

***LifeSpirit Congregational Church***

A Recognized NGO – Group Exemption #2739

World HQ: 58 Plotts Road, Newton, NJ 07860

Private, Expressive Association ...

[www.lifespirit.org](http://www.lifespirit.org) / [ralph.fucetola@usa.net](mailto:ralph.fucetola@usa.net)

973-300-4594 / Fax: 973-300-1519



# LifeSpirit Congregational Church Fundamental Church Documents

Private Expressive Association

[www.LifeSpirit.org](http://www.LifeSpirit.org)

# LCC Documents

## LifeSpirit Congregational Church

Parsonage: 58 Plotts Road, Newton, NJ 07860  
Private, Expressive Association ...

[www.lifespirit.org](http://www.lifespirit.org)  
Fax: 973-300-5486



[ralph.fucetola@usa.net](mailto:ralph.fucetola@usa.net)  
973-300-4594

### Fundamental Church Documents Certified True Copy

The undersigned, Ralph Fucetola JD, Minister and Trustee of the Church, Notary Public of the State of New Jersey [#2398815] and retired Attorney at Law, does hereby certify that the copies of the Fundamental Church Documents attached hereto and posted herewith on the LifeSpirit web site are True and Complete Copies, consisting of:

1. The Canon Law of the Church for the New Millennium, adopted as of January 1, 2000 [1 pg].
2. The Restated Certificate of Incorporation of the Trustees, filed May 15, 1987 [4 pgs].
3. Church By-Laws and Rules as of December 23, 1984 [13 pgs].

Any amendments to the Fundamental Church Documents will be filed on this LifeSpirit Archive web page, [www.LifeSpirit.org/ChurchArchive.htm](http://www.LifeSpirit.org/ChurchArchive.htm).

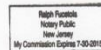
I *Certify* that the above statements made by me, as though under *Oath*, are true and not misleading. I am aware I am subject to punishment for perjury if any are willfully false.

Dated: December 21, 2012

In Truth,



Church Seal:



Rev. Ralph Fucetola JD

Notice  
NJ Sales Tax Exemption No. E.237.406.902/000  
Exempt # 23-7406902 - Group Exemption 2739  
Minister Trustee, LifeSpirit Center, [www.lifespiritcenter.org](http://www.lifespiritcenter.org) - Natural Solutions, [www.naturalsolutionsfoundation.org](http://www.naturalsolutionsfoundation.org)  
Trustee, Institute for Health Research, [www.inhere.org](http://www.inhere.org) - Webmaster, Sound Health Research Institute, [www.soundhealthresearch.org](http://www.soundhealthresearch.org)  
*The within is a confidential, private expressive association transmittal, submitted without prejudice and with full reservation of rights, UCC 1-207.*  
*Rev. Ralph Fucetola, JD & Kathy Greene Fucetola, Minister Practitioners since 1974.*  
*LCC Minister Practitioners do not diagnose, prescribe for, treat or claim to cure, mitigate or prevent disease conditions.*

# LCC Documents

## The Canon Law of the Church for the New Millennium

Issued by Authority of the Councils of Elders and Priests  
As of January 1, 2000

**Canon One:** The church is established for religious, charitable, educational, scientific research and literary purposes and is a non-governmental organization governed by these Canons, the By-Laws and Rules.

**Canon Two:** The Founding Trustees and the successors to the Lineage upon which the church is established, are the Ecclesiastical Supervisors of the church and its institutions, including all local congregations, associations of the church, any integrated auxiliaries of the church and church affiliated organizations established for the management of church funds and retirement accounts.

**Canon Three:** The High Priest and Priestess serve for Life. A majority of the surviving Trustee(s) have authority to appoint a successor. Each successor serves for Life.

**Canon Four:** The church, its local congregations, associations, integrated auxiliaries and church affiliated organizations, shall be established and governed as autonomous bodies, by Charters, Articles of Association, Letters of Direction, Resolutions and other such appropriate documents issued under the Authority of the Trustees.

**Canon Five:** The local congregations, associations, auxiliaries and affiliated organizations shall operate within the limits of their establishing documents, the applicable secular law, these Canons and overriding Ecclesiastical Supervision. Whenever the Trustees, unanimously, in their own discretion, determine it prudent, they may intervene by Resolution to reorganize and manage the affairs of any such association, auxiliary or affiliated organization, the terms of its establishing documents not withstanding, to carry-on the exempt purposes of the Church.

**Canon Six:** The Trustees have authority to ordain and license ministers and members of the orders of the church, issuing Certificates and Letters of Direction therefore.

**Canon Seven:** The Beliefs and Sacred Texts of the Church shall be as provided in the By-Laws and as set forth on the official church web site, [www.lifespirt.org](http://www.lifespirt.org), and include *The Book of Illuminations* and *The Book of Passages*.

