

**CONSTITUTION OF
OZARK HIGHLANDS CHURCH**

PREAMBLE

We believe all things in the Church are to be done decently and in order so as to serve Jesus Christ. This pertains to the government as well as to the corporate worship of the Church. Convinced that Jesus Christ will protect and guide us, we seek to obey Scripture through the following standards for the orderly and scriptural government of our Church, Ozark Highlands Church, Ozark, Missouri.

ARTICLE 1 - NAME

The name of this organization shall be Ozark Highlands Church of Ozark, Missouri, the same being a corporation organized under the laws of the State of Missouri.

ARTICLE 2 - PURPOSE

The purpose of this organization shall be to maintain the public worship of God, to exalt the standard of Christian living and the leadership of our divine Lord and Master, to cooperate in spreading the Gospel in the power of the Holy Spirit and to extending the Kingdom of God throughout the world.

ARTICLE 3 - MEMBERSHIP, FAITH AND PRACTICE

Section 1 - The Holy Bible is the inspired Word of God and the basis for any statement of faith. The standard of faith and practice shall be that as set forth in the Scriptures and incorporated in the Member's Covenant and in the Articles of Faith as outlined in "The Baptist Faith and Message," a statement adopted by the Southern Baptist Convention.

Section 2 - Church Members shall be persons who have accepted Jesus Christ as Savior and Lord, obeyed Him in the Scriptural ordinance of baptism and whose names appear on the Membership roll of this Church.

Section 3 - Each Member, Elder, Deacon or other representative of the Church must abide by this Church's Constitution and Bylaws.

ARTICLE 4 - GOVERNMENT

The government of this Church shall be vested in the body of believers who compose its Membership, and it shall be subject to the control of no other ecclesiastical body. To this end, appropriate by-laws shall be adopted in definitive form to implement the Baptist doctrine of local autonomous Church government. The government of this Church will be expressed primarily through a Council of Elders as described in the by-laws.

ARTICLE 5 - AMENDMENTS

This Constitution may be amended only as provided for in the By-Laws of the Church.

BY-LAWS OF
OZARK HIGHLANDS CHURCH

ARTICLE 1 – MEMBERSHIP

Section 1 – Reception of Members

To become a Member of Ozark Highlands Church (hereinafter referred to as OHC or the Church), candidates must:

- (a) Attend an age-appropriate new Member's orientation class, if any,
- (b) Be received into Membership in one of the following manners:
 - (1) By Baptism – If one professes faith in the Savior, Jesus Christ, and desires to pattern his/her life after Christ's teachings, then the Church may receive that person as a candidate for baptism by immersion.
 - (2) By Letter – If one is a Southern Baptist and has been baptized by immersion in another Southern Baptist Church, then the Church may accept that person as a Member on transfer of their Membership by letter. The Church will arrange for that transfer.
 - (3) By Statement – A Southern Baptist may join our Church by statement when it is not possible for various reasons to get a letter of certification from a former Church. Membership does not transfer from one denomination to another. A Member of another denomination may join by statement which is their testimony that he/she has been scripturally baptized by immersion after their salvation as a testimony of trusting Christ.
- (c) Accept the Members Covenant as described in Article II; and
- (d) Be approved by the Council of Elders.

Section 2 - Duties

Members are expected to be faithful in all the duties essential to the Christian life, to regularly attend the services of this Church (unless providentially hindered), to provide financial support for the Church and its causes, to share in and actively support the Church's spiritual undertakings and to unite as soon as possible with another Church of like faith and order after moving to another community.

Section 3 – Rules regarding Voting of the Members of the Church

Each Member, whose name appears on the Membership Rolls of the Church, shall be entitled to an equal voice and vote as a Member in the meetings of the Church. Any and all references to voting on or approving any issue before the Members of the Church shall require a quorum of eligible voters to be valid. A quorum of eligible voters shall be had when 10% (ten percent) of

the eligible Members are present at a properly noticed meeting. If a quorum shall exist, than any and all voting or approval of any issue before the Members of the Church shall require approval by ¾ of the Members present at that meeting. Absentee voting and voting by Proxy is allowed. These rules shall apply to all votes other than those situations that are specifically described elsewhere in these By-Laws.

