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#### ARTICLES OF INCORPORATION

#### **OF**

### THE EAST ANNUAL CONFERENCE OF THE AFRICAN METHODIST EPISCOPAL CHURCH, INC.

We, the undersigned subscribers, hereby associate ourselves together for the purpose of becoming incorporated under the laws of the State of Florida, Florida Statutes 617.01 et seq., applicable to corporations not for profit.

#### ARTICLE ONE - NAME

The name of the corporation shall be:

The East Annual Conference of the African Methodist Episcopal Church, Inc.

#### **ARTICLE TWO - ADDRESS**

The principal place of business for this corporation shall be:

101 East Union Street, Suite 301 Jacksonville, FL 32202

# SECRETARY OF STAT

#### ARTICLE THREE – PURPOSE

The specific purpose for which the corporation is organized is:

The general purpose of this Corporation shall be to maintain and support the ministry of the African Methodist Episcopal Church; including, for such purposes, the making of distributions to organizations that qualify as exempt organizations under section (501)(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1954 (or the corresponding provision of any future United States Internal Revenue Law), and further, to foster religious exercises, and promote the growth and efficiency of the general church and its membership as provided and directed in the bylaws of the Corporation and according to the most current edition of the "Book of Discipline" of the African Methodist Episcopal Church. To accomplish the general purpose of this Corporation, it shall have the power to purchase, take, receive, lease, take by gift, devise or bequest or otherwise acquire, own, hold, improve, use or otherwise deal in and with real or personal property, or any interest therein, wherever situated.

The Corporation is organized exclusively for charitable, educational, religious, or scientific purposes within the meaning of Section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code.

#### ARTICLE FOUR - DURATION

The Corporation shall have perpetual existence.

#### ARTICLE FIVE - MEMBERSHIP

The membership of this Corporation shall be composed of all Traveling Elders, Deacons, and Licentiates and all Local Elders and Local deacons, President of the Annual Conference Lay Organization, Conference President of the Missionary Society, Conference Director of Christian Education, the Young People's Division Director, together with one lay member from each charge within its bounds as set forth in the most current edition of the "Book of Discipline" of the African Methodist Episcopal Church.

The local churches included in the boundaries of the East Annual Conference are as follows:

Greater New Bethel A.M.E. Church PO Box 1346 Live Oak, FL 32060

Mt. Olive A.M.E. Church 8216 SE 185th Ave Evinsotn, FL 32633

Atlas A.M.E. Church Gainesville, Florida

New Bethel A.M.E. Church 604 SW 6th Ave Jasper, FL 32052

Bethlehem A.M.E. Church 11193 150th St McAlpin, FL 32062

Allen Chapel A.M.E. Church PO Box 152 Wiliston, FL

Allen Chapel A.M.E. Church 10 SE Martin Luther King High Springs, FL 32655

St. Paul A.M.E.Church 6910 New Kings Road Jacksonville, FL 32219 New Bethel A.M.E. Church 1231 Tyler Street Jacksonville, FL 32209

Mother Midway A.M.E. Church 1456 Van Buren Street Jacksonville, FL 32206

Greater New Hope A.M.E. Church 2708 Davis Street Jacksonville, FL 32209

Mt. Pisgah A.M.E. Church 345 Washington Street Lake City, FL 32055

St. Matthew A.M.E. Church 880 Melson Avenue Jacksonville, FL 32254

Mt. Olive A.M.E. Church 841 Franklin Street Jacksonville, FL 32206

New Fountain Chapel A.M.E. Church 737 Jessie Street Jacksonville, FL 32205

Mt. Pisgah A.M.E. Church U.S. #3101 South P.O. Box 854 Starke, FL 32091 Allen Chapel A.M.E. Church 283 McIver Avenue Jacksonville, Florida

