

PRAYZ CONSTITUTION

Article 1:

Name:

The name of this organization will be Prayz.

Article 2:

Purpose:

The purpose of Prayz is twofold. First and foremost, Prayz exists to glorify God. To that end, Prayz provides students and members of the larger Middlebury community with a place where, outside of church services or other more structured forms of meeting with God, individuals can participate in a weekly hour and a half of Christian praise and worship. We recognize this act of praise and worship as an integral part of a Christian lifestyle. Secondly, Prayz exists to bring exposure to the power and purpose in Christian music, whether it is through special events or other means.

The following verses are to serve as a biblical foundation for Prayz:

Psalm 150

¹ Praise the Lord.

Praise God in his sanctuary;
praise him in his mighty heavens.

² Praise him for his acts of power;
praise him for his surpassing greatness.

³ Praise him with the sounding of the trumpet,
praise him with the harp and lyre,

⁴ praise him with tambourine and dancing,
praise him with the strings and flute,

⁵ praise him with the clash of cymbals,
praise him with resounding cymbals.

⁶ Let everything that has breath praise the Lord.
Praise the Lord.

Ephesians 5: 19 - 20

¹⁹ Speak to one another with psalms, hymns and spiritual songs. Sing and make music in your heart to the Lord, ²⁰ always giving thanks to God the Father for everything, in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ.

Article 3:

Membership:

A: Membership is open to all Middlebury College Students.

B: The membership of Prayz will be comprised of those students who have expressed interest in participating in Prayz to any members of Prayz leadership. Prayz leadership then, will provide ample opportunities and reminders for students to establish themselves as members.

C: The responsibility of keeping account of members belongs to the Leadership Board of Prayz.

Article 4:

Officers:

A: Officers must be Middlebury College students.

B: Prayz leadership will consist of a Leadership Board, comprised of 2 members. In addition to these 2 officers, there will be an elected President of the Leadership Board. The duties of this board are:

1. To prepare and organize weekly meetings.
2. To keep account of members of Prayz.
3. To plan and organize special events.
4. To create committees as needed to help facilitate certain events or occasions.

The duties of the President are:

1. To prepare and organize meetings of the Leadership Board.
2. To make finalized decisions should disputes arise among the members of the Leadership Board.
3. To designate a treasurer among the members of the Leadership Board.
4. To designate a liaison between Prayz and the larger Christian community among the members of the Leadership Board.

C: The treasurer of Prayz will act as the liaison between Prayz and the SGA Finance Committee.

D: Besides the President, all students on the Leadership Board hold equal status as leaders of Prayz.

E: Once elected, the President and Treasurer are to identify themselves to Campus Activities/CCAL and the Finance Committee.

F: In recognition of Prayz's mission to better serve all those desiring Christian worship at Middlebury, the President will select one member of the Leadership Board to act as a liaison between Prayz and the larger Christian community at Middlebury College. This appointee's role is to actively pursue opportunities for Prayz to become better linked to the Body of Christ on campus through the worship of God.

Article 5:

Elections:

A. Nominations

1. Leadership will request nominations from the Prayz membership body through email, telephone, and other means.
2. The nomination period will last for 7 days.
3. Any person can nominate but only Prayz members can be nominated and run for office.

B. Elections

1. After the nomination period has ended, the Leadership Board will compile a list of members eligible for office and notify them of their nomination.
2. Candidates will then have 7 days to either accept or reject the opportunity to run for office.
3. Elections will be held at the subsequent Prayz meeting.
4. At least 25% of the Prayz membership body must be present for the election to take place.
5. Leadership will conduct the election by secret ballot in written form. Members will vote for 4 Leadership Board members and 1 President from those running.
6. Those candidates receiving a simple majority of votes for either a position on the Board or as President will be elected.

7. Elections will take place by March 15th, and as needed, at the end of every fall term.

Article 6:

Meetings:

- A. Praise and worship gatherings will be scheduled at least once weekly.
- B. Meetings of the Leadership Board will be scheduled at least once a month, with additional meetings for specific purposes scheduled by the President as needed.

Article 7:

Committees:

- A. The praise and worship team will be appointed by the Leadership Board. The Leadership Board will seek out interested, enthusiastic members of Prayz who are comfortable leading a group in worship music, and usually (though not necessarily) members who have some degree of proficiency in playing a musical instrument (e.g. guitar or piano).
- B. The Leadership Board may appoint temporary or permanent sub-committees as needed.

Article 8:

Faculty Advisor:

The membership agrees to maintain an adviser from the Middlebury College faculty or staff as required.

Article 9:

Discrimination Policy:

This student organization operates in full accordance with Chapter Four, Section II, A of the *Middlebury College Handbook* concerning Student Organization Policies of Discrimination, Freedom of Association, Anti-Hazing, Freedom of Inquiry and Expression, Student Publication, Funding, Advertising, and Scheduling. Any and all changes made to the Student Organizations Policies section of the *Middlebury College Handbook* will immediately become policies adopted by Prayz.

Article 10:

Ratification:

A. Ratification:

1. The constitution must be ratified by a two-thirds majority of the membership.
2. The constitution must be approved by the Student Government Constitution Committee.

Article 11:

Amendment:

A. Amendment:

1. The constitution must be ratified by a two-thirds majority of the membership.
2. The constitution must be approved by the Student Government Constitution Committee.

Approved as to Form: December 6, 2002

Edited and approved to Form: November 18, 2007