

# LAUREL SPRINGS BAPTIST CHURCH | **BYLAWS**

## **Article I - Membership**

### **Section 1. Eligibility**

Anyone professing faith in the Lord Jesus Christ, giving evidence of a change of heart, and adopting the views of faith and practice held by this church, may upon baptism by immersion, be received into the fellowship of this church by majority vote of the members present. On the recommendation of the pastor, the deacons by unanimous consent may suspend the requirement for immersion baptism as a condition of membership in cases of physical inability or severe hardship.

### **Section 2. Admission of Members**

A person may become a member in the following way:

- A. Profession of Faith and Baptism: An applicant may be received on profession of faith as a candidate for baptism, after the administration of which the applicant shall automatically enjoy the full fellowship of the church.
  1. An individual desiring to be received as a candidate for membership of LSBC must engage in a counseling session by the senior pastor, or his designee. The counseling session shall include a discussion of the candidate's standing in their relationship with Jesus Christ as well a clear explanation of the responsibilities as a member of LSBC. The Deacons may be consulted in any request for membership situation that is deemed to be questionable.
- B. Letter: A member from another church of like faith and order, who has received the ordinance of baptism by immersion, may be received by letter of recommendation. If such letter cannot be secured within ninety days, the clerk shall automatically record such member as "received on Statement of Experience."
- C. Statement of Experience: Any person to whom the ordinance of baptism by immersion has been administered may be received as a member upon statement of experience and faith in Christ.
- D. Spiritual Watchcare: Persons who are temporary residents in the area of the church or who are members of a church of another denomination are under the Spiritual Watchcare of this church. Such persons shall have the same rights and privileges as those ordinarily afforded members of this church, such as pastoral care. However, they shall not be members, vote in church business conferences, nor hold office in this church or in any of the church organizations filled by vote of the general church membership. When such persons desire or are able, they may be baptized by immersion and be received into the membership of this church.

### **Section 3. Procedure**

Persons may then present themselves at a regular church service for membership. At the discretion of the pastor, the church may, as set forth in these bylaws, call itself into special session and vote on the membership of the candidate, or the pastor may acknowledge the desire to become a member and postpone the vote until some subsequent meeting.

### **Section 4. Christian Responsibilities of Members**

The members of this church shall be just in their dealings, faithful in their engagements, guarded in their conversation, and exemplary in their behavior. They shall be faithful in all of the duties essential to the Christian life; regularly attend the services of the church; give regularly and systematically to its support and kingdom causes; and share in its organized work. Only active members in full fellowship and regular standing may act and vote in the transactions of the church.

“Active members” of LSBC are expected to be:

- Actively participating in the life of the church body.
- Actively seeking to discover and use their spiritual gifts through a specific ministry of the church.
- Actively supporting the fulfillment of the seven purposes of the church.
- Actively following the Biblical standard to financially support the ministries of LSBC and those entities supported by LSBC around the world.

“Full fellowship” shall be defined as a member who has entered into a covenant relationship (agreement) with the church for mutual love, concern, and ministry and whose membership has not been terminated.

“Regular standing” shall be defined as a member who is active in the church and in attendance during the time for collective worship. Members of the church are encouraged to examine their commitment to attendance and involvement.

### **Section 5. Rights of Members**

Voting-Active members are entitled to vote at all elections and on all questions submitted to the membership.

- A. Active members must be **fourteen years** or older to vote in a business meeting.
- B. Holding Office - Except as otherwise set forth herein, every member is eligible for consideration by the membership as a candidate for church office.
- C. Records - Members shall have access to the principal records of the church, including minutes of its governing body and principal financial reports. However, consistent with Baptist doctrine and practice, these rights shall not include the right to review or inspect individual donor records or personnel files.

### **Section 6. Inactive Members**

The deacons shall review the membership of the church annually, prior to the new church year. Deacons will seek to make a personal contact with any member who has not been actively involved in the ministries of the church in the past year. The purpose of the contact is to try to determine the reason for inactivity (illness, injury, shut in, unavoidable work conditions, etc.). Deacons will encourage members to actively participate in the Christian responsibilities of the church body as shown in the Constitution and Bylaws. If a person cannot be contacted, indicates a desire to be placed on the inactive roll, or the deacons believe an inactive status is appropriate; a member may be placed on the list of inactive members. Inactive members are not eligible to vote on any church business matter. Persons may be removed from the inactive roll and return to active status by recommendation of the deacons.

