

BYLAWS

CHRISTIAN SCIENCE SOCIETY, TAMPA BAY

March 1, 2004

- 1. Name of Organization:** Christian Science Society, Tampa Bay (“Society”).
- 2. Mission Statement:** To encourage and support the healing practice of its members and to respond to the spiritual demands of our community, especially in distributing the works of Mary Baker Eddy. This Society loyally supports the Christian Science Board of Directors and operates in consonance with *The Manual of The Mother Church*.
- 3. Membership qualifications:**
 - a. Active and sincere students of the Bible and the writings of Mary Baker Eddy,
 - b. Endorsed by two Society members,
 - c. Obedient to *The Church Manual* of The First Church of Christ, Scientist in Boston, Massachusetts by Mary Baker Eddy and subscribe to the Tenets of The Mother Church as given on page 15 of the *Church Manual*,
 - d. Loyally supports the Board of Directors of The Mother Church, recognizing their complete authority in issues regarding The Mother Church,
 - e. Willing to contribute time and money to the Society’s activities and expenses, and
 - f. Not affiliated with any other church organization except membership in The Mother Church.
- 4. Services:** Sunday and Wednesday services will be conducted by the Society’s members in accordance with *The Manual of The Mother Church*.
- 5. Sunday School** services will be conducted on Sundays.
- 6. A Reading Room** may be located in a specific physical location or on the Internet or other accessible place on a continuing basis and in addition may be provided in a mobile form in order to serve our community.
- 7. Organizational business of the Society:**
 - a. The annual meeting will be held on the 2nd Monday of February of each year.
 - b. An Executive Committee shall govern the Society and will consist of a president, vice president, clerk and treasurer.
 - c. Election of the Executive Committee will be held at the annual meeting and offices will be elected by a majority vote of the members of the Society that are present.
 - d. The term of the Executive Committee will be from March 1 through the last day of February of each year.
 - e. The following members of the Executive Committee – president, vice president, and clerk - may not hold the same office for more than two consecutive years.
 - f. The treasurer is exempt from the two year rule and may serve a longer term.
 - g. Assistant treasurers and assistant clerks, if needed, shall be appointed by the Executive Committee.
 - h. A vacancy of any member of the Executive Committee shall be filled by the remaining Executive Committee until the next annual meeting election.
 - i. The Executive Committee will meet on an as-needed basis to conduct its business.
 - j. A special meeting can be called at any time by the Executive Committee.
 - k. Any member of the Society may request a written secret ballot in voting at any meeting which shall be granted.

8. Inactive member: Amended on February 13, 2012: A member may be moved to an "inactive" status after one year of non attendance to the society's services. Non-attendance would mean the individual is not attending in person, or by teleconferencing, or by skyping. Prior to this change of status, the Executive Committee will appoint a member to make contact with the absentee member to determine whether their preference is to stay active, become an inactive member, or to withdraw their membership from the society.

9. Amendments to these bylaws are to be by a majority plus one vote of the full active membership.

Amended on March 20, 2011: For the purpose of voting on bylaw changes, members whose home address is more than 50 miles from the church shall not be considered as part of the full active membership. Also, members who have not been able to attend either the Sunday or Wednesday services for 1 year prior to the meeting shall not be considered part of the full active membership. If one of these members is able to attend the membership meeting, then they shall be considered a full active member and thus able to vote.

10. Recognition of exemption from federal income tax:

- a. The organization is organized exclusively for charitable, religious, educational, and/or scientific purposes under section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code.
- b. No part of the net earnings of the organization shall inure to the benefit of, or be distributable to, its members, trustees, officers or other private persons, except that the organization shall be authorized and empowered to pay reasonable compensation for services rendered and to make payments and distributions in furtherance of the purposes set forth in the purpose clause hereof. No substantial part of the activities of the organization shall be the carrying on of propaganda, or otherwise attempting to influence legislation, and the organization shall not participate in, or intervene in (including the publishing or distribution of statements) any political campaign on behalf of any candidate for public office. Notwithstanding any other provision of this document, the organization shall not carry on any other activities not permitted to be carried on (a) by an organization exempt from federal income tax under section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code, or corresponding section of any future federal tax code or (b) by an organization, contributions to which are deductible under section 170(c)(2) of the Internal Revenue Code, or corresponding section of any future federal tax code.
- c. Upon the dissolution of the organization, assets shall be distributed for one or more exempt purposes within the meaning of section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code, or corresponding section of any future federal tax code, or shall be distributed to the federal government, or to a state or local government, for a public purpose.

11. If this Society is dissolved, any remaining assets are to be sent to The Mother Church.