

BYLAWS OF CONNECT CHURCH

These Bylaws govern the affairs of CONNECT CHURCH, a Texas non-profit corporation (the “Church”). The Church is organized under the Texas non-profit Corporation Act.

The principal office of the Church in the State of Texas shall be located in Tarrant County, Texas. Elders of the Church (hereafter defined) shall have full power and authority to change any office from one location to another, either in Texas or elsewhere. The Church shall comply with the requirement of the Act and maintain a registered office and registered agent in Texas. The registered office may, but need not, be identical with the Church’s principal office in Texas. Elders may change the registered office and the registered agent as provided in the Act.

ARTICLE 1 Statement of Faith

The objective of Connect Church is summarized as the following:

**WE EXIST TO MAKE DISCIPLES OF JESUS CHRIST WHO LOVE GOD AND LOVE
PEOPLE AND IMPACT THE WORLD**

The Great Commandment: *“Jesus said, ‘Love the Lord your God with all your heart...soul...and mind. This is the first and the greatest commandment and the second is like it: Love your neighbor as yourself. All the Law and the Prophets hang on these two commandments’.”*
Matthew 22:36-40

The Great Commission: *“Jesus said, ‘Go and make disciples of all nations baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, and teaching them to obey everything I have commanded you’.”* Matthew 28:19-20

ARTICLE 2 Affiliation

The Church is autonomous and maintains the right to govern its own affairs, independent of any denominational control. Recognizing, however, the benefits of cooperation with other churches in world missions and otherwise, this Church may voluntarily affiliate with any churches (Christian Churches and ministries) of like faith.

ARTICLE 3

Purpose and Limitations

3.01 Purposes: The Corporation is organized and shall be operated exclusively for religious, charitable and educational purposes within the meaning of Section 501(c) (3) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986, as amended. More particularly, the purposes of this Corporation are:

(a) To spread the Gospel of Jesus Christ and the worship of God among its attendants and practice the Christian virtues indicated in the Holy Scriptures by any and all means possible.

(b) To ordain, employ and discharge ordained ministers of the Gospel, and others, to conduct and carry on divine services at the place of worship of the Corporation, and elsewhere, and to collect and disburse any or all necessary funds for the maintenance of said Corporation and the accomplishment of its purpose within the State of Texas and elsewhere.

(c) To handle affairs pertaining to property and other temporal matters as required by the civil authorities.

(d) To make distributions to organizations that may qualify as exempt organizations under Section 501(c) (3) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 as amended.

(e) To educate the body of Christ through any and all educational means deemed appropriate.

(f) This Corporation is also organized to promote, encourage, and foster any other similar religious, charitable and educational activities; to accept, hold, invest, reinvest and administer any gifts, legacies, bequests, devises, funds and property of any sort or nature, and to use, expend, or donate the income or principal thereof for, and to devote the time to, the purposes of the Corporation; and to do any and all lawful acts and things which may be necessary, useful, suitable, or proper for the furtherance of accomplishment of the purposes of this Corporation. Provided, however, no act may be performed which would violate Section 501(c) (3) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986, as it now exists or as it may hereafter be amended.

3.02 Limitations: In order to carry out the above-stated purposes, the Corporation shall have all those powers set forth in the Act, as it now exists or as it may hereafter be amended. The powers of the Corporation to promote the purposes set out above are limited and restricted in the following manner:

(a) No part of the net earnings of the Corporation shall inure to the benefit of or be distributable to its incorporators, officers or other private persons, except that the Corporation shall be authorized and empowered to make payments and distributions (including reasonable compensation for services rendered to or for the Corporation or reimbursement of expenditures) in furtherance of its purposes as set forth in these Articles. No substantial part of the activities of the Corporation shall be the carrying on of propaganda, or otherwise attempting to influence legislation, and the Corporation shall not participate in, or intervene in (including the publication or distribution of statements) any political campaign on behalf of any candidate for public office, notwithstanding any other provisions of these Articles of the Corporation shall not carry on any

other activities not permitted to be carried on by (i) a corporation exempt from Federal Income Tax under section 501(c) (3) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986, as amended, or corresponding provisions of any subsequent federal tax laws, or (ii) a corporation, contributions to which are deductible under Section 170(c) (2) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986, as amended, or corresponding provisions of any subsequent federal tax laws.

