

DeColores
Ministries

Southwest Michigan



BYLAWS

Revised & Approved 8/27/2024

**BYLAWS
OF SOUTHWEST MICHIGAN
DECOLORES MINISTRIES, INC.**

PREAMBLE

Southwest Michigan DeColores Ministries, Inc. (“DeColores” or “the corporation”) is a lay led Christian ministry, the purpose of which is to encourage greater lay activity in the church communities of southwest Michigan and northern Indiana. DeColores hopes to accomplish this purpose by calling individual Christ-followers to a renewed commitment to their faith and by calling non-believers to accept Jesus Christ as their personal savior. It is not a substitute for membership in local church communities, but it is a part of the world-wide Church and supported by followers of Christ in those communities. DeColores is not a church, does not seek to become a church and, unlike Christian church communities, does not offer any sacraments.

DeColores was founded in the Cursillo* tradition and adheres to the Nicene, Apostles’ and Athanasian creeds. It welcomes all who seek a deeper relationship with Jesus Christ, hoping to accomplish this through three-day Bible-based encounters that strengthen personal piety, study and action. Although DeColores employs the Cursillo method, it is separate and distinct from other Cursillo organizations. A key purpose of these bylaws is to protect the Cursillo tradition embraced by DeColores and in which it was founded.

*“Cursillo” (Spanish for “short course”) originated in Majorca, Spain, in the mid-20th Century as a lay ministry within the Roman Catholic Church. It is designed to enhance personal spiritual development through both a three-day weekend encounter featuring sixteen talks (called “rollos”) and the apostleship of the fourth day. A Cursillo weekend is not a quiet contemplative retreat; the teachings of Christ are presented in a joyful climate featuring not only talks but song and lighter sessions. Since its origin, Cursillo has spread from the Roman Catholic Church to other Christian church communities, and Cursillo ministries now exist throughout the world.

ARTICLE I - CORPORATION

Section 1.1- Name

The name of the corporation is Southwest Michigan DeColores Ministries, Inc.

Section 1.2 - Places of Operation

The corporation shall have its principal place of operation in Niles, Michigan, and its other places of operation shall be determined by the Secretariat of the corporation.

Section 1.3 - Purposes

A. The purposes for which the corporation is organized are as follows:

1. To strengthen the desire for greater lay activity in Christian churches.

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- B. To promote the activities of this ministry.
 - 2. To make this ministry an instrument of Christian formation and renewal.
 - 3. To receive and administer funds to enable the corporation to operate exclusively for religious, charitable, scientific, literary or educational purposes within the meaning of Section 501 (c) (3) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986, and to give funds and property from time to time to other organizations to be used, or held for use, for the purpose of carrying out one or more such purposes; to acquire, own, dispose of and deal with property and interests and to apply gifts, grants, and other proceeds toward the enhancement of the purposes of the corporation; to carry out any actions determined by the corporation that may be appropriate and not forbidden by Section 501 (c) (3) of the Code, with all the power conferred on nonprofit corporations under the laws of the State of Michigan.

Section 1.4 - Nonprofit Corporation

The corporation shall be operated exclusively for religious, charitable, scientific, literary and educational purposes within the meaning of Section 501 (c) (3) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 as a nonprofit corporation. No member of the corporation shall have any title to or interest in the corporation's property or earnings, nor shall any member have part of the net earnings of the corporation. No substantial part of the activities of the corporation shall consist of carrying on propaganda or otherwise attempting to influence legislation, nor shall the corporation participate in or intervene in any political campaign on behalf of, or in opposition to, any candidate for public office.

Section 1.5 - Definitions

- A. SECRETARIAT: The governing board of Southwest Michigan DeColores Ministries, Inc.
- B. SOUTHWEST MICHIGAN DECOLORES COMMUNITY: All persons who have completed a DeColores Ministries, DeColores en Cristo, or substantially similar weekend in the Cursillo tradition and reside within the Southwest Michigan DeColores Ministries, Inc. boundaries.
- C. RECTOR / RECTORESS: The lay leader of a DeColores weekend.
- D. RECTOR / RECTORESS MANUAL: The manual prepared by National DeColores Ministries, Inc. that governs the conduct of a weekend through the Rector / Rectress selected by the Secretariat.
- E. CRUCISTA: A person who has completed a DeColores Ministries or DeColores en Cristo weekend as a candidate.
- F. CURSILLISTA: A person who has completed a Cursillo weekend, either denominational or interfaith, as a candidate.
- G. MAY: Means “at the discretion of the Rector / Rectress (re: weekend) and President (re: bylaws), the change is okay, but it is best after discussion with others”.
- H. SHOULD: Means “could be changed by appeal to the Secretariat, a general rule that is followed”.
- I. SHALL: Means “absolute without exception”.

