

# By-laws

## The Benton Church

### Benton, Kansas

Adopted August 17, 2021

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## ARTICLE I: PRELIMINARY MATTERS

### Section 1: Name and Address

The name of the corporation is The Benton Church. This corporation will be further referred to in the by-laws as the "Church." The Church maintains its principal office at 14300 SW 20<sup>th</sup> Street, Benton, Butler County, Kansas. The Church is a non-profit corporation and shall be operated exclusively for religious, educational and charitable purposes.

### Section 2: Purpose

The purpose of our Church is that revealed in the New Testament. We shall follow the inspired Word of God as the final authority in all things and accept it as our rule of faith and practice

### Section 3: Vision Statement

Our Vision: Disciples making Disciples. We exist to make disciples of Jesus Christ who glorify God as the grace of the gospel grows deep in God's people and goes wide to all peoples.

### Section 4: Statement of Faith

*The following statements were developed by The Evangelical Free Church of America (an association of autonomous churches), and are adopted herein by the Church.*

#### God

1. We believe in one God, Creator of all things, holy, infinitely perfect, and eternally existing in a loving unity of three equally divine Persons: the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit. Having limitless knowledge and sovereign power, God has graciously purposed from eternity to redeem a people for Himself and to make all things new for His own glory.

*John 1:3, Isaiah 57:15, 1 John 4:8, Matthew 28:19, Ephesians 1:11, Colossians 1:15-23*

#### The Bible

2. We believe that God has spoken in the Scriptures, both Old and New Testaments, through the words of human authors. As the verbally inspired Word of God, the Bible is without error in the original writings, the complete revelation of His will for salvation, and the ultimate authority by which every realm of human knowledge and endeavor should be judged. Therefore, it is to be believed in all that it teaches, obeyed in all that it requires, and trusted in all that it promises.

*2 Peter 1:20-21, Matthew 5:18*

#### The Human Condition

3. We believe that God created Adam and Eve in His image, but they sinned when tempted by Satan. In union with Adam, human beings are sinners by nature and by choice, alienated from God, and under His wrath. Only through God's saving work in Jesus Christ can we be rescued, reconciled and renewed.

*Genesis 1:26-27, Romans 5:12-14, Jeremiah 17:9, Romans 3:23, 1 Timothy 2:5, Romans 5:1-2, 1 John 3:2*

## **Jesus Christ**

4. We believe that Jesus Christ is God incarnate, fully God and fully man, one Person in two natures. Jesus—Israel's promised Messiah—was conceived through the Holy Spirit and born of the virgin Mary. He lived a sinless life, was crucified under Pontius Pilate, arose bodily from the dead, ascended into heaven and sits at the right hand of God the Father as our High Priest and Advocate.

*John 1:14, John 1:41, Isaiah 7:14, Hebrews 4:15, Matthew 28:1-10, Luke 24:51, Hebrews 8:1, Romans 8:34*

## **The Work of Christ**

5. We believe that Jesus Christ, as our representative and substitute, shed His blood on the cross as the perfect, all-sufficient sacrifice for our sins. His atoning death and victorious resurrection constitute the only ground for salvation.

*1 Peter 3:18, Isaiah 53:5-7, Acts 4:12*

## **The Holy Spirit**

6. We believe that the Holy Spirit, in all that He does, glorifies the Lord Jesus Christ. He convicts the world of its guilt. He regenerates sinners, and in Him they are baptized into union with Christ and adopted as heirs in the family of God. He also indwells, illuminates, guides, equips and empowers believers for Christ-like living and service.

*Titus 3:5, John 14:17, Romans 8:14, Romans 15:13, Galatians 5:22-23*

## **The Church**

7. We believe that the true church comprises all who have been justified by God's grace through faith alone in Christ alone. They are united by the Holy Spirit in the body of Christ, of which He is the Head. The true church is manifest in local churches, whose membership should be composed only of believers. The Lord Jesus mandated two ordinances, baptism and the Lord's Supper, which visibly and tangibly express the gospel. Though they are not the means of salvation, when celebrated by the church in genuine faith, these ordinances confirm and nourish the believer.

