

# **AMENDED AND RESTATED CONSTITUTION KING OF KINGS LUTHERAN CHURCH**

*Omaha, Nebraska  
A Nebraska Non-profit Religious Corporation*

## **PREAMBLE**

It is the command of our Lord Jesus Christ that His disciples should preach the Gospel to the whole world (Mark 16:16, Matthew 28:18-20, Acts 1:8). That Christ's command for His church might be carried out according to His will, He has also commanded that Christians unite in worship, preach the Word, study His word, witness to all people, encourage one another in prayer, practice fellowship with one another, help each other grow in the Word, serve the needs of all people in Christian love, and administer the Office of the Keys as His church through the local gathering of His people.

Since the Word of God requires that the church shall conform to His Word in doctrine and practice and that all things be done decently and in order, we, therefore, the members of King of Kings Lutheran Church (formerly, King of Kings Lutheran Church, U.A.C. (Unaltered Augsburg Confession)) accept and subscribe to the following Constitution and Bylaws, in accordance with which all spiritual and material affairs of our congregation shall be governed.

## **ARTICLE I**

The name of this corporation is King of Kings Lutheran Church (formerly, King of Kings Lutheran Church, U.A.C.). This corporation and all of its affiliated legal entities will be further referred to as the "Church." The Church maintains its principal office at 11615I Street, Omaha, Nebraska. The members of the Church may change the principal office from one location to another. Any change of this location shall be recorded by the secretary on these Constitution and Bylaws.

## **ARTICLE II THE PURPOSE**

The purpose of this Church shall be to give honor and glory to the Triune God, to carry out His will, to proclaim the Gospel of Jesus Christ to all the world, to manifest the unity of our faith in Jesus Christ as God and Savior, to foster Christian fellowship and love, to extend a helping hand in human need, and to achieve our objectives by the preaching of the Word of God, by the administration of the sacraments, and by the religious instruction of all its members according to the confessional standard of the Evangelical Lutheran Church. Notwithstanding anything herein to the contrary, the Church is organized and operated exclusively for charitable and religious purposes within the meaning of Section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code.

## **ARTICLE III CONFESSIONAL STANDARD**

This Church acknowledges and accepts all the canonical books of the Old and New Testament as the revealed Word of God, verbally inspired, and acknowledges and accepts all the confessional writings of the Evangelical Lutheran Church contained in the Book of Concord of the year 1580 to be the true and genuine exposition of the doctrines of the Bible. These confessional writings are the three ecumenical creeds (Apostles', Nicene, Athanasian), the Unaltered Augsburg Confession, The Apology of the Augsburg Confession, the Smalcald Articles, Luther's Large and Small Catechisms and the Formula of Concord.

## **ARTICLE IV AFFILIATION**

This Church is autonomous and maintains the right to govern its own affairs. Recognizing the benefit of cooperation with other churches in faith and life, this Church joyfully affiliates itself with The Lutheran Church-Missouri Synod.

## **ARTICLE V MEMBERSHIP**

**Section A: Baptized Members** - Baptized Members in this Church are those persons who have been baptized in the name of the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, and who have been placed under the spiritual care of this Church through the baptism itself, by transfer from another Lutheran congregation, or by joining the congregation from another Christian church.

**Section B: Adult Confirmed Members** - Adult Confirmed Members are those persons in this Church who are at least 18 years old, who trust Jesus Christ as their personal Savior, and who have met the qualifications for membership as listed in Section C of this Article.

### **Section C: Qualifications for Adult Confirmed Membership**

1. A personal faith in Jesus Christ for salvation
2. Christian baptism
3. Completion of a junior or adult confirmation class, transfer from another Lutheran congregation, or a personal profession of faith
4. Agreement with the Church's Confessional standard as stated in Article III.

