## **CONSTITUTION & BYLAWS**

#### **ZAIK Church**

Maranatha Worship Center First Assembly of God Wichita, Kansas

#### **PREAMBLE**

Whereas, it is the express purpose of God, our Heavenly Father, to call out of the world a saved people who shall constitute the body or church of our Lord Jesus Christ, built and established upon the foundation of the apostles and prophets, Jesus Christ Himself being the chief cornerstone; and

Whereas, The members of the body, the church (Ecclesia) of Jesus Christ, are enjoined to assemble themselves together for worship, fellowship, counsel, the ministry and for the exercise of those spiritual gifts and offices provided for in the New Testament,

Therefore be it resolved, that we recognize ourselves a body of Christian believers according to the scriptural plan for the local church and under the laws of the State of Kansas, that we may worship God as a united body, exercising all other rights and privileges granted to religious bodies.

Further be it resolved, That we recognize ourselves to be in cooperative fellowship with the General Council of the Assemblies of God, with national headquarters at Springfield, Missouri, and an active member of the Kansas District Council of the Assemblies of God, and shall share in the privileges and assume the responsibilities enjoined by that affiliation.

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## CONSTITUTION

## **ARTICLE I - NAME**

This church shall be known as Maranatha Worship Center, First Assembly of God, Incorporated, of the city of Wichita, state of Kansas. DBA 'Doing Business As': ZAIK Church.

#### **ARTICLE II - MISSION STATEMENT**

The mission of this Church shall be:

- A. To establish and maintain a place for worship.
- B. To conduct under the guidance of the Holy Scriptures the work of evangelizing both the home and foreign field in obedience to the command of the Lord Jesus (Matt. 28:19,20); and in harmony with the teaching and practice of His servants, the apostles (Acts 8:4,5,25,35-40; 13:1-4; 16:6,10; Rom. 15:18-21; 2 Cor. 10:16; Rom. 10:12-17).
- C. To establish such efforts of ministry as may be necessary for the propagation of the Gospel and the support of missionary activity.

### **ARTICLE III - PREROGATIVES**

- A. This Assembly of God shall have the right to govern itself according to the standards of the New Testament Scriptures, "endeavoring to keep the unity of the Spirit in the bond of peace.... Til we all come in the unity of the faith, and the knowledge of the Son of God, unto a perfect man, unto the measure of the stature of fullness of Christ." (Ephesians 4:3,12)
- B. In connection therewith, or incidental thereto, it shall have the right to purchase or acquire by gift, bequest, or otherwise, either directly or as trustee, and to own, hold in trust, use, sell, convey, mortgage, lease, or otherwise dispose of any land or buildings as may be necessary for the furtherance of its purposes; all in accordance with its constitution and bylaws or as the same may be hereafter amended.

## ARTICLE IV - TENETS OF FAITH or STATEMENT OF FUNDAMENTAL TRUTHS

The human phraseology employed in this statement is not inspired nor 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 truth in the Bible, only that it covers our present needs as to these fundamental matters. We affirm the statements of the fundamental truths approved by the General Council of the Assembly of God.

- 1. The Scriptures Inspired: The Scriptures, both the Old and New Testaments, are verbally inspired of God and are the revelation of God to man, the infallible, authoritative rule of faith and conduct. (2 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 Spirit. (Deuteronomy 6:4; Isaiah 43:10,11; Matthew 28:19; Luke 3:22)
- 3. The Deity of the Lord Jesus Christ

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

His virgin birth, (Matthew 1:23; Luke 1:31; Luke 1:35)

His sinless life, (Hebrews 7:26; 1 Peter 2:22)

His miracles, (Acts 2:22; Acts 10:38)

His substitutionary work on the cross, (1 Corinthians 15:3; 2 Corinthians 5:21)

His bodily resurrection from the dead, (Matthew 28:6; Luke 24:39; 1 Corinthians 15:4)

His exaltation to the right hand of God. (Acts 1:9; Acts 1:11; Acts 2:33; Philippians 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 own 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; Genesis 2:17; Genesis 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 to Salvation

Salvation is received through repentance toward God and faith toward the Lord Jesus Christ. By the washing of regeneration and renewing of the Holy Spirit, 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; Titus 3:5-7)

b. The Evidence 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. Ordnances of the Church:
  - a. Baptism in Water

The ordinance of baptism by immersion is commanded by 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 the 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 Spirit 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 enduement 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; Acts 1:8; 1 Corinthians 12:1-31)

This experience is distinct from and subsequent to the experience of the new birth. (Acts 8:12-17; Acts 10:44-46; Acts 11:14-16; Acts 15:7-9)

