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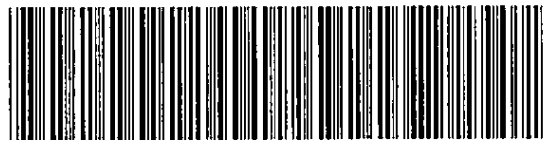
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D. O'KEEFE

MAR 22 2023

COVER LETTER

Department of State
Division of Corporations
P. O. Box 6327
Tallahassee, FL 32314

SUBJECT: FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH OF WEWAHITCHKA
(PROPOSED CORPORATE NAME – MUST INCLUDE SUFFIX)

Enclosed is an original and one (1) copy of the Articles of Incorporation and a check for :

☐ \$70.00
Filing Fee

☐ \$78.75
Filing Fee &
Certificate of
Status

☐ \$78.75
Filing Fee
& Certified Copy

☒ \$87.50
Filing Fee,
Certified Copy
& Certificate

ADDITIONAL COPY REQUIRED

FROM: KRISTIN WOOTEN

Name (Printed or typed)

273 JAMES DRIVE

Address

WEWAHITCHKA, FLORIDA 32465

City, State & Zip

Daytime Telephone number

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
FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH OF WEWAHITCHKA, INC.**
In compliance with Chapter 617, F.S., (Not for profit)

The undersigned incorporator adopts and submits to the Florida Department of State for filing the following Articles of Incorporation to incorporate a corporation not for profit under the Florida Not For Profit Corporation Act:

ARTICLE I. NAME

The name of the corporation is FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH OF WEWAHITCHKA, INC.

ARTICLE II. PRINCIPAL OFFICE

The street address of the principal office of the corporation is as follows:

335 Highway 71 S, Wewahitchka, Florida 32465.

The mailing address of the corporation is P. O. Box 265, Wewahitchka, Florida 32465.

ARTICLE III. PURPOSE

The corporation is organized and shall be operated exclusively for religious, charitable, and educational purposes to establish and maintain a United Methodist local church in Wewahitchka, Florida, that supports the doctrine of The United Methodist Church and is exempt from United States income taxation under Section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986, as amended. The corporation declares itself and all its property subject to the law, usages, and ministerial appointments of The United Methodist Church, and it shall be operated at all times in compliance with The Book of Discipline of The United Methodist Church, as amended, revised, or modified from time to time by the General Conference of The United Methodist Church (the "Discipline"). In its function as a church, the corporation is sometimes referred to in these Articles of Incorporation as "the church."

ARTICLE IV. POWERS

The corporation has and may exercise all powers conferred on a corporation not for profit under the laws of the State of Florida, provided, however, that its corporate powers are subject to the Discipline and cannot exceed the powers given to a local church by the Discipline. In addition, the corporation shall not act in any manner or engage in any activity that (a) is contrary to the Discipline, the purposes of The United Methodist Church, or the purposes of the annual conference of the United Methodist Church with which the church is affiliated, (b) would

cause the corporation to cease to be exempt from income taxation under Section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986, as amended, or the corresponding provision of any superseding United States income tax law, or (c) would cause contributions to the corporation to cease to be deductible under Section 170(c)(2) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986, as amended, or the corresponding provision of any superseding United States income tax law. In addition, the corporation shall not engage in any activity attempting to influence legislation by propaganda or otherwise, and the corporation shall not participate or intervene in any political campaign on behalf of, or in opposition to, a candidate for public office. The corporation shall not permit any of its assets, income, or net earnings to be distributed to, or inure to the benefit of, any member, officer, director, trustee, or other private person, provided that the corporation may pay reasonable compensation for services rendered and make payments and distributions in furtherance of its purposes. Notwithstanding the foregoing or anything else in these Articles of Incorporation to the contrary, the corporation shall not adopt any bylaws, regulations, or amendments to these Articles of Incorporation that conflict with, or are prohibited by, the federal laws of the United States or the laws of the State of Florida that are applicable to corporations not for profit.

ARTICLE V. TRUST PROPERTY

The corporation has and shall maintain a connectional relationship with The United Methodist Church and shall not sever that connectional relationship without the advance approval of the annual conference of The United Methodist Church with which it is affiliated. All real property and all tangible and intangible personal property owned by the corporation shall be held in trust for the use and benefit of the corporation as a United Methodist Church and The United Methodist Church and subject to the provisions of the Discipline.

ARTICLE VI. MEMBERS

The corporation will have members. The members of the corporation will be all the professing members of the church, as determined pursuant to the Discipline. Nevertheless, only those persons who are members of the charge conference of the church, as determined pursuant to the Discipline, are entitled to vote at a meeting of members of the corporation, unless the district superintendent for the district of the annual conference of The United Methodist Church with which the church is affiliated convenes a charge conference of the church as a church conference, in which case all the members of the church who are present at the meeting in person or by proxy will be entitled to vote.

