

CITY PARK CHURCH

CONSTITUTION AND BYLAWS

PREFACE

This preface to the constitution and bylaws has been prepared by the City Park Church Elders to the local assembly in their responsibilities, prerogatives and limitations in order that the Church may function in peace, harmony and maximum effectiveness in promoting the work of the Lord.

May, 2022

CONSTITUTIONAL DECLARATION

That God's purpose concerning man is:

- (1) to seek and to save that which is lost;
- (2) to be worshiped by His creation;
- (3) and to build a body of believers in the image of His Son.

That these believers, saved and called out of the world, constitute City Park Church, built and established upon the foundation of Jesus Christ and the Word of God.

That the members of the body, the church (ecclesia) of Jesus Christ, are enjoined to assemble themselves in the worship, fellowship, counsel, and instruction in the Word of God, the work of the ministry, and for the exercise of those spiritual gifts and offices provided for the New Testament church order.

That it is evident the early apostolic churches came together in fellowship as a representative body of saved, Spirit-filled believers who ordained and sent out evangelists and missionaries, and under the supervision of the Holy Spirit set over the church pastors and teachers.

That the priority reason-for-being of the Church is to be an agency of God for evangelizing the world, to be a corporate body in which man may worship God, and to be a channel of God's purpose to build a body of saints being perfected in the image of His Son.

That the Church 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, allowing the Holy Spirit to empower them, enabling them to evangelize in the power of the Spirit with accompanying supernatural signs, adding a necessary dimension to the worshipful relationship with God, and enabling 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.

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 of the Church of our Lord Jesus Christ, built and established upon the foundation of Jesus Christ and the Word of God and,

WHEREAS, God having ordained that his Universal Church shall find its expression in and through local churches, enjoining them to assemble together in worship, fellowship, counsel, and instruction in the Word of God, and for the work of the ministry, and for the exercise of those spiritual gifts and offices provided for in the New Testament; therefore, be it

RESOLVED, that we, a body of Evangelical believers, recognize ourselves as a part of the church which Christ established, and be incorporated under the laws of the State of Wyoming, in order that we might hold property and manage our own affairs, give expression to our faith and conduct our business affairs, and church government according to the Constitution and Bylaws hereby adopted.

CITY PARK CHURCH

CONSTITUTION

ARTICLE I NAME

The name of the church shall be CITY PARK CHURCH, Casper, Wyoming.

ARTICLE II PURPOSE

To establish and maintain a place of worship of Almighty God, our Heavenly Father, and the Lord Jesus Christ, His only begotten Son, through the Holy Spirit, and for the promotion of close Christian fellowship and edification, and for instruction in the Word of God and the work of the ministry.

To obey, in our capacity, the Great Commission. Matt 28: 18-20; Mark 16: 15-20; Acts 1:8, 8:4.

ARTICLE III PRINCIPAL FOR FELLOWSHIP

We hold as scriptural and fundamental the form of church government, which is a voluntary cooperative fellowship among equals, the local church being sovereign under Christ.

The Bible, the Word of God, is to be held in the Spirit of Christ, supreme in all matters.

ARTICLE IV PREROGATIVES

In assuming the responsibility of the maintenance of Scriptural order in the local body, City Park Church's leadership reserves the following prerogatives:

- (1) to have a membership which is determined by the local body and to discipline its members according to the Scriptures;

- (2) to elect its officers and transact all other business pertaining to its life and conduct as a local church;
- (3) to establish and maintain such departments and institutions as may be deemed necessary for the propagation of the Gospel and for the local assembly;
- (4) and to have the right to buy, take, lease, or otherwise acquire, own, hold in trust, use, sell, convey, mortgage, lease or otherwise dispose of such property, real, personal and mixed, tangible and intangible of whatsoever kind as may be useful for the prosecution of its work.

ARTICLE V RELATIONSHIP

SOVEREIGNTY While maintaining its inherent rights to sovereignty in the conduct of its own affairs, this Church shall serve as the Lord Jesus Christ leads in Scripture.

ARTICLE VI 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 Cor 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 here made that it contains all Biblical truth, only that it covers our needs as to these fundamental doctrines.

THE HOLY BIBLE The Bible is the spoken, inerrant, infallible, authoritative Word of God. We believe that the sixty-six books of the Old and New Testaments were all written by human beings, under the divine inspiration of the Holy Spirit. Only the Bible has the authority to guide the faith and practice of each individual believer, church, or corporate assembly of believers. It alone is the final authority in determining all doctrinal truths. (2 Tim 3:16; 2 Pet 1:20-21; Prov 30:5; Rom 16:25-26; Heb 4:12).

