

CONSTITUTION OF
THE FREDERIC EVANGELICAL FREE CHURCH
FREDERIC, WISCONSIN
01/25/2009

CONSTITUTION

PREAMBLE

We, the members of the Frederic Evangelical Free 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

The name of this organization shall be "The Evangelical Free Church of Frederic, Inc."

ARTICLE II - AUTHORITY AND AFFILIATION

Authority: The congregation, at its annual, semi-annual, and special business meetings, is the legislative and governing body of this organization.

Affiliation: This church shall be affiliated with the Evangelical Free Church of America through its Forest Lakes District Conference and shall send delegates to their conferences, support their Home and Foreign Missions, and unite in all mutual efforts for the furtherance of the Gospel of Christ in the measure that the Church itself may officially decide.

ARTICLE III - PURPOSE

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 by-laws of this organization may determine.

ARTICLE IV - STATEMENT OF FAITH

The Statement of Faith of this organization shall be the same as that of the Forest Lakes District Conference and the Evangelical Free Church of America, which reads as follows:

God

1. 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.

The Bible

2. 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 endeavor 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.

The Human Condition

3. 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.

Jesus Christ

4. 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.

The Work of Christ

5. 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.

The Holy Spirit

6. 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.

The Church

7. 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.

Christian Living

8. 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.

Christ's Return

9. We believe in the personal, bodily and premillennial return of our Lord Jesus Christ. The 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.

Response and Eternal Destiny

10. 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

The membership of this Church shall be composed of individuals who are believers in the Lord Jesus Christ, and who give evidence by their confession and their conduct that they are living in real fellowship with the Lord Jesus Christ.

ARTICLE VI - PROPERTY

Section 1:

This Church shall have the power to receive, either by gift or purchase, and to hold such real, personal, or mixed property as is authorized by the laws of the State of Wisconsin, 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. All such property shall be held in the name of the Church.

Section 2:

In case of a division of the Church (from which we pray God by His mercy to preserve us), the property of the Church shall belong to those who abide by its Constitution and by-laws.

Section 3:

In case of dissolution of the Church organization, the property shall be assigned to the Forest Lakes District Conference of the Evangelical Free Church of America, to enable said conference to renew the work or use the values thereof for further Gospel enterprises. 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 less than six members remain.

ARTICLE VII - AMENDMENTS

Amendments to this Constitution must be submitted to the members in writing and adopted as a preliminary step at a regular business meeting of the Church at least three months prior to the Annual Meeting. At the succeeding Annual Meeting they can be acted upon but for adoption must receive the affirmative vote of two-thirds of the membership present and voting.