

Constitution and Bylaws

JOURNEY CHURCH

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Preamble

For the purpose of establishing and maintaining a place for the worship of Almighty God, our Heavenly Father; to provide for Christian fellowship for those of like precious faith, where the Holy Spirit may be honored according to our distinctive testimony; to assume our share of responsibility and the privilege of propagating the gospel of Jesus Christ by all available means, both at home and in foreign lands; we, whose names appear upon the roster of the Journey Church of the Assemblies of God, Inc., do hereby recognize ourselves as a local Assembly in fellowship with and a part of the General Council of the Assemblies of God, and adopt the following articles of church order and submit ourselves to be governed by them.

CONSTITUTION

ARTICLE I. NAME AND DURATION

The name of said Church not for profit shall be Journey Church of the Assemblies of God, Inc., and its location shall be in the City of Kenosha, Kenosha County, Wisconsin. Its duration shall be perpetual.

ARTICLE II. RIGHT TO GOVERN

Section 1. Self Government. This Church shall have the right to govern itself according to the standards of the New Testament Scriptures, “endeavoring to keep the unity of the Spirit in the bond of peace ... till we all come in the unity of faith, and of the knowledge of the Son of God, unto a perfect man, unto the measure of stature of the fullness of Christ.” (Ephesians 4:3, 13).

Section 2. Right to Hold Property. In connection therewith, or incidental thereto, it shall have the right to purchase or acquire by gift, bequest or otherwise, either directly or as a trustee, and to own, hold in trust, use, sell, convey, mortgage, lease, or otherwise dispose of any real estate or material goods 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 modified or amended.

ARTICLE III. AFFILIATION

While maintaining its inherent rights to sovereignty in the conduct of its own affairs, this Assembly shall voluntarily enter into full cooperative fellowship with Assemblies of like precious faith associated in the Wisconsin and Northern Michigan District Council and the General Council of the Assemblies of God, with headquarters at Springfield, Missouri; and shall share in the privileges and assume the responsibilities enjoined by that affiliation.

ARTICLE IV. STATEMENTS 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 New Testament, 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).

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 and 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 (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 Spirit, 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; 28:29; 2 Corinthians 13:14, 1 John 1:3-4).

(c) Unity of the One Being of Father, Son and Holy Spirit

Accordingly, therefore, there is that in the Father which constitutes Him as the Father and not the Son; there is that in the Son which constitutes Him as the Son and not the Father, and there is that in the Holy Spirit which constitutes Him the Holy Spirit and not either the Father or the Son. Wherefore, the Father is the Begetter; the Son is the Begotten; and the Holy Spirit 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 Spirit 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 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. 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 Spirit. 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, the 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 (John 1:1, 2, 14, 18, 29, 49; 1 John 2:22-23; 4:1-5; 2 John 9; 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 at 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 Spirit 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 the glory of God the Father

until the end. (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 Spirit 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; Philippians 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);
- 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; 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 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 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 19:13-15; Ephesians 2:8; Titus 2:11; 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. 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. The Lord's Supper. 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, a memorial of His suffering and death and a prophecy of His second coming, and is enjoined on all believers "until He comes." John 6:43,51,53-57; Luke 22:19,20; II Peter 1:4; I Cor. 11:26

7. The Baptism of 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, 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 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 (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 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 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 worshiped by man, and to build a body of believers in the image of His Son, 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 perfected in the image of His Son (Ephesians 4:11-16; 1 Corinthians 12:28; 14:12).

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 God (Mark 16:15-20; Acts 4:29-31; Hebrews 2:3-4).
- b. Adds a necessary dimension to a worshipful relationship with God (1 Corinthians 14:12; Ephesians 4:11-12; 1 Corinthians 12:28; Colossians 1:29).
- 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 (Galatians 5:22-26; 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 threefold purpose of leading the Church in:

- 1) evangelization of the world (Mark 16:15-20)
- 2) worship of God (John 4:23-24), and
- 3) building a Body of saints being perfected in the image of His Son (Ephesians 4:11, 16).

