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Gwen Lisboa

Account Name : GARDNER BREWER MARTINEZ-MONFORT, P.A.

Account Number : I20060000058 Phone : (813)221-9600

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### FLORIDA PROFIT/NON PROFIT CORPORATION

First United Methodist Church of Tarpon Springs, Inc

Certificate of Status	0
Certified Copy	1
Page Count	06
Estimated Charge	\$78.75

From: Gwendlyn Lisboa

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### ARTICLES OF INCORPORATION OF

FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH OF TARPON SPRINGS, INC. (a corporation not for profit)

The undersigned, acting as the incorporators of a corporation not for profit pursuant to Chapter 617, Florida Statutes, hereby makes, subscribes, acknowledges and files the following Articles of Incorporation:

### ARTICLE I Name and Address

The name of the corporation shall be FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH QF TARPON SPRINGS, INC. (the "Corporation"). Pending any change authorized by the Corporation's Board of Directors, the Corporation's principal offices shall be located at 501 East Tarpor Avenue. Tarpon Springs, FL 34689.

### ARTICLE II Tem

- This Corporation shall exist in perpetuity.
- 2. If for any reason the Corporation shall be abandoned, discontinued, or cease to exist as a legal entity or its charter shall expire or be terminated, the title to all its property both real and personal shall be vested in and be the property of THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES OF THE FLORIDA ANNUAL CONFERENCE OF THE UNITED METHODIST CHURCH, INC., a Florida not for profit corporation, pursuant to *The Book of Discipline of The United Methodist Church* (hereafter "the Discipline"), provided it is then an organization qualified under Section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code of the United States; and if not, to any other organization, designated by the Florida Annual Conference of The United Methodist Church, or its successor (hereafter "the Annual Conference"), which is then qualified under Section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code of the United States.
- 3. The Corporation cannot sever its connectional relationship to The United Methodist Church, except as provided in *the Discipline*.

### ARTICLE III Purposes

1. The Corporation is a religious corporation. It is organized as a local United Methodist church for religious purposes, supports the doctrine of The United Methodist Church, and declares itself and all of its property subject to the law, usages, and ministerial appointments of The United Methodist Church.

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- 2. The Corporation is to be operated exclusively for charitable, religious, and educational purposes, 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, or the corresponding section of any future federal tax code. No part of the net earnings of the Corporation shall inure to the benefit of, or be distributable to its members, directors, trustees, officers, or other private persons, except that the Corporation 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 above. No substantial part of the activities of the Corporation shall be the carrying on of propaganda, or otherwise attempting to influence legislation, and the Corporation shall not participate in, or intervene in (including the publishing or distribution of statements) any political campaign on behalf of or in opposition to any candidate for public office.
- 3. The Corporation is also formed for the purpose of performing all other acts and carrying on and conducting all other activities necessary or useful in connection with or incidental to the accomplishment of any of the purposes set forth herein to the full extent permitted by the laws of the State of Florida and these articles, and shall operate in compliance with *the Discipline*.
- 4. Notwithstanding any other provision of these articles, the Corporation 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, or the corresponding section of any future federal tax code, or (b) by a corporation, contributions to which are deductible under section 170(c)(2) of the Internal Revenue Code, or the corresponding section of any future federal tax code.

# ARTICLE IV Membership

The Corporation will have members. Upon the filing of these Articles of Incorporation, the members of the former unincorporated local church, First United Methodist Church of Tarpon Springs, 501 East Tarpon Avenue, Tarpon Springs, FL 34689, shall be members of the Corporation. Only those members of the Corporation who are members of the Charge Conference, as defined in *the Discipline*, are entitled to vote at a meeting of the members; provided, however if the District Superintendent convenes a Charge Conference as a Church Conference, all members of the Corporation present shall be entitled to vote.

