

**BYLAWS OF THE MISSIONARY CHURCH
EAST CENTRAL REGION, INC.**

[Revised: 04/2025]

ARTICLE I - NAME AND RELATIONSHIP

The name of this organization shall be the MISSIONARY CHURCH EAST CENTRAL REGION, INC. with the office located at 1509 West Main Street, Troy, Ohio. As a Regional Conference, it is a subsidiary of the Missionary Church, Inc. with headquarters at 3811 Vanguard Drive, Fort Wayne, Indiana, and as such is responsible for the promotion of the work and objectives of the parent organization within the boundaries established for it by the National Conference. It shall be governed in all matters pertaining to doctrine, policy, and practice by the Constitution of the Missionary Church, Inc.

ARTICLE II - PURPOSE

The Missionary Church East Central Region exists to establish "Great Commission" churches which are committed to building more and better disciples and the multiplication of healthy churches [Matthew 28:18-20; Mark 16:15]. The region will pursue this purpose by partnering with the Church in Ohio and West Virginia to represent the Gospel of Jesus Christ to every man, woman and child.

ARTICLE III - REGIONAL OFFICERS

A. Regional Director

1. The Regional Director shall be a man elected for a term of four (4) years by the Regional Conference from among ordained ministers of the Missionary Church. The usual term of office will begin July 1 in the year of election. The incumbent shall require a two-thirds majority vote of the Regional Conference to continue in office after he has completed two (2) consecutive four (4) year terms.
2. A special nominating committee appointed by the Regional Board shall receive nominations from the regional churches (provided the person nominated has been contacted in advance and is open to consideration), review and consider those and any other possible candidates, and present one or more names to the Regional Board for ratification. Each candidate shall provide a brief biographical sketch and statement of goals for distribution to each pastor and delegate in advance of Regional Conference.

B. Regional Vice Director

The Regional Vice Director shall be a man elected for a term of two (2) years by the Regional Conference from among its ordained ministers.

C. Secretary

The Secretary shall be elected for a term of two (2) years by the Regional Conference.

D. Treasurer

The Treasurer shall be appointed for a term of two (2) years by the Regional Board and affirmed by the Regional Conference.

E. The terms of the Regional Director and Treasurer shall be staggered with the terms of the Regional Vice Director and Secretary.

ARTICLE IV - REGIONAL CONFERENCE

A. Membership

1. The Regional Conference shall be composed of all ordained and licensed ministers and candidates

for license in the region, all conference officers, all members of the Regional Board, lay delegate(s) from each organized church (1 delegate per 0-100 members, 2 delegates per 101-200 members, etc.), the chairman and/or director of all standing conference boards, and any other regional personnel at the discretion of the Conference. The President of the denomination shall be a member ex officio.

2. The names of duly elected delegates to Regional Conference shall be submitted to the regional office no later than thirty (30) days preceding the opening date of conference. Any person whose name is not received by the deadline will need official recognition in the opening session of conference to be seated as an official delegate.

B. Functions

1. The Regional Conference shall elect or affirm its own officers and committees including the Regional Director, the Vice Regional Director, the Secretary, the Treasurer, the Regional Board, and such other officers, boards, and committees as may be deemed advisable.
2. It shall recommend to the General Oversight Committee (GOC) of the Missionary Church, Inc. new churches for membership in the Missionary Church, and the proper denominational officers shall issue a certificate of membership in the denomination.
3. It shall license and ordain ministers in keeping with the provisions of the Constitution of the Missionary Church and shall certify such to the Secretary of the GOC who shall issue the credentials.
4. It shall conduct conferences, camp meetings, or conventions in the region as practicable, and it shall take such steps as are necessary to implement and to promote United States and overseas missionary programs of the denomination.
5. It shall receive the reports of the Regional Director and other officers, pastors, workers, boards, and committees; and submit to the GOC such reports as may be required.
6. It shall be the prerogative of the Regional Conference to make recommendations to National Conference.
7. It shall have the authority to make bylaws for its government in accord with the Constitution and the acts of the National Conference.