### **Section 7. Termination of Membership**

The methods of terminating a member shall be as follows:

- A. By Letter - A letter of transfer to unite with another church may be issued, upon request, to another church for any member of this church who is in good standing.
- B. Removal from Roll - Upon receipt of reliable information that a member has united with another church, this church shall terminate the membership status of the member and the clerk shall remove the member from the roll, and advise the church of the action at the next business meeting. Whenever possible, the clerk shall notify by letter the person removed from membership of the action.
- C. By Personal Request of the Member - Any member shall be removed from the roll and the membership status of that member terminated upon request by that member to the pastor or deacons.
- D. Any member of LSBC who has become involved in biblically immoral, disobedient, or unchristian conduct may have their membership terminated only by following the steps outlined below:
  - 1. The deacons may recommend the formal discipline of any member by censure, removal from office, suspension or revocation of membership for any conduct prejudicial to the interests of the church and the cause of Christ.
  - 2. All disciplinary proceedings and actions shall be undertaken pursuant to biblical process set forth in Matthew 18 and the spirit of the biblical commitments to confession, repentance, forgiveness and reconciliation. Private admonition, spiritual instruction and encouragement to faithfulness must precede any recommendation of formal church action.
  - 3. No member shall be disciplined nor recommendation for such discipline forwarded to the congregation until the member shall have been notified or a bona fide effort made to notify, of such pending matter. The notification should include information about the charges and an opportunity to appear before the deacons and pastor in person and to forward information relevant to the matter.
  - 4. Any recommendation regarding discipline shall be made at a regular or special church business meeting with prior notice of the general subject matter and proposed recommendation being provided to all the members. The member against whom action is proposed shall be given an opportunity to be heard at the congregational meeting. A two-thirds vote of members present shall be required to approve any deacon recommendation in connection with termination of membership.

## **Article II - Meetings**

### **Section 1. Worship**

This church shall hold regular worship services on Sundays and Wednesdays at such time(s) as recommended by the pastor and deacons and agreed upon by the church. The ordinance of the Lord's Supper shall be observed at least quarterly as determined by the pastor or deacons.

### **Section 2. Business Meetings**

- A. **Annual Meeting** - The annual meeting shall be held during the month of August each year for the election of church officers, standing committees, special committees, and any other offices and committees of the church. The election of some officers may, at the discretion of the church or as set forth in this constitution, be held at some other regular or called meeting.
- B. **Regular Business Meetings** - A regular business meeting shall be held quarterly on the 4th Sunday of the 3<sup>rd</sup> month. The deacons may reschedule such meetings when weather or other emergency so requires.
- C. **Special Called Meetings**

1. At any regular meeting of the church, the pastor or chair of the deacons may call for an immediate business conference to act upon the reception of members.
  2. Special business meetings may be called at any time by the pastor or chair of the deacons or a majority of the deacons. The moderator shall schedule a meeting to be held within thirty (30) days and provide not less than one week's notice, including announcement at a Sunday morning worship service. Notice stating the purpose, date, and time of the meeting shall be provided to the membership. No matter shall be considered at the called meeting except that for which it was called and previously announced.
  3. In the event of an emergency, the pastor or chair of the deacons may, with consent of two-thirds of the deacons, call an emergency meeting without full notice to the members. Such notice as is possible will be given to the membership, and action is limited to the items requiring the emergency meeting. Such emergency meetings shall not be subject to the special procedures set forth below. No meeting under this provision may be called in regard to personnel matters.
- D. **Presiding Officer** – The pastor shall act as moderator at all business meetings. In the absence of the moderator, or on any matter involving the tenure of the pastor, the chair of the deacons shall act and if the chair of the deacons is also absent, the vice-chair of the deacons shall preside.
- E. **Quorum** - A quorum shall consist of the members present at a business meeting.
- F. **Notice** - Except where otherwise required by this constitution, any requirement of notice for a meeting or item of business to be presented shall be satisfied if announcement is made at a Sunday morning worship service one week in advance of any meeting or action.
- G. **Voting** - Unless otherwise designated, all matters of business shall be decided by a majority vote (51%) of the members present and voting. Written Ballot shall be performed for ministry staff and deacons.
- H. **Minutes** - The clerk shall keep minutes of each business meeting and preserve them when approved as part of a permanent church record. A copy of the minutes of the church shall be kept at the church office.
- I. **Parliamentary Procedure** – In business meetings, good parliamentary law shall be followed, using Robert's Rules of Order as a general guide. The moderator may, absent objection or with the consent of the majority, deviate from such rules in the interests of full discussion and harmony.

