

Bylaws Of

Fellowship Community Church

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1 Statement of Faith

- 1.1 We, the members of Fellowship Community Church (FCC), believe:
- 1.1.1 The Scriptures, both Old and New Testaments, to be the verbally inspired Word of God, without error in the original writings, the complete revelation of His will for the salvation of men, and the Divine and final authority for all Christian faith and life.
 - 1.1.2 In one God, Creator of all things, infinitely perfect and eternally existing in three persons, Father, Son and Holy Spirit.
 - 1.1.3 That Jesus Christ is true God and true man, having been conceived of the Holy Ghost and born of the Virgin Mary. He died on the cross a sacrifice for our sins according to the Scriptures. Further, he arose bodily from the dead, ascended into heaven, where at the right hand of the Majesty on High, He now is our High Priest and Advocate.
 - 1.1.4 That the ministry of the Holy Spirit is to glorify the Lord Jesus Christ, and during this age to convict men, regenerate the believing sinner, indwell, guide, instruct and empower the believer for Godly living and service.
 - 1.1.5 That man was created in the image of God, but fell into sin and is therefore lost and only through regeneration by the Holy Spirit can salvation and spiritual life be obtained.
 - 1.1.6 That the shed blood of Jesus Christ and His resurrection provide the only ground for justification and salvation for all who believe, and only such as receive Jesus Christ are born of the Holy Spirit and thus become children of God.
 - 1.1.7 That water baptism and the Lord's Supper are ordinances to be observed by FCC during the present age. They are, however, not to be regarded as means of salvation.
 - 1.1.8 That the true Church is composed of all such persons who through saving faith in Jesus Christ have been regenerated by the Holy Spirit and are united together in the body of Christ of which He is the Head.
 - 1.1.9 That only those who are thus members of the true Church shall be eligible for membership in the local church.

- 1.1.10 That Jesus Christ is the Lord and Head of FCC and that every local church has the right under Christ to decide and govern its own affairs.
- 1.1.11 In the personal and premillennial and imminent coming of our Lord Jesus Christ and that this "Blessed Hope" has a vital bearing on the personal life and service of the believer.
- 1.1.12 In the bodily resurrection of the dead; of the believer to everlasting blessedness and joy with the Lord; of the unbeliever to judgment and everlasting conscious punishment.

2 Membership

2.1 Requirements for Membership in FCC

- 2.1.1 Acceptance of Christ – FCC shall receive as members only those who profess to the Board of Elders, or its designated representatives, to have accepted Jesus Christ as their Lord and Savior, and that their salvation is based upon faith in Christ alone. Ephesians 2:8-9
- 2.1.2 Christ's Impact on Lives – Candidates must explain to the Board of Elders, or its designated representatives, how Jesus Christ has changed their lives. James 2:17-18
- 2.1.3 The Statement of Faith – Candidates must express to the Board of Elders, or its designated representatives, their agreement with all points of FCC's Statement of Faith, and agree to live a life that demonstrates such agreement.
- 2.1.4 Unity and Harmony – Candidates must express to the Board of Elders, or its designated representatives, their commitment to live in unity and harmony with other members and attendees with respect to FCC's Statement of Faith.
- 2.1.5 Membership Obligations – Candidates must express to the Board of Elders, or its designated representatives, their willingness to:
 - a. Ministries – actively participate in the ministries of FCC;
 - b. Spiritual Gifts – identify and apply their spiritual gifts to the ministries and needs of FCC;
 - c. Financial Support – provide financial support to FCC in accordance with Biblical principles of giving; and
 - d. Prayer – pray for the ministries of FCC.

