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J. Strangers JUL 15 2005



Ralph Elver Attorney & Counselor at Law

Florida Bar Number: 215848 Oklahoma Bar Number: 002714 email: ralphelver@paveselaw.com

P.O. Drawer 2280, 461 South Main Street, LaBelle, FL 33975 | (863) 675-5800 | (863) 983-6676 | Fax (863) 675-4998

July 12, 2005

SECRETARY OF STATE DIVISION OF CORPORATIONS PO BOX 6327 TALLAHASSEE FL 32314

Re:

LaBelle Christian Church, Inc.

Our file #71979.001

Gentlemen:

Enclosed you will find an original and one copy of the Articles of Incorporation, and an original and one copy of Registered Agent Designation, of the above referenced corporation. Please file the original, indicate the filing date on the copy, and return the copy to me.

Also enclosed is our check in the amount of \$70.00 covering the fees and charges for the items listed below, as indicated:

- A. Articles of Incorporation filing fee (\$35.00).
- B. Registered Agent Designation Filing Fee (\$35.00).

If the corporation name requested is not available, please call us immediately. Thank you for your cooperation.

Sincerely yours.

Ralph Elver

RE:pd

Enclosures

ARTICLES OF INCORPORATION

OF

LABELLE CHRISTIAN CHURCH, INC.

We, the undersigned, acknowledge and file in the Office of the Secretary of the State of Florida, for the purpose of forming a corporation not for profit in accordance with the laws of the State of Florida, these Articles of Incorporation, as by law provided.

ARTICLE I

Name

1.1 The name of the Corporation shall be LaBelle Christian Church, Inc., hereinafter referred to as the "Corporation," and the principal office shall be 125 Enclid Street, LaBelle, Florida.

ARTICLE II

Purposes and Powers

- 2.1 Purposes. The purposes for which the Corporation is formed are as follows:
- A. To disseminate the Gospel of Jesus Christ and the Word of God, to the end that people may be evangelized and believers may be conformed to the image of Jesus Christ.
- B. To regularly assemble together the members of this Corporation for fellowship one with another both in large public congregations and in small fellowship groups in houses and other places, to worship God in spirit and in truth and to cooperate in the building up of the whole body of Christ.
- C. To provide basis New Testament discipleship to all who are approved for this purpose by the Elders.
- D. To involve every participant of this Corporation in its fellowship and activities and in the ministry of the Holy Spirit throughout the Body of Christ.
- E. To strengthen the family units so that the home life of each member is healthy and fruitful by Biblical standards.

- F. To perform the Sacraments of the Church which include, but are not limited to, the following: 1) to baptize believers in water; 2) to anoint the sick with oil; 3) to conduct weddings and funerals; 4) to celebrate the Lord's Supper (Communion).
- G. To act with charitable concern for, and to help, not only members of this Corporation, but also all people in need of any help which this Corporation can give, regardless of race, social position, or religious affiliation; to develop and carry out programs of social action for poor, widowed, orphaned, afflicted, imprisoned, underprivileged, or aged persons, both within and without this Corporation.
- H. To pray for the needs of all people, for local and national leaders and governments and for all that are in authority as instructed in I Timothy 2:1-3.
- Christian life and witness by sound and comprehensive preaching and teaching of Biblical principals to all people, both within this Corporation and elsewhere, not only by conventional modes, but also by all means which will accomplish such communication, extension, teaching and preaching. This should include media of communication developed by modern technology. These purposes should include to sponsor, participate in, conduct or engage in radio broadcasting, television broadcasting, the printing of reproduction and publication of recordings, books and other materials, the establishment and operation of a school or schools, and the holding and conducting of seminars, study groups, work shops and meetings, by either resident or traveling ministers; to receive offerings for such purposes; and to grant aid and pay reasonable compensation to persons, firms and corporations for services actually rendered for such purposes; provided, however, that none of the foregoing shall be done for private profit.
- J. To establish and maintain a place of worship, study, recreation and social interaction, ministering to the whole family and to the whole person, spirit, soul and body.

- K. To recognize, support and cooperate with the various ministries established by God to equip believers to fulfill their respective functions as members of the Body of Christ and to bring the whole Body of Christ to unity, maturity and completion.
- L. To provide and maintain homes, places and buildings for housing of such students, lecturers, teachers and ministers, as well as other related members of the Corporation; to furnish to such students, lecturers, teachers, educators and ministers suitable meals and lodging.
- M. To acquire, either by deed, gift or purchase, any real estate or personal property to be held in trust for the benefit of the Corporation and its stated purposes.
- N. To mortgage, sell, or otherwise encumber any such property when such action is deemed to be in the best interests of the Corporation as defined in its stated purpose as a Christian organization.
- 2.2 Powers. To accomplish the foregoing purposes, the Corporation shall have all corporate powers permitted under Florida law, including the capacity to contract, bring suit and be sued. No part of the income of the Corporation shall be distributed to the members, directors, and officers of the Corporation.
- 2.3 The Corporation is specifically precluded from engaging in any prohibited activities as defined in Section 617.0105, Florida Statutes.
- 2.4 The corporation is organized exclusively for charitable, religious and educational purposes. Those purposes may include the making of distributions to other organizations that qualify as exempt under section 501©)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code or the corresponding section of any future federal tax code. The corporation may receive and administer funds for all of the aforesaid purposes within the meaning of Section 501©)(3).
- 2.5 No part of the net earnings of the Corporation shall inure to the benefit of any member, trustee, director or officer of the Corporation, or any private individual except that reasonable compensation may be paid for services rendered to or for the corporation affecting one or more of its purposes. No member, trustee, director, officer or private individual shall

be entitled to share in the distribution of any of the corporate assets on dissolution of the Corporation.

