

**NETWORK AFFILIATED BYLAWS
FOR
NETWORK AFFILIATED CHURCHES**

The following Bylaws are approved by the Assemblies of God, Michigan Ministry Network, for Network Affiliated Churches [Network Bylaws, Article VII, Section 7, subsection g; Article IX, Section 1, subsection a].

ARTICLE I. NAME

The name of this church shall be _____.

ARTICLE II. AFFILIATION

This church shall be affiliated with the Assemblies of God, Michigan Ministry Network, as a Network Affiliated Church. It shall be under the general supervision of the Network Officiary, and under the immediate supervision of the Network Affiliated Director or the Director's designee, who shall then have the full authority to act on behalf of the Director, according to the provisions of the Network Constitution and Bylaws and Network Affiliated Bylaws.

ARTICLE III. TENETS OF FAITH

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

STATEMENT OF FUNDAMENTAL TRUTHS*

The Bible is our all-sufficient rule for faith and practice. This Statement of Fundamental Truths is intended simply as a basis of fellowship among us (i.e., that we all speak the same thing, 1 Corinthians 1:10; Acts 2:42). The phraseology employed in this statement is not inspired or contended for, but the truth set forth is held to be essential to a full-gospel ministry. No claim is made that it contains all biblical truth, only that it covers our need as to these fundamental doctrines.

1. The Scriptures Inspired

The Scriptures, both the Old and the New Testaments, are verbally inspired of God and are the revelation of God to man, the infallible, authoritative rule of faith, and conduct (2 Timothy 3:15-17; 1 Thessalonians 2:13, 2 Peter 1:21).

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 (Deuteronomy 6:4; Isaiah 43:10,11; Matthew 28:19; Luke 3:22).

THE ADORABLE GODHEAD

a. Terms Defined

The terms *trinity* and *persons* as related to the godhead, while not found in the Scriptures, are words in harmony with Scripture, whereby we may convey to others our immediate understanding of the doctrine of Christ respecting the Being of God as distinguished from "gods many and lords many." We therefore may speak with propriety of the Lord our God, who is One Lord, as a Trinity or as one Being of three persons, and still be absolutely scriptural (examples, Matthew 28:19; 2 Corinthians 13:14; John 14:16,17).

b. Distinction and Relationship in the Godhead

Christ taught a distinction of persons in the godhead which He expressed in specific terms of relationship as Father, Son, and Holy Ghost, but that this distinction and relationship, as to its mode is inscrutable and incomprehensible, because unexplained (Luke 1:35; 1 Corinthians 1:24; Matthew 11:25-27; 28:19; 2 Corinthians 13:14; 1 John 1:3,4).

c. Unity of the One Being of Father, Son, and Holy Ghost

Accordingly, therefore, there is **that** in the Father which constitutes Him **the Father** and not the Son; there is **that** in the Son which constitutes Him **the Son** and not the Father; and there is **that** in the Holy Ghost which constitutes Him the **Holy Ghost** and not either the Father or the Son. Wherefore the Father is the Begetter; the Son is the Begotten; and the Holy Ghost is the One proceeding from the Father and the Son. Therefore, because these three persons in the godhead are in a state of unity, there is but one Lord God Almighty and His name one (John 1:18; 15:26; 17:11,21; Zechariah 14:9).

d. Identity and Cooperation in the Godhead

The Father, the Son, and the Holy Ghost are never **identical** as to **person**; nor **confused** as to **relation**; nor **divided** in respect to the godhead; nor **opposed** as to **cooperation**. The Son is **in** the Father and the Father is **in** the Son as to relationship. The Son is **with** the Father and the Father is **with** the Son, as to fellowship. The Father is not **from** the Son, but the Son is **from** the Father as to authority. The Holy Ghost is from the Father and the Son proceeding, as to nature, relationship, cooperation, and authority. Hence, no person in the godhead either exists or works separately or independently of the others (John 5:17-30,32,37; 8:17,18).

e. The Title, Lord Jesus Christ

The appellation *Lord Jesus Christ* is a proper name. It is never applied in the New Testament either to the Father or to the Holy Ghost. It, therefore, belongs exclusively to the **Son of God** (Romans 1:1-3,7; 2 John 3).