St. James A.M.E. Church 1539 East 27<sup>th</sup> Street Jacksonville, FL 32206

Bethel A.M.E. Church P.O. Box 463 Lawtey, FL 32058

Greater Allen A.M.E. Church 746 Pine Street Starke, FL 32091

Union A.M.E. Church Route 1, Box 257 CH Lake City, FL 32024

Mt. Tabor A.M.E. Church P.O. Box 1082/US 341 Lake City, FL 32024

Mt. Zion A.M.E. Church P.O. Box 704 Lake City, FL 32056

Mt. Sinai A.M.E. Church P.O. Box 715 Lake Butler, FL 32054

St. James A.M.E. Church P.O. Box 715 Lake Butler, FL 32054

New Bethel A.M.E. Church – Spring Glen 5031 Hall Drive Jacksonville, FL 32207

Hope Henry A.M.E. Church Route 22, Box 22565 Lake City, FL 32055

Macedonia A.M.E. Church P.O. Box 23 Fort White, FL 32038 St. Stephen A.M.E. Church 913 W. 5<sup>th</sup> Street Jacksonville, FL 32209

Wayman Chapel A.M.E. Church 8855 Sanchez Road Jacksonville, FL 32217

St. Paul A.M.E. Church 85 M.L. King Jr. Avenue St. Augustine, FL 32085

First A.M.E. Church 91 Old Kings Road, N. Palm Coast, FL 32135

Bethel A.M.E. Church 115 N. 8<sup>th</sup> Street Palatka, FL 32177

St. Luke A.M.E. Church 694 Pearl Street St. Augustine, FL 32085

Mt. Zion A.M.E. Church P.O. Box 82 East Palatka, FL 32131

New Bethel A.M.E. Church 154 Noth Boundary Road San Mateo, FL 32187

Philip R. Cousin A.M.E. Church 2601 Orange Pickers Road Jacksonville, FL 32223

St. James A.M.E. Church 504 McIntosh Avenue Orange Park, FL 32073

Mt. Zion A.M.E. Church 549 Palmetto Avenue Green Cove Springs, FL 32053

Union Bethel A.M.E. Church 200 Cedar Street Cresent City, FL 32112 New Bethel A.M.E. Church 203 George Street Interlachen, FL 32148

Pleasant Grove P.O. Box 0565 Georgetown, FL 32139

Payne Chapel A.M.E. Church 600 Putnam County Road Route 1, Box 188 East Palatka, FL 32131

New Hope A.M.E. Church 551 School St Bronson, FL 32621

Fort Union A.M.E. Church 2296 145th Rd Live Oak, FL 32060

St. James A.M.E. Church 345 SW 4th Ave Chiefland, FL

Bethel A.M.E. Church 604 NW 4th Ave Trenton, FL 32696

Mt. Olive A.M.E. Church 810 Ada St Live Oak, FL 32060

Bethel A.M.E. Church 25230 Nw 3rd Ave Newberry, FL 32699

New Bethel A.M.E. Church PO Box 770 White Springs, FL 32096

Bethel A.M.E. Church (Belleville) 90 NW 26th Ave Jennings, FL 32053

New Zion A.M.E. Church (Raleigh) 1829 NE 74th St Williston, FL 32696 Allen Chapel A.M.E. Church PO Box 278 Live Oak, FL 32064

Elizabeth A.M.E. Church 147 Berry St Jennings, FL 32053

St. James A.M.E. Church 89th Rd Live Oak, FL 32060

Greater Grant Memorial 5533 Gilchrist Rd Jacksonville, FL 32219

Historic Mt. Zion A.M.E. Church 201 E Beaver St Jacksonville, FL 32202

Greater Payne A.M.E. Church 1230 E 23rd St Jacksonville, FL 32206

Church of the Master A.M.E. Church 5637 Vernon Rd Jacksonville, FL 32209

Mt Zion A.M.E. Church (Southside) 3811 St.Augustine Rd Jacksonville, FL 32207

Roberts Mt. Pisgah A.M.E. Church 1915 Jordan Rd Atlantic Beach, FL 32222

Mt. Moriah A.M.E. Church 99 Oak St Jacksonville, FL 32204

New St. James A.M.E. Church 2128 Forest St Jacksonville, FL 32204

Macedonia A.M.E. Church 202 S 9th St Fernandina Beach, FL 32035 St. Andrew A.M.E. Church 125 S 9th St Jacksonville, FL 32205