2.6 No substantial part of the activities of the Corporation shall be the carrying on of propaganda, or otherwise attempting to influence legislation, except legislation having a direct impact on the purpose or mission of the Corporation. Likewise, no substantial part of the activities of the Corporation shall include the dissemination or distribution of political statements on behalf of any specific candidate for public office.

ARTICLE III

Membership

- 3.1 A member must be a spiritually mature person openly expressing a personal belief and faith in the Lordship of Jesus Christ.
- 3.2 The subscribers to these Articles of Incorporation shall be three (3) of the original members of the Corporation. Additional members may be approved by the Elders. Such members, prior to being approved, must:
 - A. Accept, believe in and rely on Jesus Christ for his salvation;
 - B. Believe that the Holy Bible is the Word of God;
 - C. Confess faith in Jesus Christ as Lord;
 - D. Be baptized in water;
 - E. Commit to participate actively in the fellowship of the church;
 - F. Support the Corporation with tithes and offerings; and
- G. Submit to the authority of the Elders and to the discipline of the church.
- 3.3 Additional provisions regarding membership shall be made as Bylaws of this Corporation.

ARTICLE IV

Period of Duration and Dissolution

4.1 The Corporation shall have perpetual existence.

- 4.2 In the event of dissolution of this Corporation, no part of the Corporation's assets shall inure to the benefit of any member, but shall instead be distributed to such other charitable organization or organizations selected by the final Board of Directors of the Corporation which organization or organizations must qualify as charitable organizations under Sections 170 and 501(c)(3) of the United States Internal Revenue Code as the same may be amended.
- 4.3 Any assets not disposed of as set out in 4.2 above shall be disposed of by a court of general jurisdiction in the county in which the principal office of the Corporation is located. However, such distribution shall be to an organization or organizations, as the court may determine, which qualify pursuant to Section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code, as time to time amended.

ARTICLE V

Board of Directors

- 5.1 The affairs and property of the Corporation shall be managed and governed by a Board of Directors composed of not less than three persons nor more than seven persons.
- 5.2 Qualifications and provisions for electing of members of the Board of Directors shall be set by the Bylaws, but in any event a member of the Board of Directors shall have the qualifications of an elder or deacon.
 - 5.3 The names and addresses of the persons to serve as initial Directors are:

Johnny M. Martin 524 E. Osceola, Clewiston, Florida 33440

David A. Bussell Rt. 6 Box 812, Okeechobee, Florida

Donald W. Secrist 12525 Williams Road S.W., Lot 12

Moore Haven, Florida 33471

ARTICLE VI

Officers

6.1 The names of the officers who shall serve until the first election are as follows:

Johnny M. Martin

President

David A. Bussell

Vice President

Donald W. Secrist

Vice President

Tina Martin

Secretary & Treasurer

6.2 The qualifications and provisions for election of officers shall be set by the Bylaws.

ARTICLE VII

<u>Bylaws</u>

7.1 The Bylaws of the Corporation may be made, altered, amended or rescinded by vote of a majority of the members of the Board of Directors at a meeting called for such purposes.

ARTICLE VIII

<u>Amendments</u>

8.1 Amendments to the Articles of Incorporation may be proposed and adopted in the following manner: Such may be proposed and considered at any regular meeting of the Board of Directors, but may not be adopted until the next regular meeting of the Board of Directors and then only by a two-thirds (2/3) vote.

ARTICLE IX

Subscribers

9.1 The names and addresses of the subscribers to these Articles of Incorporation are as follows:

Johnny M. Martin

524 E. Osceola, Clewiston,

Florida 33440

David A. Bussell

Rt. 6 Box 812, Okeechobee,

Florida

Donald W. Secrist

12525 Williams Road S.W.,

Lot 12

Moore Haven, Florida 33471

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, the undersigned hereunto have set their hands this day of July, 2005.

John M. Martin

David A. Bussell

REGISTERED AGENT DESIGNATION CERTIFICATE of LABELLE CHRISTIAN CHURCH, INC.

The undersigned, pursuant to the provisions of Florida Statutes Section 607.325 and as an officer of LaBelle Christian Church, Inc., authorized to sign this designation on behalf of LaBelle Christian Church, Inc., hereby states:

I.

The address of this corporation's registered office, where service of process within the State of Florida may be served upon this corporation's registered agent, shall be:

125 Euclid Street, LaBelle, Florida 33935.

Π.

The name of the individual who shall serve as this corporation's registered agent, to accept service of process within the State of Florida, at that address is:

Johnny M. Martin.

David A Bussell, Corporate Officer

Donald W. Speriet Corporate Officer

ACCEPTANCE

Having been named as the registered agent, to accept service of process for the above named corporation, within the State of Florida, at the registered office address indicated above, for LaBelle Christian Church, Inc., I hereby accept the designation as the registered agent and agree to act and serve in that capacity on behalf of LaBelle Christian Church, Inc., and further agree to comply the provisions of all statutes relative to the proper and complete performance of my duties, and particularly to comply with Section 607.325, Florida Statutes.

Johnny M. Martin - Registered Agent

Date