(b) Notwithstanding any other provisions of these Articles, in the event this Corporation is in any one year a “private foundation” as defined by Section 509(a) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986, as amended, or corresponding provisions of any subsequent federal tax laws, it shall be required to distribute its income for such taxable year at such time and in such manner as not to subject the foundation to taxation under Section 4942 of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986, as amended, or corresponding provisions of any subsequent federal tax laws; and further shall be prohibited from: (i) any act of “self dealing” as defined in Section 4941(d) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986, as amended, or corresponding provisions of any subsequent federal tax laws (ii) retaining any “excess building holdings” as defined by Section 4943(c) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986, as amended, or corresponding provisions of any subsequent federal tax laws; of (iii) making any investments in such manner as to subject the foundation to taxation under Section 4944 of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986, as amended, or corresponding provisions of any subsequent federal tax laws; or (iv) making taxable expenditures as defined in Section 4945(d) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986, as amended, or corresponding provisions of any subsequent federal tax laws.

(c) The Corporation shall not accept any gift or grant if the gift or grant contains major conditions that would restrict or violate any of the Corporation’s religious, charitable or educational purposes or if the gift or grant would require serving a private as opposed to a public interest.

(d) Upon the liquidation, dissolution or winding up of the Corporation, Elders of the Corporation shall, after paying or making provision for payment of all the liabilities of the Corporation, distribute all Corporation assets to any organization designated by Elders of the Corporation which is of like faith and order and is exempt from taxes under Internal Revenue Code Section 501(c) (3) (or the corresponding provision of any future tax law of the United States).

ARTICLE 4 Partnership

4.01 **Partnership:** The Church shall have one class of partnership. Partnership in this Church shall consist of all persons who have met the qualifications stated in 4.02. Elders may adopt and amend application procedures for partnership in the Church.

4.02 **Qualifications for Partnership:** The minimum qualifications for partnership are as follows:

- A. A personal commitment of faith in Jesus Christ for salvation;
- B. Completion of the Church’s partnership class; and
- C. A commitment to abide by the Church’s partnership statement.

4.03 **Termination and Dismissal of Partnership:** Partners shall be removed from the

Church for the following reasons: (a) the request of the partner, (b) the transfer of partnership to another church, (c) death, or (d) termination of partnership by Elders.

Elders may terminate a person's Church partnership when, in the opinion of Elders, the partner's life and conduct is not in accordance with the partnership statement in such a way that the partner hinders the influence of the Church in the community. Dismissal of Church partnership shall require the majority vote of Elders.

4.04 Restoration of Partnership: Dismissed partners may be restored by Elders according to the spirit of 2 Corinthians 2:7-8, when their life-styles are judged to be in accordance with the partnership statement. Restoration of Church partnership shall require the majority vote of Elders.

ARTICLE 5

Elders

5.01 Definition of Elders: The Elders are entrusted with the governance of Connect Church. The Elder board has the responsibility to provide visionary direction and spiritual covering for the ministries of the church. Their oversight includes, but is not limited to teaching, protecting, leading, discipling, equipping, caring for the corporate church body and her individual members as well as oversight of all ministry, operations and finances of the church. The Elders are also responsible for being obedient to the Scripture in the doctrine of the church, establishing the overall vision of the church and appointing new elders or deacons.

5.02 Qualifications of Elders: Elders will be required to meet the qualifications for Elder/overseer as outlined in the following scripture.