2.2 Membership Regulations and Procedures

- 2.2.1 Non-Discrimination – FCC shall accept individuals who meet the requirements for membership in FCC as stated in Section 2.1 of these Bylaws as children of God, equal in God’s grace and mercy. No person shall be excluded from membership because of that person’s sex, race, national or ethnic origin or color.
- 2.2.2 Application – Any person who desires membership in FCC and believes he or she satisfies the requirements for membership as stated in Section 2.1 of these Bylaws shall complete an application for membership for submission to the Board of Elders.
- 2.2.3 Membership Class – Candidates must complete the membership class as specified by the Board of Elders or other membership orientation process as the Board of Elders shall establish from time to time.
- 2.2.4 Interview – The Board of Elders, or its designated representatives, shall examine all candidates for membership in FCC to determine if they satisfy the requirements for membership in FCC as stated in Section 2.1.
- 2.2.5 Non-Compliant Applications – If the Board of Elders, being led by God through prayer, determines that the candidate does not currently meet the requirements for membership in FCC as stated in Section 2.1 of these Bylaws, then that individual’s application for membership shall be rejected. The candidate shall be promptly notified of the Board’s decision.
- 2.2.6 Admittance Procedures – When the Board of Elders is confident a candidate satisfies the requirements for membership as stated in Section 2.1 of these Bylaws, the Board of Elders shall post that candidate’s name publicly for two weeks. Such public posting shall be by inclusion in a written communication to FCC’s members distributed during FCC’s normal weekly services or any other means that the Board of Elders deems appropriate from time to time. Any member of FCC objecting to the admittance of that candidate to membership in FCC must submit to the Board of Elders a written statement of just cause, in accordance with the Word of God, the Articles of Incorporation and these Bylaws of FCC, why that candidate should not be accepted. Taking any such objections into consideration, the Board of Elders shall then determine whether there is just reason to re-evaluate the Board of Elders decision to accept the candidate into membership. If after such reevaluation the Board of Elders determines

that the matter should be investigated further, The Board of Elders shall call the objecting party to meet with the candidate and the Board of Elders to further examine the matter. After such meeting and any other investigation that the Board of Elders shall determine appropriate, the Board of Elders shall determine to approve or reject that candidate for membership in FCC. The candidate shall be promptly notified of the Board's decision.

2.2.7 Presentation and Welcoming – Those who are admitted to membership in FCC shall be formally presented to the congregation and welcomed as members at a regular worship service of FCC.

2.3. Membership Roll

2.3.1 Maintenance – The Board of Elders shall cause the maintenance of a membership roll of FCC.

2.3.2 Currency and Accuracy – The membership roll shall be reviewed by the Board of Elders, or its designated representatives, at least once each year to determine the currency and accuracy of the membership roll.

2.3.3 Removal for Absences – If any member is absent from the ministries of FCC for a period of three months without communicating to FCC an acceptable reason for such absence, the Board of Elders shall ensure that reasonable efforts are made to contact such member, and unless the member has a reason acceptable to the Board of Elders for the absence, the Board of Elders may, at their option, direct that the name of the member be removed from the membership roll and that the member and membership shall be notified of this action.

2.3.4 Voluntary Removal – A member may remove his or her name from the membership roll by submission of a letter of resignation to the Board of Elders of FCC.

2.3.5 Removal upon Death – Upon the death of a member, that member's name shall be removed from the membership roll.

2.3.6 Removal for Disciplinary Reasons – The name of a member may be removed from the membership roll by the Board of Elders as a result of Church Discipline pursuant to Section 2.5 of these Bylaws.

2.4 Junior Members

2.4.1 Age Requirement – Candidates under the age of eighteen shall be received as Junior Members if they meet the requirements for

membership stated in Section 2.1 of these Bylaws.

2.4.2 Non-Voting Member – A Junior Member may not make motions or vote but is encouraged to take part in the discussion at Business Meetings of FCC.

2.4.3 Full Membership – Upon reaching the age of eighteen, a Junior Member shall automatically receive the full rights and privileges of an adult member, including the right to make motions and vote at Business Meetings of FCC.

2.5 Discipline

2.5.1 Biblical Standards – All members of FCC are expected to conduct their lives in accordance with the following standards:

2.5.1.1 Moral Purity – The principles of 1 Corinthians 6:18-20 and 1 Thessalonians 4:1-7 shall be applied with regard to moral purity,

2.5.1.2 Personal Honesty – The principles of Ephesians 4:25 shall be applied with regard to personal honesty, and

2.5.1.3 Biblical Fidelity – The principles of Jude 20-21 and 2 Timothy 3:14-17 shall be applied with regard to biblical fidelity.

2.5.2 Christian Lives – FCC members' lives are to be consistent examples of authentic Christianity as they walk in the light (1 John 1:6-7), emulating the character of Christ by the power of the Holy Spirit (Galatians 5:22-23; Ephesians 5:15-21; 1 Peter 1:5-8).

