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| Profit XX Non-Profit | Amendment  |                       |  |
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| OTHER FILINGS        | REGISTRATION/QUALIFICATION                                     | i T                   |  |
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Examiner's Initials of

## ARTICLES OF INCORPORATION OF Victory Community Christian Church, Inc.

A Florida Nonprofit Corporation

99 MAY 17 AM 9: 21
SECRETARY OF STATE
TALLAHASSEE, FLORIDA

#### **PREAMBLE**

We, the members of Victory Community Christian Church, Inc., mindful of our sacred purpose in the Gospel of Jesus Christ, in order that this body may be governed in an orderly manner, consistent with the principles of a self governing body in Christ, and inherent rights of the individual, do declare and establish these Articles under God Almighty.

## ARTICLE I NAME AND LEGAL STATUS

The name of the corporation is Victory Community Christian Church, Inc. organized solely for religious, educational, and charitable purposes pursuant to the Florida Corporations Not for Profit Law set forth in Section 617 of the Florida Statutes. The initial principal office is located at 1599 6th Street South East Winter Haven, Florida 33880. The mailing address of this corporation is P0 Box 92528 Lakeland, Florida 33804-2528.

## ARTICLE II REGISTERED OFFICE AND AGENT

The address of the corporation's initial registered office is 1415 Peavy Court Lakeland, Florida 33801 and its initial registered agent at such address is Melvin Reese.

## ARTICLE III DURATION

The Term of existence of the corporation is perpetual.

#### ARTICLE IV <u>AUTHORIZED MEMBERSHIP</u>

Except as otherwise prescribed by Florida law, each membership shall entitle the member to one vote.

#### ARTICLE V MISSION

Victory Community Christian Church, Inc. is a Christ-centered, caring church family in the Winter Haven, Florida community. Our mission is to love God and each other, and to share with others the good news of Jesus Christ as we worship, teach, serve and nurture spiritual growth. Follow Matthew 28:19,20 and reach the unchurched in the world for the Lord Jesus Christ and make disciples of all nations with the apostles doctrine and fellowship, and in breaking of bread, and in prayers. Provide for the total needs for men, women, and children in regards to food, clothing, and shelter. The term of the nonprofit corporation will be perpetual

#### ARTICLE VI GENERAL AND SPECIFIC PURPOSES

The purpose for which the corporation is organized is exclusively for religious, educational, and charitable, that are described in Section 501 (c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code, including but not limited to the organization, maintenance and supervision of the office center.

- A. 1.0 A Religious institution established under the divine direction of God for worship and ministry outreach in providing a need spiritually, mentally, and physical to lost souls of men, women, and children. The Holy Bible is the inspired word of God and is the basis for our statement of faith. Our mission is to love God and each other, and to share with others the good news of Jesus Christ as we worship, teach, serve and nurture spiritual growth. Follow Matthew 28:19,20 and disciple the unchurched.
- A. 1.1 Educational programs formulated for on the job training skill enhancement for low to moderate-income families. Also charitable programs that provide food, clothing and shelter needs to low income families.
- B. To research the conditions that inhibits desirable neighborhoods, affordable housing, economic development and employment in deteriorating communities.
- C. To serve as a clearinghouse of information for peoples seeking employment, economic development, educational opportunities and affordable housing.
- D. To promote and develop affordable housing for low income, senior, homeless and disabled persons.
- E. To oversee, monitor and facilitate projects and operations pertaining to construction, financing, administration, employment, and economic development.
- F. To promote equal access to all people of the United States regardless of race, color, religion, national origin or sex, be excluded from participating in, be denied the benefits of, or be subjected to discrimination under, any programs.

. In furtherance, but not in limitation of the forgoing purposes, the nonprofit Corporation will have the power and authority:

- A. To receive assistance, money, real or personal property and other forms of contribution, gifts, bequest or devise from any person, firm or nonprofit corporation. To be utilized in the furtherance of the objects and purposes of this corporation, to enter into agreements or contracts for contributions to the corporation for its objects and purposes, provided however, the gifts will be subject to acceptance by the Board of Directors as required by the bylaws.
- B. To distribute, in the manner, form and method, and by means determined by the Board of Directors of this corporation, any and all forms of contributions received by it in carrying out the programs of the corporation in furtherance of its stated purposes. Money and real or personal property contributed to the corporation in furtherance of those objects and purposes are and will continue to be impressed with a trust for such purposes
- C. To adopt and use a corporation seal containing the word's Corporation Not for Profit if desired and deemed necessary, but this will not be compulsory unless required by law.
- D. To operate exclusively in any other manner for such religious, charitable and educational purposes as will qualify it as an exempt organization under Section 501 (c) (3) of the Internal Revenue Code as amended, or under any corresponding provisions of any subsequent federal tax laws, covering the distributions to organizations qualified as tax exempt organizations under the Internal Revenue Code, as amended, including private foundations and private operating foundations. However, each and all of the objects, purposes and powers of the corporation will be exercised, construed and limited in their application to accomplish the purpose for which this corporation is formed.

