

LCMS Kansas District

BYLAWS



June 2022

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THE KANSAS DISTRICT
of
THE LUTHERAN CHURCH—MISSOURI SYNOD

ARTICLES OF INCORPORATION
as amended

PREAMBLE

The undersigned, citizens of the State of Kansas, do hereby voluntarily associate ourselves together for the purpose of forming a private corporation under the laws of the State of Kansas, and do hereby certify

1. NAME

- 1.1** That the name of this corporation shall be The Kansas District of The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod.

2. CONFSSION AND OBJECTIVES

- 2.1** That the purposes for which this corporation is formed are to propagate the Evangelical Lutheran Church of the Unaltered Augsburg Confession, and to aid congregations in securing and maintaining property for public worship, according to the Confessions of the Book of Concord of the year 1580. All provisions of the Kansas District Articles of Incorporation and Bylaws are subject to the provisions of the Constitution, the Bylaws, and the resolutions of The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod in convention.

3. DISTRICT BOUNDARIES

- 3.1** That the places where its business is to be transacted are at any and all places in Kansas.

4. TERM OF EXISTENCE

- 4.1** The term of existence of this corporation shall be perpetual.
- 4.2** In the event of dissolution other than by direction from the Synod in convention, the assets of the Kansas District, subject to its liabilities, shall be transferred, consistent with applicable state and federal laws, to The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod.

5. GOVERNANCE OF THE CORPORATION

- 5.1** That the number of directors of this corporation shall be not less than three nor more than twenty.

5.2 In testimony whereof, we hereunto subscribed our names, this 31st day of January, A.D. 1890.

F. Pennekamp

H. C. Senne

Aug. Mangeldorf

C. Vetter

F. Droegemueller

C. Hafner

MISSION AND VISION STATEMENTS

Our mission is to support and encourage the members of the District in carrying out the mission Christ has given His church (Matt. 28).

Our vision is to partner with and connect the workers, congregations, and schools of the District with resources to advance God's mission.

THE BYLAWS

PREAMBLE

We, the members of The Kansas District of The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod, as redeemed children of God, acknowledge our part in Christ's mission of proclaiming the freedom and forgiveness of God in Christ to all human beings and of providing aid for them in their spiritual and physical needs. We acknowledge that we have bound ourselves together in a common bond of faith based on the Scriptures and the Lutheran Confessions as the members of District and Synod because we recognize the need for helping each other carry out this mission. We need the ministry of fellow Christians so that, with the help of the Holy Spirit, we may grow in faith and be better prepared to participate in Christ's mission both individually and corporately. In order that we may carry out this mission effectively, we, united in the common bond of faith and love, have established these procedures that shall help to strengthen and guide us. Within the framework of these procedures, we pledge ourselves to study the Scriptures diligently, to use the Sacraments faithfully, and to solicit the help of the Holy Spirit boldly.

1. NAME

- 1.1** The name of this corporation is “The Kansas District of The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod,” hereinafter referred to as “the Kansas District” or “the District.”

2. ORGANIZATION

- 2.1 Constitution:** The Constitution of The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod is also the constitution of the Kansas District. The Bylaws of the Synod are also the primary bylaws of the Kansas District.
- 2.2 Legal Representation:** The President and Secretary of the District shall sign all official documents of the District in the name of the District.
- 2.3 Membership:** Membership in the Kansas District shall be governed by the Constitution and the Bylaws of the Synod.
- 2.4 Relationship of the District to the Synod:** The relationship of the Kansas District to The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod shall be governed by the Constitution and Bylaws of the Synod.
- 2.5 District Conventions:** District conventions shall be governed by the Constitution and Bylaws of the Synod and also by the specific articles governing convention procedure as may be defined in these bylaws and the District Operations Manual (which includes position descriptions for Convention Floor Committees, District Convention Planning Committee, Elections Committee, Nominations Committee, Endorsement of Candidates for District Office, and the like).

2.6 District Board of Directors: The business and financial affairs of the District shall be governed by the Board of Directors. The Board of Directors oversees the implementation of the strategic mission of the District and is responsible to the District convention to equip, enable, and encourage congregations to proclaim the Gospel. The Board of Directors is vested with the general management and supervision of the District's business and legal affairs and shall adopt policies and require procedures that assure said management and supervision are effected. Between conventions the Board of Directors shall:

- (a) Provide for implementation within the District of decisions of the Synod and District conventions;
- (b) Approve and review progress of work program plans;
- (c) Adopt annual budgets to support work plans;
- (d) Procure and allocate necessary funds for support of Synod and District budgets;
- (e) Review program performance;
- (f) Call or hire District executive staff as deemed appropriate;
- (g) Provide review of executive staff positions; and
- (h) Administer the District endowment funds and other District funds.

