

**Roosevelt Community  
Church**

Statement of Faith & Bylaws  
February 2017

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### Article I

#### Name and Location of Organization

The name of the Corporation is Roosevelt Community Church. It is a California nonprofit 501(3)(c) Corporation with the principal offices in Lancaster, California.

### Article II

#### Purpose of Organization

This Corporation is organized for exclusively religious purposes. Our biblical purpose is as follows:

Roosevelt Community Church exists to bring praise, honor, and glory to God by expressing our love to Him and to one another in all that we are and do. We seek to accomplish this objective through a commitment to biblical worship, edification, and evangelization, each of these being accomplished through the individual exercise of the spiritual gifts entrusted to each believer by God (Matthew 22:37-40; 1 Corinthians 10:31; 1 Thessalonians 1:9; Hebrews 12:28-29; 1 Peter 4:10-11).

#### Worship

In worship, we individually and corporately submit ourselves to God in spirit and truth, exalting His greatness while acknowledging that we are but stewards of all that He has entrusted to us (Isaiah 57:15; John 4:24; Psalm 96; Philippians 2:11; James 1:17).

#### Edification

We seek, in complete dependence upon God, to build in love a mature and unified body by means of God's Word through instruction, correction, and encouragement (Ephesians 4:11-16; Colossians 1:28-29; John 21:15-17; 2 Tim 3:16-17).

#### Evangelism

Bound by the responsibility to make disciples of all nations, we commit ourselves to proclaim the gospel to all who have not yet submitted themselves to the Lord Jesus Christ (Matthew 28:18-20; 1 Corinthians 15:1-4), and support and instigate works that do the same through missions.

### Article III

#### Statement of Faith

#### **THE HOLY SCRIPTURES**

We teach that the Word of God, which consists of the sixty-six books of the Old and New Testaments, is God's written revelation to man. The Bible has been given to us by the Holy Spirit and constitutes the plenary (inspired in all its parts) Word of God (2 Peter 1:20-21; 1 Corinthians 2:7-14). We teach that the Word of God is an objective, propositional revelation (1 Thessalonians 2:13; 1 Corinthians 2:13), verbally inspired in every word (2 Timothy 3:16), absolutely inerrant in the original documents, infallible, and God-breathed. We teach the literal, grammatical-historical interpretation of Scripture which affirms the belief that the opening chapters of Genesis present creation in six literal days (Genesis 1:31; Exodus 31:17).

We teach that God spoke in His written Word by a process of dual authorship. The Holy Spirit so superintended the human authors that, through their individual personalities and different styles of writing, they composed and recorded God's Word to man (2 Peter 1:20-21) without error in the whole or in the part (Matthew 5:18; 2 Timothy 3:16).

We teach that, whereas there may be several applications of any given passage of Scripture, there is but one true interpretation. The meaning of Scripture is to be found as one diligently applies the literal grammatical-historical method of interpretation under the enlightenment of the Holy Spirit (John 7:17; 16:12-15; 1 Corinthians 2:7-15; 1 John 2:20).

We teach that the Bible constitutes the only infallible rule of faith and practice (Matthew 5:18; 24:35; John 10:35; 16:12-13; 17:17; 1 Corinthians 2:13; 2 Timothy 3:15-17; Hebrews 4:12; 2 Peter 1:20-21) and that it is the responsibility of all believers to ascertain carefully the true intent and meaning of Scripture, recognizing that proper application is binding on all generations. Yet the truth of Scripture stands in judgment of men; never do men stand in judgment of it.

## **GOD**

We teach that there is but one living and true God (Deuteronomy 6:4; Isaiah 45:5-7; 1 Corinthians 8:4), an infinite, all-knowing Spirit (John 4:24), perfect in all His attributes, one in essence, eternally existing in three Persons - Father, Son, and Holy Spirit (Matthew 28:19; 2 Corinthians 13:14) - each equally deserving worship and obedience.

### **God the Father**

We teach that God the Father, the first person of the Trinity, orders and disposes all things according to His own purpose and grace (Psalm 145:8-9; 1 Corinthians 8:6). He is the creator of all things (Genesis 1:1-31; Ephesians 3:9). As the only absolute and omnipotent ruler in the universe, He is sovereign in creation, providence, and redemption (Psalm 103:19; Romans 11:36). His fatherhood involves both His designation within the Trinity and His relationship with mankind. As Creator, He is Father to all men (Acts 17:24-29; Malachi 2:10), but He is Spiritual Father only to believers (Romans 8:14; 2 Corinthians 6:18). He has decreed for His own glory all things that come to pass (Ephesians 1:11). He continually upholds, directs, and governs all creatures and events (1 Chronicles 29:11). In His sovereignty, He is neither author nor approver of sin (Habakkuk 1:13; John 8:38-47), nor does He abridge the accountability of moral, intelligent creatures (1 Peter 1:17). He has graciously chosen from eternity past those whom He would have as His own (Ephesians 1:4-6); He saves from sin all who come to Him through Jesus Christ; He adopts as His own all those who come to Him; and He becomes, upon adoption, Father to His own (John 1:12; Romans 8:15; Galatians 4:5; Hebrews 12:5-9).

### **God the Son**

We teach that Jesus Christ, the second person of the Trinity, possesses all the divine excellencies, and in these He is coequal, consubstantial, and coeternal with the Father (John 10:30; 14:9). We teach that God the Father created "the heavens and the earth and all that is in them: according to His own will, through His Son, Jesus Christ, by whom all things continue in existence and in operations (John 1:3; Colossians 1:15-17; Hebrews 1:2).

We teach that in the incarnation (God becoming man), Christ surrendered only the prerogatives of deity, but nothing of the divine essence, either in degree or kind. In His incarnation, the eternally existing

second person of the Trinity accepted all the essential characteristics of humanity and so became the God-man (Philippians 2:5-8; Colossians 2:9), representing humanity and deity in indivisible oneness (Micah 5:2; John 5:23; 14:9-10; Colossians 2:9).

We teach that our Lord Jesus Christ was virgin born (Isaiah 7:14; Matthew 1:23, 25; Luke 1:26-35); that He was God incarnate (John 1:1, 14); and that the purpose of the incarnation was to reveal God, redeem men, and rule over God's kingdom (Psalm 2:7-9; Isaiah 9:6; John 1:29; Philippians 2:9-11; Hebrews 7:25-26; 1 Peter 1:18-19).