GOD-TRINITY There is one God, eternally existing in three persons: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit. These three are co-equal, co-eternal, and work in perfect harmony with one another. We believe God is the only infinite, all-knowing, all-powerful, and personal spiritual being. He is perfect in holiness, wisdom, and love, and He is the intelligent Creator and Sustainer of all things.

(Deut 6:4; Isaiah 45:5-7; John 20:17; 10:30; 4:24; 1 John 5:7; Gen 1:26; Matt 3:16-17, 28:19; Luke 1:35; Is 9:6; Heb 3:7-11).

GOD THE FATHER God the Father is the creator of all things, and in His authority orders and disposes of all things, according to His sovereignty and grace. He is all-powerful, all-knowing, and all-wise. He upholds, directs, and governs all creatures and events. He does that in such a way so as to not be the author or approver of sin. He is faithful to every promise and works all things together for good to those who love him. In his unfathomable grace, He gave His Son, Jesus Christ, for mankind's redemption. His very nature is love. His plans and purposes cannot be thwarted. (Gen 1:1, Ps 145:9; Matt 6:9; Rom 8:14,15; 1 Cor 8:6; 15:24; Rom 8:28; 1 John 4:8; John 3:16; Habakkuk 1:13; Eph 1:11; Phil 2:13; 1 Chronicles 29:11; Jas 1:13)

GOD THE SON, JESUS CHRIST Jesus Christ is God the Son. He possesses all the divine excellencies, and in these, He is coequal and coeternal with the Father and the Holy Spirit. He surrendered his heavenly deity and prerogatives, but nothing of his divine essence either in degree or kind. Jesus Christ was born of the Virgin Mary and in His incarnation, the divine nature of Christ was wrapped in human flesh and became the God-man. Being both fully God and fully man, Jesus lived a sinless life, making him worthy to be mankind's substitutionary atonement. He paid the penalty for our sins through the shedding of His blood on the cross. His death was voluntary, substitutionary, propitiatory, and redemptive.

Jesus became God incarnate, for the purpose of revealing God to all people and redeeming those who believe. Jesus rules God's kingdom. (Matt 1:18, 25; Luke 1:35; Isaiah 7:14; Luke 1:27-35; John 3:16; 1 Cor. 6:11; Luke 4:18-21; Philip. 2:10).

He rose from the dead on the third day, according to the Scriptures, and ascended to the right hand of the Father. His literal, physical resurrection guarantees a future resurrection for all who believe and, as He is at the right hand of the Father, He is our Advocate and High Priest. He is the long-sought Messiah (Christ) of Israel and the Savior of the world. He will return to receive the Church, which is His body, in power and glory unto Himself at the Rapture. (John 1:1,14, 20:28; 1 Tim 3:16; Isaiah 9:6; Phil 2:5-6; 1 Tim 2:5).

GOD THE HOLY SPIRIT The Holy Spirit possesses all the divine attributes and in these, He is coequal and coeternal with the Father and the Son. It is the work of the Holy Spirit to execute the divine will with relation to the world of men. We recognize His sovereign activity in the creation (Gen 1:2), the incarnation (Matt 1:18; Luke 1:35), the written Rev (2 Pet 1:20-21), and the work of salvation (John 3:5-7). The sixty-six books of the Old and New Testaments were all written by human beings under the divine inspiration of the Holy Spirit.

The work of the Holy Spirit in this age began at Pentecost, when He came from the Father, as promised by Christ (John 14:1, 15:26), to initiate and complete the building of the Body of Christ, which is His Church (1 Cor 12:13).

The broad scope of His divine activity includes; convicting the world of sin, leading believers into righteousness, judgment (John 16:7-8), glorifying the Lord Jesus Christ (John 16:14), and transforming believers into Christ-likeness (2 Cor 3:17- 18; Gal 5:22-23).

The Holy Spirit is the divine Teacher who guided the Apostles into all truth as they submitted to God's Rev in Scripture (John 16:13). Every believer possesses the indwelling presence of the Holy Spirit from the moment of salvation (Rom 8:9; 1 Cor 3:16), and it is the duty and privilege of all those born of the Spirit to be filled with and walk by the Spirit (Eph 5:15-18; Gal 5:16-25).

The Holy Spirit administers spiritual gifts to the Church (1 Cor 12:11), in order to glorify Christ (John 16:14) and implement His work of redeeming the lost (Acts 1:8), and to build up believers in the holiest faith (2 Cor 3:18). In this respect, God the Holy Spirit is sovereign in the bestowing of all His gifts (1 Cor 12:11) for the perfecting of the saints today (1 Cor 14:12).

Because God is sovereign and supreme, and because gifts are indeed genuine gifts of the Holy Spirit, the Holy Spirit can give and has given gifts to born-again men and women at various times for His purposes. God may certainly choose, in His sole discretion, to give these gifts at specific times and places in the modern church.

