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# FLORIDA DEPARTMENT OF STATE Jim Smith Secretary of State

October 25, 2002

MARK A. DAVIS 4167 AFTON CT. WEST PALM BEACH, FL 33409

SUBJECT: MT. MORIAH MISSIONARY BAPTIST CHURCH, INC.

Ref. Number: W02000030892



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

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

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

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

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

If you have any questions concerning the filing of your document, please call (850) 245-6878.

Alan Crum Document Specialist New Filing Section

Letter Number: 102A00059070

# ARTICLES OF INCORPORATION

OF

MT. MORIAH MISSIONARY BAPTIST CHURCH OF THE PALM BEACHES, INC.

Guided, as we believe by the Holy Spirit, and relying on the blessing of God, we do, hear and now by this act, constitute ourselves a church of Jesus Christ to perform His service and to be governed by His will, as revealed in the New Testament. Therefore, the undersigned hereby associate themselves together as a corporation not for profit, under the laws of the State of Florida (Chapter 617, Florida Statutes 1965), as a religious, educational, benevolent, charitable institution, trustee, agency and church under the following Articles of Incorporation, to wit:

# **ARTICLE I**

# NAME AND LOCATION

The name of this corporation shall be Mt. Moriah Missionary Baptist Church of the Palm Beaches, Inc. (hereinafter referred to as "the church"). Its principle mailing address shall be P. O. Box 8592, West Palm Beach, Florida 33407. Its principle business office shall be located at 2301 N. Tamarind Avenue, West Palm Beach, Florida 33407. This location may be changed to such other places and counties in the State of Florida, as may, from time to time, be determined.

# ARTICLE II

# **NATURE AND OBJECTS**

Section I. The primary nature and object of this corporation is to provide an institution whereby a company of regenerate persons, baptized on profession of faith in Christ, may unite in covenant for worship, instruction, the observance of Christian ordinances, and for such service as the Gospel requires; recognizing and accepting Christ as the Supreme Lord and Lawgiver, and taking the New Testament as a divinely inspired record and therefore a trustworthy, authoritative, and all-sufficient rule of faith and practice.

Section II. To that end this Corporation shall be entitled to receive and acquire property by gift or purchase, or in trust; to own, possess and hold property of every description and kind; to sell, mortgage, convey, lease, re-lease and dispose of same; to sue and be sued; to enjoy all rights and privileges belonging to and incident to corporations not for profit; and to, in every way, manner and respect, do all things and exercise all powers which a natural person might have, do and exercise.

# ARTICLE III

# **MEMBERSHIP**

- <u>Section I.</u> Any person professing faith in the Lord Jesus Christ, giving evidence of a change of heart, and adopting the views of faith and practice held by this church, as set forth in the foregoing Declaration may, upon baptism, be received into its membership.
- <u>Section II.</u> Candidates for baptism shall be examined before the church; and their admission shall not be acted on until the church has ascertained their character standing.
- <u>Section III.</u> Members from other churches holding the same faith may be received by letters of recommendation and dismission from their respective churches.
- <u>Section IV.</u> Those who have once been members of Baptist churches, and in consequence of any peculiar circumstances have no regular letters of dismission, may be received by giving satisfactory evidence of a change of heart, Christian conduct, and Scriptural faith.
- <u>Section V.</u> Excluded members may be restored to membership on confession of their errors, and giving evidence of repentance.
- <u>Section VI.</u> No person shall be received as a member of this church to whose admission five members object.

# **ARTICLE IV**

#### **GENERAL DUTIES OF MEMBERS**

- <u>Section I.</u> The duties of members to themselves are: the acquisition of Scriptural knowledge; constant progress in spirituality; consistency of external conduct; and the control and eradication of every unholy temper.
- <u>Section II.</u> It is the duty of members to honor, esteem, and love their Pastor and to pray for him, fervently and daily; to submit to him in the Scriptural exercise of his official authority; to attend constantly upon his ministrations; to manifest a tender regard for his reputation; and to contribute toward his support in proportion to their ability.
- <u>Section III.</u> It is the duty of each member to cultivate and cherish brotherly love for all other members of the church, and to show this love by using all proper measures to promote their spiritual benefit and property.
- <u>Section IV.</u> Toward those who are not connected with the church, it is the duty of members to be exact in fulfilling obligations and performing promises; and as opportunity and ability may enable, to commend the Gospel of Christ unto them.

<u>Section V.</u> It is the duty of all members removing from the vicinity of the church, to take letters of dismission to other churches of the same denomination; but should this not be practicable, to furnish their names and places of residence within three (3) months after leaving the church.

# ARTICLE V

# **SUBSCRIBERS**

The names and addresses of the subscribers are as follows:

<u>NAME</u>	<u>ADDRESS</u>
Reverend Ralph W. Pittman, Sr.	310 31st Street
	West Palm Beach, FL 33407
Sampson Kittrell	1026 19th Street
	West Palm Beach, FL 33407
R. C. Miller, Jr.	1512 40th Street
	West Palm Beach, FL 33407
Belle Ward	566 Palm Beach Lakes Blvd.
	West Palm Beach, FL 33401
Carmen Thompson	6113 Camp Lee Road
	West Palm Beach, FL 33417
Clifford Walden	639 32 <sup>nd</sup> Street
	West Palm Beach, FL 33407
Cynthia P. Mays	1908 Beautiful Avenue
	West Palm Beach, FL 33407
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The tenure of office for the Sunday School Superintendent shall be one year, but he or she may be re-elected to serve a total of five years. After being out of office for one year, a former Superintendent may be re-elected to the same office.

The General Superintendent shall take charge of the Sunday School, and shall cause to be elected at an annual meeting, a Secretary and Assistant Secretary. He or she shall also appoint teachers for the Sunday School Classes.

When there is occasion to have a general assembly of the entire Sunday School or an assembly of certain age groups, the Superintendent will preside. At business meetings of teachers and other staff, at special holiday events, and all other get-togethers the Superintendent will preside.

The Superintendent will represent the Sunday School at church meetings, and other associational meetings as well as interdenominational affairs.

### ARTICLE VII

# BY-LAWS, RULES, REGULATIONS, DISCIPLINE AND AMENDMENTS

<u>Section I.</u> The members of this church shall adopt and promulgate such by-laws, rules, and regulations for the operation and discipline of the church as may from time to time be required and which shall not be inconsistent with the Church Articles of Incorporation or the laws of the State of Florida.

<u>Section II.</u> Amendments to these Articles of Incorporation or Charter may be only by an affirmative vote of two-thirds (2/3) of the members present and voting at a regular and duly constituted meeting of the church.

# ARTICLE VIII

#### INCOME

No part of the net earnings of the church shall inure to the benefit of or be distributed to its members, trustees, officers, or other private persons, except that the church 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 herein. No substantial part of the activities of the church shall be the carrying on of propaganda, or otherwise attempting to influence legislation, and the church shall nor 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 church 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 1964 (or the corresponding provision of any future United States Internal Revenue Law) or (b) by a corporation, contributions

Membership of a Trustee shall cease when the member dies, or ceases to be a member of Mt. Moriah Missionary Baptist Church of the Palm Beaches, Inc.

Membership of a Trustee shall be terminated when a member is absent for three (3) consecutive meetings, except as the remaining Trustees shall vote to excuse the absence for good and sufficient reason shown.

Trustees may be elected to succeed himself or herself only once and then may be re-elected after being out of office at least one (1) year, except as otherwise specified in the By-Laws.

The Trustees shall manage all the temporal concerns of the church not otherwise provided for.

They shall guard all the real estate, buildings, and other property owned by the church.

They shall make improvements upon said property of real estate when authorized to so do, by the Pastor or majority of the legal members of the church.

<u>Section V.</u> The church shall elect a Treasurer by a majority of at least three-fourths (3/4) of its members present at a regular or duly notified meeting each year.

