

1 **BYLAWS OF THE**  
2 **SPRINGS MENNONITE CHURCH**

3 **PREAMBLE**

4 We, the members of Springs Mennonite Church, being a fellowship of persons who  
5 confess Jesus Christ as Savior and Lord and who by that confession are bound into a covenant  
6 community in order to discover Spirit-given gifts and offer them in mutual response to God  
7 and to people, declare and establish these Bylaws to preserve and secure the principles of our  
8 faith.

9 **Article I. NAME**

10 This congregation, located at Springs, Pennsylvania, shall be known as the Springs  
11 Mennonite Church.

12 **Article II. PURPOSE**

13 Our purpose is to know Jesus Christ and make him known by our words and deeds,  
14 through the power of the Holy Spirit, in worship, nurture, fellowship, service, and outreach,  
15 so that God is glorified by our lives.

16 **Article III. AUTHORITY**

17 Authority in all spiritual and business affairs is vested in the membership.

18 **Article IV. AFFILIATION**

19 Section 4.01 The prevailing Mennonite Confession of Faith adopted by the Mennonite  
20 Church USA (MC USA) is accepted as our statement of faith.

21 Section 4.02 This congregation is a member of the Mennonite Church USA and participates  
22 fully in its general and regional procedures and activities.

23 Section 4.03 This congregation is a member of the Allegheny Mennonite Conference and  
24 participates fully in its procedures and activities. It expresses willingness to take counsel from,  
25 and give counsel to, the Conference.

26 **Article V. MEMBERSHIP**

27 Any person who professes faith in Jesus Christ, expresses a commitment to follow Him,  
28 and declares a willingness to participate in the life and work of this congregation shall be  
29 eligible for membership. When recommended by the Board of Elders and accepted by the  
30 congregation, such a person shall become a member by believers' baptism, presentation of a  
31 qualified church letter, or by personal confession of faith in Jesus Christ.

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## Article VI. ORGANIZATION

The members shall establish a Plan of Congregational Organization which shall be responsible for the various functions and duties to be carried out for and by the congregation. This Plan shall be reviewed periodically.

## Article VII. DISSOLUTION PROVISIONS

Section 7.01 If for any reason the Springs Mennonite Church is dissolved, any remaining funds after all bills are paid shall be turned over to its successor or to any tax exempt organization(s) within the church with similar ideals and purposes. Such dissolution shall be completed under the laws for corporations in the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania.

Church Council and the Board of Elders should also be in contact with Allegheny Mennonite Conference and follow their guidelines for the “Dissolution of a Congregation” (Conference Bylaws, Article VI, Section D).

## Article VIII. AMENDMENTS

Section 8.01 Amendments may be made to these Bylaws at any congregational meeting by an affirmative vote of two-thirds of the membership present, provided the amendments to be considered have been circulated in written form among the membership at least one month prior to the meeting.

Section 8.02 At the end of a five-year period after adoption of these Bylaws and every five-year period thereafter, a Bylaws Revision Committee selected by the Church Council and approved by the congregation shall review the Bylaws and suggest revisions if needed. Any revision process shall be governed by the same regulations regarding announcement and voting as for amendments.

## Article IX. ENACTING CLAUSE

The Bylaws were acted upon and accepted by the members of the Springs Mennonite Church on October 29, 2013. The Bylaws supersede all previous Constitutions and Bylaws and such rules as are in conflict with them. All incumbent officers shall continue to serve under these Bylaws until the term for which they have been appointed is completed.