It is a trustworthy statement: if any man aspires to the office of overseer, it is a fine work he desires to do. An overseer, then, must be above reproach, the husband of one wife, temperate, prudent, respectable, hospitable, able to teach, not addicted to wine or pugnacious, but free from the love of money. He must be one who manages his own household well, keeping his children under control with dignity (but if a man does not know how to manage his own household, how will he take care of the church of God?); and not a new convert, lest he become conceited and fall into condemnation incurred by the devil. And he must have a good reputation with those outside the church, so that he may not fall into reproach and the snare of the devil. 1 Tim.3:1-11

For this reason I left you in Crete, that you might set in order what remains, and appoint Elders in every city as I directed you, namely, if any man be above reproach, the husband of one wife, having children who believe, not accused of dissipation or rebellion. For the overseer must be above reproach as God's steward, not self-willed, not quick-tempered, not addicted to wine, not pugnacious, not fond of sordid gain, but hospitable, loving what is good, sensible, just, devout, self-controlled, holding fast the faithful word which is in accordance with the teaching, that he may be able both to exhort in sound doctrine and to refute those who contradict. Titus 1:5-9

Connect Church maintains the position that Elders are men only and should serve as the head of the church just as men should serve as the head of the home.

5.03 Number and Term of Elders: The Elders shall consist of not less than three (3), not including the Senior Pastor. The Elders will be nominated and elected in accordance with Section

5.06 of this Article, unless changed by these Bylaws.

The Elders shall elect the Chairman of Elders and he shall preside at all Elders meetings. In the event that the Chairman of Elders is not available, he will appoint one of the remaining Elders to chair any called meeting. Each Elder, shall hold office for life unless they resign for personal reasons, they are disqualified by sin or a failure to meet the biblical standards of the office, or the leave Connect Church.

5.04 Powers: Elders shall have all of the rights, powers, and responsibilities of an Elder pursuant to the Act, subject to any limitations under the Act, the Articles of Incorporation of the Church and these Bylaws. All corporation powers shall be exercised by or under the authority of Elders. Elders shall have final authority for affairs pertaining to property and other temporal matters as required by civil law for non-profit corporations. In particular, Elders shall be responsible for the acquisition and disposition of Church property, which includes the management of its financial resources. Elders shall have the power to buy, sell, mortgage, pledge or encumber any church property and incur related indebtedness.

5.06 Nomination, and Election: The Elders shall have the sole authority to nominate candidates to fill any vacant position. All nominations will be gathered and evaluated by the Elders. The evaluation includes an interview, a background check, a spiritual gift evaluation, and a review by the Elders. If suitable candidates are not nominated, the position(s) would be left unfilled until the Elders are able to find and agree upon a candidate(s). The persons nominated shall be presented to Elders for election. Elders shall be natural persons, but need not be a residence of Texas.

5.07 Vacancies: The Elders shall nominate persons who are deemed qualified to fill any vacancy. A vacancy is filled by the unanimous affirmative vote of the of the remaining Elders.

5.08 Meetings: Regular or Special meetings of Elders may be held either within or outside the State of Texas, but shall be held at the Church's registered office in Texas if the notice thereof does not specify the location of the meeting.

A. **Regular Meetings:** Regular meetings of Elders may be held without notice if the time and place of such meetings are fixed by a resolution of Elders. Not less than one meeting will be held monthly.

B. **Special Meetings:** Any three (3) Elders may call a special meeting of Elders.

C. Any meeting may be held by conference telephone or similar communication equipment, as long as all the elders participating in the meeting can hear one another. All such elders shall be deemed present at such meetings.

5.09 Action without Meeting: Any action required or permitted to be taken by Elders may be taken without a meeting, if all of Elders, individually, or collectively, consent in writing to the action. Such action by written consent or consents shall be filed with the minutes of the proceeding of Elders.

5.10 Quorum: A quorum is obtained when no more than one (1) elder is absent. Elders present at a duly called or held meeting at which a quorum is present may continue to transact normal day to day business even if enough Elders leave the meeting so that less than a quorum remains. However, no action that is a major decision of personal, major financial decision, spiritual

direction or governance issues may be approved without the vote of all of the Elders under section 5.14. If a quorum is present at no time during a meeting, a majority of Elders present may adjourn and reconvene the meeting one time without further notice.

