



Bylaws

Arise Church Deland, Inc.

Oct. 1, 2021

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BYLAWS OF

Arise Church Deland, Inc.

ARTICLE 1 – NAME AND GOVERNANCE

- 1.1** The legal name of this corporation is the Arise Church Deland, Inc. of DeLand, Florida. Arise Church Deland, Inc. is a voluntary organization associated with Church of God Ministries, Anderson, Indiana, and Florida Church of God Ministries, Inc. It is understood that here to for, the church is Arise Church Deland, Inc.
- 1.2** The present location of the business is: 1525 South State Road 15-A, DeLand, Florida 32720.
- 1.3** Hereafter, the principal location for the ministry and church business shall be a location determined by the voting members of Arise Church Deland, Inc.
- 1.4** Arise Church Deland Inc. shall be governed by three boards, namely: 1) a Board of Presbyters for spiritual matters 2) a Board of Trustees for all fiscal and property matters and 3) a Board of Elders, to be determined.

ARTICLE 2 – PURPOSE & MISSION

- 2.1** The purpose of this congregation shall be to introduce people to Jesus Christ and become life-long disciples, mature people into the likeness of Jesus Christ, and expand the Kingdom of God in our city, state, and world.
- 2.2** Arise Church Deland, Inc. accepts the canonized Bible as its authority in matters of faith and practice and seeks to inspire commitment to the teachings, mission, and faith as represented in the theological perspectives of the Church of God, Anderson, Indiana and Statement of Faith as stated in Article 13.
- 2.3** The mission of this congregation is to
 - 2.3.1** Win people to Jesus Christ and to encourage and enable Jesus' disciples to actively engage in God's mission in the world,
 - 2.3.2** Equip, train, develop and prepare Jesus' disciples for Christian service according to their spiritual gifts and abilities,
 - 2.3.3** Provide leadership that will create and enhance a healthy environment for the growth of the Kingdom of God and support a vision for every believer to fulfill the mandate of the Great Commission, the Great Commandment, and the teachings of Jesus Christ.
 - 2.3.4** To implement the following religious prerogatives for religious purposes within the meaning of section 501 (c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1954, as amended in order to, but not limited to:
 - a. ministering the Word of God.
 - b. administering the regular ordinances of water baptism by total immersion, communion (the Lord's supper
 - c. ministering the gifts of the Holy Spirit.
 - d. functioning as a local church and conducting regular religious worship services
 - e. promoting and encouraging (through the ministries of the organization), cooperation with other organizations ministering in the community.
 - f. establishing and maintaining departments, institutions, programs and services within the church for the propagation of the gospel and meeting community needs.
 - g. providing for missions and other outreach programs.
 - h. developing as able, new campuses, schools/training centers, outreach facilities, etc., to further advance the Kingdom of God.

ARTICLE 3 – MEMBERSHIP

- 3.1** Members of this congregation with ratification privileges shall meet all the following:
- 3.1.1 A person who has made a profession of faith in the Lord Jesus Christ.
 - 3.1.2 Has worshipped regularly with this congregation as a member for not less than six months.
 - 3.1.3 Is sixteen years of age or older with consistent attendance.
 - 3.1.4 Is living according to the beliefs and practices as represented by Arise Church Deland, Inc. and the Statement of Faith in Article 13.
 - 3.1.5 Supports the local congregation through Christian service and financial stewardship.
 - 3.1.6 Supports the mission, goals, and leadership of this church.
- 3.2** The rules and regulations governing membership herein stated shall apply to business meetings only and shall not affect in any way the religious standing, rights, and privileges of either ministers or laymen.
- 3.3** Discipline of a member has the purpose of maintaining the purity and unity of the Body of Christ in its local expression as this church through humble repentance. Discipline, correction, reproof and rebuke serve as a primary intent for the good of the person at fault, seeking to restore such a person and to help them overcome the problem, sin, or fault that has hindered them. The purpose of this discipline is: 1) restoration of the one in error, 2) the purifying of the church either by restoration or separation, 3) the edification of the church and exhortation for purification.

ARTICLE 4 – BOARD OF ELDERS

Reserved for future use, pending Elder Board ordination.

ARTICLE 5 – SENIOR PASTOR

- 5.1** The Senior Pastor shall be ordained with credentials recognized by and approved by the Board of Presbyters.
- 5.2** The Board of Presbyters/Board of Trustees shall select and appoint a Senior Pastor to manage the business affairs and ministries of Arise Church Deland, Inc. contingent on sections 5.4 and 6.1.1.
- 5.3 Duties of the Senior Pastor**
- 5.3.1 The Senior Pastor shall be accountable for the church fulfilling spiritual vision of this organization by the Board of Presbyters.
 - 5.3.2 The Senior Pastor shall be accountable to the Board of Trustees for the proper and legal conduct of the business of Arise Church Deland, Inc. according to the policies established by the Board of Trustees.
 - 5.3.3 The Senior Pastor shall be accountable to the Board of Presbyters and will carefully give spiritual oversight and guidance to the ministries of the church. He/she shall perform all of the duties inherent in the office of the pastor.
 - 5.3.5 Shall sign legal documents as instructed by the Board of Trustees.