HUMANITY Humankind was created good and upright in the likeness and image of God, but Adam & Eve's voluntary disobedience resulted in a broken relationship with God, and spiritual death. That spiritual death has been passed on to each subsequent generation of humans through original sin.

Therefore, mankind is inherently corrupt, sinners by nature and choice, in need of the saving grace of Jesus Christ. Apart from salvation through the redemptive work of Jesus Christ, all will perish and be eternally separated from God. (Gen. 1:26-31, 3:1-7; Rom 5:12-21; Gen.1:27; Rom.3:23; 1 Cor.15: 22)

REPENTANCE Repentance is the conscious decision to turn away from sin in every area of our lives, and to submit to and follow Christ. Repentance is our response to Christ's great love for us, which is made possible through the power of His redemption, and to be born again through the power of the Holy Spirit. Through Jesus's substitutionary death, we receive forgiveness of sins and salvation (Acts 2:21; Acts 3:19; 1 John 1:9).

SALVATION The shed blood and death of Jesus is the only sufficient price for the sin of any human being. Salvation is by grace alone, through faith alone, in Christ alone. No one can be good enough to earn salvation; it is a gift to be accepted and received. Making the choice to accept the sacrifice of Jesus as payment for one's sins is the only way for a person to be spiritually reborn, to be reconciled to God, and to enjoy the benefits, blessings, and rewards of citizenship in the Kingdom of God, both now and forever. (Eph 2:8-9; Gal 2:16, 3:8; Titus 3:5; Rom 10:9-10; Acts 16:31; Heb 9:22; Acts 4:12; John 1:17; John 3:16; Eph.2: 5; 2 Cor. 5:18).

HEAVEN Our physical death involves no loss of our consciousness (Matt 10:28; Luke 16:22-25; Rev 6:9-11), so that the soul of the redeemed passes immediately into the presence of Christ (Luke 23:43; 2 Cor 5:8; Phil 1:23). There is a separation of soul and body (Phil 1:21-24) until Jesus's return, and then soul and body will be reunited to be glorified forever with the Lord (Phil 3:21; 1 Cor 15:35-44, 50-54; 1 Thess 4:16-17). Until that time, the souls of the redeemed remain in joyful fellowship with the Lord Jesus Christ. On Jesus's return, there will be a bodily resurrection of all men, the saved to eternal life, and the unsaved to judgment and everlasting punishment (Daniel 12:2; Matt 25:46; John 5:29).

HELL The souls of the unsaved at death descend immediately into Hades, where they are kept under punishment until the second resurrection (Luke 16:22- 24; 2 Pet 2:9; Rev 20:11-15), when the soul and the resurrected body will be united (John 5:28-29). Then they shall appear before

the great white throne to be judged by Christ, and will be cast into the lake of fire (Rev 20:11-15), cut off from the life of God forever (2 Thess 1:7-9).

SANCTIFICATION Sanctification is the ongoing process of yielding to God's Word and His Spirit in order to complete the development of Christ's character in us. It is through the present ministry of the Holy Spirit and the Word of God that the Christian is enabled to live a Godly life (1 Thess 4:3, 5:23; 2 Cor 3:18, 6:14-18; 2 Thess 2:1-3, Rom 8:29, 12:1-2, Heb 2:11).

RESULT OF TRUE REPENTANCE AND SANCTIFICATION The result of true repentance is a supernatural work of the Holy Spirit, by which the divine nature and divine life are communicated (John 3:3-7; Titus 3:5). It is instantaneous, and it is accomplished solely by the power of the Holy Spirit through the instrumentality of the Word of God (John 5:24), so as to secure voluntary obedience to the Gospel.

Transformation is manifested by repentance, faith, and righteous living. Good works are its proper evidence and fruit (Eph 2:10; Titus 3:8). Regeneration is experienced to the extent that the believer submits to the control of the Holy Spirit in his life, through faithful obedience to the Word of God (Eph 5:18-19; Phil 2:12; Col 3:16; 2 Pet 1:3-8). This obedience causes the believer increasingly to be conformed to the image of the Lord Jesus Christ (2 Cor 3:18). Such a conformity is climaxed in the believer's glorification at Christ's coming (Rom 8:17; 2 Cor 5:17; 1 Pet 1:23; 1 John 3:2-3).

THE GIFTS OF THE HOLY SPIRIT The Holy Spirit is manifested through a variety of spiritual gifts to empower, sanctify, build and support the church, revealing the power of Jesus' resurrection and confirming the power of the Gospel. The Bible's list of these gifts is extensive and these gifts can occur in combination. The gifts of the Holy Spirit always operate in unity with the Bible and further the mission of the church. (Heb 2:4; Rom 1:11, 12 :4-8; Eph 4:16; 1 Tim 4:14; 2 Tim 1:6-7; 1 Cor 12:1-31, 14:1-40; 1 Pet 4:10).

THE CHURCH Christ is the head of the church, and the church is the Body of Christ, the habitation of God through the Spirit. Every person who is born of the Spirit through salvation in

Jesus becomes a citizen of the Kingdom of God and is an integral part of the church as a member of the body of believers.

The purpose of the Church is to glorify God (Eph 3:21) by building itself up in the faith (Eph 4:13-16), by instruction of the Word (2 Tim 2:2, 15; 3:16-17), by fellowship (Acts 2:42; 1 John 1:3), by keeping the ordinances (Luke 22:19; Acts 2:38-42), and by advancing and communicating the Gospel to the entire world (Matt 28:19; Acts 1:8).

All who place their faith in Jesus Christ are immediately baptized by the Holy Spirit into one united spiritual Body, the Church (1 Cor 12:12-13), of which Christ is the Head (Eph 1:22; 4:15; Col 1:18). The formation of this Body began on the Day of Pentecost (Acts 2:1-21, 38-47) and will be completed at the coming of Christ for His own at the Rapture (1 Cor 15:51-52; 1 Thess 4:13-18).

The establishment and continuity of local churches are clearly taught and defined in the New Testament (Acts 14:21-23, 27; 20:17, 28; Gal 1:2; Phil 1:1; 1 Thess 1:1; 2 Thess 1:1), and the members of this one spiritual Body are directed to associate themselves together in local assemblies (1 Cor 11:18-20; Heb 10:25).

The biblically designated offices serving under Christ and over the assembly are elders, also called pastors and pastor-teachers (Acts 20:28; Eph 4:11), and deacons, both of whom must meet biblical qualifications (1 Tim 3:1-13; Titus 1:5-9; 1 Pet 5:1-5). These leaders lead as servants of Christ (1 Tim 5:17-22), and have been given authority by Him in directing the Church according to the Word of God. The congregation is to submit to their leadership (Heb 13:7, 17).

All believers are called to the work of the Church (1 Cor 15:58; Eph 4:12). God has given the Church spiritual gifts. He gifts believers for the purpose of equipping the saints for the work of ministry (Eph 4:7-12). He also gives unique and special abilities to each member of the Body of Christ (Rom 12:5-8; 1 Cor 12:4-31; 1 Pet 4:10-11). At the moment of spiritual birth, every believer receives such a gift or gifts. It is essential that every believer discover, develop and employ his or her spiritual gift or gifts for the edification of the Body and the accomplishment of the work of Christ in the world (Rom 12:3-8; 1 Pet 4:10-11).

There are two ordinances committed to the local church: baptism (Matt 28:19) and the Lord's Supper (1 Cor 11:23-26). Christian baptism by immersion (Acts 8:36-39) is the testimony of a believer. This act is a solemn and beautiful symbol of the believer's faith in the crucified, buried, and risen Savior, as well as the union with Him in death to sin, and resurrection to a new

life (Rom 6:1-11). It is also a sign of fellowship and identification with the visible Body of Christ (Acts 2:41-42).

The Lord's Supper is the commemoration and proclamation of His death until He comes again (1 Cor 11:26), and should always be preceded by solemn self-examination (1 Cor 11:28). We teach that while Christ's flesh and blood are not actually present, the Lord's Supper is nevertheless an actual communion with the risen Christ, who is present in a unique way, fellowshiping with His people (1 Cor 10:16).

MARRIAGE City Park Church believes that marriage matters. God created and sanctioned marriage to bring together men and women, the complementary halves of humanity, by joining them in "one-flesh" unions. (Gen 2:18-25) Marriage between one man and one woman for life uniquely reflects Christ's relationship with His Church. (Eph 5:21-33) Marriage also serves as the foundational unit of a stable society. (1 Cor 7:2) It provides the best chance that children will grow up in the same home with both their mother and their father. Among many other negative cultural developments over the last several decades, the general acceptance of sex outside of marriage and other sexual sins, including homosexual behavior, constitute direct attacks upon this timeless and universal institution.

The term "marriage" has only one meaning: the uniting of one man and one woman in a single, exclusive union, as delineated in Scripture. (Gen 2:18-25.) We believe that God intends sexual intimacy to occur only between a man and a woman who are married to each other. (1 Cor 6:18; 7:2-5; Heb 13:4) According to Scripture, God has commanded that no intimate sexual activity be engaged in outside of a marriage between a man and a woman. Therefore, any form of sexual immorality (including adultery, fornication, homosexual behavior, bisexual conduct, bestiality, incest, and use of pornography) is sinful and offensive to God. (Matt 15:18-20; 1 Cor 6:9-10)

GENDER We believe that gender matters. God wonderfully and immutably creates each person as male or female, and these distinct, complementary genders together reflect the image and nature of God (Gen 1:26-27). Rejection of one's biological sex is a rejection of the image of God within that person.

City Park Church holds a strong stance that God offers redemption and restoration to all who confess and forsake their sin, seeking His mercy and forgiveness through Jesus Christ. (Acts 3:19-21; Rom 10:9-10; 1 Cor 6:9-11) This is why every person must be afforded compassion, love, kindness, respect, and dignity. (Mark 12:28-31; Luke 6:31) Hateful and harassing behavior or attitudes directed toward any individual are to be repudiated and are not in accord with Scripture.

ARTICLE VII THE ORDINANCES OF THE CHURCH

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 they also have been raised with Him to walk in newness of life. (Matt. 28:19; Mark 16:16; Acts 10:47, 48; Rom. 6:4).

HOLY COMMUNION The Lord's Supper consists of two elements; bread and the fruit of the vine, Communion is the symbol expressing our sharing in the divine nature of our Lord Jesus Christ (2 Pet 1:4), a memorial of His suffering and death (1 Cor.11:26), a prophecy of His second coming (1 Cor.11:26), and is enjoined on all believers "till He comes!"

ARTICLE VIII 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 the 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 (Eph.1:22,23; 2:22; Heb. 12:23). 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 City Park Church is:

- (1) to be an agency of God for evangelizing the world (Acts 1:8; Matt. 23:19-20; Mark 16:15-16);
- (2) to be a corporate body in which man may worship God. (1Cor. 12:13);
- (3) and to be a channel of God's purpose to build a body of saints being perfected in the image of His Son. (Eph. 4:11-16; 1 Cor.12:28; 14:12).

The Church 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. Baptism in the Holy Spirit:

- (1) enables believers to evangelize in the power of the Spirit with accompanying supernatural signs (Mark 16:15-20; Acts 4:29-31; Heb. 2:3,4);
- (2) adds a necessary dimension to a worshipful relationship with God (1 Cor. 2:10-16; 1 Cor. 12-14);
- (3) and 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 (Gal.5:22-26; 1 Cor. 14:12; Ephes. 4:11,12; 1 Cor. 12:28; Col. 1:29).

ARTICLE IX THE MINISTRY

A divinely called and scriptural ordained ministry has been provided by our Lord for the threefold purpose of leading the Church in: (1) worship of God (John 4:23,24); and (2) discipleship – building up a body of saints being perfected in the image of His Son (Eph. 4:11-16); and (3) evangelization of the world (Mark 16:15-20).

ARTICLE X MEMBERSHIP ELIGIBILITY

*Please refer to the **City Park Church Bylaws Article I** for membership and eligibility*

ARTICLE XI CHURCH OFFICERS

CHURCH OFFICERS The officers of the church shall consist of a Pastor, Secretary, Treasurer, Servant Leadership Board, and such other officers and committees as may be needed. The office of Secretary and Treasurer may be combined if deemed practical.

SERVANT LEADERSHIP BOARD The Servant Leadership Board shall consist of not less than five (5) elected members whose term of office shall be for (3) three years, staggered so that a majority is not elected in any one year. The Lead Pastor shall be a permanent member of the Servant Leadership Board, and the election and term of office shall not apply to his position. The Lead Pastor shall be chairman of the Servant Leadership Board.

COMMITTEES All standing committees shall be auxiliary and subject to the Lead Pastor and Servant Leadership Board.

ARTICLE XII MEETINGS

SUNDAY SERVICES Meetings for public worship shall be held on each Sunday, and during the week as may be provided for under the direction of the Pastor and the Servant Leadership Board.

ANNUAL BUSINESS MEETING There shall be an annual Business meeting of the Church at which time the election of officers shall take place, and the report of all officers shall be approved as read or printed. The date for this meeting shall be appointed by the Servant Leadership Board, no later than March 1st. The time and place shall be announced by the Pastor. Due notice shall be given on the two Sundays immediately prior to the date of such a meeting.

SPECIAL MEETINGS Special meetings of the Church may be called, when necessary, if proper notice has been given by the Pastor or the Secretary of the Church, and the meeting has been agreed upon by a majority of the Servant Leadership Board. Special meetings may also be called by petition signed by not less than one third of the active membership of the Church, as defined herein. The petition must be placed in the hands of the Pastor and Elders, and the announcement made on the two Sundays prior to the date of the meeting, giving the time and purpose of the same.

SERVANT LEADERSHIP BOARD MEETINGS A meeting of the Servant Leadership Board may be called by the Chairman, or any two members of the Servant Leadership Board, at any time deemed necessary.

ARTICLE XIII QUORUM

QUORUM REQUIRED No business shall be transacted at either a Church Business Meeting or the Servant Leadership Board unless the necessary quorum is present.

ANNUAL/SPECIAL BUSINESS MEETING QUORUM A majority of the voting members whose names appear on the current membership roll must be present at a Church Business Meeting to constitute a quorum.

BUSINESS MEETING QUORUM A Majority of the members of the Servant Leadership Board being present at any of their business meetings shall constitute a quorum.

ARTICLE XIV FINANCES

All funds for the maintenance of the Church shall be provided by the voluntary contributions or the tithes and offerings of the members and friends of the church. Offerings shall be accepted by the church at such times and in such ways as agreed upon by the Servant Leadership Board, and shall be disbursed by the Treasurer at the direction of the Servant Leadership Board. (Mal 3:10; Luke 6:38; I Cor. 16:1; 2 Cor. 9:6-8).

ARTICLE XV PROPERTY

CHURCH PROPERTY All real property of the Church shall be bought, taken, held, sold, transferred, mortgaged, leased, assigned, or conveyed by the Servant Leadership Board in the Corporate name. No real property of the Church shall be bought, taken, or otherwise acquired, sold, leased, mortgaged, or otherwise alienated without the same having been authorized by a two-thirds vote of the voting members present at a regular/annual business meeting, or a special meeting called for that purpose.

All church property shall belong to the members holding to the original Articles of Faith, regardless of majority.

In the event City Park Church ceases to function as a church body, then the said property, whether real, personal, mixed, tangible or intangible, of whatsoever kind, shall become the property of the City Park Church Servant Leadership Board. The latter shall have full authority to use to dispose of the property at its discretion in the furtherance of the Gospel.

SIGNATORIES The Chairman (Lead Pastor) and the Secretary of the Church are hereby designated as the Officer of the Church to sign, execute, and deliver in the name of and on behalf of the Church, all necessary instruments affecting the properties of the Church that have been authorized by the Church, and when required shall furnish certificates that the same has been duly authorized.

ARTICLE XVI AMENDMENTS

This constitution may be amended by a two-thirds (2/3) majority vote of a quorum present at any regular/annual Church Business Meeting or special meeting called for that purpose, provided due notice of such proposed changes shall have been made at the services on at least four (4) consecutive Sundays immediately prior to the time of such meeting.

It shall be understood that this does not apply to the Statement of Faith which shall stand regardless of majority.

CITY PARK CHURCH

BYLAWS

ARTICLE I MEMBERSHIP

STANDARDS FOR MEMBERSHIP AND CLASSIFICATION OF MEMBERS In an effort to provide spiritual accountability and a path toward spiritual maturity for any who desire, City Park Church offers membership to its congregants.

CITY PARK MEMBERS Membership at City Park Church is at a commitment level that is more than that of an occasional attendee. Members of City Park Church are those who are at least 18 years of age, have professed faith in Jesus Christ as their personal Savior through sharing their “Jesus Story” (testimony) with a member of church leadership, have established a regular pattern of attendance, and would reference City Park Church as their church home.

Members recognize that they are responsible before God as well as the City Park Church congregation, to make decisions that will honor God and promote His agenda in fulfillment of the Great Commission before the return of Jesus Christ.

Members are encouraged to:

- (1) be familiar with our beliefs (see City Park Church Constitution Article VI Statement of Fundamental Truths);
 - a. have completed the City Park Church foundation classes (thereby establishing a healthy awareness of the church and its vision, mission, history, functions, structure, etc.)
- (2) be aware of how our church functions;
- (3) pray regularly for our congregation;
- (4) live a consistent Christian life;

(5) and seek opportunities to give and serve within City Park Church.

Members can expect City Park Church to:

- (1) provide sound, biblical teaching;
- (2) provide biblical counsel;
- (3) serve their families through instruction, discipleship and prayer;
- (4) and practice integrity with financial and personal investments.

RECEPTION OF MEMBERS Persons desiring to become active members of City Park Church shall make this fact known by filling out a connection card, and intentionally attending the City Park Church foundation classes, seeking to fulfill the role of members as outlined in City Park Members above.

REVISION OF THE MEMBERSHIP The Pastor and Board shall examine the membership of the Church periodically, and remove from the list of active members those who have deceased, no longer fellowship with City Park Church, cease to be in accord with the requirements of membership, or have requested removal.

ARTICLE II DUTIES AND QUALIFICATIONS OF CHURCH OFFICERS

LEAD PASTOR

The Lead Pastor shall be the spiritual overseer of the church and all church activities. As such, he shall have the proper honor and respect of the membership. He shall be Chairman of the Servant Leadership Board, and be an ex-officio member of all committees/teams. No person shall be invited to speak or preach in the assembly without his understanding and approval.

The pastor shall also understand that his choice as pastor does not permit him to assume arbitrary or dictatorial powers. He is the servant of the church, to minister to its spiritual needs, and to direct the activities of the church in accordance with the Bible, and the City Park Church's Constitution and Bylaws. He should be looked up to and respected as the leader. The Servant Leadership Board is chosen to assist the pastor. The final decision for all major action rests with the congregation, including, but not limited to, the purchase or sale of church property, the

acceptance or discipline of members. If these principles are followed closely, in the fear of God, peace and harmony in the assembly life is assured.

In the event of the Lead Pastor's extended absence of more than one week, the Lead Pastor shall consult with the Elders as to a suitable substitute to take charge of the services and other functions/ministries of the church.

Qualifications: The Lead Pastor shall be an ordained Minister whose life and conduct shall conform to the City Park Church Statement of Faith and the following Scriptures: 1 Tim 3:2-7; Titus 1:6-9; 1 Pet 5:2-3.

ELDERS

The Elders shall act in cooperation with the Pastor in matters pertaining to the Church regarding its spiritual life, and in the ministry of its ordinances. The Elders will diligently pursue consensus on matters consequential to the spiritual health of the Church. It is the Elders' role to administer Biblical discipline of the church/members as needed.

The Elders who are called to the position and meet qualifications in Titus 1:5-9, 1 Tim 3:1-7, and 1 Pet 5:1-4 are indicated by the Elders and presented to the congregation. Their term of office is indefinite as long as they meet City Park Church membership requirements and Scriptures related to the office of an Elder in the Church.

Elders are eligible to serve on the Servant Leadership Board.

SERVANT LEADERSHIP BOARD

The Servant Leadership Board shall govern with the Pastor in matters pertaining to the Church in the administration of its Constitution and Bylaws, and the administration of Church policies and procedures. As Trustees of the Church, they shall have the oversight of all property and business matters of the Church. They shall control and conduct the same in a business-like manner for the promotion of the purpose of the Church as set forth in its Constitution and Bylaws. No person shall be a member of the Board and simultaneously hold a paid position in the Church. No member of the Board shall be a spouse of a paid member of the Church staff.

All matters of Church government shall be carried on by the Servant Leadership Board, except in matters requiring the approval of the entire body. In such instances, they shall present their recommendation to the Church for ratification.

Qualifications: Members of the Servant Leadership Board shall be at least twenty-one (21) years of age, having been members of the Church for at least one (1) year, and evidencing the Fruits of the Spirit in their lives.

SECRETARY

Duties: The Secretary shall keep the minutes of meetings, and perform any other clerical work necessary to the proper discharge of the position's duties. The Secretary shall have charge of all legal documents, and shall be custodian of the official Seal of the Church. The Secretary shall, with the Chairman, sign all legal documents in the name of the church, when authorized by the Board and/or Church.

Qualifications: The Secretary shall be an elected member of the Board, and shall be elected annually by the Board to serve as Secretary.

TREASURER

Duties: the Treasurer shall assure the accuracy of regular financial reports for the Servant Leadership Board and the Elders, by keeping an itemized account of the receipts and disbursements of all Church monies in the Treasurer's custody; keeping the Servant Leadership Board and Elders apprised of the fiscal accountability of the Church's funds; protecting the Church's financial resources by ensuring proper maintenance of financial records, overseeing the integrity of financial records, overseeing the integrity of financial control systems, and working closely with the Servant Leadership Board and Elders on fiscal matters; and generally perform all of the duties incidental to the office of Treasurer and any other duties that the Chair of the Servant Leadership Board may assign to the Treasurer.

Additionally, the Treasurer shall keep an itemized account of the receipts and disbursements of all Church monies in the Treasurer's custody. The Treasurer shall make financial reports to the Board and a summarized report at the Church's annual business meeting. The

Treasurer shall be bonded in such amount as the Servant Leadership Board determines, if any. The books may be audited annually under the direction of the Board.

Qualifications: The Treasurer shall be a person of high moral character with a knowledge of bookkeeping that will enable the Treasurer to keep the records in a clear, understandable manner that can be audited. The Treasurer shall be elected annually by the Board.

ARTICLE III VACANCIES AND ELECTIONS

ELECTION OF LEAD PASTOR

Nomination of the Pastor: The Elders, after prayerful inquiry and with judicious counsel, full consideration being given to the leading of the Holy Spirit, shall select an available, scripturally-qualified, ordained minister as nominee to the office of Pastor, and present his name for the vote of the assembly without undue delay at a duly-called business meeting. Any member of the Church may offer a minister's name for consideration of the committee.

Manner of Election: The election shall be by secret ballot at a duly-called business meeting; a two-thirds (2/3) majority of all votes cast by members shall be required to constitute an election.