*John 3:16, 1 Corinthians 1:2, Matthew 28:18-20, Mark 14:22-25*

## **Christian Living**

8. We believe that God's justifying grace must not be separated from His sanctifying power and purpose. God commands us to love Him supremely and others sacrificially, and to live out our faith with care for one another, compassion toward the poor and justice for the oppressed. With God's Word, the Spirit's power, and fervent prayer in Christ's name, we are to combat the spiritual forces of evil. In obedience to Christ's commission, we are to make disciples among all people, always bearing witness to the gospel in word and deed.

*Luke 10:27, Romans 12:10, Luke 4:18, 1 John 5:3-4, Revelation 7:9*

## **Christ's Return**

9. We believe in the personal, bodily and glorious return of our Lord Jesus Christ. The coming of Christ, at a time known only to God, demands constant expectancy and, as our blessed hope, motivates the believer to godly living, sacrificial service and energetic mission.

*Revelation 1:7, 1 Thessalonians 5:1-11, 2 Peter 3:10-14*

## **Response and Eternal Destiny**

10. We believe that God commands everyone everywhere to believe the gospel by turning to Him in repentance and receiving the Lord Jesus Christ. We believe that God will raise the dead bodily and judge the world, assigning the unbeliever to condemnation and eternal conscious punishment and the believer to eternal blessedness and joy with the Lord in the new heaven and the new earth, to the praise of His glorious grace. Amen.

*John 11:25-26, John 12:26, Revelation 20:12-13, Revelation 21:1, Ephesians 1:6*

## **Section 5: Other Theological Convictions**

### **A. Property Use**

1. Physical facilities of TBC are dedicated solely to the ministry and work of the Kingdom of God, as expressed in our Bylaws. The church is not a facility open for public accommodation and therefore its use and availability is entirely at the discretion of the elders. Said facilities are not generally available to individuals, groups, and/or organizations outside the Christian community. In most cases the facilities are reserved solely for those ministries and events falling under the general oversight of the church elders, and which are directly related to the ministry purposes and values of the church.
2. Certain celebrations and events directly involving TBC Partners and immediate family of TBC Partners may be approved by responsible TBC leadership (under the direction of the elders) which may include: Wedding ceremonies, wedding anniversaries, showers, funerals. Certain activities (in particular including funerals) impacting the local community may also be included. In addition, meetings and activities of certain associations or organizations whose goals align with TBC's mission and vision may be approved. Activities specifically related to the annual Benton Day celebration may generally be approved. All final decisions regarding property use are solely at the discretion of the elder board.
3. Approval for use of the property, and schedule coordination, must be arranged in advance by contacting the church office. Office staff will forward the request to applicable leadership. Fees for use are included in the Church Policy Manual.
4. TBC property has been designated as an official polling place for the purpose of voting.

### **B. Human Sexuality**

As a community of believers in the gospel of Jesus Christ, TBC affirms that God has created individuals male and female. The gift of sexual intimacy between husband and wife (biological male and biological female) is given for the purpose of spiritual and physical unity, for pleasure, and for procreation. We freely acknowledge the sexual sin and woundedness that exists within our church and community. By publicly affirming the restorative power of Jesus Christ we determine to become a listening, healing family desiring to proclaim the transforming power of God in Jesus Christ.

### **C. Political Involvement**

While TBC believes the role of the Christian church is and ought to be a strong influence for a peaceful and God-honoring society, we have as our foremost concern the spread of the gospel of Jesus Christ, making disciples, and caring for the spiritual and physical needs of those inside and outside the church.

### **D. Staffing**

TBC endeavors to populate the leadership of our congregation with individuals seeking to live as closely as possible to the example of Jesus and the expectations of Scripture. In particular, individuals who are seen to represent TBC – whether elder, staff, volunteer leader, or other roles that could be seen as influential or role-model – are expected to read, understand and abide by our Statement of Faith and these Theological

Convictions. All such individuals are required to indicate their support of TBC's mission and vision. This includes, for example, those who help facilitate various church ministries, offer transportation for activities, or assist in small group leadership.

## **ARTICLE II: PARTNERSHIP**

### **Section 1: General**

The New Testament depicts groups of people who, once devoted to Jesus, regularly participated with a specific body of believers (see Romans 16:1, 1 Corinthians 1:2, 2 Corinthians 8:1, Philippians 1:1, Acts 11:26). In order to implement the principles of accountability and commitment to such a local body as defined in the New Testament and practiced in the early churches, the Church recognizes the need for formal partnership, which we refer to as "Partnership" and each individual as a "Partner" of the Church. Partnership in this Church will consist of all persons who have met the following qualifications for Partnership.