f. The Lord Jesus Christ, God With Us

The Lord Jesus Christ, as to His divine and eternal nature, is the proper and only Begotten of the Father, but as to His human nature, He is the proper Son of Man. He is, therefore, acknowledged

to be both God and man; who, because He is God and man, is "Immanuel," God with us (Matthew 1:23; 1 John 4:2,10,14; Revelation 1:13,17).

g. The Title, Son of God

Since the name *Immanuel* embraces both God and man, in the one person, our Lord Jesus Christ, it follows that the title *Son of God* describes His proper deity, and the title *Son of Man* His proper humanity. Therefore, the title *Son of God* belongs to the order of eternity and the title *Son of Man* to the **order of time** (Matthew 1:21-23; 2 John 3; 1 John 3:8; Hebrews 7:3; 1:1-13).

h. Transgression of the Doctrine of Christ

Wherefore, it is a transgression of the doctrine of Christ to say that Jesus Christ derived the title *Son of God* solely from the fact of the Incarnation, or because of His relation to the economy of redemption. Therefore, to deny that the Father is a real and eternal Father, and that the Son is a real and eternal Son, is a denial of the distinction and relationship in the Being of God; a denial of the Father and the Son; and a displacement of the truth that Jesus Christ is come in the flesh (2 John 9; John 1:1,2,14,18,29,49; 1 John 2:22,23; 4:1-5; Hebrews 12:2).

i. Exaltation of Jesus Christ as Lord

The Son of God, our Lord Jesus Christ, having by Himself purged our sins, sat down on the right hand of the Majesty on high, angels and principalities and powers having been made subject unto Him. And having been made both Lord and Christ, He sent the Holy Ghost that we, in the name of Jesus, might bow our knees and confess that Jesus Christ is Lord to the glory of God the Father until the end, when the Son shall become subject to the Father that God may be all in all (Hebrews 1:3; 1 Peter 3:22; Acts 2:32-36; Romans 14:11; 1 Corinthians 15:24-28).

j. Equal Honor to the Father and to the Son

Wherefore, since the Father has delivered all judgment unto the Son, it is not only the **express duty** of all in heaven and on earth to bow the knee, but it is an **unspeakable** joy in the Holy Ghost to ascribe unto the Son all the attributes of deity, and to give Him all the honor and the glory contained in all the names and titles of the godhead except those which express relationship (see paragraphs b, c, and d), and thus honor the Son even as we honor the Father (John 5:22,23; 1 Peter 1:8; Revelation 5:6-14; Philipians 2:8,9; Revelation 7:9,10; 4:8-11).

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 (Matthew 1:23; Luke 1:31,35).
- b. His sinless life (Hebrews 7:26; 1 Peter 2:22).
- c. His miracles (Acts 2:22; 10:38).
- d. His substitutionary work on the cross (1 Corinthians 15:3, 2 Corinthians 5:21).
- e. His bodily resurrection from the dead (Matthew 28:6; Luke 24:39; 1 Corinthians 15:4).
- f. His exaltation to the right hand of God (Acts 1:9,11; 2:33; Philipians. 2:9-11; Hebrews 1-3).

4. The Fall of Man

Man was created good and upright; for God said, "Let us make man in our image, after our likeness." However, man by voluntary transgression fell and thereby incurred not only physical death but also spiritual death, which is separation from God (Genesis 1:26,27; 2:17; 3:6; Romans 5:12-19).

5. The Salvation of Man

Man's only hope of redemption is through the shed blood 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 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; Romans 10:13-15; Ephesians 2:8; Titus 2:11; 3:5-7).

b. The Evidences of Salvation. The inward evidence of salvation is the direct witness of the Spirit (Romans 8:16). The outward evidence to all men is a life of righteousness and true holiness (Ephesians 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 baptized. 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 (Matthew 28:19; Mark 16:16; Acts 10:47,48; Romans 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 and divine nature of our Lord Jesus Christ (2 Peter 1:4); a memorial of His suffering and death (1 Corinthians 11:26); and a prophecy of His second coming (1 Corinthians 11:26); and is enjoined on all believers "till He come!"

