

C A M P E V A N G E L I N E

*309 East Folly Mountain Road, Debert, NS*

*Affiliated with the Maritime District of the Pentecostal Assemblies of Canada*

## CONSTITUTION & BYLAWS

REVISED: MONDAY, DECEMBER 5, 2011



# C A M P E V A N G E L I N E

*309 East Folly Mountain Road, Debert, NS*

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## ARTICLES

### CAMP EVANGELINE

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ARTICLE 1 NAME

1.1 This registered charity shall be known as “Camp Evangeline” and herein also referred to as “Camp.”

ARTICLE 2 OBJECTIVES

Camp Evangeline exists to:

- 2.1 Maintain and further the spiritual life of its campers. This is to be accomplished through the teaching and practice of the Word of God as emphasized by the statement of Fundamental and Essential truths of The Pentecostal Assemblies of Canada
- 2.2 Conduct annual camp meetings and services with continued emphasis upon Pentecostal theology and experience.
- 2.3 To provide facilities for the fulfillment of these spiritual purposes by the operation of a Family Camp and other camps and retreats as determined from time to time.

ARTICLE 3 HEAD OFFICE

3.1 The Head Office of the Camp shall be at 72 Golf Street, in the Town of Truro, in the Regional Municipality of Colchester, in the Province of Nova Scotia.

ARTICLE 4 RELATIONSHIP

4.1 Camp Evangeline is affiliated with The Maritime District of the Pentecostal Assemblies of Canada and shall share in the privileges and assume the responsibilities enjoined by this affiliation.

## ARTICLE 5 PREROGATIVES

- 5.1 Camp shall have the right to elect its Directors, with the singular exception outlined in Article 8 herein.
- 5.2 Camp shall have the right to appoint committees, arrange for its meetings, and to govern itself according to the Camp Constitution and Bylaws as approved and amended from time to time by the membership of Camp Evangeline.
- 5.3 This camp shall have the right to establish policy and procedures to guide its operations that are in keeping with its own constitution and the General and District Constitutions of the Pentecostal Assemblies of Canada.
- 5.4 The activities of this camp shall be carried on without purpose or gain for its members, and any profits or other accretions to the organization shall be used solely to promote its objectives, in accordance with its Constitution and Bylaws or as the same may be hereafter modified or amended.
- 5.5 In the event of the winding up of the organization, all its remaining assets after payment of liabilities shall be distributed to the Maritime District of the Pentecostal Assemblies of Canada for its continuing ministries.

## ARTICLE 6 PROPERTY

- 6.1 All property shall be held in the name of The Pentecostal Assemblies of Canada as trustee for the Maritime District of The Pentecostal Assemblies of Canada (until such time as the Maritime District of The Pentecostal Assemblies of Canada is incorporated.)
- 6.2 Camp Evangeline shall lease these properties for the nominal sum of one Canadian dollar per year.
- 6.3 The acquiring or disposal of land property shall be decided by District Executive of The Maritime District of The Pentecostal Assemblies of Canada.

## ARTICLE 7 MEMBERSHIP

- 7.1 Membership shall consist of individuals 19 years of age or older who meet the general spiritual requirements outlined in the Pentecostal Assemblies of Canada Local Church Constitution and Bylaws, Article 6. Such individuals need not hold membership in a Pentecostal Assemblies of Canada church.
- 7.2 Members shall exemplify a commitment to Camp Evangeline through attendance and annual financial support.

## ARTICLE 8 LEADERSHIP

### 8.1 Officers

The officers of this organization shall consist of an Executive Director, Secretary, and Treasurer.

8.1.1. The Executive Director shall be a credential holder of the Pentecostal Assemblies of Canada. He or she shall be elected by the Camp membership.

### 8.2 Board of Directors

There shall be a minimum of five other Directors and such other officers as shall be determined from time to time.

## ARTICLE 9 MEETINGS

- 9.1 The annual or any other general meeting of the members shall be held at Camp Evangeline or elsewhere as the Board of Directors may determine and on such day as the Directors shall appoint.
- 9.2 A quorum for the transaction of business at any meeting of members shall consist of at least one quarter (25%) of voting members.

## ARTICLE 10 TENETS OF FAITH

- 10.1 We believe most assuredly that the Holy Scriptures are God's final revelation and constitute our all-sufficient rule for faith and practice and accept the Statement of

Fundamental and Essential Truths as approved by The Pentecostal Assemblies of Canada, and which is appended to this constitution.

## ARTICLE 11 AMENDMENTS

11.1 Amendments to the Constitution may be made at any regular or special meeting of the Camp membership, provided that the proposed amendment has been submitted to the District Executive of the Maritime District of the Pentecostal Assemblies of Canada by the Board of Directors for ratification at least 60 days before such meeting for consideration.

11.1.1 At the annual meeting of the Camp membership a two thirds majority of all members present and voting shall be necessary for adoption of any amendment.

## **BY-LAWS**

### **CAMP EVANGELINE**

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## BYLAW 1 MEMBERSHIP

- 1.1 Membership shall be approved by resolution of the Board of Directors.
- 1.2 Members defined within Article 7 of the Constitution shall be entitled to one vote on each question arising at any special or general meeting of the members.