2.7 District Operations Manual: In addition to the Constitution and Bylaws of the Synod and the bylaws of the District, a District Operations Manual shall be established and maintained. This Operations Manual shall specify responsibilities of all officers, boards, and committees, as well as policy statements and operating procedures governing all District functions.

2.8 Geographical Regions: The District shall be divided into geographical regions, each comprised of two (2) or more circuits, by the action of the District convention. A vice-president and a layperson shall be elected to the Board of Directors from each geographic region, and a layperson from each geographic region shall be elected to the District Nominations Committee. The region membership of an individual is determined by the region of the congregation of which he or she is a member.

3. ADMINISTRATION

3.1 Elective and appointive officers shall execute their responsibilities in accordance with Synod Bylaws. These elective and appointive officers shall be:

- 3.1.1 The District President: The District President shall be elected from the clergy roster of Synod and upon assumption of office shall hold membership in a member congregation of the District. The District President is the chief executive of the District. He shall represent the Synod in the District. He is responsible for implementation of the

resolutions of the Synod and the District conventions. The District President serves the congregations of the District as liaison between the congregations, District, and the Synod, and provides leadership and vision for the common work of the congregations, District, and District staff. He is responsible as top staff administrator for oversight of staff carrying out the directives of the Board of Directors. He shall serve as a voting member of the District Board of Directors and is not eligible to be appointed as the Presiding Officer of the Board meetings. The District President also serves as an ecclesiastical supervisor to congregations and individual members of the Synod, makes official visits and investigations, and maintains the official roster of workers in the District.

- 3.1.2 Vice-Presidents: A District Vice-President shall be elected from each region as provided by District Bylaw 2.8. The Vice-Presidents shall be elected from the clergy roster of the District and have membership in a congregation within the region from which they are elected. The Vice-Presidents shall assist the President in administering the overall program of the District, especially in their regions. They shall succeed to the office of President, in the event the President is unable to serve, in the order designated by the convention.
- 3.1.3 Secretary: The District Secretary shall be elected from the clergy roster of the District and shall hold membership in a voting congregation of the District. The District Secretary is responsible for conducting the nominations process for the elections of President and Vice-Presidents, facilitating the work of the Nominations Committee, organizing the work of the Elections Committee, and maintaining the District Operations Manual and related guidelines. The District Secretary is responsible for recording and preserving the official record of actions of the District convention and the Board of Directors.
- 3.1.4 Treasurer: The District Treasurer shall be appointed by the Board of Directors and is the custodian of all money and legal documents of the District. The Treasurer is assisted by the District staff for accounting and preparation of records. The Treasurer shall be a layperson, a member of a voting congregation of the District, and shall demonstrate skills in finance and accounting. The appointment shall run concurrent with District convention, after which reappointment may be granted.
- 3.1.5 Circuit Visitors: A Circuit Visitor for each circuit of the District shall be nominated and elected from the clergy roster of the District as prescribed by the Bylaws of the Synod.
- 3.1.6 The Conference of Circuit Visitors shall assist the District President according to the Bylaws of the LCMS and shall serve as liaison to bring the needs of congregations to the attention of the District President.
- 3.1.7 Presiding Officer of Board meetings: The Board of Directors shall appoint a member of the Board to be the Presiding Officer of the meetings of the Board in consultation with and with the concurrence of the District President. The District President will not

normally serve as the Presiding Officer of the Board meetings. In the absence of the Presiding Officer, the District President shall assume the role of Presiding Officer, pro tem.

3.2 Elective Boards and Appointive Boards, Committees, and Commissions shall be:

3.2.1 The Board of Directors

3.2.1.1 The Board of Directors shall consist of seventeen (17) voting members elected at the District Convention:

(a) Seven (7) ordained ministers:

(1) The District President

(2) The Regional Vice-Presidents

(3) The District Secretary

(4) The Chairperson of the Conference of Circuit Visitor

(b) Three (3) commissioned ministers

(c) Seven (7) laypersons, at least one (1) elected from each region. (Regional members shall have residence membership in a congregation within their region.)