7. The Baptism in the Holy Spirit

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 of 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 Corinthians 12:1-31). This experience is distinct from and subsequent to the experience of the new birth (Acts 8:12-17; 10:44-46; 11:14-16; 15:7-9). With the baptism in the Holy Ghost come such experiences as an overflowing fullness of the Spirit (John 7:37-39; Acts 4:8), a deepened reverence for God (Acts 2:43; Hebrews 12:28), an 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 Initial Physical Evidence of the Baptism in the Holy Spirit

The baptism of believers in the Holy Ghost is witnessed by the initial physical sign of speaking with other 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 Corinthians 12:4-10,28), but different in purpose and use.

9. Sanctification

Sanctification is an act of separation from that which is evil, and of dedication unto God (Romans 12:1,2; 1 Thessalonians 5:23; Hebrews 13:12). Scriptures teach a life of "holiness without which no man shall see the Lord" (Hebrews 12:14). By the power of the Holy Ghost we are able to obey the command: "Be ye holy, for I am holy" (1 Peter 1:15,16).

Sanctification is realized in the believer by recognizing his identification with Christ in His death and resurrection, by faith reckoning daily upon the fact of that union, and by offering every faculty continually to the dominion of the Holy Spirit. (Romans 6:1-11,13; 8:1,2,13; Galatians 2:20; Philippians 2:12,13; 1 Peter 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 (Ephesians 1:22,23; 2:22; Hebrews 12:23).

Since God's purpose concerning man is to seek and to save that which is lost, to be worshipped by man, and to build a body of believers in the image of His Son, and to demonstrate His love and compassion for all the world, the priority reason-for-being of the Assemblies of God as part of the Church is:

- a. To be an agency of God for evangelizing the world (Acts 1:8; Matthew 28:19,20; Mark 16:15,16).
- b. To be a corporate body in which man may worship God (1 Corinthians 12:13).
- c. To be a channel of God's purpose to build a body of saints being perfect in the image of His Son (Ephesians 4:11-16; 1 Corinthians 12:28; 14:12).
- d. To be a people who demonstrate God's love and compassion for all the world (Psalms 112:9; Galatians 2:10; 6:10; James 1:27).

The Assemblies of God exists expressly to give continuing emphasis to this reason-for-being in the New Testament apostolic pattern by teaching and encouraging believers to be baptized 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; Hebrews 2:3,4).
- b. Adds a necessary dimension to worshipful relationship with God (1 Corinthians 2:10-16; 1 Corinthians 12-14).

- 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, and to care for the poor and needy of the world (Galatians 5:22-26; Matthew 25:37-40; Galatians 6:10; Corinthians 14:12; Ephesians 4:11,12; 1 Corinthians 12:28; Colossians 1:29).

11. The Ministry

A divinely called and scripturally ordained ministry has been provided by our Lord for the fourfold purpose of leading the Church in (1) evangelization of the world (Mark 16:15-20), (2) worship of God (John 4:23,24), (3) in building a body of saints being perfected in the image of His Son (Ephesians 4:11-16), and (4) meeting human need with ministries of love and compassion (Psalms 112:9; Galatians 2:10; 6:10; James 1:27).

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 (Isaiah 53:4,5; Matthew 8:16,17; James 5:14-16).

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 Thessalonians 4:16,17; Romans 8:23; Titus 2:13; 1 Corinthians 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 (Zechariah 14:5; Matthew 24:27,30; Revelation 1:7; 19:11-14; 20:1-6). This millennial reign will bring the salvation of national Israel (Ezekiel 37:21,22; Zephaniah 3:19,20; Romans 11:26,27) and the establishment of universal peace (Isaiah 11:6-9; Psalm 72:3-8; Micah 4:3,4).

15. The Final Judgment

There will be a 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 be consigned to everlasting punishment in the lake which burneth with fire and brimstone, which is the second death (Matthew 25:46; Mark 9:43-48; Revelation 19:20; 20:11-15; 21:8).

16. The New Heavens and the New Earth

"We, according to His promise, look for new heavens and a new earth wherein dwelleth righteousness" (2 Peter 3:13; Revelation 21:22).

*Under Article V, the Michigan Ministry Network understands that the term "man" is used to refer to humankind and includes all people except when used in gender-specific cases.

