

**CONSTITUTION**  
**of the**  
**Osler Community Church**  
**October 2018**

**PREAMBLE:**

We, the members of the Osler Community Church, in order to carry out more efficiently the commission given by Jesus Christ to His church, do ordain and establish the following constitution to which we voluntarily submit ourselves:

**ARTICLE I NAME**

1.100           The name of this organization shall be “The Osler Community Church”, hereafter referred to as the “church”

**ARTICLE II AUTHORITY AND AFFILIATION**

2.100           **Authority:** The members of The Osler Community Church, at its annual and special business meetings, is the legislative and governing body of this organization.

2.200           **Affiliation:** The church is affiliated with the Evangelical Free Church of Canada.

**ARTICLE III PURPOSE**

3.100           The purpose of this organization shall be to spread the Gospel of Jesus Christ in every way prescribed or approved by the Holy Scriptures, to engage in such religious, educational, charitable and benevolent work as the Constitution and Bylaws of this organization may determine and to own and maintain such property and equipment as may be required to carry out the above-stated purpose.

3.200           The activities of this organization shall be carried on without the purpose of financial or material gain for its members. Any profit or gains to the church shall be used in promoting its objectives as stated above.

**ARTICLE IV STATEMENT OF FAITH**

4.100           The Statement of Faith of this organization shall be the same as follows:

As a member of The Evangelical Free Church of Canada, Osler Community Church is committed to God’s evangel – the gospel of Jesus Christ, who died and rose again to give us eternal life. To God’s glory, the gospel is the power of God for the salvation of everyone who believes. Our essential theological convictions are vitally connected to this gospel.

4.101. *God’s gospel originates in and expresses the wondrous perfections of the eternal, triune God.*

We believe in one God, Creator of all things, holy, infinitely perfect, and eternally existing in a loving unity of three equally divine Persons: the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit. Having limitless knowledge and sovereign power, God has graciously purposed from eternity to redeem a people for Himself and to make all things new for His own glory.

4.102. *God’s gospel is authoritatively revealed in the Scriptures.*

We believe that God has spoken in the Scriptures, both Old and New Testaments, through the

words of human authors. As the verbally inspired Word of God, the Bible is without error in the original writings, the complete revelation of His will for salvation, and the ultimate authority by which every realm of human knowledge and endeavour should be judged. Therefore, it is to be believed in all that it teaches, obeyed in all that it requires, and trusted in all that it promises.

4.103. *God's gospel alone addresses our deepest need.*

We believe that God created Adam and Eve in His image, but they sinned when tempted by Satan. In union with Adam, human beings are sinners by nature and by choice, alienated from God, and under His wrath. Only through God's saving work in Jesus Christ can we be rescued, reconciled and renewed.

4.104. *God's gospel is made known supremely in the Person of Jesus Christ.*

We believe that Jesus Christ is God incarnate, fully God and fully man, one Person in two natures. Jesus—Israel's promised Messiah—was conceived through the Holy Spirit and born of the virgin Mary. He lived a sinless life, was crucified under Pontius Pilate, arose bodily from the dead, ascended into heaven and sits at the right hand of God the Father as our High Priest and Advocate.

4.105. *God's gospel is accomplished through the work of Christ.*

We believe that Jesus Christ, as our representative and substitute, shed His blood on the cross as the perfect, all-sufficient sacrifice for our sins. His atoning death and victorious resurrection constitute the only ground for salvation.

4.106. *God's gospel is applied by the power of the Holy Spirit.*

We believe that the Holy Spirit, in all that He does, glorifies the Lord Jesus Christ. He convicts the world of its guilt. He regenerates sinners, and in Him they are baptized into union with Christ and adopted as heirs in the family of God. He also indwells, illuminates, guides, equips and empowers believers for Christ-like living and service.