Section 4 – Termination of Membership

Membership in this Church shall be terminated as follows:

- (a) By death;
- (b) By the Church granting, on proper request, a letter of commendation directed to any other Church of like faith and order;
- (c) By discipline vote of the Church as provided herein;
- (d) By voluntary withdrawal on receipt by the Church of a written request;
- (e) By erasure upon becoming affiliated with a Church of another faith or denomination;
- (f) By inactivity due to failure to attend Church services for one year without any justification or communication with the Church regarding said absence.

ARTICLE 2 - MEMBER'S COVENANT

Having received Christ as my Lord and Savior and been baptized by immersion after my salvation as a testimony of my faith in Jesus Christ, and being in agreement with OHC Statement of Faith, Purpose and Strategy, I now feel led by the Holy Spirit to unite with the OHC family. In doing so, I commit myself to God and to the other Members to do the following:

- [1] I will connect with other believers in my Church...
 - ... By being a part of a Sunday school or Bible study group.
 - ... By warmly welcoming those who attend.
 - ... By encouraging other Members.
- [2] I will protect the unity of my Church...
 - ... By acting in love toward other Members.
 - ... By refusing to gossip.
 - ... By following the leaders.
- [3] I will share the responsibility of my Church...
 - ... By praying for its growth.
 - ... By inviting the unchurched to attend.
 - ... By a lifestyle of worship, ministry, evangelism, fellowship and discipleship.
- [4] I will serve the ministry of my Church...
 - ... By discovering and using my gifts and talents.

... By being equipped to serve by my pastors and other leaders.

... By developing a servant's heart.

[5] I will support the testimony of my Church...

... By attending faithfully.

... By living a godly life.

... By giving regularly and cheerfully.

ARTICLE 3 – COUNCIL OF ELDERS

Section 1 – The Structure of the Council of Elders

The Council of Elders will be comprised of at least three men, including the Senior Pastor. The Senior Pastor is a permanent Member of the Council of Elders. Active Elders may also be ordained in the Church as a Deacon; however, an Elder shall not simultaneously serve in his or her capacity as Deacon while on the Council of Elders.

Section 2 – The Purpose of Council of Elders

The Council of Elders will function primarily as discerners, shepherds and protectors of the Church. They will function as overseers of the entire Church, including all financial matters pertaining to the Church. The Council of Elders shall be the governing body of the Church, but will not be expected to oversee specific projects or ministry areas. The Council of Elders will not determine programming, but is responsible for evaluating programming based on its appropriateness and effectiveness in furthering the overall purpose of the Church.

The Council of Elders will evaluate everything taking place in the Church according to four criteria:

- (a) The Scriptures;
- (b) The Church's doctrinal statement;
- (c) The Church's mission; and
- (d) The Church's resources.

Section 3 – The Authority and Role of the Council of Elders

The Council of Elders shall serve as the governing body of the Church and shall have the authority to make all decisions regarding the operation of the Church with the exception of those noted below. The Council of Elders does have the authority to call for special meetings of the Church.

The following areas are specifically not within the authority of the Council of Elders and require approval of the Members of the congregational:

- (a) Any areas specifically denoted in the By-Laws as requiring the vote of the Deacons or Members of the Church;
- (b) Sale of Church property valued in excess of \$500.00 and purchased with donations from the general Membership;

- (c) Approval of debt for the Church in excess of 10% of its annual operating budget;
- (d) Any change to the denominational affiliation of the Church or associate the Church with any particular group, movement, or association.
- (e) Any change the Articles of Incorporation or the Church Constitution and By-Laws; and
- (f) Dissolution of the corporation or Church.

The Council of Elders may appoint “task-oriented” officers (Church Clerk, Secretary, Receptionist, Treasurer, etc.) or teams as needed for specific duties and for specific time periods. The Council of Elders may also hire outside professional help to complete required corporate tasks such as obtaining advice on legal matters and taxation issues. Any such officer or team appointed by the Council of Elders is responsible to the Council of Elders and shall serve only as long as the Council of Elders deems necessary.

The Council of Elders shall also serve as the Discipline Committee of the Church and shall determine when termination of Membership or of affiliation with any other post within the Church is in order. Deacons may assist in this ministry upon the request of the Council of Elders. It is the stated purpose of Ozark Highlands Church to emphasize to its Members that every reasonable measure will be taken by the Council of Elders to bring any Member who has fallen into sin to repentance and restoration. All such proceedings shall be pervaded by a spirit of Christian kindness and forbearance, and shall follow the guidelines given in Scripture. Finding that the welfare of the Church will best be served by the exclusion of the Member, the Discipline Committee may, by a vote as described herein, terminate the Membership or other affiliation of the offending party.