**Canon Eight:** These Canons are the supreme Law of the Church and may be amended only by unanimous Act of the Trustees and Council of Elders. The Acts of the Ministry pursuant thereto are part of the Church's Expressive Association. The Church reserves all rights, public and private.

© 2012

# LCC Documents

RECEIVED

1987 MAY 15 A 11:05

COPY  
Amended  
CERTIFICATE OF INCORPORATION  
N.J.S. 16:11-1 et seq.

*Carl J. [Signature]*  
TREASURER

LIFESPIRIT CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH  
LIFESPIRIT COLLABORATIVE CONGREGATIONS  
formerly  
Libertarian Congregational Church

Moved by the SPIRIT OF LIFE:

WHEREAS the Libertarian Congregational Church was founded on August 23, 1974 and the Trustees thereof met on September 14, 1974 (pursuant to an Action of the Congregation of Elders made at a Meeting in accordance with the provisions of N.J.S. 16:11-1 and the By-Laws, on Sunday, September 8, 1974) and unanimously agreed to incorporate themselves as a Religious Society. Whereupon, on September 27, 1974 the Trustees executed a Certificate of Incorporation which was filed on September 30, 1974 with the Clerk of Bergen County in Book 326, page 306 et seq. The aforesaid Certificate was amended at a meeting on August 16, 1975, and an Amendment to Certificate of Incorporation was executed by the Trustees on August 20, 1975 and filed with the Clerk of Bergen County on September 3, 1975 in Book 328 page 216.

WHEREAS the Congregation of Elders, by unanimous Action at the Meeting of September 20, 1986 determined to modify the name of the Church to more explicitly proclaim the Spirit of Life and adopt a new Seal, and the Trustees, having unanimously consented, the name of the Church has been modified as of the 1st day of January, 1987, to Lifespirit Congregational Church, and the Church may be described as the Lifespirit Collaborative Congregations, but, the existing congregations are privileged to continue to use the names they have heretofore used.

THEREFORE this Amended Certificate of Incorporation is made as of the 1st. day of January, 1987.

1

2

# LCC Documents

1. The Church's name is LIFESPIRIT CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH. It shall have perpetual existence.

2. The office address of the Corporation is 23 River Road, North Arlington, New Jersey 07032.

3. The Trustees, with address at 23 River Road, North Arlington, New Jersey 07032, are Kathy A. Greene, Ralph Fucetola III and Phil De Block.

4. The Corporation is organized to promote the Doctrines of the Church as set forth in the By-Laws and to exercise all corporate powers under N.J.S. 16:11-1 et seq. for its benefit and the common and mutual benefit of the Congregation of Elders, members, auxiliaries and local congregations.

5. This Certificate and the By-Laws may only be amended by the unanimous written consent of the Trustees upon Action of the Congregation of Elders.

6. No substantial part of the activities of this Corporation shall be carrying on propaganda or otherwise attempting to influence legislation, or participating in, or intervening in (including the publication, or distribution of statements) any political campaign on behalf of any candidate for political office or public office.

# LCC Documents

7. In the event of dissolution, all of the remaining assets and property of the corporation shall, after necessary expenses, thereof be distributed to such organizations, acceptable to the Trustees, as shall qualify under 26 USC 501(c)3, as amended.

8. No part of the income of the Corporation shall inure to the private benefit of any member, trustee, or official or any private individual (except that reasonable compensation may be paid for services to or for the corporation) and no member, trustee, or official of the corporation, or any private individual shall be entitled to share in the distribution of any of the corporate assets on dissolution of the Corporation.

9. Nothing contained herein shall be construed as limiting the inalienable rights of the members, the Church, the Congregation of Elders, local congregations or auxiliaries, or their rights under the Constitution of the United States.

10. Notwithstanding any other provisions of these articles, the Corporation shall not carry on any other activities not permitted to be carried on (a) by a corporation exempt from Federal income tax under 26 USC 501(c)3 (or corresponding provision of any future



# LCC Documents

## LIBERTARIAN CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH BY-LAWS AND RULES

### I. The Congregation of Elders.

A. (1) The Congregation of Elders is the supreme authority of the Church under these By-Laws, Rules, Certificate of Incorporation and the secular law. Actions (consents, appointments, decisions) shall be in writing and by the Congregation. (2) The Trustees shall maintain these written Actions and the other Records of the Church, which shall be available for inspection by any member.

B. (1) The Congregation consists of those Elders (being at least one more than one-half of all of the Elders) meeting together, with or without intention or notice. (2) Any Elder may call for the Congregation to meet, provided such Elder makes a good-faith effort to notify all the Elders. (3) The Congregation may meet regularly at the Temple of the Church on the First Day of each week. At such meetings, it may hold the Rite of Life. (4) The requirements of By-Laws III.A, V. and VII., may only be taken upon at least ten days written notice mailed (first class postage pre-paid) to each Elder at his/her last known address. The ten day period shall start from and include the day of mailing. Such notice shall be mailed by the Trustees.

