

**CONSTITUTION AND BYLAWS OF
THE BRIDGE CHURCH, INC.
ONSET, MA
Amended 2/10/2018**

PREAMBLE

For the purpose of establishing and maintaining a place for the worship of Almighty God, our Heavenly Father; to provide for Christian fellowship for those of like precious faith, where the Holy Ghost may be honored according to our distinctive testimony; to assume our share of responsibility and the privilege of propagating the gospel of Jesus Christ by all available means, both at home and in foreign lands; we, whose names appear on the assembly roster (see attached) do hereby recognize ourselves as a local assembly in fellowship with and a part of The General Council of the Assemblies of God, and of the Southern New England District Council of the Assemblies of God; and declare that we hereby adopt the following articles of church order this February 21st, the year of our Lord 1996, these to supplement the articles of incorporation and to supersede any and all other rules of church order.

CONSTITUTION

ARTICLE I. NAME

The name of this church shall be THE BRIDGE CHURCH, of the town of Onset, state of Massachusetts.

ARTICLE II. PREROGATIVES

Section 1. This Assemblies of God church shall have 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," (Eph. 4:3,13)

Section 2. In the connection therewith, or incidental thereto, it shall have the right to purchase or quire by gift, bequest, or otherwise, either directly or as trustee, and to own, hold in trust, use, sell, convey, mortgage, lease, or otherwise dispose of any real estate or chattels as many be necessary for the furtherance of its purposes; all in accordance with its constitution and bylaws or as the same may be hereafter amended.

ARTICLE III. AFFILIATION and RELATIONSHIP

This assembly declares itself to be voluntarily in full cooperative fellowship with all other churches affiliated with the Southern New England District Council, and the General Council of the Assemblies of God, with the headquarters in Springfield, Missouri; and shares in the privilege and assumes the responsibilities enjoined by this affiliation.

- A. As a member of the General Council, this assembly agrees to:
1. Cooperate by every possible means in extension of God's work and kingdom through the world.
 2. Support the missionary program agreed upon by the District and General Councils.
 3. Participate in District and General Council sessions via duly chosen delegates.
 4. Invite the counsel of the district officary in the event of church difficulty and when changing pastors.
 5. Share iin support of the District and General Council. [see General Council Bylaws, Article XVIII, Section 1c(2), and Section 2.]
 6. Recognize that the council or the General Council of the Assemblies of God shall have the right and authority to:
- B. Approve scriptural doctrine and conduct;
- C. Disapprove unscriptural doctrine and conduct, as stated in Article III, paragraph f., of the Council constitution; and
- D. Withdraw its certificate of membership if deemed necessary.

ARTICLE IV. TENETS OF FAITH

This assembly shall accept the Holy Scriptures as the revealed will of God, the all sufficient rule for faith and practice and for the purpose of maintaining general unity, adopts the Statement of Fundamental Truths approved by the General Council of the Assemblies of God.

1. The Scriptures Inspired

The Scriptures, both the Old and New Testaments are verbally inspired of God and are the revelation of God to man, the infallible, authoritative rule of faith and conduct. 2 Tim. 3:15-17; 1 Thess. 2:13

2. The One True God

The one true God has revealed Himself as the eternally self-existent "I AM," the Creator of heaven and earth and the redeemer of mankind. He has further revealed Himself as embodying the principles of relationship and association as Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Isa. 43:10-11; Matt. 28:19; Luke 3:22

3. The Deity of the Lord Jesus Christ

The Lord Jesus Christ is the eternal Son of God. The Scriptures declare:

- A) His virgin birth Matt. 1:23; Luke 1:31,35
- B) His sinless life Heb. 7:26; 1 Pet. 2:22
- C) His miracles Acts 2:22; 10:38
- D) His substitutionary work on the cross 1 Cor. 15:3, 5:21
- E) His bodily resurrection from the dead Matt. 28:6; Luke 24:39; 1 Cor. 15:4
- F) His exaltation to the right hand of God Acts 1:9,11, 2:33; Phil. 2:9-11; Heb. 1:3.

4. The fall of Man

Man was created good and upright, for God said, "Let us make man in our image, in our likeness," However, man by voluntary transgressions fell, and thereby incurred not only physical death, but also spiritual death, which is separation from God. Gen. 1:26, 2:17, 3:6; Rom. 5:12-19

5. The Salvation of Man

Man's only hope of redemption is through the shed of Jesus Christ the Son of God.

