# CONSTITUTION OF TWIN CITY CHINESE CHRISTIAN CHURCH

Roseville, Minnesota

## **ARTICLE I – NAME**

- 1.1 The name of this Church shall be Twin City Chinese Christian Church.
- 1.2 The name of any Church planted by Twin City Chinese Christian Church shall be the name registered with the state with which they are registered until the planted Church becomes independent of Twin City Chinese Christian Church.
- 1.3 The term "TCCCC" used hereafter in this Constitution and By-laws refers collectively to Twin City Chinese Christian Church and any church planted by Twin City Chinese Christian Church until the planted church becomes independent of Twin City Chinese Christian Church.

## **ARTICLE II – STATEMENT OF FAITH**

The Statement of Faith for TCCCC is:

- 2.1 We believe in the one and only living and true God,
  - the Creator, Preserver, and Governor of the universe who is revealed to us in the Scriptures as three persons: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.
- 2.2 We believe the Bible<sup>1</sup> is the Word of God,

inerrant in its original documents, and the only infallible authority for faith and practice.

- 2.3 We believe all humans have sinned and are separated from God by sin, fallen from innocence to sin's curse through the sin of Adam, and that no human can be made right with God by good works.
- 2.4 We believe God grants salvation by grace through faith only in Jesus Christ, who, being both fully God and fully man, lived a sinless life, died, and rose again, and thereby saves from sin all who repent and trust in Him alone.
- 2.5 We believe the Holy Spirit indwells every Christians, sanctifying them for obedience to God, and gifting them to serve God and accomplish His purposes in the world.
- 2.6 We believe the Church is the body of Christ,

glorifying God through worship, ministry of the Word, and the ordinances of baptism and the Lord's supper, and sharing God's love through service and evangelism.

2.7 We believe Christ ascended to heaven, His return is imminent, and He will bodily raise the dead to judgment.

He will reign with His people on earth, who are glorified to live eternally with Him in heaven, and

He will righteously condemn the unbelieving to eternal punishment in hell.

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<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> The 66 Books of the Old and New Testament.

#### **ARTICLE III - MISSION STATEMENT**

3.1 The mission of TCCCC is:

To manifest the glory of the triune God in our worship and unity, to experience His love in our fellowship, and to bring hope to all through evangelism, discipleship and church planting.

#### **ARTICLE IV - PURPOSE**

4.1 The purpose of TCCCC is:

To worship God according to the teachings of His Word: to promote the preaching of the gospel; to administer the ordinances of the New Testament, i.e., baptism and the Lord's Supper; to minister to the spiritual needs of all people regardless of age, race, gender, color, or creed; to speed the evangelization of the world by leading men, women, and children to a living faith in Jesus Christ.

## **ARTICLE V – MEMBERSHIP**

- Any person who meets the following criteria may apply to the Deacon Board ("DB") to become a member of TCCCC:
  - a. Professes faith in the Lord Jesus Christ as their personal Savior;
  - b. Have publicly professed their faith through believer's baptism;
  - c. Accepts the Constitution and By-Laws and Membership policy of TCCCC;
  - d. Agrees with the statement of faith in Article II of this Constitution; and
  - e. Have met the criteria for regular church participation as stated in the Membership Policy.

## ARTICLE VI - LEADERSHIP AND GOVERNANCE

- 6.1 The leadership of TCCCC shall consist of the Pastoral Staff, Elders, and Deacons who have the authority to govern TCCCC and preside over all Church matters in accordance with the specified responsibilities and procedures outlined in the By-Laws of TCCCC.
- For the purposes of the Constitution and By-Laws, Pastoral Staff and Pastors collectively refers to Pastors ordained according to the By-Laws and un-ordained Ministers.
- 6.3 Congregation approval shall be required for the following matters:
  - a. Calling of Pastoral Staff and Elders;
  - b. Election of Deacons, Nominating Committee, and Constitution Amendment Committee;
  - c. Approval of TCCCC budget;
  - d. The purchase and sale of TCCCC Real Estate; and
  - e. Special matters brought forth by the members or the leadership of TCCCC.

## **ARTICLE VII – CHURCH FINANCE**

7.1 The support of TCCCC shall come from the free-will offerings of Christians giving according to the principles set forth in II Corinthians 9:6-15 and I Corinthians 16:2.

## **ARTICLE VIII- DISPOSITION OF CHURCH PROPERTY**

8.1 In the event that TCCCC is to be dissolved, TCCCC shall be dissolved in accordance with the laws of the state of Minnesota. Upon the dissolution of the TCCCC, any surplus assets remaining after

satisfying all of the debt obligations of the TCCCC shall be disposed of by transfer to one or more organizations approved by the DB.

## **ARTICLE IX- CONSTITUTION AMENDMENTS**

- 9.1 Should it become necessary to revise the constitution, a Constitution Amendment Committee ("CAC") shall be convened to prepare draft Constitutional amendments for approval by the Congregation.
- 9.2 The CAC shall consist of five members:
  - a. A member of the DB:
  - b. A member of the Pastor Elder Council ("PEC");
  - c. Three congregational members.
- 9.3 The CAC shall prepare a proposed amendment to the PEC and the DB for review, comment, and approval.
- 9.4 Upon approval by the PEC and the DB, the CAC shall present the proposed amendment in writing to the congregation at least two successive Sundays in advance of a special business meeting in which the proposed amendment will be voted on by the members.
- 9.5 Constitutional amendments require approval by a two-thirds majority vote of voting members at the special business meeting.

## ARTICLE X - CHOICE OF LANGUAGE

- 10.1 The Constitution and any amendments thereof shall be drafted in English and an official Chinese translation shall be prepared.
- 10.2 In the event of a conflict between the English version and Chinese version, the English version shall be the controlling document.
- 10.3 The DB may authorize correction of the Chinese version to conform the Chinese version to the English version. Any amendments to the English version will require a constitutional amendment pursuant to Article IX of the Constitution.
- Original Constitution of Chinese Christian Fellowship CCF (circa 1958)
- 1<sup>st</sup> Amendment to the Constitution of CCF (April, 1976)
- 2<sup>nd</sup> Amendment to the Constitution of CCF (July, 1980)
- 3<sup>rd</sup> Amendment, Changed to Constitution and Bylaws of Twin City Chinese Christian Church TCCCC (May, 1989)
- 4<sup>th</sup> Amendment to the Constitution and Bylaws of TCCCC (June, 2002)
- 5<sup>th</sup> Amendment to the Constitution and Bylaws of TCCCC (April, 2007)
- 6<sup>th</sup> Amendment to the Constitution and Bylaws of TCCCC (November, 2023)