

DRAFT

Woodside Village Church Constitution

Article I – Name

The congregation, founded as the First Congregational Church of Woodside, is now recognized as the Woodside Village Church. It was registered as a 501C3 corporation in the state of California on 2-18-1917, changed its name on 10-15-1957, and was identified as a perpetual corporation on 2-5-1978.

Article II – Purpose

The purpose of WVC is to bind together followers of Jesus Christ for sharing in the worship of God, making His will dominant in the lives of people, and ministering to all according to their need and ability. We cherish the fellowship of all Christians and welcome all who profess or seek to be followers of Jesus Christ.

Article III – Covenant

The Covenant by which WVC exists as a distinct body, and which every member affirms, is as follows:

We believe in one God, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, Creator of all things, revealed as Jesus Christ, our Lord and Savior, and present as the Holy Spirit, our Comforter and Guide.

We pledge ourselves to the worship and service of God through the congregation of the Woodside Village Church. We are willing to be guided by the Spirit, instructed by the Scriptures of the Old and New Testaments, and governed by the polity of this church.

We accept joyfully the privilege of membership and, as members of the one universal Church of Jesus Christ, will seek to enrich the fellowship, extend the outreach and deepen the faith of this congregation and the whole church of Jesus Christ.

We promise to support the work of the church with our presence, our prayers, and our resources in any way we can.

We will work together with all persons of goodwill to serve the common good and to promote the well-being of all people.

Article IV – Polity

This church acknowledges Jesus Christ as its head and finds guidance in matters of faith and discipline in the Holy Scriptures of the Old and New Testaments.

Section A. Government of Congregation. The government of the congregation is vested in its members, who exercise the right of determination in all its affairs, subject to the legal provisions of its Articles of Incorporation granted to it by the laws of the state of California. The following matters are under the direct control of the membership:

1. Calling a Pastor, Co-Pastor, or Associate Pastor as well as appointing Adjunct Pastors
2. Approving a major financial program as well as periodic budgets
3. Approving the purchase, sale, or encumbrance of any real property
4. Deciding on all other matters duly referred to it by the Council

Section B. Eligibility for Membership. Anyone who has received Christian baptism and affirms the Covenant of this Church is eligible for membership.

Section C. Policy-Making Body. The Council, as the elected representatives, is vested with the authority to be the policy-making body, and as such, may act in all matters not requiring a decision by a duly called meeting of the membership.

Section D. Voting. Decisions, with the exceptions noted elsewhere, are made by a majority of the members present and voting at a regular or special, duly called meeting, provided a quorum of the membership is present. A quorum is one quarter of the membership (active and associate).

Article V – Sacraments

This Church celebrates the biblical sacraments of Baptism and the Eucharist. The Church also performs the offices of Christian marriage, confirmation, burial, and memorial.

Article VI – Parliamentary Authority

All meetings of the membership and the elected bodies of this Church shall be conducted in accordance with the current edition of Roberts Rules of Order, Newly Revised.

Article VII – Amendments to Constitution

This Constitution may be amended at any meeting of the membership by a two-thirds vote of those present and voting, provided a quorum is present and provided the membership was given notice of the amendment(s) at least thirty days prior to the meeting date.

Adopted: January 24, 2010 (pending)