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Constitution; Hand Written; no date

Pierce Avenue United Presbyterian Church

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Constitution of The Pierce Avenue Presbyterian Church of Niagara Falls, N.Y.

Art. I.

Name.

The name of this church + corporation shall be The Pierce Avenue Presbyterian Church of Niagara Falls, N.Y.

Art. II.

Purposes.

This church is formed for the purpose of the worship of God + instruction in the Christian religion according to the Confession of Faith, Form of Government, Book

of Discipline & Directory of Worship of the Presbyterian Church in the United States of America.

III

Membership.

A. Any person may become a member of this church who is willing —

1. To repent of his sins & renounce them.
2. To publicly confess his faith in Jesus Christ as his Savior, & to become in all things his faithful servant.
3. To accept the Bible as containing the word of God & to promise by the help of God to bring his life into conformity with its teachings.

4. To covenant with this church to attend its services faithfully, to love its peace & walk its prosperity, to accept his & her share of its labors, & responsibilities, to submit to its order & discipline.

B. Or any person is entitled to membership in this church who brings to its session a letter of dismissal & recommendation to its membership from any church of religious body in communion with the Presbyterian church in the United States of America, & who with entire sincerity & solemnity covenants with this church.

C. Also all children born within the pale of this church are members, altho they be not in full communion until they shall have arrived at years of discretion.

D. No person shall be considered a member of this church, in full & regular standing, who has not attended its services ~~in the~~ during the year last past. But this section shall not apply to those who are aged or infirm.

Art. ~~IV~~.

Meetings.

A. The annual meeting of this church shall be held the Monday after the first Sunday in October at 8 p.m.

E. No member of this church shall exercise any contracting power in matters concerning the church.

B. Special meetings of this church may be called on the motion of the session, or upon the written request of at least ~~ten~~ fifteen members in full standing, presented to the session. Announcement of such meeting & business to be transacted thereat shall be made from the pulpit at least two Sunday morning services next preceding the date of such meeting, & no other business than that stated in the call shall be considered.

C. At each annual meeting of this church the order of procedure shall be as follows ——

1. Prayer.
2. Reading & adoption of the

minutes of the last annual meeting
of any intervening special meetings.
3. Reading & disposal of reports.
4. Unfinished business.
5. New business.
6. Election of elders.
7. Reading of minutes of meeting.
8. Adjournment.

D. At each special meeting of the
church the order of procedure
shall be as follows —

1. Prayer.
2. Reading call of such meeting.
3. Consideration & disposal
of such business as is
stated in the call.
4. Adjournment.

E. At each meeting of the church
twenty-five shall constitute a quorum.
fifteen

Art. V

The ~~Congregation~~

1. The congregation of this church shall consist of all communicants ~~of~~ who are contributors ~~relatively~~ to the support of the church.

2. The annual meeting ~~of~~ of the congregation shall be held in conjunction with the annual meeting of the church.

Art. VI

The ~~Trustees~~

The corporate interests ~~of~~ of this church are by law vested in a Board of Trustees who shall be elected in manner & form prescribed by law, & whose duties ~~shall be~~ are determined ~~thereby~~ by law.

Art. VII
The Session

A. The organization of the Constitution of the Presbyterian Church in the United States of America, the spiritual interests of this Church shall be administered by a Session.

B. The duties and the rights of the Session shall be such as prescribed in the ~~Constitution of the Book of Discipline~~ Form of government & Book of Discipline of the Presbyterian Church in the United States of America.

C. But in the exercise of its control over the worship of the Church & over the church property for religious & ecclesiastical purposes the Session shall have

no contract - walking power, neither shall any individual ~~or~~ or individuals of the Session, whether ministers or elders, have any ~~power~~ contract - walking power in matters concerning the church with any ~~other~~ adhering members of the church.

Art. VIII.

Amendments.

This constitution shall be repealed or amended only by a two-thirds majority of the qualified vote ~~of~~ at a special church meeting held for that purpose, or at any annual meeting of the church. ~~And in either case notice must be~~

D. The elders of this church shall have a three years' course of office, ~~after~~ when re-elected to office they shall be reinstated, in accordance with the Form of Government of the Presbyterian Church in the United States of America.

Art. IX

Adoption.

The foregoing constitution was duly adopted, thereby repealing all former by-laws, rules, regulations, or constitutional provisions, which are inconsistent or in conflict herewith, at the Pierce Avenue Presbyterian Church May 25th.

Edwin D. Hardin
Moderator of meeting

Clerk of meeting
Geo. W. Hoak.