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### **COVER LETTER**

TO: Amendment Section Division of Corporations

Tallahassee, FL 32314

NAME OF CORPORATION: <u>PENTACO</u>	STAL TEI	MPLE CHURCH OF GOD
DOCUMENT NUMBER: 728826		
The enclosed Articles of Amendment and fee are subm	nitted for filing.	
Please return all correspondence concerning this matter	r to the following:	
RHONDA ANDERSON		
(Name	e of Contact Perso	on)
PENTACOSTAL TEMPLE C	HURCH OF	F GOD IN CHRIST, INC
2230 22 nd STREET S	SOUTH	
JAJO MA DIMELI	(Address)	
ST PETERSBURG, FL	33714	2
(City/	State and Zip Coo	de)
GODSLADY & - E-mail address: (to be used	TAMPAB4 for future annual	9 Y. RR. LOM report notification)
For further information concerning this matter, please of	call:	
RHONDA ANDERSON (Name of Contact Person)		7 642-0210 Area Code & Daytime Telephone Number)
Enclosed is a check for the following amount made pay	,	•
□ \$35 Filing Fee □\$43.75 Filing Fee & □ Certificate of Status	□\$43.75 Filing For Certified Copy (Additional copy enclosed)	Certificate of Status
Mailing Address Amendment Section Division of Corporations P.O. Box 6327	Ī	Street Address Amendment Section Division of Corporations Clifton Building

2661 Executive Center Circle Tallahassee, FL 32301

# AMENDED <u>ARTICLES OF INCORPORATION</u>

346/5 #HI. 6

**OF** 

PENTACOSTAL TEMPLE CHURCH OF GOD IN CHRIST, INC.

We, the undersigned officers of the already formed Corporation for religious, charitable, and philanthropic purposes, under the provisions of chapter 617 of the Florida Statutes, the same being the incorporation of their church, do agree to the following:

#### ARTICLE I

#### NAME

The name of this Corporation, PENTACOSTAL TEMPLE CHURCH OF GOD IN CHRIST, INC., is being amended to correct the spelling to PENTECOSTAL TEMPLE CHURCH OF GOD IN CHRIST, INC. Hereinafter, this Corporation shall be known as PENTECOSTAL TEMPLE CHURCH OF GOD IN CHRIST, INC.

# ARTICLE II PURPOSE

The general nature of the objectives and purposes of the Corporation shall be:

To provide the means, facilities, services, and all other things necessary for the carrying on of the worship of God by the members of this church.

To hold in trust for the use and benefit of said church all the real estate and personal property of said church where ever located or situated.

To engage in all activities to further the worship of God and the purposes of this church.

# ARTICLE III POWERS

Section I. This Corporation is to have any and all power to do any and all things necessary or expedient to carry out the purposes of this corporation as may be determined by the Board of Trustees of this Corporation, subject to the Bylaws, and to possess all rights, privileges and immunities, and to enjoy all of the benefits granted corporations under the laws of the State of Florida.

Section II. 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 II 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 candidate 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 (a) 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) or (b) by a corporation, contribution to which are deductible under Section 170(c)(2) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1964 or (the corresponding provision of any future United States Internal Revenue Law).

# ARTICLE IV NONPROFIT STATUS

No part of the net earnings of the Corporation shall inure to the benefit of any individual or member. Upon the dissolution of the Corporation, the Board of Trustees shall, after paying or making provisions for the payment of all of the liabilities of the Corporation, dispose of all of the assets of the Corporation exclusively for charitable, educational, religious, or scientific purposes as shall, at the time, qualify as an exempt organization or 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), as the Board of Trustees shall determine. Any of such assets not so disposed of shall be disposed of by the Court of Common Pleas 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 purposes.

#### ARTICLE V

#### **QUALIFICATION OF MEMBERS**

The membership of this Corporation shall constitute all persons hereinafter named as subscribers and such other persons as, from time to time hereafter, may become members, in the manner provided in the Bylaws.

## ARTICLE VI TERM OF EXISTENCE

This Corporation is to exist perpetually.

#### ARTICLE VII

### **SUBSCRIBERS**

The names and residences of the subscribers to these Articles are:

William E. Anderson, Sr. 4327 Cortez Way South

St. Petersburg, Florida 33712

Nancy C. Holcombe 2526 Irondale Street South

St. Petersburg, Florida 33705

Eula J. Smith 1417 28th Avenue South

St. Petersburg, Florida 33705

Keith N. Ash, Sr. 2325 16th Avenue South

St. Petersburg, Florida 33712

Lillie Bell McFarley 200 46th Street South

St. Petersburg, Florida 33711

#### ARTICLE VIII

#### **OFFICERS**

Section I. The officers of the Corporation shall be a Chairman, such number of Assistant Chairman as deemed necessary, a Secretary, a Treasurer, and such other officers as may be provided for in the Bylaws.