With the baptism in the Holy Spirit 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 Spirit 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, but is different in purpose and use. (1 Corinthians 12:4-10; 1 Corinthians 12:28)

## 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)

The Scriptures teach a life of "holiness without which no man shall see the Lord." (Hebrews 12:14)

By the power of the Holy Spirit 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, and by the 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; Romans 6:13; Romans 8:1,2; Romans 8:13; 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; Ephesians 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, 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:

To be an agency of God for evangelizing the world. (Acts 1:8; Matthew 28:19,20; Mark 16:15,16)

To be a corporate body in which man may worship God. (1 Corinthians 12:13)

To be a channel of God's purpose to build a body of saints being perfected in the image of His Son. (Ephesians 4:11-16; 1 Corinthians 12:28; 1 Corinthians 14:12)

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:

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)

Adds a necessary dimension to worshipful relationship with God. (1 Corinthians 2:10-16; 1 Corinthians 12; 1 Corinthians 13; 1 Corinthians 14)

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 care for the poor and needy of the world. (Galatians 5:22-26; Matthew 25:37-40; Galatians 6:10; 1 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:

Evangelization of the world. (Mark 16:15-20)

Worship of God. (John 4:23,24)

Building a body of saints being perfected in the image of His Son. (Ephesians 4:11-16)

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 earth for one thousand years. (Zechariah 14:5; Matthew 24:27; Matthew 24:30; Revelation 1:7; Revelation 19:11-14; Revelation 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; Psalms 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 the 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; Revelation 20:11-15; Revelation 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; Revelation 22)

## ARTICLE V - MINISTRY PARTNERS

The legal voting ministry partnership of the church shall consist of all persons born of the Spirit, in good standing, who have met the ministry partner requirements of the church as set forth in the bylaws, ARTICLE II – MINISTRY PARTNERSHIP, Section 1. THE STANDARD OF MINISTRY PARTNERSHIP, and whose names shall appear on the church roster.

### ARTICLE VI - MARRIAGE

We recognize that God created male and female (Genesis 1:27). A person's gender is determined by their biological sex at birth. God established marriage between a man and a woman (Genesis 2:24; Matthew 19:4-6).

This Church will not permit any pastor of the Church, nor others, to use any part of the church facilities or property, to perform any type of marriage, cohabitation, or covenant ceremony for persons who are not ministry partners of the church.

#### **ARTICLE VII - FINANCE**

The church shall be primarily supported financially according to the scriptural method, of the tithes and offerings; and by other special approved projects. (Malachi 3:10)

## **ARTICLE VII - GOVERNMENT**

#### Section 1. THE EXECUTIVE BOARD

The Executive Board of the Church shall consist of the Senior Pastor, the Secretary, and the Treasurer. If the Treasurer who is appointed by the Board of Elders is not from the Board; then a third person of the Executive Board shall be chosen from any of the ministry partners meeting the qualifications of the bylaws, , Section 3. CHURCH LEADERSHIP.

#### Section 2. THE OFFICIAL BOARD

There may be three boards, the Board of Elders, the Board of Deacons (At the discretion of the lead pastor and Board of Elders), and Additional Departments (At the discretion of the lead pastor and Board of Elders). The Elder Board shall consist of the Pastor and then at least five individuals elected by the church, sound in faith, of good report, filled with the Holy Spirit according to Acts 2:4 and/or actively seeking the Baptism of the Holy Spirit, and must be in agreeance with the Tenants of Faith as provided in the constitution, ARTICLE IV - TENETS OF FAITH or STATEMENT OF FUNDAMENTAL TRUTHS. The Board of Elders shall qualify according to the scriptural standards set forth in Acts 6:3 and 1 Timothy 3:8-13 and the bylaws.

The Board of Deacons shall consist of the Pastor and individuals chosen by the Pastor and the Elder Board who meet the criteria found in the bylaws, ARTICLE V - GOVERNMENT AND OFFICIAL FUNCTIONS Section 3. CHURCH LEADERSHIP.

The Lead Pastor shall be the Chairman of the Official Boards.

## **ARTICLE IX - MEETINGS**

#### Section 1. REGULAR CHURCH SERVICES

Meetings for public worship shall be held each Weekend and during the week as may be provided for under the direction of the Lead Pastor and the Official Board of Elders.

## Section 2. BUSINESS MEETINGS

- A. The annual business meeting of the church shall be held in the first quarter of each year.
- B. Special business meetings of the church may be called:
  - a. By the Lead Pastor.
  - b. By the Secretary of the church upon the written order of the majority of the Board of Elders
  - c. By the petition of ministry partners of the church exercising the right of initiative found in the constitution, ARTICLE XI RIGHT OF INITIATIVE.