2.5.3 Accusations – The Board of Elders shall consider no accusation against any member or non-member attendee unless supported by at least two witnesses. 1 Timothy 5:19.

2.5.4 Violations of Standards – If any member or non-member attendee of FCC is found to be willfully living outside the biblical standard stated in Sections 2.5.1 and 2.5.2, or teaching contrary to the Word of God and the Statement of Faith of this church, that member or non-member attendee shall be counseled in a loving manner by a pastor of FCC or a member of the Board of Elders for the purpose of leading the erring individual to repentance and, ultimately, to full restoration. The example set forth in Matthew 18:15-17 shall be followed in a continuing effort to achieve repentance and full restoration. If efforts to

bring repentance and restoration fail, then the Board of Elders will be guided by Scripture with particular emphasis on the following passages of Scripture: 1 Corinthians 5; 2 Corinthians 2:5-11; Galatians 6:1-2.

2.5.5 Suspension of Rights and Privileges – Under the authority and guidance of Scripture, and within the guidelines of Section 2.5, the Board of Elders may discipline members by suspending any or all of their membership rights and privileges for the purpose of restoration and may require other reasonable actions intended in love to bring full restoration. Likewise, the Board of Elders may make reasonable requests of non-member attendees where such requests are to be motivated by love and intended to bring full restoration. If restoration does not otherwise appear to be achievable in the opinion of the Board of Elders, the Board of Elders may require, for the good of FCC and for the ultimate full restoration of the member or non-member attendee to the Body of Christ (1 Cor 5), that the member or non-member attendee cease or limit fellowship with and attendance at FCC events.

2.5.6 Removal of Suspensions – In accordance with Galatians 6:1-10, if the Board of Elders, in its sole discretion, determines that a member or non-member attendee undergoing discipline has been restored, the Board may remove any suspension or other requirements and requests which were imposed under Section 2.5.5.

2.5.7 Rights and Claims – No member of FCC who has had their membership rights suspended or canceled, or who has withdrawn from membership in FCC, shall have any right or claim upon any FCC property, real or personal.

2.6 Membership Requirement for Position of Responsibility – Membership in FCC shall be required of all Ministry Staff, as defined in Article 6 of these Bylaws, elected or appointed corporate officers, committee chairpersons, and those responsible for the assignment of teachers. Exceptions to this requirement may be granted only by a unanimous vote of the Board of Elders. The guiding principal shall be that persons in a position of authority, leadership, and teaching should be members of FCC.

3 Denomination and Local Autonomy

3.1 Denomination – Realizing the necessity and advantage of united effort, and being in general accord with the aim and scope of the Evangelical Free Church of America, FCC endeavors to cooperate with the Evangelical Free Church at large and its various functions that prove to be in accord with the purpose of FCC, as stated in Article V of the Restated Articles of Incorporation (with Amendments) of Fellowship Community Church, by sending delegates to conferences,

supporting home and foreign missions and uniting in mutual effort for the furtherance of the gospel as the Board of Elders may from time to time decide.

- 3.2 Local Autonomy – FCC is, and shall remain, independent and free and shall be in subjection to no other ecclesiastical body, except by its own consent.

4 Business Meetings

4.1 Scheduling

4.1.1 The Annual Business Meeting – The Annual Business Meeting shall be held during the month of February on a date set by the Board of Elders. This business meeting shall be held no earlier than the first Sunday and no later than the last Sunday of February. This meeting shall be announced, and its purpose stated, on two consecutive weeks at all regular worship services and/or by written notice to the membership of FCC. The announcement(s) shall be made no more than one month, nor no less than two weeks, prior to the meeting. At the Annual Business Meeting, members of the Board of Elders shall be elected in accordance with these Bylaws, appropriate committee and staff reports shall be presented, and other business shall be transacted in accordance with the Bylaws of FCC.

4.1.2 Special Business Meetings – Special Business Meetings may be called at any time by the Board of Elders, or by a written request of a minimum of twenty-five percent of FCC members, the request to be presented to the Chairman of the Board of Elders or the Senior Pastor. Upon receipt of such written request, the Board of Elders shall call a Special Business Meeting within thirty (30) days of receipt of such written request. This meeting shall be announced, and its purpose stated, on two consecutive weeks at all regular worship services and/or by written notice to the membership of FCC. The announcement(s) shall be made no less than two weeks prior to the meeting.

4.2. Business Meeting Protocol

4.2.1 Voting Eligibility – Members of FCC eighteen years of age or older shall be eligible to vote.

4.2.2 Parliamentary Procedures – Any parliamentary procedure not set forth herein, including new business matters, shall be governed by the current edition of *Robert's Rules of Order Newly Revised*.

4.2.3 Quorum – The voting members attending any Business Meeting that has been properly announced shall constitute a quorum to conduct

business.

- 4.2.4 Annual Reports and Budget – The Senior Pastor, Board of Elders, and committee chairpersons, along with others specified by the Board of Elders, shall submit to the congregation a written annual report of their respective offices. In addition, the Board of Elders shall submit a budget recommendation for member discussion and approval. All such reports and recommendations shall be included in the minutes of the Annual Business Meeting.
- 4.2.5 Presiding Officer – The Chairman of the Board of Elders shall serve as the presiding officer at all FCC business meetings.
- 4.3 Matters Decided by Membership Vote – Matters pertaining to debt, and matters pertaining to budget and authorization to spend, shall be decided by membership vote at a business meeting. An approved budget shall carry-over on a monthly pro-rata basis until a new budget is approved at a subsequent Business Meeting.

5 Senior Pastor

In order to fulfill its stated purpose, the membership shall select a man to be its Senior Pastor (1 Corinthians 14:33-35; 1 Timothy 2:11-13).

- 5.1 The Selection of a Senior Pastor –
 - 5.1.1 Teacher and Preacher – The Senior Pastor’s primary responsibility shall be the teaching and preaching of God’s Word. Secondary responsibilities shall be established by the Board of Elders.
 - 5.1.2 The Pastoral Search Committee – The Nominating Committee, as defined in Section 8.3 herein, shall recommend a slate of FCC members (who meet the qualifications established by the Board of Elders) to the Board of Elders for consideration as candidates for a Pastoral Search Committee. After reviewing their qualifications, the Board of Elders shall present a tentative list of names of those qualified as candidates to the membership of FCC in a written communication. This communication shall be distributed during FCC’s normal weekly services, or by any other means deemed appropriate by the Board of Elders. Any member of FCC objecting to a candidate’s inclusion on the list must give to a member of the Board of Elders a written statement as to why such candidate should not be presented for election. The Board of Elders, being lead by God through prayer, shall determine whether the objection warrants the removal of that candidate’s name from the list, and if so, that candidate’s name shall be removed. Once there are no further objections, the Board of Elders

shall present the final list of names to the membership at a Business Meeting.

- 5.1.3 Election to the Pastoral Search Committee – The membership shall elect six candidates from the list described in Section 5.1.2 to serve on the Pastoral Search Committee. The Board of Elders shall appoint one of its members to also serve on the Pastoral Search Committee.
- 5.1.4 List of Applicants for Senior Pastor – The Pastoral Search Committee shall determine a process for obtaining applications and nominations for Senior Pastor of FCC and shall screen all applications and nominations for the position of Senior Pastor obtained through that process and develop a list of qualified applicants following the guidelines established by the Board of Elders.
- 5.1.5 Membership in the Ministerial Association – Qualified applicants for Senior Pastor must be a member of, or willing and qualified to become a member of, the Ministerial Association of the Evangelical Free Church of America. Any qualified applicant not currently a member of the Ministerial Association must agree to become a member as soon as possible in the event he is selected and accepts the position of Senior Pastor.
- 5.1.6 Recommendation to the Board of Elders – The Pastoral Search Committee shall select a final candidate from the qualified applicants and present its recommendation to the Board of Elders. If the Board of Elders does not concur with the Pastoral Search Committee’s recommendation, the Board of Elders shall instruct the Pastoral Search Committee to reconsider its recommendation, and, after due deliberation, to recommend another candidate.
- 5.1.7 Presentation to the Congregation – When the Pastoral Search Committee recommends a single candidate acceptable to the Board of Elders, the candidate shall be presented to the membership. The membership shall then be assembled for a Business Meeting where the Board of Elders and the Pastoral Search Committee shall state the reasons they feel the recommended candidate is suitable for the position. The membership shall then vote on the question of offering the position to the recommended candidate.
- 5.1.8 The Vote – If the candidate does not receive an affirmative vote of a minimum of three-fourths of the members present and voting, the Board of Elders shall instruct the Pastoral Search Committee to reconsider its recommendation, and, after due deliberation, to recommend another candidate. If the candidate does receive an

affirmative vote of a minimum of three-fourths of the members present and voting, the candidate shall become the Senior Pastor-elect.