C. (1) Actions may only be taken by the unanimous consent of the Elders constituting the Congregation. Each member agrees to remain with the Congregation until unanimity is reached, or leaving the Congregation (and it remaining a Congregation under By-Law I.B. (1)) such member may not object to the action taken. (2) No Action, or any consent, decision, appointment, or act of any organ of the Church (including local units or auxiliaries), may be taken which will disparage its status as a Church under the secular law.

D. No member shall become an Elder, except by Action of the Congregation as the Spirit of Life moves the Elders. The Congregation, by Action, or a local unit under its Rules, may consider any being a Member, who shall have rights of membership, except same may not take part in Actions, consents, appointments, or decisions of the Congregation, and may not participate in the Secret Rite (unless the members present agree to such participation.) All Communicants may participate in the activities of the Church.

E. Annual local unit dues shall be one-tenth ounce of gold, or its monetary equivalent.

F. Membership in the Church is inconsistent with membership in any other church. The Church does not discriminate on the basis of sexual orientation, sex, race, creed, color or national origin or species.

G. Except in By-Laws I. D. and XXXI. B., the word "member" shall include "Elder".



# LCC Documents

Libertarian Congregational Church By-Laws and Rules

-2-

## II. The Local Units and Retreat.

A. Upon Action of the Congregation, when one or more Elders feel the call of the Spirit of Life, they may form a local unit of the Church (to be denominated by the ordinal number of its establishment), abiding in complete or partial retreat from the World of Man. These local units are autonomous churches and local congregations of the Church and shall be separately organized or incorporated. Each local unit membership shall appoint, and may remove, a Minister as Pastor thereof and any member as Deacon of its patrimony.

B. (1) A local unit may form a self-governing Retreat under the authority and protection of the Church. (2) Local units shall provide Rules which shall be approved by Action of the Congregation and may only be amended upon Action of the Congregation and the consent of each member of such local unit. (3) Communicant Members may participate in a local unit under its Rules.

C. Each Retreat or Parsonage may be the trust property of the Church, held in trust for the local unit abiding there, and the Trustees of the Church shall be the Trustees of the Retreat, but in regard to each Retreat, the Trustees shall act only with the prior written consent of the local unit abiding there. It shall be the purpose of such trust to provide an appropriate abode in partial or total retreat from the World of Man under the Doctrine of the Church, and under the authority granted the Trustees under By-Law III. The Trustees may require arbitration if any Trustee believes the Action required violates the Certificate of Incorporation, By-Laws or Rules of the Church or local unit, or secular law.

D. If a local unit has no members, the Trustees shall hold, maintain and protect the assets of the local unit in trust and shall forthwith apply such assets for Church purposes to the most recently written instructions filed with the Trustees by the local unit. If there are no such instructions, then the assets shall be held by the Church for Church purposes. If there are no adult members, same shall continue until a majority of the members are adults.

E. If the Trustees have no communication with a member for more than three years, after written notice to the membership, the Trustees may presume such member to be no longer a member. If, at any time, the Trustees are unable to locate any member of a local unit, the Trustees may assume control of the assets of that local unit to protect and maintain same for such local unit.

F. A local unit may make agreements with Elders or communicant and members of the local unit regarding assets and participation in the local unit. Such written agreements filed with the Trustees shall be honored by the Church.

## III. The Trustees.

A. The Congregation shall, at least yearly, by Action, appoint

# LCC Documents

Libertarian Congregational Church By-Laws and Rules

-3-

three Trustees, at least one male and one female, who shall be Elders, and who are hereby authorized to govern and act for the Church under these By-Laws, the Rules of the Church and the Actions of the Congregation.

B. (1) The Trustees shall maintain the accounts of the Church and oversee the accounts of the local units. (2) The Trustees shall expend the funds of the Church (but the funds of the local units are separate from the funds of the Church and under the control of the respective local unit) pursuant to general and special appropriations of the Congregation (in the form of Actions), and may expend the funds of the Church to carry out Actions of the Congregation, the By-Laws and the Rules of the Church, even where same do not specifically authorize appropriations. (3) The Trustees may incorporate under Title 16 of the Laws of New Jersey and adopt 26 U.S.C. 501(c)(3) limiting language therein.

C. The Trustees shall each serve yearly terms, unless reappointed, and until successors are appointed.

D. The Trustees may act only by the written consent of all of the Trustees, but a single Trustee may execute a duly approved writing evidencing such consent.