5.11 Duties of Elders: Elders shall discharge their duties, in good faith, with ordinary care, and in a manner they reasonably believe to be in the best interest of the Church. Elders may in good faith rely on information, opinions, reports, or statements, including financial statements and other financial data, concerning the Church or another person that were prepared or presented by a variety of persons, including officers and employees of the Church, professional advisors or experts such as accountants or legal counsel. The Elders who are not a part of church staff are given the responsibility to approve the annual budget and administrate the compensation packages of the staff.

5.12 Delegation of Duties: Elders are entitled to select advisors and delegate duties and responsibilities, such as the full power and authority to purchase or otherwise acquire stocks, bonds, securities and other investments on behalf of the Church; and to sell, transfer, or otherwise dispose of the Church's assets and properties at a time and for a consideration that the advisor deems appropriate. Elders have no liability for actions taken or omitted by the advisor if an Elder acts in good faith and with ordinary care in selecting the advisor. Elders may remove or replace the advisor, with or without cause.

5.13 Interested Partners: Contracts or transactions between Elders, officers, or partners of the Church who have a financial interest in the matter are not void or voidable solely for that reason. Nor are they void or voidable solely because the partner, officer, or Church partner is present at or participates in the meeting that authorizes the contract or transaction, or solely because the interested parties votes are counted for the purposes. However, the material facts must be disclosed to or known by Elders or other group authorizing the transaction, and approval from disinterested parties must be obtained.

5.14 Actions of Elders:
All decisions made by the Elders concerning Connect Church shall be reached after prayerful consideration, voting in a spirit of humility, with each Elder regarding one another before himself, and moving toward the goal of unanimity and unity. (Philippians 2:3-4) Should unanimity not be reached on any matter, the Elders will postpone any said decision until the next regularly called Elder's meeting. Prior to that next meeting, they will commit to fast and prayer concerning the said matter, and then once again come together with the goal of unanimity. Should it become apparent that a unanimous decision is not possible, the Elder Chairman will either call for an additional time of prayer and fasting or a vote, at which time a simple majority will direct the matter in question. In the event of a tie vote, the Elder Chairman note will carry any said decision. A unanimous decision is required for the installation of any new Elder.

5.15 No Compensation: Elders, including the Senior Pastor, shall not receive salaries or compensation for their services as Elders. An Elder may serve the Church in any other capacity and receive compensation for those services.

5.16 Removal and Resignation of Elders: Any Elder may be removed or asked to take a sabbatical by unanimous vote of the remaining Elders. Said Elder may elect to resign. His position would remain vacant until filled under Sections 5.06 and 5.07.

ARTICLE 6

Senior Pastor

6.01 Senior Pastor Duties: The Senior Pastor shall serve as an Elder and shall be subject to all provisions of Section 5 herein above. The Senior Pastor shall supervise and control the day-to-day affairs of the Church. The Senior Pastor shall be responsible for hiring staff with the Senior Staff being approved by the Elders. He shall supervise directly, or by delegation all staff. The Senior Pastor shall be vested with the authority, subject to the rights, if any, under any contract of employment, to terminate any staff's employment, with or without cause and subject to the approval of the Elders.

The Senior Pastor of the Church is responsible for leading the Church in accordance with Biblical principles as set forth in the New Testament. As such, the Senior Pastor shall be the leader of the Church staff, Church ministries, to accomplish the New Testament purposes of the Church. The Senior Pastor is expressly authorized to do all things necessary and proper to fulfill the above-described leadership position. The Senior Pastor shall act as the moderator of the Staff. In the event of a vacancy in the office of Senior Pastor, Elders shall appoint a partner of the Church to act a moderator. The moderator shall establish the agenda, protocol and rules of order for each Staff meeting and shall conduct the meeting accordingly.

In the event of a vacancy, for any reason, in the office of Senior Pastor, Elders shall act as the Senior Pastor selection team. All actions of Elders regarding the selection of Senior Pastor shall comply with the requirements set forth in 5.11. The election shall take place at a regular or special meeting of Elders called for the purpose of electing a new Senior Pastor.

