

CBCGB-MS Vision, the Statements of faith, Charter Membership and Executive Council
(Version 1.0)

Chapter One Our Vision

Our Lord, Jesus Christ, has given us the Great Commission, “All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me.”¹⁹ Therefore go and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit,²⁰ and teaching them to obey everything I have commanded you. And surely I am with you always, to the very end of the age.” As His beloved disciples, we would truly like to follow his commands, to preach the gospel to the end of the world. However, before we prepare ourselves to do the mission work, we certainly cannot neglect the nearby needs for the gospel.

According to 2010 consensus, there were 73,507 Chinese and 12 Chinese churches in Middlesex County. There were 31,484 Chinese and 7 Chinese churches in Suffolk County. In Norfolk County, however, there were 31,828 Chinese and only 4 Chinese Churches.

Because of this, there are many needs in the Metro-South Boston areas. The Chinese who lived in Metro-South Boston area should have the chance to know the gospel. Therefore, this is the vision for this Chinese Church to be established. The purpose of establishing this church is to be the light and the salt, to bring the gospel to all Chinese, and all other ethnics in the Metro-South Boston area.

Chapter Two Statements of Faith

1. The one living and true God, eternally exists as three persons - the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit - who are equal in power and glory. This triune God created all, upholds all, and governs all. (Deut 6:4; Matt 28:19; Eph 2:18)
2. Jesus Christ our Lord is the Son of God - both fully God and fully man - and the Savior of the world. Through his life, death, and resurrection, he atoned for sin and made provision for the redemption of mankind. (Matt 1:18-25; John 1:14; 3:16; Rom 3:25; 1 Tim 3:16; Heb 2:9; 1 Pet 3:18)
3. The Holy Spirit, the third person of the blessed Trinity, brings people into a saving relation with God, and that he is the Comforter, Sanctifier, and Guide of all who receive Jesus Christ as personal Savior. (John 3:3-8; 14:16-18,26; 16:8-11,13,15; Titus 3:5; Rom 15:16; 2 Thess 2:13)
4. Scripture - consisting of sixty-six books in the Old and New Testaments - is the only divinely inspired and infallible Word of God. Scripture is the supreme authority in all matters of faith and conduct. (2 Tim 3:16-17; 1 Thess 2:13; 2 Pet 1:19-21; 1 Tim 4:12-13; Jas 1:21-25)
5. Humankind was created in the image of God, for the purpose of glorifying God. As a result of the fall, sin entered into the human race as a universal condition, and that sin condemned the whole human race to death. (Gen 1:27; 3:1-6; Rom 5:12,18; 3:10-12,23)
6. Repentance for sin and reception of Jesus Christ as personal Savior is the one and only way whereby sinners may inherit eternal life. (Acts 4:12; 1 John 5:12)
7. The Church is the body of believers united in Christ with him as the head. The Church invisible and universal is composed of the redeemed of all ages. The local church is the visible manifestation of the invisible Church. (Acts 2:46-47; Matt 16:18; Eph 4:4-6,11-16; 5:23)
8. At the end of the age, the Lord Jesus Christ shall descend from heaven to redeem his people into eternal life, and to judge the wicked into eternal death. (1 Pet 4:7; Acts 1:11; 24:15; Matt 25:31-46; 1 Thess 4:14-17)
9. Baptism by water is the public confession of Christ as Savior and Lord. It is a symbol of one's union, by faith, with Christ in death, burial, and resurrection. (Matt 28:19; Acts 2:38-41; Rom 6:3-5). The Lord's Supper should be observed by all believers. It consists of partaking corporately of the bread and cup, in remembrance of the death of Christ for the remission of sins. (1 Cor 11:23-34; Luke 22:19-20)

Chapter Three Charter Membership and Executive Council

We would like to propose the formation of the CBCGB-MS Executive Council. The function of this council is to oversee the ministry of CBCGB-MS under the jurisdiction of the mother church (CBCGB). The first step toward the formation of the CBCGB-MS Executive Council is the establishment of CBCGB-MS charter membership. The following is a description of the CBCGB-MS charter membership, the CBCGB-MS Executive Council, and the relationship between CBCGB-MS and the mother church.

I. CBCGB-MS Charter Membership

A. Admission

A Christian, 18 years or older, may become a CBCGB-MS charter member (hereafter, charter member) after fulfilling all of the following conditions:

- a. Baptized in CBCGB or any other church with similar statement of faith;
- b. Committed to the mission of CBCGB-MS and attended the church's worship services regularly;
- c. Submitted the CBCGB-MS charter membership application; and
- d. Approved by Pastor Jiang Wei, Elder Liqin Chen and the Chair of MetroSouth Core Coworker Team (CCT, which was established by CBCGB BOE to govern all ministries in MetroSouth).

B. Duration

1. Upon approval by the above-mentioned admission process, the person will immediately become a charter member.
2. When CBCGB-MS becomes independent, all charter members will become founding members of the new independent church.

C. Responsibilities and privileges

1. Charter members are expected to actively participate in the ministry of CBCGB-MS.
2. Charter members are eligible to vote for CBCGB-MS related matters including the election of CBCGB-MS Executive Council members.
3. Charter members are eligible to be elected as CBCGB-MS Executive Council members.

II. CBCGB-MS Executive Council.

A. Qualifications

1. The members of the CBCGB-MS Executive Council (hereafter, the council) must be charter members.
2. The members of the CBCGB-MS Executive Council must demonstrate his/her commitments to CBCGB-MS ministries.
3. The council members must demonstrate servant hood attitudes and spiritual leadership qualities as outlined in the Bible (1 Tim 3:1-13; Titus 1: 6-9).

B. Composition and Election

1. The first council shall consist of seven members.
2. The CCT will become the first council through reconfirmation by majority of Charter Members.
3. New Council Member can be nominated by the council and approved by majority of Charter Members.

C. Responsibility

1. The council shall oversee the ministry of CBCGB-MS under the jurisdiction of the mother church.
2. The council shall also be the proper representation of CBCGB-MS to work with the mother church regarding matters such as the process, the timing, and the transition of becoming independent.

D. Term of service

1. The term for the council members shall be two years or until such a time when the council is dissolved upon CBCGB-MS becomes independent.
2. The council member can be re-elected.

III. The Relationship between CBCGB-MS and the Mother Church

Before CBCGB-MS becomes independent, the Board of Elders of CBCGB shall have full responsibility over CBCGB-MS. This includes the assignment of elders and pastors to guide CBCGB-MS.

Chapter Four Frequently Asked Questions and Answers

1. *What is the timetable for forming the council?*

Here are some tentative dates which may change due to unpredictable factors and progresses:

- 6/20 – Submit to the CBCGB BOE
- 8/16 – Expect approval of this proposal by the CBCGB BOE
- 9/5 – Start Pioneer Charter membership application.
- 10/4 – End Pioneer Charter membership application
- 10/18 – Approve Pioneer Charter memberships who will be notified officially.
- 11/1 – Elect Council. The official ballots will be distributed out within an hour after worship service. Charter members will prayerfully seek the Lord's guidance, check up to seven names, and put the ballots into a ballot box shortly after they receive them. Absentee ballot will be available for this election ahead of time. The ballots will be given to Pastor Jiang Wei or a designated person for tally.
- 11/8 – Notify elected council members.

2. *When will CBCGB-MS become independent?*

Upon establishment of MS charter membership, we will start to apply none-profit organization process which may take more than a year. It is the consensus among the congregations that CBCGB MS will become a new church, independent from CBCGB after June 2017.