

LIFESPRING CHURCH CONSTITUTION & BYLAWS

CONSTITUTION

Adopted: December 10, 2000

Revised: January 13, 2013

Revised: July 14, 2013

PREAMBLE

We establish this constitution to clearly identify the beliefs and objectives which unite us as Christians, to ensure that this body of believers is governed in an orderly manner, with the rights and liberties of each member safeguarded, and to promote a spirit of cooperation which will glorify Jesus and advance His kingdom. The Holy Bible shall be our supreme governing authority. In addition, as a body, we will conduct our day-to-day business according to this Constitution, the Church Bylaws, and the Church Policy and Procedure Manuals.

ARTICLE I - NAME

This body shall be known as the LifeSpring Church. In this document, LifeSpring Church is also referred to as LSC. This body also retains the rights to our former name, West Bellevue Baptist Church, officially changed on May 4, 1997, and West Bellevue Church, officially changed December 10, 2000.

ARTICLE II- VISION & PURPOSE

Our Vision

*To reach our neighbors and the nations of the world with the good news of Jesus Christ.
We exist to advance the Gospel of Jesus Christ by making disciples to the ends of the earth.*

Our Purpose

To lead ~~unburdened~~ people to become fully committed followers of Jesus Christ.

We will accomplish this purpose by focusing on the activities of the New Testament church: (*Acts 2*)

□ **Evangelism/Missions** – *To take the good news of Jesus Christ to the ends of the earth, beginning with our community. (Matthew 28: 18-20; Acts 1:8)*

□ **Discipleship** – *To equip believers toward maturity and ministry through the study and application of God's Word. (Ephesians 4:11-13)*

□ **Worship** – *To provide dynamic public worship experiences as well as resources for personal daily devotions. To worship in spirit and in truth in public services and throughout the week in our daily lives. (John 4:24)*

□ **Ministry** – *To enable and encourage believers to serve the physical, emotional and spiritual needs of others. (Ephesians 6:7; 1 Peter 4:10-11)*

□ **Fellowship** – *To encourage believers to pray for, support and spend time with each other as the family of God.*

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(Hebrews 10:24-25)

ARTICLE III - GOVERNMENT & AFFILIATION

SECTION 1. Polity

Being led by the Holy Spirit through our interpretation of the Holy Scriptures, this body of believers is subject to the control of no other religious body. ~~Although autonomous, LSC recognizes and sustains the obligations of mutual consent and cooperation, which are common among Southern Baptist Churches. Specifically, LSC shall voluntarily cooperate with the Eastern Nebraska Baptist Association, the Kansas-Nebraska Convention of Southern Baptists, and the Southern Baptist Convention (SBC).~~ LSC is an autonomous church which voluntarily cooperates with the Heartland Church Network, the Kansas-Nebraska Convention of Southern Baptists, and the Southern Baptist Convention (SBC).

SECTION 2. Organization

This church is incorporated as a nonprofit institution and shall elect or appoint such officers and other leaders as necessary for operation. The terms of office and duties of the officers and leaders shall be prescribed in the Bylaws and/or Church Policy and Procedure Manuals.

ARTICLE IV - STATEMENT OF FAITH

We affirm the Holy Bible as the inspired Word of God; His Word is the only basis for our beliefs. LSC recognizes the 2000 *Baptist Faith and Message* as a general statement affirming our basic Christian doctrine.

ARTICLE V - CHURCH COVENANT

Having received Christ as my Lord and Savior, having been baptized by immersion as a believer, and being in agreement with LSC's LifeSpring Church's statements, strategy, and structure, I now feel led by the Holy Spirit to unite with the LifeSpring Church family. In doing so, I commit myself to God and to the other members to be a faithful disciple of Christ and to strive to do the following:

1. I will protect the unity of my church

- a) by acting in love toward other members

 *"A new command I give you: Love one another. As I have loved you, so you must love one another. By this all men will know you are my disciples, if you love one another." John 13:34-3*
(All scripture references are from the New International Version)

- b) by refusing to gossip

 *"Do not let any unwholesome talk come out of your mouths, but only what is helpful for building others up according to their needs, that it may benefit those who listen." Ephesians 4:29*