#### Section 3. NOTICES OF BUSINESS MEETINGS

A. Notice of a business meeting of the Church shall include the time, place, and whether the same is an annual or a special business meeting.

B. Notice of annual or special business meetings shall be announced from the pulpit on the two preceding Sundays and shall be provided to the active ministry partners two weeks preceding the special meeting.

## ARTICLE X - QUORUM

Those ministry partners present shall constitute a quorum. The Board of Elders shall determine if there is an adequate number present to conduct the official business of the church.

## ARTICLE XI - RIGHT OF INITIATIVE

Any active ministry partner may exercise the right of initiative in the calling of a special business meeting of the church by presenting a request signed by at least one-third of the active ministry partnership of the church, to the Lead Pastor or Secretary of the church, who shall proceed to issue a call for said meeting as prescribed in the constitution, ARTICLE IX - MEETINGS, Section 2. BUSINESS MEETINGS.

#### **ARTICLE XII - AMENDMENTS**

Amendments to this constitution may be made by a two-thirds vote of the ministry partnership of the church present at any of its regular or special business meetings. Proposed amendments to the constitution shall be provided to all active ministry partners not less than two weeks prior to the meeting and shall be included in all subsequent announcements of the meeting. However, constitution Article IV – TENETS OF FAITH, shall not be amended except in the case where the TENENTS OF FAITH are amended, to stay in accordance with the TENENTS OF FAITH of the General Council of the Assembly of God. The district officer shall approve all Amendments to the constitution.

## **BYLAWS**

## ARTICLE I - ORDER

In order to facilitate the conduct of business in an orderly and satisfactory manner, business meetings shall be governed by the accepted rules of parliamentary procedure, which include but are not limited to.

- One subject should be discussed at a time
- Personal attacks are to be avoided in debate
- Debate must be limited to the merits of the question

#### ARTICLE II - MINISTRY PARTNERSHIP

## Section 1. THE STANDARD OF MINISTRY PARTNERSHIP

The standard of ministry partnership of this church shall be:

- A. Evidence of a genuine experience in salvation (the new birth). John 1:12, 13; 3:3-8; 1 Peter 1:18-25
- B. Evidence of a consistent Christian life. Rom. 6:4; 8:1-4; 13:13, 14; Eph. 4:17-32; 5:1,2,5; 1 John 1:6,7
- C. To fully subscribe to the tenets of faith as set forth in constitution, ARTICLE IV TENETS OF FAITH or STATEMENT OF FUNDAMENTAL TRUTHS.
  - a. Successfully complete a ministry partnership training course as established by the Church.
- D. Contribute regularly to the support of the church according to his or her ability and verified by the Executive Board. Malachi 3:10; Matthew 23:23; Luke 6:38; 1 Corinthians 16:2; 2 Corinthians 6-8.
- E. Must be at least 18 years of age.

### Section 2. RECEPTION OF MINISTRY PARTNERS

- A. Persons desiring to become ministry partners of the church shall contact the Lead Pastor, who shall examine the applicant according to the standard of ministry partnership. (Bylaws ARTICLE II MINISTRY PARTNERSHIP, Section 1. THE STANDARD OF MINISTRY PARTNERSHIP)
- B. The Lead Pastor shall present the names of those who apply for ministry partnership with his recommendation to the Board of Elders who shall act upon said recommendation and render a final decision. All persons who have met the ministry partner requirements and have been accepted shall be received into the church and their names inscribed on the church roster.

## Section 3 DISCIPLINE OF MINISTRY PARTNERS

Any ministry partner (or MWC attendee) under charges for unscriptural conduct, sharp disagreements of church theology, opposition of church philosophy and mission, or radical departure from the tenets held by the church shall be temporarily suspended from active ministry partnership and from any leadership positions pending investigation. The Lead Pastor and Board of Elders will render the final decision. (See constitution ARTICLE IV - TENETS OF FAITH or STATEMENT OF FUNDAMENTAL TRUTHS). Matt. 18:15-18; Rom. 16:17,18; 1 Cor. 5:11; Gal. 1:8,9; Titus 3:1-11

#### The general procedure is as follows:

- A. In the event of a serious conflict arising in the life of a ministry partner or ministry partners, if reconciliation cannot be resolved according to Scripture, they shall have the right to appeal to the Lead Pastor and the Elder Board.
- B. Unscriptural conduct and/or doctrinal departure from the tenets of faith held by this Church (constitution ARTICLE IV TENETS OF FAITH or STATEMENT OF FUNDAMENTAL TRUTHS) shall be

considered sufficient grounds upon which any persons may be disqualified as a ministry partner. Disciplinary measures shall be prayerfully administered by the Lead Pastor and Elder Board in accordance with the Scriptures. Matthew 18:15-18; Romans 16:17-18; 1 Corinthians 5:9-13; Galatians 1:8-9; 2 Thessalonians 3:11-15; Titus 3:1-15