12. Divine Healing

Divine healing is an integral part of the gospel. Deliverance from sickness is provided for in the Atonement, and is the privilege of all believers (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 His promise, look for new heavens and a new earth, wherein dwelleth righteousness.” (2 Peter 3:13; Revelation 21:22).

ARTICLE V. DEFINITION OF MARRIAGE

Scripture defines marriage solely in terms of the monogamous union of a man and a woman (e.g. Matthew 19:4-6; Mark 10:5-9; Genesis 1:27-28, 2:20-24; Ephesians 5:21-32; Romans 1:26-27; I Corinthians 6:9). As Christ-followers, Assemblies of God adherents affirm that the Bible determines what we believe and how we behave regarding these matters.

ARTICLE VI. ORDINANCES

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

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

ARTICLE VII. MEMBERSHIP

Membership in the Church shall be available to all those who give evidence of their faith in the Lord Jesus Christ, and who voluntarily subscribe to its Statements of Fundamental Truths and agree to be governed by its constitution and bylaws as herein set forth.

ARTICLE VIII. OFFICERS

There shall be a Board of Directors consisting of the Lead Pastor and not less than five, nor more than seven deacons to whom shall be committed the management of the affairs of the Church. The deacons shall be the trustees of the Church and shall be custodians of all property of the Church.

Section 1. Lead Pastor. The Lead Pastor shall occupy the office of the President of the Church and shall preside, subject to the bylaws of the Church, over all meetings of the Board of Deacons.

Section 2. Deacons. The Board of Deacons shall be elected at the annual business meeting.

Section 3. Officers. The Board of Deacons shall elect, from their Board, a secretary and treasurer following each annual meeting of the Church.

Section 4. Elders. The Lead Pastor may appoint a Board of Elders to serve in consultation with the Pastoral staff in matters pertaining to the spiritual life of the Church.

ARTICLE IX. MEETINGS

There shall be an annual business meeting of the Church, at such time as may be fixed by the bylaws.

ARTICLE X. PROPERTY

All property of the Church shall be deeded to the Church and held in its name. No real property of the Church shall be sold or purchased without two-thirds approval of the voting membership who are in attendance at a regular meeting or a special meeting of the Church which has been called for the consideration of the proposal. The Lead Pastor and the Board of Deacons shall certify in such conveyance that the same has been duly authorized and recommended by a vote of the Church. Such certificate shall be held to be conclusive evidence thereof.

ARTICLE XI. AMENDMENTS

Amendments to this constitution may be made by a two-thirds majority vote of members present at any regular or special business meeting of the Church that is called for that purpose, providing such change has been approved by the Board of Deacons and due notice of such proposed change shall have been made at weekend services at least two Sundays preceding the time for such meeting.

BYLAWS

ARTICLE I: OFFICES

Until otherwise located by the Board of Directors, hereinafter referred to as Deacons, the principal office of the Journey Church of the Assemblies of God, Inc., (Hereinafter referred to as Church), shall be at 10700 75th Street, Kenosha, Wisconsin 53142. The Board of Deacons may select by resolution other or additional offices from time to time.

ARTICLE II: PARLIAMENTARY ORDER

Church business meetings shall be governed by the accepted rules of parliamentary procedure, using *Robert's Rules of Order* as a guide, in keeping with the spirit of Christian love and fellowship.

ARTICLE III: MEMBERSHIP

Section 1. Active Membership. All those who meet the Scriptural standards for membership, whose names appeared on the original membership roll of the Church at the time the Church was first organized, together with those names which shall be added from time to time, shall constitute the legal voting membership of the Church, provided they are eighteen years of age or over.

Section 2. Inactive Church Membership. Members who shall without good cause absent themselves from the services of the Church for a period of three consecutive months or more; who cease to contribute of their means to its support; who may be out of harmony with its teachings or its ministries; or who shall be under charges for misconduct may be considered inactive members and lose their voting privileges until they are restored to the fellowship with their standing to be settled by its elected officers.