A) Conditions of Salvation

Salvation is received through repentance toward God and faith toward the Lord Jesus Christ By the washing of regeneration and renewing of the Holy Ghost, being justified by grace through faith, man becomes an heir of God according to the hope of eternal life. Luke 24:47; John 3:3; Rom. 10:13-15; Eph. 2:8; Titus 2:11. 3:5-7

B) HOLY EVIDENCES OF SALVATION

THE INWARD EVIDENCE OF salvation is the direct witness of the spirit. Rom. 8:16. The outward evidence to all men is a life of righteousness and true holiness. Eph. 4:24; Titus 2:12.

6. The Ordinances of the Church

A) Baptism in Water

The ordinance of baptism by immersion is commanded in the Scriptures. All who repent and believe on Christ as Savior and Lord are to be baptised. Thus they declare to the world that they have died with Christ and that they also have been raised with him to walk in newness of life. Matt. 28:19; Mark 16:16; Acts 10:47-48; Rom. 6:4

B) Holy Communion

The Lord's supper, consisting of the elements- bread and the fruit of the vine- is the symbol expressing our sharing the divine nature of our Lord Jesus Christ. 2 Pet. 1:4; A memorial of His suffering and death, 1 Cor. 11:26; And a prophecy His second coming, 1 Cor. 11:26; And is enjoined on all believers (till He come!)

7. The Baptism in the Holy Ghost

All believers are entitled to and should ardently expect and earnestly seek the promise of the Father, the baptism in the Holy Ghost and fire, according to the command in our Lord Jesus Christ. This was the normal experience of all in the early Christian Church. With it comes the endowment of power for life and service, the bestowment of the gifts and their uses in the work of the ministry. Luke 24:49; Acts 1:4,8; 1 Cor. 12:1-31. This experience is distinct from and from sequent to the experience of the new birth. Acts 8:12-17, 10:44-46, 11:14-16 fullness of the spirit, John 7:37-39; Acts 4:80; a deepened reverence for God Acts 2:43; Heb. 12:28, and intensified consecration to God and dedication to His work, Acts 2:42 and a more active love for Christ, for His Word and for the lost, Mark 16:20

8. The Evidence of the Baptism in the Holy Ghost

The baptism of believers in the Holy Ghost is witnessed by the initial physical sign of speaking in tongues as the Spirit of God gives them utterance, Acts 2:4. The speaking in tongues in this instance is the same in essence as the gift of tongues, 1 Cor, 12:4-10, 28, but different in purpose and use.

9. Sanctification

Sanctification is an act of separation in which is evil and of dedication unto God. Rom. 12:1-2; 1 Thess. 5:23; Heb. 13:12, The scriptures teach a life of (holiness without which no man shall see the Lord). Heb. 12:14. By the power of the Holy Ghost we are able to obey the command: (be ye holy, for I am holy). 1 Pet. 15-16. Sanctification is realized in the believer by recognizing his identification with Christ in his death and resurrection and by faith reckoning daily upon the fact of the union and by offering every faculty continually to the dominion of the Holy Spirit. Rom. 6:1-11, 13,8:1-2,13; Gal. 2:20; Phil. 2:12-13; 1 Pet. 1:5.

10. The Church and Its Mission

The church is the body of Christ, the habitation of God through the spirit, with divine appointments for the fulfillment of her great commission. Each believer, born of the spirit, is an integral part of the General Assembly and church of the Firstborn which are written in heaven. Eph. 1:22-23, 2:22; Heb. 12:23. Since God's purpose concerning man is to seek and to save that which is lost, to be worshiped by man and to build a body of believers in the image of his son, the priority reason for being of the church is:

- A. To be an agency of God for evangelizing the world, Acts 1:8; Matt. 28:19-20; Mark 16:15-16
- B. To be a corporate body, in which man may worship God, 1 Cor.12:13.
- C. To be a channel of God's purpose to build a body of saints, being perfected in the image of His son, Eph. 4:11-16; 1 Cor 12:28, 14:12.