5.4 Selection or Removal

The Board of Presbyters/Board of Elders shall select and appoint a Senior Pastor to manage the business affairs and ministries of Arise Church Deland, Inc. The Senior Pastor shall hold that office at the pleasure of Arise Church Deland, Inc. membership or until he/she resigns the office or is removed for cause by Board of Presbyters.

ARTICLE 6 – BOARD OF PRESBYTERS

6.1 Appointment

- 6.1.1 The senior pastor will appoint by a letter entered in the official records of the church [physically or electronically] maintained by the church office, three (3) ordained, five-fold (apostle, prophet, evangelist, pastor, or teacher [stated in Ephesians 4:11-12]) ministers to whom he will be accountable in all spiritual matters of doctrine, morals, and ethics. The primary purpose of their relationship is to counsel, to mentor, and to be accessible friends to the congregation.
- 6.1.2 The Board of Presbyters will oversee the senior pastor's lifestyle in matters of doctrine, morals, personal and financial integrity. They can be called in to mediate/officiate by the majority vote of the Board of Trustees who are knowledgeable or made knowledgeable of a situation pertaining to these principles regarding the senior pastor. The Board of Trustees will appoint a lead Presbyter regarding said situation.

6.2 Meetings

The senior pastor will meet officially with the Board of Presbyters once a year.

6.3 Term of Officers

- 6.3.1 The presbyters' term of office is perpetual, except that the senior pastor may ask an individual to resign and may choose another. The senior pastor may do this for just one presbyter in one calendar year. Other presbyters may be replaced pending only that they are officially unable to serve.
- 6.3.2 If a presbyter has been officially summoned to investigate any matter within the church, it is considered under jurisdiction of the Board of Presbyters until the matter is officially resolved.

6.4 Authority

- 6.4.1 The Board of Presbyters will have the authority to convene an inquiry of the senior pastor's doctrine, morality, or ethical misconduct upon the accusation of any individual, which said accusation, is approved by the Board of Trustees by majority vote. Should the Board of Presbyters find the accusation true, they may suspend the senior pastor for a season of restoration, or they may release the senior pastor from their office permanently.
- 6.4.2 The Board of Presbyters will set any terms of separation from the church, separation remuneration in collaboration with the Board of Trustees, and/or offer terms to restore the senior pastor [their choice of restorative ministry and full-time duration of restoration] and they have the authority to rescind the ordination into ministry of the senior pastor based upon doctrinal, moral or financial failure.
- 6.4.3 In the event of a senior pastor stepping down, being removed, or deceased, the Board of Presbyters will assume the spiritual leadership authority of the church and its pulpits as needed as they guide the progress of the vision of the church through interim pastor and/or new senior pastor is nominated.

ARTICLE 7 – BOARD OF TRUSTEES

7.1 Membership

7.1.1 Arise Church Deland, Inc. Board of Trustees, shall be comprised of at least a minimum of five (5) persons and maximum of seven (7) persons, appointed by the Senior Pastor and Board of Trustees *and* ratified by the members of Arise Church Deland, Inc.

7.1.2 The senior pastor shall serve as a Board of Trustee member, ex-officio.

7.2 Qualifications

7.2.1 Persons qualified to serve on the Board of Trustees must tithe and support the Arise Church Deland, Inc. and leadership and commit to attending the meetings of the Board of Trustees.

7.2.2 Members shall be selected based on commitment to tithing, spiritual gifts, skills, and experiences.

7.2.3 Each Board of Trustees member shall be a participating member of Arise Church Deland, Inc. and in good standing in the congregation. Each member must support the vision, mission, and values of Arise Church Deland, Inc.

7.3 Duties and Responsibilities

7.3.1 The Board of Trustees will provide resources, and sound financial management for the accomplishments of Arise Church Deland, Inc..

7.3.2 The Board of Trustees will transact any business as may be referred to the Board of Trustees at an annual or a special-called meeting.

7.3.3 The Board of Trustees will work with the Board of Presbyters to define compensation package upon hiring a new senior pastor.

7.3.4 The Board of Trustees will adopt, amend and repeal Arise Church Deland, Inc. bylaws, policies, and procedures.

7.3.5 The Board of Trustees will develop and approve the annual budget and present it to the voting members to be ratified.