Union Community A.M.E. Church 1155 W Beaver St Jacksonville, FL 32204

New Bethel A.M.E. Church PO Box 699 Callahan, FL 32011

Lewis Memorial A.M.E. Church 2123 Talladega Rd Jacksonville, FL 32209

New Bethel A.M.E. Church 9864 New Berlin Rd Jacksonville, FL 32226

Allen Chapel A.M.E. Church 283 McIver Ave McClenny, FL 32063

Collins Chapel A.M.E. Church 465 W Hwy 90 Jacksonville, FL 32234

Greggs Temple A.M.E. Church 1510 W 45th St Jacksonville, FL 32208

Henry Gordon A.M.E. Church 7951 Derkle Ave Jacksonville, FL 32219

St. Paul A.M.E. Church 1410 Pearl St Mayport, FL 32333

Prince Chapel A.M.E. Church 3701 Hendricks Rd Nassauville, FL 32034

Greater Bethel A.M.E. Church 701 SE 43rd St Gainesville, FL 43641 Ebenezer A.M.E. Church 411 Parshley Live Oak, FL 32060

Allen Chapel A.M.E. Church State Road 10 Wellborn, FL 32094

Mt. Zion A.M.E. Church P.O. Box 5774 Gainesville, FL 32602

Mt. Pleasant-Marion Circuit 7596 SW County Road 158 Jasper, FL 32052

Bethel A.M.E. Church 21400 NW 58<sup>th</sup> Terr Lacrosse, FL 32607

St. Luke A.M.E. Church 14912 M.L King Jr. Blvd. Alachua, FL 32615

Mt. Pisgah A.M.E. Church P.O. Box 590 Archer, FL 32618

St. Paul A.M.E. Church 195 NW Terrance Gainesville, FL 32604

St. Luke A.M.E. Church 5619 SW 63<sup>rd</sup> Blvd. Gainesville, FL 32608

Mt. Zion A.M.E. Church (Padlock) 10569 122<sup>nd</sup> Street Live Oak, FL 32060

Ward Chapel (Micanopy) 402 NW Eestalustee Ave. Micanopy, FL 32667

Mt. Olive A.M.E. Church 721 SE 8th St Gainesville, FL 32601 Mt. Olive A.M.E. Church (Williston) 1591 NW 50<sup>th</sup> Street Williston, FL 32696 St. James A.M.E. Church PO Box 21 Walaka, FL 32093

Hurst Chapel A.M.E. Church 28 1/2 Bernard St St. Augustine, FL 3208

#### <u>ARTICLE SIX – SUBSCRIBERS</u>

The names and the addresses of the subscribers to these Articles of Incorporation are as follows:

<u>Name</u>	Address
Bishop McKinley Young	101 E. Union Street, Ste. 301 Jacksonville, FL 32202
Presiding Elder Joseph Sanchez	2986 Shorewood Avenue Orange Park, FL 32073
Presiding Elder Robert Mitchell	2787 Percy Road Jacksonville, FL 32218
Presiding Elder Oscar C. Williams	115 Dusty House Road Quincy, FL 32351
Presiding Elder D.A. Anderson	1760 Daytona Lane Jacksonville, FL 32218

#### <u>ARTICLE SEVEN – MANAGEMENT</u>

The affairs of the Corporation are to be managed by a Board of Trustees, which shall have as its Presiding Officer, a Chairman of the Board who shall be the Presiding Bishop of the 11<sup>th</sup> Episcopal District of the African Methodist Episcopal Church. Other officers shall be appointed or selected in accordance with provisions of the most current edition of the "Book of Discipline". At it's annual regular meeting as prescribed in the A.M.E. Church "Book of Discipline" on a date as set by the Chairman of the Board of Trustees, the membership shall meet for the purpose of selecting new trustees.

No part of the net earnings of the corporation shall inure to the benefit of, or be distributable to its members, trustees, officers, or other private persons, except that the corporation shall be authorized and empowered to pay reasonable compensation for services rendered and to make payments and distributions in furtherance of the purposes set forth in Article 3 hereof. 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 publishing or

distribution of statements) any political campaign on behalf of any candidates for public office.

Notwithstanding any other provision of these articles, the corporation shall not carry on any other activities not permitted to be carried on by a corporation exempt from Federal Income Tax under section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1954 (or the corresponding provision of any future United States Internal Revenue Law).

#### ARTICLE EIGHT- MANAGEMENT OF CORPORATE AFFAIRS

The Board of Directors that may also be referred to as a Board of Trustees shall include the following officers: Chairman, First Vice Chair, Second Vice Chair, Secretary and Treasurer, and such other officers as the by-laws of this corporation may authorize. The powers of this corporation shall be exercised, its properties controlled and its affairs conducted by the Board of Directors/Trustees consisting of not less than three (3) persons.

