council is the legal trustee of the Congregation.
4. The Council will consist of up to twelve members of the Church who are to be elected by the voting members present at the annual meeting of the Congregation. One half of the then sitting members of the Council shall constitute a quorum for transacting official business.
1. Council member terms are for three years, and a ~~Each year four members will be elected for a three-year term.~~ Council members may be elected for two consecutive terms. If a member serves on the Church Council for two full consecutive terms, there must be a waiting period of ~~two~~ one years before that member can ~~again be elected to serve again on~~ the Council. In no event shall a person serve longer than eight (8) consecutive years, including periods of appointment by the Council to its body. It is expected that up to four Council members will be elected or reelected at the annual meeting.
5. Only such persons are eligible for the Church Council who have attained the legal age of 21 years and are members in good standing of the Church. Council shall not have members who are:
 - (1) Related to each other in the first degree (example, spouse, parent/child, sibling), or
 - (2) related to each other in the first degree (spouses, parent/child) or related to an employee in the first degree, except, when the prospective council member has been accepted into membership of SJUCC by confirmation, profession of faith or letter of transfer, for five years or longer, and has obtained the prior approval of the Council to be considered for nomination. There shall be no more than one council member at any given time meeting this exception.-
6. The newly elected Council members shall be installed the first Sunday after their election at the public service, or as soon thereafter as practical.
7. The Council shall meet at least once a month. The President may call additional meetings as necessary. A quorum must be present to conduct Church business. The Council and Executive Committee may meet in person or by electronic means, so long as all persons needed for a quorum can hear and can be heard. Said electronic meetings shall have the same bearing as in-person meetings. Three absences with notification or two absences without notification within one year may constitute grounds for removal. Removal of a Council member may be effectuated by a simple majority vote of Council.
8. The Council has authority to fill vacant Council positions ~~caused by resignation or death~~ as necessary.

9. The Council will organize itself by electing a President, Vice President, Secretary, Treasurer, ~~Financial Secretary, Assistant Treasurer and Assistant Financial Secretary and other positions as it deems necessary. Further, the Council has the authority to make administrative appointments, such as Assistant Treasurer and Financial Secretary, etc. from the church membership at large.-~~
10. The Council will organize an Executive ~~Council~~ Committee consisting of the President, Vice President, Secretary, Treasurer and Pastor(s), who will strive to meet monthly.
11. Duties of the Council Officers and/or appointees:
 - a. President: It shall be the duty of the President to preside at all Congregational meetings and also at the meetings of the Council. The President may cast a vote only in the instance of a tie. The President may vote in ballot or in roll call vote, provided the President is last in the roll call. The President shall oversee nominations to committees, and present nominees to the Council for review and approval.
 - b. Vice President: The Vice President shall preside in the absence of the President. If the President and the Vice President are both absent, then the Council or the Congregation will elect a President pro tem at their meeting and all resolutions passed at such meetings shall be legal, provided a quorum is present.
 - c. Secretary: The Secretary shall keep the minutes of all Congregational and Council meetings, and perform assigned correspondence by Council. The Secretary shall have charge of all legal documents and records and keep a correct list of all members. The Secretary shall keep the written records of worship attendance, including the specific number of members (members by confirmation, profession of faith or letter of transfer) in attendance. These records shall be preserved in a secure location for a minimum of five years. The Secretary shall, if necessary, call the roll of every voting member at the meeting of the Congregation.
 - d. Treasurer: The Treasurer shall pay all regular current bills. Bills other than the regular current bills shall not be paid by the Treasurer until appropriations for them have been made by the Council. The Treasurer must give a full report at the annual meeting of the Congregation. Financial notes, deeds and contracts shall be legal if signed by three of the following officers: President, Vice-President, Secretary or Treasurer.
 - e. Financial Secretary: The Financial Secretary shall keep a record of the contributions to the Church.
 - f. Assistant Treasurer: The Assistant Treasurer shall support the role of the Treasurer and act in the absence of the Treasurer.
 - g. Assistant Financial Secretary: The Assistant Financial Secretary shall support the role of the Financial Secretary and act in the absence of the Financial Secretary.

