

... By - Laws ...
First
Church of Christ
Scientist
Hoboken, New Jersey

BY-LAWS
OF
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Scientist
OF
HOBOKEN, NEW JERSEY.

BY-LAWS
of
FIRST CHURCH OF CHRIST, SCIENTIST,
HOBOKEN, N. J.

ARTICLE I.

Name.

Section 1. The corporate name of this church is First Church of Christ, Scientist, Hoboken, New Jersey.

ARTICLE II.

Trustees.

Section 1. There shall be a Board of Trustees, composed of nine persons, over twenty-one years of age, who shall be members of this Church.

Section 2. At each Annual Meeting, provided for in Section 1, Article VII., of these By-Laws, there shall be elected three Trustees to hold office for a term of three years. They shall be elected by a plurality of the votes of members and of persons having regularly attended the services and contributed to the financial support of this Church for at least one year. No Trustee shall be eligible for re-election within one year from the time of the expiration of his or her term of office. Any vacancies occurring on the Board shall be filled

for the unexpired term only, in the same manner as above prescribed.

Section 3. The Board of Trustees shall have general control of the finances and property interests of this Church; shall determine all salaries; shall approve all bills and have general supervision over all moneys collected for regular expenses or special purposes; shall have power to purchase, with the approval of the congregation, and hold in trust for the use and benefit of the church, such property interests as it may be lawful for the church to enjoy. It shall also be the duty of the Board to arrange all matters to be brought before the Church meetings.

Section 4. The Board of Trustees shall further have general control of the spiritual affairs of the Church and decide upon the eligibility of all applicants for Church membership; shall admonish any member who shall be found living contrary to the Church tenets and by-laws, and, if necessary, remove said member from the Church roll; shall decide upon the eligibility of all applicants for reinstatement who have been heretofore dropped from church membership.

Section 5. It shall be the duty of the Board of Trustees to appoint substitute Readers, who, in case of the absence of the regular Readers, shall perform their respective duties. In the event of the absence of said substitutes, the regular Reader may appoint his or her own substitute.

The qualifications of the substitute must conform to the By-Laws of The Mother Church relating to Readers.

Section 6. The Board of Trustees shall have general supervision of the public reading rooms and Sunday School connected with the Church.

Section 7. It shall be the duty of the Board of Trustees at their annual meeting to appoint officers and teachers for the Sunday School, a soloist and an organist for the Church, a Librarian, a Building Committee, an Auditing Committee, and such other committees, et cetera, as may be deemed necessary; also a suitable number of ushers. The term of all such offices shall be one year and subject to reappointment.

ARTICLE III.

Officers.

Section 1. The officers of this Church shall consist of Nine Trustees, a First Reader, a Second Reader, and a Superintendent of Sunday School.

Section 2. The Trustees shall elect annually one of its members to be President, who is hereby empowered to convene this Church as occasion may require, and to execute all contracts approved by the Board of Trustees.

Section 3. The Trustees shall also elect annually one of its members to be Vice-President.

Section 4. The Trustees shall elect annually one of its members to be Clerk, who shall keep the

minutes and enter the orders, acts and proceedings in a book to be kept for that purpose, and who shall have the custody of the common seal and of the papers, deeds, writings, minutes, documents and books of, or belonging to, this Church, and upon the resignation or removal or expiration of the office of the Clerk, or the election of a new one, the common seal and all minutes, papers, deeds, writings, documents and books shall be delivered to his successor in office.

Section 5. It shall also be the duty of the Clerk to attend all meetings of the Church and Board of Trustees; to keep a record of the business transactions; to conduct the correspondence of the Church; to receive all applications for membership; to issue letters of dismissal upon the order of the Board of Trustees; to keep a roll of the members of the Church, and to call all meetings in accordance with these By-Laws.

Section 6. The Trustees shall elect annually one of its members to be Treasurer, who shall have charge of the moneys of this Church and keep a correct account of the receipts and disbursements of the same, and at each annual election of officers of this Church render a true statement in writing of the receipts and disbursements of said Church for preceding year. No disbursements shall be made without the authority of the Board of Trustees. Upon the resignation or removal of the

Treasurer, or election of a new one, all books and documents pertaining to his office shall be delivered to his successor.

Section 7. In the event of vacancies in the office of President, Vice-President, Treasurer or Clerk, the same shall be filled by the Board of Trustees from its members.

Section 8. All officers of this Church shall hold office until their successors are elected.

