AMENDED BY-LAWS OF
THE LUTHERAN CHURCH IN THE PHILIPPINES.

ARTICLE ONE: NAME AND OFFICES

Section 1. The Lutheran Church in the Philippines may be designated by the initial LCP in official documents, resolution, minutes, and communications.

Section 2. The main offices of the Lutheran Church in the Philippines shall be located at 4461 Old Sta. Mesa St., Sta Mesa, in Manila.

Section 3. The LCP shall be incorporated as a religious, non-stock, non-profit corporation in accordance with the laws of the Republic of the Philippines.

ARTICLE TWO: MEMBERSHIP

There are two kinds of Membership as follows:

Section 1. Congregations: A congregation shall be received into the membership of the LCP as follows:

a. It shall consist of a group of Christians who regularly gather around the Word and Sacraments.

b. A congregation must have at least 25 communicant members to be recognized as a congregation.

b.1. A congregation with less than 25 communicant members shall be declared and reverted by the District in Conference as outstation.

c. It shall accept the Constitution and By-Laws of the LCP, shall be willing to cooperate with the LCP in carrying out its objectives, and shall seek to attain these objectives in its own area.

d. Applications for membership shall be acted upon at District Conferences after which the President of the LCP shall announce at
the following Convention new members accepted into LCP by the
Districts since the previous Convention.
e. A congregation accepted into the LCP membership shall sign the
Constitution of the LCP (kept in the LCP Book of Records) after the
announcement of its membership. Such signing shall be accomplished
at the Convention by the lay delegate of the congregation or by the
pastor of the congregation or by the respective District Presidents.

Section 2. **Clergymen:** A clergyman shall be received into the membership of the LCP
as follows:

a. He must be ordained Clergy by the LCP or by a Lutheran
Church in formal fellowship with the LCP.
b. A clergyman shall apply for membership in the LCP through the
district in which he is assigned. A clergyman who serves the LCP at
large (professor, specialized work) shall apply for membership
through the Board of Directors of the LCP.
c. He shall accept the Constitution and By-Laws of the LCP and be
willing to promote their objectives.
d. Having been accepted into membership by a District or by the LCP
Board of Directors, he shall sign the Constitution in person upon
acceptance of his membership.

**ARTICLE THREE: CONVENTION**

Section 1. Regular Convention shall be held in the month of October every three (3)
years.

Section 2. The exact date of regular convention shall be determined by the LCP Board
of Directors and shall be announced at least six months in advance.

Section 3. The LCP Board of Directors shall be responsible for all Convention
arrangements.

Section 4. All reports, memorials, and names of official delegates to the LCP
Convention shall be submitted to the Secretary of the LCP by July 1 of each
Convention year. The LCP Board of Directors shall appoint all necessary
floor committees and identify respective members and assign work to these
committees for inclusion in the Book of Reports and Memorials, which shall
be in the hands of all delegates at least one month before the Convention.
Section 5. The disposition of unprinted memorials shall be determined by the LCP Board of Directors.

Section 6. Resolutions shall be decided by a simple majority vote, unless otherwise specified by the By-Laws.

Section 7. The LCP Board of Directors may call a Special Convention.

Section 8. The President of the LCP shall serve as the presiding officer at Convention.

Section 9. In the absence of specific house rules, the President of the LCP shall conduct the sessions in accordance with Robert’s Rule of Order.

Section 10. The Dean of the Seminary and regularly called Faculty members shall attend LCP Conventions as advisors. The LCP Board of Directors, through the LCP President, may invite observers to the Conventions.

ARTICLE FOUR: REPRESENTATION AT CONVENTION

Section 1. All established and recognized LCP congregations are officially represented by a lay delegate.

   I.a. All Clergy Certified by the Board of Control with Congregational Call are automatic Official delegates.

Section 2. Each district may select its delegates in the manner it finds most expedient. However, a District shall give representation to as many congregations in the District as possible and shall include among its delegates its representative to the LCP Board of Directors.