4.107. *God's gospel is now embodied in the new community called the church.*

We believe that the true church comprises all who have been justified by God's grace through faith alone in Christ alone. They are united by the Holy Spirit in the body of Christ, of which He is the Head. The true church is manifest in local churches, whose membership should be composed only of believers. The Lord Jesus mandated two ordinances, baptism and the Lord's Supper, which visibly and tangibly express the gospel. Though they are not the means of salvation, when celebrated by the church in genuine faith, these ordinances confirm and nourish the believer.

4.108. *God's gospel compels us to Christ-like living and witness to the world.*

We believe that God's justifying grace must not be separated from His sanctifying power and purpose. God commands us to love Him supremely and others sacrificially, and to live out our faith with care for one another, compassion toward the poor and justice for the oppressed. With God's Word, the Spirit's power, and fervent prayer in Christ's name, we are to combat the spiritual forces of evil. In obedience to Christ's commission, we are to make disciples among all people, always bearing witness to the gospel in word and deed.

4.109. *God's gospel will be brought to fulfillment by the Lord Himself at the end of this age.*

We believe in the personal, bodily and glorious return of our Lord Jesus Christ with His holy angels when He will bring His kingdom to fulfillment and exercise His role as Judge of all. This coming of Christ, at a time known only to God, demands constant expectancy and, as our blessed hope, motivates the believer to godly living, sacrificial service and energetic mission.

4.110. *God's gospel requires a response that has eternal consequences.*

We believe that God commands everyone everywhere to believe the gospel by turning to Him in repentance and receiving the Lord Jesus Christ. We believe that God will raise the dead bodily and judge the world, assigning the unbeliever to condemnation and eternal conscious punishment and the believer to eternal blessedness and joy with the Lord in the new heaven and the new earth, to the praise of His glorious grace. Amen.

## **ARTICLE V MEMBERSHIP**

- 5.100 Membership of this church shall be composed of those individuals who, through saving faith in the Lord Jesus Christ, have been born again and manifest the fruit of a true Christian life and are willing to support the church in their prayers, contributions, attendance and acts of service.

## **ARTICLE VI CHURCH ORGANIZATION**

- 6.100 Structure: The function of the church is to be supervised by the Board of Elders.
- 6.101 The Board of Elders: The Board of Elders shall consist of elected members of the congregation.
- 6.102 Election and Replacement of Officers: The members of the Board of Elders shall be elected at the annual meeting for a term of service as outlined in the organizational Bylaws.

## **ARTICLE VII PROPERTY**

- 7.100 This church shall have the power to receive, either by gift or purchase, and to hold such real, personal or mixed property as authorized by the laws of the Province of Saskatchewan and as is deemed necessary for the business of the church, and shall have the power to dispose of such property by mortgage, deed or otherwise.
- 7.200 In case of the dissolution of the church organization, the property shall be assigned to the Evangelical Free Church, Prairie District, based on the understanding that the Evangelical Free Church Prairie District is a qualified donee at the time of dissolution. In the event that it is no longer a qualified donee, the organization will have to distribute and dispose of its remaining property to other organizations that are qualified donees as defined by the act. The church shall be considered dissolved if so decided by the organization, or when the church has not held an annual meeting for three years, or when less than 6 members remain.

## **ARTICLE VII AMMENDMENTS**

- 8.100 Amendments to the Constitution shall require (21) twenty-one days notice of motion, and a two-thirds majority vote of members present.

**ARTICLE IX PROVISION FOR BYLAWS**

9.100 A supplement to this Constitution known as "Bylaws" shall include conditions for membership, qualifications and duties of leaders, responsibilities of committees and various other policies to guide the activities of the church. The members shall adopt such bylaws as may be found necessary except that no bylaw may conflict with the Constitution.

**This Constitution was officially adopted by the members of the Osler Community Church of Osler Saskatchewan on this date:**

**Date:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Chairman:** \_\_\_\_\_ (signature)

**Secretary:** \_\_\_\_\_ (signature)

**Treasurer:** \_\_\_\_\_ (signature)