ARTICLE II - SECRETARIAT

Section 2.1 - Secretariat

The business and affairs of the corporation shall be managed by a Secretariat, which is made up of both elected and appointed members. The Secretariat will have the responsibility and authority for the management of the corporation's business, property, personnel, affairs, and funds. It will have the authority to do and perform all acts and functions permitted for an organization described in Section 501 (c) (3) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986, which are consistent with these Bylaws, the Articles of Incorporation, and the laws of the State of Michigan.

Section 2.2 - Meetings

The Secretariat shall meet monthly at a time and place specified by the board to conduct the business of the corporation. There shall be no less than ten meetings per year. In addition to the regular meetings, the President may call special meetings.

Section 2.3 - Quorum and Voting Requirements

One third (1/3) of the total number of Secretariat voting members represent a quorum for the transaction of business at any Secretariat meeting. Roberts Rules of Order shall govern all meetings of the Secretariat.

Section 2.4 - Compensation

No officer or board member of the Secretariat shall receive compensation for any work performed on behalf of the corporation, but this shall not prevent the Secretariat from reimbursing any person for expenses incurred while carrying out corporation business.

Section 2.5 - Execution of Conveyances, Mortgages and Contracts

The Secretariat may in any instance designate one or more persons to execute any contract, conveyance, mortgage or other instrument on behalf of the corporation.

Section 2.6 - Qualifications

- A. Shall be a member of the Southwest Michigan DeColores Community.
- B. Shall be active in an organized Christian church.
- C. Shall be willing to accept the commitment of service to the DeColores Community and the Secretariat.

Section 2.7 - Board Positions

The Secretariat shall consist of, at a minimum, the following positions: Spiritual Advisor, President, Vice President, Past President, Pre-DeColores, In-DeColores, Post-DeColores, Secretary, and Treasurer.

- A. The Spiritual Advisor(s), President(s), Vice-President(s), and Past President(s) may be filled by one or two persons.
- B. One or two persons, with the exception of National Representatives, may fill all other board positions.
- C. Spiritual Advisor(s) shall meet the same qualifications of a Spiritual Director for a DeColores team as specified in Article V, Section 5.2 A.

Section 2.8 - Other Positions

Other Secretariat positions may be created with the approval of the Secretariat.

Section 2.9 - Voting Rights

Each individual voting member of the Secretariat shall be entitled to one vote and must be present to vote. The President / President Couple shall withhold one (1) unified vote for the purpose of tie breaking in ballot voting.

Section 2.10 - Selection

The members of the Secretariat shall be selected in the following manner:

- A. President: The current Vice President shall fill this position.
- B. Vice President: The Southwest Michigan DeColores Community shall elect the Vice President from among qualified nominated candidates. The method of community voting shall be determined by the Secretariat (i.e. by mail, by special meeting, etc.). A simple plurality will determine this position.

Candidates for Vice President shall satisfy the following minimum requirements:

- 1. Have (a) completed at least three (3) DeColores weekends as a team member, OR (b) completed at least two (2) DeColores weekends and one substantially similar weekend in the Cursillo tradition as team member.
 - 2. Have been a rollista on a DeColores weekend.
 - 3. Have been a coordinator on a DeColores weekend OR completed a Fourth Day (Leader Training) Workshop.
 - 4. Has been a member of the Southwest Michigan DeColores Community for at least three (3) years at the time of nomination.
 - 5. Be a person whose life typically exemplifies the DeColores ministry.
 - 6. A written resume' of the nominees' qualifications shall be presented at the time of nomination.
- C. Past President: The current President shall fill this position.
 - D. Spiritual Advisor: The President shall appoint one or two persons who are members of the clergy and the Southwest Michigan DeColores Community to serve as Spiritual Advisor during their term in accordance with Article V, Section 5.2.
 - E. All other Secretariat positions shall be appointed by the President, subject to the approval of the Secretariat.

Section 2.11 - Term of Office

A. Presidency

1. The Vice President shall be elected for a term of three (3) years: serving the first year as Vice President, the second year as President, and the third year as Past President.

B. Spiritual Advisor

- 1. The Spiritual Advisor(s) shall be appointed for a term of one (1) year.
- 2. No Spiritual Advisor(s) may serve as a board member for more than four (4) consecutive terms.
- 3. The Spiritual Advisor(s)' term shall begin on January 1 and end on December 31 of the same year.