- c) by upholding the elected and/or appointed leaders

 *"Obey your leaders and submit to their authority. They keep watch over you as men who must give account. Obey them so that their work will be a joy, not a burden, for that would be of no advantage to you." Hebrews 13:17*

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- d) by praying for each other faithfully

📖 *“And pray in the Spirit on all occasions with all kinds of prayers and requests. With this in mind, be alert and always keep on praying for all the saints.” Ephesians 6:18*

2. I will share the responsibility of my church

- a) by praying for the fulfillment of the Great Commission

📖 *“Therefore go and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and the Son and of the Holy Spirit, and teaching them to obey everything I have commanded you. And surely I am with you always, to the very end of the age.” Matthew 28:19-20*

- b) by inviting the unchurched to attend

📖 *“Go to the street corners and invite to the banquet anyone you find.” Matthew 22:9*

- c) by readily receiving those who visit

📖 *“He who receives you receives me, and he who receives me receives the one who sent me.” Matthew 10:40*

- d) by seeking ways to share my faith

📖 *“But in your hearts set apart Christ as Lord. Always be prepared to give an answer to everyone who asks you to give the reason for the hope that you have. But do this with gentleness and respect...” 1 Peter 3:15*

- e) by participating regularly in the business of the church

📖 *“Now you are the body of Christ, and each one of you is a part of it.” 1 Corinthians 12:27*

3. I will serve in ministry as led by God

- a) by discovering my spiritual gifts

📖 *“There are different kinds of gifts, but the same Spirit.” 1 Corinthians 12:4*

- b) by developing my gifts through training

📖 *“For this reason I remind you to fan into flame the gift of God...” 2 Timothy 1:6*

- c) by using my gifts in a LSC ministry

📖 *“This service that you perform is not only supplying the needs of God’s people but is also overflowing in many expressions of thanks to God.” 2 Corinthians 9:12*

- d) by serving those whom God places in my daily path

📖 *“Be dressed, ready for service and keep your lamps burning...” Luke 12:35*

4. I will uphold the integrity of my church

- a) by attending faithfully

📖 *“Let us not give up meeting together, as some are in the habit of doing, but let us encourage one another...” Hebrews 10:25*

- b) by living a godly life

📖 *“Whatever happens, conduct yourselves in a manner worthy of the gospel of Christ.” Philippians 1:27*

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c) by giving regularly

📖 "...see that you also excel in this grace of giving." 2 Corinthians 8:7

d) by honoring God in my home, family, and marriage

📖 "...But as for me and my household, we will serve the LORD." Joshua 24:15

ARTICLE VI - LEGAL AUTHORITY

The voting membership of LSC constitutes the basic legal authority in the church. This basic legal authority includes the power to delegate specific authority to elected and appointed leaders for carrying out the total ministry of LSC, both spiritual and secular. All authority not specifically delegated by this Constitution or the church Bylaws is retained by the voting membership. Hereafter in this document, a quorum shall be defined as at least ten percent of eligible, active voting members. Voting by proxy is prohibited. Absentee ballots shall be accepted for special circumstances where a member is geographically or medically unable to attend the meeting. (e.g., member deployed, hospitalized, on mission trip, etc.) Absentee ballots will be made available on the church website and by the Church Clerk. Absentee ballots must be submitted to the Church Clerk prior to the vote.

ARTICLE VII - DISPOSITION OF PROPERTY

SECTION 1. Doctrinal Division

In case of doctrinal division, the property shall belong to that portion of the members abiding by the statement of faith articulated in Article IV of this constitution, even if that portion is a minority.

SECTION 2. Nondoctrinal Division

1. Majority Rule. In case all portions of the membership abide true to the statements of faith, the majority shall rule, in accord with the principles of the Constitution and the Bylaws, and the majority shall be entitled to the property in case of division. It is contemplated that if the rules of our Savior are followed as to reconciliation, there shall be no need for division in this sense, and we pledge ourselves to seek His way.
2. New Church Starts. Since LSC encourages planting other New Testament, SBC churches, establishing a new church may honestly be the most constructive solution to irresolvable/irreconcilable differences.

SECTION 3. Dissolution

In case of a vote to dissolve LSC, it is hereby agreed the property belonging to this church shall be transferred either to the ~~Kansas-Nebraska Convention of Southern Baptists~~ Heartland Church Network or the North American Mission Board of the Southern Baptist Convention for their use as they deem appropriate.