### **Section 2: Qualifications of Partnership**

Formal partnership is open to any person above the age of 18 who confesses faith in Jesus Christ as their Lord and Savior, whose character, conduct and reputation are in accord with his/her confession, who acknowledges and agrees with our Statement of Faith, who agrees to abide by and support the By-Laws of this Church, the Church Policy Manual, and who pursues faithfulness to the Partnership Covenant.

### **Section 3: Responsibilities and Privileges of Partnership**

- A. Covenant. Those who desire to become Partners with the Church shall declare their agreement with the following.
  - 1. As believers in the gospel of Jesus Christ, we gladly covenant with God and fellow Partners in the mission to make disciples of Jesus Christ.
  - 2. We will:
    - a. Build one another up with the Word.
    - b. Pray with and for one another.
    - c. Gather with one another regularly for worship.
    - d. Give generously to care for one another and support ministries of the Church.
    - e. Exercise our spiritual gifts in the service of one another.
    - f. Show compassion for the lost, including sharing the Gospel.
    - g. Submit to one another and the authority and discipline of the Church.
- B. Privileges. Partners are full voting members in congregational decisions taken up at formal meetings of the Church Partnership.

### **Section 4: Termination of Partnership**

- A. Any Partner who wishes to withdraw from the Partnership are urged to inform an Elder in writing. A letter of recommendation shall be provided, upon request, to anyone who resigns while a Partner in good standing.
- B. Any Partner who absents himself from Church participation for a period of one year shall no longer be considered a Partner unless special arrangements are made. A minimum of two attempts will be made to notify the individual under consideration of being removed.

## **Section 5: Discipline of Partners**

Any Partner is subject to Church discipline when he or she persists in living or teaching contrary to the Word of God and the Statement of Faith. Church discipline may also be applied in the case of individuals who may not have joined the Church but attend regularly.

See Church Policy Manual for the process to be followed in Church discipline.

## **ARTICLE III: PARTNERSHIP MEETINGS**

### **Section 1: Location**

Meetings of the Partners will be held at the Church or at a location designated by the Elders.

### **Section 2: General Meetings**

A general meeting of the Partners will be held annually on such a date and time as determined by the Elders by giving a minimum two-week notice to the Partners. This general meeting will be the annual Partnership meeting. The purpose of this meeting will be to adopt the general operating budget, to affirm decisions presented by the Elders, and to present reports as deemed necessary by the Elders.

### **Section 3: Special Meetings**

Special meetings may be called at any time by the Elders by giving a minimum two-week notice to the Partners. Church Partners may, for any purpose, present to the Chairman of the Elders a petition calling for a special meeting of the Partnership. This petition will be signed by no less than 25% of the Partners of the Church and state the purpose for which the meeting is being called. The chairman will schedule, announce, and conduct the special meeting within 30 days of the receipt of the petition.

### **Section 4: Notification Requirements of Meetings**

Church Partners will be given prior notification of Partnership meetings no less than two weeks prior to the scheduled meeting. Notification of Partnership meetings and their agendas will be provided by any one of the following methods: written announcement in any Church publication (i.e., newsletter, etc.); verbal announcement to the congregation in attendance at regular worship services; and/or written notification delivered electronically to Partners.

### **Section 5: Quorum**

Those Partners present will constitute a quorum of the Partnership for the transaction of - business; provided, however, the Elders may set a higher threshold to constitute a quorum for those matters the Elders deem necessary.

### **Section 6: Affirmations**

Affirmation is the process of expressing support for the decisions of the Elders. Affirmation of Elder decisions will be by two-thirds of the Partners present. All affirmations will be by those present at the Partnership meeting and no proxy affirmations will be allowed.

Partner affirmation will be required for the following:

- Upcoming annual general operating budget.
- Amendments to articles of incorporation or these By-laws.
- Indebtedness that results in a mortgage against Church real estate.
- Purchase or sale of real property.
- Other items required of the By-laws.
- Other items determined by the Elders to require Partner affirmation.

## Section 7: Meeting Procedures

The Chairman of the Elders will conduct all Church Partnership meetings, and in his absence such meetings will be conducted by the Vice-Chairman of the Elders. Official minutes will be taken and filed in the permanent records of the Church by the Church secretary.

## Article IV: CHURCH GOVERNANCE

### Section 1: General

The Church seeks to be a New Testament Church committed to the teachings of the Bible.