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C. All Other Positions

1. All other positions should be appointed for a term of two (2) years.
2. No person may serve in the same board position for more than two (2) consecutive terms.
3. A person, who has served on the Secretariat for two (2) consecutive terms, is ineligible for appointment to any other board position until one (1) year after that person has left office.
4. The Secretariat may suspend the operation of “C2” in a particular case at any time by a majority vote recorded by written ballot.
5. All other positions’ term of office shall begin on January 1 of the first year and end on December 31 of the following year.

D. The term of office of the Secretariat shall be such that one half (1/2) of the positions expire each December 31.

Section 2.12 - Vacancies

1. If the President vacates, (Article II, Section 2.10 A shall apply) the Vice President shall assume the office of President to complete the one (1) year term. If the vacancy occurs before April 1 the Vice President serves only for the remainder of the Presidents’ term. If the vacancy occurs on or after April 1 then the Vice President serves until December 31 of the following year.
 - a. B. If the Vice President vacates, a special election shall be called (Article II, Section 2.10 B shall apply).
2. All other vacancies shall be filled by the choice of the President according to Article II, Section 2.10 E.

Section 2.13 - Removal

The President should remove a Secretariat member for failure to attend three consecutive regularly scheduled monthly Secretariat meetings or for failure to attend four regularly scheduled monthly Secretariat meetings within any twelve-month period.

Section 2.14 - Duties

The duties of the Secretariat members shall be:

A. President

1. To convoke, preside over, and direct all meetings of the Southwest Michigan Secretariat.
2. In the absence of the President, Vice President, and the Past President, to designate any other Secretariat member to conduct the meeting.
3. To be the official representative of the Southwest Michigan DeColores Community.
4. To meet with each Rector and Rectoress prior to their weekends to evaluate their plans for the weekend, to provide guidance, and to ensure conformity to the guidelines of the weekend and the Secretariat, to maintain & distribute Rector / Rectoress manual, Head Cook cookbook, and Head Coordinator team folders & master copies.
5. To meet with each team at a scheduled team meeting to ensure conformity to the guidelines of the weekend and the Secretariat.

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6. To give the talk known as the “Money Talk” or the “Sermon on the Amount” on each DeColores weekend.
7. To be the representative of the Southwest Michigan DeColores Community at each closing and to give the community announcements at the closings.
8. To maintain & store Servant Surveys and provide as needed.

B. Vice President

1. To render total support to the President.
2. In the absence of the President, the Vice President will perform the President’s duties.

C. Past President

1. To render total support to the President and Vice President.
 1. In the absence of the President and Vice President, the Past President will perform the President’s duties.
 2. To be responsible for the Secretariat Commissioning service to be held in January each year.
 3. To designate the Fourth Day Workshop Chairman.
 4. In the absence of the Treasurer, to act as authorized signer of accounts.
 5. To oversee the placement of board approved decisions into appropriate manuals.
 6. To receive login ID’s and passwords for various sites from Website Administrator.

D. Secretary

1. To take minutes of all meetings of the secretariat.
2. To record in the minutes the names of members present and those absent for the purposes of determining a quorum and for attendance records.
3. To maintain all records of the meeting other than financial.
4. To answer all communications under the direction of the President.
5. To provide copies of the minutes of the preceding meeting to each member of the Secretariat.
6. To record dates and changes to the Bylaws and Articles of Incorporation.
7. To maintain a current list of all members of the Secretariat and send to our National President in January of each year.

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E. Treasurer

1. To keep the monthly accounts of Southwest Michigan DeColores Ministries, Inc.
2. To make deposits and disbursements of all funds at the direction of the Secretariat and to act as authorized signer of accounts.
 3. To provide copies of the monthly financial report to each member of the Secretariat at or before the next meeting.
 4. To maintain all financial records of Southwest Michigan DeColores Ministries, Inc.
 5. To present the corporate financial records for audit each year by three persons appointed by the Secretariat.
 6. To give a suggested ten percent (10%) semi-annual tithe to any non-profit agency of the Secretariat's choice (no individual person shall be eligible).
 7. To maintain P.O. Box key.

F. Spiritual Advisor

1. To give spiritual guidance, counsel and advice to the Secretariat for the purpose of encouraging adherence to the principles set forth in the Preamble of these Bylaws.
2. To encourage debate, discussion and conflict resolution in a manner consistent with scriptural principles.
3. To perform other duties as determined by the Secretariat.

