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1711 17TH STREET S.W. NAPLES, FLORIDA 34117 (941) 455-2467

December 3rd, 1996

Division of Corporations Post Office Box 6327 Tallahassee, Florida 32314

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Sirs,

Enclosed please find an original copy of the Articles of Incorporation for Immokalee Christian Center, Inc. It has been signed, notarized and dated.

Also, we have enclosed a check for One Hundred Twenty Two and 50/100 (\$122.50) Dollars for filing fees.

Please forward a certified copy upon completion of this filing.

Sincerely,

Stephen H. Bellman

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President.

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#### ARTICLES OF INCORPORATION

OF

# IMMOKALEE CHRISTIAN CENTER, INC. (a Corporation Not for Profit)



We, the undersigned, being desirous of forming a non-profit corporation for religious and charitable purposes, pursuant to the provisions of Chapter 617 of the Florida Statutes, do hereby agree to the following:

#### ARTICLE I

The name of the corporation is: IMMOKALEE CHRISTIAN CENTER, INC.

#### ARTICLE II

The objects and purposes for which this Corporation is formed are to preach the Gospel of the Lord Jesus Christ, to establish churches, to establish Bible schools, and Bible colleges for the training of those desiring to do the work of the ministry, to commission, ordain, charge and license persons to the ministry, to send missionaries to any and all parts of the earth, to establish and operate Christian schools, to maintain charitable institutions such as homes for the aged, widows, orphans, alcoholics, drug addicts, retired ministers and missionaries or other persons in need of the necessary provisions of life, to present the Gospel of the Lord Jesus Christ by radio, television, printed page, recordings and by any other means deemed advisable by the Executive Board of this Corporation.

#### ARTICLE III

In order to carry out and effect the objects and purposes for which it is formed, this Corporation shall have the power to purchase or otherwise to pledge, or otherwise hold and dispose of and deal in and with real and personal property of every class, description and nature that the purpose of this Corporation may require or shall be deemed advisable by the Executive Board of this Corporation for the purpose of this Corporation.

This Corporation shall provide for the establishment of affiliated churches, which shall at first be managed and funded by this Corporation as directed by its Executive Board. Such established churches shall be organized and operated for one or more of the exempt purposes described in Section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code. At such time as the Executive Board deems advisable, an affiliated church established under this article shall file its own Articles of Incorporation with the state of its location, and shall be caused to be on

file with the commissioner of the Internal Revenue Service. The operation of such affiliated church shall at the time of filing of its Articles of Incorporation be vested exclusively in its

Board of Directors, and it shall have organizational independence while retaining spiritual affiliation.

#### ARTICLE IV

This Corporation is not organized for any gain or profit to its members and is one of eleemosynary nature. Any gain from the operation of this Corporation will be utilized for accomplishing the objects and purposes of this Corporation.

In recognition of the principle of stewardship, or the individual's responsibility for sharing proportionately and regularly his material possessions and services, it is understood that no offering, bequest or gift shall be construed as conferring to the donor an obligation of the church or a share in the corporate assets.

#### ARTICLE V

The principal place of transacting the business of the Corporation shall be at IMMOKALEE, FLORIDA. The Executive Board may extend the area for transacting the business of the Corporation to any place in the State of FLORIDA, in the United States, or if found necessary, in any place in the world.

#### **ARTICLE VI**

This Corporation shall commence at the time these Articles of Incorporation shall be filed with the auditor of the State of FLORIDA, and with the Clerk of District Court of the State of FLORIDA. The Life of this Corporation shall be perpetual.

#### ARTICLE VII

The entire membership of this Corporation shall consist of the Executive Board of this Corporation which shall be the president, vice-president, and secretary-treasurer, all of whom shall be duly appointed of the congregation, and all elders of the local church congregation as appointed and ordained in compliance with Section IX of these Articles.

The senior pastor of the congregation shall be the president of the Corporation. There shall be only one class of member, which membership shall confer upon each person therein one vote on each matter submitted to a vote of members. The annual meetings of the members of this Corporation shall be held during the month of March of every year of the existence of this Corporation. Special meetings may be called by the president or one-half of the membership when it is thought necessary to hold such meetings. A quorum shall consist of the majority of members entitled to vote. A matter submitted to the vote of the members shall require adoption or resolution by the majority vote of the quorum of members. The vote of a member must be made in person at the meeting. Action required or desired to be taken at a meeting of members of this Corporation may be taken without a meeting if a consent in writing, setting out the action

to take, shall be signed by a majority of the members entitled to vote with respect to the subject matter.

#### ARTICLE VIII

Control of the affairs of this Corporation and its property and the day-to-day management of the Corporation, consisting of business, spiritual, and practical matters, shall be by the Executive Board as defined and outlined in Article VII. All actions concerning changes to the structure of the Corporation or to the intracorporate organization, or concerning the rights of members of the Corporation, shall be submitted to all members at an annual or special meeting. Notice of the fact or purposes of this meeting shall be given at least three days before its occurrence to all members of this Corporation. In the event of a dispute concerning corporate or spiritual matters regarding the internal affairs of this Corporation, such dispute shall be referred and appealed to the Execute Board of Immokalee Christian Center, Immokalee, Florida for resolution rather han a court of law.