3.2.1.2 The advisors of the Board of Directors shall be the District Treasurer and the District lead staff.

3.2.1.3 Board Meetings

(a) The Board of Directors shall meet a minimum of four (4) times each year. Additional meetings may be called by the District President. Time and place of these meetings shall be determined by the District President. A majority of members of the Board shall constitute a quorum.

(b) To meet the exigencies of District operations, the Board may meet electronically using audio, video, or internet-based conferencing technologies. The Board may vote by written, mailed, or electronic ballot pursuant to notification. Actions taken at such meetings or by written ballot shall have the same effect as those taken at regular meetings of the Board.

(1) In such cases, the technology must allow for each Board member to fully participate (hear, speak, have or been given access to documents and other materials as appropriate), including the opportunity to vote.

- (2) Members must be given a reasonable opportunity to access the electronic meeting. If a Board member does not have access to the technology to be used, arrangements shall be made for the member to participate in person by coming to the District Office or other mutually agreed upon location (prior arrangement necessary).
- (3) As with any board, regular, or special meeting, minutes shall be kept that record a summary of the major points of discussion and any action(s) taken.
- (4) All Board members listening or watching shall acknowledge their presence to the meeting. These names, along with the attending Board members, shall be recorded in the minutes of the meeting.
- (5) Quorum: A majority of voting members of the Board shall constitute a quorum at any properly called or scheduled meeting.
- (6) Actions Using Electronic Ballot: In situations where Board members are not able to meet as described above, the Board may take action by use of electronic ballot (e.g., e-mail, internet-based voting, etc.), provided all voting members of the Board cast a vote and the result of the voting is unanimous.

(c) Minutes of previous meetings, including conference calls and the responses to mailed ballots, shall be provided to the members of the Board at least ten (10) days prior to Board meetings.

(d) The agenda for each meeting of the Board shall be prepared by the District President in consultation with the Executive Committee.

(e) The District Secretary shall serve as secretary of the Board.

3.2.2 Service Boards: The Board of Directors shall organize the following service boards as described in the District Operations Manual:

3.2.2.1 Board of Missions: The Board of Missions is responsible for planning and implementing evangelism and mission efforts of the District and equipping, encouraging, and empowering congregations in their mission and outreach efforts.

3.2.2.2 Board of Education and Youth: The Board of Education and Youth is to foster and promote Christian education in the congregations of the District, so that children, youth, and adults may grow in their faith, knowledge, and understanding of God’s Word, thereby equipping, encouraging, and empowering them to proclaim the Gospel in their lives.

- 3.2.2.3 Board of Caring Ministry: The Board of Caring Ministry equips, empowers, and encourages congregations in caring ministry, which responds to the special needs of people. It also offers care and support where needed for professional workers of the church.
- 3.2.2.4 Board of Stewardship: The Board of Stewardship encourages the free and joyous activity of the child of God and God's family, the church, in managing all of life and life's resources for God's purposes and fulfilling the responsibilities of the Synod Bylaws.
- 3.2.2.5 Board of Administration: The Board of Administration provides administrative and support services to the Board of Directors and congregations of the District including accounting, property management, communications, and related services.
- 3.2.2.6 Executive Committee
- (a) The Executive Committee shall include the District President, Presiding Officer of the Board meetings, the Regional Vice-Presidents, the Chairman of the Circuit Visitors, the Secretary, and the Treasurer. The District President shall serve as chairman of the Executive Committee. The District lead staff, defined as executive and professional staff, are advisors of the Executive Committee. The Executive Committee shall recommend action to the Board on matters that do not fall within the scope of activities of the boards listed above. The Executive Committee is to serve as the coordinating agency of the Board of Directors for meeting preparation, recommendations for appointments, and as a forum for sharing program and budget information with service boards.
- (b) Emergency meetings: The Executive Committee may act for the Board of Directors in times of emergency between meetings and in all matters delegated to it by specific action or by policy of the Board, including response to legal action. The Executive Committee may not perform acts specifically required by statute or by legislation or the Constitution, Bylaws, and resolutions of the Synod that are required to be performed by the Board, nor may they overturn actions of the Board. All Executive Committee actions shall be reported to the Board of Directors. Any member of the Executive Committee may request full Board action on any matter. Minutes of the Executive Committee shall be sent to the Board within two weeks of Committee action. These meetings may be called by the District President, the Presiding Officer of the Board meetings, or three members of the Executive Committee.
- 3.2.2.7 Salary Review Committee: The Salary Review Committee is responsible to the Board of Directors for recommending salaries for the staff positions of the

District and recommending guidelines for worker compensation for use by congregations.