7.3.6 The Board of Trustees will receive and review reports from teams and committees.

7.3.7 The Board of Trustees will maintain oversight of property and inventory owned by Arise Church Deland, Inc.

7.3.8 The Board of Trustees will have the authority to refer to the Board of Presbyters in the event of an accusation against the senior pastor's doctrine, morality, or ethical misconduct.

7.3.9 In the event of incapacitation or death, the Board of Trustees will determine care services and the time limits of said provision for spouse and family.

7.4 Terms of Office

Ratified members of the Board of Trustees shall hold office in perpetuity, until they resign, or are removed by a majority vote of the Board of Trustees as stated in 7.6.

7.5 Meetings

7.5.1 The Board of Trustees shall meet at least once each calendar quarter. Meetings will be conducted according to the most recent Roberts Rules of Order.

7.5.2 Written notice of a Board of Trustees meeting shall be issued seven (7) days in advance of the scheduled meeting.

7.5.3 A quorum for meetings of the Board of Trustees shall be a simple majority of the members of the Board of Trustees.

7.5.4 Special meetings may be called by the Chairperson of the Board of Trustees or the Senior Pastor or upon petition to the Chairperson by three of the Board of Trustees members. Notice of special meetings called will be given three (3) days in advance of the meeting with the business of the meeting stated in the notification.

7.5.5 Telephonic and electronic devices shall be permitted for meetings with at least three (3) days notice of the time of the meeting, with the business of the meeting stated in the notice.

7.6 Removal, Resignation and Vacancy

7.6.1 Any member may be removed for proper cause by the Board of Trustees with a majority vote of the Board of Trustees, at any time.

7.6.2 Any member may resign at any time by giving written notice to the Chairman of the Board of Trustees. Any resignation shall take effect at the date of receipt specified as of the date of resignation unless there is another date otherwise specified therein.

7.6.3 Upon notice of a vacancy, the Board of Trustees shall appoint a person to serve in that position, pending ratification of the church.

7.7 Conflict of Interest

7.7.1 A Board of Trustee member of Arise Church Deland Inc. shall not be disqualified by their office from dealing with or contracting with Arise Church Deland, Inc. either as a service provider or product provider, nor shall any contract or transaction with Arise Church Deland Inc. be void or voidable.

7.7.2 Any such Board of Trustee member shall not be counted in determining whether a quorum exists at the scheduled board meetings and may not vote with the same effect as a disinterested board members provided that any such interested board member shall disclose the nature of their interests to all other Board of Trustee members.

7.8 Officers

7.8.1 The Board of Trustees officers of Arise Church Deland, Inc. shall be the Chairperson, and Vice Chairperson.

7.8.2 The Chairperson and Vice-Chairperson shall be elected by the Board of Trustees from among its members.

7.8.3 Terms of Office: The officers shall serve a one (1) year term or until their successors are ratified and qualify. The ratified officers shall be eligible for no more than three, consecutive full terms.

7.8.4 Duties of Officers

7.8.4.1 Chairperson

- a) Shall serve as the Chairperson for the Board of Trustees and the annual business meeting for the Arise Church Deland, Inc.
- b) Shall manage the affairs of the Board of Trustees under the general direction of the Board of Trustees.
- c) Shall be accountable to the Board of Trustees for the proper conduct of business according to the policies established by the Board of Trustees.
- d) Shall represent Arise Church Deland, Inc. when requested or necessary.
- e) Shall sign legal documents as instructed by the Board of Trustees.
- f) Shall serve as a voting, ex-officio member of any team or committee reporting to the Board of Trustees.

7.8.4.2 Vice-Chairperson

- a) Shall fill in for the Chairperson when necessary, according to the duties listed in 7.8.4.1.

ARTICLE 8 – COMMITTEES

- 8.1 The Board of Trustees may establish ad-hoc committees consisting of no less than three (3) church members to delegate such portions of their authority as they may desire except for the hiring or termination of employment of the Senior Pastor; amending, repealing, or adopting bylaws; or approving any contract or transaction in which Arise Church Deland, Inc. is a party.

- 8.1.1 Task assignments that are appointed, recommended, or delegated to a committee shall function under the direction of the Board of Trustees.

ARTICLE 9 – AMENDMENTS AND SEVERABILITY

- 9.1 These bylaws may be amended at any annual or special meetings of Arise Church Deland, Inc. Each proposed amendment must be presented to the Board of Trustees not less than thirty (30) days prior to the annual or special meetings at which proposed amendment is to be considered and acted upon.
- 9.2 Amendments to the bylaws may be made by majority vote of the Board of Trustees at any meeting when all members are present.
- 9.3 No amendment shall be made that would deprive Arise Church Deland, Inc. of its section 501 (c)(3) tax exempt status unless the Senior Pastor and Board of Trustees all agree that such an amendment is necessary to obey God in His specific direction for the church.
- 9.4 Each provision of these bylaws shall be severable from all other provisions. If a provision of this instrument shall be determined to be invalid or ineffective for any reason, the determination shall not invalidate the remaining provisions, each of which shall continue in full force and effect.