Not withstanding any other provision of these articles, this corporation will not carry on any activities not permitted to be carried on by an organization exempt from Federal Income tax under section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code or the corresponding provisions of any future United States Internal Revenue law.

## ARTICLE VII DOCTRINE

Believing in the one and only God, the Godhead of God, the divine inspiration and authority of the Holy Bible, that eternal salvation is offered freely to all believers in Jesus Christ as Lord and Savior, the priesthood of the believer, autonomy of the local church and in freedom of and for religion.

#### ARTICLE VIII CHURCH GOVERNMENT AND AFFILIATIONS

Proceeding under the congregational plan of government and for the mutual advantage in the pooling of organized strength and the sharing of information and purpose, we voluntarily affiliate with the South Florida Baptist Association, The Southern Baptist Convention. The Word of God will govern all policies and guidelines for the operation of Victory Community Christian Church, Inc.

#### ARTICLE IX BOARD OF DIRECTORS

The powers of this corporation shall be exercised, its properties controlled, and its affairs conducted by a Board of Directors. The number of Directors of the corporation shall be no less than three (3) persons, provided however, that such number may be specifically established and changed by a By-Law duly adopted by the members. The Directors shall have no power to buy, sell, mortgage, lease or transfer any property without a specific vote of the members authorizing such action. The Directors shall serve three (3) year terms, beginning on January 1, 1999 and until the qualification of the successors in office.

The names and addresses of such initial members of the Board of Directors are:

Rev. Melvin Reese PO Box 92528 Lakeland, Florida 33804-2528

Melvin Bass 1040 East Lakeland Loop Lakeland, Florida 33801

Betty Reese PO Box 92528 Lakeland, Florida 33804-2528

#### ARTICLE X OFFICERS

The Board of Directors shall elect such officers as the By-Laws of this corporation may authorize the Directors to elect. Officers shall serve three (3) year terms, beginning on January 1, 1999 and until the qualification of the successors in office.

Until such election is held, the following persons shall serve as corporate officers:

President / Chairman Rev. Melvin Reese

1415 Peavy Court

Lakeland, Florida 33801

Vice-president / Vice-Chairman Melvin Bass

1040 East Lakeland Loop Lakeland, Florida 33801

Secretary-Treasurer / Second Vice-Chairman Betty Reese

1415 Peavy Court

Lakeland, Florida 33801

## ARTICLE XI INDEMNIFICATION OF DIRECTORS AND OFFICERS

Every director and officer of the Corporation will be indemnified by the corporation for claims reasonable incurred by or imposed in connection with any proceeding or any settlement of any proceeding (including any appeal thereof) to which a director or officer may be a party or may become involved by reason of being or having been a director or officer, provided that the director or officer is not adjudged guilty of or liable for, willful misfeasance or willful malfeasance in the performance of duties; further provided that in the event of a settlement before entry of judgment, the indemnification will apply only when the Board of Directors approves such settlement and reimbursement as in the best interest of the corporation. The forgoing right of indemnification will be in addition to and not exclusive of all other rights to which such director or officer may be entitled by law. Appropriate liability insurance may be provided for every director, officer, and agent of the corporation in amounts determined from time to time by the Board of Directors.

## ARTICLE XII ACTIVITIES AND COMPENSATION

- A. No part of the funds of the corporation shall inure to the benefit of, or be distributable to its members, directors, officers or other private persons, except that the corporation shall be authorized and empowered to pay reasonable compensation for services rendered to make payments and distributions in furtherance of the purposes set forth herein. The directors and officers of the corporation will not receive compensation, directly or indirectly, for services as a director or officer of the corporation unless employed by the Board of Directors as:

  (1) a member of the administrative staff of the corporation or (2) for compensable services rendered in other capacities. These prohibitions will not preclude reimbursement of a director, officer, or duly appointed committee member for expenses or advances made for the corporation that are reasonable in character and amount and approved for payment in the manner provided in the By-Laws.
- B. 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 any candidate for public office.
- C. Notwithstanding any other provision of there 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 provision of any future United States Internal Revenue Law) or (b) by a corporation, contributions to which are deductible under section 170(c)(2) of the Internal Revenue Code (or the corresponding provision of any future United States Internal Revenue Law)
- D. Notwithstanding any other provision of there articles, this corporation shall not, except to an insubstantial degree, engage in any activities or exercise any powers that are not in furtherance of the purposes of this corporation.