Article 10.

RESPONSIBILITIES AND DUTIES OF THE CHURCH COUNCIL FINANCIAL

1. ~~The Council is responsible to see that the order and dignity of worship is maintained,-~~

- ~~that the property of the Church is kept in good order and will assist the Pastor(s) in performing pastoral duties.~~
- ~~2. If disagreements should arise, regarding Church business, the Council shall seek reconciliation in the matter.~~
 - ~~3. The Council is the legal trustee of the Congregation.~~
 - ~~4. Seven members of the Council shall constitute a quorum for transacting official business.~~
 - ~~5. The Council is the legal trustee of the Congregation.~~
 - 1) The Council shall meet at least once a month. The President may call additional meetings as necessary. A quorum must be present to conduct Church business. Three absences with notification or two absences without notification within one year may constitute grounds for removal. Removal of a Council member may be effectuated by a simple majority vote of Council.
 6. The Council will present a yearly budget for congregational approval.
 7. The Council has authority to pay Church bills. The Council is required to obtain, by simple majority, the approval of the Congregation before entering into indebtedness, for non-budgeted items.
 8. In addition to a General Operating Fund from which the routine operating expenses of the Church will be paid, the Council will maintain a Building Fund which will include two sub-funds; the Building Maintenance Fund and the Building Permanent Reserve Fund.
 - a) The Building Maintenance Fund will be used by duly authorized officers of the Council to pay for minor maintenance and repairs to the Church's physical facilities. Member contributions to the Building Fund that are not specifically designated for deposit in the Building Permanent Reserve Fund will be deposited in the Building Maintenance Fund.
 - b) The Building Permanent Reserve Fund will be used to pay for any major repair or improvement to the Church's existing facilities requiring a single expenditure of at least \$2,000. No payments will be made from the Building Permanent Reserve Fund without the specific prior consideration and approval of the Council. ~~Member contributions to the Building Fund that are not specifically designated for deposit in the Building Permanent Reserve Fund will be deposited in the Building Maintenance Fund.~~ The Council will endeavor to maintain a minimum balance of \$100,000 in the Building Permanent Reserve Fund to ensure resources are **always** available in the event that a significant unanticipated repair to the Church's existing facilities becomes necessary. If payments are made from the Building Permanent Reserve Fund that reduce its balance below \$100,000, the Council will take steps to replenish the fund as part of the Church's annual budgeting process. The Council also should encourage members of the Church to designate special gifts to the Building Permanent Reserve Fund to help ensure that the Church's existing facilities are always maintained at the highest possible level.
 9. Duties of the Council Officers:
 - a. ~~President: It shall be the duty of the President to preside at all Congregational meetings and also at the meetings of the Council. The President may cast a vote~~

~~only in the instance of a tie. The President may vote in ballot or in roll call vote, provided the President is last in the roll call. The President shall oversee nominations to committees, and present nominees to the Council for review and approval.~~

- ~~h. Vice President: The Vice President shall preside in the absence of the President. If the President and the Vice President are both absent, then the Council or the Congregation will elect a President pro tern at their meeting and all resolutions passed at such meetings shall be legal, provided a quorum is present.~~
- ~~i. Secretary: The Secretary shall keep the minutes of all Congregational and Council meetings, and perform assigned correspondence by Council. The Secretary shall have charge of all legal documents and records and keep a correct list of all members. The Secretary shall, if necessary, call the roll of every voting member at the meeting of the Congregation.~~
- ~~j. Treasurer: The Treasurer shall pay all regular current bills. Bills other than the regular current bills shall not be paid by the Treasurer until appropriations for them have been made by the Council. The Treasurer must give a full report at the annual meeting of the Congregation. Financial notes, deeds and contracts shall be legal if signed by three of the following officers: President, Vice-President, Secretary or Treasurer.~~
- ~~k. Financial Secretary: The Financial Secretary shall keep a record of the contributions to the Church.~~
- ~~l. Assistant Treasurer: The Assistant Treasurer shall support the role of the Treasurer and act in the absence of the Treasurer.~~
- ~~m. Assistant Financial Secretary: The Assistant Financial Secretary shall support the role of the Financial Secretary and act in the absence of the Financial Secretary.~~