### **Article III - Officers**

#### **Section 1. Ordained or Scriptural Officers**

The ordained or scriptural officers of the church are pastors, and deacons.

#### **Section 2. Elected Officers**

The church shall elect a clerk, a treasurer, director of Sunday School, and trustees. Each shall serve a one-year term with the exception of the trustees, who shall serve a three-year term.

#### **Section 3. Other Officers**

The Nominating Committee shall recommend other such officers as may be needed to carry out the work of the church in any of its departments or organizations.

#### **Section 4. Pastoral Staff**

- A. **Duties.** The pastor, as outlined in the pastor church covenant shall have charge of the welfare and oversight of the church. He shall be an ex-officio member of all organizations, departments and committees. The pastor may recommend a special meeting of the deacons or any committee according to procedures set forth in the constitution, by-laws and governing documents. He shall conduct religious services on stated and special occasions, administer the ordinances, lead the church in visitation and seeking to win the lost to Christ, minister to the spiritual needs of members of the church and community, and perform other duties that usually pertain to that office. He shall have special charge of the pulpit ministry of the church and shall, through prayer and study, render effective preaching and pastoral ministries. The pastor shall be the administrative head of the church and shall, with the approval of the personnel committee arrange and approve all absences and vacations of all church employees.
- B. **Call and Election.** When a vacancy in the pastorate occurs, the church members may, recommend names to be considered for the Pastor Search Committee. The deacons through much prayer, will nominate a Pastor Search Committee of 7 members, representing a cross-section of the congregation. Those being considered will be announced to the congregation 2 weeks prior to voting. At a special called business meeting, those who have been selected and are willing to serve will be voted on by majority vote. The Pastor Search Committee upon their first meeting shall elect a chairperson for the committee. The committee shall proceed promptly and diligently to find a pastor who, by calling, training, and proven ability, seems qualified spiritually, mentally and physically to lead the members of this church. In its efforts to meet its responsibilities, the committee shall be directly responsible to the church. The committee shall receive and give full consideration to all suggestions from members of the church.

When the committee has chosen a candidate, an invitation will be extended to the minister to preach a trial sermon. Notice shall be given from the pulpit at two successive Sundays preceding the trial sermon. The committee shall put before the church only one name, at any one time, and no nomination shall be made from the floor.

The election, by secret ballot, shall be held immediately following the trial sermon. To be elected pastor, the minister nominated by the committee must receive at least a three-fourths (75%) vote of present, active members voting. Inactive members are not eligible to vote on any church business matter. If the candidate fails to receive the required vote, the moderator shall declare the nominee not elected, and shall refer the matter, without debate, to the committee for further recommendation of a new candidate under the foregoing procedure.

Members of the committee shall be reimbursed by the church treasurer for any necessary travel and subsistence expenses that are incurred in the performance of its duties.

- C. Interim Pastor/ Supply Pastor. The deacons will provide for pulpit supply when the church is without a pastor and arrange for workers to assist in revival meetings and other special services, and will have the duty of filling the pulpit until an interim pastor may be employed, under the above voting procedures as outlined for the selection of a pastor. At no time shall a supply or interim pastor be considered for election as the fulltime pastor unless deemed appropriate by the Pastor Search Committee.
- D. Termination. The pastor is called to serve until the relationship is dissolved at the request of either the pastor or the church.
  - 1. Resignation. The relationship between the senior pastor and the church may be terminated within thirty (30) days by the senior pastor, unless the senior pastor and the church mutually agree upon a waiver of those thirty days. A written resignation or an oral resignation delivered at a Sunday morning service or business meeting of the church shall be final and binding.
  - 2. Removal. A vote for removal may be initiated by recommendation of the deacons or congregation. Action on this recommendation shall be voted on within 2 weeks by secret ballot with at least a three-fourths (75%) vote of present, active members voting.
    - a. The officers and the members shall make every effort to follow biblical principles including the process set forth in Matthew 18 in dealing with conflicts regarding pastoral staff. An effort should be extended to permit reconciliation of conflicts in a manner consistent with our Christian faith and doctrine.
    - b. Removal shall be effective immediately upon the vote for removal terminating the pastor, but salary and benefits will be determined in accordance with the Pastor Church Covenant.
    - c. If the senior pastor is called into question due to an accusation, the congregation must provide at least two or three witnesses to the offense to be taken seriously (I Timothy 5:17-19) with the exception of a serious offense that could require legal involvement.
  - 3. Suspension: In the event that there is an issue requiring immediate suspension of pastoral duties, notification will be made to the deacons who will convene and have the authority to suspend pastoral duties pending an investigation. The pastor will receive regular pay during such time as an investigation is being conducted. As much as possible, the congregation will be kept informed. No information is to be shared which might inhibit an investigation.