The Bridge Church exists expressively to give continuing emphasis to this reason for being in the new testament apostolic pattern by teaching and encouraging believers to be baptised in the holy spirit. This experience:

- A. Enables them to evangelize in the power of the spirit with accompanying supernatural signs, Mark 16:15-20; Acts 4:29-31; Heb. 2: 3-4.
- B. Adds a necessary dimension to worshipful relationship with God, 1 Cor. 2:10-16, 12:13-14
- C. Enables them to respond to the full working of the Holy Spirit in expression of fruit and gifts and ministries as in New Testament times for the edifying of the body of Christ, Gal. 5:22-26; 1 Cor. 12:38; Col. 1:29.

11. The Ministry

A divinely called and scripturally ordained ministry has been provided by our Lord for the threefold purpose of leading the Church in:

- (1) Evangelization of the world - Mark 16:15-20. (2) Worship of God - John 4:23-24, (3) Building a body of saints being perfected in the image of his Son - Eph. 4:11-16.

12. Divine Healing

Divine healing is an integral part of the gospel. Deliverance from sickness is provided for in the atonement and is the privilege of all believers. Isa. 53:4-5; Matt. 8:16; James 5:24-26.

13. The Blessed Hope

The resurrection of those who have fallen asleep in Christ and their translation together with those who are alive and remain unto the coming of the lord is the imminent and blessed hope of the Church. 1 Thess. 4:16-17; Rom. 8:23; Titus 2:13; 1 Cor. 15:51-52.

14. The Millennial Reign of Christ

The second coming of Christ includes the rapture of the saints, which is our blessed hope, followed by the visible return of Christ with his saints to reign on the earth for one thousand years. Zech. 14:5; Matt. 24:27,30; Rev. 1:7, 19:11-14. 20:1-6. This millennial reign will bring the salvation of national Israel. Ezek. 37:21-22; Zeph. 3:19-20; Rom. 11:26-27, and the establishment of universal peace, Isa. 11:6-9; Psa. 72:3-8; Micah 4:3-4.

15. The Final Judgement

There will be final judgment in which the wicked dead will be raised and judged according to their works. Whosoever is not found written in the Book of life, together with the devil and his angels, the beast and the false prophet will consigned to everlasting punishment in the lake which burneth with fire and brimstone, which is the second death.

Matt. 25:46; Mark 9:43-48; Rev. 19:20, 20:11-15, 21:8.

16. The New Heavens and the New Earth

"We according to his promise, look for the new heavens and new earth, wherein dwelleth righteousness." 2 Pet. 3:13; Rev 21:22.

Article V. ORDINANCES

Section 1. Water Baptism: The ordinance of Baptism by immersion in water (Matt. 28:19) shall be administered to all those who have repented of their sins and who have believed on the Lord Jesus Christ to the saving of their souls, and who give clear evidence of their salvation. Rom. 6:3-5; Col. 2:12.

Section 2. Communion: The ordinance of the Lord's Supper shall be observed regularly as enjoined in the Scriptures. Luke 22:19-20; 1 Cor. 11:23-26.

Article VI. MEMBERSHIP

Section 1. Membership Eligibility: Membership in this assembly shall be open to all who give evidence of their faith in the Lord Jesus Christ, and who voluntarily subscribe to its tenets of faith and agree to be governed by hits constitution and bylaws as herein set forth.

Section 2. Voting Membership: All those who meet the scriptural standards for membership, whose names appeared on the original membership roll of the assembly at the time the assembly was first organized, together with those names that shall be added from time to time, shall constitute the legal voting membership of the assembly, provided they are 18 years of age or over, that they regularly attend and take part in the services, that they are living consistent Christian lives and are in agreement with our distinctive testimony.

Membership shall be available for young people under 18 years of age who give evidence of the new birth, having received Christ as a personal Savior, and who meet the other qualifications for membership established by this assembly. They shall have voting privilege at 18 years of age.

Section 3. Inactive Membership: Enrolled members who shall absent themselves from the services of the assembly for a period of three consecutive months or more, or who cease to contribute of their means to its support, or who may be out of harmony with its teachings, or who shall be under charges of misconducts, or who may have fallen under condemnation through sinful or worldly practices, shall be considered as inactive members and their standing to be settled by the definite action of the assembly through its elected officers.

Section 4. Honorary Members: Honorary members shall consist of those members who have entered the ministry as district officers, pastors, evangelists, missionaries, religious educators, or those serving in the Armed Service, making it impossible to serve as active members. Honorary membership recognition shall continue as long as the member maintains a consistent Christian life, remains sound in doctrine, and maintains a cooperative attitude toward the home assembly. (Voting privilege may be granted at the discretion of the assembly).