5.1.9 The Senior Pastor-Elect – When a candidate becomes the Senior Pastor-elect, the Board of Elders shall then notify the candidate that he has been elected and the position of Senior Pastor shall be offered to him.

5.1.10 Acceptance – Should the Senior Pastor-elect not accept the offer of the position of Senior Pastor, the Board of Elders shall so inform the membership and instruct the Pastoral Search Committee to provide another candidate. If the Senior Pastor-elect does accept, the Board of Elders shall make arrangements for his relocation and installation as the Senior Pastor of FCC at a mutually-agreed-upon date.

5.2 The Office of Senior Pastor

5.2.1 Term of Service – The Senior Pastor shall serve an unlimited term of service unless other arrangements are made at the time the position is accepted, or unless he resigns or is removed from office by the membership.

5.2.2 Member of the Board of Elders – The Senior Pastor shall be a member of the Board of Elders, but he shall not be eligible for any elected or appointed office on the Board, nor can the Senior Pastor serve as Chairman of the Board.

5.2.3 Ex-Officio Membership – The Senior Pastor shall be an ex-officio member of all other boards, committees, auxiliary bodies, and all other organizations of FCC, excluding the Pastoral Search Committee. In this capacity, he may participate in any such function or activity, but he is not required to do so, nor shall he be entitled to a vote in any such function or activity.

5.2.4 Delegation of Duties – If the position of Senior Pastor is vacant, or if the Senior Pastor is absent or incapacitated, the Board of Elders shall ensure that the duties of the Senior Pastor are fulfilled by delegating such duties as it sees fit.

5.3 Discipline and Removal of the Senior Pastor

5.3.1 Accusations and Investigation – To be considered by the Board of Elders, an accusation brought against the Senior Pastor must be supported by the testimony of at least two witnesses (1 Timothy 5:19-21). Upon the presentation of such an accusation, the Board of Elders,

exclusive of the Senior Pastor, other Ministry Staff, and the Administrative Staff, shall commence an investigation and seek resolution. If the accusation is not resolved by the Board of Elders, either the Board of Elders or the Senior Pastor may request a Special Business Meeting for the express purpose of resolving the accusation.

- 5.3.2 Failure to Perform – If the Senior Pastor fails in his responsibilities or departs from the teachings of the Word of God in his conduct, lifestyle or in doctrine as contained in the Scriptures and/or FCC’s Statement of Faith, the Board of Elders shall admonish him following the example set forth in Matthew 18:15-18. Should this admonishment not cause correction or return to the teachings of the Word of God, the Senior Pastor may be removed from the office of Senior Pastor by action of the membership of FCC at a Business Meeting.
- 5.3.3 Removal – The Senior Pastor may be removed from the position of Senior Pastor by the membership of FCC subject to the following conditions.
- 5.3.3.1 Business Meeting – The Senior Pastor may only be removed by the membership at a properly called Business Meeting.
- 5.3.3.2 Statement of Reason for Removal – The Board of Elders, or the petitioning member(s), shall state the reasons for their recommendation for removal at a properly called Business Meeting.
- 5.3.3.3 Senior Pastor’s Right to State His Position – After hearing the Board of Elders’ or the petitioning member’s or members’ reasons for their recommendation for removal, the Senior Pastor shall be accorded the right to state his position before the membership.
- 5.3.3.4 The Vote – After hearing the reasons for the recommendation for removal, and, if he should so choose, after hearing the Senior Pastor state his position, the membership shall vote on the recommendation for removal. Neither the Senior Pastor nor his family shall be present during the voting.
- 5.3.3.5 Removal – An affirmative vote of at least two-thirds of the members present and voting shall be effective to remove the Senior Pastor from his office.

