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December 1, 2000

Division of Corporations  
409 East Gaines Street  
P.O. Box 6327  
Tallahassee, FL 32314

**FILED**  
00 DEC 11 PM 1:08  
SECRETARY OF STATE  
TALLAHASSEE, FLORIDA

RE: Articles of Amendment of Incorporation of MERCY HOUSE MINISTRIES, INC.

Dear Sir or Madam:

Enclosed you will find an original and one copy of the Articles of Amendment of Incorporation of MERCY HOUSE MINISTRIES, INC. and a trust account check for \$35.00 for the cost of filing.

Please review the Articles of Amendment and if they meet with your approval, file the same and return a copy to my office, conformed as of the date of filing.

If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact me or my secretary, Paula McKnight.  
I am,

Sincerely yours,

Thomas J. Winters

TJW/pmc  
Enclosures

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-12/11/00-01155-001  
\*\*\*\*\*35.00 \*\*\*\*\*35.00

N99000006512  
Amend  
688  
12-11-00

**ARTICLES OF AMENDMENT**  
**to**  
**ARTICLES OF INCORPORATION**  
**of**

MERCY HOUSE MINISTRIES, INC.  
(present name)

*Pursuant to the provisions of section 617.1006, Florida Statutes, the undersigned Florida nonprofit corporation adopts the following articles of amendment to its articles of incorporation.*

**FIRST:** Amendment(s) adopted: (INDICATE ARTICLES NUMBER(S) BEING AMENDED, ADDED OR DELETED.)

**ARTICLE II, VI, VII and X ARE TO BE AMENDED AND ARTICLE XII IS TO BE ADDED. PLEASE SEE EXHIBIT "A" ATTACHED.**

**SECOND:** The date of adoption of the amendment(s) was: 11-4-00

**THIRD:** Adoption of Amendment (CHECK ONE)

☒ The amendment(s) was(were) adopted by the members and the number of votes cast for the amendment was sufficient for approval.

☐ There are no members or members entitled to vote on the amendment. The amendment(s) was(were) adopted by the board of directors.

MERCY HOUSE MINISTRIES, INC.

Corporation Name

X Billy D. Benton

Signature of Chairman, Vice Chairman, President or other officer

BILLY D. BENTON

Typed or printed name

PRESIDENT

Title

11-4-00

Date

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TALLAHASSEE, FLORIDA

## EXHIBIT "A"

### ARTICLE II

This nonprofit corporation is organized and operated exclusively for religious purposes as within the meaning of Section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986, as amended, of the United States of America.

In furtherance of its nonprofit, tax-exempt purposes, the corporation shall have the following powers and authority; however, the corporation shall not be empowered, and is prohibited from, engaging in any activity which is not allowed pursuant to Section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986, as amended, of the United States of America:

- (a) To operate under the name as set forth in ARTICLE I above;
- (b) To employ qualified counsel and other necessary personnel to carry out the purposes of this corporation;
- (c) To adopt and use a corporate seal;
- (d) To earnestly seek and promote the unity of God's people and churches in a Scriptural manner of Godly love, respect and faithful voluntary cooperation with liberty. To that end it may associate and cooperate freely with other non-profit associations, churches and missionary organizations and their branches. It shall operate as a free and independent corporation in accord with its own conscience and the wisdom of God, as the corporation perceives to be. In every case and in every act and in pursuit of or adoption of any policy or method or in practice or association, the corporation does and shall do so as a free organization always retaining its sovereignty and independence, and in no case whatsoever as an act of subjection nor precedent or amenability nor as an active or passive or implied affiliation nor in any way as relinquishing its perpetual legal independence and sovereignty.
- (e) To receive tithes, offerings and property by gift, devise or bequest subject to the laws relating to the transfer of property by gift or will.
- (f) To act as Trustee under any trust incidental to the principal objects of the corporation and to receive, hold, administer and expend funds and property subject to such trust.
- (g) To take, purchase or otherwise acquire; to own, hold, occupy, use, and enjoy; manage, improve, develop and work; to grant, sell, exchange, let, demise and otherwise dispose of real estate, buildings, and improvements and every right, interest and estate therein without limit as to the amount thereof and wheresoever the same may be situated; to erect, construct, alter and repair buildings; to assume any and every kind of contract, agreement and obligation by or with any person, firm, corporation, or association, or any Federal, State, or other government for the erection, construction, alteration, repair, renewal, equipment, improvement, development, use, enjoyment, leasing, management or control of any buildings, improvements or structures of any kind wherever the same may be situated.
- (h) To enter into, make, perform and carry out contracts of every kind for any

lawful purpose without limit as to amount and with any person, firm, association or corporation; to draw, make, accept, endorse, discount, issue, and execute promissory notes, warrants, and other negotiable or transferable interests.