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ARTICLE VIII - AMENDMENTS

Changes to this Constitution and Bylaws may be made at any business meeting of the church, provided such amendment(s) shall have been presented in writing at a previous business meeting, held at least one month before the vote, and copies of the proposed amendment(s) furnished to each member present. Changes may be made by two-thirds of ~~those~~ the quorum present and voting.

ARTICLE IX - PERIODIC REVIEW

This Constitution and these Bylaws shall undergo periodic review as outlined in the Church Board policies. ~~as necessary to ensure accuracy.~~ If revisions are warranted, such revisions shall be presented in accordance with Article VIII - Amendments.

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BYLAWS

Adopted: May 13, 2001

Revised: January 13, 2013

Revised: July 14, 2013

BYLAW I. MEMBERSHIP

SECTION 1. General

Membership in this church shall consist of all persons who have met the qualifications for membership and are listed on the membership roll.

In concert with the pastoral staff, the Board will vote on all membership matters.

SECTION 2. Qualifications for Membership

- a. Personal commitment of faith in Jesus Christ as LORD and Savior.
- b. Baptism by immersion following the conversion experience.
- c. Completion of the church's New Member's membership class.
- d. A signed commitment to abide by the membership Church eCovenant.

These qualifications shall apply to new believers as well as ~~transfers~~ those transferring from other churches.

A list of potential church members will be presented to the congregation for informational purposes. This will occur at least two weeks ~~before~~ prior to approval by new members are approved upon recommendation of the pastors and vote of the Church Board.

SECTION 3. Designation of Membership

In an effort to properly reflect the membership of LSC, two rolls shall be maintained and updated periodically.

- a. ~~Active/Resident~~ Members: All members who ~~reside within the church's ministry area~~ or are currently active in the church and abiding by the Church Covenant.
- b. ~~Nonresident~~ Inactive Members: Members who have become inactive as a result of ~~moving out of the church's ministry area~~ relocation or choice and have not joined another church. LSC will retain members on the inactive list for a period of two years before they are removed from membership, unless a request for removal or transfer has been received. Reasonable efforts will be made to contact individuals before removal.

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SECTION 4. Responsibilities of Members

All members shall strive to fulfill the LSC Member's Church Covenant.

SECTION 5. Rights of Membership

Membership entitles every person to equal rights, privileges, treatment, and opportunity. These rights include voting, ~~servicing in a leadership position,~~ service, opportunities for service and leadership, and accountability to a local body. Members under the age of 13 may not vote. Each member 13 years and older is entitled to one vote. ~~Voting by proxy is prohibited.~~

SECTION 6. Discipline of Members

~~Should any unhappy differences conflict arise between members,~~ the aggrieved member(s) shall follow in tender spirit the rules given by our Lord in the 18th chapter of Matthew. ~~If the person(s) have met and could~~ If the conflict is not resolved the conflict, the aggrieved member(s) ~~should~~ shall contact ~~their deacon.~~ The deacon, a member of the pastoral staff, who in association with the Lead Pastor, shall work to reconcile the members. These attempts to reconcile shall be kept in strict confidence. ~~In case of gross breach of the covenant or in case of public scandal, the full deacon body may be called upon to correct the situation.~~ Every reasonable effort ~~will~~ shall be made to bring the member(s) to repentance and good standing. All such proceedings shall be filled with a spirit of Christ-like kindness, tenderness, and conduct. ~~In the event of an adverse decision~~ If the offender remains unrepentant, the church pastors may shall proceed to admonish the offender ~~or~~ and may, in concert with the Board, terminate the offender's membership.