Article 11

CONGREGATIONAL MEETINGS

1. Congregational Meetings shall be conducted with piety and dignity and opened and closed with prayer.
2. Only such matters that require Congregational approval or ~~that~~ do not fall under the jurisdiction and authority of the Council shall be put before the Congregational Meetings.
3. The number of members necessary to constitute a Quorum for Congregational Meetings, shall be declared annually by the Church Council, and in such a time to provide for communication in the same matter as announcing the Annual Congregational Meeting. Said number shall be determined by: the total number of adult members (age 18 and older) in attendance at worship services over the prior calendar year (excluding Christmas Eve, Easter, and any other dates as defined by Council); then divided by the appropriate number of worship services, to determine the average number of adult members attending a worship service over the prior calendar year. Quorum for Congregational Meetings shall be 85% of that number. ~~Sixty voting members, of the Church, shall constitute a quorum.~~ Decisions at Congregational Meetings will be made by a simple majority vote unless stated otherwise in these Bylaws. Absentee voting and voting by proxy shall not be permitted.
4. Congregational Meetings by electronic methods shall only be held under extraordinary circumstances and in such a manner that all members can hear and be heard. Members

attending the meeting virtually shall be afforded a way to indicate their vote.

1. Congregational Meetings shall be announced, during worship service, on two Sundays immediately preceding the meeting. Written notification, by separate mailing two weeks in advance of the meeting, must also be sent to the Congregation. The Annual Congregational Meeting shall be held as soon as possible after the first day of January.
5. Special Congregational Meetings may be called by a simple majority of the Council or upon written request signed by thirty or more members.
6. Any member of the Congregation may request a vote by written ballot on any subject before a Congregational Meeting of the Church.

Article 12.

ORDER OF WORSHIP

The Pastor(s) will regulate the order of worship, and will work with lay members to determine styles of worship that meet the needs of the Congregation.

Article 13.

CHRISTIAN TRAINING

It is the duty of the Congregation to provide a Christian education, youth ministries, Adult Christian Education and a Confirmation course of study.

Article 14.

CHANGING THE CONSTITUTION

- ~~a) Changes to this Constitution may be proposed at any Congregational meeting. These proposed changes will then be voted on at the next Congregational Meeting.~~
- ~~b) Motions for proposed changes must be given to the Council at least one month prior to the Congregational Meeting and be signed by thirty members of the Congregation.~~

Article 15.

DISSOLVING THE CONGREGATION

- ~~1. This Congregation cannot be dissolved as long as three members hold to this Constitution. They constitute the Congregation and own all Church property.~~
- ~~1. In the event that the Congregation of St. John's United Church of Christ at Chesterfield, Missouri should cease to exist or to maintain its properties and organization as a church in the manner set forth in this Constitution, then at such time the title to all of its assets, both tangible and intangible, shall be automatically vested in and become the property of the Missouri Mid-South Conference of the United Church of Christ, of which the St. John's United Church of Christ is a member.~~

Article 1614.

CEMETERY BOARD

1. St. John's United Church of Christ Cemetery Board (Cemetery Board) shall have all authority to conduct the orderly operation and maintenance of the Cemetery located at 15370 Olive Boulevard, which is a perpetual care cemetery, and to promote the respectful use of the grounds in memory of those interred there.
2. The Cemetery Board shall consist of a total of seven (7) members, all members of St. John's United Church of Christ-Chesterfield, one is the President of the Council, and one is the Pastor. The Council President and Pastor shall be non-voting ex-officio members. The

