

1 **WESTERN PLAINS DISTRICT**
2 **OF THE**
3 **CHURCH OF THE BRETHREN**
4
5 **CONSTITUTION**
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8 **MISSION STATEMENT**
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10 To facilitate, in partnership with the local congregations, the continuing ministry of Jesus
11 Christ as understood by the Church of the Brethren. Our area of ministry is not limited to the
12 geographic boundaries of the District but is nurtured and enabled by our participation in the larger
13 church family. Together we will work for the coming of God's Kingdom, the time of Shalom for
14 all people. (Adopted 1989)
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17 **ARTICLE I. NAME AND BOUNDARIES**
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19 The name of this corporation is "Church of the Brethren, Western Plains District, Inc."
20 (hereinafter "the District").
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22 The District embraces all of the congregations of the Church of the Brethren in Colorado,
23 Kansas, Nebraska and northern New Mexico, and any additional area that may be properly
24 designated by the District Conference and approved by the Standing Committee of Annual
25 Conference.
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28 **ARTICLE II. INCORPORATION**
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30 Western Plains District is incorporated under and pursuant to the Religious Corporation
31 Acts of Colorado, Kansas and Nebraska. The principal place of business of this corporation is in
32 McPherson, Kansas, or such other place as the District Board of Administration (hereinafter "the
33 Board") may determine. The affairs of the corporation are managed by the Board. The Board
34 Chair, Vice-chair and District Executive(s), serving as executive secretary of the corporation, are
35 the legal officers of the corporation. All legal documents shall be signed by two of the officers.
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38 **ARTICLE III. PURPOSE**
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40 The purpose of the Western Plains District is to coordinate and promote the religious and
41 business activities of the Church of the Brethren in the District and of other religious organizations
42 as they relate to the activities of the Church of the Brethren in the District consistent with the polity
43 of the Church of the Brethren as established by Annual Conference.
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46 **ARTICLE IV. MEMBER CHURCHES**
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48 All Church of the Brethren congregations that are recognized by the District as organized
49 churches are member churches of the District. Church of the Brethren Fellowships who have been
50 recognized by District Conference shall also be considered as a "member church."

1 ARTICLE V. PROPERTY AND ASSETS

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3 All District property will be held in trust by the Board for the teaching and dissemination
4 of the gospel of Jesus Christ, according to the beliefs, practices, and polity of the Church of the
5 Brethren, as set forth by Annual Conference.

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7 The Board will take title to property received by gift or bequest and hold the property in
8 trust, as in the case of property purchased or currently held by the District.

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11 ARTICLE VI. ORGANIZATIONAL STRUCTURE

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13 **A. District Conference**, which meets annually, is the final authority of the District on policy,
14 program, and procedure. The delegate body is composed of representatives of each member
15 church.

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17 **B. Board of Administration.** The Board manages and administers the work of the District as
18 authorized by District Conference and employs executive personnel to implement the work of the
19 board.

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22 ARTICLE VII. RELATED INSTITUTIONS

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24 The District may enter into relationship with separately organized and incorporated Church
25 of the Brethren institutions such as camps, retirement communities, colleges, and other institutions
26 of interest to the District. In each instance there shall be mutual agreement between the District
27 and the institution as to the nature of the relationship.

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30 ARTICLE VIII. FISCAL AND ORGANIZATIONAL YEAR

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32 The organizational year is from the close of one annual District Conference through the
33 close of the next annual District Conference. The Fiscal year is January 1 through December 31.

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36 ARTICLE IX. AMENDMENTS

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38 This Constitution may be amended by a 2/3 majority vote of the delegates present at a
39 District Conference. Proposed amendments must be distributed to the delegates at least two weeks
40 before the delegate body convenes for business.