We teach that our Lord Jesus Christ accomplished our redemption through the shedding of His blood and sacrificial death on the cross and that His death was voluntary, vicarious, substitutionary, propitiatory, and redemptive (John 10:15; Romans 3:24-25; 5:8; 1 Peter 2:24). We teach that our justification is made sure by His literal, physical resurrection from the dead and that He is now ascended to the right hand of the Father, where He now mediates as our Advocate and High Priest (Matthew 28:6; Luke 24:38-39; Acts 2:30-31; Romans 4:25; 8:34; Hebrews 7:25; 9:24; 1 John 2:1).

We teach that in the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the grave, God confirmed the deity of His Son and gave proof that God has accepted the atoning work of Christ on the cross. Jesus' bodily resurrection is also the guarantee of a future resurrection life for all believers (John 5:26-29; 14:19; Romans 4:25; 6:5-10; 1 Corinthians 15:20,23).

### **God the Holy Spirit**

We teach that the Holy Spirit is a divine person, eternal, underived, possessing all the attributes of personality and deity (1 Corinthians 2:10-13; Ephesians 4:30; 1 Corinthians 12:11; Hebrews 9:14; Psalm 139:7-10; Isaiah 40:13-14; Romans 15:13; John 16:13). In all the divine attributes He is coequal and consubstantial with the Father and the Son (Matthew 28:19; Acts 5:3-4; 28:25-26; 1 Corinthians 12:4-6; 2 Corinthians 13:14; Jeremiah 31:31-34 with Hebrews 10:15-17). We teach that a unique work of the Holy Spirit in this age began at Pentecost when He came from the Father as promised by Christ (John 14:16-17; 15:26) to initiate and complete the building of the body of Christ, which is His Church (1 Corinthians 12:13). The broad scope of His divine activity includes convicting the world of sin, or righteousness, and of judgment; glorifying the Lord Jesus Christ; and transforming believers into the image of Christ (John 16:7-9; Acts 1:5; 2:4; Romans 8:29; 2 Corinthians 3:18; Ephesians 2:22).

We teach that the Holy Spirit is the supernatural and sovereign agent in regeneration, baptizing all believers into the body of Christ (1 Corinthians 12:13). The Holy Spirit also indwells, sanctifies, instructs, and empowers them for service, and seals them unto the day of redemption (Romans 8:9; 2 Corinthians 3:6; Ephesians 1:13).

We teach that the Holy Spirit is the divine teacher who guided the apostles and prophets into all truth as they committed to writing God's revelation, the Bible. Every believer possesses the indwelling presence of the Holy Spirit from the moment of salvation, and it is the duty of all those born of the Spirit to be filled with (controlled by) the Spirit (John 16:13; Romans 8:9; Ephesians 5:18; 2 Peter 1:19-21; 1 John 2:20,27).

We teach that the Holy Spirit administers spiritual gifts to the church. The Holy Spirit glorifies neither Himself nor His gifts by ostentatious displays, but He does glorify Christ by implementing His work of

redeeming the lost, and of building up believers in the most holy faith (John 16:13-14; Acts 1:8, 1 Corinthians 12:4-11; 2 Corinthians 3:18).

We teach, in this respect, that God the Holy Spirit is sovereign in the bestowing of all His gifts for the perfecting of the saints today and that speaking in tongues and the working of sign miracles in the beginning days of the church were for the purpose of pointing to and authenticating the apostles as revealers of divine truth, and that they were never intended to be characteristic of the lives of believers (1 Corinthians 12:12; Ephesians 4:7-12; Hebrews 2:1-4).

## **MAN**

### **Creation**

We teach that man was directly and immediately created by God in His image and likeness. Man was created free of sin with a rational nature, intelligence, volition, self-determination, and moral responsibility to God (Genesis 2:7, 15-25; James 3:9).

We teach that God's intention in the creation of man was that man should glorify God, enjoy God's fellowship, live his life in the will of God, and by this accomplish God's purpose for man in the world (Isaiah 43:7; Colossians 1:16; Revelation 4:11).

### **Sin**

We teach that in Adam's sin of disobedience to the revealed will and Word of God, man lost his innocence, incurred the penalty of spiritual and physical death, became subject to the wrath of God, and became inherently corrupt and utterly incapable of choosing or doing that which is acceptable to God apart from divine grace. With no recuperative powers to enable him to recover himself, man is hopelessly lost. Man's salvation is thereby wholly of God's grace through the redemptive work of our Lord Jesus Christ (Genesis 2:16-17, 3:1-19; John 3:36; Romans 3:23; 6:23; 1 Corinthians 2:14; Ephesians 2:1-3; 1 Timothy 2:13-14; 1 John 1:8).

We teach that because all men were in Adam, a nature corrupted by Adam's sin has been transmitted to all men of all ages, Jesus Christ being the only exception. All men are thus sinners by nature, by choice, and by divine declaration (Psalm 14:1-3; Jeremiah 17:9; Romans 3:9-18, 23, 5:10-12).

## **SALVATION**

We teach that salvation is wholly of God by grace on the basis of the redemptive work of Jesus Christ, the merit of His shed blood, and not on the basis of human merit or works (John 1:12; Ephesians 1:7, 2:8-10; 1 Peter 1:18-19).

### **Regeneration**

We teach that regeneration is a supernatural work of the Holy Spirit by which the divine nature and divine life are given (John 3:3-7; Titus 3:5). It is instantaneous and is accomplished solely by the power of the Holy Spirit through the instrumentality of the Word of God (John 5:24) when the repentant sinner, as enabled by the Holy Spirit, responds in faith to the divine provision of salvation. Genuine regeneration is manifested by fruits worthy of repentance as demonstrated in righteous attitudes and conduct. Good works will be its proper evidence and fruit (1 Corinthians 6:19-20; Ephesians 2:10) and will be 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 (Ephesians 5:17-21; Philippians 2:12b; Colossians 3:16; 2 Peter 1:4-10).

### **Election**

We teach that election is the act of God by which, before the foundation of the world, He chose in Christ those whom He graciously regenerates, saves, and sanctifies (Romans 8:20-30; Ephesians 1:4-11; 2 Thessalonians 2:13; 2 Timothy 2:10; 1 Peter 1:1-2).