- 5.4 Resignation – If the Senior Pastor should resign, he must faithfully continue his service for three months after giving written notice of his intent to resign. This notice period may be reduced by mutual consent between the Senior Pastor and the Board of Elders. Normal compensation shall be continued during the notice period, unless waived by mutual consent between the Senior Pastor and the Board of Elders.

6 Other Ministry and Administrative Staff

- 6.1 Personnel Policy – The Board of Elders shall ensure that FCC develops and maintains a written FCC Personnel Policy.
- 6.2 Temporary Replacement – If it is foreseen that the Senior Pastor will be away for an extended period of time (e.g., on sabbatical), the Board of Elders may appoint a temporary replacement. The temporary replacement shall fulfill the duties of the Senior Pastor until the Senior Pastor's return or until replacement of that temporary replacement with a subsequent temporary replacement by the Board of Elders; however, all significant decisions, as determined by the Board of Elders, made by any such temporary replacement must be approved by the Board of Elders.
- 6.3 Establishment of Ministry Staff Positions and the Hiring of Ministry Staff –
- 6.3.1 Number and Nature – The Senior Pastor shall determine the number and nature of the paid Ministry Staff positions deemed necessary to facilitate the ministries of FCC.
- 6.3.2 Recommendation for New Positions – If the Senior Pastor determines that there is a need to establish a new Ministry Staff position, the Senior Pastor shall present to the Board of Elders a detailed position description, the qualifications to be required of a person filling the position, and the compensation to be paid to the person filling the position.
- 6.3.3 Approving New Positions – If, after review, and modification, if appropriate, the Board of Elders concurs with the Senior Pastor's determination of the need to establish a new Ministry Staff position, the Board of Elders shall present to the membership at a Business Meeting a recommendation to establish the new Ministry Staff position, specifying the position description, the qualifications to be required of a person filling the position, and the impact on the budget of the new position. After review, and modification, if appropriate, the membership may then approve by vote the establishment of the new Ministry Staff position.

- 6.3.4 Filling Positions – If the Senior Pastor deems it appropriate to fill a Ministry Staff position, the Senior Pastor shall select a candidate who meets the qualifications specified by the membership and present the candidate to the Board of Elders for approval.
- 6.4 Termination of Ministry Staff – The Senior Pastor shall be responsible for the termination of Ministry Staff, as warranted. All hiring and firing shall be done in accordance with FCC’s written Personnel Policy. The Board of Elders shall have the authority to overrule the termination of any Ministry Staff if such action is authorized by an affirmative vote of at least three-fourths of the Board of Elders, excluding the Senior Pastor.
- 6.5 Administrative Staff – The Senior Pastor shall be responsible for determining the number, type and qualifications required of all administrative staff positions deemed necessary to facilitate the ministries of FCC. The Senior Pastor shall have authority, within budget constraints, to hire and fire the necessary administrative staff personnel.

7 Officers

- 7.1 Corporate Officers – The Board of Elders shall elect from among its members at its first meeting after the Annual Business Meeting the following corporate officers of FCC:
 - 7.1.1 Chairman and President – A Chairman, who shall be the President of the Corporation, an ex-officio member of all boards and committees, and presiding officer at all business meetings; and
 - 7.1.2 Vice Chairman and Vice President – A Vice Chairman, who shall be Vice President of the Corporation, and who shall perform the duties and fulfill the responsibilities of the Chairman in the absence or incapacity of the Chairman.
- 7.2 Other Officers – The Board of Elders shall appoint from among the membership of FCC at its first meeting after the Annual Business Meeting one or more persons to serve in the following positions:
 - 7.2.1 Treasurer – A Treasurer of the Corporation; and
 - 7.2.2 Secretary – A Secretary of the Corporation.

8 Boards And Committees

- 8.1 Board of Elders – Pursuant to the Articles of Incorporation, FCC shall establish a Board of Elders.

