#### **Constitution of** 1 **Christ Our Redeemer Lutheran Church** 2 3 LCMS (Lutheran Church Missouri Synod) 4 As amended through October 23, 2003 5 6 **Preamble** 7 It is the will of our Lord Jesus Christ that His disciples should preach the gospel to the whole world (Mark 16:16, Matthew 28:18-20, Acts 1:8). Therefore we have organized to be a mission outpost which 8 9 deliberately seeks to connect broken lives to a healing Jesus through education, dynamic worship, and 10 significant relational groups. 11 12 Article I 13 Name 14 15 16 The name of this congregation as registered with the office of the Idaho Secretary of State is Christ Our Redeemer Lutheran Church, Inc. 17 18 19 In addition, the congregation may also use the name Christ Our Redeemer Lutheran Church, Sandpoint, 20 Idaho or simply Christ Our Redeemer Lutheran Church. 21 22 23 Article II 24 **Purpose** 25 26 The purpose for which this congregation is formed is to be a ministering body of highly-committed 27 believers in the Lord Jesus Christ, each empowered and personally involved in hearing and doing the Word, in discipleship and fellowship, in worship and prayer, and in ministry and outreach of the Church. 28 29 30 **Article III** 31 32 **Confession of Faith** 33 34 This congregation acknowledges and accepts all the canonical books of the Old Testament and the New 35 Testament as the revealed and inerrant Word of God, verbally inspired, and submits to them as the only 36 infallible authority in all matters of faith and life. 37 38 This congregation acknowledges and accepts all the confessional writings of the Evangelical Lutheran Church, contained in the Book of Concord of the year 1580, as true and genuine expositions of the 39 40 doctrines of the Bible. These confessional writings are the three Ecumenical Creeds (Apostles', Nicene, 41 and Athanasian), the Unaltered Augsburg Confession, the Apology of the Augsburg Confession, and the 42 Smalcald Articles, Luther's Large and Small Catechisms, and the Formula of Concord. 43 44 **Article IV** 45 **Synodical Affiliation** 46 47 48 This congregation shall hold membership in the Lutheran Church Missouri Synod as long as the Synod 49 conforms to the congregation's confessional standards set forth in Article III as determined by a two-

thirds (2/3) vote of the congregation at a meeting called for that purpose. It shall send its pastor and a lay delegate to the district convention of the Synod.

Article V

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 Membership

The membership of this congregation includes the Baptized Members, Confirmed Members, and Voting Members as defined in the Bylaws.

# Article VI Organization

The congregation shall be governed by the Voter's Assembly.

### Article VII Called Workers

Calls will only be issued to such candidates who are approved by the Lutheran Church Missouri Synod.

# Article IX Property Rights

If at any time a division should take place on account of doctrine, the property of the congregation and all benefits connected therewith shall remain with those communicant members who continue to adhere in confession and practice to Article III of this congregation's Constitution as determined by the adjudication procedure of the Synod. If division takes place for any other reason, the property shall remain with the majority of communicant members. In the event the congregation should totally disband, the property and all rights connected therewith shall be transferred to that District of the Lutheran Church Missouri Synod of which the congregation has been a member at the time of disbanding.

# Article X Amendments

Article III of this Constitution is irrevocable and may not be amended. With the exception of Article III, this Constitution may be amended, by a two-thirds (2/3) majority of the votes cast in a meeting of the Voters' Assembly. The wording of the proposed amendment and a written notice of the meeting shall be mailed to the LCMS District office as far in advance of the meeting as is practicable, and shall be mailed to every voting member at least two weeks prior to the date of the meeting at which the amendment is to be presented for action. Any comment from the District office received prior to the Voters' Assembly meeting at which the amendments will be considered shall be made known to voting members prior to any vote being taken on such amendments. Upon favorable action by the District, the congregation shall be notified that the amendments are acceptable to the Synod and that the congregation is entitled to continue to function as a member of the Synod in good standing under the Constitution as amended