

# LEHIGH VALLEY CHRISTIAN HIGH SCHOOL

## CHARTER

WHEREAS we, the undersigned citizens of the United States of America and the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, whose names are subscribed to these Articles of Incorporation or Petition for the Charter, have associated ourselves together for the purpose and upon the terms and by the name herein stated, in compliance with the requirements of Section 7316 of the Pennsylvania Nonprofit Corporation Law of 1972, we do therefore set forth and declare that:

I. The name of the Corporation is the "LEHIGH VALLEY CHRISTIAN HIGH SCHOOL."

II. The location and post office address of the initial registered office of the Corporation in this Commonwealth is: 1414 E. Cedar Street, Allentown, Pennsylvania 18109. The situs of the Corporation is the County of Lehigh, Commonwealth of Pennsylvania. The place where the corporation conducts its principal activities is the County of Lehigh, Commonwealth of Pennsylvania. Should the corporation change its situs or place of its principal activities to other than Lehigh County, then a sum of money equal to the aggregate amount of capital grants, if any, made to the Corporation by the Harry C. Trexler Trust shall with first priority revert to said trust provided it is then an organization exempt from tax under Section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 (or the corresponding provision of any future United States Internal Revenue Law).

III. The Corporation is incorporated under the Nonprofit Corporation Law of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania for the following purpose:

The Corporation is charitable in its nature, and its object is to organize and operate, without profit and without regard to race, color, sex and national or ethnic origin, a private school, which shall give to the youth of the Lehigh Valley and vicinity instruction in all subjects usually taught in public and private schools, such instruction to be given in accordance with Section VIII of this Charter ("The Basis of the Corporation"), from a positive Biblical viewpoint, to the end that the students may gain confidence in the Divine authority of the Scripture as it relates to all of life and that they may grow in the grace and in the knowledge of God through our Lord and Saviour, Jesus Christ; and to encourage the propagation of Christian education among youth and adults by avenues in keeping with the primary purpose of this Association.

IV. The Corporation does not contemplate pecuniary gain or profit, incidental or otherwise.

V. The term for which the Corporation is to exist is perpetual.

VI. The Corporation is organized on a non-stock basis.

VII. The name and post office address of each incorporator is:

<u>Name</u>	<u>Address</u>
Robert W. Burnett	9 Round Hill Court, Flemington, New Jersey 08822

VIII. The basis of the Corporation shall be the Word of God interpreted by the following statement of faith:

1. We believe that the Bible, consisting of the sixty-six books of the Old and New Testaments only, is verbally inspired by the Holy Spirit, is inerrant in the original manuscripts, free from error in doctrine, fact and ethic, and is the infallible and authoritative Word of God, the supreme and final word and only rule in faith and conduct.

2. We believe in one Triune God, eternally existent in three co-equal persons: Father, Son and Holy Spirit. He is eternal, almighty, infallible, unchangeable, infinitely wise, holy, and just. He is Spirit, Light, Love and Truth. He is the incarnate Word, and has revealed Himself by means of creation and the written Word.
3. We believe that Jesus Christ is God, was born of a virgin so that two perfect and distinct natures were united in one person which is truly God and truly man, lived a sinless life, died vicariously, shed His blood as man's substitutionary sacrifice, rose bodily, and ascended to heaven where He is presently exalted at the Father's right hand as the only mediator between God and man.
4. We believe that the Holy Spirit has come into the world to reveal and glorify Christ and to apply the saving work of Christ to those who come in true repentance and faith. He convicts and draws those sinners to Christ, imparts new life to them, baptizes, seals, gifts and continually indwells them from the moment of spiritual birth and seals them until the day of redemption. His fullness, power and control are appropriated in the believer's life through faith and obedience.
5. We believe the Triune God, according to His sovereign Will, created out of nothing and out of things that He had made, by His Word, the universe and all that is therein. He is the Governor and Upholder of creation by His wisdom and the Word of His mighty power.
6. We believe that Adam was directly and perfectly created by God in His image and did not originate by the process of evolution. He was tempted by Satan the god of this world, and fell. Because of Adam's sin, all men have guilt imputed, are sinners by nature, choice and deed, are totally depraved, totally unable to save themselves, and need to be regenerated by the Holy Spirit for salvation.
7. We believe God does not discriminate among different races, nationalities, or ethnic groups, but we are all His offspring. Teachings or practices which make such discriminations must be denounced as sin and as an affront to God's creation.
8. We believe that salvation consists in the remission of sins through repentance and Christ's shed blood, the imputation of Christ's perfect righteousness, the reception of the Holy Spirit, and the free gift of eternal life. This salvation is received by faith alone, apart from works.
9. We believe that the Church, the Body of which Christ is the head, consists only of those who are born again, who are baptized by the Holy Spirit into Christ at the time of their regeneration, for whom He now makes intercession in heaven, and for whom He will come again. It is the duty of every believer to live a holy life, separate from sin, and to seek to win others to Christ. Jesus Christ is Lord of the Church, and the Church is responsible to Him in all things.
10. We believe that Christ has committed to His Church the ordinances of water Baptism and the Lord's Supper.
11. We believe that the Church has received biblical mandate to teach, and to train children in every area of faith and life. This shall be accomplished by the integrated study of the academic disciplines and study of the Word of God.
12. We believe in the imminent return of Jesus Christ to earth, personally, visibly, and bodily. We believe in the resurrection of both the saved and the lost; they that are saved unto the resurrection of life and they that are lost unto the resurrection of damnation.