ARTICLE 10 – INDEMNIFICATION

- 10.1 Every Board of Trustees Member or Officer of the corporation and his/her executors, administrators, and estate shall be indemnified and saved harmless, out of the funds of the corporation, from and against:

- 10.1.1 All costs, charges, damages, and expenses whatsoever that the Board of Trustees

member or an officer sustains or incurs in or about any action, suit, or proceeding which is brought, commenced, or prosecuted against him, or in respect of any act, deed, or matter of thing whatsoever, made, done, or permitted by him, in or about the execution, in good faith, of the duties of his office or in respect of any such liability.

10.1.2 All other costs, charges, damages, and expenses which the Board of Trustees member or an officer sustains or incurs in or about or in relation to the affairs thereof, except such cost, charges, or expenses as are occasioned by the Board of Trustees member's or officer's own willful neglect or default. Arise Church Deland, Inc. shall carry such sufficient indemnification insurance as is currently available and can be reasonably afforded by Arise Church Deland, Inc.

10.2 Arise Church Deland Inc. shall keep correct and complete books and records of all accounts as well as minutes of the proceedings of official board tasks and these may be inspected by any Board of Trustees member, officer, agent, or attorney for any proper purpose. The Board of Trustees reserves the right to withhold such material as may be necessary to protect the rights and interests of individuals.

ARTICLE 11 – PLAN FOR DISSOLUTION

11.1 Upon the dissolution of Arise Church Deland, Inc. any assets remaining after payment or provision for payment, of all debts and liabilities of this corporation shall be distributed to an existing exempt organization(s) which shares like faith, mission, and purpose, and which is tax exempt under Internal Revenue Code Section 501(c)(3).

11.2 Such distribution shall be implemented in accordance with the applicable provisions of the laws of the State of Florida facilitated by the Board of Trustees.

ARTICLE 12– STATEMENT OF FAITH

12.1 We affirm that there is one God, infinitely perfect and externally existent in the persons of the Father, Son and Holy Spirit.

12.2 We affirm the deity of our Lord Jesus Christ, His virgin birth, His sinless life, His miracles, His vicarious and atoning death through His blood, His bodily resurrection, His ascension to the right hand of the Father, and His personal return in power and glory.

12.3 We affirm the present ministry of the Holy Spirit by whose indwelling the Christian is enabled to live a godly life. We affirm the fullness of the Holy Spirit as the empowerment of the Christian for witness and service. We affirm that the Holy Spirit provides one or more spiritual gifts to all believers, manifesting them as He wills. We affirm that all the gifts of the Holy Spirit in the believer is the manifestation of the glossolalia, or prayer language as evidenced in Acts 2:4, 10:46, and 19:6.

12.4 We affirm the Bible to be the Holy Spirit-inspired authoritative Word of God and that it is eternally reliable.

12.5 We affirm that salvation is by grace through faith in our Lord Jesus Christ.

12.6 We affirm the resurrection of both the saved and the lost – those that are saved to the resurrection of life and those that are lost unto the resurrection of damnation.

12.7 We affirm the one universal church which is the body of Christ. We affirm Christ as its head. We affirm all that are born again are its members. We affirm the church's purposes offering worship to God, fellowship, ministry and instruction to its members, and evangelism and

- service to the world. We affirm the ministries of Ephesians 4 (apostles, prophets, evangelists, pastors and teachers). We affirm the spiritual unity of believers in our Lord Jesus Christ.
- 12.8 We affirm believer's water baptism by immersion in obedience to our Lord Jesus Christ. We affirm the importance of regular participation of communion, the divinely instituted Table of Our Lord.
- 12.9 We affirm the ministry and presence of angels, plus the reality of the devil and demonic forces.
- 12.10 We affirm the sanctity of human life, and that life begins at the moment of conception.
- 12.11 We affirm that God wonderfully and immutably creates each person as biologically male or biologically female. These two distinct, complementary genders together reflect the image and nature of God. Rejection of one's biological sex is a rejection of the image of God within that person.
- 12.12 We define marriage as a union between one biological man and one biological woman in a single exclusive union as delineated in scripture (Genesis 2:18-25; Matthew 19:4-6; Ephesians 5:22-33).
- 12.13 We affirm that romantic and/or sexual contact between the same biological sex is sinful according to the scriptures Romans 1:26-27 and 1 Corinthians 6:9-10.
- 12.14 We affirm that the stripes placed upon Jesus Christ at His crucifixion provide physical healing to all who will believe and receive.

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