6.02 Termination: Subject to the rights, if any, under any contract of employment with the Church, the Senior Pastor shall only be removed, by the unanimous vote of the remaining Elders. The Senior Pastor shall only be removed, subject to the terms of any employment agreement, from office, for any of the following reasons: (1) falling into sinful and worldly practices without repentance; (2) neglect of duties; (3) resignation; (4) death; or (5) disability that does not allow the Senior Pastor to adequately perform the duties of Senior Pastor.

ARTICLE 7

Deacons

7.01 Deacons: The Elders shall have the sole authority to appoint Deacons and determine the number of Deacons to meet the permanent and short-term needs of the church.

7.02 Qualifications and Definition: Deacons may be men or women, who meet the qualifications as specified in I Timothy 3:8-13.

7.03 Term of Service: Deacons shall serve at the discretion of the Elders for a time until the resign, or their position of service is no longer required by the church. Deacons may be removed for any reason by the unanimous vote of the Elders.

7.04 Responsibility: The responsibility of the Deacons is not explicit within the biblical text. The overall responsibility of the deaconate is to assist the elders in their service and equipping functions of the church. The basic definition of a Deacon is that of being a servant or

minster who supplies the needs of the church body.

ARTICLE 8

Officers

8.01 Officer Positions: The Officers of the Church include the following: President, Vice-President, Treasurer, Secretary and Directors. The Elders shall elect an Elder to serve as President. The Elders will be designated as a Director of Connect Church and will appoint the other officer positions as stated above. The officers are nominated and elected in accordance with Section 6.02 of this article, until changed by amendment of the Articles of Incorporation or by these Bylaws. The Elders may create additional officer positions, defining the authority and duties of each such position, and appoint persons to fill the positions.

The Texas Non-Profit Corporation Act and the Texas Business Organizations Code require a nonprofit corporation to have at least three directors, one president, and one secretary. The same person cannot be both the president and secretary. Officers and directors must be natural persons.

8.02 Election and Term of Office: The President shall be elected by the majority vote of the Elders of the Church. The Elders shall decide on all other officers of the Church.

8.03 Vacancies: A vacancy in any office shall be filled only in the manner prescribed in these Bylaws for regular appointment or election to that office.

8.04 President: The President of the corporation and shall be responsible for the oversight of the business of the operations of the corporation.

8.05 Vice-President: The Elders shall appoint the Vice-President of the Church. When the President is absent, the Vice President shall perform the duties of the President. When the Vice President acts in place of the President, the Vice President shall have all the powers of and be subject to all the restrictions upon the President. The Vice President shall perform other duties as assigned by the President or Elders. Except as expressly authorized by Elders, the Vice President shall have no authority to sign for or otherwise bind the Church.

8.06 Treasurer: The Elders shall appoint the Treasurer of the Church. The Treasurer shall: (a) have charge and custody of and be responsible for all funds and securities of the Church; (b) receive and give receipts for monies due and payable to the Church from any source; (c) deposit all monies in the name of the Church in banks, trust companies, or other depositories as provided in the Bylaws or as directed by Elders (d) write checks and disburse funds to discharge obligations of the Church; (e) maintain the financial books and records of the Church; (f) prepare financial reports at least annually for Elders; (g) perform other duties as assigned by the Senior Pastor or by Elders; and (h) perform all of the duties incident to the office of treasurer.

8.07 Secretary: The Elders shall appoint the Secretary of the Church. The Secretary of the church shall (a) take minutes of the meetings of the Elders and keep the minutes as part of the corporate records; (b) affix the seal of the Church to all documents as authorized; (c) perform duties as assigned by the Senior Pastor or by Elders; and (e) perform all duties incident to the office of secretary.

8.08 Directors: The Elders shall each be designated as a Director of Connect Church and be filed as such with the Secretary of State of Texas.

8.09 **Registered Agent:** The President is the registered agent for Connect Church. A registered agent is an individual Texas resident, domestic entity, or foreign entity that has qualified or registered to transact business in Texas that is responsible for receiving service of process or official notices addressed to an entity.