**Section D: Privileges and Responsibilities of Adult Confirmed Members** - Adult Confirmed Members accept the privilege of membership in this Church and submit themselves to its leadership and discipline. Adult Confirmed Members are expected to live a life which is in agreement with the Holy Scriptures (leading a Christian life and not manifesting works of the flesh...Galatians 5:19-21), and--within the context of a vital relationship with Jesus Christ--agree to be growing through Word and Sacrament in living out the following discipleship goals for members of the Church as they are able and enabled by the Holy Spirit:

1. Acceptance of Jesus Christ as Savior and Lord
2. Bible study attendance
3. Faithful church attendance and participation in Holy Communion
4. Daily prayer and devotional life
5. Evangelistic attitude and action
6. Faithful use of personal spiritual gifts and treasures
7. Godly love expressed through Christian fellowship

Adult Confirmed Members of This Church may not belong to any secret, oath-bound organizations that are in conflict with the Word of God. (Romans 16:17; I Corinthians 5:11-13; I Corinthians 10:19-20; I John 5:21; I Thessalonians 1:9; Acts 14:15; Numbers 25:1-6; Exodus 20:3-5a)

## **ARTICLE VI CALLED CHURCH WORKERS**

The pastoral office of this Church, as well as that of a called teacher or other and Commissioned minister, shall be conferred upon such ministers, teachers, and candidates only as they profess and adhere to the Confessional Standards set forth in Article III of this Constitution and are well qualified for their work. Pastors and teachers shall, in the call extended to and accepted by them, be pledged to this Confessional Standard.

## **ARTICLE VII OFFICERS**

The officers of this Church shall be such officers, boards, and committees as the Bylaws of this Church may prescribe.

## **ARTICLE VIII INDEMNIFICATION**

To the extent permitted by law, except as otherwise provided herein, the Church shall indemnify any individual who is or was a party or is threatened to be made a party to any threatened, pending or completed action, suit or proceeding, whether civil, criminal, administrative or investigative, by reason of the fact that they are or were a Director, officer, pastor, teacher, staff worker, employee or agent of the Church, or are or were serving at the request of the Church as a director, officer, trustee, employee or agent of another corporation, partnership, joint venture or other enterprise or as a trustee, officer, employee or agent of an employee benefit plan, against expenses, including attorney fees, judgments, fines and amounts paid in settlement actually and reasonably incurred by them in connection with such action, suit or proceeding if: (i) the individual conducted themselves in good faith; (ii) the individual reasonably believed (a) in the case of conduct in such person's official capacity, that such person's conduct was in the Church's best interests, and (b) in all other cases, that such person's conduct was at least not opposed to the Church's best interests; and, (iii) with respect to any criminal action or proceeding, the individual had no reasonable cause to believe their conduct was unlawful.

Notwithstanding the foregoing, the Church shall not indemnify any individual (i) in connection with any proceeding by or in the right of the Church in which the individual was adjudged liable to the Church, or (ii) in connection with any other proceeding charging improper personal benefit to the individual, whether or not acting in an official capacity with respect to the Church, in which the individual was adjudged liable on the basis that personal benefit was improperly received.

The indemnity provided for by this Article shall not be deemed to be exclusive of any other rights to which those indemnified may be otherwise entitled, nor shall the provisions of this Article be deemed to prohibit the Church from extending its indemnification to cover other persons or activities to the extent permitted by law or pursuant to any provision in the Articles.

## **ARTICLE IX PROPERTY**

The property of this Church is irrevocably dedicated to religious and charitable purposes and no part of net income or assets of this Church shall ever inure to the benefit of any director, officer, Baptized Member, Adult Confirmed Member, church worker, or to the benefit of any private individual.

## **ARTICLE X DOCTRINAL LITERATURE**

Only such hymns, prayers, and liturgies shall be used in the public services of the Church and in all ministerial acts as conform to the Confessional Standard of Article III. Likewise, in all classes for instruction in Christian doctrine only such books shall be used as conform to this standard.

**ARTICLE XI  
AMENDMENTS TO THE CONSTITUTION**

Amendments to Articles III, VI, X shall not be altered so as to destroy their original meaning.

Amendments to this Constitution and the Bylaws may be adopted at a Voter's meeting provided:

1. They do not conflict with the provisions laid down of Article III or with any other article that pertains to scriptural doctrine and practice;
2. The proposed amendment has been approved by the Board of Lay Ministry;
3. The proposed amendment has been submitted in writing and presented to the Church at a previous Voter's meeting; and
4. The affirmative vote of a two-thirds (2/3) majority of the voting membership present at the Voter's meeting shall be required for the adoption of an amendment.

**ARTICLE XII  
INTERPRETATION**

This Constitution and the Bylaws of the Church shall be interpreted as a single document governing the affairs of the Church. Notwithstanding the foregoing, to the extent of any inconsistency between this Constitution and the Bylaws of the Church, this Constitution shall control.