SECTION 7. Termination of Membership

In concert with the pastoral staff, the Board will vote on all membership termination matters.

a. ~~Upon request by another Bible-based, New Testament church, a member shall be granted a statement of recommendation for the purpose of uniting with that church. Approval to issue the statement of recommendation is by majority vote of the members present and voting at any church meeting. No statement of recommendation will be given upon departure of the member. the church clerk shall grant a letter of transfer for members in good standing.~~

b. A member may request to be released from his/her covenant obligations to this church. In this case, the request ~~may~~ shall be granted and his/her membership terminated. ~~In so doing, the church will not grant a statement of recommendation.~~

c. Should some serious condition exist which could cause a member to become a liability to the general welfare of the church, every reasonable measure will be taken by the Lead Pastor ~~and deacons~~ and appropriate pastoral staff as needed to resolve the situation in accordance with Section 6 above. If the welfare of the church is best served by exclusion of the member, ~~the church may terminate membership by majority vote of the members present and voting at any properly called~~

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~~business meeting. The vote for exclusion can only occur after due notice and faithful efforts to bring the member to repentance and good standing. the Board, upon recommendation of the pastoral staff, may terminate membership.~~

d. Upon the death of any member, the church clerk will remove the member's name from the active or inactive roll and place it on the memorial page of the church roll.

BYLAW II. ~~CHURCH OFFICERS~~ PASTORS

~~All officers of this church shall be members of LSC. This sentence moved to Bylaw III, Church Officers.~~

SECTION 1. Lead Pastor

a. The Lead Pastor is the under-shepherd of Christ's local church and is recognized as the spiritual leader of the ~~entire church program~~ and its ministries.

b. ~~The Lead Pastor is responsible for leading the church.~~ The Lead Pastor shall have responsibility for preaching, providing pastoral care, administering the ordinances, directing the work of church staff, inviting all pulpit guests, and overseeing the general direction of the church and its members. He shall serve as a voting ex-officio member of all organizations and committees in the church ~~and Deacon body~~ except for the LSC Board.

c. Whenever a vacancy occurs, a Lead Pastor shall be chosen and called using the process outlined below. A Pastor Search Committee shall be formed from the membership and elected at a business meeting called for that purpose. At least ~~2~~ three (3), but no more than ~~3~~ four (4), of the ~~5~~ seven (7) members on the committee must be of the same gender. ~~The nomination for the call of a prospective Lead Pastor shall be made in writing by the committee.~~ The committee shall bring to consideration only one man at a time. The candidate selected by the search committee will be identified in writing to the Board. All nominations shall stipulate in detail all conditions to be set forth in the call to the prospective Lead Pastor. The Board will develop a compensation package and provide an offer letter to the candidate. Election of a new Lead Pastor will occur at a business meeting called for that purpose. At least ~~one~~ two-week's written, ~~public notice~~ prior to the meeting shall be given for the meeting provided to the congregation. An affirmative vote of 75% of the ~~votes cast members present and voting~~ shall constitute a call. ~~Absentee ballots may be cast, provided they are in the hands of the church clerk at the time of counting.~~

d. ~~The dismissal of the Lead Pastor at the discretion of the church and upon recommendation of the deacons Board. shall be accomplished in a similar procedure as that used to dismiss other members of the church. An affirmative vote of 75% of the members present and voting votes cast will result in dismissal. The process for termination of the Lead Pastor shall be as follows: A business meeting shall be called for this purpose. After prayerful consideration and recommendation by the Board, along with input from the congregation, a business meeting shall be called for this purpose.~~ Termination will result when at least 75% of votes cast are in favor of dismissal.

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SECTION 2. Associate Pastor(s)

a. Recognizing the possibility of future growth and/or staff transition, the church may call men to serve as associate pastors in various ministry areas. Whenever an associate pastor is required, a job description will be created by the ~~Church Board~~ Lead Pastor working in concert with the ~~Lead Pastor Board~~. The Board will form a search committee in concert with the Lead Pastor ~~will be formed~~, or, at the Lead Pastor's discretion, the Board will serve to bring forth a nomination. In either case, the voting guidelines in Section 1, paragraph c above will be followed. The Lead Pastor will have supervisory responsibilities over ~~any and~~ all associate pastors.

b. ~~The dismissal of an associate pastor at the discretion of the church and upon recommendation from the Lead Pastor and deacons shall be accomplished in a similar procedure as that used to dismiss other members of the church. An affirmative vote of 75% of the members present and voting will result in dismissal. The process for termination of an associate pastor shall be as follows: After prayerful consideration and unsuccessful attempts to bring resolution by the Lead Pastor and Board, a business meeting shall be called for this purpose. Termination shall result when at least 75% of votes cast are in favor of dismissal.~~

SECTION 3. Deacons

LSC recognizes that we have several Deacons but we do not have a formal active Deacon ministry. Our current strategy is to minister to families through small groups referred to as LifeGroups. LifeGroup leaders have a primary focus of leading Bible study and ministering to their small groups.