Jesus Christ is the Head of the Church, His Body. He is the Chief Shepherd, and all human government of the Church is under His sovereign authority.

The Elders are accountable before God for the ultimate oversight of the Church. Therefore, subject to those powers expressly reserved to the Partnership of the Church, the management and government of the Church shall be vested in the Board of Elders, who shall comprise the ruling body of the Church and shall have the power and authority to act on its behalf.

### Section 2: Elders

- A. Duties. The Board of Elders will oversee, lead, shepherd, and care for the spiritual condition of the Church as set forth in the Bible. The Elders are responsible for providing for the pastoral care of the Church in the manner described in Acts 20:28-32, I Peter 5:1-4, and Titus 1:5. As such, they shall:
1. Organize the Church to do the will of the Lord and shall seek the mind of the Lord in all matters of the decision before them.
  2. Oversee the Church in such a way as to bring the Church individually and corporately to maturity in Jesus Christ.
  3. Confront any false teaching and behavior that is contradictory to biblical truth, implementing appropriate corrective measures.
  4. Ensure that the life of the Church is being well managed. They shall provide discernment and direction regarding vision, goals, and priorities for the Church. They shall monitor mission effectiveness and ministry alignment.
  5. Have oversight and direction of the Pastoral Staff and all Church organizational structures.

According to scriptural example, the Elders' primary responsibilities in an Elder governance leadership model are: Prayer (Acts 6:2); Preaching (Acts 6:2; "ministry of the word"); Policy creation and oversight (Acts 15:22, 28-29); Pastoral care (Acts 20:28); Protection (Acts 20:28-31).

Decisions of the Elders will be by unanimous agreement and not by vote.

- B. Qualifications. Any biological male who is an active Partner of the Church, has attended for at least one year before taking office, is willing to abide by the Statement of Faith and the By-laws of the Church, has demonstrated spiritual maturity over an indeterminate period of time, and meets scriptural requirements (see 1 Timothy 3:1-7, 5:17-22; Titus 1:5-9; 1 Peter 5:1-4; Hebrews 13:17), is eligible to serve as an Elder.
- C. Number. The Elder Board shall consist of appointed Elders and the Lead Pastor. Those Elders currently serving will determine the appropriate number of Elders to serve at the Church based upon the current needs of the Church, but shall choose a number of appointed Elders of not less than three.
- D. Selection. Recognizing that the Scriptures teach the appointment of church leaders with the cooperation of the local body (Acts 6:3, 14:23, Titus 1:5), the following selection process shall be followed.

1. Elder candidates will be selected through a deliberate vetting process set forth in the Church Policy Manual.
  2. Upon the Elders' unanimous approval of the selected Elder candidate, the new Elder candidate(s) shall be presented to the Partnership for silent affirmation or formal contest by a Partner. In the event a Partner submits a formal contest, which will be in writing and presented to the Elders within 2 weeks of presentation of the new Elder candidate, the Elders will decide if the formal contest is valid or invalid. If the Elders deem the contest valid, the candidacy of such Elder will be withdrawn.
- E. Term of Service.
1. Elders (other than the Lead Pastor) may serve for a term of three years, at which time he may be re-appointed for another three-year term, after which he will not be an Elder for a minimum of one year. An appointed Elder may discontinue his leadership role for other reasons: Death, geographical relocation, personal desire, or disqualification. Terms of office shall be staggered as evenly as possible to ensure stability and continuity...
  2. An Elder's term of service may be terminated due to disqualification by either the consensus of the other Elders or of the Church. Any charge made against an Elder shall be in writing and shall be brought by two witnesses, in the manner described in I Timothy 5:19. Should the Church Partnership lose confidence in the Elder's leadership, the same procedure shall be followed. The Elders shall discuss the matter with the Elder in question, and if the matter remains unresolved, the Board of Elders (with the Elder in question being recused from deliberation and decision making) shall have the power to dismiss the Elder from the Board of Elders, in which case discipline will be administered by the other Elders and the congregation in the manner described in I Timothy 5:19-21.
- F. Organization of The Elders. Positionally, the Elders will operate equally, including the Lead Pastor. Functionally, they shall appoint annually from their own number (other than the Lead Pastor) the following roles: Chairman, Vice-Chairman and Trustee. These are deemed the corporate officers of the Church. It shall be the duties of the Trustee to (1) be responsible for the cleanliness, maintenance and repair of the buildings and manage all church property, and (2) execute and acknowledge all conveyances, mortgages, deeds and leases or other disposition of the property or incurrence of indebtedness, when authorized to do so by the Board of Elders and with the affirmation of the Partnership, when applicable. The Trustee has no authority or power or responsibility except that specifically given him by the Board of Elders and the Partnership.
- G. Meetings. The Elders will meet at least quarterly or more often as necessary, in closed meetings as a collective group and minutes will be recorded.
- H. Delegation. The Elders of the Church may establish a leadership structure within the Church as detailed in the Church Policy Manual, to which the Elders may specifically delegate the responsibility of overseeing the legal, financial, business, executive, and ministry matters of the Church. Any leadership structure so established will be accountable to the Elders. In the event of a conflict within such leadership structure, the decision of the Elders will be final in all matters other than those expressly reserved to the Partnership of the Church.

