

By-Laws
Of
Yuma Church of Christ
Doing Business as
Yuma Christian Church

Article I

The Name of this Organization per corporation charter is Yuma Church of Christ but will operate under the name Yuma Christian Church as set forth by the Elders. And will be listed in the Directory of Ministries of the Christian Church/ Church of Christ Directory.

Article II

(Amended 11/3/21) Our **Mission Statement:** We are loving people into and extraordinary life in Jesus. Connecting people to Christ. Equipping believers to follow Christ. Inspiring disciples to impact their world for Christ.

Article III

The Membership will consist of any and all immersed believers in Jesus Christ who have expressed their desire to serve and be served in this fellowship. Voting privileges will be extended to all active members 16 and older. The Elders have defined active as regular attendance (*per Elders Shepherding list*), regularly giving and serving within the body of Christ. All votes will be by written ballot by those in attendance at the congregational meeting. All voting will be as determined necessary by the Eldership and will be considered a tool for determining God's will. Each person *is encouraged* to pray for God's wisdom and the guidance of the Holy Spirit in determining the Father's will for every decision, whether congregational or by the Eldership.

Article IV

The Preaching Minister and other paid staff may serve as one of the Shepherds/Elders, if he meets the biblical requirements of Eldership as stated in Article V. They will receive a salary as recommended by the Shepherds so as to free them to fulfill their biblical calling. The preacher will oversee the overall mission of the church. He will be specifically responsible for the preaching and the teaching of the Gospel. He will also be responsible for the oversight of the counseling and the discipleship in the church. The preacher is accountable first to the Lordship of Jesus Christ then to the congregation he serves. His immediate oversight will be by the Shepherds. The congregation will have the responsibility for approving the calling of the preacher by a 80% majority vote. The Shepherds shall serve as or appoint a pulpit committee to discern the will of God concerning the calling of a new preacher when needed. *The Elders will only present a candidate that they have been unanimously agreed upon.* The Shepherds will have the responsibility to review annually the Preaching Minister as well as other paid staff. In the event that the Shepherds and/or congregation believe the Preaching Minister has departed from the clear teaching of Scripture in his moral character or in his preaching, every effort will be done to restore the brother to a right relationship with Yuma Christian Church and its mission. The Shepherds for the Yuma Christian Church may, if deemed necessary, choose to remove the Preaching Minister or any paid staff with a unanimous vote.

Article V

Shepherds (Elders) can be any male member that believes God may be calling them to serve as a Shepherd. The Shepherds will annually review potential leaders. They will interview each of the candidates to find their interests and to determine their Biblical qualifications as set forth in I Tim. 3 and Titus 1:5-9. The Elders will have the responsibility to pray and fast to seek God's leading of any candidate that has met the biblical requirements. The candidate will be presented to the congregation and a two week period will be given for the congregation to give any appropriate feed back to the Shepherds. The Shepherds will also serve as Trustees (Legal Representatives) in accordance with the laws of the State of Colorado and will also serve as the Board of Directors. If there should come a time when we do not have an acting plurality of Elders to serve then a Steering Committee of at least three people made up of active members will be appointed and will serve as the acting Board of Directors until such time as the Lord raises up Biblical Eldership in place to oversee His Church. In the event that a Shepherd is no longer able to fulfill his biblical duties, he may resign. In the case of willful neglect or departure from clear Biblical teaching the Shepherds will make every effort to lovingly restore the brother's relationship with the Church. If they are unable to establish suitable relationships, after seeking council and prayer, the brother may be removed from the ministry with a unanimous vote of the acting Elders. Shepherds/Elders will serve as trustees for the church. They will be responsible for the oversight of all financial transactions. This responsibility will include but not limited to check writing, check signing, bank deposits or withdrawals and the counting of donations. They will hire or appoint a treasurer and review all accounting practices on a regular basis.

Servant Leaders/Deacons will be responsible for the various Ministries that assist the church in accomplishing its purpose. They will be approved by the Shepherds as needed. Ministries may be assigned by the Shepherds or requested by a member of the congregation as God reveals the needs. They will be responsible for their own budgets and recruitment of their team. Direct oversight and assistance will be with the Shepherds or a paid staff member that the Elders have delegated to oversee the ministries. The Servant Leaders, as well as their team, will need to be of sound Biblical character, active members and willing to use their gifts to serve the Lord's work in the community including the local Church. All ministries must serve the stated purpose of the church.

Shepherd/Elder Meetings will be scheduled as needed. They will meet for prayer and discussion of the spiritual needs of the congregation. They will review any needed oversight of the various ministries as well as approval of any and all budgets for the church. The members may request an opportunity to meet with the Elders at one of the called meetings or other times as needed. The Shepherds will approve from among them a chairman to lead the meetings and a secretary to keep the records. There must be a quorum (51%) to make any voting decisions. When possible the Elders will work on a policy of unanimous decisions. However, in the case of decisions that can not be resolved in a timely manner, a two thirds majority will suffice to pass any proposals.

Congregational Meetings will be called as deemed necessary by the Elders. There will be a two week written notice of all called meetings to the membership.

Article VI

(Miscellaneous)

Amended 5/16/2018

**Contractual Agreement of Joint Facility Usage Between YCC and CNE
(Yuma Christian Church and Center of New Hope)**

This joint usage agreement will be in effect for as long as YCC and CNE are doing the work of Jesus Christ in the Community of Yuma and if we have a common statement of faith.

A joint Usage Committee will be formed by equal representation of staff to work out scheduling of usage of both facilities. Usage will be determined by first come first serve basis and giving priority of Sundays am times to YCC and pm times to CNE.

Church Building Facility cost will be shared equally by both congregations.

Upgrades to original facility will be the responsibility of YCC. Any changes of facilities must be discussed with both organizations to assure optimal functionality for both organizations.

This agreement is to protect both Churches from being without space to do ministry. If either party determines that a different location would benefit the work for Jesus, they should give a 90-day notice to the leadership.

Parliamentary Authority as laid out by “Roberts Rules of Order Newly Revised” shall be the final word in governing the meeting of the Church in all cases to which it is applicable and not in contradiction with the By-Laws or the Scripture.

Amendments of the By-Laws may be amended at any regular meeting of the Elders by a unanimous vote.

Facility Use:

Dissolution: If God should call an end to the work of Yuma Christian Church, any and all possessions and properties must be given to the *(Amended 5/16/18) “Center of New Hope.” If Center of New Hope is not still in operation as a 501c3 then the proceeds will be given to “Solomon Foundation”* for the expressed purpose of planting churches in Colorado. In the event that CPR is no longer serving Colorado, the Elders will choose a ministry from the Christian Church Directory of Ministries. In the event that there is no active Eldership the remaining members will choose a ministry from the Christian Church Directory of Ministries with a two third majority vote.

(Proposed Amended 11/3/2021)

Article VII

(Articles of Our Faith)

- We Believe the Scriptures of the Old and New Testaments are divinely inspired. The original writings are without error. The Bible is the final authority in matters of faith and life.
- We Believe God is the source of all creation, and that sin entered into the world first through Adam and Eve but resides in each of us as we all rebel and fall short of God's holiness.
- We Believe God's love for His creation moved Him to send His Son to make restitution for our sins on the cross.
- We Believe He instructed us to proclaim to the world, the forgiveness of sins and the certainty of eternal life for all that accept His grace, through faith, repentance, confession and baptism.
- We Believe He empowers the believer with His Holy Spirit to comfort and guide us (His Church) to accomplish His mission until He returns.
- We Believe that the love of Jesus is our hope and our calling to model to the world that He sends us into.

- We Believe in the unity of believers. Not based upon agreement in all things but in a common belief in these core values and a desire to pursue that truth and live it out in love and grace.
- We Believe in the weekly observance of Communion because Jesus says in I Corinthians 11:24-25, "...Do this in remembrance of me."
- We Believe that Marriage is between a man and woman as designed by our Creator and revealed in His Word. Gen 2:21-25
- We believe in the sanctity of human life. That the life of a human begins at conception and is a person that God loves and should be protected and loved by all. Ps139:13-16

Amended 1/5/2022 Approval

We do not rent our facility for any event. Any facility use must be inline withour Belief Statement per Yuma By-Laws.