- C. No allegations or charges of misconduct shall be considered by the Lead Pastor and the Church Board unless made in writing and duly subscribed to and signed.
- D. When formal charges have been made against a ministry partner, the Lead Pastor and the Elder Board shall decide whether or not the charges merit further action. If so, the ministry partners so charged shall be advised in writing, by the Lead Pastor and a date set for a hearing before the Lead Pastor and the Elder Board, at which time the evidence presented shall be considered and a decision shall be determined by secret ballot by the Elder Board. At least two-thirds majority vote of those Elder Board Members present shall be necessary to establish guilt.
- E. If guilt is established, the Lead Pastor and the Elder Board shall decide what disciplinary action shall be taken. If genuine contrition, sorrow and repentance are not evident on the part of the one charged, suspension of ministry partnership and its privileges, along with any public ministry may be considered as disciplinary action up to and including removing from the body.
- F. Whenever any disciplinary action has been taken, it should be considered remedial and every effort made to restore the offender. Matthew 18; 2 Corinthians 2:6-11; Galatians 6:1,2; 1 Timothy 18-20; Titus 3:10

## Section 4. REMOVAL OF MINISTRY PARTNERSHIP

- A. Inactive Ministry Partnership: Any ministry partner of the church who shall willfully be absent from the regular services for a period of two consecutive months (as revealed by giving records and attendance) shall be placed on an inactive ministry partnership roster unless such absence is due to health issues, military service, or other reasonable cause. The Staff will review and finalize the active ministry partnership list prior to the annual business meeting.
- B. Removal of Ministry Partnership:
  - a. Ministry Partners of the church may be removed from the ministry partnership or placed on inactive ministry partnership status under the following conditions:
    - 1. Ministry partners may terminate their ministry partnership by written notice to the Church.
    - 2. Any ministry partner who shall be under disciplinary actions may be temporarily suspended from active voting ministry partnership pending investigation and final decision in their case by the Elder Board.
    - 3. Ministry partners may apply to transfer membership to another congregation in writing to the Church.
    - 4. Ministry partners may lose their ministry partnership if they cease to keep the requirements and standards of ministry partnership as set forth in the bylaws, ARTICLE II MINISTRY PARTNERSHIP, Section 1. THE STANDARD OF MINISTRY PARTNERSHIP. Prior to this action, the Elder Board shall have reviewed this matter completely, made provision for them to have a personal interview and determined, by a two-thirds majority of those Elder Board Members present, that this action is necessary to maintain the health and well-being of the church. Notice of this action and the reasons therefore shall be provided in writing to the ministry partner.

## Section 5. REINSTATEMENT OF MINISTRY PARTNERSHIP

- A. Reinstatement of Ministry partnership:
  - a. Dismissed ministry partners may be restored to the ministry partnership according to the spirit of 2 Corinthians 2:7-8 and Galatians 6:1-2. Restoration of ministry partnership shall require a two-thirds majority vote by the Elder Board.

### Section 6. VOTING PRIVILEGES OF MINISTRY PARTNERS

Shall be applicable to Active Ministry Partners as defined in the bylaws, ARTICLE II – MINISTRY PARTNERSHIP, Section 1. THE STANDARD OF MINISTRY PARTNERSHIP.

#### ARTICLE III – FINANCE

#### Section 1. CHURCH SUPPORT

All funds for the maintenance of the church shall be provided primarily by voluntary contributions, tithes, offerings, and by other special approved projects. Offerings shall be accepted by the church at such times and in such ways as agreed upon by the Senior Pastor and Treasurer, and shall be administered by the Financial Director under the authority of the lead pastor. Mal. 3:10; Luke 6:38; 1 Cor. 16:1-2; Prov. 3:9-10; James 1:27; Acts 6:1-3

#### Section 2. PASTORAL SUPPORT

The Lead Pastor and all other paid staff members shall be given regular and adequate financial support, the amount and manner of which shall be determined by the Board of Elders and the Lead Pastor. 1 Cor. 9:6,8, 1 Tim. 5:18

#### **ARTICLE IV - PROPERTY RIGHTS**

- A. All property, land or buildings shall be taken, held, sold, transferred, or conveyed in the church or corporate name.
- B. No land or buildings of the Church shall be sold, leased, mortgaged or otherwise alienated without the same shall have been authorized by at least two-thirds majority vote of the ministry partnership present at a duly called business meeting.
- C. The Lead Pastor and the Secretary of the church shall certify in such conveyance, lease, or mortgage that the same has been duly authorized by the vote of the church. Such certificate shall be held to be conclusive evidence thereof.
- D. In the event that the church herein mentioned ceases to function as a church body, then the said property, real or chattel, shall revert to the Kansas District Council of the Assemblies of God Inc., whose headquarters are located in Maize, Kansas. The Kansas District Council shall forthwith have full authority to use or dispose of the property at their discretion. In the event of the sale of the property by the Kansas District Council of the Assemblies of God, the property proceeds derived therefrom shall be used by the said District Council in furtherance of the Gospel of Christ.

## ARTICLE V - GOVERNMENT AND OFFICIAL FUNCTIONS

## Section 1. THE LEAD PASTOR

- A. Title: The Lead Pastor is designated in the Scriptures as the head of the church under the leadership of the Lord Jesus, and is referred to under the title "Pastor" (Eph. 4:11), "Overseer/Elder" (Acts 20:28, 1 Timothy 3, Titus 2, and "Shepherd" (1 Pet. 5:13).
- B. Election: The Lead Pastor shall be elected to office by a two-thirds majority of the ballots cast by the ministry partners of the church at any regular or special business meeting.
- C. Term of Office: The term of the Lead Pastor's office shall be for an indefinite period of time. When one party desires its discontinuance, the other party shall be entitled to one month's notice. This notice is to be in writing. A special meeting of the Board of Elders shall be called to consider the matter.
- D. Duties
  - a. The Lead Pastor shall be chairman of the Board of Elders and Board of Deacons (if instated).

- b. The Lead Pastor shall preside over all business meetings of the church.
- c. The Lead Pastor shall be the general supervisor of all activities of the church, and shall be an exofficio member of all boards and committees.
- d. Finally, the Lead Pastor shall perform all those duties which properly belong to the scriptural ideal for a Lead Pastor.

## Section 2. THE CHURCH STAFF

There may be a church staff consisting of personnel selected by the Lead Pastor with the approval of the majority of the Board of Elders. This staff shall work under the supervision of the Lead Pastor. They shall perform such duties as assigned and harmoniously cooperate with the total ministry of the church. Their duties shall be decided by the Lead Pastor.

## Section 3. CHURCH LEADERSHIP

### A. Board of Elders

There shall be a Board of Elders chosen to direct the ministry of the church which shall consist of no less than five individuals. The Elder serves by leading.

## a. Elder Qualification

All members of the Elder Board shall meet the following requirements:

- 1. Spiritual Qualifications
  - A. Full of the Holy Spirit. Acts 2:4; Acts 6:1-3
  - B. Above reproach/blameless/holy. 1 Tim. 3:2; Titus 1:6
  - C. Husband of one wife. 1 Tim. 3:2; Titus 1:6)
    - i. Cannot be divorced and remarried with a former spouse living unless the divorce occurred prior to his or her conversion and cannot be married to a divorced person unless the divorce occurred prior to his or her conversion, or for the Scriptural causes of a former spouse's marital unfaithfulness (Matthew 19:9), or the abandonment of the believer by the unbeliever (I Corinthians 7:10-15). Subject to the review of the Senior Pastor and Elder Board.
  - D. Temperate and self-controlled. 1 Tim. 3:2; Titus 1:8
  - E. Gentle and not given to violence or quick tempered. 1 Tim. 3:3; Titus 1:7
  - F. Respectable, hospitable, and good reputation with outsiders. 1 Tim. 3:2,7; Titus 1:8
  - G. Able to teach, holding fast to the word of God, be able to defend your faith. 1 Tim. 3:2; Titus 1:9; 1 Peter 3:15
  - H. Sober minded and not given to drunkenness. 1 Tim. 3:2; Titus 1:7-8
  - Manages his household well including family and finances; not greedy or covetous. 1 Tim.
     3:3-4; Titus 1:6-7; 1 Peter 5:2
  - J. Must not be a recent convert. 1 Tim. 3:6
  - K. They must keep hold of the deep truths of the faith with a clear conscience. 1 Tim. 3:9; Titus 1:5; Hebrews 11:2
  - L. Spouses must be worthy of respect not malicious talkers but temperate and trustworthy in everything. 1 Tim. 3:11
  - M. Missions focus to reach and save the lost. Matthew 28:16-20

#### 2. Other Qualifications

- A. Actively strengthening personal relationship with Christ through prayer, Bible reading, and meditation in the Word.
- B. Must be a regular contributor of tithe (Malachi 3:10) and offerings to the support of the church.
- C. Must manifest a faithfulness in church attendance, be loyal in support, participate in related group activities and services, and be known to be a witness for Christ in word and life.

- D. Must be known to be in general agreement with the Lead Pastor, Tenants of Faith, and the mission of the church.
- E. Must be at least 21 years of age
- F. Must not be a Church Staff member or the spouse of an active Church Staff member.
- G. Must be an active ministry partner of the church at least 1 year, having demonstrated spiritual leadership within the church.
- H. Must not actively hold credentials within the Assembly of God.
- I. The board members shall maintain insight into the health and well-being of the vision, mission of the church and its services.

## b. Responsibilities

Members of the Elder Board mutually expect each member to be committed to:

- 1. Spiritual Responsibilities
  - A. Shepard the flock being an example to the Church. 1 Peter 5:1-4; Acts 20:28-31
  - B. Conflict resolution and discipline in accordance with scripture Matt. 18:15-18; Rom. 16:17,18; 1 Cor. 5:11; Gal. 1:8,9; & Titus 3:1-11; Acts 15:6
  - C. Pray for the sick and anointing with oil. James 5:14

## 2. Other Responsibilities

- A. Serving with an attitude that is willing to help whenever and wherever I can.
- B. Living in a manner that exhibits the fruits of the spirit: love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness and self-control both in and out of church.
- C. Uniting in the vision of Church by supporting the Pastor and laying aside personal agendas.
- D. Walking in faith by implementing new ministry ideas and innovative outreach.
- E. Learning by remaining teachable, open, and welcome to new concepts of thought.
- F. Demonstrating personal responsibility and dependability.
- G. Loving by being available and approachable to listen and pray without judging others.
- H. Accountable to fellow believers, and a good steward of church resources.
- I. Expecting only that which is realistic of myself and others, exhibiting grace sufficient to allow for potential failure.
- J. Each Elder will be given a portfolio of their respected responsibilities as defined by the Lead Pastor and Board of Elders
- K. The lead pastor has the discretion of including the spouses of the elected Elders in all meeting as a full participant. Spouses shall not participate as voting members of the Corporate Board of Elders.

## c. Terms of Office

- 1. Elders shall be elected according to the process described in the bylaws, ARTICLE VI NOMINATION AND ELECTIONS.
- 2. The term of office shall be for 3 years commencing with the election of the Annual Business Meeting.
- 3. The position of an Elder shall be renewable without limitation within the guidance of the bylaws, ARTICLE V GOVERNMENT AND OFFICIAL FUNCTIONS, Section 3. CHURCH LEADERSHIP.
- 4. There shall be an annual review of the Elder Board by the Senior Pastor

#### d. Meetings

- 1. The Elder Board shall meet no less than bi-monthly and at additional times as needed.
- 2. Sub-teams may be formed for specific assignment and may meet more frequently based on the needs of those assignments. When present, all such sub-teams are accountable to and shall report to the Elder Board at its regular meetings.

#### B. Board of Deacons

At the decision of the lead pastor there may be a Board of Deacons chosen to assist the ministry of the church. The deacons lead by serving.

## a. Deacon Qualifications

- 1. Spiritual Qualifications
  - A. Full of the Holy Spirit, demonstrating a genuine hunger for God, whose life is being lived in accordance with the Word of God. Acts 2:4; Acts 6:1-3; 1 Tim. 3:8-13
    - a. Above reproach/blameless/holy. 1 Tim. 3:2; Titus 1:6
    - b. Husband of one wife. 1 Tim. 3:12
      - i. Cannot be divorced and remarried with a former spouse living unless the divorce occurred prior to his or her conversion and cannot be married to a divorced person unless the divorce occurred prior to his or her conversion, or for the Scriptural causes of a former spouse's marital unfaithfulness (Matthew 19:9), or the abandonment of the believer by the unbeliever (I Corinthians 7:10-15).
    - c. Respectable, hospitable, and reputation with outsiders. 1 Tim. 3:8-13
    - d. Sober minded and not given to drunkenness. 1 Tim. 3:8
    - e. Manages his household well including family and finances; not greedy or covetous. 1 Tim. 3:12-13
    - f. Must not be a recent convert. 1 Tim. 3:10
    - g. They must keep hold of the deep truths of the faith with a clear conscience. 1 Tim. 3:9-10
    - h. Spouses must be worthy of respect not malicious talkers but temperate and trustworthy in everything. 1 Tim. 3:11

## 2. Other Qualifications

- A. Strengthening personal relationship with Christ through prayer, Bible reading, and meditation in the Word.
- B. Must be a regular contributor of tithe and offerings to the support of the church.
- C. Must manifest a faithfulness in church attendance, be loyal in support, participate in related group activities and services, and be known to be a witness for Christ in word and life.
- D. Must be known to be in general agreement with the Lead Pastor, Tenants of Faith, and the mission of the church.
- E. Must be at least 21 years of age
- F. Must have been an active ministry partner of the Church at least 1 years, having demonstrated spiritual leadership within the church.
- G. Must not actively hold credentials within the Assembly of God.

## b. Responsibilities

- 1. The office of deacon is at the discretion of the Lead Pastor and Board of Elders.
- 2. The office of deacon is described in Scripture (Acts 6) as one entrusted to serve.
- 3. There shall be deacons to contribute and serve the needs of the church.
- 4. The deacons shall be nominated by the Lead Pastor and confirmed by the Elder Board.

## c. Terms of Office

- 1. Deacons shall be appointed by the Lead Pastor and confirmed by the Elder Board effective immediately.
- 2. Term of office shall be indefinite subject to annual review
- 3. The deacons shall be subject to an annual review by the Lead Pastor and Elder Board

## d. Meetings

1. The Deacon Board shall meet no less than bi-monthly and at additional times as needed.

2. Sub-teams may be formed for specific assignment and may meet more frequently based on the needs of those assignments. When present, all such sub-teams are accountable to and shall report to the Elder Board at its regular meetings.

#### C. Executive President

- a. The Lead Pastor shall serve as the executive president unless otherwise designated.
- b. If this position ever needs to be filled by someone other than the Lead Pastor, the Board of Elders may appoint an individual to serve as executive president.

## D. Executive Secretary

- a. The Secretary shall be elected from the Elder Board by the Corporate Board of Elders, with the guidance of the Lead Pastor, no later than the first Elder Board meeting following the Annual Business Meeting each year.
- b. The Executive Secretary shall keep a true and accurate record of all Ministry partners' and the Corporate Board of Elders meetings.
- c. The Executive Secretary shall be the custodian of all legal documents and be in possession of the corporate seal.

## E. Executive Treasurer

- a. The Executive Treasurer shall be elected from the Elder Board by the Corporate Board of Elders, with the guidance of the Lead Pastor, no later than the first Elder Board meeting following the Annual Business Meeting each year. If the Corporate Board of Elders and Lead Pastor think this position needs to be filled by someone other than the Elder Board, they may appoint the Executive Treasurer from the Active Ministry partnership of the Church. If this is done, then a third person on the Executive Board shall be chosen from any of the members of the Corporate Board of Elders. Because of this appointment the Treasurer is not a member of the Corporate Board of Elders with voting privileges.
- b. Shall be knowledgeable about collecting, counting, and recording procedures.
- c. The Executive Treasurer shall see that an itemized account of all receipts and disbursements of all moneys committed to his trust in a proper and business-like manner and shall make a report at the regular meeting of the Elder Board and Annual Business Meeting of the church.
- d. The Executive Treasurer shall see that all deposits and all withdrawals are in manner prescribed in Article III, Section 1 & 2 of the bylaws.
- e. Bookkeeping help may be hired to work under the supervision of the Lead Pastor and Executive Treasurer.

## Section 4. QUORUM FOR BOARDS AND COMMITTEES

A majority of the ministry partnership of any board or committee present at any of its regular or special meetings shall constitute a quorum.

## **ARTICLE VI - NOMINATION AND ELECTIONS**

## Section 1. Nomination

Under the direction of the Lead Pastor, the congregation shall be notified 45 days before the Annual Business Meeting that they may submit nominations. Any active ministry partners wishing to suggest a name to be considered by the Nominating Committee may do so in written and signed request no later than 30 days before the Annual Business Meeting. The nominating committee may nominate additional candidates as required. Each name nominated shall be presented to the committee for consideration and shall be prayerfully considered in regard to the qualifications set forth in Section 3. CHURCH LEADERSHIP. The final decisions will be made by the

Lead Pastor and Nominating Committee. There will be no nominations from the floor as all nominations must be completely evaluated prior to nomination.

## Nominating Committee:

The nominating committee shall consist of the Lead Pastor and individuals/couples from the Elder Board not subject to re-election.

## Section 2. Notification of Nomination

The nominees for any office shall be approached by the Nominating Committee apprising them of their potential nomination. At this time, qualifications and responsibilities for said office will be discussed as defined in Section 3. CHURCH LEADERSHIP. The nominee should be willing to affirm their belief and participation in all these areas. The Nominating Committee shall interview the candidate to verify that they meet the qualifications defined in Section 3. CHURCH LEADERSHIP. The nominating committee shall determine the list and order of candidates.

The Nominating Committee shall provide the candidates to be brought before the ministry partners to be confirmed.

## Section 3. Confirmation of Elders

All nominees shall be confirmed for election by secret ballot by the voting ministry partners. An election shall be declared if the candidate receives a two- thirds majority (yes vote) of the ballots cast. If there should no election on the ballot the nominating committee may choose to submit another candidate or choose to leave the position vacant provided the minimum number of Elder Board members is met as defined in ARTICLE V - GOVERNMENT AND OFFICIAL FUNCTIONS, Section 3. CHURCH LEADERSHIP.

## Section 4. Vacancies of Elders

If an Elder steps down or is removed from the board. The Lead Pastor and remaining Elder Board have the authority to elect a replacement member who meets the qualifications set forth in ARTICLE V - GOVERNMENT AND OFFICIAL FUNCTIONS, Section 3. CHURCH LEADERSHIP for the duration of the previous Elders term. At which time the normal confirmation process shall be followed.

## **ARTICLE VII - VACANCIES**

## Section 1. THE SENIOR PASTOR

- A. When a vacancy in the pastorate shall occur, pulpit ministry shall be a joint effort selected by the current pastoral preaching team and approved by the Board of Elders until a Lead Pastor shall be chosen as arranged for in ARTICLE V GOVERNMENT AND OFFICIAL FUNCTIONS, Section 1. THE LEAD PASTOR of the bylaws.
- B. In the vacancy of the Pastorate the Board of Elders shall arrange to fill a temporary vacancy of staff positions in the manner described in ARTICLE V GOVERNMENT AND OFFICIAL FUNCTIONS, Section 2. THE CHURCH STAFF of the bylaws.

## Section 2. Executive Board

- A. The Secretary and Treasurer office may be declared vacant by an act of two-thirds of the Elder Board.
- B. Any office (President) may be declared vacant by an act of three-fourths of the ministry partnership present at any regular or special business meeting.
- C. Ground for such actions shall be:
  - a. Unscriptural conduct.
  - b. Radical departure from the Tenets of the Faith.

- c. Incompetence in office.
- d. For any other good and sufficient cause.
- D. A complaint may be lodged against an incumbent in office and brought before the church for action by any ministry partner exercising the right of initiative as described in ARTICLE XI RIGHT OF INITIATIVE of the constitution or upon the recommendation of the Board of Elders.
- E. Any incumbent under charges shall have opportunity for a fair and impartial hearing of his case before the church if the individual so desires.
- F. In the case of a Lead Pastor's removal from office, a report of such action shall be made to the District Officiary. Such action does not affect the standing of the Lead Pastor with the General Council of the Assemblies of God.

## Section 3. Disciplining Pastoral Staff and other Leadership

A. Disciplining of Pastoral Staff and other leadership shall be the responsibility of the Lead Pastor in cooperation with the Elder Board. An allegation against any Pastoral staff member or other leader must be brought to the attention of the Lead Pastor, who will determine if it meets the 1 Timothy 5:19 principle. If not, the accusation will be dismissed immediately and appropriate disciplinary action will be taken, if necessary, with the one making the accusation. If the accusation is valid and meets the principle of 1 Timothy 5:19, then the Lead Pastor shall hear any allegations and proceed according to the Matthew 18:15-20 process. The Lead Pastor may also involve the Elder Board and/or Assemblies of God leadership, if the staff pastor or leader is credentialed with the Assemblies of God, as he determines necessary in the process. Until the matter is resolved, the Pastoral staff member or leader involved shall abide by all of the stipulations set for the by the Lead Pastor and/or the Eldership Board.

## **ARTICLE VIII - AUXILARY ACTIVITIES**

All ministries shall follow the general guidelines and policies of the General Counsel of the Assemblies of God and shall be conducted as branches of the church's activities.

## ARTICLE IX - ADDITIONAL DEPARTMENTS

## Section 1. AUTHORIZATION

Where desired and needed, there may be a Various Departments established and conducted as a branch of the activities of Maranatha Worship Center under the general supervision of the Lead Pastor and Board of Elders. The Lead Pastor shall be an ex-officio member. At the time of establishment, said departments shall meet specific purposes in alignment with the mission and vision of Maranatha Worship Center.

## ARTICLE X - CIVIL GOVERNMENT

That this church hereby declares its loyalty to our government. We do hereby state our purpose is to assist in every way morally possible consistent with our faith. (Rom. 13:1-7)

## **ARTICLE XI - AMENDMENTS**

Amendments to the bylaws may be made by a 2/3 majority vote of the ministry partnership of the church present in any of its regular or special meetings. Proposed amendments to the constitution shall have been

provided to all active ministry partners not less than two weeks prior to the meeting and shall be included in all
subsequent announcements of the meeting.

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"I give and bequeath to the Maranatha Worshi	p Center, First Assembly of God, DBA ZAIK Church, 888 S. Webb			
Rd, in Wichita, Kansas, an organized church under the laws of the state of Kansas, the sum of				
dollars or	property or possession, to be used for the work of the Lord			
and the spreading of the Gospel by said organiz	zation."			