Section 4 – The Selection of Elders

- (a) Interim Council of Elders – At the time of adoption of these By-Laws of OHC, the Senior Pastor shall appoint three individuals to serve with him as Interim Elders on the Council of Elders. No confirmation by the Membership is required for the Interim Council of Elders. This Interim Council of Elders shall have the full authority to conduct the business of Church as noted herein and shall be in existence for two years following the year of incorporation.
- (b) Application & Nomination of Elders – Recommendations for subsequent Members of the Council of Elders may be made by application of other Elders, Senior Pastoral Staff and Members.. The Elder candidates will be examined by the Senior Pastor and the Deacons for determination as to whether they meet the qualifications of an Elder and for recommendation as to whether said Elder applicant shall be presented to the Membership for confirmation.
- (c) Confirmation of Elders by Membership – Any candidate selected for presentment for Elder Confirmation shall be presented to the Members of the Church for confirmation. Confirmation as an Elder shall require approval by a vote of the Members as defined herein.
- (d) Ordination of Elders – Any individual confirmed to serve as an Elder by the Membership will be ordained as an Elder if such ordination has not already occurred.

- (e) Term of Service – Elders, other than the initial Interim Elders, shall serve an indefinite term of service that shall only terminate upon death, removal, termination of church membership, voluntary resignation or an inability to serve in such capacity.

Section 5 – The Qualifications of an Elder

A candidate for Elder must be a Member of the Church for at least two years immediately prior to his election to office. Furthermore, all Elders are required to meet the qualifications for Elder/Overseer as outlined in I Timothy 3:1-11; Titus 1:5-9.

It is a trustworthy statement: if any man aspires to the office of overseer, it is a fine work he desires to do. An overseer, then, must be above reproach, the husband of one wife, temperate, prudent, respectable, hospitable, able to teach, not addicted to wine or pugnacious, but gentle, peaceable, free from the love of money. He must be one who manages his own household well, keeping his children under control with all dignity (for if a man does not know how to manage his own household, how will he take care of the Church of God?), and not a new convert, so that he will not become conceited and fall into the condemnation incurred by the devil. And he must have a good reputation with those outside the Church, so that he will not fall into reproach and the snare of the devil. I Timothy 3:1-11

For this reason I left you in Crete, that you would set in order what remains and appoint elders in every city as I directed you, namely, if any man is above reproach, the husband of one wife, having children who believe, not accused of dissipation or rebellion. For the overseer must be above reproach as God's steward, not self-willed, not quick-tempered, not addicted to wine, not pugnacious, not fond of sordid gain, but hospitable, loving what is good, sensible, just, devout, self-controlled, holding fast the faithful word which is in accordance with the teaching, so that he will be able both to exhort in sound doctrine and to refute those who contradict. Titus 1:5-9

It is clear from these passages that the Elder and his family are to be a model for the congregation. These qualifications are expected of all believers but required of those who will lead the Church. Consequently, there will be greater expectations on the Elder and his family than any other families in the Church.

Section 6 – Officers

The Council of Elders shall not elect officers.

Section 7 – Elders as Church Trustees

The Chairman, Vice Chairman, and Secretary of the Council of Elders will serve as the Trustees and the officers of the corporation. The Trustees shall hold legal title to the property of the Church for and on behalf of the Church. They shall take or cause to be taken all necessary measures for the management, alteration and protection of the Church property, including the maintenance of adequate insurance thereon. The acquisition of additional property and the making of capital improvements, as are deemed necessary and advisable by the Trustees from time to time, shall be recommended by the Trustees to the Council of Elders and to the Church (if required). Subject to proper authorization by the Church (when required), the Trustees shall

have the sole right and power to execute instruments and documents creating debts and obligations binding on the Church.

Section 8 – The Dismissal of an Elder

If the Council of Elders determines that any Elder should not continue to serve on the Council of Elders, he shall first be asked to voluntarily resign, and if he does not, then he may be removed by the unanimous vote of the other Elders.

Section 9 – Rules Regarding Voting of the Council of Elders

Any and all references to voting on or approving any issue before the Council of Elders shall require a quorum of eligible voters to be valid. A quorum of eligible voters shall be had when two thirds (2/3) of the eligible Elders are present at a properly noticed meeting. If a quorum shall exist, than any and all voting or approval of any issue before the Council of Elders shall require approval by two thirds (2/3) of the Elders present at that meeting. Absentee voting and voting by proxy is allowed. These rules shall apply to all votes of the Council of Elders other than those situations that are specifically described elsewhere in these By-Laws.

