

GENERAL OPERATING BY-LAW NO. 1

LIFECENTRE CHRISTIAN FELLOWSHIP

Our mission is rooted in how we are growing together with Jesus to make a difference in our city.



GENERAL OPERATING BY-LAW NO. 1

A By-law relating generally to the conduct of the affairs of
THE LIFE CENTRE CHRISTIAN FELLOWSHIP (the “Church”)

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1.0 | Interpretation



1.01 | Definitions

GENERAL OPERATING BY-LAW NO. 1

A By-law relating generally to the conduct of the affairs of

THE LIFE CENTRE CHRISTIAN FELLOWSHIP (the "Church")

WHEREAS the Church was incorporated under Part II of the Canada Corporations Act by Letters Patent dated the 18th day of February, 1983;

AND WHEREAS those Letters Patent were amended by Supplementary Letters Patent dated the 19th day of August, 1999;

AND WHEREAS the Church has applied for a Certificate of Continuance to be continued under the Canada Not-for-Profit Corporations Act S.C. 2009, c.23;

NOW THEREFORE BE IT ENACTED as a general operating By-law of the Church to take effect in accordance with section 12.01 of this By-law, as follows:

In all By-laws and resolutions of the Church, unless the context otherwise requires:

- a) "Act" means the Canada Not-for-Profit Corporations Act, S.C. 2009, c. 23, including the Regulations made pursuant to the Act and any statute or Regulations that may be substituted, as amended from time to time.
- b) "Articles" means the original or restated articles of incorporation or articles of amendment, amalgamation, continuance, reorganization, arrangement or revival of the Church.
- c) "Board" means the board of directors of the Church.
- d) "By-Law" or "By-laws" means this by-law and all other by-laws of the Church as amended and which are, from time to time, in force and effect.
- e) "Campus Pastor" means a Staff Pastor who is the overseer of a Church Campus.
- f) "Chairperson" means the Chairperson of the Board in accordance with section 7.02, who shall be the chair of the Board for the purposes of the Act or as otherwise provided for in this By-Law.
- g) "Church Campus" means one of the locations of the Church.
- h) "Discipline" means actions taken seeking to reconcile individuals to one another through mutual forgiveness and/or reconciling individuals to the teachings of the Church for the purpose of restoring offenders to fellowship with God and the Church and shall be carried out in accordance with section 3.06 of this By-Law and any related Operating Policies.
- i) "Director" means a member of the Board.
- j) "Family members" means a person's spouse, children, parents, siblings, or the spouses of such children, parents or siblings, or the children or parents of such person's spouse.
- k) "Lead Pastor" means the lead pastor of the Church who is elected or called in accordance with section 8.04 of this By-law.
- l) "Member" means a member of the Church and "Members" or "Membership" means the collective membership of the Church, who have been admitted in accordance with section 3.02 of this By-Law.
- m) "Officer" means an officer of the Church.



- n) "Operating Policies" means the operating policies approved by the Board in accordance with section 2.07 of this By-Law.
- o) "Ordinary Resolution" means a resolution passed by a majority of the votes cast on that resolution.
- p) "Pastoral Staff" means the Lead Pastor and Staff Pastors of the Church.
- q) "Regulations" means the regulations made under the Act, as amended, restated or in effect from time to time.
- r) "Special Resolution" means a resolution passed by a majority of not less than two thirds (2/3) of the votes cast on that resolution.
- s) "Staff Pastor" means a person who is a member of the Pastoral Staff, other than the Lead Pastor.

1.02 | Rules

In the interpretation of this By-law, unless the context otherwise requires, the following rules shall apply:

- a) except as specifically defined in this By-law, all terms defined in the Act have the same meaning when used in these By-laws
- b) words in the singular include the plural and vice versa;
- c) "person" includes an individual, sole proprietorship, partnership, unincorporated association, and body corporate; and
- d) if any By-law provisions are inconsistent with those in the Articles or the Act, the provisions in the Articles or the Act prevail.

1.03 | Purposes and Statement of Fundamental and Essential Truths

All By-laws and Operating Policies shall be strictly interpreted at all times in accordance with and subject to the purposes contained in the Articles and the Statement of Fundamental and Essential Truths set out in Schedule A. For greater certainty, the Statement of Fundamental and Essential Truths forms part of this By-law.



2.0 | Financial and Other Matters



2.01 | **Financial Year**

Unless otherwise changed by Ordinary Resolution of the Board, the financial year end of the Church shall be June 30 in each year.

2.02 | **Banking Arrangements**

The banking business of the Church shall be transacted at such bank, trust company or other firm or corporation carrying on a banking business in Canada or elsewhere as the Board may by Ordinary Resolution designate, appoint or authorize from time to time. The banking business or any part of it shall be transacted by an Officer or Officers and/or other persons as the Board may by Ordinary Resolution from time to time designate, direct or authorize.

2.03 | **Execution of Documents**

Deeds, transfers, assignments, contracts, obligations and other instruments in writing requiring execution by the Church may be signed by any two (2) of its Officers or Directors.

The Board may from time to time direct the manner in which and the person or persons by whom a particular document or type of document shall be executed.

Any person authorized to sign any document may affix the corporate seal (if any) to the document.

Any Director or Officer may certify a copy of any instrument, resolution, By-law or other document of the Church to be a true copy thereof.

2.04 | **Public Accountant and Level of Financial Review**

The Church shall be subject to the requirements relating to the appointment of a public accountant and level of financial review required by the Act.

2.05 | **Annual Financial Statements**

The Church shall send copies of the annual financial statements, approved by the Board, and other documents referred to in subsection 172(1) (Annual Financial Statements) of the Act to the Members and Corporations Canada, between 21 to 60 days before the day on which an annual meeting of Members is held or before the day on which a written resolution in lieu of an annual meeting is signed, unless a Member declines to receive them.

Alternatively, the Church may give notice to the Members stating that such annual financial statements and other documents are available at the registered office of the Church and any Member may request a copy free of charge at the registered office or by prepaid mail.

2.06 | **Real Property**

Real property shall not be purchased, disposed of or encumbered in any manner unless approved by Special Resolution of the Members.



2.07 | **Operating Policies**

The Board may adopt, by Ordinary Resolution, Operating Policies that are not inconsistent with the By-laws. The Board may also amend or repeal such Operating Policies by Ordinary Resolution. Any Operating Policy adopted by the Board shall continue to have force and effect until amended, repealed or replaced by a subsequent resolution of the Board.

Operating Policies may relate to such matters as terms of reference of committees, duties of Officers, codes of conduct for the Board, conflicts of interest as well as procedural and other requirements relating to the By-laws as the Board may deem appropriate from time to time.

2.08 | **Church Affiliation**

The Church shall be affiliated with The Pentecostal Assemblies of Canada. In order to withdraw from that affiliation:

- a) The Church shall call a meeting of Members for that purpose;
- b) Members shall be given ninety (90) days' notice of the meeting;
- c) Quorum shall be two-thirds (2/3) of the Membership; and
- d) A three quarters (75%) resolution of the Members at the meeting, voting in favour of withdrawal, shall be required.

The Church may affiliate with other organizations and associations as the Members may determine from time to time by a Special Resolution at a membership meeting duly called for that purpose.



3.0 | Members



3.01 | **Classes, Conditions and Qualifications of Membership**

Pursuant to the Articles, there shall be one (1) class of Members. Membership in the Church is only available to those individuals who:

- a) declare in writing their faith in Jesus Christ as personal Lord and Saviour;
- b) agree in writing with the Statement of Fundamental and Essential Truths including Ordinances, Positions and Practices;
- c) commit in writing:
- d) to live in obedience to Scripture;
- e) to be subject to the authority of the Church; and
- f) to not engage in any activity or conduct, or seek any services from the Church, that are not in keeping with the formal teachings and Statement of Fundamental and Essential Truths including Ordinances, Positions and Practices of the Church, or that would place the Church in a position where it might be required to support or advance a lifestyle or activity that the Church deems morally inappropriate;
- g) are eighteen (18) years of age or older;
- h) if a Member, would not be under the Discipline of the Church as set out in section 3.06; and
- i) are admitted into membership in accordance with the By-laws and Operating Policies.

3.02 | **Admission of Members**

- a) Application for membership in the Church may be initiated by oral or written request.
- b) Applicants shall be provided with a complete copy of the Articles, By-Laws and Statement of Fundamental and Essential Truths including Ordinances, Positions and Practices, and are expected to read the documents in full.
- c) Applicants may be expected to attend a new Members class or introductory course to faith and the Church (e.g. LifeSTART) before membership is granted.
- d) Applicants shall sign a membership application that will include the necessary declarations, agreements and commitments required for membership in the Church as outlined in section 3.01.
- e) The Board may, by Ordinary Resolution, approve the admission of an applicant as a Member once it is satisfied that the applicant fulfills all the qualifications for membership. The initial term of membership shall be from when such individual is admitted as a Member until the Church's annual renewal of membership.
- f) Members may also be admitted by the Board by Ordinary Resolution in such other manner as set out in Operating Policies.



3.03 | **Duties, Privileges and Rights of Members**

Membership in the Church shall carry the following duties, privileges and rights:

- a) the duty to actively engage in the life of the Church;
- b) the duty to respect and submit to the spiritual authority and procedures of the Church;
- c) the duty to financially support the work of the Church through tithes and offerings;
- d) the privilege to minister to one another's spiritual needs as part of the Body of Christ;
- e) the privilege to participate in Church activities and ministries as the Lord directs and personal circumstances permit to the extent allowed by the By-laws and Operating Policies;
- f) the privilege to attend all public worship services of the Church, subject to section 3.06;
- g) the privilege to participate in the ordinances administered by the Church;
- h) the right to attend, speak and participate at all meetings of Members; and
- i) the right to a single vote on each matter requiring a vote at all meetings of Members held at least sixty (60) days after admission as a Member.

3.04 | **Term of Membership**

The term of membership shall be one (1) year, subject to renewal in accordance with the Operating Policies.

3.05 | **Termination of Membership**

Membership in the Church is terminated when:

- a) the Member dies;
- b) the Member voluntarily withdraws by giving written notice to the Board. If the Member is not under Discipline of the Church, such Member may be given a letter of recommendation addressed to the church to which the Member is relocating;
- c) the Member is removed as a Member of the Church in accordance with section 3.06;
- d) the Member's term of membership expires; or
- e) the Church is liquidated or dissolved under the Act.
- f) Subject to the Articles, upon any termination of membership, the rights of the Member automatically cease to exist.
- g) Where a person is no longer a Member, then such person shall be deemed to have automatically resigned as a Director, an Officer and/or a committee member, as applicable, provided that the Board may, in its discretion, subsequently re-appoint such individual as an Officer or committee member if the Board deems it appropriate in the circumstances.



3.06 | **Discipline of Members**

In conjunction with the Lead Pastor and/or a Campus Pastor, the Board or a committee of the Board, shall have the power to Discipline a Member and to suspend or terminate a Member's membership for any one or more of the following grounds:

- a) violating any provision of the Articles, By-laws, or Operating Policies;
- b) carrying out any conduct that may be detrimental to the Church as determined by the Lead Pastor and/or Campus Pastor and the Board in their exclusive discretion;
- c) failing to actively engage in the life of the Church as determined by the Lead Pastor and/or Campus Pastor and the Board in their exclusive discretion; and/or
- d) for any other reason that the Lead Pastor and/or Campus Pastor and the Board in their exclusive discretion consider to be reasonable, having regard to the purposes of the Church.

When administering Discipline, care shall be taken to keep Christ's exhortation to watch over one another and to bear one another's burdens in the spirit of meekness and love as the overarching principle.

Care shall also be taken that Members carry a worthy witness of their faith before the world both for the sake of the spiritual life of each Member and for the testimony of the Church.

The primary aim of Discipline shall be the restoration of the offender to fellowship with God and with the Church.

The process for Discipline and suspension or termination of a Member from the Church, shall be established by Operating Policy. No allegation giving rise to disciplinary action against a

Member shall be considered unless the procedure for Discipline is followed.



4.0 | Meeting of Members



4.01 | **Annual Meeting**

There shall be an annual meeting of Members at such time and place in Ottawa, Ontario, as the Board may determine, provided that the annual meeting be held not later than fifteen (15) months after holding the preceding annual meeting but no later than six (6) months after the end of the Church's preceding financial year.

The purpose of the annual meeting of Members shall be for Members to:

- a) receive necessary reports from the Officers, committee chairs, Pastoral Staff, and the Board;
- b) review and accept the financial statements for the immediately preceding year, including the public accountant's report and the budget for the upcoming year;
- c) appoint a public accountant by Ordinary Resolution to hold office until the close of the next annual meeting and in accordance with section 181 of the Act;
- d) elect Directors as required by Ordinary Resolution; and
- e) transact any other necessary business as may be properly brought before the meeting or is required by the Act.

4.02 | **Special Meetings**

The Chairperson or Lead Pastor may at any time call a special meeting of Members for the transaction of any business which may properly be brought before the Members.

On written requisition, in compliance with the Act, by Members carrying not less than five percent (5%) of the votes that may be cast at a meeting of Members sought to be held, the Board shall call the special meeting of Members for the purposes stated in the requisition, unless the exceptions in subsection 167(3) of the Act are met. If the Board does not call a meeting within twenty-one (21) days of receiving the requisition, any Member who signed the requisition may call the meeting.

4.03 | **Special Business**

All business transacted at a special meeting of Members and all business transacted at an annual meeting of Members, except consideration of the financial statements, public accountant's report, election of Directors and re-appointment of the incumbent public accountant, is special business.

4.04 | **Notice of Meetings**

In accordance with and subject to the Act, notice of the time and place of a meeting of Members shall be given to each Member entitled to vote at the meeting by:

- a) affixing the notice, no later than 30 days before the day on which the meeting is to be held, to a notice board on which information respecting the Church's activities is regularly posted and that is located in a place frequented by Members;
- b) telephonic, electronic or other communication facility to each Member entitled to vote at the meeting, during a period of 21 to 35 days before the day on which the meeting is to be held; or
- c) mail, courier or personal delivery to each Member entitled to vote at the meeting, during a period of 21 to 60 days before the day on which the meeting is to be held.



Where the Church provides notice electronically, if a Member requests that the notice be given by non-electronic means, the notice will be sent by mail, courier or personal delivery.

Notice of a meeting of Members shall also be given to each Director, the Lead Pastor, and to the public accountant of the Church during a period of 21 to 60 days before the day on which the meeting is to be held.

Notice of any meeting of Members at which special business is to be transacted shall state the nature of that business in sufficient detail to permit the Member to form a reasoned judgment on the business and shall state the text of any Special Resolution or By-law to be submitted to the meeting.

The Directors may fix a record date for determining Members entitled to receive notice of any meeting of Members in accordance with the requirements of section 161 of the Act.

4.05 | **Waving Notice**

A Member and any other person entitled to notice of a meeting of Members may in any manner and at any time waive notice of a meeting of Members. Attendance of any such person at a meeting of Members is a waiver of notice of the meeting, unless the person attends the meeting for the express purpose of objecting to the transaction of any business on the grounds that the meeting is not lawfully called.

4.06 | **Persons Entitled to be Present**

The only persons entitled to be present at a meeting of Members shall be those entitled to vote at the meeting, the Directors, the Officers, the public accountant of the Church and such other persons who are entitled or required under any provision of the Act, Articles or By-laws of the Church to be present at the meeting. Any other person may be admitted only on the invitation of the chair of the meeting or by Ordinary Resolution of the Members.

4.07 | **Chair of the Meeting**

The chair of Members' meetings shall be the Lead Pastor or the Chairperson if the Lead Pastor is absent or unable to act. In the event that the Lead Pastor and the Chairperson are absent or unable to act, then a Director appointed by Ordinary Resolution of the Board shall chair the meeting.

4.08 | **Quorums**

Subject to the Act and section 2.08, a quorum at any meeting of the Members shall be the lesser of ten percent (10%) of the Membership or fifty (50) Members.

If a quorum is present at the opening of a meeting of Members, the Members present may proceed with the business of the meeting even if a quorum is not present throughout the meeting.



4.09 | **Show of Hands**

Subject to the Act and except in the case of a meeting held by electronic means, any question at a meeting of Members shall be decided by a show of hands unless a ballot has been demanded or required. A declaration by the chair of the meeting as to whether or not the question or motion has been carried and an entry to that effect in the minutes of the meeting shall, in the absence of evidence to the contrary, be evidence of the fact without proof of the number or proportion of the votes recorded in favour of or against the motion. Notwithstanding the foregoing, any vote may be held entirely by means of a telephonic, an electronic or other communication facility, if the Corporation makes available such a communication facility.

4.10 | **Ballots**

On any question proposed for consideration at a meeting of Members, and whether or not a show of hands has been taken thereon, the chair of the meeting may require a ballot or any Member entitled to vote on such question at the meeting may demand a ballot. A ballot so demanded shall be taken in such manner as the chair shall direct. A demand for a ballot may be withdrawn at any time prior to the taking of the ballot. The result of the ballot so taken shall be the decision of the Members on the question.

4.11 | **Votes to Govern**

At any meetings of the Members, every question shall, unless otherwise provided by the Articles or By-laws or by the Act, be determined by Ordinary Resolution. In case of an equality of votes, the chair of the meeting, in addition to an original vote, shall have a second or casting vote.

4.12 | **Rules of Order**

Any questions of procedures at or for any meetings of the Members, which have not been provided for in this By-law or by the Act, shall be determined by the chair of the meeting in accordance with the most current edition of Robert's Rules of Order.



5.0 | Directors



5.01 | Powers

Subject to the Act and the Articles, the administrative and temporal affairs of the Church shall be the responsibility of the Board. The authority of the Board shall be set out in Operating Policies.

5.02 | Number of Directors

The Board shall consist of a number of Directors between the minimum and maximum number specified in the Articles.

The precise number of Directors shall be determined from time to time by the Members by Ordinary Resolution, or, if the Ordinary Resolution empowers the Directors to determine the number of Directors, by Ordinary Resolution of the Board.

At least two (2) of the Directors shall not be Officers of and none may be employees of the Church or its affiliates.

5.03 | Qualifications

Each Director shall be an individual who is at least twenty-one (21) years old.

An individual who has been found by a court in Canada or elsewhere to be mentally incompetent, who has the status of a bankrupt, or who is an "ineligible individual" as defined in the Income Tax Act, is prohibited from being a Director.

An individual whose family member is either a Director or a member of the Pastoral Staff is prohibited from being a Director at the same time.

Each Director shall be a Member and:

- a) shall have been a Member in good standing of the Church for the previous one (1) year;
- b) shall fulfill the spiritual qualifications of a Director listed in Acts 6:3 and I Timothy 3:8-15;
- c) shall be of good report and sound judgement, examples to the congregation in matters of stewardship (tithing and offerings), church attendance and spiritual maturity, and seeking constantly, as sanctified vessels, to be filled with the Holy Spirit (Acts 2:4; Eph. 5:18);
- d) shall be in full agreement with the Articles and By-Laws;
- e) shall recognize that holding office as a Director is a commitment to humble service, not a position of honour or status, nor a reward for past service; and
- f) shall recognize that holding office as a Director is not only an administrative role but shall involve active participation in, and leadership of, ministries of the Church as they are needed.



5.04 | **Election of Directors and Term**

- a) Subject to the Articles, Directors shall be elected by the Members by Ordinary Resolution at an annual meeting of Members at which an election of Directors is required. The process of election shall be set out in Operating Policies.
- b) The terms of office of Directors shall be three (3) years or as determined by Ordinary Resolution of the Members. As much as possible, Directors shall be elected and shall retire in rotation.
- c) If Directors are not elected at a meeting of Members, the incumbent Directors shall continue in office until their successors are elected.
- d) No Director shall serve more than two (2) consecutive terms. Upon completion of the maximum term on the Board, a minimum of one (1) year absence is required before being eligible for re-election to the Board.
- e) The Board may establish a nominating committee, the details of which shall be set forth in the Operating Policies. In that event, the nominating committee will present a report to the Members for the election of Directors and such report will be prepared in accordance with the requirements of this By-law and the Operating Policies.

5.05 | **Appointment of Directors**

Pursuant to the Articles, following the conclusion of the annual meeting of Members each year, the Board may appoint Directors (the “appointed Directors”) to hold office for a term expiring not later than the close of the next annual meeting of Members.

The number of appointed Directors shall not exceed one-third (1/3) of the number of Directors elected by the Members at the previous annual meeting of Members.

5.06 | **Ceasing to Hold Office**

A Director ceases to hold office when the Director dies, resigns, is removed from office by the Members in accordance with section 5.08, or no longer fulfils all of the qualifications to be a Director set out in section 5.03, as determined in the sole discretion of the Board.

5.07 | **Resignation**

A resignation of a Director becomes effective at the time a written resignation is sent to the Church or at the time specified in the resignation, whichever is later.

5.08 | **Removal**

The Members may, by Ordinary Resolution passed at a meeting of Members, remove any Director from office before the expiration of the Director’s term. The Members may elect a qualified individual to fill the resulting vacancy for the remainder of the term, failing which such vacancy may be filled by the Board.



5.09 | **Filling Vacancies**

In accordance with and subject to section 132 of the Act and the Articles, a quorum of Directors may fill a vacancy among Directors, except a vacancy resulting from an increase in the number or the minimum or maximum number of Directors, or from a failure of the Members to elect the number of Directors required to be elected at any meeting of Members.

If there is not a quorum of Directors, or if the vacancy has arisen from a failure of the Members to elect the number of Directors required to be elected at any meeting of Members, the Directors then in office shall without delay call a special meeting of Members to fill the vacancy. If the Board fails to call such meeting or if there are no Directors then in office, any Member may call the meeting.

A Director appointed or elected to fill a vacancy holds office for the unexpired term of their predecessor.

5.10 | **Delegation**

The Board may appoint from their number a managing Director or a committee of Directors (which may be referred to as an executive committee) and delegate to the managing Director or committee any of the powers of the Board, except those which may not be delegated by the Board pursuant to subsection 138(2) of the Act.

Unless otherwise determined by the Board, such a committee shall have the power to fix its quorum at not less than a majority of its Members, to elect its chairperson and to otherwise regulate its procedure.

5.11 | **Committees**

The Board may from time to time appoint any committee or other advisory body, as it deems necessary or appropriate for such purposes and, subject to the Act, with such powers as the Board shall see fit. Any committee member may be removed by the Board.

The standard terms of reference for committees of the Church shall be set out in Operating Policies. Unless otherwise determined by the Board, a committee shall have the power to fix its quorum at not less than a majority of its members, to elect its chairperson and to otherwise regulate its procedure.



5.12 | Disclosure of Interest

a) Prohibition

Except where specifically permitted by law and as approved by the Board, a Director and his or her family members shall not enter into a contract, business transaction, financial arrangement or other matter with the Church in which the Director or any of his or her family members has any direct or indirect personal interest, gain or benefit.

b) Disclosure

i) Pursuant to section 141 of the Act, a Director shall disclose, at the time and in the manner required by the Act, in writing or by requesting to have it entered in the minutes of Board meetings, the nature and extent of any interest that the Director has in a material contract or material transaction whether made or proposed, with the Church, if the Director:

1. is a party to the contract or transaction;
2. is a director or officer, or an individual acting in a similar capacity, of a party to the contract or transaction; or
3. has a material interest in a party to the contract or transaction.

ii) In addition to the disclosure made under section 5.12(b)(i), any Director who has any material direct or indirect personal interest, gain or benefit in an actual or proposed contract, business transaction, financial arrangement or other matter with the Church as described in section 5.12(a) above, whether permitted by law or not, shall declare his or her interest therein at the first opportunity at a meeting of the Board.

c) Material Interest

In this section (5.12), “material” means that the Director in question, directly or indirectly, is personally receiving a benefit or gain of some kind, either financially or otherwise, with the determination of materiality in such circumstances to be determined by the Board from time to time.

d) Procedure Where Disclosure

The chair of Board meetings shall request any Director who has made a disclosure referred to in section 5.12(b) to absent himself or herself during the discussion of the matter, with such action being recorded in the minutes. The Director shall not vote on any resolution to approve such contract except as provided by the Act.

e) Consequences of Contravention

If the Board proceeds with a contract, business transaction, financial arrangement, or other matter, in which a Director has a direct or indirect personal interest, gain or benefit in contravention of this section, except where permitted by law and approved by the Board, such Director shall immediately resign from the Board, failing which he or she shall be deemed to have resigned upon the passing of an Ordinary Resolution of the Board to that effect.



5.13 | **Confidentiality**

Every Director, Officer, committee member, employee, member and volunteer, shall respect the confidentiality of matters brought before the Board or before any committee of the Board.

Employees and volunteers shall also keep confidential matters that come to their attention as part of their employment or volunteer activities.

5.14 | **Indemnification**

The Church shall provide present or former Directors or Officers with the indemnification described in section 151 of the Act.



6.0 | Meetings of Directors



6.01 | **Regular Meetings**

Regular meetings of the Board shall be held at such time and place as is determined by the Chairperson but not less than eight (8) times a year.

The Lead Pastor shall be invited to all regular meetings of the Board unless specifically excluded by an Ordinary Resolution of the Board.

The dates for the regular meetings shall be published in a schedule by the Secretary and distributed to all members of the Board as soon as possible after each special election meeting of Members. No other notice shall be required for any such regular meeting, except that a notice must be provided to specify any matter referred to in subsection 138(2) of the Act that is to be dealt with at the meeting.

6.02 | **Special Meetings**

Special meetings of the Board may be called by the Chairperson upon written notice or upon written request of any two (2) Directors or the Lead Pastor to the Chairperson who shall then give notice of a special meeting of the Board as soon as possible thereafter.

6.03 | **Notice of Meeting**

Notice of the time and place for the holding of a meeting of the Board shall be given in the manner provided in section 9.01 of this By-law to every Director and the Lead Pastor, not less than 48 hours before the time when the meeting is to be held.

Notice of a meeting shall not be necessary if all of the Directors and Lead Pastor are present, and none objects to the holding of the meeting, or if those absent have waived notice of or have otherwise signified their consent to the holding of such meeting.

Notice of an adjourned meeting is not required if the time and place of the adjourned meeting is announced at the original meeting.

Notice of meeting does not need to specify the purpose or the business to be transacted at the meeting, except that a notice of meeting of Board shall specify any matter referred to in subsection 138(2) of the Act that is to be dealt with at the meeting.

6.04 | **Chair of Meetings of the Board**

The chair of meetings of the Board shall be:

- a) the Lead Pastor;
- b) if the Lead Pastor is absent or unable to act, then the Chairperson; and
- c) if the Chairperson is absent or unable to act, then a Director appointed by Ordinary Resolution of the Board.

6.05 | **Quorum**

A majority of the number of Directors determined in accordance with section 5.02 constitutes a quorum at any meeting of the Board. For the purpose of determining quorum, a Director may be present in person, or, if authorized under this By-law, by teleconference or by other electronic means.



6.06 | **Participation at Meeting by Telephone or Electronic Means**

If all of the Directors consent, a Director may, in accordance with the Regulations, participate in a Board meeting, by means of a telephonic, electronic or other communications facility that permits all participants to communicate adequately with each other during the meeting.

A Director participating in the meeting by such means shall be deemed for the purposes of the Act to have been present at that meeting. A consent pursuant to this section may be given before or after the meeting to which it relates and may be given with respect to all meetings of the Board and committees of the Board.

6.07 | **Voting Rights**

Each Director may exercise one (1) vote. At all meetings of the Board, every question shall be decided by a majority of the votes cast on the question, unless the Act or the By-laws otherwise provide otherwise. In case of an equality of votes, the Chairperson in addition to an original vote shall have a second or casting vote. The Lead Pastor has the right to participate in meetings of the Directors but is not a Director and does not have a right to vote.

6.08 | **Resolutions in Writing**

A resolution in writing, signed by all the Directors entitled to vote on that resolution at a Board meeting or a committee of Directors, shall be as valid as if it had been passed at a Board meeting or committee of Directors. A copy of every such resolution in writing shall be kept with the minutes of the meetings of the Board or committee of Directors.



7.0 | Officers



7.01 | Appointment

The Board may designate the offices of the Church, appoint Officers, specify their duties and, subject to the Act, delegate to such Officers the power to manage the affairs of the Church. A Director may be appointed to any office of the Church. An Officer may, but need not be, a Director unless this By-law otherwise provides. Two or more offices may be held by the same person.

7.02 | Description of Offices

Unless otherwise specified by the Board (which may, subject to the Act, modify, restrict or supplement such duties and powers), the offices of the Church, if designated and if Officers are appointed, shall have the following duties and powers associated with their position, as well as such other duties and powers as the Board may specify from time to time in Operating Policies:

- a) Chairperson of the Board - The Chairperson shall be a Director and shall act as the chair of the Board for the purposes of the Act. If the Lead Pastor is absent or is unable or refuses to act, the Chairperson shall, when present, preside at all meetings of the Board and of the Members.
- b) Secretary - The Secretary shall attend all meetings of the Board, Members and committees of the Board. The Secretary shall enter or cause to be entered in the Church's minute book, minutes of all proceedings at such meetings. The Secretary shall give, or cause to be given, as and when instructed, notices to Members, Directors, the public accountant and members of committees. The Secretary shall be the custodian of all books, papers, records, documents and other instruments belonging to the Church.
- c) Treasurer - The Treasurer shall be responsible for the maintenance of proper accounting records in compliance with the Act as well as the deposit of money, the safekeeping of securities and the disbursement of funds of the Church. Whenever required, the Treasurer shall render to the Board an account of all such transactions as Treasurer and of the financial position of the Church.
- d) Lead Pastor - The Lead Pastor shall be appointed by the Board and shall preside at all meetings of Members and the Board unless otherwise required by the Act or this By-law. The Lead Pastor shall be the primary spiritual overseer of the Church and subject to the authority of the Board, have general supervision of the affairs of the Church. By virtue of holding this office, the Lead Pastor shall be deemed to be a Member. The Lead Pastor shall have the responsibilities set out in section 8.02.

The powers and duties of all other Officers shall be such as the terms of their engagement call for or the Board or the Chairperson requires of them. The Board may from time to time and subject to the Act, vary, add to or limit the powers and duties of any Officer.

7.03 | Term of Office

Officers, except the Lead Pastor, shall hold their position for a period of one (1) year, or, in those cases where an Officer is appointed by the Board to fill a vacancy during the year, until the first meeting of the Board immediately following the annual general meeting.



7.04 | **Vacancy in Office**

In the absence of a written agreement to the contrary and except with respect to the Lead Pastor, the Board may remove, whether for cause or without cause, any Officer of the Church. Unless so removed, an Officer shall hold office until the earlier of:

- a) the Officer's successor being appointed;
- b) the Officer's resignation;
- c) such Officer ceasing to be a Director (if a necessary qualification of this appointment);
- d) such Officer, in the opinion of an Ordinary Resolution of the Board, has evidenced unethical or immoral conduct or behaviour that is unbecoming of a Christian contrary to Biblical principles, or is no longer willing to comply with, adhere to or submit to the scriptural authority and procedures set out in the Articles and By-Laws;
- e) such Officer is determined by Ordinary Resolution of the Board to be unfit to hold office as an Officer of the Church for any reason; or
- f) such Officer's death.

If the office of any Officer of the Church shall be or become vacant, the Board may appoint a person by Ordinary Resolution to fill such vacancy.

7.05 | **Disclosure (Conflict of Interest)**

- a) An Officer who is a Director shall have the same duty to disclose such Officer's interest in a material contract or transaction or proposed material contract or transaction with the Church, as is imposed upon Directors pursuant to section 141 of the Act and the By-laws set out in section 5.12.
- b) An Officer who is not a Director shall have the same duty to disclose such Officer's interest in a material contract or transaction or proposed material contract or transaction with the Church, as is imposed on Directors pursuant to section 141 of the Act and the By-laws set out in section 5.12(b)(i), section 5.12(c) and section 5.12(d).

In all cases, any such contract or proposed contract may be referred to the Board or Members for approval in accordance with the Act, even if such contract is one that in the ordinary course of the Church's affairs would not require approval by the Board or Members.



8.0 | Lead Pastor and Pastoral Staff



8.01 | **Qualifications of Pastoral Staff**

The Lead Pastor must hold active credentials in good standing with either the Pentecostal Assemblies of Canada or a recognized national fellowship that supports the doctrinal positions of the Church and enter into the process of obtaining credentials with the Pentecostal Assemblies of Canada.

Other Staff Pastors must hold active credentials in good standing with either the Pentecostal Assemblies of Canada or a recognized national fellowship that supports the doctrinal position of the Church.

8.02 | **Duties and Rights of the Lead Pastor**

The duties and rights of the Lead Pastor shall be as follows:

- a) the duty to provide spiritual leadership for the Church and to work in co-operation with the Board in implementing such spiritual leadership;
- b) the duty to work in conjunction with the Board in formulating and recommending Operating Policies as may be necessary from time to time;
- c) the duty to exercise general supervisory authority over all staff members of the Church, provided that the hiring or removal of staff members, including Staff Pastors, shall require the approval of the Board;
- d) the duty to fulfill the qualifications for a spiritual leader as set out in scriptural passages such as I Timothy 3:1-7, Titus 1:5-9 and 1 Peter 5:1-3 and to ensure that his or her lifestyle does not evidence unethical or immoral conduct or behaviour that is unbecoming of a Christian contrary to Biblical principles;
- e) the duty to be in full agreement with, uphold and be subject to the Articles and the duty to uphold the teachings of the Church as set out in its Articles and By-laws and to abstain from participating in any activities which are in contravention of those teachings, or which would place the Church in a position where it would have to act in a manner which is not in keeping with its teachings;
- f) the right to have the final decision, in consultations with other Staff Pastors of the Church, on all doctrinal and theological issues including teachings, interpretations or other matters as they apply to the Church, as well as the manner of application of those doctrinal and theological issues to the ordinances, practices, procedures and directions from time to time practised or adopted by the Church;
- g) the right to be an ex-officio member with power to vote (or appoint a designate without power to vote) on all committees and boards of the Church, with the exception of the Board; and
- h) the right to receive notification and minutes of all meetings of the Board, to be present and fully participate at all such meetings, provided that, except where permitted by law, the Lead Pastor shall not be a Director nor have a right to vote and shall not be present when the Board is discussing position, salary or benefits, but may in the discretion of the Board be present when the Board of Directors is discussing other aspects of his or her position.



8.03 | Definition and Duties of Staff Pastors

If the Lead Pastor so requests, Staff Pastors may be called by Ordinary Resolution of the Board for the purpose of undertaking such ministries as the Lead Pastor and the Board determine are necessary for the Church.

Various public titles such as Campus Pastor, Assistant Pastor, Connections Pastor or Generation Pastor may be assigned for a Staff Pastor upon recommendation by the Lead Pastor and by Ordinary Resolution of the Board. A Staff Pastor by virtue of his or her position shall be deemed to be a Member.

The duties of a Staff Pastor shall be as follows:

- a) the duty to fulfill the ministry description established for his or her position by the Lead Pastor and the Board;
- b) the duty to provide spiritual leadership to the Church and to work in conjunction with the Lead Pastor and the Board in implementing such spiritual leadership;
- c) the duty to work in conjunction with the Lead Pastor and the Board in formulating and recommending Operating Policies as may be necessary from time to time;
- d) the duty to fulfill the qualifications for a spiritual leader as set out in scriptural passages such as I Timothy 1:5-9, Titus 1:5-9, and 1 Peter 5:3-1 and to ensure that his or her lifestyle and conduct does not evidence unethical or immoral activities or behaviour that is unbecoming of a Christian contrary to Biblical principles;
- e) the duty to be in full agreement with, uphold, and be subject to the Church Articles and the duty to uphold the teachings of the Church as set out in its Articles and By-laws and to abstain from participating in any activities which are in contravention of those teachings, or which would place the Church in a position where it would have to act in a manner which is not in keeping with its teachings; and
- f) the duty to be subject to the authority and direction of the Lead Pastor.

8.04 | The Calling of Pastoral Staff

- a) Whenever a vacancy in the position of Lead Pastor occurs or the Board determines that a Lead Pastor is to be called, the Board shall determine the procedure to be followed in relation to the calling of candidates to fill such vacancies.
- b) A Lead Pastor shall be called if the candidate is approved by a Special Resolution of the Board and sanctioned by a majority of not less than seventy-five percent (75%) of the votes cast by Members at the meeting of Members duly called for that purpose.
- c) The Board shall have the full power to call Staff Pastors without the need for approval by the Members, having first taken into consideration what is in the best interest of the Church as a whole and the special qualifications required by the Lead Pastor.



8.05 | **Resignation of Pastoral Staff**

If the Lead Pastor or Staff Pastor wishes to resign, he or she shall first notify the Board in writing together with an explanation and shall provide no less than thirty (30) days' notice prior to the effective date of his or her resignation, unless there are extraordinary circumstances.

Such resignation will be deemed to include a resignation by the Lead Pastor or Staff Pastor as a Member of the Church and where applicable, as an ex-officio member on all committees and boards.

8.06 | **Removal of Lead Pastor**

The Lead Pastor may be removed in keeping with the provisions of the District Constitution of the Pentecostal Assemblies of Canada by the following procedure:

When difficulties arise between the Lead Pastor and the Church, which do not involve the credentials of the Lead Pastor, but only the position as Lead Pastor, and which apparently cannot be resolved, the Board shall seek counsel and mediation for both parties from respected ministers or a nationally recognized organization.

The Chairperson may call for a vote of confidence in the Lead Pastor. The roster for the vote shall include only those Members who held Membership sixty (60) days prior to the vote of confidence and shall exclude the Lead Pastor and the Pastoral Staff, as identified in the minutes of the Board, and their spouses, who shall also not be included in the quorum necessary to have a meeting of Members. An Ordinary Resolution of the Members at the meeting entitled to vote, voting in favour of the Lead Pastor to retain such position shall be required. If an Ordinary Resolution is not achieved, the Lead Pastor's duties shall be terminated immediately, and the Lead Pastor shall be given a minimum of six (6) month's salary with benefits.

Matters involving the Lead Pastor's credentials, issues of morality, integrity or doctrinal soundness, must be made in writing to the Executive of the organization issuing credentials, and properly signed by the one who is willing to appear in person and give testimony concerning the charges.

8.07 | **Vacancy**

When the position of Lead Pastor becomes vacant, the Board shall arrange to supply the pulpit with suitable ministry until such time as a new Lead Pastor has been duly installed.



9.0 | Notices



9.01 | Method of Giving Notices

Subject to sections 4.04 and 6.03, any notice (which term includes any communication or document) to be given (which term includes sent, delivered or served) pursuant to the Act, the Articles, the By-laws or otherwise, to the Church, a Member, Director, Officer, member of a committee of the Board, or the public accountant shall be sufficiently given:

- a) if delivered personally to the person to whom it is to be given or if delivered to such person's address as shown in the records of the Church or in the case of notice to a Director to the latest address as shown in the last notice that was sent by the Church in accordance with sections 128 or 134 of the Act and received by Corporations Canada; or
- b) if mailed to such person at such person's recorded address by prepaid ordinary or air mail; or
- c) if sent to such person by telephonic, electronic or other communication facility at such person's recorded address for that purpose; or
- d) if provided in the form of an electronic document in accordance with Part 17 of the Act.
- e) A notice so delivered shall be deemed to have been given when it is delivered personally or to the recorded address as mentioned above.
- f) A notice so mailed shall be deemed to have been given when deposited in a post office or public letter box.
- g) A notice so sent by any means of transmitted or recorded communication shall be deemed to have been given when dispatched or delivered to the appropriate communication company or agency or its representative for dispatch.

The Secretary may change or cause to be changed the recorded address of any Member, Director, Officer, public accountant, or member of a committee of the Board in accordance with any information believed by the Secretary to be reliable.

The declaration by the Secretary that notice has been given pursuant to this By-law shall be sufficient and conclusive evidence of the giving of such notice.

The signature of any Director or Officer of the Church to any notice or other document to be given by the Church may be written, stamped, type-written or printed or partly written, stamped, type-written or printed.

9.02 | Computation of Time

Where a given number of days' notice or notice extending over a period is required to be given under the By-laws, the day of service, posting or other delivery of the notice shall not, unless it is otherwise provided, be counted in such number of days or other period.

9.03 | Undelivered Notices

If any notice given to a Member is returned on two consecutive occasions because such Member cannot be found, the Church shall not be required to give any further notices to such Member until such Member informs the Church in writing of his or her new address.



9.04 | **Omissions and Errors**

The accidental omission to give any notice to any Member, Director, Officer, member of a committee of the Board or public accountant, or the non-receipt of any notice by any such person where the Church has provided notice in accordance with the By-law or any error in any notice not affecting its substance shall not invalidate any action taken at any meeting to which the notice pertained or otherwise founded on such notice.

9.05 | **Waiver of Notice**

Any Member, Director, Officer, member of a committee of the Board or public accountant may waive or abridge the time for any notice required to be given to such person.

Such waiver or abridgement, whether given before or after the meeting or other event of which notice is required to be given shall cure any default in the giving or in the time of such notice, as the case may be.

Any such waiver or abridgement shall be in writing except a waiver of notice of a meeting of Members or of the Board or of a committee of the Board, which may be given in any manner.



10.0 | Dispute Resolution



10.01 | **Mediation and Arbitration**

Disputes or controversies among Members, Directors, Pastors, Officers, committee members, or volunteers of the Church are as much as possible to be resolved in accordance with mediation and/or arbitration as provided in Section 10.02 of this By-law.

10.02 | **Dispute Resolution Mechanism**

In the event that a dispute or controversy among Members, Directors, Pastors, Officers, committee members or volunteers of the Church arising out of or related to the Articles, By-laws, Operating Policies, or out of any aspect of the operations of the Church is not resolved in private meetings between the parties, then without prejudice to or in any other way derogating from the rights of such persons as set out in the Act, Regulations, Articles, By-laws or policies of the Church, and as an alternative to such person instituting a law suit or legal action, such dispute or controversy may be settled by a process of dispute resolution as follows:

- a) The dispute or controversy shall be submitted to a panel of mediators whereby each party shall appoint one mediator, with the two mediators so appointed jointly appointing a third mediator. The three mediators will then meet with the parties in question to mediate a resolution between the parties. The number of mediators may be reduced from three to one or two upon agreement of the parties. The mediation shall be conducted in accordance with the National Mediation Rules of the ADR Institute of Canada, Inc.
- b) If the parties are not successful in resolving the dispute through mediation, then the dispute may be settled by arbitration before a single arbitrator, who shall not be any one of the mediators referred to above, in accordance with the provincial or territorial legislation governing domestic arbitrations in force in the province or territory where the registered office of the Church is situated or as otherwise agreed upon by the parties to the dispute. All proceedings relating to arbitration shall be kept confidential and there shall be no disclosure of any kind. The decision of the arbitrator shall be final and binding and shall not be subject to appeal on a question of fact, law or mixed fact and law.
- c) All costs of the mediators appointed in accordance with this Section shall be borne equally by the parties to the dispute or the controversy. All costs of the arbitrators appointed in accordance with this section shall be borne by such parties as may be determined by the arbitrator. The place of mediation and arbitration shall be where the registered office of the Church is located or otherwise agreed to by the parties in dispute. The language of the mediation and arbitration shall be English or otherwise agreed to by the parties in dispute.



11.0 | Articles and By-Laws



11.01 | **Amendment of Articles**

The Articles may be amended if the amendment is sanctioned by a Special Resolution of the Members. Any amendment of the Articles is effective on the date shown in the certificate of amendment.

11.02 | **By-Law Confirmation**

In accordance with the Articles and subject to the Act, any By-law, amendment or repeal of a By-law shall require confirmation by Special Resolution of the Members. Any amendment or repeal of the Statement of Fundamental and Essential Truths shall require confirmation by Special Resolution of the Members.

11.03 | **Invalidity of any Provisions of this By-law**

The invalidity or unenforceability of any provision of this By-law shall not affect the validity or enforceability of the remaining provisions of this By-law.

11.04 | **Effective Date of Board Initiated By-law, Amendment or Repeal**

Subject to the Act, the Board may by Ordinary Resolution, make, amend or repeal any By-laws that regulate the activities or affairs of the Church. Any such By-law, amendment or repeal shall be effective from the date of the Special Resolution of the Members approving such By-law, amendment or repeal. A Board resolution is not required to make, amend or repeal any By-law which is made pursuant to subsection 197 (1) of the Act.



12.0 | Effective Date



12.01 | Effective Date

This By-law is effective upon the issuance of a Certificate of Continuance of the Church by the federal Government under the Canada Not-for-Profit Corporations Act and approval of this By-law by Special Resolution of the Members.

ENACTED by the Directors of the Church this 21 day of May, 2014.

APPROVED by the Members of the Church this 21 day of May, 2014.



Schedule A



STATEMENT OF FUNDAMENTAL AND ESSENTIAL TRUTHS

PREAMBLE

The Life Centre Christian Fellowship has the right to govern itself according to the standards of the New Testament Scriptures, "Endeavoring to keep the unity of the Spirit in the bond of peace ... till we all come in the unity of the faith, and of the knowledge of the Son of God, unto a perfect man, unto the measure of the stature of the fullness of Christ." (Ephesians 4:3, 13)

We, in our affiliation with the Pentecostal Assemblies of Canada, stand firmly in the mainstream of historical Christianity.

We take the Bible as our all-sufficient source of faith and practice, and subscribe to the historic creeds of the universal church. In common with historical, evangelical Christianity, we emphasize Christ as Saviour and coming King. We also present Christ as Healer and adopt the distinctive position that all Spiritual gifts, including speaking in tongues when Christ baptizes in the Holy Spirit, are still for today.

We affirm that our By-Laws are subservient to the Scriptures.

1. HOLY SCRIPTURES

All Scripture is given by inspiration of God by which we understand the whole Bible to be inspired in the sense that holy men of God were moved by the Holy Spirit to write the very words of Scripture. Divine inspiration extends equally and fully to all parts of the original writings. The whole Bible in the original is, therefore, without error and, as such, is infallible, absolutely supreme and sufficient in authority in all matters of faith and practice.

The Bible does not simply contain the Word of God, but is, in reality, the complete revelation and very Word of God inspired by the Holy Spirit. Christian believers today receive spiritual illumination to enable them to understand the Scriptures, but God does not grant new revelations that are contrary or additional to inspired biblical truth.

2. THE GODHEAD

The Godhead exists eternally in three persons: the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit. These three are one God, having the same nature and attributes and are worthy of the same homage, confidence and obedience.

2.1 THE FATHER

The Father exists eternally as the Creator of heaven and earth, the Giver of the Law, to whom all things will be subjected, so that He may be all in all.

2.2 THE SON

The Lord Jesus Christ, the eternal and only begotten Son of the Father, is true God and true man. He was conceived of the Holy Spirit, born of the Virgin Mary, and by His sinless life, miracles and teaching, gave full revelation of the Father.

He died upon the cross, the Just for the unjust, as a substitution sacrifice. He rose from the dead. He is now at the right hand of the Majesty on high as our great High Priest. He will come again to establish His kingdom in righteousness and peace.



2.3 THE HOLY SPIRIT

The Holy Spirit is also God, performing actions and possessing the attributes of Deity. His personality is shown by the fact that He has personal characteristics and that individuals may relate to Him as a person.

3. ANGELS

3.1 CLASSIFICATION

Angels were created as intelligent and powerful beings to do the will of God and worship Him. However, Satan, the originator of sin, fell through pride and was followed by those angels who rebelled against God. These fallen angels or demons are active in opposing the purposes of God. Those who remained faithful continue before the throne of God and serve as ministering spirits.

3.2 THE BELIEVER AND DEMONS

Demons attempt to thwart God's purposes; however, in Christ, the believer may have complete liberty from the influence of demons. He cannot be possessed by them because his body is the temple of the Holy Spirit in which Christ dwells as Lord.

4. MAN

Man was originally created in the image and likeness of God. He fell through sin and, as a consequence, incurred both spiritual and physical death. Spiritual death and the depravity of human nature have been transmitted to the entire human race with the exception of the Man Christ Jesus. Man can be saved only through the atoning work of the Lord Jesus Christ.

5. SALVATION

5.1 ATONEMENT OF CHRIST

Salvation has been provided for all men through the sacrifice of Christ upon the cross. It is the only perfect redemption and substitution atonement for all the sins of the world, both original and actual. His atoning work has been proven by His resurrection from the dead. Those who repent and believe in Christ are born again of the Holy Spirit and receive eternal life. Furthermore, in the atonement, divine healing was provided for all believers.

5.2 REPENTANCE AND FAITH

Man can be born again only through faith in Christ. Repentance, a vital part of believing, is a complete change of mind wrought by the Holy Spirit, turning a person to God from sin.

5.3 REGENERATION

Regeneration is a creative work of the Holy Spirit by which man is born again and receives spiritual life.

5.4 JUSTIFICATION

Justification is a judicial act of God by which the sinner is declared righteous solely on the basis of his acceptance of Christ as Saviour.



6. THE CHRISTIAN EXPERIENCE

6.1 ASSURANCE

Assurance of salvation is the privilege of all who are born again by the Spirit through faith in Christ, resulting in love, gratitude and obedience toward God.

6.2 SANCTIFICATION

Sanctification is dedication to God and separation from evil. In experience it is both instantaneous and progressive. It is produced in the life of the believer by his appropriation of the power of Christ's blood and risen life through the person of the Holy Spirit. He draws the believer's attention to Christ, teaches him through the Word and produces the character of Christ within him. Believers who sin must repent and seek forgiveness through faith in the cleansing blood of Jesus Christ.

6.3 BAPTISM IN THE HOLY SPIRIT

The baptism in the Holy Spirit is an experience in which the believer yields control of himself to the Holy Spirit. Through this he comes to know Christ in a more intimate way, and receives power to witness and grow spiritually. Believers should earnestly seek the baptism in the Holy Spirit according to the command of our Lord Jesus Christ. This experience is distinct from, and subsequent to, the experience of the new birth. Prayer for the baptism with the Holy Spirit is encouraged and practiced.

6.4 THE GIFTS OF THE SPIRIT

The gifts of the Spirit are supernatural abilities given by God through the exercising of which believers are enabled to minister effectively and directly in particular situations. They serve the dual function of building up the church, and of demonstrating the presence of God within His church.

6.5 DIVINE HEALING

Divine healing provided in the atonement of Christ is the privilege of all believers. Prayer for the sick and gifts of healing are encouraged and practiced.

7. THE CHURCH

7.1 THE UNIVERSAL CHURCH

All who are born again are members of the universal church, which is the Body and Bride of Christ.

7.2 THE LOCAL CHURCH

7.2.1 PURPOSE

The local church is a body of believers in Christ who have joined together to function as a part of the universal church. The local church is ordained by God and provides a context in which believers corporately worship God, observe the ordinances of the church, are instructed in the faith and are equipped for the evangelization of the world.



7.2.2 ORDINANCES

7.2.2.1 THE LORD'S SUPPER

The Lord's Supper is a symbol, memorial and proclamation of the suffering and death of our Lord Jesus Christ. This ordinance of communion is to be participated in by believers until Christ's return.

7.2.2.2 WATER BAPTISM

Water baptism signifies the believer's identification with Christ in His death, burial and resurrection and is practiced by immersion.

7.2.3 MINISTRY

A divinely called and ordained ministry is the provision of the Lord to give leadership to the church as it fulfills its purposes.

8. THE END OF TIME

8.1 THE PRESENT STATE OF THE DEAD

At death the souls of the believers pass immediately into the presence of Christ, and these remain in constant bliss until the resurrection of the glorified body. The souls of the unbelievers remain after death conscious of condemnation until the final bodily resurrection and judgment of the unjust.

THE RAPTURE

The rapture, the blessed hope of the church, is the imminent coming of the Lord in the air to receive to Himself His own, both the living who shall be transformed, and the dead in Christ who shall be resurrected. Believers then will appear before the judgment seat of Christ to be judged according to faithfulness in Christian service.

8.3 THE TRIBULATION

The tribulation will be a time of judgment on the whole earth. During this period the Antichrist will emerge to offer false hope to the nations.

8.4 THE SECOND COMING OF CHRIST

The return of Christ to earth in power and great glory will conclude the great tribulation with the victory at Armageddon, the defeat of Antichrist and the binding of Satan. Christ will introduce the millennial age, restore Israel to her own land, lift the curse which now rests upon the whole creation, and bring the whole world to the knowledge of God.

8.5 THE FINAL JUDGMENT

There will be a final judgment in which the unbelieving dead will be raised and judged at the great white throne, according to their works. The beast and false prophet, the devil and his angels, and whoever is not found in the Book of Life, shall be cast into the lake of fire, not to annihilation but to everlasting punishment, which is the second death.



8.6 THE ETERNAL STATE OF THE RIGHTEOUS

The righteous will share the glory of God in the new heaven and the new earth for eternity.

9. POSITIONS

9.1 MARRIAGE AND THE FAMILY

Marriage is a provision of God whereby one man and one woman to the exclusion of all others enter into a lifelong relationship through a marriage ceremony that is recognized by the church and legally sanctioned by the province.

Marriage establishes a “one-flesh” relationship that goes beyond a physical union, and is more than either a temporary relationship of convenience intended to provide personal pleasure or a contract that binds two people together in a legal partnership. Marriage establishes an emotional and spiritual oneness that enables both partners to respond to the spiritual, physical and social needs of the other. It provides the biblical context for the procreation of children.

Marriage is to be an exclusive relationship that is maintained in purity. It is intended by God to be a permanent relationship. It is a witness to the world of the relationship between Christ and His church.

Marriage requires a commitment of love, perseverance and faith. Because of its sanctity and permanence, marriage should be treated with seriousness and entered into only after counsel and prayer for God’s guidance. Christians should marry only those who are believers. An individual who becomes a believer after marriage should remain with his or her partner in peace, and should give witness to the Gospel in the home.

The Bible holds family life as a position of trust and responsibility. The home is a stabilizing force in society, a place of nurture, counsel, and safety for children.

Marriage can only be broken by porneia, which is understood as marital unfaithfulness involving adultery, homosexuality, or incest. While the Scriptures give evidence that the marriage vow and “one-flesh” union are broken by such acts, and therefore do recognize the breaking of the marriage relationship, the Scriptures do recommend that the most desirable option would be reconciliation.

9.2 DIVORCE

We believe that divorce is not God’s intention. It is God’s concession to the “hardness of men’s hearts.” We, therefore, discourage divorce by all lawful means and teaching. Our objective is reconciliation and the healing of the marriage union where possible. Jesus gives one explicit cause for the dissolution of marriage: porneia or marital unfaithfulness. Where all attempts at reconciliation have failed and a divorce has been finalized, we extend Christ’s love and compassion.

9.3 REMARRIAGE

Remarriage is the union, legally sanctioned by the province, of one man and one woman to the exclusion of all others, one or both of whom have been previously married.



9.4 TITHING

Tithing was divinely instituted by God under the old covenant and was compulsory upon the people who worshiped God. Under the new covenant we are not bound by arbitrary laws; but the principles of right and wrong, as expressed by the law, are fulfilled in the believer's life through grace. Grace should produce as much as, or more than, law demanded.

Regular systematic giving is clearly taught in the New Testament. It is known as the grace of giving. The gauge or rule of this systematic giving is defined in the Old Testament, known as the law of tithing or ten percent (10%) of one's income. All Christians should conscientiously and systematically tithe their income to God through their home church.

10. PRACTICES

Practices include:

- (a) Dedication of children;
- (b) Prayer for the Baptism with the Holy Spirit;
- (c) Prayer for the sick;
- (d) Christian marriage (as outlined above in section 9); and
- (e) Christian burial of the dead

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