We teach that sovereign election does not contradict or negate the responsibility of man to repent and trust Christ as Savior and Lord (Ezekiel 18:23,32, 33:11; John 3:18-19,36, 5:40; Romans 9:22-23; 2 Thessalonians 2:10-12, Revelation 22:17). Nevertheless, since sovereign grace includes the means of receiving the gift of salvation as well as the gift itself, sovereign election will result in what God determines. All whom the Father calls to Himself will come in faith and all who come in faith the Father will receive (John 6:37-40, 44; Acts 13:48; James 4:8). We teach that the unmerited favor that God grants to totally depraved sinners is solely of His sovereign grace and mercy (Ephesians 1:4-7; Titus 3:4-7; 1 Peter 1:2). We teach that God's sovereign election is exercised in harmony with His other attributes, especially His omniscience, justice, holiness, wisdom, grace, and love (Romans 9:11-16). This sovereignty will always exalt the will of God in a manner totally consistent with His character as revealed in the life of our Lord Jesus Christ (Matthew 11:25-28, 2 Timothy 1:9).

### **Justification**

We teach that justification before God is an act of God (Romans 8:33) by which He declares righteous those who, through faith in Christ, repent of their sins (Luke 13:3, Acts 2:38; 3:19; 11:18; Romans 2:4; 2 Corinthians 7:10; Isaiah 55:6-7) and confess Him as sovereign Lord (Romans 10:9-10; 1 Corinthians 12:3; 2 Corinthians 4:5; Philippians 2:11). This righteousness is apart from any virtue or work of man (Romans 3:20, 4:6) and involves the placing of our sins on Christ (Colossians 2:14; 1 Peter 2:24) and the imputation of Christ's righteousness to us (1 Corinthians 1:2, 30; 2 Corinthians 5:21). By this means God is enabled to "be just, and the justifier of the one who has faith in Jesus" (Romans 3:26).

### **Sanctification**

We teach that every believer is sanctified (set apart) unto God by justification and is therefore declared to be holy and is therefore identified as a saint. This sanctification is positional and instantaneous and should not be confused with progressive sanctification. This sanctification has to do with the believer's standing, not his present walk or condition (Acts 20:32; 1 Corinthians 1:2, 30, 6:11; 2 Thessalonians 2:13; Hebrews 2:11; 3:1, 10:10, 14, 13:12; 1 Peter 1:2).

We teach that there is also by the work of the Holy Spirit a progressive sanctification by which the state of the believer is brought closer to the positional standing each believer enjoys through justification. Through obedience to the Word of God and the empowering of the Holy Spirit, the believer is able to live a life of increasing holiness in conformity to the will of God, becoming more and more like our Lord Jesus Christ (John 17:17, 19; Romans 6:1-22; 2 Corinthians 3:18; 1 Thessalonians 4:3-4; 5:23). In this respect, we teach that every saved person is involved in a daily conflict - the new creation in Christ doing battle against the flesh - but adequate provision is made for victory through the power of the indwelling Holy Spirit. The struggle nevertheless stands with the believer all through this earthly life and is never completely ended. All claims to the eradication of sin in this life are unscriptural. Eradication of sin is not possible, but the Holy Spirit does provide for victory over sin (Galatians 5:16-25; Ephesians 4:22-24; Philippians 3:12, Colossians 3:9-10; 1 Peter 1:14-16; 1 John 3:5-9).

## **Security**

We teach that all the redeemed, once saved, are kept by God's power and are thus secure in Christ forever (John 5:24, 6:37-40, 10:27-30; Romans 5:9-10, 8:1, 31-39; 1 Corinthians 1:4-8; Ephesians 4:30; Hebrews 7:25; 13:5; 1 Peter 1:5; Jude 24).

We teach that it is the privilege of believers to rejoice in the assurance of their salvation through the testimony of God's Word, which, however, clearly forbids the use of Christian liberty as an occasion for sinful living and carnality (Romans 6:15-22; 13:13-14; Galatians 5:13, 25-26; Titus 2:11-14).

## **Separation**

We teach that separation from sin is clearly called for throughout the Old and New Testaments, and that the Scriptures clearly indicate that in the last days apostasy and worldliness shall increase (2 Corinthians 6:14-7:1; 2 Timothy 3:1-5).

We teach that out of deep gratitude for the undeserved grace of God granted to us and because our glorious God is so worthy of our total consecration, all the saved should live in such a manner so as to demonstrate our adoring love to God and so as not to bring reproach upon our Lord and Savior (2 Thessalonians 1:11-12; Hebrews 12:1-2; Romans 12:1-2; 2 Corinthians 7:1; Hebrews 12:14; Titus 2:11-14; 1 John 3:1-10). We also teach that separation from any association with religious apostasy and worldly and sinful practices is commanded of us by God (Romans 12:1-2, 1 Corinthians 5:9-13; 2 Corinthians 6:14-7:1; 1 John 2:15-17; 2 John 9-11).

## **THE CHURCH**

We teach that all who place their faith in Jesus Christ are immediately placed by the Holy Spirit into one united spiritual body, the church (1 Corinthians 12:12-13), the bride of Christ (2 Corinthians 11:2; Ephesians 5:23-32; Revelation 19:7-8), of which Christ is the head (Ephesians 1:22, 4:15; Colossians 1:18).

We teach that the formation of the church, the body of Christ, 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 Corinthians 15:51-52; 1 Thessalonians 4:13-18).

We teach that the church is thus a unique spiritual organism designed by Christ, made up of all born-again believers in this present age (Ephesians 2:11-3:6). The church is distinct from Israel (1 Corinthians 10:32) and is a mystery not revealed until this age (Ephesians 3:1-6, 5:32). We teach that the establishment and continuity of local churches is clearly taught and defined in the New Testament Scriptures (Acts 14:23,27, 20:17, 28; Galatians 1:2; Philippians 1:1; 1 Thessalonians 1:1; 2 Thessalonians 1:1) and that the members of the one spiritual body are directed to associate themselves together in autonomous local assemblies (1 Corinthians 11:18-20; Hebrews 10:25). We teach that the one supreme authority for the church is Christ (1 Corinthians 11:3; Ephesians 1:22; Colossians 1:18) and that the church leadership, gifts, order, discipline, and worship are all appointed through His sovereignty as found in the Scriptures. The biblically designated officers serving under Christ and over the assembly are elders (males, who are also called bishops, pastors, pastor-teachers (Acts 20:28; Ephesians 4:11), and deacons, both of whom must meet biblical qualifications (1 Timothy 3:1-13; Titus 1:5-9; 1 Peter 5:1-5).

We teach that these leaders lead or rule as servants of Christ (1 Timothy 5:17-22) and have His authority in directing the church. The congregation is to submit to their leadership (Hebrews 13:7, 17). We teach

the importance of discipleship (Matthew 28:19-20; 2 Timothy 2:2), mutual accountability of all believers to each other (Matthew 18:5-14), as well as the need for discipline of sinning members of the congregation in accord with the standards of Scripture (Matthew 18:15-22; Acts 5:1-11; 1 Corinthians 5:1-13; 2 Thessalonians 3:6-15; 1 Timothy 1:19-20; Titus 1:10-16). We teach the autonomy of the local church, free from any external authority or control, with the right of self-government and freedom from the interference of any hierarchy of individuals or organizations (Titus 1:5).

