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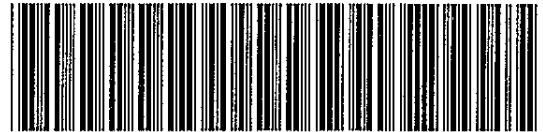
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2004 DEC 13 A 8:37

SECRETARY OF STATE
TALLAHASSEE, FLORIDA

155-5531
NA
10/1/04

9/24/04
12/14/04



FLORIDA DEPARTMENT OF STATE
Glenda E. Hood
Secretary of State

September 24, 2004

RICHARD CROCKETT
POST OFFICE BOX 2843
LABELLE, FL 33975

SUBJECT: STEPPING STONES MINISTRIES, INC.
Ref. Number: W04000035531

We have received your document for STEPPING STONES MINISTRIES, INC.. However, the document has not been filed and is being returned for the following:

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.

The document number of the name conflict is N99000001382.

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) 245-6934.

Loria Poole
Document Specialist
New Filings Section

Letter Number: 104A00056328

TRANSMITTAL LETTER

Department of State
Division of Corporations
P. O. Box 6327
Tallahassee, FL 32314

SUBJECT: Stepping Stones Christian Ministries, Inc.

Enclosed is an original and one (1) copy of the articles of incorporation ~~and~~
~~a check for:~~ (Check being held by Department of State for Name Change.)

☐ \$70.00
Filing Fee

☐ \$78.75
Filing Fee
And Certificate
Of Status

☐ \$78.75
Filing Fee and
Certified Copy

☒ \$87.50
Filing Fee,
Certified Copy,
And Certificate

ADDITIONAL COPY REQUIRED

FROM:

Stepping Stones Christian Ministries, Inc.

C/O Richard Crockett

Post Office Box 2843

LaBelle, Florida 33975

(863) 612-0900

NOTE: Please provide the original and one copy of the articles.

ARTICLES OF INCORPORATION OF STEPPING STONES CHRISTIAN MINISTRIES, INC.

The undersigned incorporators, for the purpose of forming a corporation under the Florida Not for Profit Corporation Act, hereby adopts the following Articles of Incorporation:

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TALLAHASSEE, FLORIDA

ARTICLE I NAME

The name of this corporation shall be Stepping Stones Christian Ministries, Inc.

ARTICLE II PRINCIPAL OFFICE

The principal place of business shall be 343 Lee Street, LaBelle, Florida 33935, and the mailing address of this corporation shall be Post Office Box 2843, LaBelle, Florida 33975.

ARTICLE III PURPOSE

This corporation is organized exclusively for religious, charitable, and educational purposes. More specifically, to bring the Gospel of Jesus Christ to those in the community so as to fulfill the Great Commission as commanded by our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ in the New Testament of the Bible; to identify and train ministry outreach leaders and establish bible studies, discipleship training, and vocational training to those we serve in order to assist them in carrying out this ministry; to establish and operate support groups and residential treatment facilities to address such issues as addictions, physical and other abuse, mentoring, and other areas as able; and to provide, when able, food and sustenance to those in need.

To this end, the corporation shall at all times be operated exclusively for charitable purposes within the meaning of Section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986, as now enacted or hereafter amended, including, for such purposes, the making of distributions to organizations that qualify as exempt organizations under Section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986, as now enacted or hereafter amended. All funds, whether income or principal, and whether acquired by gift or contribution or otherwise, shall be devoted to said purposes.

ARTICLE IV

MANNER OF ELECTION OF DIRECTORS

The management of the affairs of the corporation shall be vested in a Board of Directors, as defined in the corporation's bylaws. No Director shall have any right, title, or interest in or to any property of the corporation.

The number of Directors constituting the first Board of Directors is Three (3), their names and addresses being as follows:

Richard F. Crockett, (343 Lee St.) Post Office Box 2843, LaBelle, Florida 33975
Audra J. Nelson, 4074 Rainbow Circle, LaBelle, Florida 33935
Randolph A. Wood, 17290 Rewis Rd., Alva, Florida 33920.

Members of the first Board of Directors shall serve until the first annual meeting, at which their successors are duly elected and qualified, or removed as provided in the bylaws.

ARTICLE V:

INITIAL REGISTERED AGENT AND STREET ADDRESS

The name and Florida street address of the initial registered agent are Richard F. Crockett, 343 Lee Street, LaBelle, Florida 33935 (Mail to: Post Office Box 2843, LaBelle, Florida 33975).

ARTICLE VI

EXEMPTION REQUIREMENTS

At all times shall the following operate as conditions restricting the operations and activities of the corporation:

1. The corporation shall not afford pecuniary gain, incidentally or otherwise to its members. No part of the net earnings of this corporation shall inure to the benefit of any member of the corporation, except that reasonable compensation may be paid for services rendered to or for the corporation affecting one or more of its purposes. Such net earnings, if any, of this corporation shall be used to carry out the nonprofit corporate purposes set forth in Article III above.

2. No substantial part of the activities of the corporation shall constitute the carrying on of propaganda or otherwise attempting to influence legislation, or any initiative or referendum before the public, and the corporation shall not participate in, or intervene in (including by publication or distribution of statements), any political campaign on behalf of, or in opposition to, any candidate for public office.

3. Notwithstanding any other provision of these articles, the corporation shall not carry on any other activities not permitted to be carried on by a corporation exempt from federal income tax under Section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986, as now enacted or hereafter amended.

ARTICLE VII PERSONAL LIABILITY

No member, officer, or Director of this corporation shall be personally liable for the debts or obligations of this corporation of any nature whatsoever, nor shall any of the property of the members, officer, or Directors be subject to the payment of the debts or obligations of this corporation.

ARTICLE VIII DISSOLUTION

At the time of dissolution of the corporation, the Board of Directors shall, after paying or making provisions for the payment of all debts, obligations, liabilities, costs and expenses of the corporation, dispose of all of the assets of the corporation. In no case shall a disposition be made which would not qualify as a charitable contribution under Section 170(c)(1) or (2) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986, as now enacted or hereafter amended, in such manner as the Board of Directors shall determine.

ARTICLE IX INCORPORATOR

The name and address of the incorporator to these Articles of Incorporation is Richard F. Crockett, 343 Lee Street, LaBelle, Florida 33935 (Mail to: Post Office Box 2843, LaBelle, Florida 33975).


Richard F. Crockett, Incorporator

9-21-04
Date

ACCEPTANCE OF ASSIGNMENT OF REGISTERED AGENT

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

Richard F. Crockett
Richard F. Crockett, Registered Agent

9-21-04
Date

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TALLAHASSEE, FLORIDA