ARTICLE IV. MEMBERSHIP

Section 1. Requirements

Minimum requirements for membership shall be as follows:

- a. **Born Again.** Members in this church shall be expected to give a clear testimony of faith and salvation through the death and resurrection of Jesus Christ (John 3:3, 5-7; 2 Corinthians 5:17).
- b. **Baptism in the Holy Spirit.** Members shall have received the Holy Spirit or be earnestly seeking to be baptized in the Holy Spirit (Acts 2:2-4).
- c. **Baptized in Water.** Members shall have followed the scriptural command to be baptized in water by immersion in the Name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Ghost (Matthew 28:19).
- d. **God's Word.** Members shall believe in the inspiration of the Holy Scriptures as the Word of God and the final authority in all matters of faith and conduct.
- e. **Holiness.** Members shall separate themselves from such worldly participation which defiles the body or corrupts the mind and spirit. They shall reflect the truth that each believer's body is the temple of the Holy Spirit. (Luke 21:34,35; Romans 8:5-8, 12:1-2, 14:17-18; 1 Corinthians. 6:9-10, 18-20; 2 Corinthians 6:14-18; Galatians 5:18-20; Ephesians 5:11; 1 Timothy 2:8-10, 4:12; James 4:4; 1 John 2:15-17; Titus 2:12; Revelation 21:8).
- f. **Tenets of Faith.** Members shall adhere to the Tenets of Faith as set forth in the Bylaws of this church.
- g. **Cooperation.** Members shall indicate a willingness to cooperate in the work of this church, to be governed by its Bylaws, and to contribute regularly to its financial support as the Lord may prosper.
- h. **Age.** Members shall be at least eighteen (18) years of age.

- i. Application for Membership.** Applicants shall have regularly attended the services of, and supported, this church for a period of at least three (3) consecutive months prior to the date of application for membership. Applicants shall use the form as provided by the Assemblies of God, Michigan Ministry Network.

Section 2. Reception of Members

After being clearly informed of the privileges and responsibilities of membership, applicants who have been endorsed for membership by the Pastor and Official Board may publicly be received at any service and their names added to the membership roll. No applicant for membership shall be accepted as a member within thirty (30) days before an annual or special business meeting.

Section 3. Inactive Members

Those who have moved from the community but have not yet transferred their membership to another church, and those who for other reasons (except physical disability or temporary absence from the community), shall have absented themselves from the regular services of the church for a period of ninety (90) days or more shall be classified as inactive members by the Pastor and Official Board. They shall be notified of such action and shall not be qualified to participate in the business of the church.

Such inactive members may be restored to full membership following their resumption of church attendance of not less than thirty (30) days, and if they have not departed from the standard of membership of the church. Their names may be returned to the active list upon their request and by action of the Official Board, without public reception into membership again.

Section 4. Revision of Membership and Discipline of Members

It shall be the duty of the Pastor and Official Board to revise the membership roll of the church at least once a year and 45 days prior to the annual business meeting.

The names of those whose lives no longer conform to the standards of membership, or who willfully cause discord within the church by word or action (Romans 16:17,18) may be removed from the membership roll by the action of the Pastor and Official Board. Notification will be given to a member so removed. If individuals removed from membership shall protest the action of the Official Board, they are able appeal the decision to the Network Affiliated Director or the Director's designee.

Section 5. Transfer of Membership

- a. Transfer to another church.** A letter of transfer of membership signed by the Pastor shall be granted upon the request of the individual desiring the membership transfer. The letter shall be addressed to the Pastor and or Official Board of the receiving church and shall state whether or not the member is in good standing.

b. Transfer from another church. When an individual desires to transfer membership to this church from another Assemblies of God church, a letter of transfer of membership shall be requested. The transferring church should state whether or not the individual is in good standing. Responsibility for accepting or rejecting the transferee for membership shall rest with the Official Board. If a letter of transfer cannot be obtained in a timely matter and/or for verified reasons, the Official Board can approve membership at the request of the Lead Pastor.

