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#### **COVER LETTER**

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	(PROPOSED CORF	ORATE NAME - <u>MUST IN</u>	<u>CLUĎE SUFFIX</u> )
<del>-</del>		ticles of Incorporation and	
□ \$70.00 Filing Fee	■ \$78.75 Filing Fee & Certificate of Status	□\$78.75 Filing Fee & Certified Copy	☐ \$87.50 Filing Fee. Certified Copy & Certificate
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FROM:

| STEPHEN BYERS |
| Name (Printed or typed) |
| 4741 ASHVILLE HIGHWAY |
| Address |
| MONTICELLO, FL 32344 |
| City, State & Zip |
| 412-571-4357 |
| Daytime Telephone number |
| stevebyers@gamil.com |
| E-mail address: (to be used for future annual report notification)

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

## ARTICLES OF INCORPORATION OF HILLTOP CHRISTIAN FELLOWSHIP, INC.

The undersigned incorporator, for the purpose of forming a Corporation under the provisions of Chapter 617 of the Florida Statutes, the Florida Not for Profit Corporation Act, does hereby adopt the following Articles of Incorporation:

#### ARTICLE I - NAME

The name of the Corporation is: HILLTOP CHRISTIAN FELLOWSHIP, INC.

#### ARTICLE II - PRINCIPAL OFFICE

The address of the principal office of this Corporation is 4741 Ashville Highway, Monticello, Florida 32344, and the mailing address is the same.

#### ARTICLE III - PURPOSE

The purpose of this Corporation is to engage in any activity or business permitted under the laws of the United States and of the State of Florida and not for pecuniary profit. The specific purpose of the corporation will be to provide worship services as a church and to preach and to spread the good news of the gospel of Jesus Christ. To the extent permitted by Code Section 501(c)(3), the Corporation is organized exclusively for one or more of the following purposes: religious, charitable, scientific, testing for public safety, literary, or educational purposes, or to foster national or international amateur sports competition, or for the prevention of cruelty to children or animals. All references to "Code" are to the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 as amended or to corresponding provisions of future federal tax legislation.

#### ARTICLE IV - BOARD OF DIRECTORS

The manner in which the directors are elected or appointed are stated in the bylaws of the corporation. The affairs of the Corporation shall be managed by a Board of Directors consisting of no less than three directors. The number of directors may be increased from time to time in accordance with the bylaws of the corporation, but may never be less than three. The directors shall be protected from personal liability to the fullest extent permitted by law.

#### ARTICLE V - INITIAL BOARD OF DIRECTORS

The name and address of the initial Board of Directors and Officers shall be:

STEPHEN J. BYERS 4741 Ashville Highway Monticello, Florida 32344 PRESIDENT & DIRECTOR

KYLE FRENCH 2574 NW 38<sup>th</sup> Street Boca Raton, Florida 33434 SECRETARY & DIRECTOR

JOHN BALENO 1456 E. Bexley Drive Delray Beach, Florida 33445 **VICE PRESIDENT & DIRECTOR** 

#### ARTICLE VI - INCORPORATOR

The name and address of the incorporator is:

STEPHEN J. BYERS 4741 Ashville Highway Monticello, Florida 32344

#### ARTICLE VII - REGISTERED AGENT

The street address of the initial registered office of this Corporation is 4741 Ashville Highway, Monticello, Florida 32344 and the name of its initial Registered Agent at that address is STEPHEN J. BYERS.

#### ARTICLE VIII – TERM OF EXISTENCE

The period of duration of this corporation is perpetual.

#### ARTICLE IX – QUALIFICATIONS OF MEMBERSHIP

The categories of memberships, qualifications of memberships and the manner of admission shall be set forth in and regulated by the By Laws of the Corporation.

#### ARTICLE X - VOTING RIGHTS

Members of the corporation will have such voting rights as are provided for in the By Laws of the Corporation.

#### **ARTICLE XI - LIMITATIONS**

No part of the net earnings of the Corporation shall inure to the benefit of its directors, officers, members 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 any of its purposes. No substantial part of the activities of the Corporation shall be the carrying on of propaganda or otherwise attempting to influence legislation, except as otherwise provided in Code Section 501(h). The Corporation shall not participate or intervene in any political campaign (including the publishing or distributing of statements) on behalf of any candidate for public office. Notwithstanding any other provision of these Articles of Incorporation, the Corporation shall not carry on any activities except those permitted to be carried on by a corporation exempt from federal income tax under the Code Section 501(c)(3) or by a corporation contributions to which are deductible under Code Section 170(c)(2).

#### ARTICLE XII – PRIVATE FOUNDATION RESTRICTIONS

Until the Internal Revenue Service issues a determination letter regarding the tax exemption of the Corporation and thereafter for such time as the Corporation continues to be a private foundation within the meaning of Section 509 of the Internal Revenue Code, (the "Code"), notwithstanding any other provision of these articles of incorporation, this Article XII shall apply and the Corporation shall:

- 1. Distribute its income for each tax year for the purpose set forth in Article III, hereinabove, at such time and in such manner and in such amounts as not to become subject to the tax on undistributed income imposed by Section 4942 of the Code; and
- 2. Not engage in any act of self dealing as defined in Section 4941(d) of the Code that would subject the Corporation to tax under Section 4941 of the Code; and
- 3. Nor retain any excess business holdings as defined in Section 4943(c) of the Code, that would subject the Corporation to tax under Section 4943 of the Code; and

- 4. Not make any investments in a manner that would jeopardize the carrying out of any of the exempt purposes of the Corporation within the meaning of Section 4944 of the Code that would subject it to the tax under Section 4944 of the Code; and
- 5. Not make any taxable expenditures as defined in Section 4945 of the Code that would subject the Corporation to tax under Section 4945 of the Code.

#### ARTICLE XIII - RIGHT TO AMEND

This Corporation reserves the right to amend, alter, change or repeal any provision contained in these Articles of Incorporation, or in any amendment hereto, or to add any provision to these Articles of Incorporation or to any amendment hereto, by a majority vote of the board of directors currently in office at any regular or special meeting called for that purpose.

#### ARTICLE XIV - DISSOLUTION

Upon the dissolution or winding up of the Corporation, the assets remaining after payment (or provision for payment) of the Corporation's debts and liabilities shall be distributed to a not-for-profit corporation, trust, community fund or foundation that has established its tax exempt status under Code Section 501(c)(3). As the board of directors shall determine.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, the undersigned, being the incorporator named above, for the purpose of forming this Corporation to do business both within and without the State of Florida, under the laws of Florida, make and file these Articles of Incorporation, declaring and certifying that the facts stated above are true, and hereunto set my hand and seal this 30 day of April, 2021.

STATE OF FLORIDA )
COUNTY OF PALM BEACH )

The foregoing document was acknowledged before me by STEPHEN J. BYERS by mean of physical presence or \_\_\_\_ by using audio visual communications for a remote online notary, who is personally known to me \_\_\_\_ or has produced her \_\_\_\_ as proof of identification and who did personally take an oath.

My Commission Expires:

ROBERT L. SHEARIN
Commission # HH 099789
Expires April 3, 2025
Bonded Thru Budget Notary Services

NOTARY PUBLIC

### ACCEPTANCE OF REGISTERED AGENT DESIGNATED IN ARTICLES OF INCORPORATION

I, STEPHEN J. BYERS, 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 the proper and complete performance of my duties, and I am familiar with and accept the obligations of my position as registered agent.

STEPHEN J. BYER