ARTICLE 4 – CHURCH STAFF & SENIOR PASTORAL STAFF

Section 1 – Staff Definitions

The Church Staff includes the Senior Pastoral Staff, Associates, Support Staff (Assistants) and such other administrative staff as deemed necessary and by the Council of Elders and within budget guidelines.

The Senior Pastoral Staff shall include the Senior Pastor and may include an Executive Pastor, Worship Pastor, Evangelism and Missions Pastor, Discipleship Pastor, Minister of Servant Development, Childhood Minister and Student Pastor, if approved by the Council of Elders. The Senior Pastoral Staff shall coordinate and integrate all Church ministries, including such things as initiating ministry planning, solving common problems, and coordinating volunteer leaders and workers. The Senior Pastoral Staff shall be responsible for identifying and developing leaders for the various ministries of the Church. All ministry leaders shall be accountable to the Senior Pastoral Staff.

All additions, deletions, or title changes to those positions considered Church Staff and Senior Pastoral Staff must be approved by the Council of Elders by a vote as noted herein.

Section 2 – Qualifications

Each Member of the Senior Pastoral Staff should be of blameless Christian character according to the qualifications of I Timothy 3:1-7 and Titus 1:5-9 which are summarized under Biblical Qualifications for Elders. Each Member of the Church Staff should have a shepherd's heart according to I Peter 5: 1-3, Ephesians 4:12-13, I Thessalonians 5:14, II Thessalonians 3:9, I Timothy 1:3,18, 4:6, 4:12-16, 5:2-3, and II Timothy 2:15, 4:2,5.

Section 3 – Selection

Each Member of the Church Staff and the Senior Pastoral Staff shall be recommended to the Council of Elders by the Senior Pastor or an appointed representative and approved by the Council of Elders by a vote as noted herein.

Section 4 – Senior Pastor

The Senior Pastor shall be a Member of the Council of Elders and shall be accountable to the Council of Elders. The Senior Pastor will update, on a regular basis, the other Members of the Council of Elders concerning the state of the Pastoral Staff, Church Staff and the Church in general.

The Senior Pastor shall be primarily responsible:

- (a) To preach the Word of God and administer the ordinances of the Church
- (b) To oversee and supervise the Senior Pastoral Staff; and
- (c) To develop and communicate the vision of the Church.

Upon the illness, resignation or termination of the Senior Pastor, the Council of Elders shall serve as or immediately appoint a special committee whose task will be to provide an immediate interim replacement Pastor or Pastors and to seek and recommend to the Members a permanent replacement Senior Pastor.

Section 5 – Executive Pastor

The Executive Pastor shall have the authority and responsibilities that are given to him by the Council of Elders. The Members of the Senior Pastoral Staff, other than the Senior Pastor, are directly accountable to the Executive Pastor unless otherwise specified by the Council of Elders.

Section 6 – Termination of Staff

The relationship between the Church and any Member of the Senior Pastoral Staff may be dissolved:

- (a) By his/her own decision.
- (b) By a unanimous vote of the Council of Elders. The Senior Pastor, though a Member of the Council of Elders, may not vote regarding his own removal from office.

The relationship between the Church and any other Member of the Church Staff may be dissolved:

- (a) By his/her own decision.
- (b) By the vote of the Counsel of Elders.

ARTICLE 5 - DEACONS

Section 1 – Purpose of the Deacons

In accordance with the meaning of the work and the practice of the New Testament, Deacons are to be servants of the Church. The task of the Deacon is to serve with the Elders and Senior Pastoral Staff in performing pastoral ministry tasks, to care for Church Members and other persons in the community, to be an example to believers in worship, evangelism, discipleship, fellowship, and ministry and to participate in leadership in Bible study groups and Sunday school classes. Deacons should pay particular attention to the widows and orphans in the body of Christ.

Section 2 – Number & Eligibility

There is no limitation in number on the number of Deacons for the Church. A person may be considered as a candidate for Deacon Ordination after twelve [12] months of Church Membership. There is no obligation to constitute as an active Deacon a person who comes to the Church from another Church where he has served as Deacon.

