

BYLAWS
of the
WESTCHESTER CHINESE CHRISTIAN FELLOWSHIP

Article I. Our Name

The name of this church is the “Westchester Chinese Christian Fellowship”, *which is organized exclusively for religious purpose under section 501 (c) (3) of the Internal Revenue Code, or corresponding section of any future federal tax code (Amended Sep. 2005).*

Article II. Affirmations of Our Faith

(1) Given to us by our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ,

“⁹After this manner therefore pray ye:

Our Father which art in heaven, Hallowed be thy name.

¹⁰**Thy kingdom come, Thy will be done in earth, as it is in heaven.**

¹¹**Give us this day our daily bread.**

¹²**And forgive us our debts, as we forgive our debtors.**

¹³**And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil:**

For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, for ever.

Amen.”

[Matthew 6:9-13, KJV]

(2) Revealed to the Apostle Paul, and passed to us through the letter to the Romans, *(We are also)* “¹... **called to be an apostle and set apart for the gospel of God--** ²**the gospel he promised beforehand through his prophets in the Holy Scriptures** ³**regarding his Son, who as to his human nature was a descendant of David,** ⁴**and who through the Spirit of holiness was declared with power to be the Son of God by his resurrection from the dead: Jesus Christ our Lord.** ⁵**Through him and for his name's sake, we received grace and apostleship to call people from among all the Gentiles to the obedience that comes from faith.** ⁶**And you also are among those who are called to belong to Jesus Christ.”**

[Romans 1:1-6, NIV]

(3) From the letter to the Ephesians,

(We believe that) “⁴**There is one body and one Spirit – just as** *(we)* **were called to one hope when** *(we)* **were called –** ⁵**one Lord, one faith, one baptism;** ⁶**one God and Father of all, who is over all and through all and in all.”** [Ephesians 4:4-6, NIV]

(4) From the second letter to Timothy,

(We believe that) “¹⁶**All Scripture is God-breathed and is useful for teaching, rebuking, correcting and training in righteousness,** ¹⁷**so that the man of God may be thoroughly equipped for every good work.”**

[II Timothy 3:16-17, NIV]

(5) This affirmation, commonly known as the Apostles' Creed:
"I believe in God the Father Almighty, maker of heaven and earth; And in Jesus Christ his only Son, our Lord; who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, dead, and buried; He descended into hades; the third day He rose again from the dead; He ascended into heaven, and sitteth on the right hand of God the Father Almighty; from thence He shall come to judge the quick and the dead. I believe in the Holy Spirit; the holy Christian church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen."

Article III. Church Governance

(1) In His service, "¹⁵... **speaking the truth in love, we will in all things grow up into him who is the Head, that is, Christ.** ¹⁶**From him the whole body, joined and held together by every supporting ligament, grows and builds itself up in love, as each part does its work.**" [Ephesians 4:15-16 NIV]

(2) All church related businesses will be discussed at the co-workers' meeting.

(3) All Christians, who agree with the "Affirmations of Our Faith" of this church, and have worshiped and partaken in the Holy Communion with this church, may join the discussion at the co-workers' meeting.

(4) The co-workers' meeting will reach all decisions by consensus among those attending, as guided by the Holy Spirit.

(5) The co-workers' meeting will be held once a month, more frequently when necessary.

(6) The co-workers' meeting will appoint one or more persons to be the church Secretary / Treasurer.

(7) The church Secretary / Treasurer (together, if more than one person) will represent the church in all legal and/or financial transactions.

(8) *Upon the dissolution of this church, assets shall be distributed for one or more exempt purposes within the meaning of section 501 (c) (3) of the Internal Revenue Code, or corresponding section of any future federal tax code, or shall be distributed to the federal government, or to a state or local government, for a public purpose. (Amended Sep. 2005).*

Article IV. Procedure for Amendments

- (1) All proposed changes or amendments to this bylaw shall be discussed at the monthly co-workers' meeting.
- (2) All proposed changes or amendments to this bylaw shall be adopted after three consecutive monthly co-workers' meetings, when no additional changes are made in the new text.

Adopted on April 18, 2004
Amended on September 11, 2005
Amended on _____