E. The Trustees shall have full and absolute power, control and authority over the property of the Church and the trust property of the Church held by them at any time hereunder to the same extent as if the Trustees were the sole owners of such property in their own right, and subject only to the limitations expressly stated in these By-Laws. These powers of the Church shall include, but not be limited to or by the powers expressed herein and following: (1) to purchase or otherwise acquire real property, and to conserve or improve, or to sell, exchange, lease, mortgage, grant easements, pledge, or in any manner dispose of, encluber, improve, or deal with the property or trust property of the Church (subject to By-Law II.C) or any part thereof or any interest therein, upon such terms and for such consideration as they deem proper. (2) to incur indebtedness, borrow, or lend money with or without security; enter into contracts of all kinds; execute, accept, discount, negotiate and deal in commercial paper and evidences of indebtedness; and execute conveyances, mortgages, security agreements, leases, and any other instruments; (3) to compromise or settle any suits, claims, or demands, or waive any rights relating to the property or trust property of the Church; (4) to employ officers, agents, attorneys, ministers and servants, paying same reasonable fees, salaries, allowances and expenses as well as paying their own proper expenses; and (5) to sue and be sued and prosecute and defend any and all actions affecting the Church or its property or its trust property.

F. A written consent of the Trustees authorizing a particular act shall be conclusive evidence in favor of strangers to the Church or to the trust that such act is within the powers of the Trustees. No purchaser from the Trustees shall be bound to see to the application of the money or other consideration paid by the purchaser to the Trustees.

8

# LCC Documents

## Libertarian Congregational Church By-Laws and Rules

G. The Trustees shall not be personally liable for any error of judgment or for any loss arising out of any act or omission in the execution of any of the powers conferred by this agreement, so long as they act in good faith. No Trustee shall be personally liable for the acts or omissions of any person appointed by them to assist in the execution of their trust. All persons dealing with the Trustees shall look only to the Church for the payment of their claims, and every instrument to which the Trustees shall be parties or on account of which any liability may be chargeable against the property or the trust property of the Church shall in substance so provide.

H. Each Trustee shall be indemnified by and receive reimbursement from the Church against and from any and all loss, liability, expense, or damage arising out of any action or omission to act as a Trustee hereunder, except to the extent that such loss liability, expense, or damage shall result from such Trustee's own willful misconduct.

I. The Church is not responsible for the debts or obligations of the local units and auxiliaries. The local units and auxiliaries are not responsible for each other's debts and obligations or those of the Church.

### IV. The Theses of Doctrine.

A. The Spirit of Life animates all Matter/Energy/Time/Space in Truth, Freedom, Joy and Salvation.

B. Each person is a Unique Being capable of pure animation by the Spirit of Life.

C. All actions animated by the Spirit of Life are Good, and all actions which oppose the Spirit are Evil.

D. Only acts of coercion, by denying the Uniqueness of each Person, can oppose the Spirit of Life, which is spontaneous and free.

E. The World of Man has ever been grounded in the coercion of one Person by Another.

F. Only by Retreat from the World of Man can a Person attain pure animation by the Spirit of Life.

G. The Church is a strong wall of Protection from the World of Man and only under its authority can a Person attain Truth, Freedom, Joy and Salvation, in Retreat from the World of Man and Authority.

H. The Church is the instrument of Salvation and it protects each Retreat in Trust for each Local Unit.

I. Pure animation by the Spirit of Life is Illumination on the Highest Level. Thus the earthly goal of the Free is Higher Consciousness, and the Book of Illuminations teaches a Way thereto.

# LCC Documents

## Libertarian Congregational Church By-Laws and Rules

-5-

J. The attainment of Enlightenment, or Illumination, is an arduous task and requires Retreat and Discipline. Thus it is necessary that the Mind/Body Complex be preserved and enhanced.

K. The prolongation and enhancement of Physical Life is an approach to pure animation by the Spirit of Life and a worship thereof: thus Enlightenment and Longevity are positive religious Goods among the Free.

### V. Excommunication.

A. Any Elder or communicant accused by an Elder of (a) not practicing the Doctrine, (b) not abiding by an arbitration decision, or (c) committing an act of aggression, shall be brought to Trial before the Congregation.

B. The Trustees shall make a good faith effort to notify all Elders and the accused of such trial at least one week prior to its occurrence, which shall be at least two weeks and not more than four weeks from such time as the accusation is presented to one of the Trustees.

C. (1) By action at such Trial (with the accused and accuser(s) not taking part in the decision) the accused may be excommunicated.  
(2) The Congregation may also take some lesser Action at such Trial.  
(3) Upon excommunication, the accused shall cease to be an Elder or member, but excommunication shall not effect membership in a local unit without its consent.

### VI. The Ministry and the Prophets

A. The Ministry conducts the Rite of Life. It ministers to the spiritual needs of Elders, members, communicants, or other persons in need of spiritual advice, teaching and assistance.