(i) To purchase or otherwise acquire, to own, hold, use and enjoy, to sell, assign and transfer, exchange or otherwise dispose of, deal in or deal with personal property of every kind and description without limit as to the amount thereof and wheresoever the same may be situated.

(j) To borrow and to loan money and to give and to receive evidence of indebtedness and security therefore; to draw, make, accept, endorse, execute and issue promissory notes, warrants and other debentures of the corporation, or otherwise to make guarantees of every kind and secure any or all obligations of the corporation by mortgage, trust deed or otherwise.

(k) By its Board of Trustees to appoint such officers and employees as may be decreed proper; define their authority and duties; fix their compensation; require bonds of such of them as it deems advisable and fix the penalty thereof; dismiss such officers or employees, or any thereof for any good reason and appoint others to fill their places;

(l) To minister sacerdotal functions;

(m) To adopt and assume names in the furtherance of its nonprofit, tax-exempt purposes;

(n) To use any and all media, including but not limited to recording, print, television and radio, in the furtherance of its nonprofit, tax-exempt purposes;

(o) To provide ministry in jails, penitentiaries and other detention or penal facilities;

(p) To provide a local place for Christian fellowship for those of like faith and schools for Christian education where the Father God, Jesus, the Son of God, and the Holy Spirit, may be honored according to our full gospel testimony;

(q) To assume our share of the responsibility and the privilege of propagating the Gospel of Jesus Christ by word, music, song and testimony;

(r) To do all other acts necessary or expedient for the administration of the affairs and attainment of the exempt purposes of the corporation and to have and exercise all the powers now or hereafter conferred by the laws of the State.

(s) To exercise such other and incidental powers as may reasonably be necessary to carry out the purposes for which the corporation is established, provided that such incidental powers shall be exercised in a manner consistent with its tax-exempt status as a religious organization as set forth in Section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986, as amended, of the United States of America.

(t) The several clauses contained in this ARTICLE III shall be construed both as purposes and powers and the statements contained in each clause shall, except where otherwise expressed, be in no wise limited or restricted by reference to or inference from the terms of any other clauses, but shall be regarded as independent purposes and powers. Notwithstanding any provisions of these Articles of Incorporation, the corporation shall

not engage in any political activity proscribed by Section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986, as amended, of the United States of America, nor shall any

income or assets of the corporation inure to the benefit of any member, private individual or business entity.

#### ARTICLE VI

To assure the corporation of its sovereignty and independence and to perpetually protect the organization, all ecclesiastical and legal power and authority relative to the corporation shall be exercised by and in accordance with the new testament church pattern. Thus under the leadership of the Holy Spirit, the Board of Trustees shall conduct all the business of the corporation and shall be the only voting members of the corporation. The number of Trustees, and the qualifications shall be established in the bylaws of this corporation. The qualifications of member and the manner of their admission shall be fully provided in the Bylaws.

#### ARTICLE VII

This nonprofit corporation is formed without any purpose of pecuniary profit and shall have no capital stock.

#### ARTICLE X

These Articles may be amended at any regular meeting of the Board of Trustees, or at a special meeting called for that purpose, by a two-thirds (2/3) majority.

#### ARTICLE XII

##### Section 1.

The private property of the trustees and members shall be non-assessable and shall not be subject to the payment of any corporate debts, nor shall the trustees or members of the corporation become individually or corporately liable or responsible for any debts or liabilities of the corporation.

##### Section 2.

(A) No part of the net earnings of the corporation shall inure to the benefit of, or be distributable to its members, trustees, officers, 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 the purposes set forth in ARTICLE III hereof.

(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 these 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 corresponding section of any future federal tax code, or (b) by a corporation, contributions to which are deductible under section 170(c)(2) of the Internal Revenue Code, or corresponding section of any future federal tax code.

(D) Upon dissolution of the corporation, assets shall be distributed for one or more exempt purposes within the meaning of section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code, or corresponding section of any future federal tax code, or shall be distributed to the federal government, or to a state or local government, for a public purpose. Any such assets not so disposed of shall be disposed of by the court of jurisdiction of the county in which the principle office of the corporation is then located, exclusively for such purposes or to such organization or organizations, as said court shall determine which are organized and operated exclusively for such purposes.