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July 26, 1999

Business Organization Filing Section  
Division of Corporations  
Post Office Box 6327  
Tallahassee, FL 32314

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99 JUL 28 PM 1:34  
SECRETARY OF STATE  
TALLAHASSEE FLORIDA

Re: Lighthouse Baptist Church of Pinellas, Inc.

Gentlemen:

Enclosed please find the following items submitted for a Florida Non-Profit  
Incorporation:

Articles of Incorporation (2 copies)

100002944001--2

-07/28/99--01057--014

\*\*\*\*\*78.75 \*\*\*\*\*78.75

Check in the amount of \$78.75

Incorporation Fee - \$35.00

Designation of Registered Agent - \$35.00

Certificate Under Seal - \$8.75

If all is in order, please send your Letter of Notification, the Certificate  
Under Seal and one copy of the Articles to the letterhead address above.

Sincerely,



Clement H. White

enc.

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**ARTICLES OF INCORPORATION  
OF  
LIGHTHOUSE BAPTIST CHURCH OF PINELLAS, INC.**

We, the undersigned, hereby associate ourselves for the purpose of forming and organizing a corporation, not for profit, under the laws of the State of Florida, and do hereby adopt and declare the following as the Articles of Incorporation.

**PREAMBLE**

We hereby declare and establish **LIGHTHOUSE BAPTIST CHURCH OF PINELLAS, INC.** to secure the principles of our faith and to govern the body in an orderly manner so to preserve the freedoms and responsibilities of each individual church member and the freedom of action of this body in relation to other churches.

**ARTICLE I - NAME**

The name of this Corporation is **LIGHTHOUSE BAPTIST CHURCH OF PINELLAS, INC.** located in Pinellas County, Florida.

**ARTICLE II - PURPOSE & DURATION**

Section 1. Purpose: The general purpose of the corporation shall be religious, benevolent and educational, and as such it shall have all the powers incident to non-profit corporations of such character. The specific religious purpose of the church is for the worship of Almighty God, the extension of His Kingdom throughout the world, and to associate its members in the faith and fellowship of the Gospel of Jesus Christ, recognizing Him as Lord and Savior of their lives.

Section 2. Duration: This Florida Not-For-Profit Corporation shall exist in Perpetuity.

**ARTICLE III - POLITY & DOCTRINE**

Section 1. Polity: The governance of this church is vested in the body of baptized believers as provided for in the church bylaws. It is subject to the control of no other ecclesiastical body, but it recognizes the obligations and privileges of mutual counsel, respect and cooperation which have been common among Baptists and other Free churches since the 17th century, and so chooses voluntarily to affiliate and cooperate in the work

and fellowship of Baptist Christian bodies and mission ministries as the church shall see fit.

Section 2. Doctrine: This church receives the Scriptures as its authority in all matters of faith and practice. It takes the Bible alone, as properly understood and interpreted by the informed Christian mind and applied responsibly by Christians acting in the Spirit of Christ, as the standard by which all matters of Christian belief and conduct are to be decided. It holds that true Christianity does not consist of creeds and confessions of faith or in published statements of faith and message, but is essentially the relationship of the mature responsible regenerate believer to God in Christ through the Holy Spirit on the basis of careful study and understanding of the Word of God. No interpretation of the Bible by any other body or organization shall be imposed upon this church; it shall make its own best informed, conscientious, responsible interpretation and statements of faith, polity, application and practice of the Christian Scriptures. It shall encourage the freedom of the individual, the freedom and autonomy of the local church, the freedom of the larger body of Jesus Christ as expressed in various Christian traditions, the servant role of leadership within the church, a positive role for the spiritual ministry and leadership of both men and women in the church, responsible and reverent theological education characterized by respect for open inquiry and scholarship, the faithful proclamation of all aspects of the Good News of Jesus Christ, and the principle of a free church in a free state including the necessary corollary of the separation of Church and State.

#### **ARTICLE IV - MEMBERSHIP**

Membership qualifications and method of admission and dismissal shall be as specified in the church bylaws.

#### **ARTICLE V - OFFICERS, POWERS AND MANAGEMENT**

Section 1. Officers, Councils and Committees: The church shall elect such officers, directors or trustees, but no less than three, and may establish councils and committees and specify the number, method of election, qualifications, duties and functions in the bylaws.

Section 2. Powers: The church, in addition to the powers granted by Florida law, shall have full power to acquire by gift, grant, purchase, devise, legacy or otherwise, real estate for use of said church, and to hold possess, enjoy, mortgage, alienate and dispose of the same. No real property belonging to the church shall at any time be alienated or encumbered except by a majority vote of the members of the church over the age of twelve present and voting at a regular or special meeting called for that purpose, the same having been presented and discussed at a regular or special business meeting preceding by at least two weeks the said business meeting at which the final vote is taken, and having been

announced from pulpit during the worship services the Lord's Day preceding such vote.

