

CONSTITUTION of the PITTSBURGH CHINESE CHURCH OAKLAND

- I. NAME
- A. This Church shall be known as the PITTSBURGH CHINESE CHURCH OAKLAND (PCCO), incorporated in January 2002 in the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania.
- II. STATEMENT OF FAITH
- A. PCCO believes that the BIBLE (or the Scriptures), both Old and New Testaments, is the inspired Word of God, the revelation of His Will for the salvation of men, and the Divine and Final Authority for all Christian faith and life (2 Timothy 3:16-17; 2 Peter 1:21; Psalms 119:89,105; 2 Peter 3:9; John 10:35; 12:47-48)
- B. PCCO believes in one GOD who is the Creator and Supreme Ruler of the Universe, the heavens, the earth, and all the things therein; and who eternally exists in three persons: Father, Son, and the Holy Spirit, each having his particular part in the work of our salvation. (Deuteronomy 6:4; Isaiah 44:6; Genesis 1:1; Psalms 103:19; Matthew 3:16-17, 28:19; 2 Corinthians 13:14; Ephesians 1:3-14)
- C. PCCO believes in JESUS CHRIST, the Son of God, true God and true man, conceived of the Holy Spirit and born of the virgin Mary, came to make God known to men, died on the cross and shed His blood as an atonement for the sins of men, raised bodily from the dead, ascended into heaven where, at the right hand of the Father, he is now man's High Priest and Advocate. He will return imminently and personally according to His promise. (1 Timothy 3:16; Philippians 2:5-7; Matthew 1:22-23; John 1:18; 1 Corinthians 15:1-4; 1 Peter 1:18-19; Acts 1:11; Ephesians 1:20; Hebrews 4:14; John 14:1-3; 1 Thessalonians 4:14-17; Revelation 1:7)
- D. PCCO believes in the Holy Spirit, the third person of the Godhead, who is of one substance equal in power and co-existent with the Father and the Son. His ministry is to convict men of guilt in regard to sin, righteousness and judgment, regenerate the believing sinners, and to indwell, guide, instruct and to empower believers for godly living and service. (2 Corinthians 3:17-18; John 16:8-13; Titus 3:5; Romans 8:9; Acts 1:8)
- E. PCCO believes that men were created in the image and likeness of God, but in Adam all men have fallen

into sin, and as sinners men are in need of God's salvation. (Genesis 1:26-28; Romans 5:12; 3:23; 5:18-19; Isaiah 53:6)

- F. PCCO believes in Salvation and Justification through faith in Jesus Christ. All who receive Him by faith as Lord and Savior are justified wholly on the ground of His shed blood and are born anew of the Holy Spirit into the family of God, and brought into the Kingdom of His Son. (John 1:12-13; Ephesians 2:8-9; Romans 5:8; Titus 3:5; Romans 3:24; John 3:3,5,7; Colossians 1:13; 1 John 5:12; Romans 6:23)
- G. PCCO believes that there shall be a bodily resurrection of the just to eternal life, and of the unjust to eternal punishment. (Matthew 25:31-46; John 5:29; Revelation 20:15; 21:1-5)
- H. PCCO believes that the CHURCH is one body, of which Jesus Christ is the Head, and is composed of all who are regenerated by the Holy Spirit. The duty of the Church is to proclaim through word and deeds, the Gospel of Salvation to the World, and to nurture the spiritual growth of members through prayer, teaching, fellowship, and worship. (Ephesians 1:22-23, 2:19-22; Colossians 1:18; Matthew 28:19-20; Acts 1:8, 2:42)

III. STATEMENT OF PURPOSE

- A. PCCO believes that our church has been called by God for the following purposes:
 - (1) To grow together as the body of Christ in a Christian fellowship of prayer, worship, teaching, sharing, witnessing, and service. (Ephesians 4:7-16; Acts 2:42)
 - (2) To proclaim Christ and to minister to all people in the congregation, the community, and the world. (Ephesians 4:1-6; Matthew 28:18-20. John 17:18)
- B. Concern for the Congregation:
 - (1) PCCO seeks to stimulate each member to grow spiritually and to love God and one another, to promote fellowship and caring among the congregation, and to encourage the involvement of each member in the life and mission of the church by using their gift, time, talent, and tithes. (John 13:34; Romans 12:1-21; 1 Corinthians 12:27-31; Philippians 2:1-5; 2 Corinthians 9:6-9; Hebrews 10:24-25)
- C. Concern for the Community:
 - (1) PCCO seeks to proclaim Christ to the community, to stimulate each member to share the Gospel in a spirit of love and humility, and to bear witness to

Christ through love for one another. (Matthew 28:18-20; John 13:35; 1 John 4:12)

(2) PCCO seeks to stimulate each member to serve and minister to his community in accordance with the expressed command of God when He created man, and in accordance with Christian principles. PCCO believes that the love of Christ shines most effectively through caring and involvement. (Genesis 1:26-30; Galatians 6:10; 1 John 4:7-21)

(3) PCCO upholds the principle of separation of church and state. Thus, while PCCO encourages the active involvement of individual members in social and political issues, PCCO as a church will serve the community through the proclamation of Christ and the demonstration of Christian love. (Romans 13:1-10)

D. Concern for the World:

(1) PCCO will take part in world missions through intercessory prayer, financial support, and, in the event that members are called, the sending of missionaries for God's work. (I Timothy 2:1; Acts 13:3)

(2) PCCO will encourage the concern and involvement of her members in world missions through the sharing of information, missionary prayer meetings, and missionary conferences. (Matthew 28:18-20; Acts 1:8)

IV. BY-LAWS

A. The Church shall establish by-laws in accordance with the Constitution as standards for the administration of the ministry of the Church.

V. EFFECTIVE DATE

A. The Constitution and By-Laws shall become effective immediately upon their adoption by the membership.