3.2.2.8 President's Council: The President's Council shall consist of the District President, Vice-Presidents, Secretary, and Chairperson of the Circuit Visitors. The District President may consult with them on ecclesiastical matters as appropriate.

3.2.3 The District Nominations Committee

3.2.4 One member of the Synod's Committee for Convention Nominations when required.

3.2.5 The following Service Boards are appointed by the District President in consultation with the Executive Committee and approved by the Board of Directors: Board of Caring Ministry, Board of Stewardship, Board of Education and Youth, Board of Missions, and the Board of Administration.

3.2.6 Standing Committees and Commissions of the Kansas District shall be the Elections Committee, the Congregational Constitution and Bylaw Review Committee, the District Bylaws and Operations Manual Committee, and others described in the District Operations Manual.

3.2.6.1 Members of these standing committees are appointed by the District President and approved by the Board of Directors.

3.2.6.2 Members of these standing committees must be members in good standing of a voting congregation of the Kansas District.

3.2.7 Special Committees

3.2.7.1 Special committees shall be such committees as are from time to time necessary for carrying out the duties of the District service boards. Members of these committees are appointed by the District President in consultation with the Executive Committee and are approved by the Board of Directors.

3.2.7.2 Members of these committees must be members of a voting congregation of the Kansas District.

3.3 Term of Office

3.3.1 The term of office for the President shall be three (3) years. The President shall not serve more than four (4) consecutive terms.

3.3.2 The term of office for the Vice-Presidents, Secretary, Circuit Visitors, and the Board of Directors shall be three (3) years. None of these officers shall serve more than three consecutive terms.

- 3.3.3 Service of more than one half (1/2) term in any elected office shall be regarded as a full term.
- 3.3.4 The term of office of the District Nominations Committee shall be three (3) years. Members of the Committee may not succeed themselves.
- 3.3.5 The term of office of appointive boards, committees, and commissions shall run concurrent with District convention. Due to their responsibilities, the District Youth Ministry Team and the Church Worker Conference Planning Committee are exempt from running concurrent with District convention.
- 3.3.6 Members of District boards and commissions shall be ineligible for reelection or reappointment to the same board or commission after serving three (3) consecutive terms unless otherwise provided in the bylaws. They may become eligible again for election or appointment to the same office, board, or commission after an interval of three (3) or more years. More than one half (1/2) term shall be regarded as a full term.
- 3.3.7 Any member of a board or commission who is ineligible for reelection or reappointment may be elected or appointed to another position.
- 3.3.8 Members of the District staff, while eligible for elective office, shall not serve concurrently as staff and elected officers.
- 3.4 Accountability of Officers, Boards, Committees, and Commissions:** All boards, committees, and commissions shall be responsible to the Board of Directors for the discharge of their responsibilities. Officers in general are responsible to the convention of the District and, as regards ecclesiastical supervision, to the President of the District.
- 3.5 Holding More than One (1) Elective Office:** A nominated candidate, if elected, may not hold more than one (1) office to which he/she was elected. The individual may be considered for a second office, provided it is by official appointment as referenced in the Synod Bylaws. Doubtful cases shall be decided by the President of Synod.
- 3.6 Succession to the Office of District President:** The Vice-Presidents shall, in the order in which they have been designated by the District convention, succeed to the presidency in the event the President becomes unable to carry out his duties. Whenever the Board of Directors determines that the President is unable to serve in the capacity because of prolonged illness or disability, the duties and responsibilities of the office of the President shall be assumed by the First Vice-President. The First Vice-President shall remain as the acting President until the Board of Directors determines that the conditions of illness or disability have been removed.
- 3.7 Vacancies in Elective or Appointive Office**
- 3.7.1 In the event of a vacancy in the office of a Vice-President, a successor shall be appointed by the Board of Directors from the region not represented. A Vice-President so appointed shall be last in the order of succession.

- 3.7.2 Vacancies that occur in the office of Circuit Visitor between conventions shall be filled by appointment by the District President.
- 3.7.3 Vacancies in standing committees shall be filled by the District President.
- 3.7.4 Vacancies in the other elective or appointed offices or any other board, special committee, or commission shall be filled by appointment by the Board of Directors. At least one nominee shall be submitted by the Executive Committee. A vacancy in a position of a regionally elected layperson on the Board of Directors shall be filled with an appointee from that region.

3.8 Appointment of Board Chairpersons: The President shall appoint the chairperson of each service board in consultation with the Executive Committee and with the approval of the Board of Directors.

