

741746

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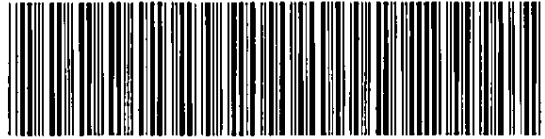
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COVER LETTER

TO: Amendment Section
Division of Corporations

NAME OF CORPORATION: True Vine Missionary Baptist Church, Inc.

DOCUMENT NUMBER: 741746

The enclosed *Articles of Amendment* and fee are submitted for filing.

Please return all correspondence concerning this matter to the following:

Charles K. Mitchell

(Name of Contact Person)

True Vine Missionary Baptist Church, Inc.

(Firm/ Company)

8820 NW 20th Avenue

(Address)

Miami, Florida 33147

(City/ State and Zip Code)

info@truevinembc.net

E-mail address: (to be used for future annual report notification)

For further information concerning this matter, please call:

Charles K. Mitchell

305

389-9839

at

(Name of Contact Person)

(Area Code)

(Daytime Telephone Number)

Enclosed is a check for the following amount made payable to the Florida Department of State:

- | | | | |
|--|--|--|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> \$35 Filing Fee | <input type="checkbox"/> \$43.75 Filing Fee &
Certificate of Status | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> \$43.75 Filing Fee &
Certified Copy
(Additional copy is
enclosed) | <input type="checkbox"/> \$52.50 Filing Fee
Certificate of Status
Certified Copy
(Additional Copy is
Enclosed) |
|--|--|--|--|

Mailing Address
Amendment Section
Division of Corporations
P.O. Box 6327
Tallahassee, FL 32314

Street Address
Amendment Section
Division of Corporations
The Centre of Tallahassee
2415 N. Monroe Street, Suite 810
Tallahassee, FL 32303

Articles of Amendment
to
Articles of Incorporation
of

True Vine Missionary Baptist Church, Inc.

(Name of Corporation as currently filed with the Florida Dept. of State)

741746

(Document Number of Corporation (if known))

Pursuant to the provisions of section 617.1006, Florida Statutes, this *Florida Not For Profit Corporation* adopts the following amendment(s) to its Articles of Incorporation:

A. If amending name, enter the new name of the corporation:

The new name must be distinguishable and contain the word "corporation" or "incorporated" or the abbreviation "Corp." or "Inc." "Company" or "Co." may not be used in the name.

B. Enter new principal office address, if applicable:

*(Principal office address **MUST BE A STREET ADDRESS**)*

C. Enter new mailing address, if applicable:

*(Mailing address **MAY BE A POST OFFICE BOX**)*

D. If amending the registered agent and/or registered office address in Florida, enter the name of the new registered agent and/or the new registered office address:

Name of New Registered Agent: _____

(Florida street address)

New Registered Office Address:

_____, Florida
(City) (Zip Code)

New Registered Agent's Signature, if changing Registered Agent:

I hereby accept the appointment as registered agent. I am familiar with and accept the obligations of the position.

Signature of New Registered Agent, if changing

If amending the Officers and/or Directors, enter the title and name of each officer/director being removed and title, name, and address of each Officer and/or Director being added:

(Attach additional sheets, if necessary)

Please note the officer/director title by the first letter of the office title:

P = President; V= Vice President; T= Treasurer; S= Secretary; D= Director; TR= Trustee; C = Chairman or Clerk; CEO = Chief Executive Officer; CFO = Chief Financial Officer. If an officer/director holds more than one title, list the first letter of each office held. President, Treasurer, Director would be PTD.

Changes should be noted in the following manner. Currently John Doe is listed as the PST and Mike Jones is listed as the V. There is a change, Mike Jones leaves the corporation, Sally Smith is named the V and S. These should be noted as John Doe, PT as a Change, Mike Jones, V as Remove, and Sally Smith, SV as an Add.

Example:

<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Change	<u>PT</u>	<u>John Doe</u>
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Remove	<u>V</u>	<u>Mike Jones</u>
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Add	<u>SV</u>	<u>Sally Smith</u>

<u>Type of Action</u> (Check One)	<u>Title</u>	<u>Name</u>	<u>Address</u>
1) <input type="checkbox"/> Change <input type="checkbox"/> Add <input type="checkbox"/> Remove	_____	_____	_____ _____ _____
2) <input type="checkbox"/> Change <input type="checkbox"/> Add <input type="checkbox"/> Remove	_____	_____	_____ _____ _____
3) <input type="checkbox"/> Change <input type="checkbox"/> Add <input type="checkbox"/> Remove	_____	_____	_____ _____ _____
4) <input type="checkbox"/> Change <input type="checkbox"/> Add <input type="checkbox"/> Remove	_____	_____	_____ _____ _____
5) <input type="checkbox"/> Change <input type="checkbox"/> Add <input type="checkbox"/> Remove	_____	_____	_____ _____ _____
6) <input type="checkbox"/> Change <input type="checkbox"/> Add <input type="checkbox"/> Remove	_____	_____	_____ _____ _____

E. If amending or adding additional Articles, enter change(s) here:

(attach additional sheets, if necessary). (Be specific)

Please see the attached.

[illegible]

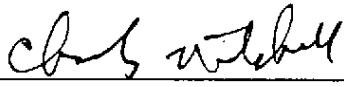
The date of each amendment(s) adoption: November 16, 2023, if other than the date this document was signed.

Note: If the date inserted in this block does not meet the applicable statutory filing requirements, this date will not be listed as the document's effective date on the Department of State's records.

☒ The amendment(s) was/were adopted by the members and the number of votes cast for the amendment(s) was/were sufficient for approval.

- ☐ There are no members or members entitled to vote on the amendment(s). The amendment(s) was/were adopted by the board of directors.

Dated November 7, 2023

Signature 
(By the chairman or vice chairman of the board, president or other officer-if directors have not been selected, by an incorporator – if in the hands of a receiver, trustee, or other court appointed fiduciary by that fiduciary)

Charles K. Mitchell
(Typed or printed name of person signing)

President
(Title of person signing)

11/7/23

**RESTATED ARTICLES OF INCORPORATION OF
TRUE VINE MISSIONARY BAPTIST CHURCH, INCORPORATED**

We, the undersigned, hereby associate ourselves for the purpose of forming, and organizing, and beginning a corporation not for profit under the Laws of the State of Florida and do hereby adopt, declare, and subscribe to the following as the articles of incorporation.

ARTICLE I

The name of this corporation shall be the True Vine Missionary Baptist Church, Incorporated, and it shall be located in the City of Miami, Miami-Dade County, Florida.

ARTICLE II

The purpose and general nature of the object of this Corporation shall be to advance Christianity in the United States and more particularly in the City of Miami, Miami-Dade County, Florida, and to band together for the promotion of the Kingdom of God and to further facilitate the carrying on of the work of said corporation by engaging in the following activities including without limitation:

(a) to provide a meaningful and organized structure and physical facility to accommodate public worship of the Lord Jesus Christ, enabling persons of all races, creeds, and colors to worship together as a body of believers committed to the up-building of the kingdom of God on earth;

(b) to pledge itself in unselfish devotion and loyalty to the principles and doctrines of the Christian Faith as outlined and delineated in the Bible;

(c) to encourage members to be representatives of holiness in their everyday lives and to live lives that reflect the image of Christ by associating together as a body of believers for the purposes of religious worship and for the dissemination of the Gospel of Jesus Christ;

(d) to disseminate the Gospel of Jesus Christ, as set forth in the Holy Scriptures as recorded in the Bible, which we hold to be the inspired, infallible, and unerring Word of God; and

(e) to teach, preach, evangelize, facilitate, and accommodate religious worship, and to promulgate the Gospel of Jesus Christ through all available lawful means, whether through electronic media (television or radio), through written or verbal communication, through

missionary and evangelistic street outreaches to hopeless and despairing individuals of all races, creeds, and colors, or through the development of educational programs at the preschool, elementary school, middle school, high school or graduate school levels.

ARTICLE III

The qualifications for membership and the manner of their admission shall be by the giving of satisfactory proof of conversion to the Christian faith. Said proof shall be by one of the following manners: 1) baptism by immersion in water after having made a confession of faith; and 2) Christian experience whereby they are commended to the fellowship by a letter from their previous church. Notwithstanding anything to the contrary contained therein, members pledge an unselfish devotion and loyalty to the principles of Christian faith and salvation through repentance and belief in the Lord Jesus Christ as Savior and agree to be subject to pastoral leadership as unto Christ.

ARTICLE IV

The principal place of business of the Corporation is at 8820 NW 20th Avenue, Miami, Florida 33147.

ARTICLE V

The name of the registered agent of the Corporation is Charles K. Mitchell, and the address of the registered agent is 8820 NW 20th Avenue, Miami, Florida 33147.

The existence of this Corporation shall be perpetual.

ARTICLE VI

The officers of the Corporation shall be as follows and shall remain until such time that they are either removed from office in accordance with the By-laws of the Corporation, resign or meet their demise: Charles K. Mitchell, President/CEO/Chairman of the Board of Directors; Freddie White, Chairman of Deacons; Melody Smith, Secretary/Church Clerk.

ARTICLE VII

The Corporation is not organized for pecuniary profit. The Corporation shall not have any power to issue certificates of stock or declare dividends, and no part of its net earnings shall inure to the benefit of any member, director, or individual. The balance, if any, of all monies received by the Corporation from its operations, after the payment in full of all debts and obligations of the Corporation, of whatever kind or nature, shall be issued and distributed exclusively for religious purposes at the discretion and direction of the board of directors.

ARTICLE VIII

No substantial part of the activities of the Corporation shall be devoted to the promulgation 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 political office.

ARTICLE IX

The affairs of the Corporation shall be managed by the Board of Directors in accordance with the By-laws of the Corporation. The Board of Directors shall be comprised of the following members:

(a) Pastor - the Pastor shall hold the positions of President of the corporation, Chief Executive Officer, and Chairman of the Board of Directors. In that capacity, the Pastor shall preside over every meeting of the Board of Directors and every meeting of the general membership of the church body and shall work with the other members of the Board of Directors to manage the ongoing affairs of the Corporation;

(b) Deacons - the Deacons shall function as members of the Board of Directors. In that capacity, the Deacons shall work with the Pastor and the Trustees to manage the ongoing affairs of the Corporation. In the absence of the Pastor or in the instance where the pastorate is vacant, the Chairman of Deacons shall assume the responsibilities of the Pastor until such time that the church elects someone to fill that vacancy.

(c) Trustees - the Trustees shall function as members of the Board of Directors. In that capacity, the Trustees shall work with the Pastor and the Deacons to manage the ongoing affairs of the Corporation.

(d) By Such other officers as the Corporation may occasionally see fit to elect or appoint, and such other committees or auxiliaries as may be authorized by the Board of Directors or by the general membership of the church body.

ARTICLE X

All of the officers of the Corporation shall hold office on a continuous basis and in accordance with the By-laws of the Corporation until they have either relinquished their office voluntarily, become deceased, or been removed from their office for cause by the Pastor or Church at large.

ARTICLE XI

The Corporation may adopt a system of rules and By-laws which shall be approved by the members of the Corporation (church) sitting in conference. The By-laws may be changed, altered, modified, revoked or annulled at any time by a majority vote of the members of the Corporation sitting in church conference.

ARTICLE XII

The highest amount of indebtedness or liability to which said corporation shall at any time subject itself to shall be \$2,000,000.00, but shall never be greater than two-thirds of the value of property of the Corporation. All contracts, official documents, deeds, notes, negotiable instruments, mortgages, trusts and all other instruments of indebtedness or conveyances will be made by resolution duly authorized by the Corporation and executed by the President/CEO and Secretary of the Corporation.

ARTICLE XIII

The Corporation shall be entitled to hold real estate of a value not to exceed \$3,000,000.00.

ARTICLE XIV

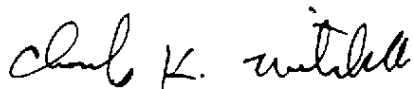
In the event of the dissolution of the Corporation, or in the event the Corporation shall cease to carry out the purposes for which it was incorporated, all the business, property, and assets of the Corporation shall go and be distributed to such non-profit religious corporation(s), as may

be selected by the Board of Directors so that the business, properties, and assets of the Corporation shall then be used for, and devoted to religious purposes. In no way shall any of the assets or property of the Corporation, or the proceeds of any of the assets or property of the Corporation, in the event of dissolution, go to or be distributed to members, either for the reimbursement of any sums subscribed, donated or contributed by such members, or for any other such purpose, it being the intent, in the event of the dissolution of this Corporation, or upon its ceasing to carry out the objects and purposes herein set forth, that the property and assets then owned by the Corporation shall be devoted exclusively to religious purposes.

ARTICLE XV

Amendments to these articles of incorporation may be proposed by the members of this Corporation, by majority vote, at any regular meeting or special meeting called for that purpose, due notice thereof having been given to the membership by announcement at a Sunday church service prior to such church meeting, but may become effective only upon approval thereof by the Secretary of State of the State of Florida according to law.

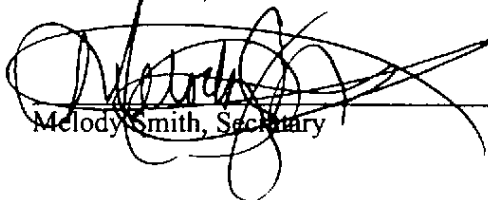
IN WITNESS WHEREOF, the undersigned officers of True Vine Missionary Baptist Church, Incorporated of Miami, Florida, have hereunto subscribed their names as subscribers to the foregoing articles of incorporation.



Charles K. Mitchell, President



Freddie White, Chairman of Deacons



Melody Smith, Secretary

STATE OF FLORIDA)
COUNTY OF MIAMI-DADE)

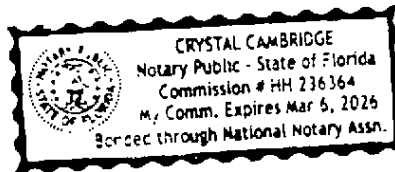
Before me, the undersigned authority, authorized to take acknowledgments in the State and County set forth above, personally appeared Charles K. Mitchell, Freddie White, and Melody Smith, known to be or known to me to be the persons who executed the foregoing Restated Articles of Incorporation of the non-profit corporation known as TRUE VINE MISSIONARY BAPTIST CHURCH, Incorporated, of Miami, Florida, a corporation not for profit, and say that said articles of incorporation are intended in good faith to carry out the purpose and objects set for therein.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and affixed my in the State and County aforesaid, this 16 day of November, 2023

(SEAL)

Crystal Cambridge
Signature - Notary Public, State of Florida

Crystal Cambridge
Print Name - Notary Public, State of Florida



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2023 By-Laws

True Vine Missionary
Baptist Church, Inc.
(BYLAWS)

Rev. Charles R. Mitchell,
Senior Pastor / Teacher



Call to Action:

Too many congregations are having Church without doing Church work. In every community across America, you can find several Church buildings; some new, some old, some large, some small. The Church has been the pillar of society for generations. However, we have entered into an age where the Church has become a place of non-productive routine activity and self-satisfying accomplishments while the community around it is decaying.

Regretfully, we have become great Sunday morning meeting worshipers but are lacking in the areas of discipleship, ministry, and an overall Christ-reflective lifestyle. Jesus commanded that as you are going, make disciples! Missing in our culture is the spiritual mentorship that Jesus exemplified with the twelve apostles. Paul encouraged Titus on this concept of mentorship and accountability in Titus 2. He also declares, "In everything, set the example by doing what is good" so that we will not disgrace the gospel.

Churches have spent too much time in disputes on leadership and direction and very little time on the actual church work. In essence, we have become more concerned with buildings, bodies, and budgets and not with those who make up the body of Christ. It is our belief that the only way out of this culture is to help believers understand the fullness of the kingdom.

The Kingdom of God includes both His general sovereignty over the universe and His particular kingship over men who willfully acknowledge Him as Sovereign and Savior. Particularly, the Kingdom is the realm of salvation into which men enter by trustful, childlike commitment to Jesus Christ. Christians ought to pray and to labor so that the Kingdom may come and God's will be done on earth. The full consummation of the Kingdom awaits the return of Jesus Christ and the end of this age.

In other words, everything we need now and in the age to come is in the Kingdom!

Matthew 23:34 says, "Therefore I am sending you prophets and wise men and teachers." It is a tragedy for the Body of Christ to continue to advertise its involvement in the Kingdom without having the righteousness of the Kingdom.

[TRUE VINE MISSIONARY BAPTIST CHURCH, INC.]

Vision Statement: "Change the world by Locating, Loving, Liberating, and Leading the Lost into following Christ as citizens of the Kingdom of God."

Mission Statement: Engage the world for Christ by fulfilling the Great Commission and adhering to the Great Commandment.

The Covenant:

The Bible is called the Book of the **Covenant** (2 Chronicles 34: 30). In verse 31, it says, "And the king stood in his place, and **made a covenant** before the LORD, to walk after the LORD, and to keep his commandments, **and his testimonies**, and his statutes, with all his heart, and with all his soul, **to perform** the words of the covenant which are written in this book."

The Kingdom:

The Kingdom is God's general sovereignty over the universe and His particular kingship over men who willfully acknowledge Him as King. **Basileia Tou Theou (Gk).....The Kingdom of God** is not a democracy, God is not voted in. It is a theocracy where He reigns supreme.

True Vine Missionary Baptist Church, Inc. believes that God is the focal point of all we do and His word is above contestation. In a Kingdom, the King (Jesus) gives the commands, and we obey. It is not up for debate to see if we'll comply.

True Vine Missionary Baptist Church, Inc. (TVMBC), exists to equip the saints to pursue their God-given call to be empowered, authorized, and sent to fulfill their mission. Our mission is to Advance the Kingdom of God!

What We Believe—Statement of Faith

The Bible

We believe that the Bible is the final and ultimate authority for all Christians. Since the original documents were inspired by God, it is His inerrant Word (2 Timothy 3:16-17; 2 Peter 1:20-21) and has been in its final form since John, the last apostle, left this earthly life (Proverbs 30:5-6; Revelation 21:18-19).

The Godhead

We believe in one God, the Creator of all things, who is eternally existing in three Persons: the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit. He is alone in Heaven, and there is no other God beside Him (Genesis 1:1; Exodus 3:14, 20:3; Isaiah 42:8; 1 Corinthians 8:6). He is holy, just, merciful, and the perfect expression of love (Isaiah 6:3; Deuteronomy 32:4; Psalm 86:15; 1 John 4:8); all-knowing (Psalm 145:3, 147:5; Romans 11:33-36) and all-powerful (Exodus 15:11; Psalm 115:3).

Jesus Christ

We believe that Jesus Christ, the Son of God who has eternally existed co-equal with the Father and the Holy Spirit, is the second Person of the Trinity. He was revealed historically many years ago through His incarnation, born of the virgin Mary and resurrected three days after His death (Matthew 1:18-21, 28:1, 6; John 1:1-2, 14). The express purpose of His incarnation was the substitutionary atonement: that is, Christ came to die upon the cross as the perfect sacrifice on behalf of sinners (Luke 19:10; Romans 5:8; 2 Corinthians 5:21; 1 Timothy 1:15; 1 Peter 2:21, 3:18). He is the Head of the Church (Ephesians 1:22-23; Colossians 1:18) and will return to judge the world (John 5:22; 2 Timothy 4:1).

Holy Spirit

We believe the Holy Spirit has eternally existed as the third Person of the Trinity. He is responsible for illuminating the teaching of the Word, convicting the world of sin, and drawing people to Christ (John 16:7-14; Ephesians 1:17-18; 2 Corinthians 3:6, 17; Titus 3:5). Further, the Spirit binds Christ to His people, His people to each other, and gives gifts to the individual members of the Church, freeing them to operate together in His power (Romans 8:11, 14:17, 15:13; 1 Corinthians 6:17-19, 12:13ff.).

Man

We believe that man was created by God according to the Genesis account, in God's image and likeness (Genesis 1:26-27, 2:7). But when Adam, the first man, disobeyed God and sinned, that image and likeness was distorted. We also believe in the biblical doctrine of Total Depravity. Sin has affected all parts of man. The heart, emotions, will, mind, and body are all affected by sin. We are completely sinful. We are not as sinful as we could be, but we are completely affected by sin. The disease of sin has totally affected the entirety of man's being emotionally, psychologically, physically, and, of course, spiritually (Proverbs 20:9; Jeremiah 17:9; Romans 3:10-11; Ephesians 2:1-2; James 1:15).

The doctrine of Total Depravity is derived from scriptures that reveal human character: Man's heart is evil (Mark 7:21-23) and sick (Jer. 17:9). Man is a slave to sin (Rom. 6:20). He does not naturally seek God (Rom. 3:10-12). He cannot understand spiritual things (1 Cor. 2:14). He is at enmity with God (Eph. 2:15). And is by nature a child of wrath (Eph. 2:3).

Because of our fallen nature, we are born again not by our own will, but by God's will (John 1:12-13); God grants that we believe (Phil. 1:29); faith is the work of God (John 6:28-29); God's grace is free to all who will receive Jesus Christ as Lord and Savior (John 3:16; Romans 10:9, 10:13; Ephesians 2:8-10; Rev 3:20). It is also our belief that this transaction of Faith is initiated by the Person and work of the Holy Spirit and is irresistible, to the extent that our sovereign infinite God has willed. God appoints people to believe (Acts 13:48); and God predestines (Eph. 1:1-11; Rom. 8:29; 9:9-23).

Salvation

We believe in **personal salvation** from the eternal penalty of sin, provided exclusively by the grace of God on the basis of the atoning death and resurrection of the Lord Jesus Christ, to be received only through individual faith in His Person and redemptive work on the cross, and to be followed with a life characterized by the empowering grace of the Holy Spirit, giving evidence in loving service and adherence to the principles and practices of the Christian Faith as set forth in the New Testament.

We believe that God is the author of salvation and that without God, man would indefinitely be lost to his own plight. Since God is the author of Salvation, it is on His terms that it is made available to us. Salvation is by Grace

alone, through Faith alone, and through Christ alone (John 3:16-18; Acts 4:12; Ephesians 2:5, 8-9). When a sinner is placed in a right standing with God through faith, the Bible calls it justification (Romans 5:1).

Eternal Issues

We believe that there are two eternal realities: Heaven and Hell. Heaven is where God dwells and where all those who trust Him for salvation live eternally, in pure joy, happiness, and satisfaction (Psalm 16:11). Hell, on the contrary, is a place of eternal judgment, where those who have declined God's offer of salvation are forever separated from Him and His people (Matthew 25:35-46; Revelation 20:12-15). **We believe** in the personal, imminent return of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ (Acts 1:11; 1 Thessalonians 4:13-18).

The Church

The true Church, or Body of Christ, consists of all those who are "in Christ," regardless of their previous creed, ethnicity, gender, skin color, or social status (Romans 3:28-29; Ephesians 2:13-16; Colossians 3:10-11). The Church is a living organism whose members individually and corporately endeavor to fulfill the greatest ambition ever aimed at WORSHIP (1 Corinthians 6:20; 10:31). Under this banner, we engage in missions, ministry, and spiritual gifts.

The Personal Mission of Believers

We believe it is the mission of every believer, as commanded by Jesus Christ, to be actively involved in personal evangelism and disciple-making. Matthew's Gospel commands that we go, and as we are going, we are to make disciples and teach them to observe God's commandments in this present age.

Missions, Ministry, and Spiritual Gifts

We believe that Christians have been given a mission from God, which is to spread the Gospel through our community and world (Matthew 28:18-20; Acts 1:8; Romans 10:17). This can be done through both words and acts. Ministry is another means by which the Church and the community see Christ revealed. Christians are called to serve, following the model of Christ Himself (Mark 10:45; Romans 12:10; 1 Corinthians 10:24; Ephesians 4:11ff.). This goal is accomplished through the use of Spiritual Gifts. When the Spirit gives gifts to Christians according to His will, they are responsible for discerning, sharpening, and using their gifts to the glory of God and the good of those in the church and community (1 Corinthians 12:12ff.; Ephesians 2:10; Hebrews 2:3-4; 1 Peter 4:10-11).

Marriage and Sexuality

"We believe that 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.

"We believe that God intends sexual intimacy to only occur between a man and a 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 a man and a woman.

"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, or disagreement with one's biological sex, is sinful and offensive to God.

"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.

"We believe that God offers redemption and restoration to all who confess and forsake their sin, seeking His mercy and forgiveness through Jesus Christ.

"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."

Our Philosophy of Ministry

Our philosophy of ministry is the result of years of experience, prayer, and God-given passions. Our desire is to offer the Church in Miami an opportunity to experience the best worship and biblical preaching that the city has to offer. *As we see it, biblical worship is the gathering of those who are in Christ for the express purpose of corporately worshipping God with our minds, hearts, and voices while being built up by preaching, teaching, and fellowship.* This can be broken down into two principle areas.

Worship

At **TVMBC**, we are keenly sensitive to the priority that worship has in the heart of God (Isaiah 48:11; John 4:23-24). Therefore, everything that we do in our services is geared toward 1) honoring and glorifying God and 2) edifying and equipping believers to help them make an impact on the world around them. Musically, we are committed to offering only the best music because God is worthy of the best that we have to offer (Leviticus 1:3; Malachi 1:14).

- ☒ "Sing praises to God, sing praises! Sing praises to our King, sing praises! For God is the King of all the earth; sing praises with a psalm!" Psalm 47:6-7
- ☒ "I will sing to the LORD, for he has triumphed gloriously. . . . The LORD is my strength and my song, and he has become my salvation; this is my God, and I will praise him . . . and I will exalt him." Exodus 15:1, 2
- ☒ "And they sang a new song, saying, 'Worthy are you . . . for you were slain, and by your blood you ransomed people for God from every tribe and language and people and nation, and you have made them a kingdom. . . .'" Revelation 5:9-10

Word...

At **TVMBC**, we adhere to the power of the Holy Spirit working in God's servant to unapologetically preach the Bible without compromise. God's Word will always guide and direct what we say, what we do, and how we say it or do it. For us, it is the authoritative standard by which all things are measured.

- ☒ "Let all things be done for building up." 1 Corinthians 14:26
- ☒ "Let the word of Christ dwell in you richly, teaching and admonishing one another in all wisdom, singing psalms and hymns and spiritual songs, with thankfulness in your hearts to God." Colossians 3:16
- ☒ "And let us consider how to stir up one another to love and good works, not neglecting to meet together, as is the habit of some, but encouraging one another, and all the more as you see the Day drawing near." Hebrews 10:24-25

Our Philosophy of Christian Life

Our philosophy of life is simple: the life of a Christian should reflect a belief in the principles taught in the Bible, particularly those commandments found in Matthew 22:37 and 39: "You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind. . . . And the second is like it: You shall love your neighbor as yourself." If these two principles are diligently and faithfully followed, then a Christian life will certainly be the result (Romans 13:8-10). Nevertheless, the following is a list of particular disciplines that we believe are noteworthy.

Private Devotion and Prayer

In Romans 12:1-2, Paul reminds the Roman Christians exactly how important it is to change their way of thinking. In fact, he orders them to be "transformed by the renewing of your mind." This takes place when we put our old thinking behind us and make God's mind our own. Reading the Bible every day is indispensable to this process. Prayer, too, is immeasurably important. God has ordained that communion with Him happen within the precincts of prayer. See Luke 18:1-8; 2 Timothy 2:15; 2 Peter 3:18.

Love

Since God is love (1 John 4:8), and since He has impacted His people with that love (1 John 4:10), it is only reasonable that they, too, should be love-driven. Jesus emphasized this in His own ministry (John 13:35). God's love is what compelled Him to send Jesus into the world (John 3:16). And love can cover a multitude of sins (Proverbs 10:12; 1 Peter 4:8).

Evangelism

Following His mission, Jesus commanded His disciples to continue with the Gospel through the entire world (Acts 1:8). Christians play an integral part in God's plan of redemption because He has decreed to save the lost through the preaching of His Word. So, Christians are compelled to preach so that the lost might be saved (Romans 10:14). In fact, the apostle Paul arranged his life around the culture and society he was currently residing in, with the hopes of being used by God to redeem more people (1 Corinthians 9:19-23).

Service

We have the awesome privilege of serving an awesome God. But what's more, we get to do it in the beautiful city of Miami. South Florida is drowning in ideas, advertising, and culture. Service and ministry here are dripping with opportunity. We have the opportunity to serve the poor, serve each other in the Body of Christ, and serve the world in a number of different ways. See Mark 10:45; Romans 15:1-3; Philippians 2:4; James 2:15-16.

Stewardship

Stewardship is defined as a person who manages another's property or financial affairs; one who administers anything as the agent of another or others.'

God is the creator of all things and owns all things. We believe in the biblical teachings of tithes and offerings as expressed in Old Testament Scripture, which holds every believer accountable to God for placing the first fruits measured by scripture as (10%) of earnings back to God's work. However, the New Testament model of Stewardship shows us that not only does money for kingdom work matter but all that we are and have should

be used for God's glory and purpose. The matters of the kingdom are carried out through the cheerful giving of saints through time, money, and committed service. All are equally important. See Exodus 25:2; Deuteronomy 14:22-26 Psalms 24:1; Psalms 50:7-12; Malachi 3:6-10; Romans 12:1; 2 Corinthians 9:7.

Work Ethic

Christians live in the world, and like everyone else, they must work to live. But the Bible is clear on the issue of work: everything that Christians do must be done with excellence, even when it comes to work. See Ecclesiastes 2:24; 2 Thessalonians 3:10; 1 Timothy 6:1; Colossians 3:17, 23.

Affiliation, Purpose, and Limitations

Section 1—Affiliation

True Vine Missionary Baptist Church, Inc. is an autonomous entity that maintains the right to govern its own affairs, independent of any particular association, convention, or denomination's control. Nevertheless, we are in agreement with the Southern Baptist Convention and affiliate ourselves with them in a national, state, and local dynamic.

Section 2—Purpose and Limitations

1. **TVMBC** is strictly a religious organization and will only be operated for charitable and educational purposes, according to 501c3 of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986. Specifically, the purpose of TVMBC is
 - a. to offer a modern, Bible-based worship service to Christians in Miami.
 - b. to edify and educate Christians regarding God, the Bible, Salvation, etc.
 - c. to make a positive impact in Miami by spreading the Gospel of Jesus Christ and doing hands-on ministry.
2. There are inherent limitations to such a position. TVMBC will not:
 - a. inappropriately misuse monies, gifts, or donations.
 - b. propagandize or endeavor to influence legislation.
 - c. publish, contribute, or otherwise be involved in political campaigning.

Membership

Membership at **TVMBC** will consist of those who meet the qualifications listed in section 1.

Section 1—Qualification

Membership at True Vine Missionary Baptist Church, Inc. is something shared in common by those who have proven and/or will demonstrate:

- ☒ A profession of faith in Jesus Christ; and
- ☒ Baptism by immersion in water; or
- ☒ A transfer of membership from another church which holds the same tenets;
- ☒ A commitment to **TVMBC's** church covenant (section 2).

Section 2—Church Covenant

This Church adopts the Holy Bible as the authoritative rule of our faith, practice, and methods of operation. No Bylaw or procedure shall ever outweigh the principles and practices contained in Scripture.

This Church adopts the Baptist Church Covenant as follows:

"Having been led, as we believe, by the Spirit of God to receive the Lord Jesus Christ as our Saviour; and on the profession of our faith, having been baptized in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit, we do now in the presence of God, angels and this assembly, most solemnly and joyfully enter into covenant with one another, as one body in Christ.

We engage, therefore, by the aid of the Holy Spirit, to walk together in Christian love, to strive for the advancement of this church in knowledge and holiness, to give it a place in our affections, prayers, and services above every organization of human origin; to sustain its worship, ordinances, discipline, and doctrine; to contribute cheerfully and regularly, as God has prospered us, toward its expenses, for the support of a faithful and evangelical ministry among us, the relief of the poor and the spread of the Gospel throughout the world. In case of a difference of opinion in the church, we will strive to avoid a contentious spirit, and if we cannot unanimously agree, we will cheerfully recognize the right of the majority to govern.

We also engage to maintain family and secret devotion to study the word of God diligently to religiously educate our children to seek the salvation of our kindred and acquaintance; to walk circumspectly in the world, to be kind and just to those in our employ, and faithful in the service we promise others; endeavoring in the purity of heart and goodwill towards all men to exemplify and commend our holy faith.

We further engage to watch over, to pray for, to exhort and stir up each other unto every good word and work; to guard each other's reputation, not needlessly exposing the infirmities of others; to participate in each other's joys, and with tender sympathy bear one another's burdens and sorrows; to cultivate Christian courtesy; to be slow to give or take offense, but always ready for reconciliation, being mindful of the rules of the Saviour in the eighteenth chapter of Matthew, to secure it without delay; and through life, amid evil report, and good report, to seek to live to the glory of God, who hath called us out of darkness into his marvelous light.

When we remove from this place, we engage as soon as possible to unite with some other church where we can carry out the spirit of this covenant and the principles of God's word."

Section 3—Church Discipline

Being that **TVMBC** is a church based upon the principles of Christ, any member who *blatantly and deliberately* lives in a way that is in discord with those principles will be counseled by the Pastor or Pastoral staff and/or Deacon or Pastor's designate. This counseling will be done in accordance with New Testament Scripture.

Section 4—Termination of Membership

If a member, as described, for example, in section 2, is confronted and refuses correction, then **TVMBC** reserves the right to terminate their membership and withdraw the right hand of fellowship, according to New Testament Scripture. The Pastor and Leadership Team will be involved in the termination process.

Section 5—Restoration

After a person's membership has been terminated, membership may be restored, providing it has been determined that the dismissed person has confessed their wrong, repented, and is now willing to align his/her life according to Scripture, policies, and principles taught at **TVMBC**.

Church Management and Officers

Section 1—The Pastor

The Pastor, Rev. Charles K. Mitchell, is the Chief Executive Officer, Chairman of the Board of Directors, and President of True Vine Missionary Baptist Church, Inc. The Pastor is responsible for leading the church to function as a New Testament church. The pastor will lead the congregation, the organizations, and the church staff to perform their tasks. The Pastor is the leader of all ministries in the church. He oversees the deacons, ministry leadership team, administrative team, and church staff. He leads the church in the achievement of its mission, proclaims the gospel to believers and unbelievers, and cares for the church's members and other persons in the community. See 2 Timothy 4:2-5; 1 Peter 5:2-4.

Any Pastor who would serve at **TVMBC** must satisfy the requirements listed in 1 Timothy 3:1-7 and Titus 1:5-9. In addition, the qualifications must be continually exemplified in the personal life of every individual holding the office of Pastor at **TVMBC**. If at any time the Pastor should fail to exhibit these qualifications, or if he should fall out of alignment with the church's vision and purpose, the ordained body should seek to restore him biblically as defined by scripture in Galatians 6:1 and Colossians 3:12-17.

Section 1b—Pastor Selection

A pastor shall be chosen and called by the church whenever a vacancy occurs. His election shall take place at a meeting called for this purpose, of which at least one week of public notice has been given.

A Pastor leaving the employment of the TVMBC in good standing reserves the right to lead the pastoral search team in choosing his successor.

A pastor Search team will be appointed among the Deacon Body and the Leadership Team to seek out a pastor, and its recommendations will constitute a nomination. The Deacon Body shall bring to the consideration of the church one name at a time. Election shall be by ballot, and an affirmative vote of two-thirds of those present to vote is required for a choice.

The pastor, thus elected, shall serve until his request or the church's request terminates the relationship. He shall preside at all official meetings of the church. The pastor shall give at least 30 days' notice at the time of resignation before terminating his responsibilities as pastor.

SEARCH TEAM: This team shall consist of no more than seven (7) and no less than three (3) members of the Ordained Deacon body and Leadership Team.

INTERIM PASTOR: If it is determined by the Deacon Staff and Leadership Team that an interim pastor is needed, an interim pastor team will be chosen by the deacon body and leadership team. Neither action nor the acceptance of the person chosen requires a church vote, though each member's concerns are to be considered by the Deacon Staff and the Leadership Team.

Section 2—The Deacons

The Deacon Ministry will consist of men who are ordained and require the appointment of the Pastor of the church for their assistance in serving the church and community; this body will not act as a Deacon Board but as a Deacon Ministry, except where oversight and authority are designated.

All candidates must meet the requirements listed in Acts 6:1-7 and 1 Timothy 3:8-13.

There will be no obligation to constitute as an active deacon a person who comes to the church from another church where he has served as a deacon. However, the Pastor reserves the right to honor the ordination previously conferred upon an individual who has shown themselves to meet the requirements for that office and move to appoint them as a member of the Deacon ministry. Such a decision will take into consideration the opinions of the existing members of the Deacon ministry.

Any given deacon has the right to resign for reasons personal or otherwise by submitting a written request and meeting with the Pastor. The Pastor of the church has the right to terminate a particular deacon's service if his life is not in agreement with the qualifications listed in the Bible, the principles taught at **TVMBC**, or the church covenant.

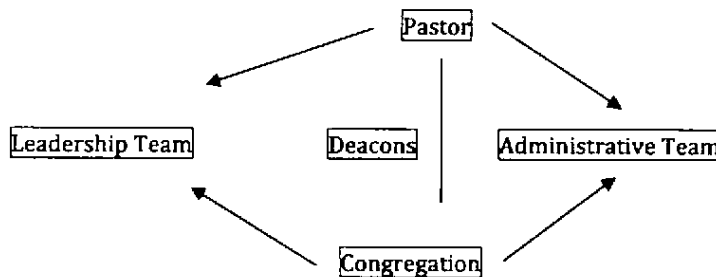
Section 3—The Leadership Team

The primary functions of the leadership team shall be to recommend to the congregation suggested objectives and church goals; to review and coordinate program plans recommended by church officers, organizations, and teams; to recommend to the congregation the use of leadership, calendar time, and other resources according to program priorities; and to evaluate program achievements in terms of church goals and objectives.

The leadership team, unless otherwise determined by the pastor, shall have as regular members the Pastor, Minister of Education, Minister of Music, Women Missionary Servant Leader, Men Ministry Servant Leader, Chairman of Deacons, Business Manager, Director of Missions, and Church Clerk.

When operating within the parameters of the approved fiscal budget, the fiscal decisions of the Leadership Team shall represent the church's vote. Decisions on non-ordinary expenditures and situations will be brought before the church body for a vote.

Figure 1



Section 4—Mission, Vision, and Direction

The Pastor, together with the Leadership Team, will be responsible for maintaining the mission, casting the vision, and implementing the direction of the church, with great consideration and sensitivity to God's initiative, prompting, and desire for **TVMBC**.

Ordinances

Section 1- Baptism

A person who receives Jesus Christ as Savior by personal faith, who professes him publicly at any worship service, and who indicates a commitment to follow Christ as Lord shall be received for baptism.

1. Baptism shall be by immersion in water.
2. Baptism shall be administered by the Pastor or whomever the Church shall authorize. The deacons shall assist in the preparation for and observance of baptism.
3. Baptism shall be administered as an act of worship during any worship service.
4. The pastor and/or staff and deacons shall counsel a person professing Christ and failing to be baptized after a reasonable length of time. If negative interest is ascertained, he shall be deleted from those awaiting baptism.

Section 2.- The Lord's Supper

The Lord's Supper is a symbolic act of obedience whereby members of the church, through partaking of the bread and fruit of the vine, commemorate the death of Jesus Christ and anticipate his second coming.

1. The Lord's Supper shall be observed monthly, preferably the first Sunday of the month, or as otherwise scheduled.
2. The Lord's Supper shall be observed in Worship on the Lord's Day (Sunday).
3. The pastor and deacons shall be responsible for the administration of the Lord's Supper.
4. The deacons shall be responsible for the physical preparation of the Lord's Supper.

Amendments

Section 1—Bylaw Revision and Amendment

Revisions and amendments to the Bylaws will only be done if and when the Elders of the church, in conjunction with the Leadership Team, find it necessary to make such amendments. In the case that amendments are deemed necessary, changes will be made prayerfully and conscientiously, with God's guidance and counsel.

Charles K. Mitchell

Senior Pastor / Teacher

11/16/23
Date

Freddie L. White

Chairman of Deacons

Date

11/16/23