

**NO8000002497**

Bethlehem United Methodist Church  
Clarence E. DeSue, Jr.  
712 SW Bethlehem Avenue  
Fort White, FL 32038

(Address)

(City/State/Zip/Phone #)

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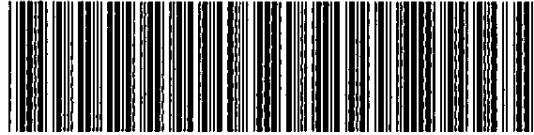
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TALLAHASSEE, FLORIDA

**Articles Of Incorporation**  
**OF**  
**BETHLEHEM UNITED METHODIST CHURCH, Inc.**

The undersigned, all of whom are citizens of the United States, desiring to form a corporation, not for profit, under FLORIDA (state authority or statute), do hereby certify:

**FIRST:** The name of said corporation shall be  
BETHLEHEM UNITED METHODIST CHURCH, INC.

**SECOND:** The place where the principal office of the corporation is to be located is Fort White, (Columbia) Florida  
(City, County, and State)

**THIRD:** The purpose or purposes for which the corporation is formed are as more fully set forth in the *Discipline* of The United Methodist Church or as may hereafter, from time to time, be amended including:

(a) The promotion of the Christian religion through the preaching of the Word of God, the administration of the sacraments, ordinances, and other means of grace, the maintenance of worship, the edification of believers, the evangelization of the world, and the promotion of the missionary and benevolence causes.

(b) The promotion of the Christian religion through the preaching of the Word of God, the administration of the sacraments, ordinances, and other means of grace, the maintenance of worship, the edification of believers, the evangelization of the world, and the promotion of the missionary and benevolence causes.

(c) Receiving, holding, and disbursing gifts, bequests, and funds arising from all sources.

(e) Acquiring, owning, and maintaining real estate, buildings, and other property real or personal, incidental, necessary, or proper to carry out said objects.

(d) Doing of any and all things necessary or incident to the accomplishment of such purposes.

(e) All of the above shall be in accordance with the Doctrines, Laws, Usages, *Discipline*, and Ministerial appointments of The United Methodist Church.

**FOURTH:** The following persons shall serve as the initial trustees of said corporation and shall serve as provided in the *Discipline* of The United Methodist Church:

NAME	ADDRESS
<u>JOSEPH SMITH</u>	<u>VERLENE GRIFFIN</u>
<u>EARNEST BROWN</u>	<u>RUDOLPH FREENEY</u>
<u>ELAINE CANTY</u>	<u>REGINALD RANDOLPH</u>
<u>HARVEY MC CLOUD</u>	<u>JAMES SHEPPARD</u>
<u>VERA BRIGHT</u>	

[Note: Not less than three (3), nor more than nine (9)]

**FIFTH:** Upon the filing of these Articles of Incorporation of BETHLEHEM U.M. CHURCH, the society or association now known as BETHLEHEM UNITED METHODIST CHURCH, a corporation not for profit, and the members of such society or association shall be members of such corporation, and all the rights, privileges, immunities, powers, franchises, authority, property, and obligations of such unincorporated society or association shall thereupon pass to, vest in, and be the rights, privileges, immunities, powers, franchises, authority, property, and obligations of BETHLEHEM UNITED METHODIST CHURCH, a corporation not for profit.

**SIXTH:** The corporation shall support the Doctrine of The United Methodist Church and all its property, both real and personal, shall be subject to the *Discipline*, Laws, Usages, and Ministerial appointments of The United Methodist Church as are now or shall be, from time to time, established, made, and declared by the lawful authority of the said church.

**SEVENTH:** The corporation, in conformity with the *Discipline* of The United Methodist Church, shall have the power to receive, acquire, and hold title, in trust or otherwise, to real and personal property, and to improve, encumber, lease, sell, convey, and dispose of all such property.

**EIGHTH:** Subject to the provisions of the *Discipline*, the corporation shall have the power to erect and maintain buildings for the worship of God, for training in Christian faith and conduct, and for Christian social intercourse, and to purchase, lease, and/or rent and otherwise acquire or build and maintain residences for the use and occupancy of its ministers.

**NINTH:** The business of this corporation shall be conducted in conformity with the *Discipline* of The United Methodist Church as the same now exists or as may hereafter be amended, changed, or modified, and the bylaws of the corporation shall include the *Discipline* of The United Methodist Church and no bylaws shall be adopted inconsistent with the provisions of said *Discipline*.

In addition to the powers and duties granted to this corporation by the *Discipline* of The United Methodist Church, the corporation assumes for itself all the rights, powers, and privileges and immunities which are now, and which may be during the existence thereof be

conferred by law upon corporation with a similar character, provided the same are not inconsistent with said *Discipline*. All amendments, bylaws, and regulations of this corporation shall at all times be in conformity with the *Discipline* of The United Methodist Church.

But notwithstanding the above, however, at no time shall any of the amendments, bylaws, or regulations of the corporation be prohibited by or in conflict with the nonprofit corporate laws of the State of FLORIDA.

**TENTH:** The members of the corporation shall mean the membership of the corporation and shall be composed of such persons (ministerial and lay) as from time to time shall be defined in accordance with the *Discipline* of The United Methodist Church, and such members thereof shall have only such voting and other rights as now exist or may hereafter be granted by the *Discipline* of The United Methodist Church.

**ELEVENTH:** If for any reason the corporation shall be abandoned, discontinued, or cease to exist as a legal entity and its charter shall expire or be terminated, the title to all its property both real and personal shall be vested and be the property of the BUMC annual conference of The United Methodist Church, pursuant to said *Discipline* of The United Methodist Church, and if it should not be in existence to any successor United Methodist organization and if none to an organization qualified under § 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code of the United States.

**IN WITNESS WHEREOF**, we have hereunto subscribed our names, this 13TH day of FEBRUARY, 20 08

JOSEPH SMITH  
EARNEST BROWN  
HARVEY MCCLOUD  
RUDOLPH FREENEY  
REGINALD RANDOLPH  
JAMES SHEPPARD

VERA BRIGHT  
ELAINE CANTY  
VERLENE GRIFFIN

**INCORPORATORS**

Joseph Smith  
Earnest Brown  
Harvey McCloud  
  
(place)  
FEBRUARY 13, 20 08

## Original Appointment Of Agent

The undersigned, being at least a majority of the incorporators of BETHLEHEM UNITED METHODIST CHURCH  
a corporation not for profit, hereby appoints CLARENCE DESUE, JR., PASTOR  
(name of agent), a natural person, resident of FLORIDA (state), in which the  
corporation has its principal office, as agent of 712 SW BETHLEHEM AVENUE; FT. WHITE, FL 32038  
(name of corporation), upon whom any process, notice, or demand required or permitted by  
statute to be served upon the corporation may be served. His/her complete address is  
BETHLEHEM UNITED METHODIST CHURCH/CLARENCE E. DESUE, JR.  
5808 NW 177TH STREET; STARKE, FL 32091-5555 (Name of Corporation)

Rudolph Freeney *Rudolph Freeney* By  
Elaine Cauty *Elaine Cauty* By Earnest Brown *Earnest Brown*  
Verlene Griffin *Verlene Griffin* By Harvey McCloud *Harvey McCloud*  
Incorporator  
Fort White, Florida (place)

Bethlehem United Methodist Church, Inc.  
(Name of Corporation)

February 13, 2008

**To Whom It May Concern:** I hereby accept appointment as agent of your corporation upon  
whom process, tax notices, or demands may be served.

*Clarence DeSue, Jr.*  
Clarence DeSue, Jr.  
(Statutory Agent)

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