Section 6. Arbitration

Inasmuch as the Scriptures require Christians to take their disputes to other believers and not to the civil courts (1 Corinthians 6:1-8), all disputes which may arise between any member of the church and the church itself (including any officer or director thereof), while he or she is a member, shall be resolved by binding arbitration if efforts to mediate or conciliate the dispute have failed. Either party to the dispute may initiate the arbitration process by filing with the other party a written request for arbitration within a reasonable time after the dispute has arisen and efforts to mediate or conciliate have failed. In such a case, the member and the church shall each name an arbitrator, and the two so selected shall name a third. All arbitrators must be born-again Christians, who have received the baptism in the Holy Spirit (according to Acts 2:4) and who are members in good standing of an Assemblies of God church. The third arbitrator chosen by the other two shall disclose, before the appointment, any financial or personal interest in the outcome of the arbitration, and any existing or past financial, professional, family or social relationships which are likely to affect impartiality or might reasonably create an appearance of partiality or bias. Either of the parties to the arbitration, on the basis of such disclosures, may disqualify such a candidate from serving as a third arbitrator. A third arbitrator who serves without objection from either party has a continuing duty to disclose relationships or interests which may impair impartiality. Either party, regardless of the stage of the arbitration process, may, on the basis of such disclosures, disqualify such a person from further participation. The arbitration process shall not proceed until the third arbitrator is selected.

The arbitrators shall appoint the time and place for the hearing and cause notification to the parties to be served personally or by registered mail not less than five (5) days before the hearing. Appearance at the hearing waives such notice. The arbitrators may adjourn the hearing from time to time as necessary, and, on the request of a party and for good cause upon their own motion, may postpone the hearing to a later date. The arbitrators may hear and determine the controversy upon the evidence produced notwithstanding the failure of a party duly notified to appear. The parties are entitled to be heard, to present evidence material to the controversy, and to cross-examine witnesses appearing at the hearing. The hearing shall be conducted by all arbitrators, but a majority of them may determine any question or render a final award. If, during the course of the hearing, an arbitrator for any reason ceases to act, the arbitrator shall be replaced in the same manner in which the arbitrator was originally selected. The arbitrators may, in their absolute discretion, admit as evidence any affidavit or declaration concerning the matter in dispute, a copy thereof having been given at least three (3) days previously to the party against whom the same is offered, but that person whose evidence is so taken shall be subject to cross-

examination by such party. The arbitrators shall have the power to order and direct what they shall deem necessary to be done by either of the parties relating to the matters in the dispute. Costs and awards of the arbitration shall be assessed at the discretion of the arbitrators, who may award by and whom they shall be paid. Any submission of a dispute shall not be revoked by the death of any party to the dispute and award will be binding upon such person's heirs and successors.

The decision of the arbitrators shall be binding on both parties, and both parties shall submit themselves to the personal jurisdiction of the courts of Michigan, both state and federal, for the entry of a judgment confirming the arbitrator's award. The arbitration process is not a substitute for any disciplinary process set forth in the Constitution and Bylaws of The General Council of the Assemblies of God and the Assemblies of God, Michigan Ministry Network, and shall in no way affect the authority of The General Council of the Assemblies of God and the Assemblies of God, Michigan Ministry Network, to investigate reports of misconduct, conduct hearings, or administer discipline. Any matter not provided for herein shall be governed by the provisions of the Uniform Arbitration Act.

ARTICLE V. ADMINISTRATION

Section 1. Corporate Officers

The officers of the church are made up of the Network Affiliated Director or Director's designee, who will serve as President, the Lead Pastor who will serve as Vice-President, the Secretary, the Treasurer, the Network Superintendent, the Assistant Network Superintendent and Secretary/Treasurer of the Assemblies of God Michigan Ministry Network.

Section 2. Official Board

The Pastor of the church and the appointed Board shall serve as the Official Board of the church. Each church shall have a minimum of two appointed Board Members from the church body, one serving as Board Secretary and one serving as Board Treasurer. The Network Affiliated Director, or the Director's designee shall be an ex-officio member of the Official Board.

Section 3. Appointments

- a. The Network Superintendent and the Network Affiliated Director shall appoint a Pastor. In making Pastoral appointments, they shall endeavor to determine how the proposed appointment will be received by the members of the church.
- b. The Network Affiliated Director or the Director's designee in conjunction with the Lead Pastor, when one is serving in that role, may appoint Board Members as the church progresses and qualified personnel become available. Such appointments are for one (1) year and may be renewed.

- c. The Network Affiliated Director or the Director's designee in conjunction with the Pastor shall appoint a Secretary and Treasurer. Such appointments are for one (1) year and may be renewed.

Section 4. Qualifications of Board Members

Minimum requirements for Board Members shall be as follows:

- a. Meet the minimum requirements for membership.
- b. Be at least twenty-one (21) years of age.
- c. Have been an active member of the church for at least one (1) year.
- d. Meet the high standards that Scripture sets for leadership regarding maturity, attitude and behavior (1 Timothy 3:8-13; Titus 1:5-9; Hebrews 13:17; Ephesians 4:1-3).