B. The Congregation, by Action when moved by the Spirit, may ordain any Elder as a Minister.

C. Each Minister shall have all the rights and privileges of the Ministry under these By-Laws, the Rules, and the secular law; only a Minister may conduct the Rite of Life.

D. The Congregation, by Action when moved by the Spirit, may ordain any Minister a High Priest or High Priestess. Only such person may conduct the Secret Rite.

E. (1) The Congregation, by Action, when moved by the Spirit, may ordain any Minister as Prophet or Prophetess. Such persons shall constitute a Council of Prophets which shall act solely by unanimous consent of its constituents under its own Rules (consistent with these By-Laws), and the Church, Elders, members, communicant members, the Congregation and the local units shall heed the interpretation of the

10

# LCC Documents

Libertarian Congregational Church By-Laws and Rules

-6-

Doctrine by the Council of Prophets. The Council is the highest organ of the Ministry and shall direct the Ministry as ecclesiastic supervisor thereof.

F. The Trustees shall issue appropriate Certificates as evidence of ordination.

G. Excommunication may work a withdrawal of ordination.

## VII. Amendments, Rules and Arbitration.

A. These By-Laws may only be amended by the written consent of the Trustees and the Congregation; and to amend By-Law II, the written consent of each local unit shall also be required.

B. The Trustees may create and amend Rules not inconsistent with the Certificate of Incorporation and these By-Laws for the governance of the Church (and shall therein set forth any formal requirements of the secular law). Such rules shall become effective upon the consent of the Congregation.

C. Any dispute between or among members of the Congregation, local units, any organ of the Church and/or communicant members arising from any matter whatsoever, including the meanings of the By-Laws or Rules, or Rules of any local unit or organ of the Church shall be settled by Arbitration as provided herein.

D. These By-Laws were duly adopted by the Congregation at a meeting called in accordance with the secular law.

## VIII. The Church Auxilliarities.

Church auxilliarities may be established for proper purposes; to further Spritual knowledge and lessen dependance upon the Society of Man. The Trustees may establish such financially autonomous church cooperatives, credit unions, educational institutions, research institutions or other auxilliarities, which may be Church-wide, or identified with specific local units of the Church. Such establishment shall be subject to approval by Action of the Congregation.

## IX. Property Held by Local Units.

Nothing contained in these By-Laws shall preclude a local unit from owning assets directly, and not as property held in trust for it by the Church. This By-Law may not be amended except with the specific consent of each local unit.

## X. Severance.

A local unit may be severed from the Church (1) by agreement

11

# LCC Documents

between it and the Church; (2) by unilateral act of secession approved in writing by three-quarters of the Elders of the local unit; or (3) by expulsion after Trial. The Trial shall proceed under the provisions of By-Law V. If the Congregation (other than members of the local unit on trial) find, and confirm in writing, that a member of the local unit committed an act of aggression with the consent of the members of the local unit, or they concealed or condoned such act, then the local unit may be expelled from the Church. Within thirty days of severance by any method aforesaid, the Trustees shall convey to the severed local unit, all assets held for it and the local unit shall cease to be associated with the Church and shall not use the Church name. This provision shall also apply in the case of a violation of By-Law I(c)(2).

## XI. Delegation of Powers.

By an Action of the entire congregation, the Congregation may delegate any of its authority or powers, except as hereinafter provided, to the Trustees acting unanimously. The Trustees shall regularly report to the members on their exercise of such authority or powers. The Congregation may not delegate its authority and powers under By-Laws I.C., III.A., V., VII., X., and XI. The Congregation may also exercise delegated authority and powers.

## XII. ACTIVITIES

(1) The Church and its organs, local units and auxiliaries may engage in religious, charitable, educational, literary and scientific research activities.

(2) A. The Church supports research and scholarship in certain specific areas relevant to its religious beliefs; and may offer guidance and assistance, financial or otherwise, therefore, to members, communicants, cooperatives or other Church-related auxiliaries engaging therein.

B. These areas of religious scholarly interest include: Psionics, Higher Consciousness, Comparative Religion, Magick and Alchemy, Alternative Living Environments, Life Extension, and Futurism.

(3) Appropriate activities include: Research, Seminars, Lectures, Publication of Articles, etc., Cooperatives, and projects aimed at disseminating information to an interested public.

## XIII. The Church Funds and Council of Elders

A. All Church auxiliaries or bodies (excluding local units) shall contribute 1% of annual net income to the Church. All dues, funds or things of value contributed to the Church shall be held by the Trustees pursuant to the By-Laws, and the annual surplus, to be denoted the Church Fund, shall be invested and reinvested under the guidance and instructions of the Council of Elders.