G. Pre-DeColores

1. To provide blank weekend registration forms to the community and receive completed forms for weekend attendance.
2. To invite candidates for upcoming weekends according to the order in which the registration forms were received to fill weekends to a maximum of thirty (30) candidates. The Rector / Rectoress is allowed two (2) additional priority choices. If the Rector / Rectoress does not use their additional choices there shall be no more than thirty (30) candidates.
3. To contact sponsors, whose candidates' application remained on file, reaffirming their willingness to still sponsor their candidate on the upcoming weekend.
4. Report to the Secretariat at each meeting the present level of applications on file, the number of invitations sent out for each weekend and how many confirmations have been received to date.
5. To provide confirmed applications to the Rector / Rectoress prior to the weekend.
6. To prepare nametags for team and candidates for each weekend.
7. To be present at the host facility on Thursday evening of each DeColores weekend for the purpose of registering the incoming candidates.
8. To maintain P.O. Box key.

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H. In-DeColores

1. To maintain & store the trailer, equipment & supplies.
2. To inventory & purchase equipment & supplies before each weekend.
3. To distribute inventory lists & supplies to Head Coordinator & Head Cook before each weekend.
4. To deliver trailer & facilitate distribution of equipment & supplies at set up of each weekend.
5. To facilitate re-packing trailer with equipment & supplies at clean-up of each weekend.
6. Board approved reimbursement , in service of charitable organizations, according to IRS standard mileage rate, on April 23, 2019.

I. Post-DeColores

1. To coordinate and oversee community Ultreyas.
2. Report to the Secretariat any concerns or successes at Ultreyas.
3. In the absence of Post-DeColores, to designate any other community member to conduct the Ultreya.

J. Website Administrator

1. To design, develop, maintain & troubleshoot the website.
2. To create and update content.
3. To give login ID's and passwords for various sites to Past President.
4. To perform other duties as determined by the Secretariat.

K. Newsletter Editor

1. To solicit materials to be published in "The Harvester" newsletter.
2. To evaluate & make a final determination of what will be published.
3. To set & enforce deadlines for publication.
4. To oversee the timely delivery of the newsletter; approximately one month before each set of weekends.

L. Social Media Manager

1. To maintain & update email addresses of the community.
2. To create & send emails to the community as directed by the Secretariat.
3. To oversee the SWMI DeColores Facebook page.
4. To maintain communication between the local churches and the Secretariat.

M. Historian

1. To maintain & store current list of general membership (name, address, telephone number) of the SWMI DeColores Community and provide as needed.
2. To maintain & store the History Book containing the theme booklet, inside team list, candidate list, outside team list and weekend picture from each SWMI DeColores weekend and provide as needed.

N. National Representative

1. To be the communicator between our local and the National Secretariat.
2. To attend quarterly National Secretariat meetings.
3. To report the minutes of the National Secretariat meetings at our local Secretariat meetings.
4. Pick up ordered materials from the National Secretariat meetings and deliver to our local Secretariat.

O. Palanca Coordinator

1. Maintain inventory of palanca totes
2. Maintain communication with other secretariats to receive weekend palanca and notes
3. Maintain count of painted crosses and inventory.
4. Schedule palanca parties to fill totes for upcoming weekends

ARTICLE III - INDEMNIFICATION

Section 3.1 - Indemnification

The Secretariat may purchase and maintain insurance on behalf of any member of the Secretariat or committee of the corporation. These people will be protected to the full extent set forth under the terms and conditions of the policy.

ARTICLE IV - COMMITTEES

Section 4.1 - Committees

The Secretariat may establish any standing or special committees from time to time as it shall deem appropriate in order to accomplish the purposes set forth in Article I, Section 1.3 and the Secretariat shall define the powers and responsibilities of such committees. Any member of the community shall be allowed to serve on any committee, but any member of any committee may be removed from that committee, with or without cause, by the Secretariat. The President shall appoint a committee chairperson whose responsibility shall be to convene all meetings of that committee. Each committee shall establish its' own procedures and time and place to meet. Roberts Rules of Order shall govern all meetings of any committee of the corporation. Each committee shall report its activities and progress at each meeting of the Secretariat.

ARTICLE V – WEEKEND STRUCTURE

Section 5.1 - Weekend

A. Selection of Rector and Rectoress. A Rector / Rectoress shall at a minimum:

1. Have completed at least three (3) DeColores weekends as a team member.
2. Have been a rollista on a DeColores weekend.
3. Have been a coordinator on a DeColores weekend or completed a Fourth Day Workshop
4. Has been a member of the Southwest Michigan DeColores Community for at least three (3) years at the time of nomination.
5. Be a person whose life typically exemplifies the DeColores Ministry.
6. Shall not have served previously as a Rector or Rectoress within the preceding seven (7)years, provided that this rule shall not apply to the selection of a Rector or Rectoress for a prison or travel weekend.