## **Section 5. Deacons**

- A. Election. Deacons shall be elected from among the church membership who have proven themselves to have scriptural qualifications according to 1 Timothy 3 and Titus 1. Members shall be elected for a term of three years and shall assume office on the first Sunday in September. Each year the pastor and deacons shall put before the church potential male candidates for deacon. The pastor and deacons shall privately ascertain the willingness and qualification of each nominee to accept the standard (1 Timothy 3 and Titus 1) as a minimum guide for his life and shall nominate to the church the number of deacons needed in proportion to church membership. All deacon candidates will be brought before the church individually for written ballot majority vote (51%). After the completion of a full three-year term, no member shall be eligible for re-election for one year. At their first meeting in each church year, the deacons shall elect a chair, vice chair, secretary, and other appropriate officers.
- B. Replacement of Active Deacon. Any deserving deacon who becomes incapacitated may be nominated by the deacons of the church to be retired with the designation of "Honorary Deacon for Life." In the event that an active deacon cannot fulfill his term of office for any reason, the deacon board shall select another deacon to fill the unexpired term. Under the foregoing procedures in Section 5 (A) the deacon shall be voted on by the church. In the situation when a Deacon has exhibited misconduct he can then be removed from his term of service by the Deacon board.
- C. Absence. Unexcused absences of an active deacon from the majority of regular meetings during a church year, or habitual absence from the church services, shall cause forfeiture of his office.

D. Duties. The deacons shall at all times consider themselves as servants of the church. With the pastor, and as the Holy Spirit may direct, they are to consider and make recommendations to the church in all matters pertaining to its work and progress. They are to oversee the discipline of the church, to establish and to maintain spiritual fraternal relations with all members of the church. They shall assist the pastor in the observance of the ordinances of the church and have general oversight over the upkeep, repair and use of the church property. Deacons will have authority to approve expenditures of up to \$5,000 for repairs and/or maintenance as needed. Any expenditure exceeding \$1,000 will be reported to the congregation. They shall supervise the financial program of the church. They shall arrange for regular meetings and such committees as are necessary to the discharge of their duties. The chair of the deacons may call the deacons into special session whenever need for such arises.

#### **Section 6. Trustees**

- A. Election. The nominating committee will bring before the church names to be appointed as trustees when a vacancy has occurred. The church by majority vote shall elect three trustees from the membership to serve as legal officers of the church. Their term of office shall be three years. Trustees shall serve on a rotation basis, with one new trustee being elected each year. In the event that a trustee cannot fulfill his term of office, the deacons shall select a candidate to fill the unexpired term.
- B. Duties.
1. The trustees shall, as provided by law and the action of the church, hold in trust the title to all church property and shall represent the church in all matters of legal responsibility regarding the purchase, improvement, and disposal of church property. They shall execute all legal instruments relating to the church and to the community as the church may direct. They shall have no power to buy, sell, mortgage, lease or transfer any property of the church without a specific vote of the church authorizing such action. Trustees shall have no control over the use of the church property except by vote of the church.
  2. The trustees shall serve as the Personnel Committee for the church. The Personnel Committee shall assess job performances of each person holding a paid position of the church at least annually, as well as make recommendations for salaries as necessary to the budget committee.

#### **Section 7. Clerk**

It shall be the duty of the clerk to attend, or be represented at, all church business meetings. The clerk shall keep accurate records of all business transactions, prepare the annual associational letter and notify all officers, issue letters of dismissal as authorized by the church, preserve all papers and valuable letters and records that belong to the church, and preserve a true history of the church. It shall also be the duty of the clerk to see that an accurate roll of the church membership is kept with dates and methods of admission and dismissal, change in name, correct mailing addresses and other pertinent information.