# LCC Documents

Libertarian Congregational Church By-Laws and Rules

-5-

B. The Church Provident Fund, to be held by the Trustees pursuant to the By-Laws, and invested and reinvested under the guidance and instructions of the Council of Elders, consisting of voluntary contributions, allocated to the contributor's local congregational fund pursuant to By-Law XV, is established to enable the local congregations to meet their obligations under said By-Law XV. The Council shall adopt Rules for the Fund.

C. The Council consists of each local congregation Pastor or Delegate appointed in writing, and the Trustees (as trustees) shall be non-voting members thereof. The Council shall act by consensus, and failing same, by absolute majority. It may adopt its own Rules not inconsistent with the By-Laws. The Council may act at meetings under its Rules, or in writing. The Council may act for the Congregation of Elders in an emergency, at the request of the Trustees, and shall have such further authority as may be granted by the Congregation of Elders by By-Law or Rule.

#### XIV. The Confessional

Whenever two or more members or communicant members communicate together, there is the Confessional, for all are one in the Spirit of Life, and that which they communicate is inviolate and privileged: never may they be compelled to divulge same to any authority or tribunal, save the Congregation.

#### XV. Retreat from the Evils of the World

The Church, auxiliaries and local units shall Retreat from the evils of the world, pursuant to the Doctrine of the Church. The relationship between the Church, its auxiliaries and local units, and organizations of coercion is that of rational non-intercourse. For all purposes, other than the convenience of record keeping and the procuring of exemptions or other protection from organized coercion, neither the Church, auxiliaries, local units, nor its members, may cooperate with, or receive net benefits from, organized, or an coercion. This policy of non-intercourse extends to all forms of reliance on future activities of organized coercion, such as compulsory public insurance, welfare or other governmental programs which replace the familial and philanthropic spirit of humankind. Each local unit of the Church, as a matter of conscience moved by the Spirit of Life, is charged with the duty of meeting these familial and philanthropic needs of its members.

#### XVI. Required Records

The Church, local congregations and auxiliaries shall maintain the following accounts and records.

A. CHURCH: (1) checking account with ledger for Church expenditures and receipts, (2) interest bearing account(s) for the

13

# LCC Documents

Libertarian Congregational Church By-Laws and Rules

-9-

Church Funds, or other record of investment.

B. LOCAL CONGREGATIONS: (1) Annual Report, (2) a ledger of expenditures and receipts, (3) a statement of assets and liabilities.

C. AUXILIARIES: (1) Annual Report, (2) an account with ledger for all expenditures and receipts, (3) a statement of assets and liabilities, (4) all required governmental tax records and reports.

Items A(1), (2), B(1), C(1) and (4) are open to inspection by any Church Elder. The other items shall be made available for review upon request of the Board of Trustees or Council of Elders.

## XVII. Purchase of Real Property

No local unit, cooperative, auxiliary or other branch of the Church shall purchase or otherwise acquire real property without the approval of the Council or Congregation of Elders, which approval shall not be unreasonably withheld.

## XVIII. Address for Process

For the purpose of service of legal process and keeping of Church records, the office of the Church shall be c/o Ralph Fucetola, attorney at law, ~~23 River Road, North Arlington, New Jersey 07032.~~  
53 HILL ST. MORRISTOWN NJ. 07960

## XIX. Arbitration

(1) Arbitration pursuant to the By-Laws shall be under the Rules and auspices of the American Arbitration Association or other agreeable arbitrator(s) including the Independent Arbitration Group. (2) Arbitration shall be under libertarian law which is based on the axiom of non-aggression against non-aggressors.

## XX. Temporary Temple

The Temporary Temple of the Church shall be at the temporary abode of the First Congregation and the permanent Temple shall be as determined by the Congregation of Elders.

## XXI. Rite of Life and Other Rituals

A. (1) The Rite of Life may only be held by the Congregation or local unit under its Rules, and shall be led by a Minister;

(2) The Rite may only be held in the Temple or meeting-place of a local unit;

(3) The Rite shall consist of Greeting, Exalted Conversation, Meditation, the Secret Rite, the Circle of Light, and Departure;

(4) only members may be present at the Secret Rite;

(5) the Secret Rite shall not be written and no member or communicant member shall divulge its contents to a non-member.

B. The Ministers of the Church are authorized to perform such

14



# LCC Documents

Libertarian Congregational Church By-Laws and Rules -10-

religious rituals and ceremonies as may be appropriate. The Rites of the Church include (1) Rite of Life; (2) Namings of infants or new members; (3) Marriage; (4) Healing and (5) Remembrance. The Council of Prophets shall guide the forms thereof.

## XXII. Proselytizing

Proselytizing shall be undertaken in regard to any particular person only upon the consent of the Congregation or Trustees.