B. Selection process:

1. Nomination and selection of a Rector / Rectoress should take place at a regularly scheduled monthly Secretariat meeting.
2. All non-members of the Secretariat shall be excused before the nominations and selection.
3. Names of candidates for Rector / Rectoress shall be submitted to the President by any member of the Southwest Michigan DeColores Community. The written resume’ of the nominee’s qualifications shall be presented to the Secretariat Board at the time of nomination. Any concerns regarding the nominee or their qualifications should be presented and discussed at this time.
4. a. If only one nominee is deemed qualified and accepted by the Secretariat Board, then the President will appoint nominee as Rector / Rectoress.
b. If more than one nominee is deemed qualified and accepted by the Secretariat Board, then each name shall be written on a piece of paper, folded equally and placed into selection container. The Spiritual Advisor present or designated board member shall then draw one of the folded papers and submit to the President.
5. The selection of the next Rector and Rectoress shall be kept quiet between the President and Spiritual Advisor(s) until all nominees have been contacted. The announcement may then be placed in the next issue of the newsletter and shall also be announced at the next weekend closing. Further disclosure may be made at the discretion of the selected Rector / Rectoress for the purpose of team selection.

C. Meeting with President:

A Rector / Rectoress shall meet with the President and Vice President (or any other person so designated by the President) for the purpose of evaluating their planned weekend, the composition of the team, the date, the location, and their conformance with guidelines. At this meeting the Rector / Rectoress shall direct the attention of the President to any potential conflict with those guidelines.

Section 5.2 - Team Selection

A. Spiritual Director Qualifications:

1. Is a member of the Clergy. “Clergy” means those who have been chosen to (1) formally lead congregations of lay people by presiding over rituals (e.g. marriage, communion or funerals), lead worship services, provide pastoral care and teach, or (2) perform similar functions for a class of lay people who are not formally affiliated with one another into a congregation (e.g. military chaplain or Hospice chaplain). It includes those who have retired from active service as a member of the clergy.
 - a. Retirement as an approved Spiritual Director defined - this is someone who has been an approved DeColores Spiritual Director, but has retired from active ministry in their current position. They remain approved and are required to fill out the Spiritual Director annual questionnaire.
 - b. Returning to active ministry out of retirement - if someone decides to come out of retirement and return to an active position in ministry, they must fill out the Spiritual Director annual questionnaire, at the time of return. This will give their current ministry information of the new position, as well as a determination if the new position is approved.
2. Has completed a DeColores weekend as a candidate.
3. Believes the Apostles, Nicene and Athanasian Creeds.
4. Training

A. An approved Spiritual Director must hold a ministry credential.

1. Credential defined - a minister’s license, a minister’s commission, a minister’s ordination and assignment from a local church or denomination upon completion of requirements for the position or
 - A. Shall have completed a post-secondary theological program of study and is ordained (or the equivalent) as a member of the clergy by his or her denomination, or

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- B. Shall be actively pursuing a post-secondary theological program of study and has served as a member of the clergy for the last 1 year; or
 - C. Has neither completed nor is pursuing such a program of study but has continuously and successfully served as a member of the clergy in an organized church for the last 1 year.
 - D. Special cases – if a person in ministry wants to be an approved DeColores Spiritual Director, but their track to holding a credential may hold unique circumstances, (example - such as board approved and credential holding missionaries or chaplains for other associations and ministries), it will be up to the current DeColores board for approval. After board approval, then the form shall be filled out and the interview process to be an approved Spiritual Director can proceed.
 - E. Special cases of ordination - a person who gets ordained (or equal to) as a spouse of an ordained minister, as a practice by a local church or denomination. They hold no position from that ordination other than being a spouse. This ordination would not qualify them to be a Spiritual Director. This spousal ordination by a local church should not disqualify a person from serving on the weekend for all lay positions on a DeColores weekend.
 - F. Special cases of theological study credential - this is for people who are pursuing an opportunity of further theological study provided by the local church, which could result in a possible credential or certificate of study. With no desire to be a Spiritual Director, this should not disqualify a person from serving on a weekend for all lay positions for the DeColores weekend.
 - G. New position of online ministry - prior approved DeColores Spiritual Directors transitioning predominantly to online ministry, shall have and maintain a 501(C) 3 status. The Spiritual Director shall have a current or prior credential. This shall require DeColores board approval, as well as a Spiritual Director annual questionnaire to be completed and current. If they have never been an approved Spiritual Director, the interview process would follow.
 - H. A person who creates an online ministry and has and maintains a 501(C) 3 status, but never held a ministry credential, will be subject to the Secretariat for approval, prior to the interview process for Spiritual Director approval. An In-Training weekend shall follow.
5. Any member of the clergy who meets these qualifications but who has not previously served in that capacity on a DeColores weekend, shall first serve as a Spiritual Director In-Training on a DeColores weekend with two other Spiritual Directors who have previously served on a DeColores weekend .
- A. The Rector / Rectoress shall choose Spiritual Directors (including Spiritual Directors In-Training) only from a list of approved Spiritual Directors maintained by DeColores through its Secretariat. A Spiritual Director shall be added to that list only after an interview with the Secretariat's Spiritual Advisor and two other Spiritual Directors on the list who have been chosen by the President (after consultation with the Spiritual Advisor). Those conducting the interview shall then, after the