### 1.3 Responsibilities of Membership

All members shall have a record of participation at Camp functions and activities, and shall represent the best interests of the Camp. Camp members shall:

1.3.1 Attend Camp events, to the extent that they are able, and

1.3.2 Contribute financially to the Camp each fiscal year.

### 1.4 Revocation of Membership

Membership in the Camp is a privilege and not a right. Membership in the Camp may be revoked in the event that a Camp member no longer participates in the Camp functions or no longer is in compliance of Article 7 of the Constitution, as determined by the Board of Directors. Prior to the revocation of membership, the Camp member must be informed in writing of the reasons for the intent to revoke membership, and be given an opportunity to be heard by the Board within thirty (30) of receiving a letter stating an intent to revoke membership. Membership can only be revoked by a resolution of the Board.

## BYLAW 2 MEMBERSHIP MEETINGS

- 2.1 The Executive Director shall preside at all meetings, or in such person's absence, the Secretary shall preside. If the Secretary is unwilling to preside, the Board will elect a chairperson for that meeting.
- 2.2 At every annual meeting, in addition to any other business that may be transacted, the report of the Executive Director, the financial statement and the report of the auditors

shall be presented and a Board of Directors elected every second year. The Executive Director shall have power to call, at any time, a meeting of the members of the Camp.

### 2.3 Notice of Meetings

Notice of the time and place of each meeting of members shall be sent to each Camp member by e-mail, phone, mail, facsimile or other communications facility or by personal delivery, not less than thirty (30) days before the meeting. Notice of a special meeting of members, or of an annual meeting of members at which resolutions are to be voted on other than consideration of the financial statements, the election of Directors and other general business, shall state the nature of the business in sufficient detail to permit the members to form a reasoned judgment thereon.

2.4 No error or omission in giving notice of any annual or general or special meeting or any adjourned meeting, whether annual or general or special, of the members of the Camp shall invalidate such meeting or make void any proceedings taken thereat. Any member may at any time waive notice of any such meeting and may ratify, approve and confirm any or all proceedings taken or had thereat. For the purpose of sending notice to any member, director or officer for any meeting or otherwise, the address of any member, director or officer shall be his or her last address recorded on the books of the Camp.

2.5 In order to expedite business meetings, Camp Evangeline shall be governed by the spirit of Christian love and fellowship and by the accepted rules of parliamentary procedure as outlined in Robert's Rules of Order.

## BYLAW 3 BOARD OF DIRECTORS

### 3.1 Powers and Responsibilities

3.1.1 The affairs of the Camp shall be managed by a Board of eight Directors, each of whom must be a member of the Camp throughout his or her term of office.

3.1.2 The Board of Directors of the Camp may administer the affairs of the Camp and make or cause to be made for the Camp, in its name, any kind of contract which the Camp may lawfully enter into and, save as hereinafter provided, generally,

may exercise all such other powers and do all such other acts and things as the Camp, by its Constitution or otherwise, is authorized to exercise and do.

### 3.2 Qualifications of Directors

3.2.1 A director shall be a person of mature experience, sound judgment, recognized ability, and Christian character. A Director must participate at Camp activities and functions, and promote and contribute to the general cause of the Camp.

3.2.2 The qualifications for service on the Board of Directors shall be determined and approved in accordance with the policy of the Camp, as guided by scriptural provisions for deacons as are cited in Acts 6:3 and 1 Timothy 3:8-13. The official Board of Directors shall be comprised of members who are of good report and sound judgment, examples to the Camp in matters of stewardship, camp attendance, and spiritual maturity, and seeking constantly, as sanctified vessels, to be filled with the Holy Spirit (Acts 2:4; Ephesians 5:18).

### 3.3 Election of Directors

3.3.1 The Board of Directors shall serve a two year term with elections occurring at the annual meeting of the Camp.

3.3.2 The District Executive of the Maritime District of the PAOC shall appoint one member to the Board, who is a PAOC credential holder and who exemplifies commitment to Camp Evangeline through attendance and financial support. At least two directors, including the appointee of the Maritime District, shall be credential holders of the PAOC. However, where less than two individuals that are PAOC credential holders are willing to be nominated and elected, then another member who is not a credential holder may be nominated. All other elected directors shall be nominees from the membership. The nominating process shall occur before the annual meeting of the members.

3.3.3 If any director shall resign, or, without reasonable excuse, absent himself or herself from three or more Board of Directors' meetings, or be suspended or cease being a member of the Camp, the Board of Directors shall declare a vacancy

and may appoint a successor from among qualified members of the Camp to fill the vacancy until the next annual meeting of the members.

### 3.4 Board of Directors Meetings

3.4.1 A majority of the directors shall form a quorum for the transaction of business.

3.4.2 Meetings may be held at such place or places as may be determined from time to time by the Executive Director. Only the Executive Director may call meetings.