We teach that it is scriptural for the churches to cooperate with each other for the presentation and propagation of the faith. Local churches, however, through their pastors and their interpretation and application of Scripture, should be the sole judges of the measure and method of their cooperation (Acts 15:19-31, 20:28; 1 Corinthians 5:4-7, 13; 1 Peter 5:1-4).

We teach that the purpose of the church is to glorify God (Ephesians 3:21) by building itself up in the faith (Ephesians 4:13-16), by instruction of the Word (2 Timothy 2:2, 15, 3:16-17), by fellowship (Acts 2:47; 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 (Matthew 28:19; Acts 1:8; 2:42). We teach the need of the church to cooperate with God as He accomplishes His purpose in the world. To that end, He gives the church spiritual gifts. First, He gives men chosen for the purpose of equipping the saints for the work of the ministry (Ephesians 4:7-12) and He also gives unique and special spiritual abilities to each member of the body of Christ (Romans 12:5-8; 1 Corinthians 12:4-31; 1 Peter 4:10-11).

We teach that two ordinances have been committed to the local church: baptism and the Lord's Supper (Acts 2:38-42). Christian baptism by immersion (Acts 8:36-39) is the solemn and beautiful testimony of a believer showing forth his faith in the crucified, buried, and risen Savior and his union with Him in death to sin and resurrection to a new life (Romans 6:1-11). It is also a sign of fellowship and identification with the visible body of Christ (Acts 2:41-42). We teach that the Lord's Supper is the commemoration and proclamation of His death until He comes, representing the flesh and blood of Christ, and should be always preceded by solemn self-examination (1 Corinthians 11:28-32).

## **ANGELS**

### **Holy Angels**

We teach that angels are created beings and are therefore not to be worshipped. Although they are a higher order of creation than man, they are created to serve God and to worship Him (Luke 2:9-14; Hebrews 1:6-7, 14, 2:6-7, Revelation 5:11-14, 19:10, 22:9).

### **Fallen Angels**

We teach that Satan is a created angel and the author of sin. He incurred the judgment of God by rebelling against his Creator (Isaiah 14:12-17; Ezekiel 28:11-19), by taking numerous angels with him in his fall (Matthew 25:41; Revelation 12:1-14), and by introducing sin into the human race by his temptation of Eve (Genesis 3:1-15).

We teach that Satan is the open and declared enemy of God and man (Isaiah 14:13-14; Matthew 4:1-11; Revelation 12:9-10), the prince of this world who has been defeated through the death and resurrection of Jesus Christ (Romans 16:20), and that he shall be eternally punished in the lake of fire (Isaiah 14:12-17; Ezekiel 28:11-19; Matthew 25:41; Revelation 20:10).

## **LAST THINGS (ESCHATOLOGY)**

### **Death**

We teach that physical death involves no loss of immaterial consciousness (Revelation 6:9-11), that the soul of the redeemed passes immediately into the presence of Christ (Luke 23:43; Philippians 1:23; 2 Corinthians 5:8), that there is a separation of soul and body (Philippians 1:21-24), and that, for the redeemed, such separation will continue until the rapture (1 Thessalonians 4:13-17) which initiates the first resurrection (Revelation 20:4-6), when soul and body will be reunited to be glorified forever with our Lord (Philippians 3:21; 1 Corinthians 15:35-44, 50-54). Until that time, the souls of the redeemed in Christ remains in joyful fellowship with our Lord Jesus Christ (2 Corinthians 5:8). We teach the bodily resurrection of all men, the saved to eternal life (John 6:39, Romans 8:10-11, 19-23; 2 Corinthians 4:14), and the unsaved to judgment and everlasting punishment (Daniel 12:2; John 5:29; Revelation 20:13-15).

We teach that the souls of the unsaved at death are kept under punishment until the second resurrection (Luke 16:19-26, Revelation 20:11-15) and shall be cast into hell, the lake of fire (Matthew 25:41-46), cut off from the life of God forever (Daniel 12:2; Matthew 25:41-46; 2 Thessalonians 1:7-9), referred to as the second death (Revelation 21:8).

### **The Rapture of the Church**

We teach the personal, bodily return of our Lord Jesus Christ before the seven-year tribulation (1 Thessalonians 4:16; Titus 2:13) to translate His church from this earth (John 14:1-3; 1 Corinthians 15:51-53; 1 Thessalonians 4:15-5:11), and between this event and His glorious return with His saints, to reward believers according to their works (1 Corinthians 3:11-15; 2 Corinthians 5:10).

### **The Tribulation Period**

We teach that immediately following the removal of the church from the earth (John 14:1-3; 1 Thessalonians 4:13-18), the righteous judgments of God will be poured out upon an unbelieving world (Jeremiah 30:7; Daniel 9:27, 12:1; 2 Thessalonians 2:7-12; Revelation 16) and that these judgments will be climaxed by the return of Christ in glory to the earth (Matthew 24:27-31, 25:31-46; 2 Thessalonians 2:7-12). At that time, the Old Testament and Tribulation saints will be raised and the living will be judged (Daniel 12:2-3; Revelation 20:4-6). This period includes the seventieth week of Daniel's prophecy (Daniel 9:24-27; Matthew 24:15-31, 25:31-46).

### **The Second Coming and the Millennial Reign**

We teach that after the tribulation period, Christ will come to earth to occupy the throne of David (Matthew 24:31; Luke 1:31-33; Acts 1:10-11, 2:29-30) and establish His Messianic kingdom for a thousand years on the earth (Revelation 20:1-7). During this time, the resurrected saints will reign with Him over Israel and all the nations of the earth (Ezekiel 37:21-28; Daniel 7:17-22; Revelation 19:11-16). This reign will be preceded by the overthrow of the Antichrist and the False Prophet and by the removal of Satan from the world (Daniel 7:17-27; Revelation 20:1-7). We teach that the kingdom itself will be the fulfillment of God's promise to Israel (Isaiah 65:17-25; Ezekiel 37:21-28; Zechariah 8:1-17) to restore them to the land which they forfeited through their disobedience (Deuteronomy 28:15-68) and that this time of our Lord's reign will be characterized by harmony, justice, peace, righteousness, and long life (Isaiah 11, 65:17-25; Ezekiel 36:33-38), and will be brought to an end with the release of Satan (Revelation 20:7).