~~a. Qualifications, Conduct, and Duties~~

~~Deacons are to be servants of the church and as such must maintain the highest standards of personal integrity.~~

~~1. Scriptural Qualifications. All candidates for the office of deacon shall meet the standards recorded in Acts 6 and 1 Timothy 3.~~

~~2. LSC Qualifications. Previously ordained candidates must be members for at least six months prior to starting their term of office. Unordained candidates must be members for at least one year prior to starting their term of office. All candidates must:~~

- ~~_____ (a) be at least 21 years of age~~
- ~~_____ (b) support LSC through tithing and giving~~
- ~~_____ (c) regularly attend worship, Bible Study, and special church events~~

~~3. Conduct. Deacons must maintain the highest standards of Christian integrity, morality, compassion, concern for the lost, and spiritual growth. In short, they must set the example in their home, workplace, and community.~~

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~~4. Duties. Deacons are expected to support the Lead Pastor, other pastors and programs of LSC in God's work. Deacons should zealously guard the unity of the church. Since the deacon's office is a public as well as private office, they should refrain from any public attitude or criticism which would be harmful to the fellowship of the church or the progress of God's work. The deacons shall be ready at all times to help the church program, witness to the lost, comfort those in need, and assist the Lead Pastor in such a manner as to bring honor to Christ and His Church.~~

~~b. Status~~

~~LSC recognizes two classifications of deacons. While those classifications are listed below, every ordained deacon is important and is encouraged to be a spiritual leader in the church regardless of current status.~~

~~1. Active. These are deacons currently serving in the deacon body as pastoral helpers and spiritual leaders of the church.~~

~~2. Inactive. These are ordained deacons not currently serving in the LSC deacon body. They may have completed a regular term as an active deacon and as such be ineligible for service (see below). They may have been ordained elsewhere and not yet met the membership requirement for activation. Lastly, they may have temporarily removed themselves from active status due to personal, family, professional, or spiritual reasons.~~

~~c. Number and Terms~~

~~Active deacons shall be elected for three year terms. Some deacons may serve for fewer years so that a rotation may be established, because the deacon moves out of the area, or because the deacon has placed himself on the inactive list. If a deacon serves for only one year, the deacon may be elected to a follow on three year term without being placed on the inactive list. In any case, no one may serve for more than four consecutive years. At the end of a deacon's term of service, the deacon is placed on the inactive list. The number of active deacons serving shall be sufficient to assist the Lead Pastor and to minister to the spiritual needs of the church.~~

~~d. Selection of Deacons~~

~~The nominating of men for the election of deacons shall be the responsibility of the Deacon Nominating Committee. The composition of this committee is as follows:~~

- ~~1. The Lead Pastor, or an associate pastor~~
- ~~2. One active deacon~~
- ~~3. Three at large members appointed by the Church Board~~

~~At least 2, but not more than 3, members of this committee shall be of the same gender. The Deacon Nominating Committee shall review the names of all male LSC members to determine individuals meeting the qualifications in Section 3, paragraph a above. The committee will then present the candidates' names to the Lead Pastor and deacon chairman. Unordained men will be~~

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~~examined by a deacon ordination council, then presented to the church to give their personal testimony. Previously ordained deacons will meet with the active deacon body for examination and to gain a full understanding of deacon ministry at LSC. The church will vote to call the candidates at any regular or specially called business meeting for that purpose. An affirmative vote of 75% of the members present and voting will result in a call to serve as a deacon. Any deacon called into service who has not been previously ordained will be ordained at a service for that purpose. Every step of this process should be supported by sincere prayer in seeking God's will. Nothing even resembling a political campaign or popularity contest will be permitted.~~

BYLAW III. CHURCH OFFICERS

All officers of this church shall be members of LSC. This sentence was moved from Bylaw II.

