

Statutes of WESTLAKE CHURCH LAUSANNE

Art. 1 Name

Westlake Church Lausanne, hereafter called WLL, is a section of the Westlake Church Association (hereafter called "WLA") in accordance with Art. 60ff of the Swiss Civil Code (<http://www.admin.ch/ch/f/rs/210/index1.html>).

Art. 2 Duration

The Association is created for an indeterminate duration.

Art. 3 Aim

1. WLL is a non profit organization that seeks to build an international Christian community in the Lausanne area, and equip it to grow in the Christian faith and to love their neighbours. The guiding principles of this community are summarized in its Statement of Faith.

Art. 4 Membership

1. Criteria : Members of WLL unequivocally endorse its Statement of Faith. They regularly attend meetings of WLL, contribute a small mandatory membership fee and freely invest themselves according to their calling.

2. Admission : Members are admitted by the General Assembly (Code Civil Art. 65.1) following participation in a membership class.

3. Removal: Membership ceases when a member leaves the area or resigns in writing to the President of WLL. Membership can also be terminated, if a majority of the General Assembly decides that a member no longer meets the above criteria.

4. Honorary members : Members who would like to continue to support WLL after leaving the area can be granted honorary member status at their own request by the Council of Elders. Honorary members have no vote.

Art. 5 Organs of the association

The governing bodies of WLL are the General Assembly, the Council of Elders, the Delegates and the Auditors.

1. The General Assembly

a. is the supreme governing body of WLL. It elects and removes members, the Elders the Auditors, the President, the Vice-President and the Treasurer. It approves accounts, the annual balance sheet, the budget and the sale and purchase of property. It also approves changes of the statutes, the amount of the membership fee and expenditure exceeding the budget by more than 10%.

b. decides about all other matters that are put to a vote by the Council of Elders.

c. is convened by the Council of Elders or at the request of at least 20% of the members at least once per year. The agenda and the minutes of the previous meeting are sent to members by the Council of Elders at least three weeks before the meeting.

d. holds a General Assembly meeting (GAM) no later than 6 months after the end of each accounting year to examine the annual reports, the balance sheet and the minutes of the last GAM.

e. constitutes a quorum when at least 30% of the members are present.

f. Every member attending the GAM has a single vote. Abstentions are not counted when determining the total number of votes.

g. The General Assembly reaches its decisions by simple majority vote.

h. Election of Pastoral Staff requires a qualified majority of 90% for the initial term and 70% for reappointment. Pastoral Staff are those persons employed and paid by WLL for teaching and pastoral care of its members.

- i. Any member can request a ballot to be held secretly.
- j. To count the votes, the GAM elects two scrutineers.

2. Council of Elders

- a. directs and represents WLL in accordance with its Statutes and Statement of Faith.
- b. proposes candidates for the election or reappointment of President, Vice President and Treasurer by the General Assembly every year.
- c. solicits propositions from members and recommends candidates for the election or reappointment of elders.
- d. receives propositions from members and nominates candidates for the election or reappointment of Pastoral Staff. If WLL employs Pastoral Staff, the senior pastor is automatically member of the Council of Elders. The appointment of all Pastoral Staff needs to be confirmed every 4 years or at the request of 20% of the members (Code Civil, art. 64). The term of office of the elders that are not pastoral staff is 3 years and may be renewed.
- e. proposes modifications to statutes or the Statement of Faith.
- f. supervises and regularly evaluates paid staff of WLL. Staff members have no vote in matters directly concerning themselves or their direct relatives.
- g. appoints and removes Delegates to the Board of Delegates of WLA.

3. Delegates

- a. comprise representatives of the members of WLL as required by the Statutes of WLA.
- b. The responsibilities of the Delegates are defined by the statutes of WLA. In particular, they facilitate the communication and cooperation between the member associations of WLA.

4. Auditors

The Auditors shall be composed of the auditor and a substitute. They are appointed or re-appointed by the General Assembly for a term of 1 year. They must not be members of the Council of Elders.

Art. 6 Signing Powers

The signatures of any two of the following three people shall be binding on the Association: the President, Vice President and Treasurer. Signing powers may be delegated to third parties for a limited period.

Art. 7 Liability

- 1. All financial commitments and liabilities of the Association are guaranteed by the current assets only.
- 2. No member shall be held personally liable for any debts of the Association or to make any further payments towards the payment of such debts.

Art. 8 Finances

The Association shall be financed by the membership contributions, and by voluntary donations, legacies or grants.

Art. 9 Accounting Year

The accounting year shall be that of the calendar year.

Art. 10 Modification of Statutes and Legal Forum

- 1. These Statutes may be modified at any time by the General Assembly upon recommendation of the Council of Elders.
- 2. The place of jurisdiction is Lausanne.

Art. 11 Dissolution

1. The dissolution of the WLL may be decided upon by the General Assembly only. A two-thirds (2/3) majority shall be required for such a decision to be effective.
2. Any remaining funds after payment of all the debts of WLL shall be given to an association or Swiss institution exonerated from tax and pursuing similar goals as those of WLL.

These statutes were accepted in the General Assembly Meeting of November 18, 2009 in St-Sulpice