### **The Judgment of the Lost**

We teach that following the release of Satan after the thousand-year reign of Christ (Revelation 20:7), Satan will deceive the nations of the earth and gather them to battle against the saints and the beloved city, at which time Satan and his army will be devoured by fire from heaven (Revelation 20:9). Following this, Satan will be thrown into the lake of fire and brimstone (Matthew 25:41; Revelation 20:10) whereupon Christ, who is the judge of all men (John 5:22), will resurrect and judge the great and small at the Great White Throne judgment.

We teach that this resurrection of the unsaved dead to judgment will be a physical resurrection, whereupon receiving their judgment (Romans 14:10-13), they will be committed to an eternal, conscious punishment in the lake of fire (Matthew 25:41; Revelation 20:11-15).

### **Eternity**

We teach that after the closing of the millennium, the temporary release of Satan, and the judgment of unbelievers (2 Thessalonians 1:9; Revelation 20:7-15), the saved will enter the eternal state of glory with God, after which the elements of this earth are to be dissolved (2 Peter 3:10) and replaced with a new heaven and a new earth wherein only righteousness dwells (Ephesians 5:5; Revelation 20-22). Following this, the heavenly city will come down out of heaven (Revelation 21:2) and will be the dwelling place of the saints where they will enjoy forever fellowship with God and one another (John 17:3; Revelation 21,22). Our Lord Jesus Christ, having fulfilled His redemptive mission, will then deliver up the kingdom to God the Father (1 Corinthians 15:24-28) that in all spheres the triune God may reign forever and ever (1 Corinthians 15:28).

## Article IV Church Membership

### **Section 1. Purpose of the Fellowship**

The congregation of Christian believers who have applied for membership and have been duly accepted shall constitute a spiritual body, united for the spiritual purposes set forth in Article II of these Bylaws.

### **Section 2. Active Membership**

Membership in Roosevelt Community Church will be open to any person who has repented of sin and has confessed Jesus Christ as personal Lord and Savior, has testified publicly to this fact by water baptism by immersion after salvation, and who subscribes to the statement of faith as outlined in this document.

### **Section 3. Voting Privileges and Rights**

Membership in this church shall not vest in any member any proprietary rights in the Corporation, but shall only entitle the member to vote at a meeting of the members on those matters submitted to the church membership by the Board of Elders.

Only those persons whose names stand on the membership records of the church on the day of any meeting of the church shall be entitled to vote at such a meeting on matters submitted to the church membership by the Board of Elders. Voting privileges are restricted to those members who have passed their sixteenth (16) birthday and every member shall be entitled to one vote.

Those admitted to membership do not constitute a legislative body, nor do they constitute members in the Corporation and they cannot vote, pass resolutions binding upon the Corporation, nor shall they have any equity in the real property of the Corporation, or rights to vote on its disposal. Said property of the Corporation is dedicated to religious and charitable purposes as outlined in the Articles of Incorporation.

#### **Section 4. Applications for Membership**

Those individuals desiring membership in this church shall make their request to an Elder. Upon making such a request, the individual will be given an application for membership, along with a copy of the Statement of Faith and a copy of the Bylaws. Two or more individuals appointed by the Elders will meet with the applicant following the receipt of the application. Each applicant will subscribe to the Statement of Faith and the Bylaws by their signature on the application and by their verbal affirmation during the meeting.

#### **Section 5. Denial of Membership**

If, upon review of an application for membership or after meeting with a prospective member, the Board of Elders determines the applicant does not confess Jesus Christ as his Lord and Savior, or there is lack of evidence of a godly lifestyle in accordance with the statement of faith, or there is a lack of agreement on a critical doctrine, membership will be denied. The decision made by the Board shall be final and there shall be no appeal to any court from that decision.

#### **Section 6. Admission of Applicants**

Applicants admitted to membership shall, if possible, present themselves at a worship service designated by the Pastor/Teacher and Board of Elders at which such applicants shall publicly affirm their membership commitment and be publicly acknowledged as members.

#### **Section 7. Responsibilities of Members**

Just as the physical body has many parts but works together in unity as each part fulfills its responsibilities, the church has many members but works together in unity as each member fulfills his or her responsibilities (1 Corinthians 12:20; Romans 12: 3-6). Every member has numerous responsibilities to one another that they are commanded to fulfill within the local church such as the responsibilities to: serve one another (Gal 5:13), love one another (John 13:34), edify one another (Eph 4:16), stimulate one another to love and good deeds (Hebrews 10:24), teach and admonish one another (Colossians 3:16), bear the burdens of one another (Galatians 6:2), comfort one another (1 Thessalonians 4:18), forgive one another (Matthew 6:14-15), confess sins to one another (James 5:16), pray for one another (James 5:16), be devoted to one another (Romans 12:10), be kind to one another (Ephesians 4:32), build up one another (1 Thessalonians 5:11), have fellowship with one another (1 John 1:7), regard one another as more important than yourself (Philippians 2:3), care for one another (1 Corinthians 12:25), be hospitable to one another without complaint (1 Peter 4:9), clothe yourself in humility toward one another (1 Peter 5:5), assemble together and encourage one another (Hebrews 10:25), show tolerance for one another (Ephesians 4:2), seek good for one another (1 Thessalonians 5:15), and submit to one another in the fear of Christ (Ephesians 5:21). In addition, each member is expected to give cheerfully (1 Corinthians 9:7) and diligently strive for holy living (1 Peter 1:15) in the spirit of our Statement of Faith and governing principles, continually seeking to "put on the Lord Jesus Christ" (Romans 13:14) and follow Him under the loving leadership of the Elders.

### **Section 8. Discipline of Members**

The purpose of church discipline is to bring about a return to a biblical standard of conduct and doctrine in a member who errs (Galatians 6:1), to maintain purity in the local church (1 Corinthians 5:6), to deter sin (1 Timothy 5:20), and to restore the repentant member to fellowship with the body (Matthew 18:15-18).

Members of this church who shall err in doctrine or conduct shall be subject to dismissal according to Matthew 18:15-18. However, before such dismissal, (1) it shall be the duty of any member of this church who has knowledge of the erring member's heresy or misconduct to warn and to correct such erring member in private, seeking his repentance and restoration. If said erring member does not heed this warning, then (2) the warning member shall again go to the erring member accompanied by one or two witnesses to warn and correct such erring member in private, seeking his repentance and restoration. If said erring member still refuse to heed this warning, then (3) it shall be brought to the attention of the Elders. In the case of a factious member, they may be rejected from membership after a first and second warning (Titus 3:10-11).