## ARTICLES XIII DISTRIBUTION OF ASSETS

Upon a dissolution of the corporation or winding down of its affairs, the assets of the corporation will be applied and distributed as follows:

- A. All liabilities and obligations of the corporation will be paid; satisfied and discharged, or adequate provision will be made therefore:
- B. Assets held by the corporation upon condition requiring, return, transfer or conveyance, which condition occurs by reason of the dissolution or winding down, will be returned, transferred or conveyed in accordance with such requirements; and

C. All remaining assets not disposed of under either of the preceding paragraphs (A) or (B) will be disposed of exclusively for the purposes of the corporation in such a manner, or to such an organization or organizations organized and operated exclusively for religious, charitable, education or scientific purposes as shall at the time qualify as an exempt organization or organizations under Section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code (or the corresponding provisions of any future United States Internal Revenue Law) as the members or Board of Directors shall determine. Any such asset not so disposed of shall be disposed of by a court of competent jurisdiction in the county in which the principal office of the corporation is then located, exclusively for such purposes or to such organization or organizations as such court shall determine, which are organized and operated exclusively for such purposes.

#### ARTICLE XIV FISCAL YEAR

The fiscal year of the corporation will begin January 1 and end December 31st of each calendar year.

#### ARTICLE XV AMENDMENT OF BY-LAWS

Subject to the limitations contained in the By-Laws, and any limitations set forth in the Corporations Not for Profit Law of the State of Florida, concerning corporation action that must be authorized or approved by the members of the corporation, By-Laws of this corporation may be made, altered, rescinded, added to, or new By-Laws may be adopted either by a resolution adopted by a majority of the directors, at any meeting at which time a quorum is present or by following the procedure set forth therefor in the By-Laws.

#### ARTICLE XVI AMENDMENT OF ARTICLES

Proposals for Amendments to these Articles of Incorporation may be either by a resolution adopted by the Board of Directors or by a member, from the pulpit or in a church publication. Passage of an Amendment will require a two-thirds affirmative vote of the members present. The vote must be at a regular or specially called meeting of the members for this purpose. All proposed Amendments must be given to the corporation's secretary in writing and presented to the members at least thirty days prior to the time a vote is taken.

#### ARTICLE XVII NAMES OF SUBSCRIBERS

The names and address of the Subscribers and Incorporators of this corporation, for the purpose of forming this nonprofit corporation under the laws of the State of Florida, have executed these Articles of Incorporation, this \_\_//\_day of\_\_

STATE OF FLORIDA COUNTY OF POLK

The foregoing Articles of Incorporation of Victory Community Christian Church, Inc., were acknowledged before me this \_\_\_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_\_, 1999, by Melvin Reese, as Incorporator, and who produced personally Known as identification, by Melvin Bass, as Incorporator, and who produced vectorally known as identification and by Betty Reese, as Incorporator, and who produced propally Known as identification.

Teena D. Scott Notary Public, State of Florida Commission No. CC 548450 My Commission Expires 06/06/00 

Printed Name of Notary

My Commission Expires: 6/6/2000

#### CERTIFICATE OF DESIGNATION OF REGISTERED AGENT/REGISTERED OFFICE

PURSUANT TO THE PROVISIONS OF SECTION 617.0501, FLORDA STATUTES, THE UNDERSIGNED CORPORATION, ORGANIZED UNDER THE LAWS OF THE STATE OF FLORIDA, SUBMITS THE FOLLOWING STATEMENT IN DESIGNATING THE REGISTERED OFFICE/REGISTERED AGENT, IN THE STATE OF FLORIDA.

- 1. The name of the corporation is Victory Community Christian Church Inc.
- 2. The name and address of the registered agent and office is:

Melvin Reese 1415 Peavy Court Florida 33801



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 Section 48.091 relative to keeping open such office and 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.

DATED this 11 day of may, 1999.

Melvin Reese