It shall be the duty of the Treasurer to receive all moneys, and pay all orders drawn on him or her by order of the church.

<u>Section VI.</u> The church shall elect a Financial Secretary by a majority of at least three-fourths (3/4) of its members present at a regular or duly notified meeting each year.

It shall be the duty of the Financial Secretary to maintain an accurate record as to the financial contributions of the members. He or she shall identify the financial contributions to the church as they are received each week, and record them in a suitable ledger. Each quarter each contributor shall be sent a written notice as to the status of his account. The Financial Secretary shall report the status of financial contributions to the church at least once each quarter.

<u>Section VII.</u> The church shall elect a Clerk by a majority of at least three-fourths (3/4) of its members present at a regular or duly notified meeting each year.

The clerk shall keep a fair record of the proceedings of all the records; and keep a register of all the members of the church.

<u>Section VIII.</u> The church shall elect a General Superintendent of the Sunday School by a majority of at least three-fourths (3/4) of its members present at a regular or duly notified meeting each year.

### ARTICLE VI

# OFFICERS OF THE CHURCH

Section I. As often as it may be deemed necessary, by the death or removal of a previous Pastor, the church shall, without unnecessary delay, invite to his Pastorship, some minister of good report, provided at least three-fourths (3/4) of the members present and voting at any meeting, of which two weeks notice shall be given consent to the invitation. It shall be the duty of the Pastor to preach steadily at the church; to administer the ordinances of the Gospel; to act as moderator, when present, in meetings for the transaction of business, and to perform the various other duties incumbent on his office.

<u>Section II.</u> The church shall elect Deacons by a majority of at least three-fourths (3/4) of its members present at any regular or duly notified meeting, as often as it may be rendered necessary.

It shall be the duty of the Deacons to seek out such members of the church as need pecuniary assistance, and to use the alms of the church for their relief; to visit the sick; to prepare and distribute the elements of the Lord's Supper; to take a general supervision of the temporal interests of the church, and to cooperate with and assist the Pastor in the performance of his duties.

The ordination of Deacons shall be preceded by one year's trial. They shall continue in office as long as satisfaction shall be given.

<u>Section III.</u> Deaconesses. The method of election, qualifications, duties and ordination of Deaconesses shall be the same as those for Deacons.

<u>Section IV.</u> The church shall elect Trustees by a majority of at least three-fourths (3/4) of its members present at any regular or duly notified meeting, as often as it may be rendered necessary.

The number of Trustees for the church shall not be less than three, and not more than nineteen.

Each person to be elected Trustee shall be eighteen (18) years of age or over and shall have been a member of this church not less than six months. This provision may be waived in cases that would hinder the mission of the church.

The term of the Trustees shall be staggered and for a period of three (3) years, with one-third (1/3) of the number as nearly as arithmetically possible to be elected each year, except that for the first year, one-third (1/3) have been elected for the terms of one (1) year, one-third (1/3) have been elected for the terms of two (2) years, and one-third (1/3) have been elected for terms of three (3) years.

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 IX

# TERM OF EXISTENCE AND DISPOSITION OF ASSETS UPON DISSOLUTION

This church shall exist perpetually except as it is dissolved by due process of law. Should this Church ever be dissolved, all of its assets shall be distributed to and vested in a trustee body, which qualifies under Section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code of the United States of America, as an exempt organization, and shall under no circumstances be distributed to any of the individual members, officers, trustees or servants of this church.

# ARTICLE X

# RATIFICATION OF ARTICLES OF INCORPORATION

The ratification of three-fourths (3/4) of the active membership of the church shall be sufficient to cause these articles to be binding upon all of the members of this church.

Having been named as registered agent to accept service of process for the above stated corporation at the place designated in this certificate, I am familiar with and accept the appointed as registered agent and agree to act in this capacity.

Reverend Ralph W. Pittman, Sr.

310 31st Street

West Palm Beach, FL 33407

Reverend Ralph W. Pittman, Sr.

310 31st Street

West Palm Beach, FL 33407

Registered Agent

Incorporator