Section 3. The Standard of Membership. The standard of membership of this Church shall be:

- a. Evidence of a genuine experience in regeneration (the new birth).
John 1:12, 13; 3:3-8; 1 Peter 1:18-25.
- b. Evidence of a consistent Christian life. Romans 6:4; 8:1-4; 13:13, 14; Eph. 4:17-32; 5:1-2, 15; 1 John 1:6-7.
- c. Full subscription to the Statements of Fundamental Truths as set forth in the Constitution.
- d. Commitment to support the Church with tithes and offerings.

- e. Completion of New Member class (minimum age requirement of 18 years).

Section 4. Removal and Expulsion.

- a. Unscriptural conduct or doctrinal departure from the Statements of Fundamental Truths held by this Church shall be considered sufficient grounds upon which any person may be disqualified as a member. Matt. 18:15-18; Rom. 16:17-18; 1 Cor. 5:11; Gal. 1:8-9; Titus 3:1-15.
- b. The Lead Pastor and Boards of Deacons and Elders shall be authorized to revise the membership roll of the Church annually, and to remove from the list of active members all names of those who may have become deceased during the year, together with the names of those who may have withdrawn from the fellowship or who are out of harmony with its teachings or its ministries; or who shall be under charges for misconduct.

If a name is removed for cause, that individual shall be officially notified of the action of the Lead Pastor and Board of Deacons in writing. Appeals may be made to the Board of Deacons within one week for reconsideration of their action, and the Board of Deacons shall give written notice of its decision in a timely fashion. Matt. 18:15-17; Rom. 16:17-18; 1 Cor. 5:1-5; 2 Thess. 3:6-15.

Section 5. Members' Right of Initiative. The initiative shall be the right and privilege of all members in good standing. Any member exercising the right of initiative shall present his proposition or suggestion in writing to the Lead Pastor or Secretary of the Board of Deacons, who shall present the same to the Board for consideration.

Section 6. Absentee Ballots. Absentee ballots from any qualified voting member may be accepted by the Secretary of the Board of Deacons for any election up to the time of the call to order of the regular or special meeting at which the ballots are to be cast.

ARTICLE IV: LEAD PASTOR

Section 1. Duties. The Lead Pastor shall be the President of the Church and shall act as chairman of all business meetings of the membership and of the Board of Deacons. The Lead Pastor shall be considered as the spiritual overseer of the Church and shall direct all of its activities. The Lead Pastor shall be an ex-officio member of all committees or departments.

Section 2. Qualifications. The office of Lead Pastor shall be limited to those ordained and in good standing with the General Council of the Assemblies of God.

Section 3. Election and Term. The Lead Pastor shall serve the Pastoral term of office for an indefinite period of time unless otherwise determined by the Board of Deacons at the time of election. The Lead Pastor shall be nominated by the Board of Deacons. Election shall be by secret ballot at a regular business meeting of the Church or at a special meeting called for that purpose. A two-thirds majority of all votes cast shall be required to constitute an election. If a Lead Pastor has been called for a definite period of time, such as one or two years, the tenure of office shall terminate at the end of his/her term of service. It will then be necessary to vote for his re-election by a two-thirds majority vote, just as though his/her name came before the Church for the first time.

Section 4. Vacancy. When a vacancy in the Pastorate shall occur, the Board of Elders, in council with the Board of Deacons, will arrange for interim speakers until a Lead Pastor shall be chosen as prescribed in Section 3 above.

Section 5. Removal. In the event Lead Pastor has a serious charge preferred against him/her, or his/her ministry has ceased to be effective, power is vested in the Board of Deacons to ask for his/her resignation at any of its regular or special business meetings. If such resignation is refused, the Pastorate shall not be considered vacant until the action of the Board of Deacons has been confirmed by a majority vote of the membership at a special meeting called for that purpose. Such meeting is to be presided over by the district officary.

ARTICLE V: BOARD OF DEACONS AND ELDERS

Section 1. Board of Deacons.

A. General Powers. The business affairs of the Church shall be managed by the Board of Deacons consisting of the Lead Pastor and the elected. The Board of Deacons may be increased/decreased by the vote of a majority of the voting membership who are in attendance at a regular or special meeting of the Church. A majority of the Deacons at any time elected and qualified to act shall constitute a quorum for the transaction of business at any meeting.

B. Annual Meeting. The church shall hold its annual meeting no later than the end of March at a date and time designated by the Board of Deacons.

C. Regular Meetings. The Board of Deacons shall hold regular meetings.

D. Special Meetings. Special meetings of the Board of Deacons may be called by, or at the request of, the Lead Pastor or any three (3) Deacons, provided the Lead Pastor has been notified **of** such meeting.

E. Notice of Special Meetings. Notice of any special meeting shall be given to each Deacon at least seventy-two (72) hours in advance.

F. Quorum. Except as otherwise provided, a majority of the number of Deacons shall constitute a quorum for the transaction of business at any meeting of the Board of Deacons, but a majority of the Deacons present (though less than such quorum) may adjourn the meeting.

G. Manner of Acting. The act of the majority of the Deacons present at a meeting at which a quorum is present shall be the act of the Board of Deacons, unless the act of a greater number is required by law or by the Articles of Incorporation or by these Bylaws.

H. Removal of Deacons. Any Deacon may be removed from the Board of Deacons for any reason deemed sufficient according to Matt. 18:15-17 and Gal. 6:1, by the affirmative vote of two-thirds (2/3) of the Deacons then in office taken at a special meeting held for that purpose.

I. Vacancies. Any vacancies occurring in the Board of Deacons shall be appointed by the Lead Pastor and filled by the affirmative vote of the majority of the Deacons then in office, and the persons named and elected to fill the vacancies shall serve for the balance of the unexpired term of the vacated Deaconship.

J. Qualifications. Each Deacon shall be a member in good standing at the time of his/her election and at all times during his/her term of office. They shall be individuals of mature Christian experience and knowledge, who shall as closely as possible meet the requirements as set forth in Acts 6:1-7; 1 Tim. 3, and Titus 1. The Biblical standard for divorce and remarriage will be upheld, i.e. when the divorce occurred prior to 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).

K. Election. At each annual meeting of the Church, the members shall elect new Deacons to fill vacancies on the following basis:

1. The members shall elect Deacons for three-year terms.
2. The nominating committee shall present a slate of at least two (2) nominees per vacancy to the membership for election to the Board.
3. Those nominees who receive the highest number of votes by secret ballot of the members present at such meeting shall be elected. Each vacancy shall be filled by separate vote.

L. Reelection. Deacons may be elected to two consecutive terms. After serving two terms, a mandatory year off is required before they shall become eligible for renomination.

M. Special Committees. Special Committees may be appointed and assigned by the Lead Pastor or the Board of Deacons.

Section 2. Board of Elders.

A. Duties. The Board of Elders shall serve the church and its Lead Pastor. Their responsibilities may include the following:

- 1) Examine applications for membership
- 2) Assist in the administration of the disciplines of the Church
- 3) Assist in the ministry of its ordinances
- 4) Consult with the in all other matters which shall be submitted to them.

B. Appointment. Following the annual meeting of the Church each year, and as the Lead Pastor chooses to announce to the congregation from time to time, the Lead Pastor may appoint members to serve on the Board of Elders until the following annual meeting of the Church. The Lead Pastor shall appoint such number of Elders as the Lead Pastor deems advisable, that number not to be fewer than three (3) at any time.

C. Qualifications. The Elders shall be considered mature individuals of honest report, full of the Holy Spirit and capable of spiritual leadership in the

church, whose life and conduct shall conform to the following scriptures: 1 Tim. 3:3-7; Titus 1:6-9; 1 Peter 5:2-3.

D. Tenure. Term of service shall be for one year, although the Lead Pastor may decide to re-invite elder(s) on an as-needed basis.

ARTICLE VI: NOMINATING COMMITTEE

Section 1. Appointment. The Lead Pastor shall appoint a Nominating Committee of at least three (3) members.

Section 2. Qualifications. They shall have been active members of the Church for at least one (1) year. Only one of these individuals shall be a member of the Board of Deacons, whose term of office does not expire at the current election.

Section 3. Duties. Anyone serving on the Nominating Committee is not disqualified from being a candidate, if the committee so chooses. They shall prepare and present to the membership a list of nominees for the annual election, endeavoring as far as possible to present two (2) or more nominations for each vacancy.

Section 4. The Nominating Committee shall investigate the character and qualifications of each nominee and present only the names of those members who are in good standing and who are regular attendees at the services and whose daily "walk and profession" give evidence of a life in harmony with the doctrines and covenant of this Church. Nominees shall meet the requirements of Acts 6:1-7; 1 Tim. 3, and Titus 1. Nominations shall be made only with the consent of the nominees.

ARTICLE VII: OFFICERS

Section 1. Number. The Board of Deacons shall elect, from their Board, a Secretary and Treasurer at the first regular meeting following each annual meeting of the Church to serve as Secretary and Treasurer of the Church until the following annual meeting. Additional officers may be designated from time to time by the Board of Deacons. Each officer shall hold office until his or her successor shall have been duly elected and shall have qualified, except in the case of resignation or removal from the Board.

Section 2. Removal and Vacancies. Any officer may be removed by the Board of Deacons by a majority vote at any regular or special meeting. Any vacancy in any office may be filled by the Board of Deacons at any board meeting.

Section 3. President(s). The President(s) shall be the principal executive officer of the Church and, along with the Board of Deacons, shall in general supervise and control all of the business and affairs of the Church. The President(s) shall, when present, preside at all meetings of the Board of Deacons. The President(s) may sign, with the Secretary or any other proper officer of the Church thereunto authorized by the Board of Deacons, any deeds, mortgages, bonds, contracts, or other instruments which the Board of Deacons has authorized to be executed, except in cases where the signing and execution thereof shall be expressly delegated by the Board of Deacons or by the Bylaws to some other officer or agent of the Church, or shall be required by law to be otherwise signed or executed; and in general shall perform all duties incident to the office of President and such other duties as may be prescribed the Board of Deacons from time to time.

Section 4. Secretary. The Secretary shall

- a. Keep the minutes of the Board of Deacons meetings in one or more books provided for that purpose;
- b. See that all notices are duly given in accordance with the provisions of these Bylaws or as required by the law;
- c. Be custodian of the corporate records and of the seal of the Church and see that the seal of the Church is affixed to all documents, the execution of which on behalf of the Church under its seal is duly authorized;
- d. In general, perform all duties incident to the office of Secretary and such other duties as from time to time may be assigned to him or her by the President or by the Board of Deacons.

Section 5. Treasurer. If required by the Board of Deacons, the Treasurer shall give a bond for the faithful discharge of his duties, in such sum and with such surety or sureties as the Board of Deacons shall determine. He or she shall:

- a. Have charge and custody of and be responsible for all funds and securities of the Church; receive and give receipts for monies due and payable to the Church from any source whatsoever, and deposit all such monies in the name of the Church in such banks, savings and loans, trust companies or other depositories as shall be selected by the Board of Deacons;
- b. In general perform all the duties incident to the office of Treasurer and such duties as from time to time may be assigned to him or her by the President or by the Board of Deacons.

Section 6. Corporate Property. Instruments of conveyance or transfer or encumbrance of real or personal property of the Church shall be signed by the President in the name of the Church, which instrument shall be attested to by the Secretary or such other officer as is designated by the Board of Deacons.

ARTICLE VIII: PROPERTY

Section 1. Oversight. The Board of Deacons shall have the oversight of all property, real or personal, of the Church.

Section 2. Conveyance. All property, real or personal, of the Church shall be taken, held, sold, transferred, assigned, or conveyed by the Church in its corporate name; any two officers may execute a conveyance of corporate property.

Section 3. Real Estate Transactions. No real property of the Church shall be sold or purchased until the same shall have first been authorized by a vote of at least two-thirds of the voting membership of the Church being present at a regular or special meeting of the Church duly called for that purpose. Notice of such sale or purchase shall be made to the members at weekend services on at least two (2) Sundays prior to that meeting. The Lead Pastor and Secretary of the Board of Deacons shall certify in such conveyance that the same has been duly recommended and authorized by the vote of the Church.

Section 4. Division. In case of division, Church property shall belong to the members holding to the statements of fundamental truths, as stated in Article IV of the constitution, (Statements of Fundamental Truths) regardless of majority.

Section 5. Dissolution. In case the Congregation should cease to exist as a Church body, and cease to use their property for Church purposes, then the property is to revert to the General Council of the Assemblies of God, an incorporated religious body, with headquarters in Springfield, Missouri, with full authority to sell the property, or use it in any way they see fit, for the cause of Christ.

Section 6. Usage and Partnerships. Journey Church shall not cause or allow any practice, activity, decision or circumstance on its premises that violates Biblical principles or is not in accordance with the core values and doctrine of the Assemblies of God.

With respect to other organizations, Journey Church shall not enter into agreements, licenses, partnerships or other practices that conflict with the core values and doctrine of the Assemblies of God.

With respect to relationships with partners, tenants or renters, Journey Church shall not fail to construct sufficient safeguards to protect itself from organizations or individuals whose primary activities contradict the core values and doctrine of the Assemblies of God.

ARTICLE IX: FINANCES

Section 1. Contracts. The Board of Deacons may authorize any officer or officers, agent or agents of the Church in addition to the officers so authorized by the Bylaws,

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. Annual increases in contract indebtedness cannot exceed an accumulated 25% of the annual Church general fund at any time without approval of two-thirds (2/3) of the voting membership who are present.

Section 2. Checks, Drafts and the Like. All checks, drafts or orders, for the payment of money, notes or other evidences 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 resolution of the Board of Deacons. In the absence of such determination by the Board of Deacons, such instrument shall be signed by the Treasurer and countersigned by the President(s) of the Church. No part of the assets of the Church shall at any time inure to the benefit of any Deacon.

Section 3. Deposits. All funds of the Church shall be promptly deposited to the credit of the Church in such financial institutions as the Board of Deacons may select.

Section 4. Gifts. The Board of Deacons may accept on behalf of the Church any contribution, gift, bequest or devise for the general purpose or for any specific purpose of the Church.

Section 5. Bonding. Any officer or officers, agent or agents, authorized to write drafts or checks or receive monies of the Church may be required by the Board of Deacons to be bonded, the cost of the bond being assumed by the Church.

Section 6. Fiscal year. The fiscal year of this Church shall be July 1 thru June 30.

ARTICLE X: BOOKS AND RECORDS

The Church shall keep correct and complete books and records of accounts and shall also keep minutes of the proceedings of the Board of Deacons.

ARTICLE XI: CHRISTIAN LIFE SCHOOL

Section 1. Establishment. Commensurate with a purpose to this Church, which is "to assume our share of responsibility and privilege of propagating the gospel of Jesus Christ by all available means," we hereby establish Christian Life School and Daycare as a ministry of this church.

Section 2. Purpose. This is to be regarded as an integral part of the total ministry of Journey Church of the Assemblies of God, Inc. We consider education essential to the fulfillment of the Scripture - to "study to show yourselves approved unto God...rightly dividing the Word of Truth." (2 Tim. 2:15), "to seek ye out of the book of

the Lord, and read” (Isaiah 34:16), so that “All your sons will be taught by the Lord, and great will be the peace of your children” (Isaiah 54:13).

ARTICLE XII: AMENDMENTS

Amendments to the Bylaws may be made by a two-thirds (2/3) majority vote of members present at a regular or special business meeting of the Church that is called for that purpose, provided such change has been approved by the Church Board and due notice of such proposed change shall have been made at weekend services at least two (2) Sundays preceding the time for such meeting.