Section II. The names of the persons who are to serve as officers of the Corporation until reestablished by the Board of Trustees are:

<u>OFFICE</u> <u>NAME</u>

President/Chairman William E. Anderson, Sr.

1st Assistant Chairman Keith N. Ash, Sr.

2nd Assistant Chairman Nancy C. Holcombe

Secretary/Administrator Rhonda E. Anderson

Treasurer Eula J. Smith

Section III. Officers shall be elected or replaced by appointment at the annual General Business Meeting of the Corporation as provided in the Bylaws.

# ARTICLE IX BOARD OF TRUSTEES

Section I. The affairs of this Corporation shall be managed by the Board of Trustees. This Corporation shall have seven (7) Trustees initially. The number of Trustees may be increased or decreased from time to time, according to the Bylaws, but shall never be less than three (3).

Section II. The Board of Trustees shall be members of the Corporation.

Section III. Members of the Board of Trustees shall be elected or appointed and hold office for an indefinite period or until such time as a replacement is needed or the Board member's election or appointment is rescinded.

Section IV. Members of the Board of Trustees can be replaced for medical reasons, member relocation, lack of support of the Corporation, or for inappropriate conduct that is not in agreement with the nature of the objectives and purposes of the Corporation.

Section V. The names and addresses of the persons who are to serve as Trustees until changed according to the Bylaws are:

William E. Anderson, Sr. 4327 Cortez Way South

St. Petersburg, Florida 33712

Nancy C. Holcombe 2526 Irondale Street South

St. Petersburg, Florida 33705

Keith N. Ash, Sr. 2325 16th Avenue South

St. Petersburg, Florida 33712

Eula J. Smith 1417 28th Avenue South

St. Petersburg, Florida 33705

Lillie Bell McFarley 200 46th Street South

St. Petersburg, Florida 33711

Jo Turner Mitchell 4354 16th Avenue South

St. Petersburg, FL 33711

Charles Leroy Johnson, Jr. 1809 Lakewood Drive South

St. Petersburg, FL 33712

### ARTICLE X

### **BYLAWS**

Section 1. The Board of Trustees of this Corporation may provide such Bylaws for the conduct of its business and the carrying out of its purposes as they may deem necessary from time to time.

Section II. Upon proper notice, the Bylaws may be amended, altered, or rescinded by a majority vote of those members of the Board of Trustees present at any regular meeting or any special meeting called for that purpose.

#### ARTICLE XI

#### <u>AMEND</u>MENTS

Section I. These Articles of Incorporation may be amended at a special meeting of the Board of Trustees called for that purpose, by a majority vote of those present.

Section II. Amendments may also be made at regular meetings of the Board of Trustees upon notice given, as provided in the Bylaws, of intention to submit such amendments.

#### ARTICLE XII

#### LOCATION

The location of this Corporation is 2230 22nd Street South, St. Petersburg, Pinellas County, Florida, or as determined by the Board of Trustees.

#### ARTICLE XIII

#### **BOARD OF TRUSTEES MEETINGS**

Section I. The annual meeting for the Board of Trustees shall be held in person on the first Wednesday in September each year at 7:00 o'clock p.m. Place to be agreed upon by the members. Meetings can be held by Zoom media as agreed upon by a majority vote of the Trustee Board Members.

- Section II. The Corporation may provide in its Bylaws for the holding of additional regular Board of Trustees meetings and any special meetings, as needed, and shall provide notice of all such meetings to all Board of Trustees members.
- Section III. A majority of the Board of Trustees members, whether in person or who are absent because of medical reasons or other extenuating circumstances, and who join the meeting by a previously determined alternative such as telephone call on designated conference speaker line or by social media communication as approved by the remaining Board of Trustees members, all constitute a quorum for the holding of any meetings. Arrangement must be made prior to the meeting date and time by the member in need of the accommodation.
- Section IV. Absent members, who are approved for voting, may cast their vote by a sealed written or typed notice with signature, telephone call on designated conference speaker line during the meeting, or social media communication as approved by the remaining Board of Trustees members prior to the meeting date and time.

  Arrangement must be made by the member in need of the accommodation.
- Section V. The Church Administrator shall be allowed to attend Board of Trustees meetings for informational purposes of church business, but shall have no voting privileges.

#### ARTICLE XIV

#### **GENERAL BUSINESS MEETINGS**

- Section I. General Business Meetings for the Corporation members shall be held quarterly on the second Wednesday of January, April, July, and October of each year at 7:30 o'clock p. m.
- Section II. General Business Meetings shall be publicized in writing and/or by public announcement at least two weeks prior to the meeting date. All members of the Corporation shall be eligible for attendance.
- Section III. General Business Meetings shall be held in person at the location of the Corporation. Members of the Corporation in good standing with extenuating circumstances shall be allowed to attend by a designated conference speaker telephone line or other social media communication as agreed upon by the Board of Trustees. Request must be made prior to meeting date by the member in need of such accommodations.