Section 3. If a delegate is unable to attend the Convention, the District President shall have the authority to appoint a substitute.

Section 4. Congregations or districts shall not require delegates to vote in accordance with specific instruction, but every delegate shall be permitted to vote according to his own conviction.

Section 5. Delegates to Conventions shall register upon arrival at Convention and be duly accredited.
ARTICLE FIVE: OFFICERS AND BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF LCP

Section 1. The officers of LCP shall be elected during LCP Convention held in the month of October every three (3) years.

Section 2. The Board of Directors of LCP shall be composed of nine (9) members to serve for a term of three (3) years or until their successors are elected and qualified. Provided: that the term of Office of the President, Vice President and Secretary shall not exceed for three (3) consecutive terms.

Section 3. The LCP Treasurer shall be appointed by the President in consultation with and concurrence of the Board of Directors and in no way related up to the fourth civil degree of consanguinity or affinity.

ARTICLE SIX: DUTIES AND POWERS OF OFFICERS AND BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Section 1. The President of the LCP shall be given the following executive powers and supervisory duties:

a. The President may call special meetings of the LCP Board of Directors.

b. The President is authorized to release surplus funds in emergencies or in cases of sudden need with the immediate concurrence of majority or all of the members of the board through any means of communication.

c. The President may appoint individuals or committees to make special studies for the LCP or to serve as his representatives. Provided, however: that the Chairperson of any Committee is in no way related up to the fourth civil degree of consanguinity or affinity.

d. The President may serve as an advisory member of the LCP Committees or boards.

e. The President, in his supervision over the LCP, shall keep himself well-informed concerning the affairs of the LCP; therefore he shall visit Districts, Congregations, etc., as he deems necessary.

f. The President shall acquaint himself with the work of other Christian Churches in the Philippines.

g. The President shall approve the manuscript of Convention resolution and the Board of Directors’ resolutions before they are published.
h. The President shall represent the LCP upon the invitation of partner churches, agencies, councils, synods or other coincidental representations.

i. The President shall be given full authority to sign land titles in the name of the LCP, enter into a Memorandum Of Understanding (MOU)/Memorandum Of Agreement, (MOA) or contracts and sign pertinent legal papers and documents.

Section 2. The LCP Vice President shall:

a. Assume the Office in case the Office of the President becomes vacant.

b. Upon request of the President, advise, assist, or represent the President.

c. Perform any other duties which the LCP-BD may assign to him.

Section 3. The Board of Directors of the LCP.

a. The following shall compose the Board of Directors of the LCP:

   a.1. The LCP President
   a.2. The District Presidents
   a.3. Lay representatives from each district duly elected during district conference.
   a.4. Provided, However; that the Philippine Lutheran Women’s League President and the Philippine Lutheran Youth League President shall be represented as Ex-Officio member.

b. The Board of Directors shall meet twice a year in January and May or September without prejudice for the calling of a special meeting.

c. Two-thirds of the members of the Board of Directors shall constitute a quorum, provided all majority of the Districts are represented and provided the LCP President or Vice President is present.

d. The Board of Directors shall prepare the Annual Budget of the LCP.

e. The Board of Directors shall be responsible for an annual auditing of all LCP accounts and may initiate special auditing at any time.

f. The Board of Directors shall review all resolutions and reports of districts, boards, committees, and such other agencies, institutions, churches, which whom LCP may establish collaboration, partnership, consortium and shall approve, disapprove, amend, or remand the same on the following grounds:

1. Resolutions pertaining to projects that require funding beyond LCP’s capacity. However, such resolution maybe endorsed for funding to willing partners if it falls
within identified priorities of the district or the LCP. Provided; all funds for such programs or project must pass through the Business office for proper recording, acknowledgment and accounting.