## XXIII. Officers

(1) The Trustees shall appoint, yearly, from among themselves, a Chairperson of the Board of Trustees, who shall act as chairperson of the Board and of the Church; (2) the trustees shall appoint, yearly, from among themselves, a Secretary-Treasurer for the Board and for the Church; (3) the Trustees may appoint, and remove, such other officials for the Board and/or for the Church as they may deem necessary; such officials, assigning such function as they deem necessary; such officials may include vice-chairpersons, assistant secretaries, assistant treasurers, counsel, advisors, directors and other officials assigning such functions as they deem appropriate; (4) the Trustees may delegate any of the authority or power of the Board to any member thereof.

## XXIV. Compeers

Whenever moved by the Spirit, any member may propose that any person be declared a COMPEER OF THE SPIRIT OF LIFE. Compeers are those, who by their lives, embodied the principal of Freedom which is the essence of the Spirit. Such persons may be made Compeers by Action of the Congregation.

## XXV. Local Reports

Each local unit and auxilliary of the Church shall report yearly, on a form to be supplied by the Church: (1) date of report; (2) name; address; (3) total assets directly held; (4) total assets held by Church in trust; (5) total donations; (6) total capital gains; (7) total other income; (8) total disbursements. The report is to be certified true by the Deacon or Director.

## XXVI. Rule of September 18, 1976

The Congregation, acting under By-Law XII, delegates its authority and powers under By-Laws I-D, II-B, VI-B, VII-A, VII and IX to the Trustees.

15

# LCC Documents

## XXVII. The Annual Festivals

A. There shall be four annual festivals for the Church, these being the annual Equinoxes and Solstices. They shall be celebrated with joy, food, drink, all delightful diverse things, and the Rite of Life.

B. There is hereby established a Church auxiliary to be known as the Annual Festivals Committee, consisting of a Director and two Assistant Directors, appointed by the Director, all of whom must be Elders, members, or communicant members. The Committee is allotted an annual budget of twice one local unit dues, from the Church Fund, for the Festivals, and may collect donations and participant reimbursement to carry-on its functions. The Committee shall arrange for, and notify the local units of, the Festivals and such further gatherings as may seem joyful, and shall carry-on its functions under the general directions of the Trustees.

## XXVIII. Church Chapel

A. The Trustees may incorporate a church corporation to hold title to the Church Chapel and for religious, educational and charitable purposes, when a chapel is obtained.

B. The Trustees of the Church shall be Trustees of the Chapel and the Elders of the Church shall be the Elders of the Chapel. The Trustees shall have full authority to govern the Chapel pursuant to the By-Laws and Rules of the Church, upon the advise and consensus of the Elders.

C. The Chapel shall be the main location and address of the Church, and shall be the Temple of the Church for the time being.

## XXIX. Meetings

The Council of Elders shall meet on the first Sunday of each month at the Temple (or at such other location as the Trustees may determine) or in an emergency, and the Trustees may convene meetings of such other Church bodies thereat as may be appropriate.

## XXX. Association

The Trustees may provide for membership by the Church in appropriate church associations.

## XXXI. Forms of Membership

The By-Laws provide for three forms of association with the Church: (A) Elder Membership in the Church, which may be conferred

# LCC Documents

by the Congregation or the Trustees and may be ended by voluntary withdrawal or excommunication by trial before the Congregation; (B) Membership in the Church which may be conferred by the Congregations or the Trustees and may be ended by voluntary withdrawal or excommunication by trial before the Congregations; and (C) Communicant Membership in a Local Congregation, which may be conferred by the Local Congregation and may be ended by voluntary withdrawal, dismissal pursuant to the local rules or excommunication by trial before the Congregation.

## XXXII. Order of Liberty

A. There is established, as an integrated church auxiliary, the Church teaching, directing, and chivalric order, the Order of Liberty, under the direction of the Chief Prophet. Within the Order there shall be established, under the direction of the High Priestess, two ad hoc auxiliaries, the Children of Eris and Bacchus, to lead the Fellowship of the Feasts. Within the Order there shall also be the ad hoc People of Apollo, directed by the High Priests, to guide the spiritual Quests of the Knighthood of the Free.

B. CREDO is established under the Order of Liberty and the direction of the Chief Prophet. It may publish a church bulletin, manual and syllabus of libertarian works. It shall oversee the continuing education of the ministry and members and may issue honorary or earned degrees in the spiritual sciences as may be appropriate in each case.

## XXXIII. Auxiliaries Established

A. The following integrated auxiliaries have been heretofore established pursuant to By-Law VIII or are hereby established:

1. LCC Supplement Cooperative
2. Endless Horizons (LCC#2)
3. Annual Festivals Committee
4. Leopold Memorial Chapel & Institute (LCC#12)
5. Continuing Religious Educational Development Office (CREDO)
6. Visual Order (LCC#15)
7. Order of Liberty
8. Earthbridge (LCC#4)

B. Each auxiliary shall be coordinated by a Director under the supervision of the Trustees. The Director is appointed and removable, for cause, by the Congregation (or in the case of auxiliaries associated with specific local congregations, by that local congregation). The auxiliary shall strictly adhere to the requirements of the secular law, the Rules, By-Laws, Certificate of Incorporation, and any Charter or Action establishing the auxiliary. The Council of Elders may review the Work of the auxiliary and make recommendations upon its Progress.