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interview, determine by majority vote if the applicant shall be included on the list. Their decision shall be based only on whether the applicant meets the above criteria.

1. (Edited by Pastor Stan Dudka 1-26-2023)

A. Team positions

It is recommended that the team for a DeColores weekend consist of not more than 30 members. The team shall consist of the following:

1. Rector / Rectoress, shall give the Total Security Rollo
2. Co-Rector / Co-Rectoress, shall give a rollo
3. Two (2) Spiritual Directors
4. Eight (8) additional rollistas
5. Three (3) coordinators
6. Three (3) chas
7. Three (3) cooks
8. Four (4) to seven (7) auxiliaries (there should be no more than one per table)
9. Two (2) musicians (may also be rollistas)

B. The size of the team may be adjusted to the number of candidates and size of the host facility. A third Spiritual Director, fourth cook, fourth coordinator and fourth cha may be added with the consent of the President.

1. Every team member shall be familiar with the dynamics and flow of the DeColores weekend,
 - a. Having completed a DeColores weekend as a candidate, **or**
 - b. Having completed a substantially similar weekend in the Cursillo tradition as a candidate **and** completed a DeColores weekend as a team member prior to August 1, 2012.
2. Every team member shall be active in an organized Christian church and be a person whose life typically exemplifies the DeColores ministry.
3. The team shall represent a cross-section of geography, marital status, de-nominations, races, and experienced and in-experienced members of the Southwest Michigan DeColores Community.
4. With the exception of Spiritual Directors, all team members shall be of the same gender as the candidates on the weekend.

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5. There should be no more than one auxiliary / angel per table, and no more than two team members per table.
6. Spiritual Directors should be among the first team members selected, in order to get as much input as possible from them as to weekend activity and team make-up.
7. A Co-Rector / Co-Rectoress shall at a minimum:
 - a. Have completed at least three (3) DeColores weekends as a team member
 - b. Have been a rollista on a DeColores weekend.
 - c. Have been a coordinator on a DeColores weekend, or completed a Fourth Day (Leader Training) Workshop.
 - d. Has been a member of the Southwest Michigan DeColores Community for at least three (3) years at the time of nomination.
 - e. Be a person whose life typically exemplifies the DeColores Ministry.
 - f. Shall not have served previously as a Rector / Rectoress within the preceding two (2) years, provided that this rule shall not apply to the selection of a Rector / Rectoress for a prison or travel weekend.
1. Team members should not serve on consecutive teams. Any exceptions are subject to approval by the Secretariat. If a regularly scheduled monthly Secretariat meeting does not fall before the weekend, all other exceptions are subject to approval by the President.
2. One coordinator should be very familiar with DeColores and may help choose the other coordinators.
3. Rollistas should have served previously as a team member and exemplify the rollo assigned.
4. All team members should attend all team meetings and all follow-up meetings.
5. The team should consist of at least one-third (1/3) members who have not previously served on a team.
6. The Rector / Rectoress shall make him / herself available to assist rollistas with rollos and contact each rollista to verify that they have their rollos completed before the weekend.
7. There shall be a minimum of four (4) team meetings, not including the team commissioning / potluck before the weekend and a minimum of four (4) follow-up meetings after the weekend. Guidelines for these meetings are in the Rector / Rectoress manual.
8. All team members, including Spiritual Directors, should remain on site at the host facility for the entire weekend.

Section 5.3 - Conduct of the Weekend

- A. Rollos. The following structured talks are known as rollos and shall be given in the following order on the day indicated..

No other rollos shall be given.

