

CONSTITUTION

ARTICLE I: NAME

This church is called Church In Bethesda.

ARTICLE II: MISSION

Church In Bethesda is a multi-denominational, multicultural, open & inclusive community, connecting our city through spirituality, education, and service.

Our mission is grounded in the example of Jesus, who taught us to love God and to love our neighbors as ourselves.

ARTICLE III: MEMBERSHIP

Persons who keep returning for worship and who, by their continued participation in the life of our community, are committed to its ongoing health and wellbeing are considered church members.

ARTICLE IV: AFFILIATIONS

Church In Bethesda may seek out and maintain relationships with other organizations and collectives that reflect Church In Bethesda's mission.

ARTICLE V: GOVERNANCE

Church In Bethesda will function in manners consistent with its constitution and bylaws.

ARTICLE VI: AMENDMENTS

The constitution and bylaws may be amended by the vote(s) of a two-thirds majority present at a congregational meeting called for that purpose.

ARTICLE VII: DISSOLUTION

In the event of the dissolution of this congregation, all funds and property remaining after all debts have been discharged will be decided by the vote(s) of a two-thirds majority present at a congregational meeting called for that purpose.

BYLAWS

ARTICLE I: THE CONGREGATION

The members of Church In Bethesda shall gather for congregational meetings four times per year to discuss such matters as are expedient and which impact the life of the church as a whole.

ARTICLE II: CLERGY & STAFF

Clergy shall be chosen and called by the church when a vacancy occurs. Clergy shall be appointed by the vote(s) of a two-thirds majority present at a congregational meeting called for that purpose.

Clergy may be terminated by the church should unresolvable disagreements arise. Clergy shall be terminated by the vote(s) of a two-thirds majority present at a congregational meeting called for that purpose.

Support staff shall be chosen by clergy when a vacancy occurs.

Support staff may be terminated by the clergy, with the advice and consent of The Servants Group should unresolvable disagreements arise.

ARTICLE III: THE SERVANTS GROUP

A church council, called "The Servants Group" will meet once per month. The Servants Group will be made up of church members who attend congregational meetings on a regular basis and who desire a deeper involvement in the decision making of the church.

The Servants Group is open to anyone who meets the above qualifications.

The Servants Group will be empowered to make financial decisions on behalf of the church, along with input from the clergy, staff, and congregation.

ARTICLE IV: COMMITTEES

Committees may be formed to pursue such matters as are expedient to various segments and interests of the congregation but may not impact the programming of the church as a whole.

OUR “WATERSHED” STRUCTURE

Our congregation is made up people from many different walks of life, traditions, cultures, and orientations.
These varied backgrounds are all gifts that we each bring to our beloved community.

Our clergy and staff, committees, and The Servants Group, made up of members of the congregation work together and with each other to carry out the mission the church.