ARTICLE IV.

Ministerial Officers.

Section 1. Ministerial officers of this Church shall consist of a First Reader and a Second Reader, and of such other ministerial officers as the Board of Trustees shall from time to time designate and appoint.

Section 2. The Readers shall be members of this Church and of The Mother Church. They shall live in strict accordance with the rules and principles of Christian Science and obey the By-Laws of this Church and the Eighty-ninth Edition of the Manual of The Mother Church.

Section 3. The First Reader shall read from "Science and Health with Key to the Scriptures" by Mary Baker Eddy, and the Second Reader shall read from the Bible.

Section 4. The Readers shall be privileged to attend all meetings of the Board of Trustees, but are not entitled to vote thereat.

ARTICLE V.

Church Membership.

Section 1. All persons who have been duly admitted to membership in this Church and whose names are enrolled in a book kept for that purpose shall be members of this Church, unless they have been removed for cause.

Section 2. All persons desiring to unite with this Church must make application in writing to the Clerk, upon a form provided for that purpose. Applicants must accept Christian Science as set forth in the teachings of the Rev. Mary Baker Eddy and must take for their only text books the Bible and "Science and Health with Key to the Scriptures" by Mary Baker Eddy.

Section 3. All applications shall be submitted to a Membership Committee, consisting of a member of the Board of Trustees and of the First and Second Readers, who shall jointly examine the applicant and report to the Board of Trustees.

Section 4. Upon the unanimous affirmative vote of the Board of Trustees, the applicant shall be admitted to membership and received into the Church upon signing his or her name in the Enrollment Book.

Section 5. No person shall be eligible to membership in this Church who is a member of any other religious organization, church or society.

Section 6. A letter of dismissal from this Church,

or a letter transferring membership to another Church or to a Society of the same denomination, shall be given by the Clerk, when so authorized by the Board of Trustees, to any member making written application therefor.

Section 7. It shall be the duty of members of this Church to conscientiously study the Bible and the writings of Mary Baker Eddy, particularly "Science and Health with Key to the Scriptures," by Mary Baker Eddy, and the Eighty-ninth Edition of the Manual of The Mother Church.

ARTICLE VI.

Discipline.

Section 1. Charges of conduct unbecoming a Christian Scientist made by a member of this Church against another member shall not be entertained by the Board of Trustees unless the same be submitted in writing. No action shall be taken thereon unless the member making such charges shall be in good standing, and shall have first complied with the Scriptural requirements given in Matthew XVIII: 15-17. If the member making such charges be in good standing and have fulfilled the Scriptural requirements noted, the Board of Trustees shall thoroughly investigate the charges. A copy of such charges shall be furnished to the member against whom the complaint has been made, and such member may be represented by any member of this Church as counsel, and shall be

given a full and impartial hearing. After such investigation and hearing, if in the judgment of the Board of Trustees upon a two-thirds vote the charges be proven, the member in question may be admonished, or suspended, or both, or his or her name may be dropped from the Roll of Membership.

Section 2. Any member who has failed to attend the regular services of this Church for at least one year without explanation therefor satisfactory to the Board of Trustees, may, in the discretion of the Board of Trustees by a two-thirds vote thereof, be dropped from the Roll of Membership. Notice of such action shall be mailed to the last known address of such member.

Section 3. Any member who, in accordance with the foregoing sections of this Article, is dropped from membership, may, if repentant, be again admitted to membership in this Church pursuant to these By-Laws regulating the admission of persons to Church membership.

Section 4. If in the judgment of the Board of Trustees a Reader shall be found inadequate or unworthy, the matter shall be laid before the Church at a regular or at a special meeting, and if the Church so decides, by a two-thirds vote of those present who are entitled under these By-Laws to vote, the Reader shall be removed.

ARTICLE VII.

Meetings.

Section 1. The Annual Meeting of this Church shall be held at eight o'clock in the evening of the first Tuesday after Communion Sunday of Christian Science Churches in the month of January each year.

Section 2. The Board of Trustees shall meet on the Thursday evening next following the Annual Meeting, and shall elect officers and make appointments pursuant to Section 7, Article II, of these By-Laws.

Five Trustees shall constitute a quorum for the transaction of business. A smaller number may adjourn from time to time until a quorum shall be present.

Section 3. Regular meetings of this Church shall be held at eight o'clock in the evening of the first Tuesday in April and October of each year.