4. CONVENTION NOMINATIONS AND ELECTIONS

4.1 Nominations Committee: There shall be a District Nominations Committee consisting of three (3) ordained ministers (not more than one [1] from the same region of the District), one (1) commissioned minister, and four (4) laypersons, (one [1] elected from each region of the District). These shall be elected at a regular District convention from the membership of voting congregations. This committee shall propose at least two (2) candidates for each office to be filled at the next District convention except the offices of President, Vice-President, and Circuit Visitor. All incumbents eligible for reelection shall be considered to be nominees. The region membership of an individual is determined by the region of the congregation of which he or she is a member.

4.2 Nominations for District President, Vice-Presidents, Regional Lay Members of the Board of Directors, and Circuit Visitors

- 4.2.1 District President: Each congregation shall be entitled to nominate one ordained minister as candidate for District President. Candidates for the office of District President shall be on the clergy roster of Synod. Only three individuals receiving the highest number of nominations, and agreeing to serve if elected, may be listed on the convention ballot.
- 4.2.2 Regional Vice-Presidents: Each congregation shall be entitled to nominate from their region one ordained minister from the clergy roster of the District who shall have membership in a congregation within the region from which he was nominated. Candidates on the ballot for Vice-President from each region shall be all those having been nominated and who agree to serve if elected.
- 4.2.3 Regional Lay Members of the Board of Directors: Each congregation shall be entitled to nominate two lay members who are members of a congregation in the respective region as a candidate for regional lay member of the Board of Directors. Candidates shall be at least the two lay members in the region who receive the greatest number of

nominations and agree to serve if elected. All candidates not elected shall be on the ballot for the at-large lay positions on the Board of Directors.

- 4.2.4 Circuit Visitor: The selection of Circuit Visitor shall follow the process detailed in the Synod Handbook.
- 4.2.5 District Secretary: Each congregation or individuals (rostered workers and individual members of congregations) may nominate one pastor who is on the clergy roster of the District and holds membership in a voting congregation of the District.
- 4.2.6 At-Large Lay Members of the Board of Directors: Lay members not designated by region may be nominated by congregations, rostered workers, or individual members of congregations.

4.3 Elections

- 4.3.1 The convention may alter or add to the nominated slates except for the slate for President. A floor nomination must be accompanied by written acceptance of nomination from the nominee and a brief biographical description of the nominee. Material should be provided in digital format when possible.
- 4.3.2 During the convention, the order of elections will be: (1) President, (2) Vice-Presidents, and (3) all other elective positions.
- 4.3.3 A majority of all votes cast shall be required for election to all elective offices and elective board positions. Candidates receiving a majority on the first ballot shall be declared elected.
- 4.3.4 The election of the President shall take place by ballot. If no candidate receives a majority of the votes cast, the candidate receiving the fewest votes shall be eliminated on each subsequent ballot until one candidate receives a majority of the votes cast.
- 4.3.5 The election of the Vice-Presidents shall take place by ballot. If no candidate receives a majority of the votes cast, the candidate receiving the fewest votes shall be eliminated on each subsequent ballot until one candidate receives a majority of the votes cast.
- 4.3.6 Upon the election of the regional Vice-Presidents, a final election shall take place ranking the Vice-Presidents by separate ballots with a simple majority determining the first, second, third and fourth Vice-Presidents in line of succession.
- 4.3.7 Except on the election of the President and the Vice-Presidents, the following regulations shall apply: Candidates receiving a majority on the first ballot will be declared elected. When a second or succeeding ballot is required for a majority, the candidate receiving the fewest votes and all candidates receiving less than 15% of the votes cast shall be dropped from the ballot, unless fewer than two candidates receive 15% or more of the votes cast, in which case the three highest candidates shall constitute the ballot.

5. CONVENTIONS AND CONFERENCES

5.1 District Conventions

- 5.1.2 The regular convention of the District is held in the year immediately preceding the general convention of the Synod. Only the Synod has the right to make an exception to this rule. Each of the parishes/congregations of the District (a multi-congregation parish being considered as a congregational unit) shall be represented by one (1) pastor and one (1) lay delegate duly elected by the congregation at least one hundred fifty (150) days prior to the Convention. Congregations of a multi-congregation parish not contributing a lay voter may send an advisory lay delegate, with voice but no vote, according to the Synod Bylaws.
- 5.1.3 The vote at all District conventions shall be restricted to the duly elected and certified voting pastors and lay delegates of the congregations. Multi-congregation parishes shall determine the voting lay delegate who shall represent all congregations of that parish. If a congregation or parish has more than one called pastor who is eligible to vote, the congregation shall designate which pastor will cast a vote on behalf of the congregation.
- 5.1.4 The District convention shall be conducted in accordance with the Synod Handbook. Matters for consideration by the convention shall be presented by overture submitted by a member congregation of the District, the District Board of Directors, an official District conference of ordained and/or commissioned ministers, a committee established by a prior convention, or a forum of a circuit. Resolutions for consideration by the convention shall be brought to the floor of the convention by appointed Floor Committees.

