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# AMENDED AND RESTATED ARTICLES OF INCORPORATION OF LEHIGH ACRES CHRISTIAN CHURCH, INC.,

LEHIGH ACRES CHRISTIAN CHURCH, INC., a Not-for-Profit Corporation, desires to Amend and Restate its Articles of Incorporation.

Document number: 762143.

Pursuant to the provisions of section 617.1007, Florida Statutes this Florida Not-for-Profit Corporation adopts the following amendment(s) and restatement to its Articles of Incorporation as follows:

### Article I NAME OF CORPORATION DURATION

The name of this corporation is: LEHIGH ACRES CHRISTIAN CHURCH, INC., whose term of existence is perpetual.

Article II CORPORATE ADDRESS

The principal place of business and street address of the Corporation is: 50 Bell Blvd. N Lehigh Acres, FL 33936

### Article III PUPOSES OF CORPORATION

The general nature of the object and purpose of this corporation is to foster the Christian religion in accordance with the New Testament, and to form a religious corporation, not for profit, pursuant to the laws of the State of Florida.

The corporation shall also be authorized to: (a) carry out such other activities deemed material to spreading the Gospel of Jesus Christ; (b) own and hold, buy and sell, lease and transfer real and personal property, all of which shall be solely for religious and educational purposes; (c) solicit and accept gifts of money or property in order to carry out the purposes hereinabove set forth; and to do any and all things necessary and desirable for the achievement of any of the objects and purposes of this corporation.

The corporation will govern itself and conduct its affairs according to the Bible (comprising the sixty-six books of the Old and New Testaments), the Articles herein, and the corporate Bylaws (as may be amended). This duty and right of operational governance shall include, but not be

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limited to, the following matters: hiring and discharge of employees; election or appointment of the Board of Directors and Officers; implementation, management, and conduct of its religious or other services; performance of weddings and funerals, if it chooses to do so; programs and ministries; usage of facilities; and all other business and spiritual matters of the church.

The corporation may also seek relationships with public, private, social welfare, and governmental organizations. It may also conduct fundraising to accomplish its purposes. These efforts may include any or all of the following: person-to-person mailings, conferences, community events, website, and internet social media; other means approved by the corporation's governing authority. The corporation may also have a presence on various internet media outlets. It may also partner with other public or private organizations, in addition to or in lieu of partnering with any local, state, or federal agencies. The choice to partner with other entities for specific non-profit purposes may include a network of businesses and business or community leaders. Donations received in this regard will be used to accomplish these goals.

### ARTICLE IV USE OF INCOME AND TAX-EXEMPT PROVISIONS

LEHIGH ACRES CHRISTIAN CHURCH, INC., is organized exclusively for charitable, religious, and educational purposes, 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, or the corresponding section of any future federal tax code.

No part of the net earnings of the organization shall inure to the benefit of, or be distributable to its members, directors, 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 IV 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 or in opposition to 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, or the corresponding section of any future Federal tax code, or (b) by a corporation, contributions to which are deductible under section 170 (c) (2) of the Internal Revenue Code, or corresponding section of any future Federal tax code.

### ARTICLE V POWERS

The corporation is to have the power to carry out the said purposes of the corporation, and in

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general to possess all rights, privileges, and immunities, and enjoy all the benefits granted to corporations of similar character under the laws of the State of Florida.

### ARTICLE VI MEMBERSHIP

Membership shall consist of those people desiring membership who have complied with the following terms as revealed in the New Testament:

- A. Faith in Jesus as the Christ, the Son of God (Matt. 16:16).
- B. Ongoing repentance from a sinful life and acceptance of Jesus Christ as Lord of his or her life (Acts 3:19).
- C. Baptism by immersion into Jesus Christ (Rom. 6:3-4).
- D. Living fruitfully as a disciple of Jesus Christ (Col 1:10).

Any adult may become a member of this congregation, provided he or she agrees to the terms outlined above and in the bylaws.

#### ARTICLE VII MEETINGS

A special meeting of the church membership for the transaction of church business may be held at the call of the Chairman of the Elders or upon the written request, to the Board of Elders, of ten percent (10%) of the active members of the church. The call shall be by public announcement at each service during the two (2) weeks prior to the date of the meeting, and the announcement shall state the purpose of the meeting.

### ARTICLE VIII DIRECTORS AND OFFICERS

The affairs of this Corporation shall be overseen by a Board of Elders that may also be referred to as a Board of Directors which shall not consist of less than three people. The Board of Elders shall appoint a Chairman, a Secretary, and a Treasurer from its board membership. The Board of Elders shall have authority to seek and delegate authority to employees or members of the church as they deem proper. The Board of Elders of the church shall be selected according to the policies outlined in the bylaws of the corporation.

The Board of Directors and their designated agents are authorized to open business checking accounts, lease, purchase, mortgage, encumber, and sell part or all the corporation's real property and personal assets. The Board of Directors is also authorized to apply for all Federal, State, and local grants and financial assistance and aid to supplement the church's community outreaches. Directors, Officers, and Registered Agent in office at the time of the filing of this Restatement shall continue to serve as outlined in the Bylaws of the corporation.

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### ARTICLE IX INDEMNIFICATION

The corporation shall indemnify any director or officer, or former director and officer, for any and all costs and expenses necessarily incurred by him/her for legal fees or other expenses; and for any and all sums paid or required to be paid in satisfaction of judgments against said director or officer arising from any legal suit or proceeding, whether civil or criminal in nature, in which he/she was made a party by reason of having been such director or officer of the corporation. No director, officer, or former director and officer, however, shall be eligible for indemnification if he/she pleaded guilty or was otherwise convicted of a crime associated with the corporation or its affiliates; or entered into a transaction deriving an improper personal benefit, directly or indirectly; or acted with recklessness; or committed an act or omission that was committed in bad faith, or with malicious purpose, or in a manner exhibiting wanton and willful disregard of safety to persons or property.

#### ARTICLE X BYLAWS

The bylaws of this Corporation, or any alteration or amendment thereto, shall be made and adopted at any business meeting of the corporation by a two-thirds (2/3rds) affirmative vote of the members present and voting, provided that a notice of the proposed amendment, or amendments, has been read by public announcement at each service during the two (2) weeks prior to the date of the meeting, and the announcement shall state the purpose of the meeting.

### ARTICLE XI AFFILIATION

This corporation is in no way subject to the wishes, dictates, desires or decrees of any ecclesiastical body, missionary organization, or council. It is a free and autonomous body.

### ARTICLE XII DISSOLUTION

Upon the dissolution of the corporation, none of its funds or assets shall be distributed to any church member, director, officer, deacon, or any other individual. The Board of Directors shall, after paying or making provision for the payment of all the liabilities of the corporation, distribute funds and assets for one or more exempt purposes within the meaning of section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code, or corresponding section of any future federal tax code. Any such funds or assets not so disposed of shall be disposed of by the circuit court 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 religious purpose.

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### ARTICLE XIII AMENDMENTS

These Articles of Incorporation may be amended at any business meeting of the corporation by a two-thirds (2/3rds) affirmative vote of the members present and voting, provided that a notice of the proposed amendment, or amendments, has been read by public announcement at each service during the two (2) weeks prior to the date of the meeting, and the announcement shall state the purpose of the meeting. EXCEPTION: Articles III, VI and VII and this Article may be amended only by unanimous approval of all members present and voting.

#### ARTICLE XIV

### ARTICLE CONSOLIDATION

These adopted restated articles of incorporation supersede the original articles of incorporation and all amendments restated or otherwise to them.

### ARTICLE XV REQUIRED ADOPTION INFORMATION

These amended and restated articles of incorporation contain amendments to the articles of incorporation which required one hundred percent (100%) vote of the members present and voting. The date of adoption of the amendments and restatement was January 12, 2025, and the votes cast were sufficient for approval.

We submit this document and affirm that the facts stated herein are true. We are aware that any false information submitted in a document to the Department of State constitutes a thirddegree felony as provided for in 817.155. F.S.

DATE: January 12, 2025

LOHN MANKOWSKI Chairman/Director

RANDY HERNDON Secretary/Director



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