8.10 **Registered Office:** The registered office of Connect Church must be a physical address where the registered agent can be served with process during business hours. It cannot be a post office box that is part of a commercial mail or message service unless that commercial enterprise is the registered agent or the registered office is in a city with a population under 5,000.

ARTICLE 9 Advisory Teams

9.01 **Establishment:** Elders may, at their discretion, adopt a resolution establishing one or more Advisory Teams. Any and all teams shall conform to roles and guidelines established by Elders.

ARTICLE 10 Transactions of the Church

10.01 **Contracts and Legal Instruments:** Elders may authorize an individual officer or agent of the Church to enter into a contract or execute and deliver any instrument in the name of and on behalf of the Church. This authority may be limited to a specific contract or instrument or it may extend to any number and type of possible contracts and instruments.

10.02 **Deposits:** All funds of the Church shall be deposited to the credit of the Church in banks, trust companies, or other depositories that Elders select.

10.03 **Gifts:** Elders may accept on behalf of the Church any contribution, gift, bequest, or devise for the general purposes or special purpose of the Church.

10.04 **Potential Conflicts of Interest:** The Church shall not make any loan to an Elder or officer of the Church. An Elder or officer may lend money to and otherwise transact business with the Church except as otherwise provided by these Bylaws, Articles of Incorporation, and all applicable laws. Such a person transacting business with the Church has the same rights and obligations relating to those matters as other persons transacting business with the Church.

The Church shall not borrow money from or otherwise transact business with Elders or officers, unless the transaction is described fully in a legally binding instrument and is in the best interest of the Church. The Church shall not borrow money from or otherwise transact business with an Elders or officer without full disclosure of all relevant facts and without the approval of Elders, not including the vote of any person having a personal interest in the transaction.

ARTICLE 11 Books and Records

11.01 **Required Books and Records:** The Church shall keep correct and complete books and records of account.

11.02 **Fiscal Year:** The fiscal year of the Church shall begin on the first day of January and end on the last day of December in each year.

11.03 **Audited Financial Statements:** The Church shall have the annual financial statement of the Church reviewed by a certified public accounting firm. Audits will be performed as deemed necessary by Elders. Elders shall select the accounting firm.

ARTICLE 12 Indemnification

12.01 **Indemnification:** To the full extent permitted the Church shall indemnify any Elders, Pastor, officer, employee, or agent of the Church who was, is, or may be named a defendant or respondent in any proceeding as a result of his or her actions or omissions within the scope of his or her official capacity in the Church.

ARTICLE 13 Miscellaneous Provisions

13.01 **Amendments to Bylaws:** The Elders have sole responsibility for these Bylaws. The Elders must make any amendment, alteration, repeal or addition to these Bylaws.

13.02 **Construction of Bylaws:** These Bylaws shall be construed in accordance with the laws of the State of Texas. All references in the Bylaws to statutes, regulations, or other sources of legal authority shall refer to the authorities cited, or their successors, as they may be amended from time to time. If any Bylaws provision is held to be invalid, illegal, or unenforceable in any respect, the invalidity, illegality, or unenforceability shall not affect any other provision and the Bylaws shall be construed as if the invalid, illegal, or unenforceable provision had not been included in the Bylaws.

The headings used in the Bylaws are used for convenience and shall not be considered in construing the terms of the Bylaws. Wherever the context requires, all words in the Bylaws in the male gender shall be deemed to include the female or neuter gender, all singular words shall include the plural, and all plural words shall include the singular.

13.03 **Parties Bound:** The Bylaws shall be binding upon and inure to the benefit of the Church partners, Elders, officers, employees, and agents of the Church and their respective heirs, executors, administrators, legal representatives, successors, and assigns except as otherwise provided in the Bylaws.

13.04 **Christian Alternative Dispute Resolution:** In keeping with 1 Corinthians 6:18, all disputes which may arise (1) between any partner of the Church and the Church itself, or (2) between any partner of the Church and any Pastor, officer, Elders, employee, volunteer, agent, or other partner of this Church shall be resolved in accordance with the *Institute for Christian Conciliation: Rules of Procedures for Christian Conciliation*.

If efforts to conciliate or mediate the dispute fail, then the matter shall be resolved through binding arbitration. The decision of the arbitrators shall be binding on both parties, and both parties

submit themselves to the personal jurisdiction of the courts of Texas, both state and federal, for the entry of a judgment confirming the arbitrators' award. Each party shall bear their own costs, including attorney's fees, related to any mediation, conciliation or arbitration proceeding. If a dispute may result in an award of monetary damages, then the liability insurer of the Church and the insurer's agreement to honor any mediation, conciliation conditions use of the conciliation, mediation, and arbitration procedure on acceptance of the procedure or arbitration award up to any applicable policy limits. The mediation, conciliation, and arbitration process is not a substitute for any disciplinary process set forth in the Bylaws of the Church, and shall in no way affect the authority of the Church to investigate reports of misconduct, conduct hearings, or administer discipline.

13.05 Definition of Marriage

We believe the term "marriage" has only one meaning and that is marriage sanctioned by God which joins one man and one woman in a single, exclusive union, as delineated in Scripture. (Genesis 2:22-25, Matthew 19:3-6)

We believe that God intends sexual intimacy to occur only between one man and one woman who are married to each other. We believe that God has commanded that no intimate sexual activity be engaged in outside of a marriage between one man and one woman. (Fornication, Romans 1:26-27, 1 Corinthians 6:9-10, 6:18, 7:2, 10:8, 2 Corinthians 12:21, Galatians 5:19-21, Ephesians 5:3, Colossians 3:5, 1 Thessalonians 4:3, Jude 1:7, Revelation 2:14)

We believe that any form of sexual immorality, such as adultery, fornication, homosexuality, bisexual conduct, bestiality, incest, pornography or any attempt to change one's sex, is sinful and contrary to God's Word. (Exodus 20:14, Leviticus 18:22-23, Leviticus 20:13, 1 Corinthians 6:9-11, 1 Timothy 1:10, Hebrews 13:4)

We believe that in order to preserve the function and integrity of the church as the local Body of Christ, and to provide a biblical role model to the church members and the community, it is imperative that all persons employed by the church in any capacity, or who serve as volunteers, should abide by and agree to this Statement on Marriage and Sexuality and conduct themselves accordingly. (James 3:1, 1 Timothy 3:1-13, 2 Timothy 2:1-5, 15, Titus 1:5-9)

We believe that God offers redemption and restoration to all who confess and forsake any sin, seeking His mercy and forgiveness through Jesus Christ. (Romans 3:23, I John 1:9)

We believe that every person must be afforded compassion, love, kindness, respect, and dignity. Hateful and harassing behavior or attitudes directed toward any individual are to be repudiated and are not in accord with scripture nor the doctrines of the church. (John 13:34-35, Romans 5:8, 1 Corinthians 13:1-13, 16:14, Colossians 3:12-15, Hebrews 13:1, 1 Peter 4:8, 1 John 3:16, 4:7-8)

The Elders of Connect Church reserve the right to grant or deny performing the marriage of or allowing the use of the Connect Church facility for weddings in situations wherein the couple is not marrying according to God's Word or in agreement with the definition of "marriage" herein.

CERTIFICATE OF SECRETARY

I certify that I am the appointed and acting Secretary of CONNECT CHURCH and that the foregoing Bylaws constitute the Bylaws of Connect Church. These Bylaws were duly adopted by the Consent of Elders of Connect Church, dated _____.

Garrett Williams
Printed Name

Secretary, Signature

Date

Marshall B. Addison
Printed Name

President, Signature

Date

Thomas B. Chapman
Printed Name

Treasurer, Signature

Date

Mike Lindsey
Printed Name

Director, Signature

Date

Jay McFadden
Printed Name

Director, Signature

Date

Scott Oglesby
Printed Name

Director, Signature

Date