ARTICLE VII. BOARD OF DIRECTORS

The affairs and operations of the corporation will be managed under the authority and direction of a board of directors that will be referred to as the Board of Trustees and constitute

the board of trustees of the church that is contemplated by the Discipline. The trustees of the corporation must be professing members of The United Methodist Church who are at least 18 years of age. The number of trustees may be increased or decreased from time to time, as provided in the Bylaws of the corporation, but shall never have fewer than three or more than nine trustees. The names and addresses of the initial trustees of the corporation are as follows:

Name	Address
Rebecca Birmingham	P.O. Box 663, Wewahitchka, FL 32465
Jerry Pridgeon	P.O. Box 581, Wewahitchka, FL 32465
Houston Whitfield	P. O. Box 822, Wewahitchka, FL 32465
Sara Joe Wooten	221 James Drive, Wewahitchka, FL 32465

The corporation is constituted as a local church of The United Methodist Church in the manner provided in the Discipline, the trustees of the corporation must be professing members of the church and The United Methodist Church who are elected by the charge conference of the church at an annual meeting as provided in the Discipline and the Bylaws of the corporation.

ARTICLE VIII. DISSOLUTION

Upon its dissolution, the corporation shall convey, transfer, or distribute all its remaining assets and property, after the payment of all liabilities of the corporation and all costs and expenses of dissolution and liquidation, to the annual conference of The United Methodist Church with which the church is connected or, if it no longer exists, to one or more organizations that have a connectional relationship with The United Methodist Church and qualify for exemption from income taxation under Section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986, as amended, or the corresponding provision of any superseding United States income tax law.

ARTICLE IX. REGISTERED AGENT AND OFFICE

The street address of the initial registered office of the corporation and the name of its initial registered agent at that address are as follows: Kristin Wooten, 273 James Drive, Wewahitchka, FL 32465.

ARTICLE X. INCORPORATOR

The name and street address of the incorporator of the corporation are as follows: Sara Joe Wooten, 221 James Drive, Wewahitchka, FL 32465.

ARTICLE XI. BYLAWS AND AMENDMENTS

The corporation may adopt, amend, and repeal bylaws and amend any provision of these Articles of Incorporation with the affirmative vote of a majority of all the trustees of the corporation and the written approval of the pastor and charge conference of the church and the District Superintendent of the annual conference of The United Methodist Church with which the church is affiliated. The corporation shall not adopt any bylaws that are contrary or inconsistent with the provisions of the Discipline.

ARTICLE XII. COMMENCEMENT OF EXISTENCE

The existence of the corporation will commence as of the date when these Articles of Incorporation are filed by the Florida Department of State.

Date: 2/20/2023 Sara Joe Wooten, Incorporator
Sara Joe Wooten

ACCEPTANCE OF REGISTERED AGENT

Having been named as registered agent and to accept service of process for the above stated corporation at the place designated in these Articles of Incorporation, I 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.

Date: 2/20/2023 Kristin Wooten, Registered Agent
Kristin Wooten

FILED
2023 MAR -1 AM 10:46
TALLAHASSEE, FLORIDA

Name and Title: _____ Name and Title: _____

Address: _____ Address: _____

Name and Title: _____ Name and Title: _____

Address: _____ Address: _____

ARTICLE VI REGISTERED AGENT

The **name and Florida street address** (P.O. Box **NOT** acceptable) of the registered agent is:

Name: KRISTIN WOOTEN

Address: 273 JAMES DRIVE

WEWAHITCHKA, FLORIDA 32465

ARTICLE VII INCORPORATOR

The **name and address** of the Incorporator is:

Name: SARA JOE WOOTEN

Address: 221 JAMES DRIVE

WEWAHITCHKA, FLORIDA 32465

ARTICLE VIII EFFECTIVE DATE:

FEBRUARY 20, 2023

Effective date, if other than the date of filing: _____ (OPTIONAL)

(If an effective date is listed, the date must be specific and cannot be more than five days prior or 90 days after the filing.)

Note: If the date inserted in this block does not meet the applicable statutory filing requirements, this date will not be listed as the document's effective date on the Department of State's records.

Having been named as registered agent to accept service of process for the above stated corporation at the place designated in this certificate, I am familiar with and accept the appointment as registered agent and agree to act in this capacity

Kristin Wooten
KRISTIN WOOTEN Required Signature of Registered Agent

FEBRUARY 20, 2023

Date

I submit this document and affirm that the facts stated herein are true. I am aware that any false information submitted in a document to the Department of State constitutes a third degree felony as provided for in s.817.155, F.S.

Sara Joe Wooten
SARA JOE WOOTEN Required Signature of Incorporator

FEBRUARY 20, 2023

Date

FILED
2023 MAR -1 AM 4:46
TALLAHASSEE, FLORIDA
CLERK OF THE CIRCUIT COURT