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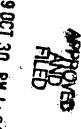




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SECRETARY OF STATE



## JOSEPH L. VAUGHN, JR., P.A. ATTORNEY AT LAW

2468 Atlantic Boulevard Jacksonville, Florida 32207 (904) 346-0013 Facsimile (904) 396-9778 Also Admitted in Alabama

#### October 29, 2009

Florida Department of State Registration Section Division of Corporations Clifton Building 2661 Executive Center Circle Tallahassee, Florida 32301 Via U.S. Express Mail EH 914996523 US

RE:

Filing for new Florida Not-for-Profit Corporation First Baptist Church West Jacksonville, Inc.

## Dear Department of State:

Enclosed are the following documents for filing for the formation of a new Florida Not-for-Profit Corporation on behalf of First Baptist Church West Jacksonville, Inc.:

- 1. Original Articles of Incorporation.
- 2. Copy of Articles of Incorporation (for date stamping and return to me).
- 3. Our firm check payable to the Florida Department of State for \$87.50 (which includes the filing fee, Certified Copy and Certificate of Status).

Please forward the date-stamped copy of Articles of Incorporation, Certified Copy and Certificate of Status to me at the address listed on this letterhead.

Thank you for your prompt attention to this matter. Please call me if you have any questions or need any additional information.

Very truly yours,

oseph L, Way

JLV

Enclosures

cc: Dr. H. Eugene Hodges

## ARTICLES OF INCORPORATION

**OF** 

# FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH WEST JACKSONVILLE, INC. (Florida Not For Profit)

99 OCT 30 PM 4: 36
SECRETARY OF STATE
TALLAHASSEE, FLORIDA



The undersigned, a natural person, acting as incorporator of a corporation under Chapter 617, Florida Statutes (the Florida Not For Profit Corporation Act) hereby adopts and files the following Articles of Incorporation for the purpose of organizing a Florida Not For Profit corporation.

## ARTICLE I NAME

The name of the corporation is **FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH WEST JACKSONVILLE**, **INC.** (the "Corporation").

# ARTICLE II PRINCIPAL OFFICE AND MAILING ADDRESS

The street address of the initial principal office of the Corporation is 1528 Grandview Drive, Jacksonville, Florida 32211. The mailing address of the Corporation is 1528 Grandview Drive, Jacksonville, Florida 32211.

# ARTICLE III EFFECTIVE DATE AND DURATION

The existence of the Corporation shall begin on the date of filing of these Articles of Incorporation with the Department of State, Division of Corporations, State of Florida, and the term of duration of the Corporation shall be perpetual.

# ARTICLE IV NON-PROFIT CORPORATION

The Corporation is a nonprofit corporation organized under the Florida Not For Profit Corporation Act, Chapter 617, Florida Statutes, and shall have all of the powers, duties, authorizations and responsibilities as provided therein. Notwithstanding the foregoing, the Corporation shall neither have nor exercise any power, nor engage directly or indirectly in any activity that would invalidate its status as an organization exempt from federal income tax and described in Section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986, as amended, (the "Internal Revenue Code") or the corresponding provisions of any subsequent federal tax laws.

# ARTICLE V PURPOSES AND POWERS

## Section 1 Purposes

- (a) The Corporation is organized and shall be operated exclusively for religious, charitable, and educational purposes within the meaning of Section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code, or the corresponding provisions of any subsequent federal tax laws. In furtherance of such purposes, the Corporation shall be for the worship of Almighty God according to the teaching of the Word of God, the Bible, to conduct public services, and to preach the Gospel for the salvation of the lost everywhere; to teach believers the Word of God for their edification, and to train them for definite, effective, and active service; and, to urge all believers to engage in greater depths of prayer, a constant separated life, and a complete surrender to the will of God.
- (b) The Corporation is also organized to promote, encourage, and foster any other similar religious, charitable and educational activities; to accept, hold, invest, reinvest and administer any gifts, legacies, bequests, devises, funds and property of any sort or nature, and to use, expend, or donate the income or principal thereof for, and to devote the same to, the foregoing purposes of the Corporation; and to do any and all lawful acts and things which may be necessary, useful, suitable, or proper for the furtherance of accomplishment of the purposes of the Corporation. Provided, however, no act may be performed which would violate Section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code, or the corresponding provisions of any subsequent federal tax laws.

#### Section 2 Powers

(a) In furtherance of the foregoing purposes and objectives and subject to the restrictions set forth in Section 3 below, the Corporation shall have and may exercise all of the powers set forth in Chapter 617, Florida Statutes (the Florida Not For Profit Corporation Act), as it now exists or as it may hereafter be amended, and as provided in the bylaws of the Corporation, and may do everything necessary or convenient for the accomplishment of any of the corporate purposes.

#### Section 3 Restrictions on Powers

The powers of the Corporation to promote the purposes set out above are restricted in the following manner:

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FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH WEST JACKSONVILLE, INC.