- Section IV. Record of those in attendance shall be taken by Roll Call or whatever means agreed upon by the Corporation Leadership or Board of Trustees.
- Section V. Appointments of Department and Auxiliary Leaders shall be made or renewed at the last General Business Meeting of the Corporation for the current year to begin or continue leadership service in the upcoming year.

  Department and Auxiliary Leaders shall serve for two years and can be reappointed at the discretion of the Corporation's Chief Executive Officer, also known as the Senior Pastor.
- Section VI. Only members who are in good standing as determined by the Bylaws shall be allowed voting privileges.
- Section VII. The adoption of set rules or decisions of the General Church Business Meetings shall be determined by a two-thirds majority vote of those present at the meeting or present by a prearranged method of social media.

# ARTICLE XV GENERAL CHURCH MEMBERSHIP

- Section I. PENTECOSTAL TEMPLE CHURCH OF GOD IN CHRIST shall receive members into the fellowship on the profession of the seeker's faith, by transfer from some other church, by Christian experience, or by "watchcare". Seekers can make their desire for membership known by responding when the invitation is given at any church service or by speaking with one of the leadership team members.
- Section II. New members shall receive a Membership Handbook and must attend a New Member's Class on the given date established by the Leadership Team.
- Section III. Members in good standing are those who regularly attend the church services of this Corporation in person or by social media.
- Section IV. Members in good standing must give spiritual support to the ministry activities of this Corporation, including, but not limited to, attendance to the educational Classes and training sessions, and must support the community activities that promote the mission of this Corporation.
- Section V. Members in good standing are financial supporters of the Corporation's objectives and purposes through the consistent giving of financial support.

- Section VI. Members in good standing are entitled to certain membership benefits as noted in the Member's Handbook produced by this Corporation, and provided to each member and those who will become members.
- Section VII. Members who are absent and unsupportive of the Corporation's objectives and purposes for six (6) months or more will be placed on inactive status and will not be eligible for membership benefits.
- Section VIII. Members on inactive status may be reinstated after making their intentions known to any of the members of the Board of Trustees and actively reapplying themselves by attendance, financial support, and support of the Corporation's activities for a six-month probationary period.
- Section IX. Probationary members shall not be eligible for membership benefits until reinstatement after the six-month probationary period as agreed upon by the Board of Trustees of the Corporation.
- Section X. Membership attendance of returning members shall be observed and noted by the Department Heads and/or Auxiliary Leaders and members of the Board of Trustees.
- Section XI. An occasional financial contribution to the Corporation without attendance in person or involvement in the activities of the Corporation does not qualify a person for a member in good standing membership status or benefits as noted in these Bylaws except as approved by the Board of Trustees.
- Section XII. The Member's Handbook shall be updated periodically as necessary to reflect additions and changes and shall be distributed to each member as noted in these Articles and Bylaws.

#### ARTICLE XVI

### CORPORATION/CHURCH LEADERSHIP TEAM

- Section I. The Church Leadership Team shall consist of the Pastor and Ministerial Staff,
  Department Heads, Board Leaders, Auxiliary Leaders, Presidents, Committee
  Chairpersons, and shall include the Church Administrator and all officials over
  any specific work or ministry of the church.
- Section II. Meetings of the Church Leadership Team can be established at any time when necessary for the discussion of church business or planning of church events.

- Section III. A Church Leadership Team meeting can be called by any member of the Team after receiving the approval of the Pastor.
- Section IV. The Church Leadership Team members shall be notified of the meeting date, time, and place within a reasonable time for members to be available and for the business-at-hand to be transacted.
- Section V. Decisions of the Church Leadership Team shall be accepted by a two-thirds majority vote of those present at the meeting or by social media.
- Section VI. Vacancies of Department Heads, Board Leaders, Auxiliary Leaders, and Presidents shall be appointed by the Pastor and shall remain in office until such time that it becomes necessary to reappoint a successor for that office.
- Section VII. Committee Chairpersons and officials over any specific work or ministry of the Church shall be determined by the members of that specific work or ministry.

# ARTICLE XVII RESOLUTION ON SAME-SEX MARRIAGE

WHEREAS, Genesis 1:27 defines the institution of marriage as the union of one man and one woman:

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the following statements shall serve as the position of PENTECOSTAL TEMPLE CHURCH OF GOD IN CHRIST, this Corporation, regarding same-sex marriage: The times dictate that we state our position amid the changing winds that have modified the norms of our nation. In light of this moral shift, we confidently stand on the authority of Scripture from the King James Version to validate the definition of marriage. Although marriage, in a civil context, is recognized by legal authorities, we hold that God established rules governing marriage long before governments began regulating the institution. As such, this sacred, God-ordained institution is to be a life-long, sexually excusive relationship and divine covenant between one man from birth and one woman from birth.