SECTION 3 1. Church Board

The Church Board, hereafter known as “the Board” shall provide accountability and oversight for the legal, financial, and liability matters of the church, as well as for buildings, grounds, properties, and human resources. The Board will hold, in trust, the property of the church. The Board shall have no power to buy, sell, mortgage, lease, or transfer any real property without a specific vote of the church authorizing each action. It shall be the function of no less than three designated Board members to serve as signatories. The signatories will affix their signatures to legal documents involving the sale, mortgaging, purchase, or rental of property or other legal documents where Board members’ signatures are required. The Board shall also oversee human resource policies, staffing, and compensation. It shall provide guidance in the event of conflict between staff members or church members and staff. The Board, in concert with the Lead Pastor, will establish search committees ~~assist the Lead Pastor in establishing search committees or a screening body for staff or~~ pastoral positions.

The Board will be comprised of a minimum of five active church members to properly fulfill the duties above. As needed, the Board may convene ad hoc committees to carry out its duties. LSC pastoral staff will not serve as LSC Board members. However, the LSC Lead Pastor will attend Board meetings as a non-voting participant. If the Pastors and the current Board members decide it would be beneficial to add additional Board members they may begin a process to augment the Board. Should a Board member resign before the expiration of his or her three-year term, a new member will be elected to fill the unexpired term. If the unexpired term is less than 18 months the new Board member will fulfill the unexpired term and will be eligible for election to two subsequent terms.

Board members will be elected to three-year terms. Board members may serve two full consecutive terms, after which they will rotate off the Board for at least one year. There is no limit on the number of terms a member may serve.

The congregation will be notified of Board vacancies before candidates are selected to allow for possible recommendations. Nominations Candidate recommendations will be brought to the Board for approval. Upon approval, the Board will ~~then present that Board~~ the candidate name(s) and biographical information to the ~~church body~~ congregation, two weeks prior to the vote. Board

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members must be approved by ~~the~~ a congregational by a majority vote in accordance with Article VI of the LSC Constitution. ~~of church members in attendance at the regular annual or a special business meeting.~~

SECTION 4.2. Treasurer

The Board shall nominate a member for election to a three-year term. There is no limit on the number of terms a person may serve as Treasurer. The treasurer shall carry out all duties as outlined in the LSC Financial Policy. The Treasurer shall provide a summary of receipts and disbursements at the annual business meeting ~~at least~~ and quarterly for informational purposes. This may be done in print, electronically, and/or from the pulpit.

SECTION 5.3. Clerk

The Board shall nominate a member for election to a ~~three-~~ 3 year term. There is no limit on the number of terms a person may serve as clerk. The Church Clerk will keep in suitable form a record of all membership transactions of the church. The Clerk is responsible for keeping a register of the names of members, with dates of admission, ~~dismissal~~ transfer, termination or death, and a record of baptisms. The Clerk will issue letters of ~~dismissal voted by the church~~ transfer, record minutes at all business meetings, and preserve on file a record of those minutes. All church records are the property of the church. For informational purposes, a quarterly membership report shall be presented to the congregation. This may be done in print, electronically, and/or from the pulpit.

BYLAW ~~III~~ IV. BUSINESS MEETINGS

~~The church conducts two types of business meetings, regular (annual) and special. In order for a matter of business to be considered at either type of meeting, a written motion must be submitted to the church office for inclusion in the meeting's agenda. Regular business meetings will be held at least quarterly. Special business meetings may be held to consider business of a significant nature. A one-week notice regarding the subject, date, time, and location shall be given for special business meetings. Such notice shall be made from the pulpit on the Sunday preceding the date of special business meetings. The pastor, deacons, or any standing committee may request a special business meeting. A quorum consists of those members who are present and voting.~~

The church conducts two types of business meetings, ~~regular (annual)~~ and special. In order for a matter of business to be considered at either type of meeting, ~~a written motion must be submitted to the church office for inclusion in the meeting's agenda.~~ the request must be submitted in writing, at least two weeks in advance, to the Lead Pastor and Board for consideration. ~~Regular~~ An annual business meetings will be held annually to approve the budget and carry out any other business that the church needs to conduct. A two-week notice regarding the subject, date, time and location for the annual business meeting shall be given from the pulpit of each campus as well as in print and electronically.