2. They violate LCP’s Article of Incorporation, Constitution and Bylaws.

3. They are contrary to LCP’s standing policies and resolutions.

4. They need revisions due to lack of proper documentation and in the opinion of the Board such resolutions require more studies and details.

g. When it is the opinion of the Board of the Directors that it is not possible or expedient to carry out a Convention Resolution, the Board of Directors shall inform all members of LCP concerning this opinion, stating their alternate plan and giving the reasons for it. Unless one-third of the members file a vote of dissent within two months, the Board of Directors shall have the authority to follow their alternate plan.

ARTICLE SEVEN: DISTRICTS

Section 1. The Lutheran Church in the Philippines at the time of adopting this By-Laws, is divided into three districts, namely, the North Luzon District (NLD), the South Luzon District (SLD) and the Mindanao District (MDD).

Section 2. The LCP in Convention may form additional districts as it sees fit; thus, in the October 1976 Convention, NLD was divided into two (2) districts namely North Luzon Lowland District (NLLD) and North Luzon Highland District (NLHD).

Section 3. The LCP may establish and maintain special ministries and programs, which need not be under the jurisdiction of the District in which they are geographically located.

Section 4. District Conferences shall be held in the month of April during the Regular Convention year to elect the President, Vice President, Secretary and Lay and Alternate Lay representative to the LCP-BD whose term of office shall take effect just after their election and installation. However; districts shall call annual assembly in between district conferences to consider President’s annual report, manpower placement and ministry planning, reports and evaluation.
Section 5. The District President and Vice-President must be ordained clergymen of LCP and resident in the district they represent. Any lay District officer or lay representative shall be communicant of LCP and resident in the District he represents.

Section 6. Each district shall form a District Board of Directors which shall consist of at least its President, Vice-President, Secretary, and lay representative to the LCP Board of Directors.

Section 7. Duties and Powers of the District President:
   a. He shall serve as the spiritual shepherd and chief administrator of his District and as such shall be responsible to the President of the Lutheran Church in the Philippines.
   b. He shall perform either in person or by proxy, the ordination of candidates and the installation of pastors who have accepted calls in his District.
   c. He shall see to it that the resolutions of the Lutheran Church in the Philippines are carried out in his District.
   d. He shall submit an annual report of his administration to the President of the Lutheran Church in the Philippines and at his District Conferences.
   e. He shall be invested with executive powers and supervisory duties as may be prescribed in the By-Laws or resolutions of his District.

Section 8. Duties of the District Vice President:
   a. In case the office of the President becomes vacant, the Vice-President shall assume the Office of President.
   b. The Vice-President shall, upon request of the President, advise, assist, or represent the President.
   c. The Vice-President shall perform any other duties which the District may assign to him through its By-Laws or by special resolution.

Section 9. Duties of the District Secretary
   a. The Secretary shall be responsible for the proper recording, printing, and distribution of the resolutions of the District Conferences and District Board of Directors’ meetings.
   b. The Secretary shall be responsible for drawing up official papers, instruments, and documents of the District for endorsement and signature of the President and shall attest such documents.
c. The Secretary shall keep on file all official papers, instruments, and
documents of the District.
d. The Secretary shall perform any other duties which the district may
assign to him through its By-Laws or by special resolutions.

Section 10. Duties and powers of the District Board of Directors:
a. The Board of Directors shall act for and in behalf of the District
between Conferences in all official matters, limited by District By-
Laws and resolutions.
b. The Board of Directors shall ordinarily meet twice a year in February
and August.

Section 11. Districts shall conduct Pastoral Conferences which meet at least once a year
to carry out the function of spiritual, theological, and social fellowship.

ARTICLE EIGHT: CHURCH DISCIPLINE

Section 1. Members of LCP and individual members of LCP congregations who
confess contrary to Article Two of the Constitution or who are living in
manifest and unrepented sin shall be dealt with in accord with Matthew 18:
15-22 in a spirit of Christian love and concern.