#### **Section 8. Treasurer**

It shall be the duty of the treasurer to receive, keep in a bank, and disburse by check, upon proper authority, all money or things of value that are given to the church. The treasurer shall keep at all times an itemized account of all receipts and disbursements. The treasurer shall prepare a financial report and present it as a matter of record during regular church business meetings. The treasurer's books shall be audited annually as arranged by the church; and all books, records, and accounts kept by the treasurer shall be considered the property of the church. The treasurer shall upon invitation meet with the deacons, and shall be an ex-officio member of the Finance committee and Budget Committee.

### **Article IV - Committees**

#### **Section 1. Committees**

Each year the pastor along with the deacons shall put before the church potential candidates for current vacancies on the Nominating Committee to serve for the following church year. Upon the recommendation of the nominating committee, the church shall elect such standing and special committees as may be deemed necessary to carry on the various phases of the programs of the church. Each committee shall elect a chair to serve on that committee. All committees serve at the pleasure of the church, and shall in no event have any authority to act for the church except where specifically authorized. The church shall establish the composition, duties and means of election of all standing and special committees.

#### **Section 2. Standing Committees**

A. **Budget Committee.** The Budget Committee shall prepare and propose an annual itemized budget for approval by the church. It shall be composed of four members plus the deacon chairman, treasurer, and pastor. Each member will serve for a period of two

years, with two rotating off each year. Those rotating off shall not be eligible for reelection to this committee for a period of one year.

B. **Cemetery Committee.** The Cemetery Committee shall oversee the maintenance of the cemetery. It shall be composed of a minimum of three members.

C. **Constitution Committee.** The Constitution Committee shall review and prepare as necessary edits to the constitution, bylaws, policies, and other governing documents for approval by the church. It shall be composed of four members plus the deacon chairman and pastor. Each member will serve for a period of four years, with one rotating off each year. Those rotating off shall not be eligible for reelection to this committee for a period of one year.

D. **Finance Committee.** The Finance Committee shall assist the treasurer and maintain appropriate fiscal policies for the church. It shall be composed of a minimum of three members.

E. **Mission Mobilization Committee.** The Mission Mobilization Committee shall oversee a comprehensive program of local, national, and global missions involvement, as well as make necessary recommendations to the Budget Committee. It shall be composed of the pastor, ministry staff, men's and women's ministry leaders, outreach leaders, and two at-large members with one rotating off each year. The one rotating off shall not be eligible for reelection to this committee for one year.

F. **Nominating Committee.** The Nominating Committee shall annually enlist church officers, members of standing committees, and members of special committees as necessary for approval by the church. It shall be composed of four members plus the Sunday School director, deacon chairman, and the pastor. Each member will serve for a period of two years, with two rotating off each year. Those rotating off shall not be eligible for reelection to this committee for a period of one year.

G. **Personnel Committee.** The Personnel Committee shall assess job performances of each person holding a paid position of the church at least annually, as well as make recommendations for salaries as necessary to the Budget Committee. It shall be composed of three church trustees plus the pastor.

H. **Security Committee.** The Security Committee shall ensure the safety of the congregation and the security of our facilities. It shall be composed of a minimum of three members.

## **Article V - Staff**

### **Section 1. Ministry Staff**

The ministry staff shall be composed of the pastor and other persons who fill ministry positions as may be created from time to time by vote of the membership. Members of the ministry staff other than the pastor shall be elected or terminated by the membership upon recommendation of the deacons in consultation with other appropriate committees and the pastor.

### **Section 2. Church Staff**

The church staff shall be composed of all persons employed by the church except the ministry staff and the pastor. Members of the church staff shall be employed or terminated by action of the trustees with the agreement of the pastor and deacons.

### **Section 3. General Provisions**

A job description for each staff position shall be prepared and shall be revised periodically by the pastor and the deacons and given to all candidates being considered for that position or to the person filling that position. Staff positions may be combined from time to time at the discretion of the pastor and the trustees, and the combined position held by one person. All members of the staff shall be called or employed for indeterminate terms. A staff member may resign by giving a 2 weeks written notice of termination to the church. The church may terminate the relationship of a staff member to the church at any time by action of the trustees. The church shall for all staff positions establish appropriate employment policies including job descriptions, benefits and other policies. Such policies shall not constitute an employment contract and may be terminated or modified at any time by appropriate church action.

## **Article VI - Finances**

### **Section 1. Budget**

The Budget Committee shall prepare and submit to the church for approval an annual budget 2 weeks prior to the annual business meeting before the new fiscal year starting September 1<sup>st</sup>.