- 8.1.1 Duties of the Board of Elders – The membership of FCC shall delegate to the Board of Elders the duty to carry on the operation and governance of FCC.
 - 8.1.1.1 Feed and Shepherd – It shall be the Board of Elder’s specific responsibility to feed and shepherd the flock of God (John 21:15-17; Acts 20:17-31), i.e., impart truth, refute error, and administer discipline.
 - 8.1.1.2 Oversee and Direct – It shall also be the Board of Elder’s specific responsibility to oversee and direct the ministries of FCC (Acts 20:28, 1 Peter 5:2-3), i.e., assess the needs of the congregation, plan for, evaluate, and appoint those needed to assist in various areas of responsibility.
 - 8.1.1.3 Authority to Appoint – The Board of Elders shall have the authority to appoint such boards, committees and personnel deemed by them to be needed to carry out efficiently the ministries of FCC.
 - 8.1.1.4 Led by God – In all matters, the Board of Elders shall seek to follow God’s leadership through faithful and fervent prayer and the study of God’s Word.
- 8.1.2 Members of the Board of Elders
 - 8.1.2.1 Composition – The Board of Elders shall consist of the Senior Pastor and lay members of FCC who shall be elected by the membership. Prior to each Annual Business Meeting, and after prayer for Divine guidance, the Board of Elders shall determine the number of lay Elders to serve as members of the Board of Elders. The number of lay elders shall be six, nine or twelve, to conform to the requirements of section 8.1.3.1. The membership shall then elect a number of lay Elders required to fill the Board of Elders to that number. The Board of Elders may also appoint not more than two Ex-officio Elders to serve one-year terms and may reappoint them for one successive term. Appointed Ex-officio Elders shall be non-voting members of the Board of Elders.
 - 8.1.2.2 Qualifications – The Elders shall be male members of FCC (1 Corinthians 14:33-35; 1 Timothy 2:11-13) who demonstrate commitment to the body of FCC and manifest

the qualifications stipulated by 1 Timothy 3:1-7 and Titus 1:5-9.

- 8.1.2.3 Selection – Prior to the Annual Business Meeting, and at other times when additional members are required to fill the Board of Elders, the Board shall ask the membership to propose men for membership on the board who, in their opinion, meet the qualifications of an Elder. Then the Board of Elders shall appoint a sub-committee composed of two Elders and three lay members of FCC to prayerfully evaluate and screen the proposed Elders to verify that they meet the qualifications of an Elder. The subcommittee shall then present to the Board of Elders the names of those men they find to be qualified. If the Board of Elders, being led by God through prayer, determines that a candidate does not currently meet the requirements for Elder in FCC as stated in Section 8.1.2.2 of these Bylaws, then that individual's name shall not be put forth for consideration for the position of Elder. The Board of Elders shall privately share the results of a nominee's evaluation with him.
- 8.1.2.4 Review – The candidate's names shall also be included in a written communication to FCC's members distributed during FCC's normal weekly services or other means that the Board of Elders deems appropriate. Any member of FCC objecting to the admittance of a candidate to the Board of Elders must give to the candidate and to a member of the Board of Elders in writing a just statement of cause, in accordance with the Word of God, the Articles of Incorporation and these Bylaws of FCC, why that candidate should not be accepted. Taking any such objections into consideration, the Board of Elders shall then determine whether to recommend or reject that candidate for membership on the Board of Elders.
- 8.1.2.5 Election – The Board of Elders will submit the names of the qualified nominees to the membership for election at a Business Meeting.
- 8.1.2.6 In the event the Board of Elders becomes incapacitated or otherwise unable to fulfill its duties, the Senior Pastor shall appoint an interim board of elders who shall function until such time as a Board of Elders may be nominated and elected according to sections 4 and 8 of these Bylaws.

8.1.3 Term of Service

8.1.3.1 Term – Each elected Elder shall serve a term of three years. There shall be no limit to the total number of terms an Elder may serve if he does not disqualify himself, however no person shall serve more than two consecutive terms. The terms of the Elders shall be staggered to assure that no more than one-third of the terms expire in the same year.

8.1.3.2 Uncompleted Terms – In the event that an Elder does not complete his elected term, whether due to resignation, removal (pursuant to Section 8.1.3.3), or death, the Board of Elders shall appoint a replacement Elder. In the event that no Elders remain, the Senior Pastor shall chair a business meeting for the purpose of electing Elders.

