

**CHRISTIAN CHURCH (DISCIPLES OF CHRIST) IN NEBRASKA
BY LAW AMENDMENTS
RESOLUTION FOR ARTICLE IV - REGIONAL CHURCH BOARD
Resolution 2204**

WHEREAS: The Christian Church In Nebraska's Regional Church Board has engaged in conversations for more than two years, exploring what it means to be the Regional Church today, and into the future; and

WHEREAS: The Christian Church In Nebraska's Continuing Review Committee has worked diligently for more than one year to discern God's call upon us as the Regional Church In Nebraska, and how to best re-imagine with God the structure that will best support our newly stated purpose *To engage in spiritual practices as we accompany one another and our neighbors so that we can instill, support, and sustain the vitality of the Local Churches in our Region;* and

WHEREAS: The Christian Church In Nebraska meets every two years to consider resolutions in its Regional Assembly;

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED: That the Christian Church In Nebraska, at its Regional Assembly's Business Session held on November 5, 2022 at First Christian Church in Grand Island, adopt the Proposed Article IV to its By Laws as attached to completely replace the Article IV of its Current By Laws.

**CHRISTIAN CHURCH (DISCIPLES OF CHRIST) IN NEBRASKA
BY LAWS
CURRENT LANGUAGE**

CURRENT LANGUAGE

- 155 **ARTICLE IV**
156 **BOARD OF DIRECTORS**
- 157 A. Responsibilities of the Board.
158 1. Policy
159 a. Receive proposed policy from other regional entities
160 b. Propose policy
161 c. Prepare policy recommendations for action by Regional Assembly
162 d. Establish policy as required between Regional Assemblies
163 e. Implement policy
164 f. Interpret existing policy
165 g. Review and evaluate policy
- 166 2. Ratification of Executive Committee action
167 3. Regional priorities
168 4. Budget
169 5. Personnel
170 6. Leader development
171 7. Continuing review
172 8. Call regional ministerial staff
173 9. Program oversight
- 174
175 B. Membership
176 1. Moderator
177 2. Moderator-Elect
178 3. Vice Moderator
179 4. Secretary
180 5. Chair or Designated Representative¹ – Budget and Finance Committee
181 6. Chair or Designated Representative – Cotner College Commission on Continuing
182 Education

¹ Note: "Designated Representative" is someone appointed for the biennium by the Commission or Committee as the voting member of that Commission or Committee in place of the elected Chair. Such appointment shall be done at the first meeting of the Commission or Committee and the CCN Regional Office shall be notified in writing of this designation.

- 183 7. Chair or Designated Representative – Leader Identification/Nomination
184 Committee
185 8. Chair or Designated Representative – New Congregation Establishment
186 Commission
187 9. Chair or Designated Representative – Youth and Outdoor Ministry Committee
188 (without vote)
189 10. Chair or Designated Representative – Outreach, Vision and Witness Commission
190 11. Chair or Designated Representative – Pastoral Leadership Commission
191 12. Chair or Designated Representative – Personnel Committee
192 13. General Board Representative
193 14. Member-at-Large
194 15. Member-at-Large
195 16. President of the Nebraska Christian Church and Cotner College Foundation, Inc.

- 195 16. President of the Nebraska Christian Church and Cotner College Foundation, Inc.
196 17. United Church of Christ representative (without vote)
197 18. Staff: Ex-officio (without vote)
198 19. Chair or Designated Representative – Nebraska Disciples Women (with one vote);
199 C. Quorum
200 1. A quorum shall be fifty percent (50%) of voting members
201
202 D. Specific Responsibilities of Board Members and Committees reporting to the Board.
203 1. Moderator: To serve as Moderator of the Regional Assembly, the Board, and the
204 Executive Committee. Shall be an ex-officio member without vote on all other
205 committees, commissions, and task groups.
206 2. Moderator-Elect: To serve one term in preparation for Moderator of the Region:
207 a. Chair of Continuing Review Committee
208 b. Serve as a non-voting representative on the United Church of Christ Board of
209 Directors
210 c. Participate, as an observer, in all administrative functions of the Moderator.
211 3. Vice Moderator: Serve as Moderator when the Moderator is not available and
212 chair the Resolutions Committee. Will have responsibilities for or assign
213 responsibilities for working with standing committees and commissions not
214 represented on the Board. Will arrange for leadership of these groups to meet with
215 the Board as needed.
216 4. Secretary: Perform the duties of secretary for the Regional Assembly and the
217 Board.
218 5. Budget & Finance Committee:
219 a. Develop budget in accordance with regional policies, priorities and submit to
220 the Board for action.
221 b. Submit financial reports to the Board.
222 c. The Board shall select a member of the Regional Staff who shall act as
223 collecting agent for gifts, contracts, correspondence and other documents.
224 All expenditures with the exception of petty cash shall be by check signed by
225 persons authorized by the Board.
226 All gifts, assets, and bequests over \$500 donated to the Christian Church
227 (Disciples of Christ) in Nebraska, unless otherwise specified by the donor, shall
228 be transferred to the Nebraska Christian Church and Cotner College
229 Foundation, Inc. to become a part of the permanent CCN endowment fund
230 thereof and shall not be subject to encroachment for payment of expenses or
231 otherwise. It shall be presumed that any undesignated gift of \$500 or less was
232 made for the CCN operating budget.
233 d. Insure that an independent audit of regional accounts is done on an annual
234 basis.
235 6. Cotner College Commission on Continuing Education:
236 a. The Commission will have a position on the Board for the purpose of ministry
237 and program coordination, and will be guided by the Cotner College Bylaws.
238 7. Leader Identification/Nomination Committee
239 a. Recruit and orient leadership within Region.
240 b. Nominate members of the Board and the Committee/Commission
241 Chairpersons and others as needed. (See Article III Elections)
242 c. Identify potential leadership within the Region and maintain a skills and interest
243 bank.
244 8. New Congregation Establishment Commission
245 a. Promote establishment of new congregations.

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9. Youth and Outdoor Ministry Committee:
 - a. The committee shall be responsible for all programs, oversight of all matters concerning outdoor ministry activities including Kamp Kaleo and all staffing (paid and volunteer) of the Youth and Outdoor Ministries of the Christian Church (Disciples of Christ) in Nebraska in coordination with the Nebraska Conference of the United Church of Christ.
 - b. The Youth and Outdoor Ministry Committee will be guided by the Working Document developed jointly with the Nebraska Conference of the United Church of Christ.
 - c. The Youth and Outdoor Ministry Committee will serve as the Christian Church in Nebraska's liaison to Kaleo On The River.
 10. Outreach, Vision and Witness Commission.
 - a. The commission shall be charged with the responsibility of keeping before the region opportunities for a prophetic ministry, involvement in outreach concerns, and a vision and witness of new and creative ministries.
 - b. Be responsible to special Reconciliation appeals. Shall use the funds received through Reconciliation giving for its program allocations. Allocations shall be made such as grants, seed money, sustaining support and emergency funding which meets the guidelines of the Reconciliation Program.
 - c. Maintain special covenants and relationships with:
 - (1) Interchurch Ministries (IMN) of Nebraska
 - (2) Child Saving Institute (CSI)
 11. Pastoral Leadership Commission
 - a. Responsible for the commissioning, ordination, standing, nurture and care of ministers in the Christian Church (Disciples of Christ) in Nebraska (see The Design, Article VI, paragraph 95).
 - b. Shall relate to ministers and congregations in areas of pastoral concern and clergy life.
 - c. Shall be responsible for recruitment and the nurture and care of students preparing for ministry.
 - d. Maintain special covenantal relationship with Phillips Theological Seminary.
 12. Personnel Committee :
 - a. Review and recommend revision of personnel policy.
 13. General Board Representative
 - a. Attend General Board meetings
 - b. Reports to the Regional Assembly
 14. Members-at-Large
 - a. There shall be two Members-at-Large.
 - b. Attend all Board meetings.
 15. Nebraska Christian Church and ~~Cotner~~ Cotner College Foundation, Inc.
 - a. Any amendments or changes to the Foundation's Articles of Incorporation or Bylaws shall be subject to approval by the Regional Board of the Christian Church in Nebraska and ~~Cotner~~ Cotner College Board of Directors.
 16. United Church of Christ Representative
 - a. Appointed by the United Church of Christ
 - b. Attend all Board meetings

- 294 E. Specific Responsibilities of Other Committees, Commissions, Fellowships and Task Groups.
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296 1. Continuing Review Committee:
297 a. Moderator-Elect shall serve as Chairperson and the two (2) immediate past
298 Moderators and two (2) others to be nominated by the Leader Identification/
299 Nomination Committee and elected by the Board.
300 b. This committee shall review the Articles of Incorporation and Bylaws. The
301 purpose of this review shall be:
302 (1) To examine the Bylaws and determine how they may facilitate the effective
303 and efficient business and program of the Region.
304 (2) To examine, evaluate, and determine if the business of the Region is being
305 conducted in accordance with the Bylaws.
306 (3) To make recommendations to the Board and Regional Assembly.
307 c. The Committee shall meet at least 120 days prior to the Regional Assembly to
308 review the Articles of Incorporation and Bylaws.
309 d. Proposed amendments shall be presented to the congregations for their study
310 and to the Regional Assembly for its consideration and action.
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312 2. Regional Assembly Planning Commission:
313 a. See Article II B for the responsibilities for this commission.
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315 3. Resolutions Committee
316 a. See Article II, C.7. for the responsibilities of this Committee.
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318 4. Property Committee:
319 a. Provide for the care, insurance, maintenance and upkeep of all property
320 owned and leased by the Christian Church (Disciples of Christ) in Nebraska.
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322 5. Fellowships:
323 a. Youth Fellowship (joint ministry with United Church of Christ)
324 b. Nebraska Disciples Women shall appoint a representative to be recognized as
325 a voting member on the Christian Church in Nebraska Board.
326 c. Disciples Men
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328 6. Task Groups:
329 a. Shall be appointed by and responsible to the Board. The length of the term
330 shall be determined at the time of the appointment. Continuation/dissolution
331 shall occur based on evaluation at the end of the term.
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333 F. Appointments:
334 1. Unless specifically stated by these Bylaws, all members of the Committees,
335 Commissions, Fellowships and Task Groups of the Board shall be appointed by the
336 Board in consultation with the respective committee chairperson and the Leader
337 Identification/Nomination Committee.
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339 2. The chair of the committee task groups shall be appointed by the respective
340 committee chairperson in consultation with the Leader Identification/Nomination
341 Committee.
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343 3. The members of task groups shall be appointed by the respective committee
344 chairperson and task group chairperson in consultation with the Leader
345 Identification/ Nomination Committee.
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347 G. Meetings:
348 1. The Board shall meet at least quarterly. Members may participate in meetings
349 telephonically or other audio video conferencing equipment by which all
350 participants are able to hear the business as conducted.
351
352 2. All other entities shall meet as needed.

- 342 H. Terms of Office:
343 1. Moderator and Moderator-Elect: a single two (2) year term.
344 2. Members-at-large: a single two (2) year term.
345 3. Other members: eligible to serve two (2) consecutive two (2) year terms.
346 4. Unexpired terms will be filled through action of the Board.
347 5. Chair of Cotner College Commission on Continuing Education: while holding that
348 Commission office.
349 6. President, Nebraska Christian Church and Cotner College Foundation, Inc: while
350 holding that office.
- 351 I. Executive Committee:
352 1. Responsibilities
353 a. To provide advice and counsel to the Regional Minister and Moderator.
354 b. If immediate action is required, the Executive Committee will act on behalf of
355 the Board within existing policy.
356 c. A report of action taken will be submitted to the Board.
- 357 2. Membership
358 a. Moderator
359 b. Moderator-Elect
360 c. Vice-Moderator
361 d. Secretary
362 e. Chair of the Budget and Finance Committee
363 f. Regional Minister (ex-officio without vote)

**CHRISTIAN CHURCH (DISCIPLES OF CHRIST) IN NEBRASKA
BY LAWS
PROPOSED ARTICLE IV**

Regional Church Board of Directors

PROPOSED LANGUAGE

- A. Purpose – To design, develop, plan, implement, and evaluate the ministries of the Christian Church In Nebraska. (lines 157-173)
- B. Membership (lines 175-198)
1. Officers shall constitute the Executive Committee of the Regional Church Board
 - a. Moderator – To serve as Moderator of the Regional Church Assembly, the Regional Church Board, and the Executive Committee. Shall be an ex-officio member without vote on all Centers, committees, commissions, and task groups.
 - b. Vice Moderator – To serve as Moderator when the Moderator is not available, and to serve one term in preparation for Moderator of the Regional Church, including participating as an observer in all administrative functions of the Moderator.
 - c. Treasurer – To develop the budget in accordance with Regional Church practices and priorities, and submit to the Regional Church Board for action.
 - i. Provide oversight for financial management, in partnership with the Regional Minister, including submitting and reviewing financial statements to the Regional Church Board on a quarterly basis;
 - ii. Partner with the Regional Church staff to collect gifts, contracts, correspondence and other documents related to budgeting and financial management;
 - iii. Ensure that services provided by Treasury Services of the Office of General Minister and President of the Christian Church (Disciples of Christ) meet expectations for the Regional Church, including annual audit of the OGMP.
 - d. Secretary – Record, maintain, and submit minutes of all Regional Church Assemblies, Board meetings, and Executive Committee meetings for approval by respective bodies.
 2. Regional Church Representative to the General Church Board, as prescribed by the General Church's *The Design* or other governing documents.
 3. Chairs of the 4 Centers:
 - a. Center on Church Development
 - b. Center on Church Leadership
 - c. Center on Church Mission
 - d. Center on Regional Church
 4. 2 At-Large Board Members
 5. Chair of Each Fellowship Group:
 - a. Disciples Women's Ministry
 - b. Disciples Men's Ministry
 - c. Youth and Outdoor Ministry
- C. Terms of Office (lines 342-350)
1. Each Board position shall be for a period of 2 years commencing January 1 following the Regional Assembly where positions were elected, and for 24 months ending December 31st,
 2. The Regional Church Representative to the General Church Board will serve one 4-year term, or as prescribed by the General Church's *The Design* or other governing documents.

3. Terms shall be for calendar years following Regional Assemblies.
4. Unexpired terms shall be filled by action of the Regional Church Board.
5. Terms can be renewed for a second and third term, as requested by the Center for Regional Church and/or its Nominating Committee, and approved by the Regional Church Board and Regional Church Assembly.

D. Responsibilities of the Board (lines 156-173)

1. To prepare policy recommendations to the Regional Church Assembly, and establish policies as directed by the Regional Church Assembly, implement policies, interpret existing policies, and review and evaluate policies.
2. To ratify Executive Committee decisions (lines 375-387 of the full By Laws document)
3. To establish Regional Church priorities.
4. To adopt an annual budget.
5. To ensure that there is adequate personnel to fulfill the duties and responsibilities of the Regional Church, and to call, support, supervise and evaluate the Regional Minister.
6. To foster leadership development throughout the Regional Church.
7. To provide program ministry oversight.

DI. Meetings (lines 337-341)

1. The Regional Church Board shall meet at least quarterly.
2. Members may participate in-person, telephonically, or other audio or video conferencing equipment by which all participants are able to hear the business as conducted.

DII. Executive Committee (lines 351-363)

1. Will make decisions in between meetings of the Regional Church Board of Directors.
2. Decisions of the Executive Committee will be reported to the Regional Church Board at its next/subsequent meeting.
3. Provide advice and counsel to the Regional Minister and the Regional Church Board.