### **Section 3: Paid Staff**

- A. Lead Pastor
1. Duties. The Lead Pastor is responsible to the Elders to lead the Church in such a way that the Church functions effectively as a New Testament Church, thereby achieving the stated vision and purpose. The Lead Pastor will provide a clear voice of leadership to the Church and be responsible for communicating the vision, while preaching/teaching the Word of God so that lives can be authentically impacted by Scripture. He is to lead by precept and example, maturing believers through insightful and accurate presentation of the Word. The Lead Pastor will be considered a

member of all Church committees and teams by virtue of his role ("ex-officio"). The Lead Pastor will serve as an Elder, being accountable for, and a representative of, all staff positions.

2. Qualifications. The Lead Pastor will be a biological male and will possess the same spiritual qualifications as that of an Elder (see Article IV: Church Governance, Section 2: Elders, subsection B. Qualifications). Additionally, he must evidence the gift of Pastor-Teacher (Ephesians 4:11). The Elders may establish further skill requirements.
  3. Relation to Elders. The Lead Pastor's relationship with the Elders shall function on the following levels:
    - a. First, he shall be accountable to the Elders, who shall function as his spiritual counselors and advisors. They shall have the final responsibility to ensure he is adequately fulfilling his role as pastor and consistently reflecting the qualifications of an Elder.
    - b. Second, he is to be "one among equals" in the decision-making process within the Board of Elders. Though he may bring recommendations and proposals to the Board of Elders, final decisions are made by the total body of Elders.
    - c. Third, he shall serve as a pastor and leader of the Elders, and function as a spiritual shepherd to them.
  4. Relationship to All Other Staff. The Lead Pastor shall manage the volunteer and vocational/paid Church staff on a day-to-day basis and provide regular reports and recommendations to the Elders on staff functions.
  5. Selection. The Elders will appoint a Lead Pastor pursuant to the procedure set forth in the Church Policy Manual.
- B. Vocational Pastors, Church and Administrative Staff. Hiring of vocational pastors will be pursuant to the procedure set forth in the Church Policy Manual. Hiring of any additional Church staff will be as determined by the Elders.
- C. Termination of Service. A vocational pastor's term of service may be terminated by either the Elders, the Church, or by mutual consent. Any charge made against a vocational pastor shall be in writing, brought by two witnesses, and presented to the full Elder Board, in the manner described in I Timothy 5:19. Should the congregation lose confidence in the pastor's leadership and ministry, the same procedure shall be followed. The Elders shall discuss the matter with the pastor, and if the matter remains unresolved, the Board of Elders shall have the power to dismiss the pastor (which if in the case of the Lead Pastor, the Lead Pastor will be recused from the Elder Board for purposes of deliberation and decision making in this matter).

## **ARTICLE V: INDEMNIFICATION**

### **Section 1: General Scope**

The Church will indemnify any agent (i.e., Elders or officers) made a party to any action, suit, or proceeding by reason of the fact that they are or were an Elder or officer of the Church, against all costs and expenses, including attorney's fees, actually and necessarily incurred by them in connection within any appeal therein, except in relation to matters as to which it will be adjudged in such action, suit, or proceeding that such person is liable for negligence or misconduct in the performance of their responsibilities. Such right of indemnification will not be exclusive of any other rights to which such person may be entitled apart from the provisions of this article.