Section 4. A special meeting of the Church shall be held in the Church Edifice on the second Tuesday in December at eight o'clock P. M., every third year, beginning with the year 1911, for the purpose of electing a First Reader and a Second Reader, and the transacting of such other business as may properly come before the meeting. Before said Readers shall be qualified to act, their election shall be approved by a majority vote of the Board of Trustees, at their meeting provided for in Sec-

tion 2 of this Article. The Readers so elected shall take office the first Sunday following the next Annual Meeting, and shall hold office until their successors are elected and installed.

No Reader shall be eligible for re-election for three years from the time of the expiration of his or her term of office.

In case of vacancy in the office of either Reader, by resignation or otherwise, the Board of Trustees shall call a special meeting of the Church to fill such vacancy for the unexpired term.

Only members of this Church shall be entitled to vote for election of Readers.

Section 5. Special meetings may be called by the Board of Trustees or upon request of ten members of the Church addressed to the Clerk. Notice of such meetings shall be announced from the platform two consecutive Sundays next preceding the date for holding such meeting. The purpose of the meetings shall be stated in the notices thereof, and no other business shall be transacted thereat.

Section 6. At all business meetings of the Church twenty members shall constitute a quorum, but a smaller number may adjourn from time to time until a quorum shall be present.

Section 7. Except where otherwise specifically provided, the affirmative vote of the majority of those present at any meeting shall be considered sufficient to pass resolutions or to elect officers.

ARTICLE VIII.

Order of Procedure at Business Meetings.

Section 1. First—The meeting shall be called to order by the President.

Second—Devotional Exercises, conducted by the First Reader.

Third—Election of Chairman of Meeting.

Fourth—Reading of the Minutes of the previous Church meeting.

Fifth—Reports from the President, the Treasurer and the Clerk.

Sixth—Reports of Committees.

Seventh—Election of Trustees.

Eighth—New Business.

Ninth—Adjournment.

Tenth—Scientific Statement of Being repeated in unison.

Section 2. The above order of business may be suspended by a two-thirds vote of those entitled to vote at such meetings.

ARTICLE IX.

Church Services.

Section 1. This Church shall hold such services on Sunday and during the week as may be authorized by the Manual of The Mother Church.

ARTICLE X.

Building Fund.

Section 1. There shall be a Building Fund provided, and all moneys subscribed and donated thereto must be deposited in a separate account, in Bank designated by the Board of Trustees, and cannot be used for any other purpose than the purchase of Church property.

ARTICLE XI.

Reading Rooms.

Section 1. This Church shall maintain a Reading Room under the supervision of the Board of Trustees, with such employes and committees as the Board of Trustees from time to time may appoint. No literature shall be kept for perusal or sale in the Reading Room except such as is authorized by the Manual of The Mother Church or by the Christian Science Publishing Society.

ARTICLE XII.

Amendments.

Section 1. These By-Laws may be amended by a two-thirds vote of the members present at any regular or special meeting of the Church called for such purpose, provided an application for the proposed amendments shall have been signed by ten members of this Church, and that written copies of the proposed amendments shall have been filed for inspection of the members of the Church with the Clerk and with the Librarian of the Reading

Room ten days before such meeting, and provided that notice of such filing and of the time and place of holding such meeting shall have been read from the platform on the two Sundays next preceding the date of holding such meeting.

ARTICLE XIII.

By-Laws of The Mother Church Respecting Branch Churches.

Section 1. In the event of the By-Laws of this Church being repugnant to or inconsistent with the By-Laws of The Mother Church now in force or hereafter to be enacted in respect to this and other branch churches, then such of these By-Laws as are repugnant to or inconsistent with the By-Laws of The Mother Church respecting this and other branch churches shall be null and void during the time such By-Laws of The Mother Church are in effect, provided, however, that such By-Laws of The Mother Church are not repugnant to or inconsistent with the laws of the State of New Jersey, under which this church is incorporated.

By-Laws of The Mother Church in respect to this and other branch churches shall be binding upon this church and its members, provided that such By-Laws of The Mother Church are consistent with the laws of the State of New Jersey.

ARTICLE XIV.

Rules of Order.

Section 1. In cases where the rules of order are not specifically set forth in the within By-Laws, the By-Laws of The Mother Church, and the Eighty-ninth Edition of the Manual of The Mother Church, "Robert's Rules of Order" shall govern and control.

ADOPTED OCTOBER 7TH,
1913