Section 2. In order to provide prompt and effective help to those who are in need of
discipline, the following groups shall carry out their responsibilities in those
areas which are assigned to them:
a. The local congregation and the Congregation Pastor shall discipline
its own erring members. (Office of the Keys)
b. The District Board of Directors after a thorough inquiry and
verification, congregations which did not carry out their
responsibilities to discipline their erring members shall be
recommended to the LCP-BD for further necessary disciplinary
action or the expulsion of such congregation.
c. The District Board of Directors shall discipline erring evangelistic
missionaries who are not directly associated with an established
congregation.
d. The LCP Board of Directors shall deal with those District Board of
Directors who do not carry out their responsibility to discipline their
erring congregations, evangelists, local pastors, missionaries and other
church workers or clergymen.
e. The LCP Board of Directors shall deal with and if necessary remove from office those clergymen who teach contrary to Article Two of the Constitution and as stated in the Pastoral Theology********** in the performance of their special ministries in LCP.

Section 3. Any party affected by disciplinary action shall have the right of appeal. Appeals must be submitted in writing to the next higher authority within thirty days from the date on which the party received notice of the action.

a. Any party affected by the disciplinary action of a congregation may appeal the case to the District Board of Directors. In the meantime, the action of the congregation shall be respected.

b. Any party affected by the disciplinary or review action of a District Board of Directors may appeal the case to the LCP Board of Directors. In the meantime, the action of the District Board of Directors shall be respected.

c. Any party affected by the disciplinary or review action of the LCP Board of Directors may appeal the case to the LCP in Convention. In the meantime, the action of the LCP Board of Directors shall be respected.

d. When the appeal is made to LCP in Convention, the procedure shall be as follows:

1. The case shall not be debated on the floor. Instead, LCP in Convention shall elect a Committee of Review composed of three pastors and two laymen, who are in no way been involved in the case.

2. During the Convention, the Committee of Review, on the basis of the decision of the LCP Board of Directors, the objections filed by the appellant, and any other pertinent information, shall determine whether error was made in the procedure. It is therefore not the duty of this Committee of Review to hear and adjudge the entire case.

3. If the Committee of Review discovers error in the procedure, it shall remand the case to the LCP Board of Directors and report to the Convention that the case has been remanded.

4. If the Committee of Review discovers no error in procedure, it shall report the same to the Convention and the action of the LCP Board of Directors shall stand. No further appeal to LCP shall be entertained.

Section 4. Individuals who are excommunicated, or for any reason sever themselves from the LCP congregation shall forfeit any claim to the property of that congregation. Likewise, individuals, congregations, Districts, or parts of the
congregations or Districts which are expelled or for any reason sever themselves from LCP shall forfeit all privileges in the use of any share in the property of the Lutheran Church in the Philippines.

Section 5. The Board of Directors shall initiate the promulgation of a LCP Code of Ethics and administrative discipline that shall govern the conduct of LCP ministers, officials, and employees; and define disciplinary measures that may be taken thereof.

Section 6. All retired church workers of the Lutheran Church in the Philippines occupying LCP properties must vacate and turn over such properties for proper utilization.

ARTICLE NINE: AMENDMENTS TO THIS BY-LAWS

Change and addition to this By-Laws may be made provided they:

1. Are not contrary to the Constitution of LCP or to the laws and Constitution of the Republic of the Philippines.
2. Are presented in writing to LCP in Convention through its Book of Reports and Memorials.
3. Are separately considered and acted upon.
4. Are passed by a $2/3$ vote of the Convention delegates.

REPEALING CLAUSE

The LCP By-Laws is hereby repealed and the foregoing, hereafter known as the New By-Laws of The Lutheran Church in the Philippines is hereby adopted.

The following members, whose signature appear on pages 9-a and 9-b following have voted for the adoption of the foregoing New By-Laws, at a meeting held on October 18, 1968 at Baguio City whereby all representative delegates of all the members have voted for the adoption of this New By-Laws of The Lutheran Church in the Philippines.