Due to the high priority the Scriptures place on marriage, an individual who has been divorced and has a former spouse still living shall not be eligible to serve as an Official Board Member, **unless** the divorce occurred prior to his or her conversion (2 Corinthians 5:17), or for the scriptural causes of a former spouse's marital unfaithfulness (Matthew 19:9), or the abandonment of the believer by the unbeliever (1 Corinthians 7:10-15), or in the case of domestic violence by a spouse to a spouse of child (Psalm 11:5; 146:5-9; Proverbs 6:16; Isaiah 1:16-17; Ephesians 4:1-33, 31-32; Ephesians 5).

- e. When there are not enough qualified members eligible The Network Affiliated Director may, in the best interests of the church, appoint non-members to the Official Board. Any non-member appointed Board Members shall meet the minimum requirements of membership.

Section 5. Duties of Board Members and Boards

- a. **Pastor.** The Pastor shall:

- 1) Be recognized as the spiritual leader of the church.
- 2) Have general oversight of the church and shall direct all its activities. The pastor shall also be amenable to the counsel of the Network Affiliated Director or Director's designee. All other officers or committees who may be appointed shall serve under the Pastor's supervision.
- 3) Serve as chairperson of the Official Board.
- 4) In consultation with the Board Members, prepare an annual budget and submit it to the Network Affiliated Director or the Director's designee for review and approval prior to the beginning of the church's fiscal year.

- 5) Serve as Vice-President of the Corporation. The Vice-President, with the President, shall sign all legal documents.

b. Official Board. The Official Board shall:

- 1) Meet no less than six (6) times a year, upon the call of the Pastor.
- 2) Authorize any non-budgeted church expenditure up to \$7,500 with the approval of the Network Affiliated Director or the Director's designee.

c. Secretary. The Secretary shall:

- 1) Keep the minutes of the meetings of the Official Board and of the annual and special business meetings of the church.
- 2) Keep a record of the membership of the church. They shall perform any other duties necessary to the proper discharge of the duties of the office.
- 3) Be the custodian of all legal documents and be responsible to forward copies to the Network Affiliated Director.

d. Treasurer. The Treasurer shall:

- 1) Be the custodian of the funds of the church and make sure deposits are made in the name of the church in a financial institution approved by the Official Board.
- 2) Ensure an accurate record of the disbursements and receipts of all departments and conduct the work of the office according to accepted methods of business.
- 3) Supply a report, and other reports as requested, to the Official Board and Network Affiliated Director or the Director's designee.
- 4) Have the financial reports of the church reviewed at least once a year by an outside professional.

e. Board members. The Board Members shall:

- 1) Serve as the trustees of the Corporation. Their fiduciary responsibilities shall include the duties of due care and diligence, loyalty, avoidance of self-dealing, expending designated contributions for the purposes specified, and not co-mingling personal and corporate funds.
- 2) Serve in an advisory capacity to the Pastor in matters pertaining to the life of the church.

3) Assist the Pastor in such matters as the Pastor may request.

f. Network Affiliated Director. The Network Affiliated Director, or the Director's designee shall:

1) Serve as President of the Corporation.

2) Be a signatory on all bank accounts.

3) With the Vice-President, sign all legal documents.

4) Serve as chairperson or designate a chairperson for all business meetings.

All officers shall serve under the direction of the Network Affiliated Director. Any action taken by the officers or by the church shall be subject to review and approval by the Network Affiliated Director or the Director's designee, who shall have authority to remove any officer or make new appointments as may seem advisable.

Section 6. Network Advice and Counsel

The Pastor or Board Members of the church may seek the advice and counsel of the Network Affiliated Director at any time.

ARTICLE VI. BUSINESS MEETINGS

Section 1. Parliamentary Order

To facilitate the work of the church and to avoid confusion in its deliberations, all business meetings shall be governed by accepted rules of parliamentary procedure as set forth in *Roberts' Rules of Order Newly Revised*, in keeping with the spirit of Christian love and fellowship under the guidance of the Holy Spirit.