8.1.3.3 Resignation and Removal – Any Elder found not to meet, or who no longer meets, the qualifications of the office, fails to fulfill the duties of the office, fails to attend three consecutive Board of Elder meetings without good reason, as determined by the Board of Elders, or does not regularly attend the services of FCC, shall, after notice and attempt to restore the member, be asked by the Board of Elders to resign from the Board of Elders. If the Elder does not resign, and continues in his errant conduct, that Elder may be removed from the Board of Elders by at least a two-thirds vote of the remaining Elders.

8.1.4 Evaluation and Accountability – The Board of Elders shall evaluate itself and its members and act in accordance with Matthew 18:15-17; 2 Thessalonians 3:6-15; 1 Timothy 5:19-21. The Elders are directly accountable to the Lord of the Church, Jesus Christ, for all their actions and decisions (Hebrews 13:17), but they are also accountable to each other and to the congregation. Therefore, the membership may call a special business meeting (in accordance with Section 4.1.2 herein) to discuss and affirm or overrule the actions and/or condone or censure the conduct of the Board of Elders.

8.1.5 General Operating Rules –

8.1.5.1 Regular Board Meetings – The Board of Elders shall meet at least once each month. The Chairman of the Board of Elders shall schedule regular board meetings. The schedule shall cover a period of no less than three months and shall be distributed to the members of the Board of Elders within

ten days of the first meeting date of the schedule period.

8.1.5.2 Special Board Meetings – Special meetings of the Board of Elders may be called by the Chairman of the Board of Elders, the Senior Pastor or by vote of the Board of Elders. It shall be the duty of the Chairman of the Board of Elders to notify the rest of the Board members of such special meetings.

8.1.7 Quorum – A quorum for a meeting of the Board of Elders shall consist of two thirds of the voting members of the Board.

8.2 Nominating Committee

8.2.1 Purpose – A Nominating Committee shall be established at such time, in such frequency, and for such duration as determined by the Board of Elders for the purpose of selecting and presenting to the Board of Elders a slate of candidates for various offices, boards and committees as required by these Bylaws, with the exception of the Board of Elders, and on other occasions as determined by the Board of Elders.

8.2.2 Composition – The Nominating Committee shall consist of an Elder, seven lay members of FCC as voting members and the Senior Pastor as a non-voting member. FCC members to serve on the Nominating Committee shall be recommended by the Board of Elders and approved by the membership at Business Meeting.

8.3 Other Committees and Boards – Additional committees and boards may be appointed and maintained by the Board of Elders as needed to facilitate the ministries of FCC. Such additional committees and boards shall be governed by and serve at the pleasure of the Board of Elders.

8.4 General Operating Rules For Boards and Committees –

8.4.1 Notice of Meetings – Meetings shall be convened only after notifying, or making a reasonable effort to notify, each member.

8.4.2 Decision Making Process – All boards and committees shall use the Holy Scripture as the basis for all deliberations, decision making and activities. All boards and committees shall prayerfully seek the guidance of the Holy Spirit in all matters. All boards and committees shall earnestly seek to reach a unity in decisions without coercion in all matters. If it is not possible to reach a unity in a decision, a matter may be passed if it receives an affirmative vote of at least three-quarters of the board or committee members present at a board or committee

meeting if the number of board or committee members present constitutes a quorum as defined in Section 8.4.3.

- 8.4.3 Quorum – A quorum for a meeting shall consist of a majority (unless other specific provisions are included in these Bylaws) of the members of that board or committee.

9 Organizations

- 9.1 Approval – Before any organization not established by these Bylaws or by the Board of Elders pursuant to Section 8.4 may be formed within FCC, a written outline of its purpose, organizational structure and plan of operation shall be presented to and must be approved by the Board of Elders. The Board of Elders shall designate the entity to which the organization shall report.
- 9.2 Fund Raising – Methods of raising funds by any group or organization within FCC shall be subject to the prior written approval of the Board of Elders.

10 Amendments

- 10.1 Proposed Amendments – Amendments to these Bylaws may be made at any Business Meeting of FCC by an affirmative vote of a minimum of three-fourths of all members present and voting, provided the proposed amendments were presented in written form and discussed at a previous Business Meeting held at least three months prior to the presentation of the amendment for a vote.
- 10.2 Ballot – Voting for such Proposed Amendments shall be by ballot.