3.4.3 Notice of such meetings shall be delivered, telephoned, sent electronically, or sent by facsimile machine to each member not less than one week before the meeting is to take place or shall be mailed to each member not less than fifteen days before the meeting is to take place. The statement of the Executive Director that notice has been given pursuant to this Bylaw shall be sufficient. The Board may appoint a day or days in any month or months for regular meetings at an hour to be named and of such regular meeting no notice need be sent. A Board meeting may also be held, without notice, within 10 days after the annual meeting of the Camp. The Directors may consider or transact any business either special or general at any meeting of the Board. No error or omission in giving such notice for a meeting of directors shall invalidate such meeting or invalidate or make void any proceedings taken or had at such meeting and any director may at any time waive notice of any such meeting and may ratify and approve of any or all proceedings taken or had thereat.

#### 3.4.4 Meeting by Telephone

If all directors consent, a director may participate in a meeting by means of telephone or other communication device as to permit all persons participating in the meeting to hear each other, and a director participating in such meeting by such means is deemed to be present at the meeting. Any such consent shall be effective whether given before or after the beginning of the meeting to which it relates and may be given with respect to all meetings.

### 3.5 Voting

Questions arising at any meeting of directors shall be decided by a majority of votes. In the case of an equality of votes, the chair of the meeting may cast his or her vote on the motion. The chair of the meeting shall vote only in the event of a tie.

### 3.6 Remuneration

The Directors shall receive no remuneration for acting as such. Directors may be paid reasonable expenses incurred by them in the performance of their duties such as expenses which relate to attendance at meetings or assignments giving by the Board or Executive Director.

### 3.7 Conflict of Interest

No Camp Director shall place himself or herself in a position where there is a conflict of interests between his or her duties as a Director and his or her other interests. (Every Camp Director who is in any way directly or indirectly interested in or may become interested in an existing or proposed contract, transaction or arrangement with the Camp or who otherwise has a conflict of interests by virtue of involvement of a member of his or her family or the involvement of his or her employer, partner, business associate or a corporation that the Camp Director is involved with as either a director, shareholder, officer or agent, shall declare his or her conflict of interest fully at a meeting of Camp Directors and withdraw from any discussion or vote.

### 3.8 Insurance

The Camp shall purchase insurance for directors and officers against any liability incurred in their capacity as a director and officer acting honestly and in good faith.

## BYLAW 4 OFFICERS

### 4.1 Executive Director

There shall be an Executive Director of the Camp, who shall be elected by the Camp membership.

4.1.1 In the event that the office of Executive Director is vacated, a new Executive Director shall be appointed by the Board of Directors until the next annual of the members, at which time a new Executive Director shall be elected.

4.1.2 Appointment and Call

A call shall be extended to a person to serve as the Executive Director when the person receives a two-thirds (2/3) majority of the ballots cast at a the annual general meeting or at a meeting duly convened for that purpose.

4.1.2.2 Nominations for the position Executive Director shall be submitted to the membership by the Board of Directors, after consultation with the District Superintendent. Before presentation to the membership the nominee shall be ratified by the District Executive of the Maritime District of the Pentecostal Assemblies of Canada.

4.1.2.3 The term of office for the Executive Director shall be indefinite.

4.2 Duties of Executive Director

The Executive Director shall preside at all meetings of members of the Camp and of the Board of Directors. The Executive Director shall submit a report to the Camp at the annual general meeting of members. The Executive Director shall perform such other duties as may from time to time be determined by the Board of Directors.

During the absence or inability of the Executive Director, his or her duties and powers may be exercised by such other director as the Board of Directors may from time to time appoint for the purpose, and if such other Director exercises any such duty or power, the absence or inability of the Executive Director shall be presumed with reference thereto.

4.2.1 Executive Director and Membership Relationship

When difficulties have arisen between the pastor and the Board of Directors or membership which do not involve the credentials of the Executive Director, but only the position as Executive Director, and which apparently cannot be resolved at the local level, the Executive Director, the Board of Directors, or a quorum

consisting of not fewer than one-third (1/3) of the regular Camp membership shall have the right to appeal to the District Executive for help in resolving the impasse.

The refusal of the Executive Director to call a meeting of the Board of Directors shall constitute the Board of Director's right to appeal to the District Executive.

If a satisfactory settlement cannot be reached, the District Superintendent may call a Camp membership meeting, to be presided over by the District Superintendent or the authorized representative of the District Superintendent.

If the District Superintendent, or their representative, calls for a vote of confidence in the Executive Director, the roster for the vote shall include only those members who held membership 60 days prior to the vote of confidence and shall exclude the Executive Director and their spouse, who shall not be included in the quorum necessary to have a membership meeting. The vote shall require a simple majority in support of the Executive Director, for the Executive Director to retain the position as Executive Director. If such is not achieved, the Executive Director's duties shall be terminated immediately, and he or she shall be given a minimum of one (1) month salary but not more than three (3) months salary with benefits.

## 4.2 Secretary

There shall be a Secretary, who shall be appointed by the Board of Directors from among their number at the first meeting of the Board after the annual election of such Board of Directors. The Board shall also appoint a Treasurer and any other officer that the Board of Directors may determine from time to time. These officers shall normally be a director of the Board, but in the event that persons with the necessary qualifications are not available on the Board or unwilling to serve in that capacity, the Board may appoint Camp members to fulfill those positions.