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1. Ideal - Friday
2. Grace - Friday *
3. Laity - Friday
4. Faith - Friday *
5. Piety - Friday
6. Study - Saturday
7. The Word - Saturday *
8. Sacraments - Saturday *
9. Action - Saturday
10. Obstacles to Grace - Saturday *
11. Leaders - Saturday
12. Environment - Sunday
13. Life in Grace - Sunday *
14. Christian Community in Action - Sunday
15. Fourth Day - Sunday
16. Total Security - Sunday

* = Spiritual Directors' Rollos which shall be given by a Spiritual Director. All other rollos are lay rollos and shall be given by lay people. A layperson is someone who does not meet the qualifications of a Spiritual Director set forth in Article V, Section 5.2 A.

B. Meditations. The following talks, known as meditations, shall be given at the following times:

1. Know Yourself - Thursday evening chapel visit
2. Prodigal Child - Thursday evening chapel visit
3. Three Glances of Christ - Friday morning chapel visit
4. Figure of Christ - Saturday morning chapel visit
5. Message of Christ - Sunday morning chapel visit

C. Other Talks. A talk about the finances of a weekend (sometimes referred to as the "Money Talk" or the "Sermon on the Amount") and a talk about the problem of relating to family members at home after a weekend (sometimes referred to as the "Going Home Talk") may be given on the weekend also. They are not rollos.

D. Strict Observances. The Rector / Rectoress shall conduct the weekend strictly in accordance with this Article V, Section 5.3 and the Rector / Rectoress manual.

ARTICLE VI - AMENDMENTS

Section 6.1 - Amendments

Amendments to these bylaws may be discussed at any regularly scheduled monthly Secretariat meeting but shall not be voted on until the following regularly scheduled monthly Secretariat meeting or a special meeting called for the purpose of voting on said amendments. Written notice of the proposed amendments and the time and place of the meeting at which the vote on the proposed amendments will take place shall be given to all Secretariat members no less than fifteen (15) days prior to the meeting. A special meeting for the purpose of voting on amendments to these bylaws shall not be scheduled less than fifteen (15) days after the Secretariat meeting at which the amendments were discussed. Any changes or amendments to these bylaws requires an affirmative vote of two-thirds (2/3) of the total number of voting Secretariat members to pass.

ARTICLE VII - TRADEMARK

Section 7.1 - Trademark

Southwest Michigan DeColores Ministries, Inc. Secretariat shall comply with all applicable laws, regulations, rules and the like and shall obtain all appropriate government approvals, licenses, permits and so forth pertaining to the sale, distribution and advertising of goods and / or the rendering and advertising of services if in conjunction with the service mark. The service mark shall always include the subscript "TM".

ARTICLE VIII – MISCELLANEOUS/ MINISTRY BELIEFS/CREEDS

Section 8.1 - Governing Law

These bylaws shall be governed by and construed in accordance with the laws of the State of Michigan, and with respect to the use of the service mark, in accordance with the laws of the United States of America.

Section 8.2 - Severability

The unenforceability of any term of these bylaws shall not affect the enforceability of any of the remaining terms of these bylaws.

NICENE CREED

We believe in one God, the Father, the Almighty, maker of heaven and earth, of all that is, seen and unseen.

We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ, the only Son of God, eternally begotten of the Father, God from God, Light from Light, true God from true God, begotten, not made, of one Being with the Father.

Through him all things were made. For us and for our salvation he came down from heaven; by the power of the Holy Spirit he became incarnate from the Virgin Mary, and was made man.

For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate; he suffered death and was buried.

On the third day he rose again in accordance with the Scriptures; he ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of the Father.

He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead, and his kingdom will have no end.

We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son.

With the Father and the Son he is worshipped and glorified. He has spoken through the prophets.

We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic Church.

We acknowledge one Baptism for the forgiveness of sins.

We look for the resurrection of the dead, and the life of the world to come.

Amen.

APOSTLES CREED

I believe in God, the Father Almighty, creator of heaven and earth.

I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord.

He was conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit and born of the Virgin Mary.

He suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried.

He descended into hell. On the third day he rose again.

He ascended into heaven, and is seated at the right hand of the Father.

He will come again to judge the living and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting.

Amen.

ATHANASIAN CREED

Whoever wants to be saved should above all else cling to the catholic faith.

Whoever does not guard it whole and inviolable will doubtless perish eternally.

Now this is the catholic faith: We worship one God in trinity and the Trinity in unity, neither confusing the persons nor dividing the divine being. For the Father is one person, the Son is another, and the Spirit is still another.

But the deity of the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit is one, equal in glory, coeternal in majesty.

What the Father is, the Son is, and so is the Holy Spirit. Uncreated is the Father; uncreated is the Son; uncreated is the Holy Spirit.

The Father is infinite; the Son is infinite; the Holy Spirit is infinite.