## XXXIV. Alternate Living Environments

# LCC Documents

Libertarian Congregational Church By-Laws and Rules

-13-

The term "Alternate Living Environments" as used in By-Law XII shall be understood to include natural nutrition and nutrition supplements; holistic healing; renewable energy and alternate informational sources; cooperative living arrangements; alternate natural, self-sufficient dwellings and Retreats; and alternate freeschool education.

## XXXIV STUDENT MINISTRY AND DEGREES (LCC By-Laws)

A. There is hereby established a full-time Student Ministry Program as part of CREDD. The Program shall consist of two stages, and the requirements thereof shall be established by the Director of CREDD upon consultation with the Council of Prophets, but any Program requirement may be modified in the case of a particular student, by the Director, with the approval of the Council.

B. The first stage is the Preparatory Student Deaconate: ages 15-18; regular full-time school or equivalent, plus Student Syllabus. The child of any communicant or member shall qualify upon approval by any Local Congregation Pastor, or the Director.

C. The Graduate Student Ministry is the second stage. A Student Deacon is admitted to this stage upon the recommendation of the Director or any LCC Minister and approval of the Council of Prophets. A Student Minister is a commissioned Minister (as distinguished from an ordained Minister) with the full authority of a minister, except the authority to conduct the Rituals specified in By-Law XXXI (B); each shall take an Oath to be a Faithful Student Minister and not bear arms except in personal self-defense, so long as participation in the Program shall be his/her true will. The special ministry of such Student Ministers is with students and other young people. The Church or local congregations, as moved by the Spirit of Life, shall provide for the Student Ministry. This stage covers ages 18 - 35 (but may end earlier) and requires full-time education at an institution approved by the Director, or its equivalent, plus the Ministers' Syllabus. There are annual examinations.

D. Any dispute regarding the Program will be determined by the Church Trustees (with appeal to the Congregation of Elders) upon the request of the Student, Director or other interested party.

E. Upon completion of either stage, after oral or written examination by the Director and any other Minister, CREDD shall issue an appropriate Certificate, for an Associate or Bachelor of Religious Science, with Distinction, as may be appropriate. CREDD may also issue Doctorates of Religious Science to High Priests/esses and Prophets who are generally familiar with the Ministers' Syllabus and manifest True Understanding.

F. A Student Minister who completes the examination shall be presented to the Congregation of Elders, or the Trustees, for ordination as a Minister.

## XXXV HIGHER DEGREES OF THE CLERGY

A. High Priest/esses are generally called from among the Ministers who are trained spiritual, physical, psychological or psychic healers, or potentizers, whose abilities may be made available to others.

B. Prophets are Ministers who the Congregation of Elders especially trusts to guard the Church, the Doctrine, the good order of the Ministry, spiritual Guests and the Student and Ministers' Syllabuses.

Approved 12/22/81 by the Congregation of Elders.

# Additions to the ByLaws

- **By Law XXXVI: Vaccine Injunction (12.23.2002)**

<http://www.lifespirt.org/Religious-Injunction-Against-Vaccination.htm>

- **Religious Injunction: Obligations of Communicants and Instructions to Parents**
- **Based upon the consensus of the ministers and elders, this Statement of Doctrine and Religious Injunction is posted on the Church web site, [www.lifespirt.org](http://www.lifespirt.org), as a Church By-Law for downloading by all believers and communicants who are hereby authorized to present same to school or other authorities as the basis for our religious objection to any vaccination or other abominations that violates our Belief in the sacred nature of the Person, by including any of the spiritually objectionable substances, or by being administered in violation of the Religious Injunction set forth herein.**
- **Parents are enjoined to object to vaccination upon the ground that the proposed immunization interferes with the free exercise of the pupil's religious rights and that the administration of vaccination or other abomination interferes with religious belief and exercise, violating the Expressive Association of the communicants.**

# Additions to the By Laws

## **By Law XXXVII**

### **Appointment of Successor Ministers**

Each local unit, and each minister or minister practitioner, is authorized to propose specific communicant(s) as successor(s), in writing, to the Trustees. The Trustees shall approve and, if necessary, ordain such successors upon a reasonable showing of qualification. Such approval shall not be unreasonably withheld or delayed and, when appropriate, qualification training shall be made available.

Adopted at Pastors' Meeting, 11.13.2013

# LCC Documents

## End of Fundamental Documents



[www.LifeSpirit.org](http://www.LifeSpirit.org)