

APOSTOLIC LUTHERAN MISSIONARY ASSOCIATION

ARTICLES OF ASSOCIATION AND BY – LAWS

1999 REVISED in 2005, 2014 and 2022

“And He said unto them, ‘Let us go into the next towns, that I may preach there also; for therefore came I forth.’” Mark 1:38

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ARTICLES OF ASSOCIATION OF THE APOSTOLIC LUTHERAN MISSIONARY ASSOCIATION

We the undersigned, desiring to become incorporated under the provisions of Act No. 84 P.A. 1921, do hereby make, execute and adopt the following, to wit:

First. The name or title by which this corporation is to be known in the law is: APOSTOLIC LUTHERAN MISSIONARY ASSOCIATION.

Second. The principal office or place of business shall be the residence of its CHAIRMAN and/or SECRETARY.

Third. The time of existence of this corporation shall be from February 25, 1926, indefinitely.

Fourth. This corporation shall proceed under Section two, Chapter One of the above-named Act.

Fifth. Its purposes for which it is formed are as follows: To establish missions and libraries; to provide ministers and preachers; to build churches, schools, meeting houses and hospitals; to buy, sell, rent and control real estate as well as chattels and to make loans secured by mortgages, notes or other collateral.

Sixth. The Apostolic Lutheran Missionary Association confesses that living Christian faith which is founded on the Holy Word of God in the Prophetic, Evangelic and Apostolic books of the Old and New Testament in which Jesus Christ is the Chief Cornerstone and which faith is also expressed in the

Three Creeds of the early Christian Church (the Apostolic, the Nicene and the Athanasian) and in the unaltered Augsburg Confessions, (those parts) which are in agreement with the Holy Bible and uphold the confession of true faith and love as the highest law and the Holy Word of God the only guideline to be applied in examining and judging its doctrine.

Seventh. The Apostolic Lutheran Missionary Association serves at the pleasure of the Federation of the Apostolic Lutheran Church of America. Its trustees must be approved at the annual meeting and its action as well as conduct are subject to the Federation.

Eighth. These articles made this 13th day of February, 1926 A.D. in Houghton County, State of Michigan, duly recorded in the Department of State February 25, 1926, and revised and approved by the Corporation at its annual meeting in Laurium, Michigan, on May 20, 1978 and the Federation at Lake Worth, Florida June 29, 1978.

BY-LAWS

ARTICLE ONE - DEFINITION OF MEMBER CONGREGATIONS

1.1 Member congregations consist of believers who have been regenerated by the Grace of God through faith; having repented and believe their sins forgiven through the audible declaration of the forgiveness of sins in the name and blood of the Lord Jesus Christ.

1.2 All member congregations must contribute financial support for the needs of the Mission.

ARTICLE TWO - DUTIES OF MEMBER CONGREGATIONS

2.1 Believers in member congregations shall lead a Christian life based on love and peace, endeavoring to encourage one another to continue in Faith, diligently and prayerfully promote the Word of God and attend services in their congregation.

2.2 Member congregations shall, if possible, appoint a delegate from their congregation to attend the annual meeting of the Apostolic Lutheran Missionary Association to give input and direction to the Board of Trustees and to nominate members of the Board.

ARTICLE THREE – BOARD OF TRUSTEES

3.1 The Board of Trustees shall consist of nine members: Three members elected for a three-year term at each annual meeting from among its members as defined in Article One.

3.2 Those accepting nominations to the board shall conform to the instruction of First Timothy, Chapter 3 and Second Timothy, Chapter 2; and agree to attend the majority of Board meetings.

3.3 Shall at the first scheduled meeting after election select from among themselves the following officers: A chairman, vice-chairman, secretary, vice-secretary, treasurer and vice-treasurer to serve for one year. Past officers to serve until new ones installed.

3.4 Chairman shall open all meetings and control as well as conduct them in an orderly fashion; see that all matters to be brought before the Board are decided upon; to see that all concerned are advised of decisions made; to cast a vote in case of a tie and to report all activities of the Mission at the annual meeting.

3.5 Secretary shall record the minutes of all meetings, advise the Board of all Correspondence and answer as the Board directs.

3.6 Treasurer shall record and deposit all receipts and valuable documents; shall pay all expenses promptly when authorized and shall provide financial statements at monthly and annual meetings. All disbursements must be authorized by the signature of the treasurer or vice-treasurer.

3.7 Vice officers shall serve in the absence of officers. Their duties shall be consistent with their corresponding office. In the event both are absent, the Board shall select a temporary officer to fill the post.

3.8 In event of a vacancy, it may be filled by Board appointment until the next election.

3.9 Five members present constitute a quorum.

3.10 Trustees are responsible for all monies and property belonging to the Mission and must account for it.

3.11 A trustee shall be a member of a congregation registered to the Eastern Mission of the Apostolic Lutheran Church of America.

ARTICLE FOUR – MEETINGS

4.1 Trustees shall meet monthly to consider all matters brought before them. The place and date of this monthly meeting to be determined at the previous meeting.

4.2 Special Board meetings to be held if requested by any trustee. Chairman must attempt to notify all members.

4.3 Services will be scheduled in conjunction with the annual meeting. The Eastern Mission Board will be in charge of all arrangements for the annual meeting and services, unless they are held at the annual convention. The Host congregation will provide facilities for services and annual meeting. The Host congregation will be selected for the following year by the delegates.

4.4 Each Congregation of the Missionary Association shall select a delegate to represent its views at the annual meeting to give input to the Board and guidance in formulating policies and actions. A delegate can only represent the congregation of which he is a member. All matters requiring a vote shall be

voted upon by the delegated only. A simple majority shall constitute a mandate.