C. Meetings

1. The East Central Regional Conference shall meet annually at such time and place determined by the previous Regional Conference or by the Regional Board.
2. The rules contained in the current edition of *Robert's Rules of Order Newly Revised* shall govern the Regional Conference in all cases to which they are applicable and in which they are not inconsistent with the Constitution of the Missionary Church, Bylaws of the East Central Region Missionary Church, Inc., and any special rules of order the Regional Conference may adopt. In the same manner each Local Conference and all other Constitutionally delineated entities of the Missionary Church shall be governed by *Robert's Rules of Order Newly Revised*.
3. Special Regional Conferences may be called by the Regional Board. The membership of special Regional Conferences shall be the same as the membership of the previous annual Conference. All of the rules governing special conferences which are found in *Robert's Rules of Order Newly Revised* shall apply.

ARTICLE V—REGIONAL BOARDS

A. Regional Board

1. Composition
 - a. The Regional Director shall be the Chairman of the Regional Board.
 - b. Other members of the Regional Board shall be: Vice Regional Director, the Secretary, the Treasurer, and eight (8) additional members, at least four (4) of whom shall be laypersons. These eight shall be elected for staggered terms of four (4) years. Regional staff serving at the director level shall meet with the Regional Board in an advisory capacity.
2. Purpose

The purpose of the board shall be to conduct the necessary business of the Regional Conference in the interval between conferences; to deal with all emergencies; and to call a special session of the

Regional Conference when necessary. As the governing board for the East Central Region, it shall be responsible for awareness, accountability, and action on behalf of the Region.

3. Accountability

- a. The board shall submit an annual regional budget proposal to the Regional Conference.
- b. All actions of the board shall be subject to ratification by the next Regional Conference.
- c. In order to allow sufficient time for distribution, the board shall submit an annual report including a full financial report to the Regional Office (Regional Director) for Regional Conference so it can be included in the information sent out 30 days prior to the Regional Conference session.

B. Ministry Advancement Team

1. Composition

The Ministry Advancement Team (MAT) will be composed of those persons nominated by the Regional Director and ratified by the Regional Board. The Regional Director will serve as convener of this team.

2. Purpose

The MAT exists to seek God's heart together for strategies that advance the Region's shared purpose, specifically in the key areas of relating (fostering healthy relationships between the region, regional pastors and local churches), resourcing (providing connections to pastors and churches to the people, information, and opportunities that will assist them in making and multiplying disciples), and reproducing (disciples making disciples, planting disciple making movements and churches).

3. Accountability

- a. The MAT reports to the Regional Board through the Regional Director and is to meet jointly with the Regional Board annually.
- b. The MAT may present funding proposals to the Regional Board for projects and personnel in pursuit of the regional mission; that funding must be approved by the Regional Board.

C. Camp Board

1. Composition

- a. The Camp Board shall be composed of at least five (5) members, appointed by the Regional Board and affirmed by the Regional Conference to staggered terms of three (3) years.
- b. The Regional Director or his designee shall be a member ex officio.
- c. The Camp Manager and Regional Ministries Coordinator shall be advisory members.
- d. The board shall elect from among its members a Chairman, a Vice-Chairman, a Treasurer, a Secretary, and any other officers deemed necessary.

2. Purpose

The purpose of this board shall be to oversee Ludlow Falls Camp and its use.

3. Accountability

- a. The Camp Board shall submit an annual budget for the following year, including requests for any appropriations, to the Regional Board by November 1. The Camp Board reports to the Regional Board through the Regional Director and is to meet jointly with the Regional Board annually.
- b. The Camp Board shall submit minutes of all meetings to the Regional Board for ratification.
- c. In order to allow sufficient time for distribution, the board shall submit an annual report including a full financial report to the Regional Office (Regional Director) for Regional Conference so it can be included in the information sent out 30 days prior to the Regional Conference session.

ARTICLE VI - DISSOLUTION AND DISASSOCIATION

In the event that any of the following situations become necessary, the process as stated in the MCECR Policy Manual, Section V, shall be followed in full by all parties involved.

A. Dissolution of any MCECR church

- B. Disassociation from the MCECR by any MCECR church
- C. Dissolution of any organization or subsidiary of the MCECR
- D. Dissolution of the MCECR

ARTICLE VII- AMENDMENTS

Amendments to the bylaws may be adopted at any regular session of the Regional Conference by a two-thirds majority vote of the Conference, provided that they are distributed to delegates at least 30 days prior to the date set for Regional Conference and that they do not conflict with the Constitution of the Missionary Church. There shall be one reading of all amendments in a meeting prior to the one in which they shall be voted upon. Recommendations for amendments from standing boards of the region must come through the Regional Board. Recommendations for amendments from local churches must come through the Local Church Conference. Such action of the Local Church Conference must receive a two-thirds vote.