

The Constitution of Mulvane Christian Church

We, the members of Mulvane Christian Church of Mulvane, Kansas do hereby revise¹ this constitution to preserve and secure the principles of our faith, execute the governance of our assembly in an orderly manner, and to maintain the autonomy of this church in freedom and action in relation to other churches and organizations.

I. Article One – Name

This assembly of believers is known as the Mulvane Christian Church (est. 1956), located at 502 Highland Park Drive, Mulvane, Kansas. Our church offices shall be located at 514 Highland Park Drive, Mulvane, Kansas.

II. Article Two – Purpose and Mission

The purpose of this church is, as revealed in the New Testament, to glorify God and make disciples of the Lord Jesus Christ through the proclamation of the gospel and the teaching and preaching of the word of God (Matt 28:16-20), to observe the ordinances of communion and baptism (Lk 22:19; Acts 2:38), to gather together regularly to worship and encourage one another towards faithful Christian living (Heb 10:25), to promote and protect sound biblical doctrine (1 Tim 4:16), and to serve our community with an outpouring of truth, love, and good deeds (Gal 6:10).

Our mission statement: We exist to bring glory to God in Mulvane and beyond through our passionate worship, the proclamation of the gospel, the preaching of sound doctrine, the practice of radical love, and the power of transformed lives.

III. Article Three – Statement of Faith

The statement of faith for MCC, while not exhaustive of the full breadth of our beliefs, represents the doctrinal beliefs that we believe represent Christian orthodoxy. Therefore, it is essential that all members of MCC affirm the following doctrinal statement to be true.

- i. We believe that there is one God who is eternally existent in three persons: God the Father, God the Son, and God the Holy Spirit.²
- ii. We believe the Bible to be sixty-six books that have been inspired by the Holy Spirit, which are inerrant in the original manuscripts and represent the complete, sufficient, and authoritative Word of God.³
- iii. We believe in the full deity of our Lord Jesus Christ as the eternally begotten Son of God. We believe in His virgin birth, His sinless life, the miracles He performed, His vicarious and atoning death through His shed blood on the cross, His bodily resurrection from the

¹ Current revision dated 2020. Previous revisions in 1966, 1970, 1982, 1994, 1998, 2006, 2010, and 2011.

² Gen 1:1; Jn 1:1-3; 14; Matt 3:13-17; 28:19; Eph 4:4-6; 2 Cor 13:14

³ 2 Tim 3:16; 2 Pt 1:20-21; Mk 13:31; Jn 8:31; Num 23:19

dead, His ascension to the right hand of the Father, and in His personal return in power and glory at the end of the age.⁴

- iv. We believe that humans were created by God as distinctly male and female and fashioned in His image. Through the introduction of sin, Adam and Eve, and through them all their offspring, fell under a curse which brought with it spiritual and physical death, condemnation, and judgment. In our natural state, humans are now sinners by nature and by choice, alienated from God, and objects of His wrath. Only by faith in the death of Jesus Christ on the cross and his bodily resurrection can our sins be forgiven and our relationship with God restored.⁵
- v. We believe that salvation is a gift from God given by grace alone through faith in Christ alone apart from all human works and efforts.⁶
- vi. We believe in the security of the believer's salvation. Because God gives us eternal life through Jesus Christ by grace through faith, the true believer is secure in that salvation for eternity. Salvation is maintained by the grace and power of God, not by the self-effort of the Christian.⁷
- vii. We believe in the present ministry of the Holy Spirit, who indwells the Christian and empowers us to live a life that is pleasing to God.⁸
- viii. We believe in the local church where believers are to faithfully assemble to worship the Lord, fellowship with one another, and be equipped through biblical teaching for the work of ministry.⁹
- ix. We believe that people were created to exist forever. We will either exist eternally separated from God by sin or eternally with God through forgiveness and salvation. Heaven and Hell are real places of eternal existence.¹⁰