~~For informational purposes, a quarterly financial report and membership report shall be presented to the congregation. This may be done in print, electronically, and/or from the pulpit. Special business meetings may be held to consider business of a significant nature. A minimum one-week~~

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notice regarding the subject, date, time, and location for special business meetings shall be given from the pulpit of each campus as well as in print and electronically. ~~Such notice shall be made from the pulpit at least one week before the date of special business meetings.~~ The Lead Pastor, deacons, or the Board may request a special business meeting. ~~A quorum consists of those members who are present and voting.~~ A quorum is as established in Article VI of the LSC Constitution.

The annual and/or special business meetings shall not be held in conjunction with the Sunday morning worship services.

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Revision History

Revision Date	Reason for Revision	Approved By
Dec. 10, 2000	Original version of Constitution adopted by church membership	Vote by church membership
May 13, 2001	Original version of By-Laws adopted by church membership	Vote by church membership
Jan. 13, 2013	Changed church name in Constitution and By-Laws from “West Bellevue Church, SBC” to “LifeSpring Church”; also changed acronym “WBC” to “LSC”	Vote by Personnel Committee and church membership
July 14, 2013	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Revised format; corrected spelling and grammar • Replaced “pastor” with “Lead Pastor” where applicable • Replaced “Church Operational Manual” with “Church Policy and Procedure Manuals” • Removed SBC from church name • Article VIII – Amendments: changed “regular business meeting” to business meeting; added “held at least one month before the vote” as the notification for church members to reviewed Constitution and Bylaw amendments. • Added to Bylaw I. Section 2. Qualifications for Membership “A list of potential church members will be presented to the congregation for informational purposes at least two weeks before new members are approved upon recommendation of the pastors and vote of the Church Board.” • Replaced “Trustees”, “church Leadership Team” and “Personnel Committee” with “the Board” • In Bylaw II Church Officers, Section 4: Replaced “Trustees” with “Church Board” and added the following to define the duties and responsibilities of the Board: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ “The Church Board, known as “the Board” shall provide accountability and oversight for the legal, financial, and liability matters of the church, as well as for buildings, grounds, properties, and human resources. The Board will hold, in trust, the property of the church. The Board shall have no power to buy, sell, mortgage, lease, or transfer any property without a specific vote of the church authorizing each action. It shall be the function of no less than three designated board members to serve as signatories. The signatories will affix their signatures to legal documents involving the sale, mortgaging, purchase, or rental of property or other legal documents where board members’ signatures are required. The Board shall also oversee human resource policies, staffing, and compensation. It shall provide guidance in the event of conflict between staff members or church members and staff. The Board will assist the Lead Pastor in establishing search committees or a screening body for staff or pastoral positions. 	Vote by church membership

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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ The Board will be comprised of a minimum of five members to properly fulfill the duties above. As needed, the Board may convene ad hoc committees to carry out its duties. ○ Board members will be elected to 3-year terms. Board members may serve a second consecutive term, after which they will rotate off the Board for at least one year.” ○ The congregation will be notified of Board vacancies before candidates are selected to allow for possible recommendations. Nominations will be brought to the Board for approval. Upon approval, the Board will then present that board candidate name(s) to the church body two weeks prior to the vote. Board members must be approved by the congregation by a majority vote of church members in attendance at the regular annual or a special business meeting. ● Deleted Bylaw II Church Officers, Section 7, Leadership Team, as it is consolidated into “the Board” in Section 4 noted above. ● In Bylaw III, Business Meetings, revised/replaced existing text with <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ “The church conducts two types of business meetings: regular (annual) and special. In order for a matter of business to be considered at either type of meeting, a written motion must be submitted to the church office for inclusion in the meeting’s agenda. Regular business meetings will be held annually to approve the budget and carry out any other business that the church needs to conduct. ○ For informational purposes, a quarterly financial report and membership report shall be presented to the congregation. This may be done in print, electronically, and/or from the pulpit. Special business meetings may be held to consider business of a significant nature. A one-week notice regarding the subject, date, time, and location must be given for special business meetings. Such notice should be made from the pulpit at least one week before the date of special business meetings. The Lead Pastor, deacons, or the Board may request a special business meeting. A quorum consists of those members who are present and voting.” ○ Changed “must” and “should” to shall for special meeting notification requirements 	