It is understood that this process will continue to conclusion whether the erring member leaves the church or otherwise seeks to withdraw from membership to avoid the discipline process.

The Elders, upon careful and prayerful investigation, shall tell it to the church. If said member refuses to heed the warning of the Elders and the church, (4) he will be publicly dismissed from the church. There shall be no appeal to any court from that decision.

If said member, after dismissal, heeds the warning, demonstrates repentance, and requests reinstatement, he shall be publicly restored to membership.

### **Section 9. Removal from the Roll of Members**

Any member evidencing a sustained lack of interest, without plausible reason or excuse, in attending worship services or fellowship for a period of 90 days can be removed from the membership roll at the discretion of the Board of Elders

A former member can be reinstated by complying with process outlined above as verified by the Elders.

### **Section 10. Meetings**

An annual membership meeting of the church members shall be held in February of each year, or at such other time as the Board of Elders shall choose. At such regular annual meeting, the members shall consider reports of the affairs of the church and transact other business as the Elders determine shall be brought before the meeting, including, but not limited to, affirmation of the appointments made by the Elders of those who shall serve as Elders and Deacons (if appropriate) for the ensuing year.

Special membership meetings of the members may be called by the order of the Pastor/Teacher, the Chairman or Vice-Chairman of the Board of Elders, or by a quorum of the members of the Board of Elders.

Notice of the annual meeting shall be given from the pulpit for two successive Sundays prior to the meeting. In addition, notice shall be published in the regular church bulletin for two successive Sundays prior to the meeting. Notice of special meetings shall be given from the pulpit at least seven (7) days

prior to the meeting and shall also be published in the regular church bulletin on the Sunday immediately preceding the meeting.

At all meetings of the members, whether regular or special, the members present shall constitute a quorum for the transaction of business.

## Article V Elders

### **Section 1. Powers**

Subject to limitations of the Articles and these Bylaws and of pertinent restrictions of the Corporations Code of the State of California, all the activities and affairs of the Corporation shall be exercised by or under the direction of the Board of Elders, who are responsible for shepherding and oversight of the flock. Without prejudice to such general powers, but subject to the same limitations, it is hereby expressly declared that the Board shall have the following powers in addition to the other powers enumerated in these Bylaws:

- (A) To select and remove all the officers, agents, pastors, staff, and employees of the corporation; prescribe such duties for them consistent with law, with the Articles of Incorporation, or with these Bylaws; and fix the terms of their offices and their compensation.
- (B) To make such disbursements from the funds and properties of the Corporation as are required to fulfill the purposes of this Corporation and generally to conduct, manage, and control the activities and affairs of the Corporation and to make such rules and regulations consistent with law, with the Articles of Incorporation, and with these Bylaws, as they may deem best.
- (C) To adopt, make, and use a corporate seal, and to alter the form of such seal from time to time as they may deem best.
- (D) To establish policies and practices for the church consistent with the purposes of this Corporation.
- (E) To assist the Pastor/Teacher in the administration of the ordinances of Baptism and the Lord's Supper.
- (F) To borrow money and incur indebtedness for the purposes of the Corporation and to cause to be executed and delivered, in the corporate name, promissory notes, bonds, debentures, deeds of trust, mortgages, pledges, or other evidences of debt and securities.

### **Section 2. Number of Elders**

The authorized number of directors of the Corporation shall not be less than three (3) until changed by an amendment to the Articles of Incorporation or by an amendment to these Bylaws. An exception is allowable for a period of not more than six months in case of removal, resignation, incapacitation, or the death of an Elder that reduces the number below the required three.

### **Section 3. Nomination, Selection, and Tenure of Office**

The Board of Elders shall develop and approve a list of Elder nominees for the coming year annually. This list may include current Elders affirming their desire to continue in that role or new candidates. They will be identified by means determined by the Elder Board and in keeping with 1 Timothy 3 and Titus 1 qualification requirements. The Secretary shall publicly post the approved list of nominees in alphabetical order at least three weeks prior to the annual meeting of the church members. During this three-week period, the members shall prayerfully consider the list of Elders and Elder nominees. Any

concerns regarding the biblical qualifications of any of these men shall be directed first to the individual Elder or nominee, and then to the Board of Elders for their consideration and action. At the annual meeting, the slate of nominees shall be presented to the members to affirm the decision of the Elders. Any newly affirmed Elders shall assume office immediately following the annual meeting of the congregation. New Elders may also be approved at a special meeting if an immediate need exists and the notification procedures for nominees for Elders and special meetings is followed. If a new Elder is approved at a special meeting, the affirmed Elder shall assume office immediately following the special meeting of the congregation.

Each Elder's term of office shall be for life subject to the provisions of Sections 4 and 6 of this Article. However, each Elder's qualifications and ministry will be evaluated annually by the Board of Elders and be affirmed annually by the congregation as a means of mutual accountability. Elders may, for personal reasons, submit a letter or resignation to the Board of Elders or request a temporary leave of absence (not to exceed one year) from the Board of Elders. All requests must be approved by the board of Elders.

#### **Section 4. Qualifications**

Each member of the Board of Elders must be an active member of this church and possess the qualifications described in 1 Timothy 3:1-7 and Titus 1:6-9.

- (A) Blameless as a steward of God; above reproach (1 Timothy 3:2; Titus 1:6-7).
- (B) Husband of one wife; a one-woman man (1 Timothy 3:2; Titus 1:6).
- (C) Temperate, sober, vigilant (1 Timothy 3:2).
- (D) Sober-minded, prudent (1 Timothy 3:2; Titus 1:8).
- (E) Of good behavior; orderly, respectable (1 Timothy 3:2).
- (F) Given to hospitality (1 Timothy 3:2; Titus 1:8).
- (G) Apt to teach; he can exhort believers and refute false teaching (1 Timothy 3:2; Titus 1:9).
- (H) Not given to wine (1 Timothy 3:3; Titus 1:7).
- (I) Not violent; not pugnacious (1 Timothy 3:3; Titus 1:7).
- (J) Patient, moderate, forbearing, gentle (1 Timothy 3:3).
- (K) Not a brawler; uncontentious; not soon angry or quick-tempered (1 Timothy 3:3; Titus 1:7).
- (L) Not covetous; not a lover of money; not greedy of base gain (1 Timothy 3:3; Titus 1:7).
- (M) Rules well his own house. His children are faithful, not accused of rebellion toward God (1 Timothy 3:4; Titus 1:6).
- (N) Not a novice; not a new convert (1 Timothy 3:6).
- (O) Has a good report or reputation with outsiders (1 Timothy 3:7).
- (P) Not self-willed (Titus 1:7).
- (Q) A lover of good men and things (Titus 1:8).
- (R) Just, fair (Titus 1:8).
- (S) Holy, devout (Titus 1:8).
- (T) Self-controlled (Titus 1:8).