President of the Cemetery Board is a voting member. At least three of the five voting members shall be lot owners, or have an immediate family member who is a lot owner, or have a family member within three generations interred in the Cemetery. Members are elected for a term of three years and are eligible for re-election at the end of each term. Terms shall be staggered so that no more than two members' terms shall expire at any given time. Terms shall begin and expire concurrent with the ~~Abnua~~annual meeting of the Church. The President of the Cemetery Board shall appoint a Nominating Committee consisting of two members of the Cemetery Board and one at large Church member to fill expiring terms. The Nominating Committee shall present nominations to the Cemetery Board for their consideration and approval. An approved slate shall then be submitted to the Congregation for election at the ~~A~~annual Congregational meeting. Un-expired terms that are vacated shall be elected by a simple majority of the Cemetery board.

3. The Cemetery Board shall organize itself by electing from its members a President, Vice-President, Secretary and Treasurer.
4. The Cemetery ~~B~~board has complete and full power and control to regulate all matters and policy relating to the Cemetery, including financial decisions and investment and expenditure of funds. The Cemetery Board's powers and control include, but are not limited to: regulating the costs and sale of cemetery lots; collecting and holding all funds received in the sale of cemetery lots or related to the care and opening of said lots; maintaining financial investments and records separate and independent of the Church; investing all or any money in the Cemetery treasury as the Cemetery Board sees appropriate, in reasonable and prudent investments; and the divestiture and sale of said investments. The assets of the Cemetery Board, including its property and financial investments, are for the perpetual care of the Cemetery and therefore are to be invested and spent accordingly. These assets may not be pledged against any indebtedness of the Church, including the establishment of a line of credit without the prior written resolution of the Cemetery Board. The Cemetery Board shall sell lots only to members of St. John's United Church of Christ-Chesterfield. The Cemetery board has the right to reject or accept any donations to the Cemetery.
5. The Cemetery Board shall file a financial report with the Council Treasurer on a regular basis, usually quarterly, in a format consistent with the financial reports of the Council. If the Council Treasurer reports the Cemetery board funds on a consolidated financial report, then those Cemetery Board funds must also be shown in a separate column as independent figures and attributing them to the Cemetery Board. At all times members of the Congregation should be able to distinguish funds attributed to the Cemetery Board from other Church funds and recognize that they are not available for the operating costs or capital expenditure of the Church except as indicated. The funds of the Cemetery board are for the perpetual care of the Cemetery and should be treated accordingly.
6. In order that the Congregation may continue to be informed of the work of the Cemetery Board, the Cemetery Board shall report semi-annually to the Council through its liaison or upon the request of the Council President. Furthermore, the Cemetery Board shall prepare an Annual Report and Year-end Treasurer Report to the Congregation.

Article ~~17~~ 15

ST. JOHN'S EARLY CHILDHOOD CENTER

1. ~~F~~The mission of St. John's Early Childhood Center (SJECC) is to provide a loving, nurturing Christian environment for young children and their families through a variety of programs, including but not limited to, a preschool program and a kid's day out program.

St. John's United Church of Christ recognized St. John's Early Childhood Center as an extended ministry and outreach program of the Church to the church family and the greater community.