5.2 District Ordained and Commissioned Minister Conferences

5.2.1 Official Conferences

- 5.2.1.1 Districtwide ordained ministers conferences shall be held at least once each year.
- 5.2.1.2 Districtwide commissioned ministers conferences shall be held at least once each year.
- 5.2.1.3 In the odd-numbered years the ordained ministers conference and the commissioned ministers conference shall be held at the same time and in the same city so that both conferences shall be enabled to meet together in joint session at least part of the time. Exceptions may be made by the District President in consultation with the President's Council.

5.2.2 General Regulations

- 5.2.2.1 Travel, meals, housing, and other expenses for professional workers attending official conferences shall be borne by the congregations of the ordained ministers and commissioned ministers involved.
- 5.2.2.2 All ordained ministers conferences and commissioned ministers conferences shall be governed by the regulations stated in the Bylaws of the Synod.
- 5.2.2.3 All ordained and commissioned ministers on the District rosters are expected to attend the meeting of their official conference or present a valid excuse.

5.3 Visitation Circuit Forums: The congregations of a visitation circuit, represented by a pastor and one layperson of each member congregation or one layperson from a multi-congregation parish as designated by the congregation or parish, shall meet in circuit forums at least once triennially to select Circuit Visitors, to participate in the triennial process of suggesting mission and ministry emphases to the District convention, and to consider submitting other overtures to the District or Synod convention as described in the Synod Bylaws. In addition, the forum is encouraged to meet at least two times a year to carry out other functions as described in the Synod Bylaws. Congregations of a multi-congregation parish not contributing a lay voter may send an advisory lay delegate, with voice but no vote.

5.4 Electoral Circuit Meetings: The congregations of a visitation circuit or two adjacent visitation circuits shall meet once triennially to carry out the responsibility of electing delegates to the general convention of the Synod and to consider sending overtures to the Synod convention, according to the Synod Bylaws.

5.5 Circuit Convocations: Circuits of the Kansas District may hold circuit convocations in the year following the Synod convention. Joint convocations of circuits may be held among circuits. The purpose of the circuit convocation is to provide a setting in which congregational members may review and discuss the work of the circuit forum and may receive information on various phases of the work pursued through districts and the Synod. Its emphasis will be on inspiration, education, and motivation.

6. PROPERTY

6.1 This corporation shall have power to acquire by gift, grants, demise, devise, bequest, purchase, or otherwise, property of every kind and description, real, personal, or mixed; to hold and use such property and deal with, or dispose of, any or all such property by sale, exchange, or gift, when necessary or expedient to carry out the objectives of the corporation; provided that all such property shall be acquired, dealt with, or disposed of in a manner not in conflict with the laws of the State of Kansas or the laws of any state in which said property is located.

7. AMENDMENTS AND CHANGES

- 7.1** Changes in these bylaws and additions thereto may be made provided they are not contrary to the Constitution, Bylaws, and resolutions of the Synod, have received prior approval of the Synod's Commission on Constitutional Matters, are presented to the congregations of the District at least thirty (30) days prior to the time they are presented for vote, are separately considered and acted upon, and are passed by a majority of the voting delegates at a District convention.
- 7.2** The District in convention may vote to amend its articles or bylaws provided the resolution is contingent on approval of the Commission on Constitutional Matters. The amended articles or bylaws become effective immediately upon, and only upon, approval of the Commission on Constitutional Matters. Should the Commission on Constitutional Matters not approve the adopted changes, the District Board of Directors may modify amendments to comply with the Commission on Constitutional Matters requirements upon their two-thirds vote.

8. DISTRICT OPERATIONS MANUAL

- 8.1** Changes to the District Operations Manual that do not affect the Bylaws of the District shall be reviewed and approved by the Board of Directors. The Board of Directors may not adopt any proposed changes to the District Operations Manual that are contrary to the bylaws of the District.