No person shall be selected as a Director or Trustee who is not at lease eighteen (18) years of age and who has not been a member of the church for six (6) months preceding his selection. The manner of selection shall be as provided in the bylaws of the Corporation and in conformity with the most current edition of the "Book of Discipline" of the African Methodist Episcopal Church.

#### ARTICLE NINE - OFFICERS

The names and addresses of the persons who are to serve as officers of the Board of Corporation until others are selected are as follows:

Chairman/Director: Bishop McKinley Young 101 E. Union Street, Ste. 301

Jacksonville, FL 32202

Director: Presiding Elder Joseph Sanchez 2986 Shorewood Avenue

Orange Park, FL 32073

Director: Presiding Elder Robert Mitchell 2787 Percy Road

Jacksonville, FL 32218

Director: Presiding Elder Oscar C. Williams 115 Dusty House Road

Quincy, FL 32351

Director: Presiding Elder D.A. Anderson 1760 Daytona Lane

Jacksonville, FL 32218

#### <u>ARTICLE TEN – REGISTERED AGENT AND OFFICE</u>

Pursuant to the provisions of Section 607.0501 or 617.0501, Florida Statutes, the undersigned corporation, organized under the laws of the State of Florida, submits the following statement in designating the registered agent, in the State of Florida.

1. The name of the corporation is:

The East Annual Conference of the African Methodist Episcopal Church, Inc.

2. The name and address of the registered agent and office is

Bishop McKinley Young 101 East Union Street Suite 301 Jacksonville, Florida 32202

Having been named as registered agent and to accept service of process for the above stated corporation at the place designated in this certificate, I hereby accept the appointment as registered agent and agree to act in this capacity. I further agree to comply with the provision of all statutes relating to the proper and complete performance of my duties and I am familiar with and accept the obligation of my position as registered agent.

BISHOP MCKINLEY YOUNG

ARTICLE ELEVEN – BYLAWS

Bylaws of the Corporation may be made, altered, or rescinded by the members of the corporation at any regular meeting with a majority of the membership present, but said bylaws shall be in conformity with the most current edition of the "Book of Discipline" of the African Methodist Episcopal Church. There shall be a minimum of one regular meeting of the membership per year as provided in the Book of Discipline of the African Methodist Episcopal Church. Provision for additional regular meetings or special meetings may be made in the bylaws of the Corporation and shall be in conformity with the most current edition of the "Book of Discipline" of the African Methodist Episcopal Church.

#### **ARTICLE TWELVE - AMENDMENTS**

Amendments to these Articles of Incorporation may be proposed and adopted by the members of the corporation at any meeting called pursuant to Article 11.

#### ARTICLE THIRTEEN – CORPORATE SEAL

All legal instruments of the Corporation shall be signed by the Chairman of the Board of Trustees, or his designee, sealed with a corporate seal and attested to by the Secretary of the Board of Trustees or in such other manner as may be authorized by Florida laws applicable to corporation not for profit.

#### <u>ARTICLE FOURTEEN – DISSOLUTION</u>

In the event of dissolution, the residual assets of the Corporation will be turned over to another Annual Conference of the African Methodist Episcopal Church, for disposition as provided in the most current edition of the "Book of Discipline" of the African Methodist Episcopal Church. The alternative and in accordance with the provisions of the most current edition of the "Book of Discipline" of the African Methodist Episcopal Church, upon the dissolution of the Corporation, the Board of Trustees shall, after paying or making provision for the payment of all of the liabilities of the Corporation, shall distribute assets for one or more exempt purposes within the meaning of Section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code, or the corresponding section of any future federal tax code, or shall be distributed to the federal government, or to a state or local government, for a public purpose. Any such assets not so disposed of shall be disposed of by the Court of Competent Jurisdiction of the county in which the principal office of the corporation is then located, exclusively for such purposes or to such organization or organizations, as said court shall determine, which are organized and operated exclusively for such purpose.

The undersigned subscriber has executed these Articles of Incorporation this day of July, 2005.

Bishor Mckinley Young

Presiding Elder Joseph Sanchez

Presiding Elder Oscar C. Williams

Presiding Elder D.A. Anderson

Présiding Elder Robert Mitchell