Section 5. Associate Members: The board of deacons shall be authorized to make provisions for associate (non-voting) members when such persons may have to be absent from their home assembly for prolonged periods of time, such as attending college in the city where this church is located.

ARTICLE VII. OFFICERS

The officers of the church shall consist of the pastor and the church board (Deacons/Trustees).

ARTICLE VIII. MEETINGS

Section 1. Meetings for public worship shall be held on each Lord's Day, and during the week, as may be provided for under the direction of the direction of the Pastor and the board of deacons.

Section 2. There shall be an annual business meeting of the assembly, at which time, the election of officers shall take place and the report of all officers shall be presented. This meeting shall be held in the month of February, the time and place to be announced by the pastor. Due notice shall be given on the two Sundays immediately prior to the date of said meeting.

Section 3. Special business meetings of the assembly may be called when necessary, after proper notice has been given by the pastor or by the secretary of the assembly, provided the meeting has been agreed upon by a majority of the board of deacons. Special meetings may also be called by petition having been signed by not less than one-third of the active membership of the assembly, the petition to be placed in the hands of the pastor or the secretary, and announcement made on the two Sundays immediately prior to the date of meeting. However, before the right of petition is exercised, the church should request the help of district officiate.

Section 4. Quorum: No record of any special or regular business meeting of the assembly shall be made unless one-third or more active members shall be present to constitute a quorum.

Section 5: The board, with the pastor, shall meet monthly for the transaction of routine business for the assembly, time and place to be announced by the pastor.

ARTICLE IX: FINANCES

All funds for the maintenance of the assembly shall be provided by the tithes and offerings of the members and friends of the organization. Offerings shall be accepted by the assembly at such times and in such ways as agreed upon by the pastor and the Board of Deacons, and shall be administered by the treasurer under the direction (Malachi 3:10; Luke 6:38; 1 Corinthians 16: 1-2; 2 Corinthians 9:6-8).

ARTICLE X: PROPERTY

Section 1. All property of the assembly shall be deeded to the assembly and held in its name.

Section 2. In the event defection shall occur from tenets of faith of this church as the same are stated in the Statement of Fundamental Truths in the Constitution of the General Council of the Assemblies of God, or from affiliation with the General Council of the Assemblies of God, any portion of the membership with The Bridge Church shall retain possession of, and title to, all properties of said church with full rights thereto as provided in it's constitution and by laws.

Section 3. In the event this church shall cease to function for the purposed as declared heretofore in its Articles of Agreement and/or the Articles of its Constitution, then after providing for the payment of its debt, the remaining assets will not inure to the benefit of any private person or persons, but all such remaining assets shall revert to, and be, and be transferred to, the parent body The General Council of the Assemblies of God , a Missouri Corporation with headquarters at Springfield, Missouri. The General Council of the Assemblies of God shall have full authority to sell such property and to use the proceeds derived therefrom for the extension of the work of the Assemblies of God within the Southern New England District and under the direction of the Assemblies of God within the Southern New England District and under the direction of the presbytery of said district. In the event of cessation of this church, its board shall within 1 year thereafter transfer all properties and any remaining assets to the General Council of the Assemblies of God shall be unable or unwilling to accept the aforesaid transfer as an organization operated exclusively for religious purpose with tax-exempt status under Section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code, then disposition thereof shall be made by the court of the country in which this church is located, provided that in such case proceeds of the dissolution shall be distributed to an organization or organizations having purposed nearest the purpose of the General Council of the Assemblies of God, and which are organized and operated exclusively for religious purposes, and which have established tax-exempt status under Section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code.

ARTICLE II: AMENDMENTS

This Constitution may be amended by a two-thirds vote of the membership of the assembly in attendance at any regular or special meeting called for that purpose, provided due notice of such proposed change shall have been made at all the services on at least two consecutive Sundays immediately prior to the time of such meeting. It shall be understood that this does not apply to the Article of Faith, which stands regardless of majority.

BY LAWS

ARTICLE I. GOVERNMENT

Section 1. The Church Board

- A. In General
 - B. The government of this assembly shall be vested in the Church Board which shall consist of the pastor and at least three Church Board members, to the extent that such authority is not limited by district supervision as provided for under the bylaws of the District Council
- B. Duties of Church Board
1. The Church Board shall have general change and management of the affairs, funds, and property of the assembly, The Church Board shall have the authority to carry out the purposes of the assembly according to its character and these bylaws. Church Board members shall act as Deacons/Trustees of the assembly.
 2. The Church Board shall act in the examination of applications for membership and in the administration of discipline.
 3. For so long as the church is temporarily without a pastor, the remaining members of the Church Board shall be empowered to select a temporary chairman of the Church Board.
 4. The Church Board shall elect a secretary from among the church board members.
 5. The Church Board shall elect a treasurer from among the active voting members who meet the qualifications for each office.
 6. The Pastor shall appoint a missions coordinator from among the active voting members. This appointment shall be ratified by the Church Board.

Section 2. Officers

A. In General

There shall be a president, secretary, treasurer, and missions coordinator. The Church Board members will serve as trustees and deacons. The lead pastor, by virtue of office, shall be the president and chairman of the Church Board.

B. Qualifications

1. Pastor

The pastor shall be in good standing with both the General Council of the Assemblies of God and the Southern New England Ministry Network, holding a current fellowship card.

2. Secretary

The secretary shall be an active voting member of this assembly for at least one year immediately preceding election to office, and shall be a member of the Church Board.

3. Treasurer

The treasurer shall be an active voting member of this assembly for at least one year preceding election to office, and shall currently support the church with tithes and offering, and shall have a cooperative spirit, and shall be faithful in attendance at church services.

4. Missions Coordinator

The missions coordinator shall be an active voting member of this assembly for at least one year preceding the appointment. The missions coordinator must meet requirements of a church board member to be considered and ratified. Missions Coordinator shall serve at the Pastor's direction. (No Defined Term Limit)

C. Duties of Officers

1. Pastor

- A. Shall be the spiritual overseer of the assembly and shall direct its activities.
- B. Shall be recognized as a member of the Church Board, president of the assembly, and shall act as chairman of all the business meetings of the assembly and of the Church Board.
- C. Shall provide for all services of the assembly and shall specifically arrange for all special meetings, conventions, and revival campaigns, No person shall be invited to speak or preach in the assembly without his approval.
- D. Shall, as chairman of the Church Board, be chairman of the nominating committee for the selection of Church Board member nominees. The pastor shall ascertain their eligibility and availability to serve as Church Board members.
- E. Shall be an ex officio member of all committees.
- F. The pastor may appoint an Elder Board at his/her discretion for the administration of the spiritual functions of the assembly.

2. Secretary

- A. Shall keep the minutes of the official meeting of the Church Board and of the annual and special business meetings of the assembly.
- B. Shall keep a record of the membership of the assembly and perform any other clerical work necessary to the proper discharge of his duties.
- C. Shall be the custodian of all legal documents.
- D. Shall file such annual corporation reports with the secretary of state as may be required by state law.

3. Treasurer

- A. Shall be entrusted with all the finances of the assembly, subject to the supervisor of the Church Board, and shall deposit all funds in bank and/or investment accounts in the name of the assembly.
- B. Shall keep an itemized account of receipts and disbursements, shall present a report for each regular meeting of the Church Board, and shall present an annual report to the assembly in its annual business meeting.
- C. Shall assist the assembly in acquiring and maintaining available tax exemptions under state and local law.
- D. Shall provide a record of all identified giving to each donor at least annually.
- E. Shall be the custodian of all the financial records of the church.

4. Missions Coordinator

- A. Shall be entrusted with maintaining communication with missionaries supported by the assembly.
- B. Shall present missionaries to the church board for support consideration.
- C. Shall work with the pastor to develop relationship and foster an attitude of giving in the assembly.
- D. Shall communicate with the assembly on a regular basis regarding missionaries and their work in the field.

Section 3. Qualifications of Church Board Members

The Church Board members shall be persons of mature Christian experience and knowledge, who shall be expected to meet the requirements set forth in Acts 6:1-7. Church Board members shall be at least 23 years old, and shall have been members of the assembly for at least one year. They shall currently support the church with their tithes and offerings, regularly attend church services and shall serve in an advisory and supportive role under the leadership of the Pastor. No two immediate family members (Board member's spouse, sibling, children;s spouse) may serve on the Church Board at the same time.

Section 4. Fiduciary Duties

The law imposes several fiduciary duties on officers and Church Board members serving as trustees, including the duties of due care and diligence, loyalty, avoidance of self-dealing, expending designated contributions for the purposes specified , and not commingling personal and corporate funds.

Section 5. Temporary Church Board

Should irreconcilable differences arise between the pastor and other members of the Church Board, destroying the unity and the successful ministry of the local assembly, the District Executive Presbytery along with the sectional presbyter (the investigating committee), upon request from the pastor or a majority of the Church Board members, shall investigate such differences. Upon a two-thirds majority vote of the investigating committee the may declare the church under District supervision. The term "District supervision" means that the investigating committee has the authority to : (1) suspend the constitution and bylaws of the church, (2) suspend the Church board, (3) reclassify the church as a District Council affiliated church, and (4) appoint and establish a temporary Church Board invested with the authority to manage both the secular and the ecclesiastical affairs of the church until such strife shall cease.

If the pastor is also the sectional presbyter, the assistant presbyter shall be a member of the investigating committee in his place.

ARTICLE II. ELECTIONS, VACANCIES, AND REMOVALS

Section 1. Elections

A. Pastor

1. The Pastor shall be nominated by the Church Board Recommendation may be made to the Church Board by any member of the assembly
- 2.The pastor shall be elected to serve for an indefinite period of time
3. Election shall be by secret ballot at the annual business meeting of the assembly or at a special business meeting called for that purpose. Only one candidate shall be considered at a time.
4. A two-thirds majority vote of all votes cast shall be required to constitute an election
5. In the event a member or members of the assembly shall challenge the validity of an election, the validity of the election shall be arbitrated by the District Executive Presbytery, or any three persons of its choice, and its decision shall be final.

B. Secretary

The secretary shall be elected by the Church Board from among its members. Th term of office shall be one year, and the secretary may serve consecutive terms without limitations.

C. Treasurer

The treasurer shall be elected by the Church Board from among the active voting members of the assembly. The term of office shall be one year, and the treasurer may serve consecutive terms without limitation.

D. Church Board Members

Church Board Members shall be nominated by a the current church board. The Pastor shall appoint Church Board members from the nominations submitted by the Board. Active voting members of the assembly shall ratify the Pastor's appointment at the annual business meeting (or other properly scheduled meeting). Church Board members shall be appointed for a 3-year term, and shall hold office until the annual business meeting at which their staggered appropriately.

Section 2. Vacancies and Removals

A. Pastor

In the event a pastor has serious charges preferred against them or their ministry has ceased to be effective, and no provision has been made for the termination of their ministry, responsibility is vested in the Church Board to ask for the resignation of the pastor at any of its regular business meetings. If such resignation is refused, the pastorate shall not be considered vacant until the action of the Church Board has been sustained by a majority vote of the membership present and voting at a meeting called for the purpose, such meeting to be presided over by a district officer. When a vacancy in the office of the pastor shall occur, a temporary replacement shall be arranged for by the Church Board until a pastor shall be chosen as prescribed in Article III, section 1A. The counsel of the District Superintendent or will be sought. When a pastor's credentials are withdrawn by the District or General Council, the pastor's term of office shall be automatically terminated.

B. Secretary and Treasurer: The offices of secretary and treasurer shall be vacant upon the expiration of the term of office, or upon the termination of the officer's active membership, whichever shall occur first.

C. Church Board Members

The office of Church Board member shall be vacant upon the expiration of the term of office, or upon the termination of a Church Board member's active membership, whichever shall occur first.

D. In General

Any officer or position of leadership in the church (other than that of the pastor) may be terminated by a majority vote of the active members present and voting as a special business meeting called for the limited purpose of removal of such member from office or position of leadership which he held.

E. Filling Vacancies

Any office or position of leadership in the church (other than that of pastor) may be filled by appointment of the Church Board for the unexpired term.

Article III. Membership

Section 1. The Standard of Membership: The standard of this assembly shall be: Evidence of a genuine experience in regeneration (the new birth) - John 1:12-13; 3:3-8, 1 Pet. 1:18-25; evidence of a consistent Christian life - Rom. 6:4, 8:1-4, 13;13=14; Eph. 4:17-32, 5:1-2,15; 1 John 1:6-7, to fully subscribe to the tenets of faith as set forth in Article IV of the Constitution: and willingness to contribute regularly to the support of the assembly according to his or her ability.