#### **ARTICLE IX**

The entire membership of this Corporation shall consist of the Executive Board of this Corporation and the Elders as taught in the New Testament according to the pattern of the New Testament Church of Jesus Christ. At the inception of this Corporation, the office of president shall be held by the founding pastor of this church congregation. After incorporation has been effected, and as the church congregation grows, additional elders will be appointed and ordained in the congregation and shall be joined to the Executive Board to become members of this Corporation. Each appointment and ordination of an elder shall be by the unanimous vote of a quorum of members of the Corporation. The removal of an elder shall be for cause and without prejudice to contract rights, and shall occur after the unanimous vote of the members attendant at any special or annual meeting. The vote of the elder to be removed shall be excluded. A quorum must be present at the meeting to remove a elder. The directors of this Corporation shall be appointed according to Articles III and IV of the By-laws of this Corporation.

#### ARTICLE X

The names and addresses of those persons comprising the Executive Board at the time of this incorporation are as follows:

Stephen H. Bellman, 1711 17th Street S.W. Naples, Florida, 34117 PRESIDENT Ward W. Seeley, 2896 50th Street S.W. Naples, Florida, 34116 VICE-PRESIDENT Jeannette H. Bellman, 1711 17th Street S.W. Naples, Florida, 34117 SECRETARY/TREASURER

The vice-president and secretary-treasurer shall hold office until they elect to resign or are removed in accordance with Section IX. New appointments of these offices will be made by the president with the unanimous vote of the members in attendance at a special meeting

wherein a quorum is present. Written notice of this meeting must be sent to each member at least seven days in advance of the meeting. The vacated office of the president, who is also the pastor, will be fulfilled in accordance with Section VI of the By-Laws of this Corporation.

#### ARTICLE XI

Upon dissolution of this Corporation, all assets shall be distributed to an organization and operated for one or more of the exempt purposes described in Section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code.

#### **ARTICLE XII**

These Articles of Incorporation may be amended by a special meeting of the membership for that purpose by a majority vote of those present.

#### **ARTICLE XIII**

#### ARTICLES OF FAITH

We believe that there is one God, eternally existent in three persons: God, the Father; God, the Son; and God, the Holy Spirit. We believe in the deity of our Lord Jesus Christ, in His virgin birth, in His sinless life, in His miracles, in His vicarious and atoning death, in His bodily resurrection, in His ascension to the right hand of God the Father, and his personal future return to this earth in power and glory. We believe that the only means of being cleansed from sin is through faith in the precious blood of Christ. We believe that regeneration by the Holy Spirit is absolutely essential for personal salvation. We believe that the redemptive work of the Christ on the cross together with the wounds inflicted upon His body at the whipping post provide healing for the human body as well as salvation for the soul. We believe that the baptism of the Holy Spirit according to the scripture Acts 2:4 is given to believers who ask for it. We believe in the present ministry of the Holy Spirit by whose indwelling presence the Christian believer is enabled to live a Godly life. We believe in the resurrection of both the saved and the lost, the saved to everlasting life, and the lost to everlasting condemnation. We believe in the baptism of the believer by complete immersion in water in the name of Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, the Lord Jesus Christ. We believe in the scriptures of the Old and New Testament as inspired by God and that the Holy Bible, in its entirety, contains the entire doctrinal belief of this Corporation.

#### **ARTICLE XIV**

Notwithstanding any other provision of these Articles, this Corporation shall not carry on any other activities not permitted to be carried on by (a) a Corporation exempt from any federal income tax under Section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1954, or (b) Corporation

contributions to which are deductible under Section 170(c)(2) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1954.

### ARTICLE XV

The incorporation-subscriber for this Corporation is Stephen H. Bellman. The address for this incorporation-subscriber is: 1711 17th Street S.W. Naples, Florida, 34117.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, we hereunto set our hands and seals this 18 day of NOVEMBER, 1996.

Stephen 1. Bellon-an

Ward W. Seeley, VICE-PRESIDENT

Jeannette H. Bellman

Jeannette H. Bellman, SECRETARY/TREASURER

STATE OF FLORIDA COUNTY OF LEE

I hereby certify that on this day before me, an officer duly authorized to take acknowledgements, personally appeared STEPHEN H. BELLMAN, WARD W. SEELEY, and JEANNETTE H. BELLMAN to me known to be the individuals described in and who executed the foregoing instrument and they acknowledge before me that they executed the same.

Notary Public

State of Florida at Large

My Commission Expires:



## IMMOKALLE CHRISTIAN CENTER, INC.

1. <u>REGISTERED OFFICE AND REGISTERED AGENT</u>. The address of the registered office of the corporation is 1711 17th Street S.W. Naples, Florida, 34117, and the name of the registered agent at such address (1711 17th Stree S.W. Naples, Florida, 34117) is Stephen H. Bellman. This is also the principle office of the Corporation.

Stephen H. Bellman, Registered Agent