- (a) No part of the net earnings of the Corporation shall inure to the benefit of or be distributable to the incorporator, any member, director or officer of the Corporation, or any other individual, except that the Corporation shall be authorized and empowered to make payments and distributions (including reasonable compensation for services rendered to or for the Corporation) in furtherance of its purposes as set forth in these Articles.
- (b) No substantial part of the activities of the Corporation shall consist of carrying on propaganda, or otherwise attempting to influence legislation, and the Corporation shall not participate in, or intervene in (including the publication or distribution of statements) any political campaign on behalf of, or in opposition to, any candidate for public office.
- (c) Notwithstanding any other provision of these Articles of Incorporation, the Corporation shall not carry on any activities not permitted to be carried on by (i) a corporation exempt from federal income tax as an organization described in Section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code, or the corresponding provisions of any subsequent federal tax laws, or (ii) a corporation, contributions to which are deductible under Section 170(c)(2) of the Internal Revenue Code, or the corresponding provisions of any subsequent federal tax laws.
- (d) In the event the Corporation is in any one year a "private foundation" as defined by Section 509(a) of the Internal Revenue Code, or the corresponding provisions of any subsequent federal tax laws, it shall be required to distribute its income for such taxable year at such time and in such manner as not to subject the foundation to taxation under Section 4942 of the Internal Revenue Code, or the corresponding provisions of any subsequent federal tax laws; and further shall be prohibited from: (i) any act of "self dealing" as defined in Section 4941(d) of the Internal Revenue Code, or the corresponding provisions of any subsequent federal tax laws; (ii) retaining any "excess business holdings" as defined by Section 4943(c) of the Internal Revenue Code, or the corresponding provisions of any subsequent federal tax laws; (iii) making any investments in such manner as to subject the foundation to taxation under Section 4944 of the Internal Revenue Code, or the corresponding provisions of any subsequent federal tax laws; or (iv) making any taxable expenditures as defined in Section 4945(d) of the Internal Revenue Code, or the corresponding provisions of any subsequent federal tax laws.
- (e) The Corporation shall not accept any gift or grant if the gift or grant contains major conditions which would restrict or violate any of the Corporation's religious, charitable or educational purposes or if the gift or

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grant would require serving a private as opposed to a public interest.

- (f) Any and all property, both real and personal, which may be owned by the Corporation, is and shall always be exclusively and irrevocably dedicated to the exempt purposes of the Corporation. On dissolution of the Corporation, the Corporation shall, after paying or making provision for payment of all the liabilities of the Corporation, distribute all of the assets of the Corporation to Franklin Street Baptist Church, Inc., located in Jacksonville, Florida, if said church is still in existence at such time and qualifies as a charitable organization under Section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code, or the corresponding provisions of any subsequent federal tax laws. If not, then the assets of the Corporation shall be distributed to a charitable organization that qualifies under Section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code, or the corresponding provisions of any subsequent federal tax laws, at such time, as determined by the then acting Board of Directors of the Corporation.
- (g) All references in these Articles of Incorporation to provisions of the Internal Revenue Code are to the provisions of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986, as amended, and shall include the corresponding provisions of any subsequent federal tax laws.

## ARTICLE VI INCORPORATOR

The name and address of the incorporator of the Corporation are:

Dr. H. Eugene ("Gene") Hodges 1528 Grandview Drive Jacksonville, Florida 32211

# ARTICLE VII DENOMINATIONAL AFFILIATION

The government of the Corporation is vested in its members subject to the provisions set forth in the bylaws of the Corporation. It is subject to the control of no other ecclesiastical body, but it recognizes the need for mutual counsel and cooperation which are common among Baptist churches. The Corporation shall be affiliated with, and act in cooperation with, the Jacksonville Baptist Association, the Florida Baptist Convention, and the Southern Baptist Convention.

# ARTICLE VIII BOARD OF DIRECTORS

(a) <u>Board of Directors</u>. The legal affairs of the Corporation shall be conducted by the Board of Directors, subject to the bylaws of the Corporation. The number of directors, their classifications, if any, their terms of office and the manner of their selection or appointment shall be determined according to the bylaws of the Corporation, but in no event shall there be less than three (3) directors. Four (4) directors shall constitute the Initial Board of Directors. The Initial Board of Directors shall serve until the first annual meeting of the members of the Corporation, or until the respective Directors' successors have been elected and qualified as provided for in the bylaws of the Corporation.

The names and mailing addresses of the Initial Board of Directors are as follows:

Dr. H. Eugene ("Gene") Hodges 1528 Grandview Drive Jacksonville, Florida 32211

Gordon S. Edwards 7022 Bakersfield Drive Jacksonville, Florida 32210

Jerome S. Sullivan 1036 Legay Avenue Jacksonville, Florida 32205

Robert L. Wallace 1050 Knoll Cove Jacksonville, Florida 32221

(b) <u>Liability</u>. The Corporation may indemnify its directors, officers, employees, agents or fiduciaries in their capacity as such to the fullest extent permitted by Florida Law and as may be further set forth in the bylaws of the Corporation.

## ARTICLE IX INITIAL REGISTERED OFFICE AND AGENT

The street address of the Corporation's initial registered office is 1528 Grandview Drive, Jacksonville, Florida 32211. The name of the initial registered agent at that address is Dr. H. Eugene ("Gene") Hodges.

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## ARTICLE X MEMBERSHIP

Membership in the Corporation shall be allowed as set forth in the bylaws of the Corporation.

## ARTICLE XI AMENDMENT

The Corporation reserves the right to amend, alter, change, or repeal any provisions contained in its Articles of Incorporation, in the manner now or hereafter prescribed by statute, and all rights conferred upon members of the Corporation in the bylaws or by Florida Law are granted subject to this reservation.

#### **EXECUTION**

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, the undersigned incorporator has executed these Articles of Incorporation this 29 day of October, 2009.

Dr. H. Eugene ("Gene") Hodges

Incorporator

#### STATEMENT ACCEPTING APPOINTMENT AS REGISTERED AGENT

Having been named as registered agent to accept service of process for FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH WEST JACKSONVILLE, INC., at the place designated in these Articles of Incorporation, I accept the appointment as the registered agent. I am familiar with and accept the obligations of the position of registered agent and agree to act in this capacity.

Dr. H. Eugene ("Gene") Hodges
Registered Agent

Date: OCTOBER 29 2009

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