



Bethlehem Christian School Association

Bethlehem and Blue Mountain Programs

Application for Association Membership Information Sheet

Thank you for your interest in applying for membership in the Bethlehem Christian School Association. Although the application process is simple, the following information may be of help:

1. Bethlehem Christian School (BCS) is a parent-run school; however, only bona fide members of the Bethlehem Christian School Association may serve on the Board (by election) or committees of the Board (by appointment), and thereby have input in Board decisions.
2. One does not have to be a parent of a current student to be a member of the Association or the Board of Trustees. Anyone with a Christian testimony and a deep interest in Christian education, specifically BCS, is invited to apply.
3. Because BCS seeks both to teach and to be run according to the Word of God, it is vitally important and necessary that those in the Association be committed Christians with a positive testimony. It is for this reason that you are asked to write your Christian testimony on the reverse side of the application form.
4. All applicants are required to submit a \$10 application fee with the completed application.
5. **When both husband and wife wish to apply for Association membership, each must fill out their own separate application form and each remit the \$10 fee.**
6. Completed applications will be evaluated and voted upon by the Board of Trustees. Those applicants accepted by the Board for membership in the Association can remain members without further fees simply by attending Association Meetings whenever held. The purpose of this attendance requirement is to keep the Association trimmed to those with an ongoing vital interest in the school.
7. The Association has one regular Annual Meeting in May of each year; **very rarely** is a special meeting called at any other time. If two consecutive Association meetings are missed, it is assumed that the member is no longer actively interested, and membership in the Association is automatically revoked. To regain membership, it is necessary to submit a new application.



Bethlehem Christian School Association
Bethlehem and Blue Mountain Programs

APPLICATION FOR ASSOCIATION MEMBERSHIP

Applicant Information (please print).

Name: _____

Address: _____

Phone #: _____

email: _____

Church: _____

*Please enclose \$10/Person and return to school office

I hereby apply for membership in The Bethlehem Christian School Association. I am at least nineteen (19) years of age, and I openly acknowledge Jesus Christ as my personal Lord and Savior. I have read and am in agreement with the attached Charter of this Association, and wholeheartedly subscribe to Sections III and VIII. I understand that all applicants for membership, particularly with regard to the Statement of Faith, are subject to examination by, and approval of, the Board of Trustees.

In witness whereof, I have signed and sealed this application this ___ day of _____, 20__.

_____ (Legal Signature.)

Please list any hobbies, interests, or talents you have that you feel might help the school, particularly with regard to the following areas: Accreditation, Development, Education, Finance & Audit, Financial Aid, Public Relations, Spiritual Life, and Technology.

[Please turn the page and provide the appropriate responses.]

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 Bethlehem Christian School Association."

§ IV

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

§ II

The location and post office address of the initial registered office of the Corporation in this Commonwealth is:

3100 Hecktown Road, Bethlehem, Pa. 18017

§ V

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

§ 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, one or more private schools, which shall give to the youth of the city 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.

§ VI

The Corporation is organized on a non-stock basis.

§ VII

The name and post office address of each incorporator is:

Ronald A. Guiles, 400 Bridle Path Road, Bethlehem, Pa. 18017
Larry P. Hartman, 1910 Michael Street, Bethlehem, Pa. 18017
Loretta Hazelton, 45 W. University Avenue, Bethlehem, Pa. 18015
Frank L. Herb, Jr., 3040 Hecktown Road, Bethlehem, Pa. 18017
Richard A. Hutchinson, 1705 Kaywin Avenue, Bethlehem, Pa. 18018
Francis M. Leake, 1830 Mark Twain Circle, Bethlehem, Pa. 18017
William J. McElroy, Jr. 927 7th Avenue, Bethlehem, Pa. 18018
Douglas M. Miller, 2215 Catasaquca Road, Bethlehem, Pa. 18018
Walter C. Miller, 1420 W. Union Boulevard, Bethlehem, Pa. 18018
Stanley D. Naim, 402 E. Goepf Street, Bethlehem, Pa. 18018
Barbara J. Noon, 4470 Henry Street, Easton, Pa. 18042
Glen H. Ockenhouse, 1806 Werner Circle, Bethlehem, Pa. 18018
Marianne Ockenhouse, 1806 Werner Circle, Bethlehem, Pa. 18018
Jeannette N. Purviance, 831 School Street, Bethlehem, Pa. 18015
Eleanor Stahl, 261 9th Avenue, Bethlehem, Pa. 18018
Ronald P. Swanson, 420 Rockhill Circle, Bethlehem, Pa. 18017
Gordon R. Thomas, 3225 Shelton Avenue, Bethlehem, Pa. 18017

§ VIII

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

A. We believe that the Bible, made up of 66 books, verbally inspired, and free from error in doctrine, fact and ethic i.e. inerrant, is the Word of God and the only infallible and authoritative rule of faith and practice.