1. The Board of Directors shall consist of the following persons: The SJECC Director (- who shall serve as an ex-officio non-voting member); and ~~eleven (11)~~ six (6) members of St. John's United Church of Christ (SJUCC), including the
2. Pastor of SJUCC or a Church Council-designated staff person (who shall serve as an ex-officio non-voting member), one member who shall be a member of the SJUCC Council and shall serve as a liaison, and one member of the SJUCC Christian Education Committee or equivalent Sunday School Superintendent(s).
3. ~~The Chairperson of the SJECC shall appoint a Nominating Committee of at least three Board members to fill any open positions on the Board of Directors. Said Nominating Committee shall present nominations to the SJECC Board of Directors for their consideration and election.~~
4. The Board of Directors shall elect annually from its members a Chairperson, ~~Administrative~~ Vice-Chairperson, ~~Development Vice-Chairperson~~, Secretary and Treasurer, whose job descriptions and duties shall be contained in the Bylaws of SJECC.
5. The Board of Directors shall develop and review the mission of SJECC and control all matters of policy, including financial decisions and expenditure of funds. The SJECC assets, financial or otherwise, may not be pledged or used as collateral against any indebtedness of SJUCC, including the establishment of a line of credit, unless it is specifically for the use and benefit of SJECC, and then only with the prior written resolution of SJECC Board of Directors.
6. The SJUCC and its Council recognize that the SJECC shall operate independently from the Church on all matters including, but not limited to, policy, administration and financial decisions. The SJECC Board of Directors' power and authority may be revoked, in whole or in part, by the SJUCC only if: the SJECC Board of Directors has been given reasonable notice and an opportunity to be heard by the SJUCC Council; the SJECC Board of Directors has been given a reasonable opportunity to remedy the area(s) of concern, and thereafter only upon the vote of 2/3 majority of the full Council.
7. The Church and SJECC may come to a written agreement defining the responsibilities and obligations between them and to each other, including a financial remuneration. This agreement may be subject to an annual review as called for by the Church Council. A Review Committee consisting of an equal number of persons representing the Church Council and SJECC shall conduct the review. The members of the Review Committee shall be appointed by the Council President and SJECC Chairperson respectively. If said review is not made within 30 days of the anniversary date of the year 2001 agreement, then the prior agreement shall stand until the time of the next annual review.
8. SJECC shall file a financial report with the Council Treasurer on a regular basis, usually quarterly, in a format consistent with the financial reports of the Council. If the Council Treasurer reports the SJECC funds on a consolidated financial report, then those SJECC funds must also be shown in a separate column as independent figures and attributing them to SJECC. At all times members of the Congregation should be able to distinguish funds attributed to SJECC from other Church funds and recognize that they are not available for the operating costs or capital expenditure of the Church except as indicated.
9. In order that the Congregation may continue to be informed of the work of SJECC, the

SJECC Board of Directors shall report regularly to the SJUCC Council through its liaison or upon the request of the SJUCC Council President. Furthermore, the SJECC shall prepare a Board of Directors Annual Report and Year-end Treasurer Report for inclusion in the St. John's United Church of Christ Annual Report to the Congregation.

10. If the SJECC should cease to operate for any reason, voluntary or otherwise, the SJECC shall give reasonable notice, as soon as practicable, to the SJUCC Council. Upon dissolution of the SJECC, all assets and liabilities of the SJECC will revert to the SJUCC.

Article 14 16.

CHANGING THE BYLAWS and CONSTITUTION

These Bylaws and Constitution may be changed by a simple majority vote at a duly called Congregational Meeting by one of the following ways:

1. Upon recommendation of the Church Council; or
2. Making a written proposal at a duly-called Congregational meeting, and the proposed changes will then be debated and voted on at the next duly-called Congregational Meeting; or
3. By providing a written Motion(s) with proposed changes, signed by thirty members of the Congregation, which must be given to the Council at least one month prior to the duly-called Congregational Meeting.

Article 15 17.

DISSOLVING THE CONGREGATION

2. This Congregation cannot be dissolved as long as three members hold to this Constitution. They constitute the Congregation and own all Church property.
2. In the event that the Congregation of St. John's United Church of Christ at Chesterfield, Missouri should cease to exist or to maintain its properties and organization as a church in the manner set forth in this Constitution, then at such time the title to all of its assets, both tangible and intangible, shall be automatically vested in and become the property of the Missouri Mid-South Conference of the United Church of Christ, or its successor, of which the St. John's United Church of Christ is a member.