Section 2, Reception of Members:

(A) Person desiring to become active members of the assembly shall make the fact known to the pastor, who shall exercise the applicant according to the standard for membership.

- (B) The pastor shall present the names of those who apply for membership with his recommendation to the board of deacons who shall act upon said recommendation and render a final decision. All persons who shall have met the membership requirements and have been approved shall be received into the assembly publicly at any of the regular Sunday services and their names inscribed on the roster.

Section 3. Discipline:

- (A) Any member of the assembly who shall willfully absent himself from the regular services for a period of three (3) consecutive months, or who is under charges, shall be temporarily suspended from active voting membership pending investigation and final decision in his case.
- (B) Unscriptural conduct or departure from the tenets of faith held by this assembly shall be considered sufficient grounds upon which any person may be disqualified as a member. Matt, 18:15-18; Rom,16:17-18; 1 Cor. 5:11; Gal:1:8-9; Titus 3:1-15.

Section 4: Members in good standing, who may wish to sever their relationship with the assembly, or who may desire to be transferred to some other congregation, may apply to the secretary for a letter to be signed by the pastor and the secretary of the assembly.

Section 5. The pastor and board of deacon shall be authorized to revise the membership roll of the assembly annually, and to remove from the list of active members all the names of those who may have withdrawn from the fellowship, or who may have fallen into sin and whose lives may have become inconsistent with the standards and teachings of the assembly. The following rules and instructions shall be observed as occasion may require, Matt, 18:15-17; Rom. 16:17-18; 1 Cor. 5:1-5; 2 Thess. 3:6-15. If a name is removed for cause, the one whose name is removed shall be notified of the board of deacons for reconsideration of their action and reinstatement is not granted, the dismissed member may appeal to the congregation. The action of the assembly by a majority vote shall be considered final.

Article IV. Sunday School

The pastor shall appoint the superintendent of the Sunday School from among the members of the Church, this action to be ratified by the church. The pastor and the Sunday school superintendent shall have the right to appoint all officers, teachers, and other workers of the Sunday school and, in consultation with the workers of the school, determine all policies and programs of the school.

Article V. Christ's Ambassadors

- A. Christ's Ambassadors organization may be formed. It shall be under the general supervision of the pastor and the board of deacons and shall be conducted as a branch of the activities of the assembly.

Article VI. Finances

Section 1. The board of deacons shall determine all salaries and shall have general oversight in all financial matters in every department of the assembly. An annual report shall be sent to the District Office.

Section 2/ The pastor shall be given regular and adequate financial support, the amount and matter to be determined by the board of deacons.

Section 3. It is required that one percent of the general income of this assembly is sent to the District Office on a monthly or quarterly basis.

Article VII. Property Rights

Section 1, All property, real or chattel, shall be taken, held, sold, transferred, or conveyed in the corporate name of the Assembly, or if the Assembly is not incorporated, in the name of the district.

Section 2. No real or chattel property of the Assembly shall be sold, leased, or mortgaged, or otherwise alienated without the same having first been authorized by a vote of at least two-thirds of the voting membership who are in attendance at a regular or special meeting of the assembly which has been called for the consideration of the proposal,

Section 3. The pastor and the secretary of the Assembly shall certify in such conveyance, lease, or mortgage, that the same has been duly authorized and recommended by the vote of the membership of the Assembly. Such certifications shall be held to be conclusive evidence thereof.

Article VIII. Order of business

The regular order of business for the annual meeting of the assembly shall be as follows:

1. Devotional
2. Reading of previous minutes by secretary
3. Report of Treasurer
4. Report of committees
5. Unfinished business
6. Election of officers
7. New business
8. Adjournment

Article IX. Parliamentary order

In the conducting of its affairs, the church shall be governed by parliamentary procedure as set forth in the current edition of Robert's Rules of Order Newly Revised in keeping with the spirit of Christian love and fellowship.

Article X. Amendments

The Bylaws may be amended at any regular or special business meeting of the Assembly by a two-thirds vote of the membership present, provided due notice of such proposed change shall have been made at all services on at least two consecutive Sundays immediately prior to the time of such meeting.