IV. Article Four – Government of the Church

The ultimate authority of this church is Jesus Christ, who is the head of the body of all believers (Col 1:18) and in the Bible as the basis of faith and practice (2 Tim 3:16-17). The government of this church, guided by the Holy Spirit, shall be vested in its members (1 Cor 5:4-5) and administered by

⁴ Matt 1:18-25; Lk 1:26-38; Rom 9:5; Phil 2:6; 2 Cor 5:21; Rom 3:25; Lk 24:5-7; Acts 1:9-11

⁵ Gen 1:27; 2:17; 3:17; Eph 2:3; Rom 1:18-23; 4:25; 8:1; 2 Cor 5:17; Jn 1:12

⁶ Eph 2:8-10; Gal 2:16; Gen 15:6; Rom 3:20-22

⁷ Phil 1:6; Eph 1:13-14; Rom 8:28-29; Jn 6:37-47; 10:27-30

⁸ Acts 1:8; Jn 14:16; Rom 8:11; 1 Cor 2:4; 1 Thess 1:5

⁹ Matt 16:18; Heb 10:24-25; Acts 2:46; 5:42; Eph 2:19-22; 4:12-16

¹⁰ Ecc 3:11; 1 Thess 4:17; 1 Cor 15:52; Rev 20:10; 21:1-8; Mk 9:47-48

the Elders (1 Tim 5:17; Titus 1:7; 1 Pt 5:1-2), Deacons (Acts 6:3-4), and other elected church officers with their authority, roles, and responsibilities outlined in the by-laws.

V. Article Five – Membership

The membership of this church shall consist of those who confess Jesus Christ as their personal Lord and Savior, who have given evidence of the new birth by living a life consistent with their profession (Jn 3:3; 14:15), who agree wholeheartedly with the church's statement of faith, who agree to abide by its governing documents, and who have been baptized by immersion in water in the name of the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit (Matt 28:19). Individuals may become members by following the process as outlined in the church by-laws.

VI. Article Six – Ecclesial Relationships

MCC is self-governing and free of denominational affiliations. In the spirit of unity, we recognize and encourage cooperative relationships with other churches and Christian traditions so long as they confess a biblical gospel. We also recognize the authority given by God to the federal, state, and local governments and pledge to support them so long as they do not conflict with our obedience to God (Rom 13:1-7; Acts 5:29).

VII. Article Seven – Amendments

Amendments to this constitution may be proposed at any regular business meeting of the church. Suggested changes should be submitted in writing and given to the Elders for review. Should it pass the review of the Elders, it will be presented to the Church Board for a vote. Should it pass the vote of both the Elders and the Church Board, a general meeting of the congregation shall be called. The congregation shall then be informed of the purpose of the meeting, and a copy of the amendment shall be given to the congregation no less than two weeks before the vote. For the vote to pass, it must be affirmed by two-thirds of the members who are present and voting. Once passed, the constitution shall be amended.

VIII. Article Eight – Nonprofit Status

MCC is organized and is operated exclusively for religious, charitable, and educational purposes within the meaning of Section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 as amended, unless any law shall be repressive in scope and/or nature, that it is our duty to democratically oppose it on the basis of the right of free exercise of religious beliefs and peaceable assembly. The church is formed for any lawful purpose or purposes under the laws of the State of Kansas.

IX. Article Nine – Dissolution

Upon the dissolution of MCC, its assets remaining after payment, or provision for payment, of all debts and liabilities of this corporation shall be distributed to a nonprofit fund, foundation or corporation which is organized and operated exclusively for religious purposes and which has established its tax-exempt status under Internal Revenue Code section 501(c)(3). The distribution of these assets shall be handled by the appointed trustees of MCC.

X. Article Ten – Ratification

This constitution is hereby ordained and amended for Mulvane Christian Church by a vote of the membership on Month/Day/2020.

Senior Pastor – David Carson

Chairman of the Board – David Vaughn

Chairman of the Elders – Greg Alexander

Chairman of the Trustees – TBD