### 4.2.1 Duties of Secretary

The Secretary shall attend all meetings of the Board of Directors and members and record all facts and minutes of all proceedings in the books kept for that purpose. The Secretary shall give all notices to members and to directors. The Secretary shall be the custodian of all books, papers, records, correspondence, contracts and other documents belonging to the Camp which shall be delivered up only when authorized by a resolution of the Board of Directors, or a request from The Maritime District Executive, to do so and to such person or persons as may be named in the resolution, and the Secretary shall perform such other duties as may from time to time be determined by the Board of Directors.

#### 4.5 Treasurer

There shall be a Treasurer, who shall be appointed by the Board of Directors from among their number at the first meeting of the Board after the annual election of such Board of Directors. The Board shall also appoint a Secretary and any other officer that the Board of Directors may determine from time to time. These officers shall normally be a director of the Board, but in the event that persons with the necessary qualifications are not available on the Board or unwilling to serve in that capacity, the Board may appoint Camp members to fulfill those positions.

##### 4.5.1 Duties of the Treasurer

The Treasurer shall have responsibility to keep full and accurate accounts of all receipts and disbursements of the Camp in proper books of account and shall deposit all monies or other valuable effects in the name and to the credit of the Camp at such bank or banks as may from time to time be designated by the Board of Directors. The Treasurer shall disburse the funds of the Camp under the direction of the Board of Directors, taking proper vouchers therefore and shall render to the Board of Directors at the regular meetings thereof or whenever required, an account of all the Treasurer's transactions and of the financial position of the Camp. The Treasurer shall also perform such other duties as may from time to time be determined by the Board of Directors.

4.5.2 All cheques or other instruments drawn upon the bank account of the Camp shall be signed by two authorized signing officers as approved by the Board. In

most cases, the Camp Treasurer will be one of the authorized signing officers who will sign the cheque or other instrument.

#### BYLAW 5 COMMITTEES AND COORDINATORS

5.1 The Board of Directors may from time to time appoint such sub-committees as it deems advisable and may also appoint specific coordinators and other persons for specific tasks and functions. At least one member of a sub-committee shall be from the Board of Directors.

#### BYLAW 6 FINANCES AND ASSETS

6.1 Camp Evangeline, prior to making application for any loan from any source or incurring indebtedness on a purchase plan or otherwise when repayment is not to be made in full within twelve months of the date of the intended loan or where the indebtedness, together with all other indebtedness of the organization, in the aggregate will exceed twenty (20) percent of the total amount of the previous years gross revenues, then the Camp shall consult with and obtain the approval of the District Executive before proceeding with the requirements of Bylaw 6.2 hereof.

6.2 The Camp shall then obtain the approval of the Camp members to the proposed borrowing action by resolution at a duly called special or regular annual meeting of the membership

6.3 Contracts in the ordinary course of the Camp's operations may be entered into on behalf of the Camp by the Executive Director, Secretary, Treasurer or by any person authorized from time to time by the Board of Directors. Notwithstanding any provisions to the contrary contained in the bylaws of the Camp, the Board of Directors may at any time by resolution direct the manner in which, and the person or persons by whom, any particular instrument, contract or obligations of the Camp may or shall be executed. Two signatures shall be required when signing such.

6.4 The Camp may hold and manage the chattels owned by the Camp. Land property owned by the Camp shall not be sold without the approval of at least

two-thirds of the members of the Maritime District Conference of the Pentecostal Assemblies of Canada at a duly called meeting.

#### BYLAW 7 BOOKS AND RECORDS

- 7.1 The Secretary shall see that all necessary books and records of the Camp required by the Bylaws of the Camp or by any applicable statute or law are regularly and properly kept.
- 7.2 The books of account shall be kept at the office of the Maritime District of the Pentecostal Assemblies of Canada or at another place from time to time that by order of the Board of Directors.

#### BYLAW 8 FISCAL YEAR

The fiscal year of the Camp shall terminate on the 31st day of December in each year.

#### BYLAW 9 DISSOLUTION

- 9.1 Upon the dissolution of Camp Evangeline and after payment of all its debts and liabilities, the remaining property of Camp shall be dealt with as hereinafter prescribed, subject to possible court approval.
- 9.1.2 The owners of private cabins may remove their cabins from Camp land at their own expense, provided that the cabins are removed prior to the sale of Camp land and the lands are restored to their original condition. The owners of private cabins who do not wish to remove their cabin from Camp land may leave their cabins on Camp land and the cabin will be purchased by the Camp for the sum of one (1) Canadian dollar, paid to the cabin owner.
- 9.2 In the event of dissolution or winding up of the organization, all its remaining assets after payment of liabilities shall be distributed to the Maritime District of The Pentecostal Assemblies of Canada for its continuing ministries.

#### BYLAW 10 AMENDMENTS

10.1 Amendments to these Bylaws may be made at any regular or special meeting of the Camp membership by a two thirds majority of the members voting.