IX. Membership in this Association shall be open to any school who shall make application in writing and who shall affirm in writing that they are in agreement ex. animo with sections III and VIII of this Charter and whose affirmation or reaffirmation is approved by the Board of Directors in the manner provided by the By-laws of this Corporation.

X. The administration of the Corporation shall be the responsibility of the Board of Directors, existing and operating under the following guidelines.

A. The management, along with all business and affairs of the Corporation shall be vested in a Board of Directors. Those comprising this Board must represent the “founding schools” or those selected as “members-at-large.”

B. The Board of Directors shall elect Board members by ballot, from nominees presented to it by the Nominating Committee at the time and place set by the Board of Directors, in the manner and for the term fixed by the By-laws of this Corporation.

C. All Directors shall annually agree in writing with the following statement:

“I undertake, as God shall give me strength, to endeavor to live in full obedience to God’s will as it is uniquely set forth in Scriptures - forsaking all ungodliness and worldly lust, walking in that holiness and temperance which will be an example unto the young, and adorning the doctrine of our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ.”

XI. The assets and finances of the Corporation shall be administered as follows:

A. The Board of Directors shall be authorized to receive and disburse gifts, contributions, bequests, devises, endowments, payment of tuition fees and other funds. It shall be empowered to lease, invest, purchase and sell all property.

B. The Directors shall not have the power to issue any indebtedness except such as may be incidental and necessary to the ordinary operation of the Corporation.

XII. The employees of the Corporation shall be hired, and shall operate under the following stipulations:

A. The Administration, teaching staff and other employed personnel shall be appointed by the Board of Directors in the manner and for the terms fixed by the By-laws of this Corporation.

B. The Administration, teaching staff and their assistants and other personnel must declare their unconditional agreement with Sections III and VIII of this Charter, and must sign, annually, the statement contained in Section X, part C, of this Charter.

C. All members of the Administration and teaching staff are in *loco parentis* relationship to the pupils enrolled in the school of this corporation.

XIII. All provisions in the Articles of Incorporation or Charter, with the exception of the Statement of Faith (Article VIII), and Articles II and XV may be amended by a two-thirds vote of the Board of Directors present at a duly constituted Annual Meeting, provided that the Directors shall have been advised in writing of the proposed change or changes at least two weeks prior to the meeting.

XIV. Provisions of the Statement of Faith and Philosophy as set forth in the Charter and the By-laws may not be amended. Article II (situs), and Article XV (dissolution) shall not be altered, amended or repealed except upon Order of the Orphans’ Court Division, Court of Common Pleas, County of Lehigh, Commonwealth of Pennsylvania.

XV. Upon the dissolution of this Corporation, after paying or adequately providing for the debts and obligations of the Corporation, any remaining assets up to the aggregate amount of capital grants made to the Corporation by the Harry C. Trexler Trust, if any, shall with first priority revert to said trust provided it is then an organization exempt from tax under Section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 (or the corresponding provision of any future United States Internal Revenue Law) in a manner to be prescribed by the Orphans' Court Division, Court of Common Pleas, County of Lehigh, Commonwealth of Pennsylvania. The remaining assets, after satisfaction of the foregoing provision, shall be distributed to such Christian education organization or organizations as shall at the time qualify as exempt under Section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1954 (or the corresponding provision of any future United States Internal Revenue Law), as the Board of Directors shall determine. Any such assets not so disposed of shall be disposed of by the Court of Common Pleas of the county in which the principal office of the Corporation is then located, exclusively for charitable, religious or scientific purposes, and said Court shall determine, which at the time qualify as exempt under Section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1954 (or the corresponding provision of any future United States Internal Revenue Law).

This charter was adopted by the LVCHS Formation Committee on 6/18/1987 and registered in the state of Pennsylvania on 8/24/1988.

#### AMENDMENTS:

*12/17/1992 – With the withdrawal of Central Assembly Christian School as a founding school, the number of founding schools in Section X-A has effectively been reduced from four to three. While this was reflected in our Constitution and By-laws, the charter was not changed.*

*6/18/1998 – Changes were made to accommodate restrictions in the Harry C. Trexler Trust regarding any change in situs from Lehigh County or the dissolution of the Corporation. Additionally, the number of founding schools was eliminated from the wording.*

*5/20/1999 – Elimination of “participating schools” from section X-A.*

*7/1/2000 – Change of zip code per directions from Lehigh Valley Post Office*