Section 2. Annual Business Meeting

There shall be an annual business meeting of the church, at which time reports shall be given and pertinent matters discussed as may be placed on the agenda by the Pastor, along with the Official Board Members, and the Network Affiliated Director or the Director's designee. The time and date of this meeting shall be set by the Lead Pastor in corporation with the Official Board. The announcement or notification shall be made at least two (2) Sundays prior to the date of the meeting.

The Pastor shall serve as the chairperson of the annual business meeting. In the event that the Pastorate is vacant, the Network Affiliated Director or the Director's Designee shall serv as the chairperson.

The order of business shall include: A presentation of previous years minutes, a financial report and additional items added to the agenda by the Pastor and Official Board.

A copy of the annual business meeting minutes shall be sent to the Network Affiliated Director, or the Director's designee, within fourteen days of the annual business meeting.

Section 3. Special Business Meetings

Special business meetings may be called by the Pastor, Network Affiliated Director or the Director's designee, or by petition signed by not less than thirty percent (30%) of the active members of the church. Announcement or notification, including the purpose of the special meeting, shall be made at least two (2) Sundays prior to the date of the meeting.

The President, or the President's designee, shall serve as the chairperson of all Special Business Meetings.

Section 4. Quorum and Voting Constituency

Active members of the church responding to a call for a regular or special business meeting who are in good standing shall constitute a quorum and shall be entitled to vote. Absentee ballots shall not be allowed.

ARTICLE VII. PROPERTY

Section 1. Incorporation

The church shall be incorporated under the laws of the State of Michigan. Its property shall be held in its corporate name subject to the provisions in Section 4 Property Rights below. If, on the acquisition of property or the construction of a building, the church shall require the signatures of the Michigan Ministry Network Corporate Officers with approval of the Network Presbytery Board. The church's property shall be held in the legal name of the Network Affiliated Church. No assets of the Network Affiliate Church shall not held in the name of any individual.

Section 2. Right to Own

No real, personal, intellectual, tangible and intangible, or other property of whatever kind, of the church in excess of a fair market value of \$10,000, shall be taken, or sold, leased, mortgaged or otherwise alienated, without the same having been authorized by the Network Presbyter Board and at least a two-thirds (66.6%) vote of the membership present at any duly called business meeting. The proposed action shall be announced in the notice of the business meeting.

Section 3. Certification

The Network Officiary shall certify in such conveyance, lease, or mortgage, that the same has been duly authorized by the vote of the membership. Such certification shall be held to be conclusive evidence thereof.

Section 4. Property Rights

Notwithstanding language to the contrary in these Bylaws, if the Presbyter Board determines, in its sole and unrestricted discretion, that a church has ceased to be a viable church, or no longer adheres to Assemblies of God doctrine and practices, then the Presbyter Board shall have the option to take possession of and full title to all real, personal, intellectual, tangible and intangible, or other property of whatever kind of the church on behalf of the Assemblies of God, Michigan Network, an ecclesiastical corporation organized under the laws of the State of Michigan with headquarters in Brighton. It is the parent body for Assemblies of God churches in Michigan and is an integral part of the General Council of the Assemblies of God, whose national headquarters is in Springfield, Missouri, organized exclusively to operate for religious purposes with tax exempt status under Section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code. The Assemblies of God, Michigan Ministry Network, shall forthwith have full authority to use or dispose of the property at the discretion of the Presbyter Board. Proceeds from the sale or rental of any property under this provision shall be consistent with the Michigan Ministry Network Constitution and Bylaws.

ARTICLE VIII. DEPARTMENTS

All departments and department leaders shall be under the direct supervision of the Pastor who may personally direct their activities. The Pastor may, in consultation with the Board Members, appoint competent leaders as deemed advisable.

ARTICLE IX. REPRESENTATION

This Network Affiliated Church shall be entitled to send one (1) lay delegate to each Network and Sectional Council in addition to its Pastor.

ARTICLE X. DEVELOPMENT

The Pastor will endeavor to develop the church to a place of maturity where it may be advanced in its classification. Advancement to a General Council status shall be upon the recommendation of the Network Affiliated Director in accordance with provisions of the Network Bylaws. When said advancement is approved by the Network Presbyter Board, the church shall be governed by the appropriate Bylaws approved the Network Secretary/Treasurer and by a two-thirds (66.6%) majority vote of the membership present at any duly called business meeting.