#### **Section 5. Vacancies**

Subject to the provision of Section 9226 of the California Nonprofit Religious Corporation Law, any Elder may resign effective upon giving written notice to the Chairman of the Board or to the Secretary of the Board, unless the notice specifies a later time for the effectiveness of such resignation. If the resignation is to be effective at some future time, a successor may be selected before that time. A

vacancy or vacancies in the Board shall be deemed to exist in case of the death, resignation, or removal of any Elder, or if a need exists.

### **Section 6. Removal of Elders**

Any Elder may be removed from office if he becomes physically incapacitated, spiritually unqualified, or his inability to serve is established in the mind of the remainder of the Board of Elders.

### **Section 7. Place of Meetings**

Notwithstanding anything to the contrary provided in these Bylaws, any meeting (whether regular, special, or adjourned) of the Board of Elders of the Corporation may be held at any place within or without the State of California.

### **Section 8. Regular Meetings**

Regular meetings of the Board shall be held without call or notice on a regular (typically monthly) basis. Regular Elder's meetings may be open to church members by invitation only.

### **Section 9. Special Meetings**

Special meetings of the Board of Elders may be called at any time by order of the Chairman, Vice-Chairman, or Secretary of the Board of Elders or by a quorum of the members of the Board of Elders.

### **Section 10. Notice of Special Meetings**

Special meetings of the Board shall be held upon four-days notice by first class mail or a twenty-four hour notice given personally or by telephone or other similar means of communication. Any such notice shall be addressed or delivered to each Elder or at such Elder's address as it is shown upon the records of the Corporation or as may have been given to the Corporation by the Elder for such purpose of notice.

### **Section 11. Quorum**

Except as otherwise provided herein, a majority of the Elders currently serving shall constitute a quorum except when a vacancy or vacancies prevents such majority, whereupon a majority of the Elders in office shall constitute a quorum, provided such majority shall constitute either one-third of the authorized number of Elders or at least two Elders, whichever is larger, or unless the authorized number of Elders is only one. A majority of the Elders present, whether or not a quorum is present, may adjourn any meeting to another time and place. Whenever the matter to be considered concerns calling or dismissing a pastor, or buying or selling real estate, a quorum shall consist of not less than two-thirds of the members of the Board. Except as the Articles of Incorporation, these Bylaws, and the California Nonprofit Religious Corporation Law may provide, the act or decision done or made by the Elders present at a meeting duly held at which a quorum is present shall be the act of the Board of Elders.

### **Section 12. Action Without Meeting**

Any action required or permitted to be taken by the Board may be taken without a meeting if all members of the Board shall individually or collectively consent in writing to a duly prepared resolution to such action. Such consent or consents shall have the same effect as a unanimous vote of the Board and shall be documented by attaching the signed resolution with the minutes of proceedings of the Board.

### **Section 13. Rights of Inspection**

Every Elder shall have the absolute right at any reasonable time to inspect and copy all books, records, and documents of every kind and to inspect the physical properties of the Corporation of which such person is an Elder for a purpose reasonably related to such person's interest as an Elder.

### **Section 14. Decisions of the Board of Elders**

Decisions shall be reached after prayerful consideration by unanimous vote in a spirit of humility, with each Elder regarding one another before himself.

### **Section 15. Committees**

Committees of the Board may be appointed by a resolution passed by a majority of the whole Board. Committees shall be composed of two or more members of the Board and shall have such powers of the Board as may be expressly delegated to it by resolution of the Board of Elders, except with respect to:

- (A) The approval of any action for which the California Nonprofit Religious Corporation Law also requires members approval (this must be approved by the Board as a whole).
- (B) The filling of vacancies on the Board or on any committee.
- (C) The amendment or repeal of Bylaws or the adoption of new Bylaws.
- (D) The amendment or repeal of any resolution of the Board which by its express terms is not so amendable or repealable.
- (E) The appointment of other committees of the Board or the members thereof.
- (F) The approval of any self-dealing transaction, as such transactions are defined in Section 9243 (A) of the California Nonprofit Religious Corporation Law.

The Board shall have the power to prescribe the manner in which proceedings of any such committee shall be conducted. In the absence of any such prescription, such committee shall have the power to prescribe the manner in which its proceedings shall be conducted. Unless the Board or such committee shall otherwise provide, the regular and special meetings and other actions of any such committee shall be governed by the provision or this Article applicable to meetings and actions of the Board. Minutes shall be kept of each meeting of each committee.

### **Section 16. Fees and Compensation**

Elders (as such) shall not receive any stated or fixed salary for their services: however, nothing herein contained shall be construed to preclude any Elders from serving the Corporation in any other capacity and receiving compensation.

Any person receiving compensation directly or indirectly from Roosevelt Community Church shall not be in a position to determine the nature or amount of said compensation.

## Article VI

### Other Councils and Committees

#### **Section 1. General Purpose**

The general purpose of councils and committees is to bring recommendations to the Board of Elders or to perform duties delegated to them by the Board of Elders in various areas of ministry. All committees shall be appointed by the Elders for a specified amount of time and for a purpose so designated by the Board of Elders. In addition, all committees shall have an Elder overseeing its work.

Should a vacancy arise on a committee, it may be filled at the discretion of the Board of Elders.

## **Section 2. Deacons**

Deacons shall be members of the church selected by unanimous decision of the Board of Elders and presented to the congregation at the annual membership meeting. Deacons shall be selected and shall continue in office based upon the qualifications described in 1 Timothy 3:8-13. Each Deacon's qualifications and ministry shall be evaluated annually by the Board of Elders based upon each one's service that year and the 1 Timothy 3 qualifications. They will then be affirmed annually by the congregation. Deacons may be removed from office by the Board of Elders at any time, during any regular or special meeting of the Board.

## Article VII

### Officers

#### **Section 1. Officers**

The Officers of the Corporation shall be a Chairman, a Vice-Chairman, a Secretary, and a Treasurer. The Corporation may also have, at the discretion of the Board of Elders, other officers as may be appointed in accordance with the provisions of Section 7 of this Article.

