

Declaration of Establishment

We, the undersigned assembly of Christian believers on this Fifth day of April in the year of our Lord 2004, desiring to form a congregation of the Church under the Sovereignty and Government of Jesus Christ, hereby declare our establishment according to the following articles:

1. Name

This Church congregation's name is **Port Austin Sabbatarian Community Church**, hereafter referred to as PASCC.

2. Definition of "Church" and "Congregation"

The word "Church" in this document and other Governing Documents is defined as it is used in the Bible and also as defined at law, below, to designate the body of Christ, which is the diverse body of all believers doing the work of Christ throughout the world.

Who now rejoice in my sufferings for you, and fill up that which is behind of the afflictions of Christ in my flesh **for his body's sake, which is the church** (Col 1:24).

For no man ever yet hated his own flesh; but nourisheth and cherisheth it, even as the Lord the church: **For we are members of his body**, of his flesh, and of his bones (Eph 5:29-30).

For as we have many members in one body, and all members have not the same office: So we, being

many, are **one body in Christ**, and every one members one of another. **Having then gifts differing** according to the grace that is given to us, whether prophecy, let us prophesy according to the proportion of faith (Rom 12:4-6).

Church. In its most general sense, the religious society founded and establish by Jesus Christ, to receive, preserve, and propagate His doctrines and ordinances (Black's Law Dictionary, Sixth Edition).

The word "congregation" is used synonymously to designate a local assembly of believers. PASCC is a local congregation of the one true Church. PASCC is an "establishment of religion" in the terms of the Constitution of the United States of America.

3. Lordship of Jesus Christ

Jesus Christ is the head of all aspects the Church, having sole and sovereign authority over it:

"...Christ is the head of the church, his body, of which he is the Savior" (Eph 5:23).

And he is the head of the body, the church; he is the beginning and the firstborn from among the dead, so that in everything he might have the supremacy (Col 1:18).

[S]o in Christ we who are many form one body, and each member belongs to all the others (Rom 12:5).

[W]hich he [God] exerted in Christ when he raised him from the dead and seated him at his right hand in the heavenly realms, far above all rule and authority, power and dominion, and every title that can be given, not only in the present age but also in the one to come. And God placed all things under his feet and appointed him to be head over everything for the church (Eph 1:20-22)

4. Non-Sectarian and Non-Denominational

The Port Austin Sabbatarian Community Church name was chosen for local operational purposes and not to create a sect or denomination in any way. PASCC is not affiliated with any religious party or denomination. The Bible instructs against division by specific teachers (1Cor 1:11-15; 3:4-10). The word "Sabbatarian" lets others know when PASCC holds its worship services. "Community" conveys the idea of an open group of people working together. There is no relationship between PASCC and other "Sabbatarian" or "Community" church groups other than that members of all are hopefully a part of the one Church that belongs to God (Acts 20:28; 1 Cor. 1:2; 10:32; 11:16; 11:22; 15:9; 2Cor. 1:1; Gal. 1:13; 1Thes. 2:14; 2Thes. 1:4; 1Tim. 3:5) and Christ (Rom 16:16). Church congregations are also frequently identified in the Bible by the geographical area in which they are located (Acts 11:22; 13:1; Rom 16:1,27; 1Cor 1:2; 16:1,19; 1Cor 1:1; 8:1; Gal 1:2,22; Col 4:16; 1Thes 1:1; 2:14; 2Tim 4:12; Rev 1:4; 2:1,8,12; 18:3:1;7;14) The Bible teaches that a Church will not be judged by its name, but by its works (Rev 2-3).

5. Members

The signers of this document are the initial covenant members of PASCC. Members may be added or removed in accordance with the Governing Documents and their covenants. As Jesus Christ works primarily through men and women by His Spirit, human decision-making power for PASCC is

established in the members of PASCC according to its Governing Documents. Membership in PASCC is an agreement to work together as brethren; it is not the same as membership in the Church, the body of Jesus Christ. Specifically, it is possible that a person could become a member of PASCC yet without having the spiritual change of heart necessary to be a member of the body of Christ; and it is readily acknowledged that many members of His Church in the Port Austin area may not necessarily become members of PASCC.

6. Governing Documents

The primary governing document of PASCC is the Holy Scriptures. Additional Governing Documents are required to cover issues not specifically answered in the Bible and to establish principles and methods specific to PASCC. These additional Governing Documents of PASCC are maintained by the PASCC Scribe.

7. Scope of Powers

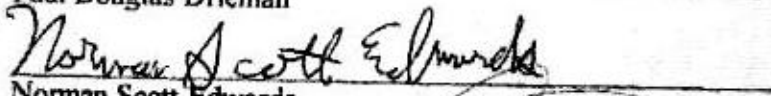
PASCC, deriving its power from the Almighty Creator God and acting through its members in accordance with its Governing Documents, is authorized to conduct church functions it determines to be necessary. Such activities include, but are not limited to: conducting Church services and other worship activities; establishing a community living by biblical law and principles encompassing every aspect of physical and spiritual life; establishing a witness to our local neighbors and all who come to visit; educating young people in Bible basics helping them to prepare for ministry within their marriage, family, church and community—including the learning of physical life-sustaining skills; serving older brethren, giving them an opportunity to live in a Sabbatarian environment and to use their wisdom and experience to teach the young; helping and teaching brethren to be fruitful individuals in spite of personal difficulties and limitations; serving as a repository of Bible study literature and to disseminate it as God makes it possible; chronicling the experiences of the community in word, song and other media, to be an inspiration and an encouragement to others for similar communities and local church congregations; opening financial accounts such as bank accounts, brokerage accounts or other investment accounts; the purchase lease or rental of congregational meeting facilities and work facilities for ministries; the purchase lease or rental of necessary equipment, musical instruments, vehicles, supplies, implements or tools and any and all other forms of property both real and personal; the care, remuneration and/or compensation of those laboring in Church service; the distribution of tangible and intangible gifts or benevolent charities; as well as any other necessary and appropriate financial transactions, PASCC acting through its governing body, for the initiation, promotion, expansion and continuation of its activities.

8. Authorization

The written organization and operation of PASCC is hereby petitioned for and authorized by we, the members, attesting by our signatures hereunto:


Paul Douglas Drieman

04/05/2004
Date


Norman Scott Edwards

4/05/2004
Date


Phil Daniel Frankford

04/05/2004
Date


Terry Monte Williams

04/05/2004
Date