

CONSTITUTION
of
FIRST EVANGELICAL FREE CHURCH
LINCOLN, NEBRASKA

ARTICLE I - NAME

The name of this church shall be "First Evangelical Free Church of Lincoln, Nebraska" and it shall be affiliated with the Evangelical Free Church of America.

ARTICLE II - Confession of Faith

The First Evangelical Free Church of Lincoln believes:

1. 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.

2. The Bible: 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.

3. The Human Condition: 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. 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.

5. 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.

6. 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.

7. 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.

8. Christian Living: 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.

9. Christ's Return: 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.

10. Response and Eternal Destiny: 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 III - Purpose

The purpose of First Evangelical Free Church of Lincoln, Nebraska is to glorify God through individual and corporate Worship, Edification, and Evangelism. Mt. 28:18-20; Acts 2:41-47; Eph. 4:11-16.

ARTICLE IV - Membership

The church shall receive as members only those who have by faith accepted Jesus Christ as their Savior and who in their lives manifest the fruits of true faith in God and are willing, according to ability, to support the church by their prayers and contributions. Persons who affiliate with the Church and are not baptized are asked to take this step at the earliest

opportunity. The Church believes immersion to be the proper form of baptism. Acts 2:41, 47; Romans 6:3-4.

ARTICLE V - Congregational Government

The First Evangelical Free Church of Lincoln, Nebraska shall be governed by the members of the Church. The power to adopt and alter this Constitution and Bylaws of the Church shall be exclusively vested in the members of the Church.

ARTICLE VI - Church Property

In case of a division of the Church, from which God in His mercy preserve us, the property of the church shall belong to those who abide by this Constitution.

In case of dissolution of the Church, the property shall automatically become the property of the Evangelical Free Church of America.

ARTICLE VII - Amendments

Amendments to this Constitution and Bylaws may be made at any congregational business meeting, provided said proposed amendments have been presented and discussed at a prior congregational business meeting. Written or printed notice setting forth the proposed amendment shall be given to each member entitled to vote at such meeting at least thirty (30) days prior to said meeting.

The proposed amendments shall be adopted upon receiving at least two-thirds of the votes which members present at such meeting are entitled to cast.

Any number of amendments may be submitted and voted upon at any one meeting.

The original constitution/bylaws was accepted by a vote of the following, the church's charter members:

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| 1. Mr. and Mrs. Jerry Holmberg | 5. Miss Ruby Weaver |
| 2. Rev. and Mrs. Melvin Jones | 6. Miss Mae Belle Haight |
| 3. Rev. James Leonard | 7. Mrs. Doyle Gustafson |
| 4. Mr. Edwin Carlson | 8. Mr. Jim Russell |

Constitution Revisions

January 16, 1974	April 28, 1991
January 18, 1978	October 13, 1996
January 3, 1979	December 10, 1998
October 10, 1979	July 26, 2009
February 11, 1990	