### **Section 2: Required Standard of Conduct**

The agent (i.e., person) seeking indemnification will be found by the Elders that they acted in good faith, in a manner they believed to be in the best interest of the Church, and with such care, including reasonable inquiry as an ordinarily

prudent person in a like position would use in similar circumstance. In the case of a criminal proceeding, the person will have had no reasonable cause to believe that their conduct was unlawful.

### **Section 3: Insurance**

The Elders may approve the purchase and maintenance of insurance on behalf of any agent (i.e., person) of the Church against any liability asserted against or incurred by the agent in such capacity or arising out of the agent's status as such, whether or not the Church would have the power to indemnify the agent; provided, however, that the Church will have no power to purchase and maintain such insurance to indemnify any agent of the Church for violation of State or Federal laws.

## **ARTICLE VI: CONDUCT OF BUSINESS AND FISCAL OPERATIONS**

### **Section 1: General Scope**

- A. The Church shall have power in its corporate name to buy, own, hold in trust, use, inherit, lease, rent, sell, exchange or dispose of, such real and personal property as may be useful and necessary for the furtherance of the Purpose. It shall also have the power to mortgage and encumber all or any part of the Church property, and to borrow and raise money or other assets of any kind, for the furtherance of the Purpose.
- B. The Church will maintain adequate and accurate books and records of accounts (i.e., financial records); minutes of Elders' meetings and Partnership meetings; records of Partnership including names, addresses and contribution records of individuals. All such records will be kept at its principal place of business and the safekeeping of the records will be the responsibility of the Church secretary.
- C. The Board of Elders may authorize any officer or officer's agent or agents of the Church in addition to the officers so authorized by these By-Laws to enter into any contract or execute and deliver any instrument in the name of and on behalf of the Church, and such authority may be general or confined to specific instances.
- D. All checks, drafts, or orders for the payment of money, notes or other evidence of indebtedness issued in the name of the Church shall be signed by such officer or officers, agent, or agents of the Church and in such manner as shall from time to time be determined by the Board of Elders. In the absence of such determination by the Board of Elders, such instrument shall be signed by the Trustee and countersigned by the Chairman or the Vice-Chairman of the Board of Elders.
- E. All funds of the Church shall be deposited from time to time to the credit of the Church in such bank, trust companies, or other depositories as the Board of Elders may select.
- F. The Board of Elders may accept on behalf of the Church any contribution, gift, bequeath or device for the general purposes or any special purpose of the Church.

### **Section 2: Organizational, Policy and Procedural Manuals**

An organizational, policy and procedural manuals (the "Church Policy Manual") has been prepared as a guide to all who serve in leadership positions at the Church. It is designed to aid in effectively fulfilling of the purpose of the Church, providing guidelines about the Church's organizational structure and ministry operations. Policy statements guide and protect, and the Elders reserve the right to modify, supplement, rescind, or revise any of the Church Policy Manual's information as deemed necessary. While prior notice of a change to the Church Policy Manual is not required, any such change will be presented to the Church no later than at the next Church Partnership meeting.

### **Section 3: Inspection of Records, Reports and Documentation**

An active Partner may, at any reasonable time, inspect records, reports, and documentation of the Church except for personnel salaries and records, contribution records, Elder meeting minutes, and counseling records.

#### **Section 4: Asset and Debt Management**

The Elders will approve an annual operating budget of the Church, which will be finalized prior to the end of the preceding year, and submitted to the Partnership for Affirmation. The Elders will approve or deny any requests for expenditures exceeding the approved general operating budget.

Individual expenditures that would exceed an amount equal to 15%, of the prior year's operating budget, aggregate expenditures in the current budget year that would exceed 25% of the prior year's operating budget, the purchase or sale of real property, or incurring indebtedness secured by the real property of the Church, require the prior approval of the Church Partnership at a general or special meeting. The Elders may approve short-term, unsecured financing on behalf of the Church up to an amount equal to 25% of the prior year's operating budget.

#### **Section 5: Fiscal Review**

The fiscal operation of the Church will be reviewed on an annual basis via a process approved by the Board of Elders.

### **ARTICLE VII: AMENDMENTS**

#### **Section 1: General Scope**

These by-laws, or any provision, may be altered, amended, or repealed; and new by-laws may be adopted at any time by the Elders, with the affirmation of the change(s) by two-thirds of the active Partners present at any special or regular Partnership meeting at which a quorum is present.

#### **Section 2: Revision History**

Adopted August 17, 2021