# STATEMENT OF FUNDAMENTAL AND ESSENTIAL TRUTHS

## Article 5 of the *General Constitution and By-Laws* Amended by General Conference, 2008

### PREAMBLE

The Pentecostal Assemblies of Canada stands firmly in the mainstream of historical Christianity. It takes the Bible as its all-sufficient source of faith and practice, and subscribes to the historic creeds of the universal church. In common with historical, evangelical Christianity, it emphasizes Christ as Saviour and coming King. It also presents Christ as Healer, and it adopts the distinctive position that speaking in tongues is the initial evidence when Christ baptizes in the Holy Spirit. (See Article 5.6.3)

#### .1 HOLY SCRIPTURES

All Scripture is given by inspiration of God<sup>1</sup> by which we understand the whole Bible to be inspired in the sense that holy men of God were moved by the Holy Spirit to write the very words of Scripture.<sup>2</sup> Divine inspiration extends equally and fully to all parts of the original writings. The whole Bible in the original is, therefore, without error and, as such, is infallible, absolutely supreme and sufficient in authority in all matters of faith and practice.<sup>3</sup>

The Bible does not simply contain the Word of God, but is, in reality, the complete revelation and very Word of God inspired by the Holy Spirit. Christian believers today receive spiritual illumination to enable them to understand the Scriptures,<sup>4</sup> but God does not grant new revelations that are contrary or additional to inspired biblical truth.<sup>5</sup>

#### .2 THE GODHEAD

The Godhead exists eternally in three persons: the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit. These three are one God, having the same nature and attributes and are worthy of the same homage, confidence, and obedience.<sup>6</sup>

##### .2.1 THE FATHER

The Father exists eternally as the Creator of heaven and earth, the Giver of the Law, to whom all things will be subjected, so that He may be all in all.<sup>7</sup>

##### .2.2 THE SON

The Lord Jesus Christ, the eternal and only begotten Son of the Father, is true God and true man.<sup>8</sup> He was conceived of the Holy Spirit, born of the Virgin Mary,<sup>9</sup> and by His sinless life, miracles and teaching, gave full revelation of the Father.<sup>10</sup>

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<sup>1</sup> 2 Tim. 3: 16, 17

<sup>2</sup> 2 Pet. 1: 20,21

<sup>3</sup> Psa. 119:160; Matt. 5:17,18

<sup>4</sup> 1 Cor. 2:12-14

<sup>5</sup> Prov. 30:5,6

<sup>6</sup> Matt. 3:16,17; 28:19; 2 Cor. 13:14

<sup>7</sup> Gen. 1:1; 1 Cor. 15:28

<sup>8</sup> John 1:1,14; 10:30,17; Phil. 2:6,7; Heb. 1:8

<sup>9</sup> Luke 1:26-35

<sup>10</sup> John 12:49; Acts 2:22; 2 Cor. 5:21; Heb. 7:26

He died upon the cross, the Just for the unjust, as a substitution sacrifice.<sup>11</sup> He rose from the dead.<sup>12</sup> He is now at the right hand of the Majesty on high as our great High Priest.<sup>13</sup> He will come again to establish His kingdom in righteousness and peace.<sup>14</sup>

### **.2.3 THE HOLY SPIRIT**

The Holy Spirit is also God, performing actions and possessing the attributes of the Deity.<sup>15</sup> His personality is shown by the fact that He has personal characteristics and that individuals may relate to Him as a person.<sup>16</sup>

## **.3 ANGELS**

### **.3.1 CLASSIFICATION**

Angels were created as intelligent and powerful beings to do the will of God and worship Him.<sup>17</sup> However, Satan, the originator of sin, fell through pride and was followed by those angels who rebelled against God. These fallen angels or demons are active in opposing the purposes of God.<sup>18</sup>

Those who remained faithful continue before the throne of God and serve as ministering spirits.<sup>19</sup>

### **.3.2 THE BELIEVER AND DEMONS**

Demons attempt to thwart God's purposes; however, in Christ, the believer may have complete liberty from the influence of demons.<sup>20</sup> He cannot be possessed by them because his body is the temple of the Holy Spirit in which Christ dwells as Lord.<sup>21</sup>

## **.4 MAN**

Man was originally created in the image and likeness of God.<sup>22</sup> He fell through sin and, as a consequence, incurred both spiritual and physical death.<sup>23</sup> Spiritual death and the depravity of human

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<sup>11</sup> Rom. 5:6,8; 1 Cor. 15:3; 1Pet. 3:18

<sup>12</sup> Matt. 28:6; 1 Cor. 15:4,20

<sup>13</sup> Acts 1:9-11; 2:33; Heb. 8:1

<sup>14</sup> Matt. 25:31

<sup>15</sup> Acts 5:3,4

<sup>16</sup> John 16:13-14

<sup>17</sup> Psa. 103:20; Rev. 5:11,12

<sup>18</sup> Isa. 14:12-17, Eze. 28:11-19; Eph. 6:11-12; 1Tim. 4:1; Jude 6

<sup>19</sup> Heb. 1:14

<sup>20</sup> Heb. 2:14; 1 John 3:8; 4:1-4

<sup>21</sup> Matt. 6:24; 1 Cor. 6:19,20

<sup>22</sup> Gen. 1:26; 2:7

<sup>23</sup> Rom. 5:12; James 1:14,15

nature have been transmitted to the entire human race<sup>24</sup> with the exception of the Man Christ Jesus.<sup>25</sup> Man can be saved only through the atoning work of the Lord Jesus Christ.<sup>26</sup>

## **.5 SALVATION**

### **.5.1 ATONEMENT OF CHRIST**

Salvation has been provided for all men through the sacrifice of Christ upon the cross.<sup>27</sup> It is the only perfect redemption and substitution atonement for all the sins of the world, both original and actual. His atoning work has been proven by His resurrection from the dead.<sup>28</sup> Those who repent and believe in Christ are born again of the Holy Spirit and receive eternal life.<sup>29</sup> Furthermore, in the atonement, divine healing was provided for all believers.<sup>30</sup>

### **.5.2 REPENTANCE AND FAITH**

Man can be born again only through faith in Christ. Repentance, a vital part of believing, is a complete change of mind wrought by the Holy Spirit,<sup>31</sup> turning a person to God from sin.

### **.5.3 REGENERATION**

Regeneration is a creative work of the Holy Spirit by which man is born again and receives spiritual life.<sup>32</sup>

### **.5.4 JUSTIFICATION**

Justification is a judicial act of God by which the sinner is declared righteous solely on the basis of his acceptance of Christ as Saviour.<sup>33</sup>

## **.6 THE CHRISTIAN EXPERIENCE**

### **.6.1 ASSURANCE**

Assurance of salvation is the privilege of all who are born again by the Spirit through faith in Christ,<sup>34</sup> resulting in love, gratitude and obedience toward God.

### **.6.2 SANCTIFICATION**

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<sup>24</sup> Jer. 17:9; Rom. 3:10-19, 23

<sup>25</sup> Heb. 7:26

<sup>26</sup> John 14:6; Acts 4:12; 1 Tim. 2:5,6

<sup>27</sup> Isa. 53:3-6; John 12:32,33; 1 Pet. 2:24

<sup>28</sup> Acts 2:36; Rom. 4:25; 1 Cor. 15:14,17,20; Heb. 10:12; 1 John 2:2

<sup>29</sup> Acts 20:21; 1 Pet. 1:23,25

<sup>30</sup> Isa. 53:4,5; Matt. 8:16b,17

<sup>31</sup> Isa. 55:7; Acts 17:30; Gal. 3:22,26; Eph. 2:8; 1 John 5:10-13

<sup>32</sup> John 3:3b,5b,7; 2 Cor. 5:17,18a; 1 Pet. 1:23

<sup>33</sup> Rom. 3:24; 4:3-5; 5:1-2

<sup>34</sup> John 10:27-29; Rom. 8:35-39

Sanctification is dedication to God and separation from evil.<sup>35</sup> In experience it is both instantaneous<sup>36</sup> and progressive.<sup>37</sup> It is produced in the life of the believer by his appropriation of the power of Christ's blood and risen life through the person of the Holy Spirit;<sup>38</sup> He draws the believer's attention to Christ, teaches him through the Word and produces the character of Christ within him.<sup>39</sup> Believers who sin must repent and seek forgiveness through faith in the cleansing blood of Jesus Christ.<sup>40</sup>

### **5.6.3 BAPTISM IN THE HOLY SPIRIT**

The baptism in the Holy Spirit is an experience in which the believer yields control of himself to the Holy Spirit.<sup>41</sup> Through this he comes to know Christ in a more intimate way<sup>42</sup> and receives power to witness and grow spiritually.<sup>43</sup> Believers should earnestly seek the baptism in the Holy Spirit according to the command of our Lord Jesus Christ.<sup>44</sup> The initial evidence of the baptism in the Holy Spirit is speaking in other tongues as the Spirit gives utterance.<sup>45</sup> This experience is distinct from and subsequent to the experience of the new birth.<sup>46</sup>

### **.4 THE GIFTS OF THE SPIRIT**

The gifts of the Spirit are supernatural abilities given by God through the exercising of which believers are enabled to minister effectively and directly in particular situations.<sup>47</sup> They serve the dual function of building up the church and of demonstrating the presence of God within His church.<sup>48</sup>

### **.5 DIVINE HEALING**

Divine healing provided in the atonement of Christ<sup>49</sup> is the privilege of all believers. Prayer for the sick and gifts of healing are encouraged and practiced.<sup>50</sup>

## **.7 THE CHURCH**

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<sup>35</sup> 2 Cor. 6:14; 7:1

<sup>36</sup> John 17:17,19; Heb. 10:10,14

<sup>37</sup> I Thes. 5:23; 2 Tim. 2:19-22; 1 Pet. 1:14-16

<sup>38</sup> Rom. 6:11,13,14,18

<sup>39</sup> 1 Cor. 13; Gal. 5:22, 23; 2 Pet. 1:3-4

<sup>40</sup> 1 John 1:9; 2:1-2

<sup>41</sup> Matt. 3:11; Acts 1:5; Eph. 5:18

<sup>42</sup> John 16:13-15

<sup>43</sup> Acts 2:1-4; 9-17,39; 1 Cor. 14:18

<sup>44</sup> Luke 24:49; Acts 1:4, 8

<sup>45</sup> 2 Cor. 3:18; Acts 1:8

<sup>46</sup> Acts 8:12-17; 10:44-46

<sup>47</sup> 1 Cor. 12:4-11

<sup>48</sup> 1 Cor. 12:7; 14:12, 24-25

<sup>49</sup> Matt. 8:16,17

<sup>50</sup> 1 Cor. 12:28-30; James 5:14

**.1 THE UNIVERSAL CHURCH**

All who are born again are members of the universal church, which is the Body and Bride of Christ.<sup>51</sup>

**.2 THE LOCAL CHURCH**

**.2.1 PURPOSE**

The local church is a body of believers in Christ who have joined together to function as a part of the universal church.<sup>52</sup> The local church is ordained by God and provides a context in which believers corporately worship God<sup>53</sup>, observe the ordinances of the church, are instructed in the faith and are equipped for the evangelization of the world.<sup>54</sup>

**.2.2 ORDINANCES**

**.1 THE LORD'S SUPPER**

The Lord's Supper is a symbol, memorial and proclamation of the suffering and death of our Lord Jesus Christ. This ordinance of communion is to be participated in by believers until Christ's return.<sup>55</sup>

**.2 WATER BAPTISM**

Water baptism signifies the believer's identification with Christ in His death, burial and resurrection and is practiced by immersion.<sup>56</sup>

**.3 MINISTRY**

A divinely called and ordained ministry is the provision of the Lord to give leadership to the church as it fulfills its purposes.<sup>57</sup>

**.8 THE END OF TIME**

**.1 THE PRESENT STATE OF THE DEAD**

At death the souls of believers pass immediately into the presence of Christ,<sup>58</sup> and these remain in constant bliss until the resurrection of the glorified body.<sup>59</sup> The souls of unbelievers remain after death conscious of condemnation<sup>60</sup> until the final bodily resurrection and judgment of the unjust.<sup>61</sup>

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<sup>51</sup> 1 Cor. 12:13; Eph. 5:25b; Col. 1:18; 1 Tim. 3:15

<sup>52</sup> Acts 14:23; 1 Cor. 16:19

<sup>53</sup> John 4:23; Acts 20:7

<sup>54</sup> Acts 1:8; 11:19-24; 2 Tim. 2:2; 1 Pet. 5:2

<sup>55</sup> Matt. 26:26-28; 1 Cor. 10:16-17; 11:23-26

<sup>56</sup> Matt. 28:19; Mark 16:15-16; Acts 2:38, 41; 8:36-39; Rom. 6:3-5

<sup>57</sup> Acts 6:2b-4c; 13:2-4a; 14:23; Eph. 4:8, 11-13

<sup>58</sup> 2 Cor. 5:8; Phil. 1:21, 23-24

<sup>59</sup> Rom 8:22-23; 1 Cor. 15:42-44; 2 Cor. 5:1,4b

<sup>60</sup> Luke 16:22-31; John 3:36

<sup>61</sup> Dan.12:2; John 5:28-29; 2 Thess. 1:7-10; Rev 20:11-15

**.2 THE RAPTURE**

The rapture, the blessed hope of the church, is the imminent coming of the Lord in the air to receive to Himself His own, both the living who shall be transformed, and the dead in Christ who shall be resurrected.<sup>62</sup> This event takes place before the wrath of God is poured out during the tribulation. Believers then will appear before the judgment seat of Christ to be judged according to faithfulness in Christian service.<sup>63</sup>

**.3 THE TRIBULATION**

The tribulation will be a time of judgment on the whole earth.<sup>64</sup> During this period the Antichrist will emerge to offer false hope to the nations.<sup>65</sup>

**.4 THE SECOND COMING OF CHRIST**

The return of Christ to earth in power and great glory will conclude the great tribulation with the victory at Armageddon,<sup>66</sup> the defeat of Antichrist and the binding of Satan.<sup>67</sup> Christ will introduce the millennial age,<sup>68</sup> restore Israel to her own land, lift the curse which now rests upon the whole creation, and bring the whole world to the knowledge of God.<sup>69</sup>

**.5 THE FINAL JUDGMENT**

There will be a final judgment in which the unbelieving dead will be raised and judged at the great white throne, according to their works.<sup>70</sup>

The beast and false prophet, the devil and his angels, and whoever is not found in the Book of Life, shall be cast into the lake of fire, not to annihilation but to everlasting punishment, which is the second death.<sup>71</sup>

**.6 THE ETERNAL STATE OF THE RIGHTEOUS**

The righteous will share the glory of God in the new heaven and the new earth for eternity.<sup>72</sup>

**.9 POSITIONS AND PRACTICES**

**.9.1 MARRIAGE AND THE FAMILY**

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<sup>62</sup> 1 Cor. 15:51-57; Phil. 3:20-21; 1 Thess. 4:13-18; Titus 2:13

<sup>63</sup> Rom. 14:10-12; 1 Cor 3:11-15; 2 Cor. 5:9-10

<sup>64</sup> Matt. 24:15, 21-22; 1 Thess. 5:1-3

<sup>65</sup> 2 Thess. 2:3-12; Rev. 13:11-18

<sup>66</sup> Matt. 24:27, 30; Luke 17:24, 26-30

<sup>67</sup> Rev. 16:12-16; 17:8, 12-14; 19:11-20

<sup>68</sup> Psa. 2:6-12; Dan. 2:44-45; Luke 22:29-30; Rev. 3:21; 20:6

<sup>69</sup> Isa. 1:24-27; 2:1-4; Zech. 14:3,4,9; Rom. 8:19-23; Rev. 22:3

<sup>70</sup> Dan. 7:9-10; John 12:48; Rom. 2:2,6,11,16; Rev. 14:9-11; 20:11-15

<sup>71</sup> Matt. 25:41b; Jude 6; Rev. 20:10,15; 21:8

<sup>72</sup> Matt. 13:43; John 17:24; 2 Pet. 3:13; Heb. 11:10; Rev. 21:1-2, 10, 22-23

Marriage is a provision of God wherein one man and one woman to the exclusion of all others enter into a lifelong relationship<sup>73</sup> through a marriage ceremony that is recognized by the church and legally sanctioned by the state.

Marriage establishes a "one-flesh" relationship<sup>74</sup> that goes beyond a physical union and is more than either a temporary relationship of convenience intended to provide personal pleasure or a contract that binds two people together in a legal partnership. Marriage establishes an emotional and spiritual oneness that enables both partners to respond to the spiritual, physical and social needs of the other.<sup>75</sup> It provides the biblical context for the procreation of children.

Marriage is to be an exclusive relationship that is maintained in purity.<sup>76</sup> It is intended by God to be a permanent relationship. It is a witness to the world of the relationship between Christ and His church.<sup>77</sup>

Marriage requires a commitment of love, perseverance and faith. Because of its sanctity and permanence, marriage should be treated with seriousness and entered into only after counsel and prayer for God's guidance. Christians should marry only those who are believers.<sup>78</sup> An individual who becomes a believer after marriage should remain with his/her partner in peace, and should give witness to the Gospel in the home.<sup>79</sup>

The Bible holds family life as a position of trust and responsibility. The home is a stabilizing force in society, a place of nurture, counsel, and safety for children.<sup>80</sup>

Marriage can only be broken by *porneia*, which is understood as marital unfaithfulness<sup>81</sup> involving adultery, homosexuality, or incest. While the Scriptures give evidence that the marriage vow and "one-flesh" union are broken by such acts and therefore recognize the breaking of the marriage relationship, the Scriptures do recommend that the most desirable option would be reconciliation.<sup>82</sup>

## **.9.2 DIVORCE**

We believe that divorce is not God's intention. It is God's concession to the "hardness of men's hearts."<sup>83</sup>

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<sup>73</sup> Gen. 2:24; Matt. 19:6

<sup>74</sup> Matt. 19:5; Mal. 2:15

<sup>75</sup> Gen. 2:18; 1 Cor. 7:2-5; Heb. 13:4

<sup>76</sup> Eph. 5:3, 26, 27

<sup>77</sup> Eph. 5:25, 31, 32

<sup>78</sup> 2 Cor. 6:1, 14, 15

<sup>79</sup> 1 Cor. 7:12-14, 16

<sup>80</sup> Eph. 6:4

<sup>81</sup> Matt. 5:32; 19:9

<sup>82</sup> Eph. 4:32

<sup>83</sup> Matt. 19:8

We, therefore, discourage divorce by all lawful means and teaching. Our objective is reconciliation and the healing of the marital union wherever possible. Marital unfaithfulness should not be considered so much an occasion or opportunity for divorce but rather an opportunity for Christian grace, forgiveness, and restoration. Divorce in our society is a termination of a marriage through a legal process authorized by the State. While the Church recognizes this legal process as an appropriate means to facilitate the permanent separation of spouses, the Church restricts the idea of divorce, in the sense of dissolution of marriage, to reasons specified in Scripture.

The weight of the biblical record is negative and the explicit statement is made, "God hates divorce."<sup>84</sup> Divorce is more than an action of the courts which breaks the legal contract between partners in a marriage. It is also the fracture of a unique human relationship between a male and a female. Divorce has profound consequences for the children. Divorce is evidence of the sinful nature expressed in human failure. Jesus gives one explicit cause for the dissolution of marriage: *porneia* or marital unfaithfulness.

Where all attempts at reconciliation have failed and a divorce has been finalized, we extend Christ's love and compassion.

### **.9.3 REMARRIAGE**

Remarriage is the union, legally sanctioned by the State, of one man and one woman, one or both of whom have been previously married. It is regarded as acceptable in Scripture in the event of the death of a former spouse. It is also regarded as acceptable if there has been sexual immorality on the part of the former partner or if the former partner has remarried.

### **.9.4 TITHING**

Tithing was divinely instituted by God under the old covenant and was compulsory upon the people who worshiped God.<sup>85</sup> Under the new covenant we are not bound by arbitrary laws; but the principles of right and wrong, as expressed by the law, are fulfilled in the believer's life through grace. Grace should produce as much as or more than law demanded. Regular systematic giving is clearly taught in the New Testament. It is known as the grace of giving.<sup>86</sup> The gauge or rule of this systematic giving is defined in the Old Testament, known as the law of tithing. All Christians should conscientiously and systematically tithe their income to God.

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<sup>84</sup> Mal. 2:16

<sup>85</sup> Lev. 27:30-32; Mal. 3:10

<sup>86</sup> 2 Cor. 9:6-15