Eternal is the Father; eternal is the Son; eternal is the Spirit;

And yet there are not three eternal beings, but one who is eternal; as there are not three uncreated and unlimited beings, but one who is uncreated and unlimited.

Almighty is the Father; almighty is the Son; almighty is the Spirit;

And yet there are not three almighty beings, but one who is almighty.

Thus the Father is God; the Son is God; the Holy Spirit is God;

And yet there are not three gods, but one God.

Thus the Father is Lord the Son is Lord; the Holy Spirit is Lord;

And yet there are not three lords, but one Lord.

As Christian truth compels us to acknowledge each distinct person as God and Lord, so catholic religion forbids us to say that there are three gods or lords.

The Father was neither made nor created nor begotten; the Son was neither made nor created, but was alone begotten of the Father; the Spirit was neither made nor created, but is proceeding from the Father and the Son.

Thus there is one Father, not three fathers; one Son, not three sons; one Holy Spirit, not three spirits.

And in this Trinity, no one is before or after, greater or less than the other; but all three persons are in themselves, coeternal and coequal; and so we must worship the Trinity in unity and the one God in three persons.

Whoever wants to be saved should think thus about the Trinity.

It is necessary for eternal salvation that one also faithfully believes that our Lord Jesus Christ became flesh.

For this is the true faith that we believe and confess; that our Lord Jesus Christ, God's Son, is both God and man. He is God, begotten before all worlds from the being of the Father, and he is man, born in the world from the being of his mother--existing fully as God, and fully as man with a rational soul and a human body; equal to the Father in divinity, subordinate to the Father in humanity. Although he is God and man, he is not divided, but is one Christ.

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He is united because God has taken humanity into himself; he does not transform deity into humanity.

He is completely one in the unity of his person, without confusing his natures.

For as the rational soul and body are one person, so the one Christ is God and man.

He suffered death for our salvation. He descended into hell and rose again from the dead. He ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of the Father. He will come again to judge the living and the dead. At his coming all people shall rise bodily to give an account of their own deeds. Those who have done good will enter eternal life; those who have done evil will enter eternal fire.

This is the catholic faith.

One cannot be saved without believing this firmly and faithfully.

Article IX – Ministry beliefs on Marriage and Gender

A. Foundation in Scripture:

This ministry affirms the authority of Scripture and believes that God created humanity in His image, male and female, with equal worth and dignity (Genesis 1:27).

We believe that God has established distinct roles and responsibilities for men and women within the context of His purposes for creation and redemption (e.g., 1 Corinthians 12:4-27).

We uphold the biblical definition of marriage as a covenantal union between one man and one woman, established by God and reflecting His relationship with His people (Genesis 2:24. Ephesians 5:22-33).

B. Ministry Implications:

Leadership and Service: We believe that men and women can serve in various leadership and ministry roles within the church, guided by their qualifications, gifts, and the leading of the Holy Spirit, while respecting the biblical distinctions in roles and responsibilities.

Pastoral Guidance and Care: We are committed to providing compassionate and Christ-centered guidance and care to individuals and families seeking to understand and live out their faith in relation to sex and marriage, based on biblical principles.

Open and Respectful Dialogue: We value open and respectful dialogue within the ministry community on these matters, guided by Scripture, prayer, and a commitment to Christian love and unity.

Compassion and Inclusivity: We recognize the diversity of beliefs and experiences within the broader Christian community regarding sex, gender, and sexuality. We commit to treating all individuals with respect, compassion, and love, regardless of their beliefs or backgrounds.

Fidelity to Scripture: While acknowledging the complexity of these issues, we remain committed to the faithful interpretation and application of Scripture as our ultimate authority in matters of faith and practice.

C. Implementation:

This bylaw serves as a guiding framework for the ministry's practices and policies related to sex, gender, and marriage.

Specific implementations, such as leadership roles, ministry opportunities, and family life programming, will be developed in accordance with this bylaw and in consultation with the ministry leadership and community.

We affirm that adult biological males will serve and attend the men's weekend, while adult biological females will serve and attend women's weekends.

D. Ongoing Dialogue and Review:

We recognize that understanding and applying biblical principles on sex, gender, and marriage is an ongoing process.

We are committed to ongoing dialogue, learning, and discernment within the ministry community on these matters. This bylaw may be reviewed and revised periodically to reflect the ministry's ongoing growth and understanding in light of Scripture. This bylaw is not intended to be an exhaustive statement on sex, gender, and marriage, but rather a foundational framework for ministry within Southwest Michigan DeColores Ministries. We acknowledge that these are sensitive and complex topics, and we are committed to ongoing dialogue and discernment as we seek to live out our faith with faithfulness and love.