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<u>Constitution Glossary</u>	
<u>Council:</u>	<u>St. John's United Church of Christ-Chesterfield Church Council</u>
<u>Board:</u>	a) <u>In article 16 14, refers to the Cemetery Board</u> b) <u>In article 17 15, refers to the St. John's Early Childhood Center Board</u> c)
<u>Pastor:</u>	<u>In articles 8, 14 & 15, and elsewhere, 16 & 17, "Administrative Pastor" is designated by the Church Council.</u>
<u>Simple Majority:</u>	<u>1 vote in excess of 50% of the legal members voting</u>
<u>SJECC:</u>	<u>St. John's Early Childhood Center</u>

<u>SJUC:</u>	<u>St. John's United Church of Christ</u>
<u>Officiate:</u>	<u>To perform a duty for or a service within the Church</u>

Constitution Glossary

~~St= Council:~~ ~~John's United Church of Christ Chesterfield Council~~

~~In= Board:~~ ~~article 16, refers to the Cemetery Board~~

~~In=~~ ~~article 17, refers to the St. John's Early Childhood Center Board~~

~~In articles 8, 16 & 17, "Administrative Pastor" is designated by the Church Council.~~

~~† Pastor:~~ ~~vote in excess of 50% of the legal members voting~~

~~St=~~ ~~John's Early Childhood Center~~

~~St= Simple Majority:~~ ~~John's United Church of Christ~~

~~To SJECC:~~ ~~perform a duty for or a service within the Church~~

~~SJUCC:~~

~~Officiate:~~

ADOPTION OF CONSTITUTION

1892, August 7th - The original constitution of St. John's Church was acknowledge and adopted at a meeting held on August 7th at Bellefontaine, Missouri, 1892. The following members served as a committee to draft the -original constitution: F.W. Kuhlmann, Rev. Th. O. Uhdau, Hy. Schaeper, Jacob Hoefler, and Jacob Seeger.

The following were the first officers of the congregation: Jacob Seeger, Pres; Herman Stemme, Secy.; Wm. Sellenriek, Treas.; and Charles Andreas, by member.

1892, December 6th - The following members signed the incorporation papers December 6, 1892: Jacob Seeger, Herman Stemme, Wm. Sellenriek, Charles Andreas, Rev. Th. O. Uhdau, Jacob Hoefler, GottliebAlbrecht, Cornelius Schoettler, Edward Eberwein, Hy. W. Albright, George Yokel, Fred Schuttenberg, Charles Stemme, Franz Kuhlman and F. W. Kuhlman.

1936, March 22nd - This constitution was revised by the undersigned committee and legally adopted by the congregation on the 22nd day of March 1936. The following committee was appointed Jan. 1, 1936: Henry Stemme, Adolph P. Autenrieth, George E. Hill, John Prestien, Norman Schwenk, Herbert Albrecht, H.L.Autenrieth, Oliver F. Queathem, J. Edw. Kram, Rev. Robert P. Nienkamp.

1944, January 13th - This constitution was revised by the following committee and submitted to the congregation at the annual meeting January 13, 1944 and adopted: Raymond Burkhardt, Harry Steffan, J.Edw. Kram, Mrs. August Hill, Walter Stemme, Mrs John Prestien, Rev. S.A. Schmiechen.

This Constitution was ~~adopted as amended~~mended:

1948, January 11th- Article 9, Church Council, term limit and re-election waiting period;-
~~Adopted 1-11-48~~

1965, January 17th - Article 15, Dissolving the Congregation;-~~Adopted 1-17-65~~

1966, January 23rd - Article 9, Church Council, increase 7 to 9, three-year term, two term limit;-
~~Adopted 1-23-66~~

1970, January 25th -

Article 5, Membership, I voting age 21 to 18; ~~Adopted 1-25-70~~

1974, January 20th - Article 9, Church Council, increase membership from 9 to 12; ~~Adopted 1-20-74~~

1990 – January 14th - Article 11, Congregational Meetings, written ballot; ~~Adopted 1-14-90~~

1995, August 20th - This Constitution accepted as accurate by the Church Council 8-20-95

2002, May 5th - The Congregation voted to accept amendments to Articles 2 through 16 [now 14] (Cemetery Board) and the addition of Article 17 [now 15](St. John's Early Childhood Center) on 5-5-02.

2011, January 30th - The congregation voted to accept insertion of a new paragraph 8 (simple majority vote for indebtedness and outlining scope of Building Fund and sub-funds) in Article 10 on January 30, 2011.