B. We believe in one Triune God, eternally existent in three co-equal persons--Father, Son and Holy Spirit.

C. We believe in the Deity of our Lord Jesus Christ, in His virgin birth, in His sinless life, in His miracles, in His vicarious and atoning death through His shed blood, in His bodily resurrection, in His ascension to the right hand of the Father, and in His imminent personal and physical return in power and glory.

D. We believe that man was created in the image of God, but that through sin, he brought upon himself and his posterity, not only physical death, but also spiritual death which is separation from God; that all human beings by physical birth possess a sinful nature and are therefore actual sinners in thought, word, and deed; and that man, as such, is condemned to hell and utterly unable to remedy his lost condition by himself or by ecclesiastical rite.

E. We believe that the salvation of lost and sinful man is a free gift of God's grace apart from works, based solely upon Christ's vicarious and atoning death, effected by the regenerating work of the Holy Spirit, and received by trusting in Christ's finished work on the cross.

F. We believe in the Deity and present ministry of the Holy Spirit, by Whose solitary baptism of every believer at the moment of regeneration and by Whose indwelling each Christian is enabled to lead a godly life as manifested by the fruit of the Spirit.

G. We believe in the resurrection of both the saved and the lost--they that are saved to the resurrection of life and they that are lost to the resurrection of damnation.

H. We believe in the spiritual unity of all believers in the Lord Jesus Christ.

§ IX

Membership in this Association shall be open to any person who shall make application in writing and who shall affirm in writing (and from time to time as requested by the Board of Trustees shall reaffirm in writing) that he/she acknowledges Jesus Christ as personal Lord and Saviour and is in agreement ex animo with Sections III and VIII of this Charter and whose affirmation or reaffirmation is approved by the Board of Trustees in the manner provided for by the Constitution of the Corporation, and who submits to such other provisions as may be set forth in the Constitution of this Corporation.

§ X

The administration of the Corporation shall be the responsibility of the Board of Trustees, 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 Trustees. Those comprising this Board must be members of the Corporation, with a majority being parents of children enrolled in a school operated by it; the first three years of the Board's existence shall be exempt from the requirement that a majority of its constituency be parents of children enrolled in the school(s), but by the results of the third annual election, this requirement shall be met.

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

C. All Trustees 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 Trustees shall be authorized to receive and disburse gifts, contributions, bequests, devises, endowments, payments of tuition, fees and other funds. It shall be empowered to lease, invest, purchase and sell all property, other than real estate, for the purpose of the Corporation.

B. Real estate of the Corporation shall not be purchased, alienated or encumbered, in any manner, unless by the authority of two-thirds of the members of the Corporation expressed by resolution adopted at a duly called and constituted meeting; provided that such resolution shall first be recorded upon the minutes of the meeting adopting the resolution, and that the membership had been advised, in writing, of the proposed action, at least two weeks prior to the meeting.

C. The Trustees shall not have the power to issue any indebtedness except such as may be incident and necessary to the ordinary operations 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 Trustees in the manner and for the terms fixed by the Constitution of this Corporation.

B. The Administration, teaching staff and their assistants, and other employed 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 schools of this Corporation.

§ XIII

All provisions in the Articles of Incorporation or Charter, with the exception of the Statement of Faith, Section VIII, may be amended by a two-thirds vote of the membership present at a duly constituted Annual meeting, provided that the membership shall have been first advised in writing by the Board of Trustees of the proposed change or changes at least two weeks prior to the meeting.

§ XIV

Elements of the Statement of Faith, Section VIII, may be amended by a two-thirds vote of the membership present at a duly constituted Annual meeting of the Association and then ratified by a two-thirds vote at the next succeeding Annual meeting, provided that the membership shall have first been advised in writing by the Board of Trustees of the proposed change or changes at least two weeks prior to those meetings.

§ XV

Upon the dissolution of this Corporation, after paying or adequately providing for the debts and obligations of the Corporation, the remaining assets 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 Trustees 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, as 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).

IN TESTIMONY WHEREOF, the incorporators have signed and sealed these Articles of Incorporation or Petition for the Charter this 29th day of April, 1978.