Term of Office: The Pastor may be elected for an indefinite period of time.

Resignation: If for any reason the Pastor shall resign, he shall give a minimum of thirty (30) days written notice to the Elders and Servant Leadership Board.

Vacancy: A vacancy in the pastorate shall be supplied under the supervision of the Elders until a Pastor is elected in the manner prescribed above.

Removal of Pastor: For the purpose of considering the removal of the Lead Pastor, a two-thirds (2/3) majority vote of the membership quorum must take place at either a special or annual business meeting.

ELECTION OF BOARD MEMBERS

Nominations: The Servant Leadership Board (the "Board") shall be chosen from the membership of the Church. Opportunity shall be given to the congregation to submit names to the

Board. Nominations will be closed two weeks prior to the annual business meeting. The Elders shall present a list of names as nominees to the Church members at the annual business meeting.

Manner of Election: All elections shall be by secret ballot. If no nominee receives a majority of the votes cast on the first ballot, the assembly shall drop all names except the two receiving the highest number of votes, and ballot until one receives the majority.

Terms of Office: Board members shall be elected for three (3) year terms and shall be eligible for re-election. Terms of Board members shall be arranged, as nearly as possible, so that one-third of the terms expire in any one year.

Vacancy: Vacancies on the Servant Leadership Board may be filled by appointment of the Board, or by action of the Church at a duly-called business meeting. When filled by appointment, the term shall be until the next duly-called business meeting of the membership, otherwise it shall be for the unexpired term.

Discipline and Appeal: Any office in the Church may be declared vacant whenever the incumbent has disqualified themselves by unscriptural conduct, a spirit of insubordination, or a charge of belief contrary to the statement of faith. Such action shall be taken by the Servant Leadership Board and the Elders. The above provision shall not apply to the office of Lead Pastor. However, such action may be taken regarding the Lead Pastor's role as Chairman of the Servant Leadership Board.

ELECTION OF SERVANT LEADERSHIP BOARD OFFICERS

Secretary: The Secretary shall be elected by the Board, and must be a member of the Servant Leadership Board.

Treasurer: The Treasurer shall be elected by the Servant Leadership Board, and must be a member of the Board.

ARTICLE IV SERVANT LEADER BOARD MEETINGS

MEETING AND QUORUM The subject of Meetings and Quorum is fully covered in Article XII and Article XIII of the City Park Church Constitution.

DUE NOTICE The subject of Due Notice is defined in Article XII and Article XVI of the City Park Church Constitution.

ARTICLE V ABSENTEE BALLOTS

Absentee ballots for election of Lead Pastor and Servant Leadership Board members shall be received as an official vote, provided the candidate on the ballot has been duly nominated in accord with the City Park Church Bylaws.

Absentee ballots for voting on issues or decisions that have been previously announced shall be received and counted, unless the matter being voted on has been changed due to additional information or amended. It shall be the prerogative of the members present to determine the above condition.

The criteria for all absentee ballots shall be that; the person voting must be an active member in good standing in the church, have a legitimate reason for not being present, and have their name inscribed in the minutes by the secretary as having voted absentee.

ARTICLE VI FINANCES

The Servant Leadership Board shall determine all salaries, and shall have general oversight in all financial matters in every department on behalf of the Church, including, but not limited to, producing an annual budget to be ratified by the Board. All records shall be at all times subject to audit.

The Lead Pastor shall be given regular, adequate financial support. The amount and manner of which shall be determined by agreement between the Pastor and the Board.

ARTICLE VII PROCEDURES FOR SERVANT LEADERSHIP BOARD MEETINGS AND BUSINESS MEETINGS

GENERAL ORDER The work of the Servant Leadership Board shall be governed by parliamentary procedure as set forth in the current edition of *Robert's Rules of Order Newly Revised*, keeping with the spirit of Christian love and fellowship.

ANNUAL CHURCH BUSINESS MEETING The regular order of business at the annual business meeting of the Church shall include:

- (1) Devotions
- (2) Roll Call
- (3) Reading of the Minutes (Previous Meeting)
- (4) Reports
- (5) Unfinished Business
- (6) Elections
- (7) New Business
- (8) Adjournment

ARTICLE VIII COMMITTEES

There shall be committees organized for the carrying out of effective ministry to the full body of Christ, as deemed necessary by the Servant Leadership Board. Each committee shall be amenable to the Pastor, Board or anyone duly designated as committee head or officer. Committee heads or officers shall serve at the appointment or approval of the Servant Leadership Board, and shall work in harmony and unity with other members of the Church body.

ARTICLE IX AMENDMENTS

Amendments to the bylaws may be made at any duly-called regular or special business meeting, by a two-thirds (2/3) majority of a quorum of members of City Park Church that are present.