WHEREAS, PENTECOSTAL TEMPLE CHURCH OF GOD IN CHRIST believes the Bible to be the inspired and only infallible written Word of God; and Genesis 2:24 tells us: "Therefore shall a man leave his father and mother, and shall cleave unto his wife: and they shall be one flesh." The Hebrew word "wife" connotes one who is a female human being from birth designed with the capacity to bear young or produce eggs. Jesus confirmed that those yoked together in marriage should be "male and female" (Matthew 19:4).

THEREFORE. God intended marriage to be a permanent and intimate bond between a man from birth and a woman from birth. The Hebrew word "ish" for man describes a male, a husband, and connotes the sex with the capacity to produce sperm which fertilizes the eggs of a female. Men and women are designed to complement each other and satisfy each other's needs. PENTECOSTAL TEMPLE CHURCH OF GOD IN CHRIST holds the institution of marriage in the highest regard and strongly opposes any legal sanction of marriage outside of its biblical context. Therefore, deviations from that context, such as the legalization of "samesex marriage" cannot be supported by Pentecostal Temple Church Of God In Christ as a matter of biblical principle as we hold the Word of God as our standard for faith and practice. We therefore unequivocally affirm that marriage is a covenant relationship between a man from birth and a woman from birth and reject all attempts to redefine marriage in terms of same-sex unions. By this statement of our position on same-sex marriage, we, PENTECOSTAL TEMPLE CHURCH OF GOD IN CHRIST, neither intend to defame or disparage any group of individuals nor are we moved by personal hatred. Our only intent is the defense of biblical marriage. We embrace Jesus' command to love our neighbor and reject the notion that love requires the affirmation of that which is in conflict with our biblical perspective. We hold that there is no contradiction between Christian compassion and a call for biblical obedience and holy living.

BE IT ALSO RESOLVED, that any lifestyle contrary to the Word of God as already stated in this Resolution will not be tolerated.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that PENTECOSTAL TEMPLE CHURCH OF GOD IN CHRIST condemns acts of violence against and the subjugation of any person to verbal or physical harassment on the basis of their sexual practice. Such action violates the Christian's obligation to love our neighbor as we love ourselves.

BE IT FINALLY RESOLVED, that credential holders within PENTECOSTAL TEMPLE CHURCH OF GOD IN CHRIST, in obedience to God's command, will neither perform same-sex marriages, nor bless or condone such a union. Our church properties will not be leased, rented, or loaned for any purpose related to such a union.

Done on this	day of	. 20	1
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### ARTICLE XVIII

### **RESIDENT AGENT**

This Corporation shall have and name a resident agent for service of process at the annual meeting of the Corporation. The name and address of the person who will serve as resident agent is as follows:

William E. Anderson, Sr.

4327 Cortez Way South

St. Petersburg, Florida 33712

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, we, the undersigned subscribing incorporators, have hereunto set our hands and seals, this 8th day of AUGUST  $_{\cdot}$ , 20  $_{\cdot}$  23  $_{\cdot}$ , for the purpose of amending the Articles of Incorporation and Bylaws of this Corporation not for profit under the laws of the State of Florida. 4327 Cortez Way South St. Petersburg, Florida 33712 2526 Irondale Street South St. Petersburg, Florida 33705 2325 16th Avenue South St. Petersburg, Florida 33712 1417 28th Avenue South St. Petersburg, Florida 33705 200 46th Street South St. Petersburg, Florida 33711 4354 16th Avenue South St. Petersburg, Florida 33711 1809 Lakewood Drive South

St. Petersburg, Florida 33712

STATE OF FLORIDA ) )SS COUNTY OF PINELLAS)

BEFORE ME, a Notary Public duly authorized in the State and County named above to take acknowledgements, personally appeared WILLIAM E. ANDERSON, SR., NANCY C. HOLCOMBE, KEITH N. ASH, SR., EULA J. SMITH, LILLIE BELL McFARLEY, JO TURNER MITCHELL, and CHARLES L. JOHNSON, JR., to me known, by proper identification, to be the persons described as Subscribers in and who executed the foregoing Amended Articles of Incorporation and Bylaws, and they acknowledged before me that they executed and subscribed to these Amended Articles of Incorporation and Bylaws.

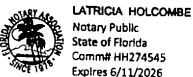
WITNESS MY HAND and official seal in the County and State named above this

gth

day of

August

. 20 23



My Commission Expires: