



CONSTITUTION AND BY-LAWS
THE WORLD MISSION PRAYER LEAGUE
April 29, 2012

Constitution of: The World Mission Prayer League, Incorporated

Article I: NAME AND OFFICE

- (1) The name of the organization shall be THE WORLD MISSION PRAYER LEAGUE, INC., hereinafter also referred to as the League, with its main office in Minneapolis, Minnesota.

Article II: PURPOSE

- (2) The aim and purpose of the World Mission Prayer League shall be:
 - a) To pray that God, “the Lord of the harvest,” would “send out laborers into his harvest” in accordance with the instructions of Jesus to his disciples (see Matthew 9:36-39 and Luke 10:2).
 - b) To establish a praying community of concerned people who will intercede faithfully for the work of the League around the world.
 - c) To serve as an agency for sending missionary workers who through evangelism, service programs and other suitable means will minister the Gospel of Jesus Christ and help to develop the church among the people they serve.
 - d) To promote such activities and provide such administrative structures as will serve best to realize the above objectives.

Article III: STATEMENT OF FAITH

- (3) The World Mission Prayer League accepts and acknowledges the canonical books of the Old and New Testaments as the inspired, revealed and true Word of God, and as the only inerrant and completely adequate source and norm of faith and practice. The League also accepts the historic creeds and the confessional books of the evangelical Lutheran church, notably Luther's Small Catechism and the Unaltered Augsburg Confession, as brief but true expositions of the Word of God.

Article IV: MEMBERSHIP

- (4) Persons who indicate their desire to be praying partners and members of the League, and who are enrolled as such, shall be members of the World Mission Prayer League.
- (5) All members of the World Mission Prayer League shall have voting privileges for the election of members of the Mission Council, and for other matters that may arise at the annual and special business meetings of the League.

Article V: ADMINISTRATION

A. World Mission Prayer League

- (6) The League shall meet in a regular annual meeting, or in special meetings as called by the Board of Trustees.

B. Board of Trustees

- (7) The administration and direction of the affairs of the League shall be vested in a Board of Trustees, commonly called the Mission Council, which shall be elected by the League as specified in Bylaws. The Mission Council shall meet at a frequency and manner as specified in Bylaws, and at other times as convened by its President.

C. Executive Committee

- (8) There shall be an Executive Committee, commonly called the Directorate, duly elected by the Mission Council and serving under its instructions. It shall be the responsibility of the Directorate to administer and supervise the activities of the League on behalf of the Mission Council and in accord with its decisions and the Constitution and Bylaws of the League.

Article VI: AMENDMENTS

- (9) This Constitution may be amended at any regular or special meeting of the League by two-thirds of the votes cast. A proposal of any amendment must be submitted in writing to the President of the Board of Trustees who shall notify League members of the proposal at least six weeks prior to such meetings. Any amendment to the Constitution shall not take effect until ratified by the League at its next annual meeting by a two-thirds majority of the votes cast.

Bylaws of: The World Mission Prayer League, Incorporated

Article I: MATTERS OF FAITH

- (1) Members of the Mission Council, missionaries, office staff, representatives and other special workers of the World Mission Prayer League shall normally come from the voting membership of the League and shall concur with the League's Constitution, Bylaws, and Handbook.
- (2) The League's Statement of Faith shall not oblige the League or its workers to limit their fellowship or associations to people or organizations that share the same convictions.

Article II: MEMBERSHIP

- (3) No financial dues or obligations shall be imposed in any way upon the members of the World Mission Prayer League. Membership is based on the simple agreement to faithfully carry the purposes, work and concerns of the League in prayer to God.
- (4) The membership list may be renewed from time to time, as the Mission Council may determine, by asking members to reaffirm their intent to intercede regularly for the work of the League and continue in their membership commitment.
- (5) A member may withdraw from membership at any time. Members who are completely inactive, or who are deemed to be out of sympathy with the goals of the League, may be removed from the membership list.

Article III: ADMINISTRATION

A. World Mission Prayer League

- (6) All members of the League shall be notified of the annual meeting or of special meetings of the League thirty days before such meetings convene.
- (7) The call for a special meeting of the League shall specify the purpose for which it is to be held, and no other business shall be transacted in it.
- (8) The President of the Mission Council shall be the Chairman of the meetings of the League.
- (9) A credentials committee may be appointed by the Chairman at any meeting of the League to approve the eligibility of voters.
- (10) Twenty-five members shall constitute a quorum for the transaction of the business of the League at its annual or special meetings.
- (11) The Council Development Committee shall be the Nominating Committee of the League for the election of the members of the Mission Council, as described in this document.
- (12) The League may relate to partnering missions, churches or other organizations in keeping with resolutions approved by the Mission Council.
- (13) All meetings of the League shall be conducted according to Robert's Revised Rules of Order, except as provided in the League's Handbook.

B. Mission Council

- (14) The Mission Council shall meet four times annually, and at other times as convened by its President. Electronic or email meetings are permitted for one of these regularly scheduled quarterly meetings and for other occasional meetings, upon discretion of the Council's President.
- (15) The Mission Council shall be comprised of no fewer than twelve and no more than twenty-four members, approximately one half of whom shall be lay persons and one half pastors. The Mission Council shall be elected by the League by mail ballot with results to be announced at the annual meeting. Terms shall be of three years with elections being conducted in such a way that approximately one-third of their number be retired and a like number elected each year.
- (16) To provide balance or special expertise, the Mission Council shall have the power to co-opt associate members, who shall have voice and vote, and to appoint emeritus members with voice but no vote. Co-opted members shall be appointed for a regular term of 3 years with rationale for their appointment duly noted in the Council minutes. Reappointment may be made after review of need.
- (17) Council members shall be limited to three consecutive terms of service, being eligible for renomination after one year has elapsed.

- (18) The Mission Council shall organize itself within fourteen days of the League's annual meeting, electing from its members a president, vice-president, secretary and treasurer, who shall serve one year and may be eligible for re-election. The duties of these officers shall be such as usually appertain to these offices.
- (19) For the transaction of business, a majority shall constitute a quorum.
- (20) The duties of the Mission Council shall be:
- a) To exercise general supervision over the activities and affairs of the World Mission Prayer League.
 - b) To arrange the dates and places for and call the annual and special meetings of the League.
 - c) To provide for timely treatment of candidate and missionary applications and changes in missionary status.
 - d) To provide for the receipt, record and disbursement of the League's funds. The Council shall have the authority and powers and be subject to the obligations that pertain to such boards under and by virtue of the laws of the State of Minnesota.
 - e) To provide for the determination of missionary allowances.
 - f) To elect annually the Directorate from among its members and administrative staff.
 - g) To fill vacancies on its own Council and in the Directorate.
 - h) To appoint the General Director for a three-year term, after consultation with the workers of the World Mission Prayer League.

- (21) The Treasurer shall keep proper records of all funds received by the League and shall make all disbursements as directed by the League or its Mission Council. The Treasurer shall render a financial statement to the Mission Council at its regular meetings and a yearly report, properly audited, to the entire League gathered at its annual meeting. The responsibility for the proper discharge of the duties of this office shall rest with the Treasurer, whether performed personally or delegated to others.
- (22) Notice shall be given to members of the Mission Council at least seven days prior to its regular quarterly or special meetings.

C. Directorate

- (23) The Directorate shall be comprised of no fewer than seven and no more than nine members, a majority of whom shall be members of the Mission Council. The Directorate shall consist of the Council's President and/or Vice-president, the Council's Treasurer, the League's General Director, and additional Council and administrative staff as appointed by the Home Council. The Directorate shall meet as frequently as the work of the League requires, as convened by the General Director or the Council's President.

D. Council Development Committee

- (24) The Council Development Committee shall be comprised of the non-staff members of the Directorate, the League's Director, or others as appointed by the Council's President. Its members serve in their appointment for one year; the Director will participate with voice but no vote. The Council Development Committee coordinates the Council's training and improvement in its capacity to govern, primarily through the identification, recruitment, nomination, and orientation of suitable persons to serve as members of the Mission Council. The Committee may also recommend the cooperation of associate members of the Mission Council to provide particular balance or expertise, candidates for filling occasional Council vacancies, and meaningful activities aimed at Council development and growth.

Article IV: FINANCES

- (25) The Mission Council shall not authorize any direct solicitation of funds.
- (26) The Mission Council shall not pledge or guarantee any salary or fixed amount of support or maintenance to any person working within its organization.
- (27) The Mission Council shall faithfully disburse whatever amounts of money are received, according to each donation's designation.

- (28) Each missionary project or team shall faithfully disburse all funds received, in accord with the League's Handbook.
- (29) The World Mission Prayer League and its staff and missionaries shall in principle avoid indebtedness.

Article V: HANDBOOK

- (30) A Handbook of the World Mission Prayer League, consistent with the League's Constitution and Bylaws, shall be adopted by the Mission Council, following consultation with the League's staff and missionaries, to further clarify the objectives and policies, principles and practice of the organization.

Article VI: AMENDMENTS AND ADDITIONS

- (31) These Bylaws may be amended or added to at any regular or special meeting of the World Mission Prayer League by two-thirds of the votes cast. Such an amendment or addition shall go into immediate effect. A proposal of any amendment or addition must be submitted in writing to the President of the Mission Council who shall notify League members of the proposal at least six weeks prior to such meetings.



WORLD
MISSION
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LEAGUE

TRANSFORMING LIVES THROUGH PRAYER

World Mission Prayer League

USA 232 Clifton Avenue, Minneapolis, MN 55403

CANADA 5408 49 Avenue, Camrose, AB T4V 0N7

wmpl.org