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ATTORNEY AND COUNSELOR AT LAW

442 OLD MAIN STREET

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November 23, 1999

Department of State
Division of Corporations
Post Office Box 6327
Tallahassee, Florida 32314

RE: First Community Church, INC.

Dear Sirs:

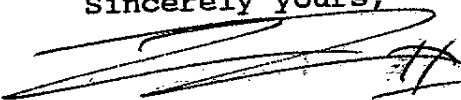
Enclosed please find an original and one (1) copy of the Articles of Incorporation for the above corporation along with our check number 6978 in the amount of \$78.50 in payment of the following:

Filing Fee	:	\$35.00
Registered Agent Designation:	:	\$35.00
Certified Copy	:	\$ 8.50

Please send the certified copy and any other documentation to our office.

Thank you for your attention to this matter.

Sincerely yours,


LAYON F. ROBINSON, II
Attorney at Law

LFR/ecc

Encl.
Encl.
Enclosures

FILED
DIVISION OF STATE
TALLAHASSEE, FLORIDA

00 JAN -3 AM 9:31

T. Burch JAN 4 1999



FLORIDA DEPARTMENT OF STATE
Katherine Harris
Secretary of State

December 23, 1999

LAYON F. ROBINSON II
442 OLD MAIN STREET
BRANDENTON, FL 34205

SUBJECT: FIRST COMMUNITY CHURCH, INC.
Ref. Number: W99000027389

We have received your document for FIRST COMMUNITY CHURCH, INC. and your check(s) totaling \$78.75. However, the enclosed document has not been filed and is being returned for the following correction(s):

You failed to make the correction(s) requested in our previous letter.

The registered agent must sign accepting the designation.

The document must have original signatures.

Please return the original and one copy of your document, along with a copy of this letter, within 60 days or your filing will be considered abandoned.

If you have any questions concerning the filing of your document, please call (850) 487-6928.

Tim Burch
Document Specialist

Letter Number: 999A00060126



FLORIDA DEPARTMENT OF STATE

Katherine Harris
Secretary of State

December 1, 1999

LAYON F. ROBINSON II
442 OLD MAIN STREET
BRANDENTON, FL 34205

SUBJECT: FIRST COMMUNITY CHURCH, INC.
Ref. Number: W99000027389

We have received your document for FIRST COMMUNITY CHURCH, INC. and your check(s) totaling \$78.75. However, the enclosed document has not been filed and is being returned for the following correction(s):

The name designated in your document is unavailable since it is the same as, or it is not distinguishable from the name of an existing entity.

Please select a new name and make the correction in all appropriate places. One or more major words may be added to make the name distinguishable from the one presently on file.

Adding "of Florida" or "Florida" to the end of a name is not acceptable.

The registered agent must sign accepting the designation.

Please return the original and one copy of your document, along with a copy of this letter, within 60 days or your filing will be considered abandoned.

If you have any questions concerning the filing of your document, please call (850) 487-6928.

Tim Burch
Document Specialist

Letter Number: 099A00056785

FILED
00 JAN -3 AM 9:31
SECRETARY OF STATE
TALLAHASSEE, FLORIDA

ARTICLES OF INCORPORATION
OF
FIRST COMMUNITY CHURCH OF PALMETTO INC.,

A Nonprofit Religious Corporation

PREAMBLE

For the purpose of establishing, and maintaining a place for the worship of Almighty God, our Heavenly Father, to provide for Christian Fellowship for those of like precious faith, where the Holy Ghost may be honored according to our distinctive testimony; to assume our share of responsibility and privilege of propagating the gospel of Jesus Christ by all available means, both at home and in foreign lands.

We, the undersigned, being natural persons of lawful age, hereby acting as incorporators pursuant to Chapter 617, Florida Statute, adopts the following Articles of Incorporation.

ARTICLE I

NAME

The name of the Corporation shall be:

FIRST COMMUNITY CHURCH OF PALMETTO INC.