Section 3. Management: The church congregation shall, as further provided in the bylaws, serve as the corporate management body. All officers, groups, councils and committees shall coordinate closely together for the purpose of promoting harmony, good understanding and cooperation in a unified church mission plan, but their duties and functions shall remain separate and distinct, all reporting to the church membership body, and receiving their policy guidance from that body, without acting independently of congregational approval. All meetings of the church, its councils and committees shall be open to all members, and none are to be held in secret. Minutes of all meetings shall be maintained and be open to inspection by any interested church member.

#### **ARTICLE VI - INITIAL CORPORATE OFFICE, INITIAL REGISTERED OFFICE & AGENT**

The initial corporate address is 2628 - 65<sup>th</sup> Avenue North, St. Petersburg, Florida 33702. The street address of the initial registered office of this Corporation is 2628 - 65<sup>th</sup> Avenue North, St. Petersburg, Florida 33702. The name of the initial registered agent at that address is Rev. R. Branson Rogers.

#### **ARTICLE VII- INCORPORATORS**

The name and address of the incorporators signing these Articles of Incorporation are:

<u>NAME</u>	<u>ADDRESS</u>
Rev. Maurice C. Caron	8895 - 69 <sup>th</sup> Street North, Pinellas Park, FL 33782
Mrs. Evelyn E. Cary	4385 - 76 <sup>th</sup> Terrace North, Pinellas Park, FL 33781
Mr. Jack Lindsey	7281 - 56 <sup>th</sup> Avenue North, St. Petersburg, FL 33709
Mr. Paul B. Pebbles	3984 - 105 <sup>th</sup> Avenue North, Clearwater, FL 33762

#### **ARTICLE VIII - AMENDMENT & BYLAWS**

These Articles of Incorporation may be amended, and church bylaws may be enacted, amended or rescinded by a two-thirds vote of the members present at a regular or specially called business meeting of the church, provided the following actions have been accomplished:

1. Proposed amendments to the Articles, enactment or amendment of Bylaws must be presented in writing and be made available to the membership at least one week

prior to a regular or specially called business meeting, where such will be discussed and possibly amended; then referred to the church for final vote without discussion or amendment.

2. The proposed amendments to the Articles or to the Bylaws must be published and made readily available to the church membership by the Lord's Day preceding the business meeting at which the vote is to be taken.

3. An announcement must be made from the pulpit during the worship services preceding each business meeting notifying the church of the proposed vote and specifying the subject, time, date and place of the business meeting plus a reference to the published and available text of the amendment(s).

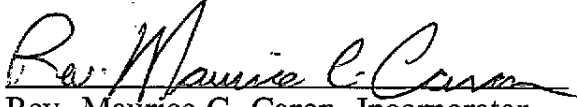
4. Two-thirds of the members present and voting with a quorum of at least 10% of the voting membership must give their approval of the enactment or amendment(s) at both the discussion and final vote meeting.

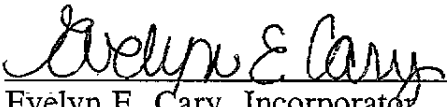
5. Amendments to the Articles of Incorporation shall be forwarded to the Secretary of State of Florida in accordance with the manner provided for in law.

#### **ARTICLE IX - DISSOLUTION**

The existence of this non-profit corporation shall be perpetual. In the event of dissolution of the corporation, all of its assets remaining after payment of all costs and expenses of such dissolution shall be distributed to another church or Christian organization of like faith, order, doctrine and polity as selected by the members which has qualified for exemption under Section 501(C)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code. None of the remaining assets shall be distributed to any member or officer of this corporation.

**IN WITNESS WHEREOF**, the undersigned as incorporators and registered agent for the Corporation, so accepting that appointment, execute these Articles of Incorporation on the 22 day of July, 1999.

  
Rev. Maurice C. Caron, Incorporator

  
Evelyn E. Cary, Incorporator

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TALLAHASSEE FLORIDA

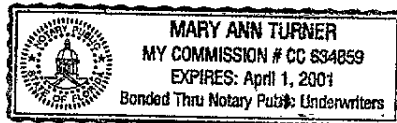
Jack Lindsey  
Jack Lindsey, Incorporator

Paul B. Pebbles  
Paul B. Pebbles, Incorporator

STATE OF FLORIDA  
COUNTY OF PINELLAS

The foregoing Articles of Incorporation were acknowledged before me by REV. MAURICE C. CARON, EVELYN E. CARY, JACK LINDSEY and PAUL B. PEBBLES.

WITNESS MY HAND and official seal this 22 day of July, 1999.



Mary Ann Turner  
Notary Public, State of Florida

Registered Agent's Acceptance

Having been named to accept service of process for the above named corporation, I hereby accept appointment as its 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 duties and responsibilities as registered agent for said corporation.

Rev. R. Branson Rogers  
Rev. R. Branson Rogers