4.5 The Secretary shall provide an agenda of the annual meeting to each congregation sixty days prior to said meeting, allowing the congregation to advise its delegates.

ARTICLE FIVE - AMENDMENT AND BY-LAWS

5.1 By-laws may be altered or amended by two-thirds majority of the congregations of the Missionary Association.

THE APOSTLES' CREED

The Apostle's Creed can be traced back to the year 100 A.D., only two generations after the Apostles, with this final form in use since the year 700 A.D.

THE APOSTLES' CREED

I believe in God the Father Almighty, Maker of heaven and earth.

I believe in Jesus Christ, His only Son our Lord; who was conceived by the Holy Ghost, born of the Virgin Mary; suffered under Pontius Pilate; was crucified, dead and buried; He descended into hell; the third day He arose 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 ghost; the Holy Christian Church, the Communion of Saints; the Forgiveness of sins; the Resurrection of the Body; and the Life Everlasting. Amen.

THE NICENE CREED

The Nicene Creed was drawn up by the Council of Nicaea. The Council was summoned by the Roman Emperor Constantine, the first Christian Emperor, in the year 325 A.D. at which about 250 Bishops gathered. The original creed underwent only slight changes in the year 360 A.D. and remains much the same today.

THE NICENE CREED

I believe in one God, the Father Almighty, Maker of heaven and earth, and of all things visible and invisible. And in one Lord Jesus Christ, the only begotten Son of God, Begotten of His Father before all worlds, that is of the substance of the Father, Light of Light, very God of very God, begotten not made, being of one substance with the Father; By whom all things were made, both those in heaven and those on earth; who for us men and for our salvation came down from heaven, and was incarnate of the Holy Ghost and the Virgin Mary, and was made man; and was crucified for us under Pontius Pilate, and suffered, and was buried, and rose again the third day according to the Scriptures, and ascended into heaven, and sitteth on the right hand of the Father, and is coming again with glory to judge the quick and the dead; Whose kingdom shall have no end. And in the Holy Ghost, the Lord and Life Giver, who proceedeth from the Father, who with the Father and Son together is worshipped and glorified, who spake by the prophets; In one holy catholic and Apostolic Church. I acknowledge one baptism for the remission of sins. I look for the resurrection of the dead, and the life of the world to come. Amen.

THE ATHANASIAN CREED

This Creed is named after Athanasius (293-373 A.D.). Although Athanasius did not write this Creed and it is improperly named after him, the name persists because until the seventeenth century it was commonly ascribed to him. Its author is unknown, but in its present form it probably does not date back farther than the sixth century. It is Latin Western origin, and is not recognized by the Greek Church today.

THE ATHANASIAN CREED

Whosoever will be saved, before all things it is necessary that he hold the catholic faith; which faith except every one do keep whole and undefiled, without doubt he shall perish everlastingly.

And the catholic faith is this: that we worship one God in Trinity, and Trinity in Unity; neither confounding the persons, nor dividing the substance. For there is one person of the Father, another of the Son, and another of the Holy Spirit. But the Godhead of the Father, of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit is all one, the glory equal, the majesty co-eternal. Such as the Father is, such is the Son, and such is the Holy Spirit. The Father uncreate, the Son uncreate, and the Holy Spirit uncreate. The Father incomprehensible, the Son incomprehensible, and the Holy Spirit incomprehensible. The Father eternal, the Son eternal, and the Holy spirit eternal. As also there are not three uncreated nor three incomprehensibles, but one uncreated and one in comprehensible. So likewise the Father is almighty, the Son almighty, and the Holy Spirit almighty; And yet they are not three almighties, but one almighty. So the Father is God, the Son is God, and the Holy Spirit is God; And yet they are

not three Gods, but one God. So likewise the Father is Lord, the Son Lord, and the Holy Spirit Lord; and yet they are not three Lords, but one Lord.

For like as we are compelled by the Christian verity to acknowledge every person by himself to be God and Lord; so were we forbidden by the catholic religion to say: There are three Gods or three Lords. The Father is made of none, neither created nor begotten. The Son is of the Father alone; not made

nor created, but begotten. The Holy Spirit is of the Father and of the Son; neither made, nor created, nor begotten, but proceeding. So there is one Father, not three Fathers; one Son, not three Sons; one Holy Spirit, not three Holy Spirits. And in this Trinity none is afore, or after another; none is greater, or less than another. But the whole three persons are co-eternal, and co-equal. So that in all things. As aforesaid, the Unity in trinity and the Trinity in Unity is to be worshipped. He therefore that will be saved must thus think of the Trinity.

Furthermore it is necessary to everlasting salvation that he also believe rightly the incarnation of our Lord Jesus Christ. For the right faith is that we believe and confess that our Lord Jesus Christ, the Son of God, is God and man. God of the substance of the Father, begotten before the worlds; and man of the substance of His mother, born in the world. Perfect God and perfect man, of a reasonable soul and human flesh subsisting. Equal to the Father as touching the Godhead, and inferior to the Father as touching His manhood. Who, although He is God and man, yet He is not two, but one Christ. One, not by conversion of the Godhead into flesh, but by taking of the manhood into God. One altogether not by confusion of substance, but by unity of person.

For as the reasonable soul and flesh is one man, so God and man is one Christ; who suffered for our salvation, descended into hell, rose again the third day from the dead; he ascended into heaven, He sitteth on the right hand of the Father God Almighty; from thence He shall come to judge the living and the dead. At whose coming all men shall rise again with their bodies; and shall give account of their own works. And they that have done good shall go into life everlasting, and they that have done evil into everlasting fire.

This is the catholic faith, which except a man believe faithfully, he cannot be saved. Amen.