#### ARTICLE V Incorporators

The names and addresses of the incorporators of this Corporation are as follows:

Mark Williams
1031 Peninsula Avenue, Tarpon Springs, FL 34689

Glenn Lahr 3311 Gina Court, Holiday, FL 34691

Robert H. Gause 247 Anclote Road, Tarpon Springs, FI. 34689

Carole Wilcox 1515 Forde Avenue, Tarpon Springs, FL 34689

Edward A. Kellum 1717 Avoca Drive, Tarpon Springs, FL 34689

Carmella Giannone 9927 Lopez Drive, New Port Richey, FL 34655

Donna Frede 1124 Lauren Lane, Apartment 4210, Tarpon Springs, FL 34689

Zak Edwards 1121 Yale Drive, Holiday, FL 34691

#### ARTICLE VI Registered Agent

The name of the initial Registered Agent of the Corporation is J. Stephen Gardner, whose office is located at 400 N. Ashley Drive, Suite 1100, Tampa, FL 33602.

# ARTICLE VII Management

The powers of this Corporation shall be exercised, its properties controlled, and its affairs conducted by a Board of Directors (hereinafter referred to as the "Board of Trustees"), the precise number of which shall be set by the By-Laws of the Corporation, provided that there shall be a minimum of three (3) and not more than nine (9) members of the Board of Trustees at all times. The number of initial members of the Board of Trustees of the Corporation shall be eight (8), provided, that such number may be changed from time to time as permitted by the By-Laws. Each member of the Board of Trustees shall be elected in the manner and for the terms prescribed in the By-Laws, and shall hold office until his or her successor is duly elected and qualified. The names and addresses of the initial members of the Board of Trustees of the Corporation are as follows:

Mark Williams 1031 Peninsula Avenue, Tarpon Springs, FL 34689

Glenn Lahr 3311 Gina Court, Holiday, FL 34691

Robert H. Gause 247 Anclote Road, Tarpon Springs, FL 34689

Carole Wilcox 1515 Forde Avenue, Tarpon Springs, FL 34689

Edward A. Kellum 1717 Avoca Drive, Tarpon Springs, FL 34689

Carmella Giannone 9927 Lopez Drive, New Port Richey, FL 34655

Donna Frede 1124 Lauren Lane, Apartment 4210, Tarpon Springs, FL 34689

Zak Edwards 1121 Yale Drive, Holiday, FL 34691

### ARTICLE VIII Bv-Laws

The Board of Trustees of the Corporation shall adopt such By-Laws for the conduct of its activities as it may deem appropriate. The By-Laws, as so adopted, may be amended, altered or rescinded in the manner provided in the By-Laws.

# ARTICLE IX Amendments

Upon proper notice, these Articles of Incorporation may be further amended by the Board of Trustees in the manner provided in the By-Laws.

### ARTICLE X Distribution of Assets

Upon the dissolution of the Corporation, assets shall be distributed in accordance with Article II of these Articles of Incorporation. Any such assets not so disposed of shall be disposed of by a court of competent jurisdiction of the county in which the principal office of the Corporation is then located, exclusively for such purposes or to such organization or organizations, as said court shall determine which are organized and operated exclusively for such purposes.

# ARTICLE XI Defense and Indemnification of Officers and Directors

The Corporation shall defend, indemnify and hold harmless every registered agent, director, trustee or officer and his or her heirs, personal representatives and administrators against liability and against expenses reasonably incurred by him or her in connection with any action, suit or proceeding to which he or she may be made a party by reason of his or her having been a director, trustee or officer of this Corporation, except in relation to matters as to which he or she shall be finally adjudged in such action, suit or proceeding to be hable for willful misconduct.

Dated this 4th day of May, 2021

MARK WILLIAMS

GLENN LA

ROBERT H. GAUSE

CAROLE WILCOX

EDWARD A KELLIM

CARMETALA GIANNONE

DONNATREDE

ZAK EDWARDS

CALLASSEE FLORI

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#### ACCEPTANCE BY REGISTERED AGENT

Having been named as Registered Agent to accept service of process for the above named Corporation at the place designated in above in these articles of incorporation, I am familiar with and accept the appointment as Registered Agent and agree to act in this capacity.

Dated: 17, 2021.

J. Stephen Gardner

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