Section 3 – The Selection of Deacons

- (a) Application & Nomination of Deacons – Recommendations for nomination of a Deacon may be made by application of an Elder, Senior Pastoral Staff, Deacons or Members. The Deacon candidates will be examined by the Senior Pastor and the existing Deacons (the Council of Elders will examine the first nominated Deacons) for determination as to whether they meet the qualifications of a Deacon and for recommendation as to whether said applicant shall be presented to the Membership for confirmation. Presentment for Deacon confirmation shall require approval by a vote of the Deacons (or of the Council of Elders for the first nominated Deacons), as defined herein.
- (b) Confirmation of Deacons by Membership – Any candidate selected for Deacon confirmation shall be presented to the Members of the Church for confirmation. Confirmation as a Deacon shall require approval by vote of the Members, as defined herein.
- (c) Ordination of Deacons – Any individual confirmed to serve as a Deacon by the Membership will be ordained as a Deacon if such ordination has not already occurred.
- (d) Term of Service – Deacons shall serve an indefinite term of service that shall only terminate upon death, removal, termination of church membership, voluntary resignation or an inability to serve in such capacity. A temporary departure from Deacon status shall be had for any Deacon serving on the Council of Elders.

Section 4 – Meetings

Meetings of the Deacons shall be held as called by the Senior Pastor or Council of Elders.

Section 5 – Leadership

The Council of Elders shall appoint a Lead Deacon to aid in organization and coordination of the Deacons. The Deacons shall have no other Officers.

Section 6 - Rules Regarding Voting of the Deacons

Any and all references to voting on or approving any issue before the Deacons shall require a quorum of eligible voters to be valid. A quorum of eligible voters shall be had when two-thirds (2/3) of the eligible Deacons are present at a properly noticed meeting. If a quorum shall exist, than any and all voting or approval of any issue before the Deacons shall require approval by two-thirds (2/3) of the Deacons present at that meeting. Absentee voting and voting by proxy is allowed. These rules shall apply to all votes other than those situations that are specifically described elsewhere in these By-Laws.

ARTICLE 6 – BUSINESS MEETINGS

Section 1 – Annual Church Business Meetings

An annual Church business meeting will be scheduled in the fourth quarter of each calendar year by the Council of Elders. This meeting will provide a forum for handling the business of the Church not otherwise reserved for the Council of Elders, for nomination of candidates for Elders and Deacons and for discussion of any other topic properly submitted to the Council of Elders by any Member. These meetings will also facilitate the discussion, dissemination and exchange of information.

An agenda for the meeting will be developed by the Elders and presented to the Members prior to the meeting. This may be done by insertion into the Church bulletin and posting the same on the web site. Proposed motions or resolutions may be presented to the Council of Elders by any Member of the Church. Any such motion or resolution should be presented to the Elders at least thirty days prior to the Annual Meeting. Any motion or resolution contrary to the Constitution and By-Laws will not be presented at the meeting. A motion to amend the Constitution will be considered only as indicated herein. Motions introduced from the floor not pertaining to the published agenda will be addressed, time permitting, after the matters on the scheduled agenda. If the motion is not reached in said meeting, The Council of Elders will provide, to the person who offered the motion or resolution, a written response describing the disposition or schedule for determining the disposition of the applicable motion or resolution.

Section 2 – Voting at a Business Meeting

Voting at a Business Meeting shall be had according the voting rules applicable to the body casting said vote (i.e. Council of Elders, Deacons or Members). The Senior Pastor may serve as or otherwise may appoint a moderator to conduct all Church business meetings and votes. Matters properly approved at a business meeting shall be binding on the Church.

Section 3 – Special Business Meetings – The Council of Elders shall have the power to call a special business meeting of the Church for any reason. Notice should be provided to the Members as noted herein.

Section 4 – Notice of Business Meetings

Notice of any business meeting, including the annual business meeting, shall be published two weeks in advance of said meeting. Notice is proper if made in the Church bulletin or posted on the Church's web site.

Section 5 – Parliamentary Procedure

All proceedings of Church business meetings shall be conducted in an agreed orderly manner and with courtesy to all participants. In the absence of an agreed format, business meetings shall be conducted in conformity with common the usual parliamentary procedure as set forth in Robert's Rules of Order, Newly Revised, unless inconsistent with the rules laid down in this Constitution and By-Laws.

ARTICLE 7 - AMENDING THE CONSTITUTION

For the constitution to be amended, the Council of Elders shall serve as or otherwise appoint a team to study the issue in question. The committee shall draft create a written recommendation, and if recommending an amendment, the proposed constitutional amendment language. The Council of Elders shall thereafter vote on the recommendation or amendment, and if approved, it shall be presented to the Church Membership at a business meeting for a vote. If approved by the Church Membership, the Constitution shall so be amended.

ARTICLE 8 – FISCAL POLICY

Section 1 – Fiscal Year

For fiscal purposes, the Church year shall be from January 1 through December 31.

Section 2 – Gifts and Disbursements

All tithes and offerings shall be paid into the Church treasury, and all disbursements from the Church treasury shall be made only in accordance with the authorized procedures of the Church.

Section 3 – Annual Budget

The budget will be developed by the Senior Pastor, or any other individual he may appoint, and be submitted for approval by the Council of Elders to be presented at the Annual Business Meeting for approval of the Members. This shall include the salaries and benefits of all paid employees of the Church. The Church shall then operate on the budget determined and adopted by the Church.

Section 4 – Audit

All the financial records and accounts of the Church shall be audited annually by competent auditors. This audit may simply be in the form of an annual budget for the church as prepared by its bookkeeper. This audit may consist of the corporate tax return or may be an independent audit if so requested by the Council of Elders by a vote as described herein. A copy of any audit shall be kept permanently on file.

ARTICLE 9 – COOPERATION

This Church shall cooperate with the Tri-County Baptist Association, the Missouri Baptist Convention, and the Southern Baptist Convention, so long as such cooperation does not violate the autonomy of the Ozark Highlands Church of Ozark, Missouri.

ARTICLE 10 - LICENSING AND ORDAINING TO THE GOSPEL MINISTRY

Section 1 – Licensing

Any Member of the Church who, by his Godly conduct, zeal and aptness to teach, gives evidence that he is called of God to the work of the gospel ministry may, after investigation and recommendation by the Council of Elders, and by a vote of a ¾ majority of the Members present and voting at any business meeting, be licensed by the Church to the Christian ministry.

Section 2 – Ordaining

When a Church of like faith and order shall call to the gospel ministry as one of its staff a Member or former Member of this Church who possesses scriptural qualifications for ordination to the work of the gospel ministry and shall request in writing that he be ordained, this Church, on recommendation of the Council of Elders, shall consider such request. On recommendation by the Council of Elders, this Church also shall consider any request for ordination by any Member of the Church Staff of this Church who possesses scriptural qualifications for ordination to the work of the gospel ministry. If the Church, by a vote of the Members as described herein, approves any such request, the Council of Elders shall call for a meeting of the Church for the ceremony of ordaining such person to the gospel ministry.

ARTICLE 11 – ORDINANCES

Section 1 – Designated

The ordinances of the Church, as set forth in the Holy Scriptures, are Baptism and the Lord's Supper.

Section 2 – Baptism

The ordinance of Baptism shall be by immersion of the professed believer in water in obedience to the command of Christ. Baptism shall be administered by a Pastor or whomever else the Council of Elders shall authorize.

Section 3 – Lord's Supper

The Lord's Supper is a symbolic act of obedience whereby Members of the Church, through partaking of the bread and fruit of the vine, commemorate the death of Jesus Christ and anticipate His second coming. The Lord's Supper shall be observed at least quarterly, preferably the first Sunday of the quarter, or as otherwise scheduled. The Council of Elders and the Deacons shall be responsible for the administration of the Lord's Supper.

ARTICLE 12 - DISSOLUTION AND LIQUIDATION OF THE CHURCH

Dissolution of the Church shall only be had when required by law or upon vote of the Members. If the Members, voting at a Church business meeting, vote to disband the Church, the Council of Elders will cease corporate activities and dissolve and liquidate the corporation. Upon dissolution of the corporation, the Trustees shall pay or make provision for the payment of all the liabilities of the corporation, and shall thereafter dispose of all the assets of the corporation exclusively for the purposes stated in the Articles of Incorporation of Ozark Highlands Church, Inc. or to such organizations organized and operated exclusively for religious purposes as shall at that time qualify as an exempt organization or organizations within the meaning of Section 501 (C)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code (or the corresponding provision of any future United States Internal Revenue Law) as the Elders shall determine.

If any such assets are not so disposed of, the appropriate court of the county in which the principal Missouri office (or if none, the Missouri registered office) of the corporation is then located shall dispose of such assets exclusively for the purposes stated in the Articles of Incorporation of Ozark Highlands Church, Inc. and exclusively to such organizations which are organized and operated exclusively for such purposes and at the time qualify as an exempt organization or organizations within the meaning of Section 501 (C)(3), and as said court shall determine.