### **Section 2. Accounting Procedures**

All funds for any and all purposes shall be handled in accordance with procedures established by the Finance Committee, be reported to the church treasurer, financial secretary, or one who has been appointed by the church body and be properly recorded on the books of the church. A system of accounting that will adequately provide for the handling of all funds shall be the responsibility of the Finance Committee.

### **Section 3. Fiscal Year**

The fiscal year of the church shall run from September 1 to August 31.

### **Section 4. Expenditures and Receipts of Funds**

- A. No funds shall be disbursed without the express authorization of the church as provided for in the budget or separate authorization.
- B. No designated funds shall be received except where the church has approved the receipt of funds for the designated cause. Separate accounting shall be maintained for all designated gifts and funds.
- C. The receipt of gifts of real or personal property must be approved by the appropriate church authorities.
- D. All gifts of money or other items shall be used solely at the discretion of the church, subject only to such restrictions on the use of gifts which are designated to a church approved fund, and as may be made at the time of their receipt

## **Article VII - Church Policy Manual**

The pastor, the ministerial staff, deacons and constitution committee shall assure the creation and maintenance of a policies and procedures/operations manual which shall contain all currently controlling policies and procedures governing any aspect of the church's affairs including policies regarding the handling of funds, use of facilities and employment policies and practices.

## **Article VIII – Non-discrimination Policy**

The church shall not discriminate against members, applicants, students, and others on the basis of race, color, or national and ethnic origin. While LSBC does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, or national and ethnic origin in its membership or employment policies, as a religious institution it reserves the right to deny membership or employment or to terminate the membership or employment of persons whose lifestyle, words, actions, or otherwise do not align with the church's statement of faith, standard of conduct, or other policies of this organization.

## **Article IX - General and Miscellaneous Provisions**

### **Section 1. License to Preach**

When a member announces to the church the call to the ministry, the church, upon recommendation of the deacons and by majority vote, may license the member as an acknowledgment of the call to the ministry and the encouragement to make preparation for it. The clerk of the church may furnish the member with a copy of the minutes or a certificate of license. It is understood that state law shall govern the performance of civil duties by the member.

### **Section 2. Ministerial Ordination**

When this church has been requested to ordain a member or when the church wishes to ordain a member to the full Gospel ministry, it shall, upon recommendation of the pastor and the deacons who have satisfied themselves as to the candidate's fitness, call an Examining Council according to accepted Baptist procedure to examine the candidate with respect to the candidate's Christian experience, call to the ministry and views of Bible doctrine. The pastor may invite the Associational Council of Ordinations to examine the candidate concerning the candidate's fitness for the ministry. When the Examining Council recommends the candidate's ordination, the candidate shall be properly set apart and ordained, with prayer and the laying on of hands, provided that prior to the ordination, three-fourths of the members present at any regular church meeting agree thereto.

### **Section 3. Church Council**

The Church Council shall consist of the pastor and the ministerial staff, the church secretary, the chair of the deacons, and representatives from other church ministries. The council shall function as a coordinating and enabling agency of the church, but shall respect and shall not encroach upon the responsibilities of committees or the deacons. The council may make such recommendations to committees, the deacons and the membership, as it may deem appropriate.

## **Article X - Amendments**

### **Section 1. Amendment**

This constitution, by-laws, policies, and other governing documents may be amended, altered or repealed by a two-thirds vote of the members present at any business meeting; provided, however, that such amendment, alteration or repeal be given to the clerk in writing; this proposed change shall be presented to the church at least one week prior to the time the vote is taken.

### **Section 2. Copies**

A copy of this constitution and any amendments thereto shall be maintained by the clerk and copies made available at the church office.

## **Article XI - Adoption and Amendments**

### **Section 1. Adoption**

The adoption by the church of this constitution shall repeal all previously adopted rules in conflict herewith, provided, that no action taken by the church prior to this date shall be invalidated by the adoption of this constitution.

This constitution shall be considered adopted and in immediate effect if and when a majority of the members present and voting at the business meeting at which vote is taken, shall vote in favor of adoption.

## **Article XII – Liquidation**

In the event that the church should dissolve, after paying or making provision for payment of all the liabilities of the corporation, all assets of the organization shall be disposed of in accordance with Section 501 (c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Service Code. The remaining assets and property will resort to the hands of another group or organization operated exclusively for religious, charitable, and educational purposes. Assets and property may be distributed only to incorporated, tax-exempt organizations.

Approved 08/30/2020