ARTICLE II

PRIMARY PLACE OF BUSINESS AND MAILING ADDRESS

Sec. 1. (a) The Principal place of assembly shall be:

1107 29th Street East,
Palmetto, Florida

ARTICLE III

PURPOSE

A: The specific purpose for which this corporation was organized is as follows:

Sec. 1. This assembly shall have the right to govern itself according to the standards of the New Testament Scriptures, "endeavoring to keep the unity of the Spirit in the bonds of peace . . . Till we all come in the unity of faith, and of the knowledge of the Son of God, unto a perfect man, unto the measure of the stature of the fullness of Christ." Eph. 4:3, 13. The purpose is to spread the Gospel to man.

Sec. 2. In connection therewith, or incidental thereto, it shall have the right to purchase or acquire by gift, bequest or any real estate chattels as may be necessary for the furtherance of its purposes; all in accordance with the Holy Scriptures. its constitution and Bylaws as stated hereafter or as the same may be hereafter modified.

B. TENETS OF FAITH

This assembly accepts the Holy Scriptures as the **revealed** will of **God**, and all-sufficient rule of faith and practice, and for the purpose of maintaining general unity, adopts the Statement of Fundamental Truths of the Holy Bible.

1. The Scripture's Inspired

The scriptures, both Old and New Testaments, are verbally inspired of God and are the revelation of God to man, the infallible authoritative rule of faith and conduct (2 Tim. 3:15-17; 1 Thess. 2:13; 2 Peter 1:21).

2. The One True God

The one true God has revealed Himself as the eternally selfexistant "I Am" the Creator of heaven and earth and the Redeemer of mankind. He has further revealed Himself as embodying the principles of relationship and association as Father, Son and the Holy Ghost (Deut. 6:4; Isa. 43:10; Matt. 28:19; Luke 3:22)

3. The Deity of the Lord Jesus Christ

The Lord Jesus Christ is the eternal Son of God. The Scriptures declare:

- (a) His virgin birth (Matt. 123: Luke 1:31, 35).
- (b) His sinless life (Heb. 7:26; 1 Peter 2:22).
- (c) His miracles (Acts 2:22; 10:38).
- (d) His substitutionary work on the cross (1 Cor. 5:3).
- (e) His bodily resurrection from the dead (Matt. 28:6; Luke 24:39 1 Cor. 15:4).

His exaltation to the right hand of God (Acts 1:9, 11; 2:33; Phil. 2:9-11; Heb. 1³).

4. *The Fall of Man*

Man was created good and upright; for God said, "Let us make man in our image, after our likeness." However, man by voluntary transgression fell and thereby incurred not only physical death but spiritual death, which is separation from God (Gen. 1:26, 27; 2:17 Rom. 5:12-19).

5. *The Salvation of Man*

Man's only hope of redemption is through the shed blood of Jesus Christ, the Son of God.

(a) *Conditions to Salvation.*

Salvation is received through repentance toward God and faith toward the Lord Jesus Christ. By washing of regeneration and renewing of the Holy Ghost, being justified by grace through faith, man becomes an heir of God according to the hope of eternal life (Luke 24:47; John 3:3; Rom. 10:13-15; Eph. 2:8; Titus 2:11; 3:5-7).

(b) *The Evidence of Salvation.*

The inward evidence of salvation is the direct witness of the Spirit (Rom. 8:16). The outward evidence to all men is a life of righteousness and true holiness (Eph. 4:24; Titus 2:12).

6. *The Ordinances of the Church*

(a) *Baptism in water.*

The ordinance of baptism by immersion is commanded in the Scriptures. All who repent and believe in Christ as Savior and Lord are to be baptized. Thus they declare to the world that they

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

(b) Holy Communion

The Lord's Supper, constituting of the elements - bread and the fruit of the vine - is a symbol expressing our sharing the nature of the Lord Jesus Christ (2 Peter 1:4); and a prophecy of His second coming (1 Cor. 11:26); and is enjoined on all believers "till He comes."