#### **Section 2. Election**

The officers of the Corporation, except such officers as may be appointed in accordance with the provisions of Section 7 or Section 8 of this Article, shall be chosen annually by and from the Board of Elders, and shall serve at the pleasure of the Board. Each officer shall hold his office until he shall resign, be removed, or become otherwise disqualified to serve, or until his successor shall be elected and qualified.

#### **Section 3. The Chairman**

The Chairman shall be the Chief Executive Officer of the Corporation and shall, subject to the control of the Board of Elders, have general supervision, direction, and control of the officers and activities of the Corporation. He shall preside at all meetings of the Board of Elders and church business meetings. He shall be ex-officio a member of all standing committees and shall have such powers and duties as may be prescribed by the Board of Elders or the Bylaws. In the absence of the Pastor/Teacher, the Chairman shall be responsible for the leadership of the church service.

#### **Section 4. The Vice-Chairman**

In the absence or disability of the Chairman, the Vice-Chairman shall perform all the duties of the Chairman, and when so acting shall have all the powers of, and be subject to all the restrictions upon, the Chairman. The Vice-Chairman shall have such other powers and perform such other duties as may be prescribed by the Board of Elders or the Bylaws.

#### **Section 5. The Secretary**

The Secretary shall keep, or cause to be kept, at the principal office of the Corporation, a record of minutes of all meetings of the members and the Board of Elders and its committees: with the time and place of holding, whether regular or special, and if special, how authorized; the names of those present; and the proceedings thereof.

The Secretary shall keep, or cause to be kept, at the principal office in the State of California the original and a copy of the Corporation's Articles and Bylaws, as amended to date. The Secretary shall give, or cause to be given, notice of all meetings of the members, the Board of Elders, and any committees thereof required by these Bylaws or by law to be given.

The Secretary shall keep, or cause to be kept, at the principal office of the Corporation, a church membership register showing the names of the members and their addresses.

The Secretary shall keep the seal of the Corporation and shall have such other powers and perform such other duties as prescribed by the Board of Elders.

### **Section 6. The Treasurer**

The Treasurer shall keep and maintain, or cause to be kept and maintained, adequate and correct accounts of the properties and business transactions of the Corporation. The books of any account shall be at all reasonable times open to inspection by any Elder.

The Treasurer shall deposit all monies and other valuables or delegate such responsibility to other trustworthy members in the name and to the credit of the Corporation with such depositories as may be designated by the Board of Elders. The Treasurer shall disburse the funds of the Corporation as may be ordered by the Board of Elders, shall render to the Chairman and the Board of Elders, whenever they request it, an account of all his transactions and of the financial condition of the Corporation, and shall make the financial reports at each regular Board meeting and at the annual meeting of members.

The Treasurer shall have such powers and perform such other duties as may be prescribed by the Board of Elders.

### **Section 7. Subordinate Officers**

The Board of Elders may appoint such other officers as the business of the Corporation may require, each of whom shall hold office for such period, have such authority, and perform such duties as are provided in the Bylaws or as the Board of Elders may determine.

### **Section 8. Removal and Resignation**

Any officer may be removed by the remainder of the Board Elders at any time, at any regular or special meeting of the Board. Any officer may resign at any time without prejudice to the rights, if any, of the Corporation under any contract to which the officer is a party, by giving written notice to the Board of Elders, to the Chairman, or the Secretary of the Corporation.

### **Section 9. Vacancies**

A vacancy in any office because of death, resignation, removal, disqualification, or any other cause shall be filled as it occurs by the Board of Elders in a manner consistent with the Bylaws.

### **Section 10. Inability to Act**

In the case of absence or inability to act of any officer of the Corporation and of any person herein authorized to act in his place, the Board of Elders may delegate the powers or duties of such officer to any other officer or other person whom the Board may select.

Article VIII  
Pastor/Teacher

**Section 1. Election**

The Pastor/Teacher shall be selected by unanimous agreement of the Board of Elders and presented to the congregation for confirmation. The congregation's confirmation will result if three-fourths (3/4) of the eligible votes of those present are cast for the Pastor/Teacher. Should he accept the call of the church, his tenure of office shall be for an indeterminate period of time.

The Board of Elders reserves the right to release the Pastor/Teacher from his duties with thirty (30) days previous notice and the Pastor/Teacher may resign his duties with thirty (30) days notice, both parties doing so in written form. A period of time less than thirty (30) days will be acceptable in the event both parties agree to a shorter length of time.

**Section 2. Duties**

The Pastor/Teacher shall be a member of the board of Elders, meeting the biblical qualifications specified in Article V and 1 Timothy 3:1-7. He will be responsible to arrange for and/or to conduct all services of the church and be responsible for the general oversight of the spiritual welfare of the church. He shall be an ex-officio member of all committees and is accountable to the Board of Elders.

Article IX  
Settlement of Disputes

In the occasion of any dispute which may arise between church members, pastoral staff, or staff pertaining to any matters of spiritual teaching or practices, church finances, or title to property purchased with church contributions, the dispute shall be resolved by the Board of Elders of the church. A decision shall be reached after prayerful consideration in a spirit of humility, with each Elder regarding one another before himself.

Article X  
Amendment of Bylaws

**Section 1. Amendments**

These Bylaws may be amended and new and additional Bylaws may be made from time to time at any time by the Board of Elders in the exercise of the power granted to said Board of Elders in these Bylaws.

**Section 2. Record of Amendments**

Whenever an amendment or new Bylaw is adopted, it shall be copied in the book of minutes with the original Bylaws, in the appropriate place. If any Bylaw is repealed, the fact of repeal with the date of the meeting at which the repeal was enacted or written assent was filed shall be stated in said book.

Article XI  
Receipt and Disbursement of Funds

The Corporation shall hold, manage, and disburse any funds or properties received by it from any source in a manner that is consistent with the expressed purposes of this Corporation.

Article XII  
Corporate Records and Receipts

The Corporation shall maintain adequate and correct accounts, books, and records of its business and properties. All such books, records, and accounts shall be kept at its principal place of business in the State of California, as fixed by the Board of Elders from time to time.

Every Elder shall have the absolute right at any reasonable time to inspect all books, records, documents of every kind, and the physical properties of the Corporation, and also of its subsidiary organizations, if any.

Article XIII  
Dissolution

No part of the net earnings of the corporation shall ever enure to the benefit of any donor, member, director, or officer of the Corporation.

Upon dissolution, any assets of the Corporation shall be distributed to one or more recognized organizations with a statement of faith and purposes analogous to that identified in Article II of these Bylaws. The recognized organization(s) shall qualify under section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1954, to be used in such manner as will best accomplish the general purposes for which this corporation was formed.