(c) Feet Washing

Feet washing, is practiced and recognized as an ordinance in our church because Christ, by his example, showed that humility, characterized greatness in the Kingdom of God, and services, rendered to others gave evidence that humility, motivated by love, exists. (St. Luke 7:36-50; St. John 13:1-17; and Timothy 5:10).

7. *The Baptism of the Holy Ghost*

All believers are entitled to and should ardently expect and earnestly seek the promise of the Father. The baptism in the Holy Ghost and fire, according to the command of our Lord Jesus Christ. This was the normal experience of all in the early Christian Church. With it comes endowment of power for life and service, the bestowment of the gifts and their uses in the work of the ministry. (Luke 24:49; Acts 1:4-8; 1 Cor. 12:1-31). This experience is distinct from and subsequent to the experiences as an overflowing fullness of the Spirit. (John 7:37-39; Acts 4:8): a deepened reverence for God (Acts 2:43; Heb. 12:28), and intensified

consecration to God and dedication to His work (Acts 2:42), and a more active love for Christ, for His word and for the Lost (Mark 16:20).

8. *The Evidence of the Baptism in the Holy Ghost*

The baptism of believers in the Holy Ghost is witnessed by the initial physical sign of speaking with other tongues as the Spirit of God gives utterance. (Acts 2:4). The speaking in tongues in this instance is the same in essence as the gift of tongues (Cor. 12:4-10, 28), but difference in purpose and use.

9. *Sanctification*

Sanctification is an act of separation from that which is evil, and for dedication unto God (Rom. 12:1, 2; 1 Thess. 5:23, Heb. 13:12). The Scriptures teach a life of holiness "without which no man shall see the Lord." (Heb. 12:14). By the power of the Holy Ghost we are able to obey the command). "Be Ye Holy, for I am Holy."

Sanctification is realized in the believer by recognizing his identification with Christ in His death and resurrection, and by faith reckoning daily upon the fact of that union, and by offering every faculty continually to the dominion of the Holy Spirit. (Rom. 6:1, 13; 8:1, 2, 13; Gal. 2:20; Phil. 2:12, 13 1 Peter 1:5).

10. *The Church*

The Church is the Body of Christ, the habitation of God through the Spirit, with divine appointments for the fulfillment of Her great commission. Each believer, born of the Spirit, is an integral part of the General Assembly and Church of the First-born, which are written in Heaven (Eph. 1:22, 23; 2:22; Heb 12:23).

11. The Ministry

A Divinely called and scripturally ordained ministry has been provided by our Lord for a two-fold purpose: (1) The evangelization of the world, and (2) The Edifying of the Body of Christ.

12. Divine Healing

A Divine healing is an integral part of the gospel. Deliverance from sickness is provided for in the atonement, and it is the privilege of all believers. (Isa. 53:4 5: Matt. 8:16; James 5:15).

13. The Blessed Hope

The resurrection of those who have fallen asleep in Christ and their translation together with those who are alive and remain unto the coming of Christ is the imminent and blessed hope of the Church. (1 Thess. 4:16, 17; Rom. 8:23; Titus 2:13; 1 Cor. 15:51, 52).

14. The Millennial Reign of Christ

The second coming of Christ includes the rapture of the saints which is our blessed hope, followed by the visible return of Christ with His saints to reign on the earth for the one thousand years (Zech. 14:15; Matt. 24:27, 30, Rev. 1:7; 19: 11-14; 20:1-6). This millennial reign will bring the salvation of national Israel (Ezek. 37:21, 22; Zeph. 3:19, 20; Rom. 11:26, 27), and the establishment of universal peace. (Isa. 11:6-9; Psalms 72:3-8; Micah 4:3,4).

15. The Final Judgment

There will be a final judgement in which the wicked dead will be raised and judged accordingly to their works. Whosoever is not found written in the Book of Life, together with the devil and his

angels, the beast and the fallen prophet, will be confined to everlasting punishment in the lake which burneth with fire and brimstone, which is the second death. (Matt. 25:46; Mark 9:43-48; Rev. 19:20; 20:11-15; 21:8).

16. *The New Heavens and the New Earth*

"We, according to His promise, look for new heaven and a new earth, wherein dwellth righteousness. (2 Peter 3:13; Rev. 21:22).

C. *ORDINANCES*

Sec. 1. The ordinance of baptism by immersion in water (Matt. 28:19) shall be administered to all those who have repented of their sins and who have believed in the Lord Jesus Christ to the saving of their souls, and who give clear evidence of their salvation. (Rom. 6:3-5; Col. 2:12).

Sec. 2. The ordinance of the Lord's Supper shall be observed regularly as enjoined in the scriptures. (Luke 22:19, 20; 1 Cor. 11:23-26).

ARTICLE IV

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

A. The Manner of Election of Directors.

The manner in which the Directors are elected or appointed as follows:

The Pastor of the said Corporation shall appoint three (3) of the eight (8) board members. The Deacons are to appoint three (3) and two (2) should be appointed by the members.

B. The names and addresses of the first Board of Directors of this Corporation who shall hold office until their successors

are elected or appointed as stated herein at the regular, annual business meeting.

<u>NAME</u>	<u>ADDRESS</u>
Freddie Carter	1413-26th Street East Palmetto, Florida 34221
Olin Carter	1413-26th Street East Palmetto, Florida 34221
Bobby Lucas	3312-5th Drive West Palmetto, Florida 34221
Floyd Murray	503-25th Street West Palmetto, Florida 34221
Ollie Washington	3117-9th Avenue Drive East Palmetto, Florida 34221
Edmund Pierre	Post Office Box 1626 Palmetto, Florida 34220

ARTICLE V

OFFICERS

Sec. 1. Officers. There shall be a Pastor, who shall sit as the President, and there shall be a Secretary and a Treasurer. Other officers shall be added as may be needed by the Bylaws. The names and addresses of the first Board of Deacons of this Corporation who shall hold office until their successors are appointed by the Pastor at the next regular meeting.

<u>Name</u>	<u>Address</u>
Freddie Carter	1413-26th Street East Palmetto, Florida 34221
Olin Carter	1413-26th Street East Palmetto, Florida 34221
Bobby Lucas	3312-5th Drive West Palmetto, Florida 34221

Floyd Murray

503-25th Street East
Palmetto, Florida 34221

Ollie Washington

3117-9th Avenue Drive East
Palmetto, Florida 34221

Edmund Pierre

Post Office Box 1626
Palmetto, Florida 34220

ARTICLE VI

MEMBERSHIP

First Community Church Of Palmetto Inc., will accept any and all persons regardless of race, color and nationality. When the appropriate vows have been made, such persons shall be received into the Church as a member of the local Church of their choice.

- a. The membership of First Community Church of Palmetto Inc., shall consist of all persons who have been received into its fellowship upon the profession of their faith, whether by transfer from another Church, Christian experience or watch-care.
- b. All members received into the Church fellowship, shall be required to give their support to the Church with faithful attendance, tithes, and offerings. All members should become active in some auxiliary in the Church if health permits.

Sec. 2. Voting Membership. All those who meet the scriptural standards for membership, those whose names appear on the original membership roll of the assembly at the time the assembly was first organized, together with those whose names shall be added from time to time, shall constitute the legal membership of the assembly,

provided they are sixteen years of age or over, that they regularly attend the means of grace and take part in the services, that they are living consistent Christian lives in agreement with our distinctive testimony.

Sec. 3. Inactive Membership. Enrolled members who shall without good cause absent themselves from the services of the assembly for a period of three consecutive months or more and who cease to contribute of their means to its support, who may be out of harmony with its teachings or its ministries, or who shall be under charges for misconduct, or who may have fallen under condemnation considered as inactive members and shall lose their voting privileges until they are restored to the fellowship, their standing to be settled by definite action of the assembly through its pastor.

Temporary absenteeism from the Church will not affect a members, membership, however, while absent from the local Church all tithes and offerings should be held in escrow or sent to the Church by the absent member until his/her return.

ARTICLE VII

LIMITATION OF CORPORATE POWERS

The Corporate Powers of this Corporation are as provided in
Section 617.0302

ARTICLE VIII
INITIAL REGISTERED AGENT AND STREET ADDRESS

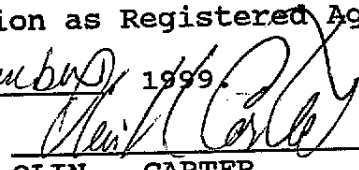
The name and street address of the registered agent is:

Olin Carter
1413-26th Street East
Palmetto, Florida 34221

ACCEPTANCE OF DESIGNATION
REGISTERED AGENT

Having been named as Registered Agent and to accept service of this Certificate, I hereby accept the appointment as Registered Agent and agree to act in this capacity. I further agree to comply with the provisions of all statutes relating to the proper and complete performance of my duties, and I am familiar with and accept the obligations of my position as Registered Agent.

Dated this 30th day of December, 1999.



OLIN CARTER

ARTICLE IX
INCORPORATORS

The names and the street addresses of the incorporators of the

Jesse Hernando Smalley	3814 Harrogate Drive Valsico Florida 335994
Freddie Carter	1413-26th Street East Palmetto, Florida 34221
Bobby Lucas	3312-5th Drive West Palmetto, Florida 34221

ARTICLE X

AMENDMENTS

These Articles shall be amended by a two-thirds vote of the membership of the assembly in attendance at any regular or special meeting called for that purpose, provided due notice of such proposed change shall have been made at all of the services on at least two consecutive, Sundays immediately prior to the time of such meeting. It shall be understood that this does not apply to the Article of Faith, which stands regardless of majority.

ARTICLE XI

DISSOLUTION OF REGISTERED AGENT

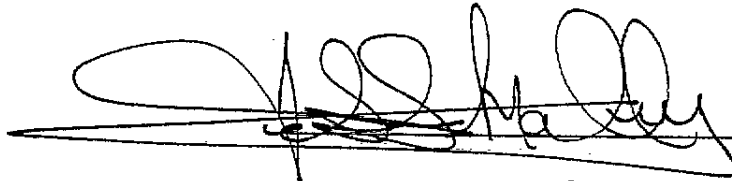
In the event of dissolution, the registered agent of the organization will be turned over to one or more organizations which themselves are exempt as an organization described in 501(c)(3) and 170(c)(2) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1954 or corresponding sections of any prior or future law, or change to the Federal, State, or Local Government for exclusive public purposes.

ARTICLE XII

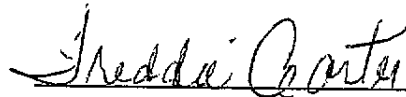
EFFECTIVE DATES OF CORPORATE EXISTENCE

Pursuant to Florida Statute 617.0203, effective date of this Corporation shall be November 23, 1999.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, we, the undersigned, being all of the incorporators herein-before named, and for the purpose of aforesaid, have signed, sealed and acknowledge these Articles of Incorporation in triplicate, hereby declaring and certifying that the facts stated therein are true this 23rd day of November 1999



Bobby L. Lucas



Sheddai Carter

ACKNOWLEDGMENT

STATE OF FLORIDA

COUNTY OF MANATEE

On this the 23rd day of November 1999, before me personally came and appeared Jessie Hernando Smalley, Freddie Carter, and Bobby Lucas to me known and known to me to be the persons whose names are subscribed to the foregoing Articles of Incorporation, and they did severally acknowledge that they, signed, sealed and delivered the same as their voluntary act and deed, for the purposes therein stated, and that the facts stated herein are truly set forth.

IN WITNESS WHERE OF, I hereunto set my hand and official seal.

Colette Clark
NOTARY SIGNATURE

COLETTE CLARK
NOTARY PRINTED NAME

My Commission Expires:

