

## **ARTICLE I. NAME**

The name of this church organization shall be **The Assemblies of God of the Cayman Islands.**

## **ARTICLE II. PREROGATIVES**

To establish and maintain a place of worship.

### **Section 2**

To conduct, under the guidance of the Holy Scriptures, the work of evangelizing both the home and foreign field in obedience to the command of the Lord Jesus (Matthew 28:19,20), and in harmony with the teachings and practice of His servants and apostles (Acts 8:4,5,25,26-40; 13:1-4; 16:6,10; Romans 10:12-17, 15:18-20; II Corinthians 10:16).

- A. Choosing its own Pastor
- B. Electing its own Official Board
- C. Transacting all other business pertaining to its life as a local unit
- D. Administering discipline to its members
- E. Choosing and sending delegates to the annual District Council and to the biennial General Council (General Council Constitution, Article VII, Section 2).

### **Section 3**

To establish such departments as may be necessary for the propagation of the Gospel and the support of Missionary activity.

### **Section 4**

To own or rent real or personal property where the meetings of said corporation may be held and where the business of said organization may be transacted. In general, to own, buy, acquire by gift or lease, to sell, convey, or hypothecate such property, real or personal, to hire such persons as may be necessary and convenient to carry out the

general purposes herein set forth.

#### **Section 5**

To improve and develop real property for the use and benefit of this corporation.

#### **Section 6**

To borrow or loan money with or without security.

#### **Section 7**

To enter into, make, perform, carry out contracts of any kind or sort with any person, firm, association or corporation, private, public or municipal or body politic and with the government of the Cayman Islands.

#### **Section 8**

Without any particular limiting of the objects, or purposes or powers of the corporation, the business or purpose of the corporation shall be from time to time to do any one or more of all the acts and things herein set forth, and all such other acts, things, and business or businesses in any manner connected therewith or necessary, incidental, convenient, or auxiliary thereto, or calculated directly or indirectly to promote the interests of the corporation as such corporation may lawfully do; and in carrying on its business, or for the purpose of attaining or furthering any of its objects, to do any and all acts and things, and to exercise any and all powers which any co-partnership, or natural person could do and exercise, and which, now or hereafter may be authorized by law and either as or by any of the principals, agents, attorneys, contractors, lessors, lessees, or otherwise, either alone or in conjunction with others, and in addition to and to exercise all of the rights, powers, and privileges now or hereafter belonging to or conferred upon corporations organized under the provisions of the laws authorizing the formation of such corporations. The foregoing clauses shall be both as to objects and powers and it is hereby expressly provided that the foregoing enumerations of special powers shall not be held to limit or restrict in any manner the powers of this corporation. The said corporation is a corporation which does not contemplate pecuniary gain or profit to the members thereof.

### **ARTICLE III. AFFILIATION**

This church organization shall affiliate itself with the Department of Foreign Missions of the Assemblies of God until such time as a local or regional district is established and the General Council of the Assemblies of God with headquarters in Springfield, Missouri, and shall share in the privileges and assume the responsibilities enjoined by that affiliation; nevertheless, it shall maintain its inherent rights in the conduct of its own affairs.

### **ARTICLE IV. TENETS OF FAITH**

We do agree to the tenets of faith of the General Council of the Assemblies of God (These are unamendable under any conditions by the local church.)

### **ARTICLE V. MEMBERSHIP**

#### **Section 1**

Membership in this church organization shall be extended, upon application, to all those who give evidence of their faith in the Lord Jesus Christ, and who voluntarily subscribe to its tenets of faith and agree to be governed by its constitution and bylaws as herein set forth, or as duly amended (and shall pay tithes as prescribed by Scripture.)

#### **Section 2**

The membership shall consist of voting and nonvoting members; their respective rights, qualifications, and privileges shall be set forth in the by-laws.

### **ARTICLE VI. OFFICERS**

The officers of this church organization shall consist of the Pastor, the Church Board Members, and such other officers as the church organization may deem advisable in conformity with its by-laws.

## **ARTICLE VII. MEETINGS**

### **Section 1**

Business Meetings - An annual business meeting of the church organization and such special business meetings as may be needed shall be called as provided by the by-laws.

## **ARTICLE VIII. DEPARTMENTS AND COMMITTEES**

The church organization shall hereby provide for the establishment of as many departments and committees as the church may require. All such departments shall be subordinate to the church organization and shall contribute to the harmony and development of the whole.

## **ARTICLE IX. FINANCES**

### **Section 1**

All funds for the operation, development, and maintenance of the church organization shall be provided by gifts, devices, bequests, legacies, trusts, annuities, voluntary contributions, and the tithes and offerings of the members and friends of the organization. (Malachi 3:10; Luke 6:36; I Corinthians 16:1,2; II Corinthians 9:6-8).

### **Section 2**

All monies shall be deposited in a responsible bank and disbursements and funding shall be made in accordance with the by-laws.

## **ARTICLE X. PROPERTY**

All property shall be held in the corporate name of the organization. Real property may be purchased, sold, leased, mortgaged, or otherwise alienated upon authorization of a two-thirds vote of at least forty percent (40%) of the voting membership present at a regular or special business meeting called for that purpose.

## **ARTICLE XI. RIGHT OF INTERVENTION**

The Department of Foreign Missions of the Assemblies of God shall have the privilege of intervention in the following situations: if the Pastor, other officers, or the church do not comply with the tenets set forth by the General Council and District Council, as well as the constitution and bylaws of this assembly; or if the Pastor, other officers, or church engage in conduct and practices unbecoming to Assemblies of God members or that would engender strife or disharmony in the church organization. The Department of Foreign Missions may call a meeting of the church to protect the rights of either the majority or minority. Such a meeting may be called after announcement at one Sunday service, provided the membership has been notified of said meeting by mail. The church may be placed in the hands of the District Officiary by a majority vote of a minimum quorum. This article may not be amended.

## **ARTICLE XII. DISSOLUTION OF ASSEMBLY**

All property of this church organization shall irrevocably be dedicated to the purposes of this church organization as set forth in its constitutions and bylaws; in the event of dissolution of the church, its Official Board, President, and Secretary are hereby authorized and instructed to convey title to all of its property and assets to the Department of Foreign Missions.

## **ARTICLE XIII. AMENDMENTS**

This constitution may be amended or changed by a two-thirds vote of the membership of the church organization who are in attendance at any regular or special business meeting called for that purpose, provided due notice of such proposed change shall have been made at all the services on at least two Sundays preceding the time of such meeting. However, this right to amend shall not be construed as authorization to amend Article IV - Tenets of Faith, Article XI - Rights of Intervention, or Article XII - Dissolution of Assembly.

## **ARTICLE XIV. ORDERS**

In order to facilitate the conduct of business in an orderly and satisfactory manner, business meetings shall be governed by the accepted rules of parliamentary procedure, (as stated in Robert's Rules of Order Newly Revised, Published 1970), in keeping with the spirit of Christian love, courtesy, and fellowship. It shall be recognized that the purpose of rules and forms of procedure is to subserve the will of the Assembly rather

than restrain; to facilitate, and not to obstruct the expression of its deliberate sense.

## **ARTICLE XV. MEMBERSHIP**

### **Section 1**

#### **Standard of Membership**

The standard of membership of this Assembly shall be:

- A. Evidence of a genuine experience in regeneration (a new birth) (John 1:12, 13; 3:3-8; I Peter 1:23-25).
- B. Evidences of a consistent Christian life. (Romans 6:4; 13:13-14; Ephesians 4:17-32; 5:1-2; I John 1:6-7).
- C. Subscription to the tenets of faith as set forth in the constitution.
- D. Regular contributors to the support of the Assembly according to the Scriptures. (Malachi 3:10; I Corinthians 16:2; II Corinthians 9:6-9).
- E. Evidence of a cooperative, submissive, humble, and Christlike spirit as the Scriptures enjoin.
- F. Fulfillment of the requirements of a membership class.

### **Section 2**

#### **Reception of Members**

- A. Persons desiring to become members of the assembly shall make the fact known to the Pastor, who shall examine the applicant according to the Standard of Membership.
- B. The Pastor shall present the names of those who apply for membership with his recommendation to the Official Board, who shall act upon the said recommendation and render a final decision.

## **Section 3**

### **Classification of Members**

#### **A. Voting Membership**

All members 18 years of age and older, whose names appear on the membership roster and who are in good standing shall be entitled to exercise the right to vote, unless they are under charges as stated in Section 5, Subsection (F) of the bylaws. The Pastor and all members of the ministerial staff and their companions shall be extended the privilege of voting on all matters except voting for a new Pastor. No member shall be eligible to vote in the election of a Pastor or Church Board Members unless he has been a member of the church for at least 90 days.

#### **B. Junior Membership**

Youth below the age of 18 years may be granted Junior Membership upon application. Upon reaching the age of 18 years, a Junior Member who wishes to become a Voting Member shall make their desire known to the Pastor (See Section 2, paragraph (A), (B), and (C)).

#### **C. Honorary Membership**

1. Persons holding any ministerial credentials may be granted Honorary Membership upon application, but are ineligible to vote or to hold an elected office.
2. Those whom the church desires to honor because of some special service rendered to The Assembly may also be granted Honorary Membership.
3. Those who have moved away and desire to retain fellowship with the church may be listed as Honorary Members. Honorary Members may attend business meetings if they desire, but shall not speak except upon invitation of the chairman; neither shall they vote or hold an elective office open to laymen.

#### **D. Inactive Members - Voting Members who:**

1. Shall without good cause absent themselves from the services of The Assembly for a period of three consecutive months or more;
2. Cease to contribute of their means to its support;
3. Are out of harmony with its teachings or its ministries;
4. Shall be under charges of misconduct who may have fallen under condemnation through sinful or worldly practices, shall be considered inactive members, if found guilty shall lose their voting privileges until they are restored to full fellowship. The standing of such persons under the charges shall be settled by definite and prompt action of The Assembly through its elective officers. (All charges to be in writing and the member notified of the same by mail.) Persons

losing the right to vote for any reason listed above shall not be allowed to exercise voting privileges in a business meeting of The Assembly for a period of at least 60 days following their restoration to voting membership by the aforesaid action of The Assembly's elected officers.

## **Section 4 Obligation of Members**

### **A. Cooperative Action**

The members of this church shall give their consent to its forms of government and agree to the policy of unity and agreement in doctrine, conduct, and action. They shall follow the Scriptural injunction to have no divisions in the body and shall be subject to those who may be delegated as rulers, in accordance with the Word of God. This is necessary to maintain the principle of Christian fellowship.

### **B. Attitude Toward Strife**

In order to comply with the teachings of Scripture and maintain unity and harmony within the church, no member shall incite or cause strife. Instead, they should work in harmony with the other members and the church's officers, as the early church did (Acts 6:1-7; Matthew 18:15-18).

### **C. Financial Support**

All members shall support the church financially according to their means (Malachi 3:10; 1 Corinthians 16:1-2; 2 Corinthians 9:6-9). This is necessary to maintain the church and its full services.

## **Section 5 Discipline**

Discipline shall be carried out by the Official Board. Grounds for discipline or expulsion from the church may include:

A. Absence from church services for an extended period (90 days) without a reasonable cause (Hebrews 10:24-25).

B. Failure to consistently support the church financially (Malachi 3:10; 1 Corinthians 9:6-9).

C. Living an immoral or sinful life and refusing to follow Scriptural conduct (Ephesians 5:3-7; 1 Corinthians 5:11-13; 2 Thessalonians 3:6-10; Galatians 5:19-21).



D. Propagation of erroneous, inconsistent, and false doctrine (Romans 16:17; 1 Timothy 6:4-5; 2 Timothy 1:13).

E. Persistence in behaviors that are prohibited by the Scriptures, such as being a habitual busybody (2 Thessalonians 3:11; 1 Timothy 5:13; 1 Peter 4:15), having an unbridled tongue (James 1:25-26), speaking evil (Matthew 7:33, 37; Ephesians 4:31), backbiting (Romans 1:30; 2 Corinthians 12:20), talebearing (Leviticus 19:16; Ephesians 4:31-32; James 3:14, 16), murmuring (John 6:43; 1 Corinthians 10:10), causing strife (Philippians 2:3; 2 Timothy 2:14), or causing division and schism (Romans 16:17-18; 1 Corinthians 3:3; 2 Corinthians 1:10-11).

Any member who is accused in writing shall be temporarily suspended from voting membership while the matter is promptly investigated and decided. The member shall be notified by mail of any such charges.

## **Section 6 Right of Appeal**

Any member who has been disciplined has the right to appeal. The appeal should be made to the Official Board of the church. If the appeal to the Board for reconsideration and reinstatement is denied, the dismissed member may appeal to the Official Church Secretary for a special called meeting to consider the issue. The decision, by a majority vote, shall be considered final (Romans 16:17-18; 1 Corinthians 5:1-5; 2 Thessalonians 3:6-15).

## **Section 7 Revision of Membership Roll**

A. Members in good standing who wish to transfer to another congregation may apply to the Secretary for a letter of transfer, which shall be granted upon approval of the Pastor and Official Board. The letter shall be signed by the Pastor and the Secretary of The Assembly.

B. The Pastor and Official Board shall annually revise the membership roll of The Assembly before the election of a Pastor or any other important matters. They shall remove from the list of voting members the names of those who have died during the year and those who have been disciplined according to Section 5.

C. Persons whose names are removed shall be notified of the action by a letter from the Pastor or the Official Secretary.

## **ARTICLE XVI. MEETINGS**

### **Section 1 Regular Meetings**

Meetings for public worship shall be held on each Lord's Day and during the week as determined by the elders.

### **Section 2 Special Services**

Revivals, rallies, missionary services, conventions, and other special services shall be planned by the Pastor. The Pastor may consult with the Official Board in the planning of such events and shall keep them informed of such plans.

### **Section 3 Annual Business Meeting**

The annual business meeting shall be held in January or February. At this meeting, there shall be an election of officers and a report from the Pastor, officers, committees, and departments. The order of business shall be as set forth in Article XIV of the By-Laws.

### **Section 4 Special Business Meetings**

Special business meetings of the Assembly (excluding a vote on the Pastor, see Article VI, Elections and Vacancies, Section 1, Subsection (a)(5)) may be called by the Pastor or by a two-thirds majority of the Official Board to handle special matters. These matters shall be specified in announcements calling the meetings.

### **Section 5 Initiatives**

Special business meetings may also be called by petition, signed by at least 40% of the voting membership of the Assembly. The petition shall be placed in the hands of the Pastor or the Secretary of the church, who must publish required notice of the business meeting.

### **Section 6 Notices**

A. Notice of all annual and special business meetings shall be published by announcement on the two consecutive Sundays prior to the meeting.

B. Exception: In the case of exercising the Right of Intervention (see Article XI of the Constitution), a business meeting may be called after being announced at one Sunday

service, provided the members are notified of such a meeting by mail.

**Section 7**  
**Official Board Meetings**

The Official Board of the Assembly shall meet as needed. The meeting shall be called by the Pastor. In the event that the church is temporarily without a Pastor, the Official Board shall appoint a chairman from among its members to call board meetings.

**Section 8**  
**Quorum**

- A. 40% of the voting membership of the church must respond to a call for a business meeting in order to constitute a quorum.
- B. 40% of the voting membership of the Assembly shall be required to constitute a quorum when voting on the Pastor for election.
- C. 40% of the voting membership of the Assembly shall be required to constitute a quorum when voting on a resolution authorizing the purchase of real property or to sell, lease, or mortgage, and in amending the Articles of Incorporation.
- D. A majority of a board or committee shall constitute a quorum, provided all members receive adequate notice.

**ARTICLE XVII. UNAUTHORIZED ACTIVITIES**

No member of this church shall promote private enterprises or activities that involve the membership of this church and over which the church has no control, or which have not been sanctioned by the Pastor and Official Board, such as private prayer meetings, etc. No member shall use their influence to draw other members of the church into such outside activities. If additional services are desired besides those provided, such services must have the approval of the Pastor and be under his general supervision. In the event that the church is temporarily without a Pastor, such services must have the approval of the Official Board.

**ARTICLE XVIII. OFFICERS**

**Section 1**

**Pastor**

- A. The Pastor shall be the spiritual overseer of the Assembly and shall direct all of its

activities. He shall be the President of the corporation and shall be chairman of all the business meetings of the Assembly. He shall be a voting member and Chairman of the Official Board. He shall be a member ex officio of all boards, committees, and departments. He shall provide for all the services of the Assembly and shall arrange for all special meetings, conventions, and revival campaigns. No person shall be invited to minister in the Assembly without his approval.

B. The Pastor is the direct responsible for the church as its administrative and spiritual head or overseer. No board, committee, or group shall supersede the authority vested by Scripture in the office and duties of the Pastor, or interfere in the relationship between the Pastor and the congregation. The Scriptural meaning of the word "Pastor" (Ephesians 4:11) being "shepherd", "bishop", "elder" (I Timothy 3:; Philippians 1:1; Titus 1:7), "overseer" (Acts 20:28; I Timothy 3:5; Hebrews 3:7,17; I Peter 5:2), and being of divine appointment, these prerogatives shall not be delegated by lay persons, as this is contrary to the divine method.

C. Delegating Authority - The Pastor as President, having the consent of the Official Board, may delegate the powers of President of the corporation to any other officer of the corporation, except the secretary, for the performance of the same in the place instead of the President on a temporary basis, as long as such delegation is not in conflict with the laws of the Cayman Islands. In the event the church is temporarily without a Pastor, the Official Board may designate one of its members as President until the election of a Pastor. After said election, the presidency of the corporation shall pass back to the Pastor.

B. District and General Council Meetings - The Pastor shall endeavour to represent the church in sectional, district, and General Council activities. The church shall accept its financial responsibilities, as far as possible, for the Pastor's attendance at district and General Council activities. Such attendance shall not be considered a part of the Pastor's vacation.

## Section 2

### **Assistant Pastors, Minister of Youth, Minister of Music, etc.**

The hiring and/or termination of an assistant's term of office shall be the prerogative of the pastor with the approval of the Official Board. When it is determined that an assistant is needed, the Pastor shall present the name of a candidate of their choice to the Official Board, who, with the Pastor, shall determine compensation. Said ministerial assistants shall be recognized and in good standing with The Assemblies of God. Such assistants shall be under the direct supervision of the Pastor and answerable to them in all matters. They shall cooperate with and support the Pastor in all their duties and responsibilities, and if unable to do so shall immediately tender their resignation to the Pastor. The termination of an assistant's term of office shall be the prerogative of the Pastor. When a Pastor resigns, it is

understood that their ministerial associates shall submit their resignations also, so that the newly elected Pastor may establish a staff of their own choice. Severance pay for such ministerial assistants shall be determined by the Official Board.

### **Section 3**

#### **Official Board**

There shall be an Official Board of this church which shall be comprised of the Pastor and the Church Board. Board members shall be elected from the voting membership of the church, and shall have been members for at least one year prior to nominations for office. Any time the term “Official Board” is used in these By-laws, it is understood to include the Pastor as chairman and voting members, whether stated or not. The Secretary shall be a member of the Official Board.

#### **A. Church Board**

1. There shall be a minimum of three members who will comprise the Church Board and a maximum of 7.

#### **B. Office of Church Board Members**

1. Scriptural authority for the office – The primary purpose of the office is service and spiritual ministry (1 Timothy 3:8-13; Acts 6:1-7).
2. Qualifications for the office:
  - (a) Spirit-filled (Acts 6:3; Acts 2:4)
  - (b) Of high reputation and character (1 Timothy 3:10; Acts 6:3)
  - (c) Regular contributions to the support of the Assembly according to the Scriptures (Malachi 3:10; 1 Corinthians 16:2; 11 Corinthians 9:6-9). As a leader in the church, he should meet his responsibility to support it with his tithes and offerings.
  - (d) Duties – The Church Board shall act in an advisory capacity to the Pastor in all matters pertaining to the Assembly in its spiritual life:
    - (i) They shall act in the examination of applications for membership
    - (ii) They shall act in the administration of discipline of the membership

- (iii) They shall assist in the ministry of the church ordinances
- (iv) They shall serve as a visiting committee in bedside ministry to the sick and for the spiritual uplift of the membership, and in all other ways requested by the Pastor in carrying out duties pertaining to the spiritual life of the Assembly.

#### **Section 4**

##### **Office of the Secretary**

The Secretary shall be a member of the Church Board and shall keep the minutes of the meetings of the Official Board and of the annual business meeting and all special business meetings of the Assembly. He shall keep a record of membership of the Assembly and perform other clerical work necessary for the proper discharge of these duties. He shall be the custodian of all legal documents and be in possession of the corporate seal. He shall be one of the two signatories to every legal document executed by the church corporation.

#### **Section 5**

##### **Office of the Treasurer**

The Treasurer shall be a member of the Board of Trustees and shall be entrusted with all the finances of the Assembly which may be committed to him. The Treasurer shall oversee that all monies are deposited in a responsible bank, designated by the Official Board, in the name of the Assembly and shall disburse cheques, as authorised by the Pastor and the Official Board. All cheques shall be signed with a minimum of two signatures as authorised by the Official Board. The Treasurer shall be responsible for an itemised accounting of all the receipts and disbursements, and shall make a financial report at the regular meetings of the Official Board and a detailed report to the Assembly at its annual business meeting. The books shall be audited bi-annually under the direction of the Pastor and the Official Board. The books of the Treasurer may be examined by the Pastor at any time; they may be examined by any voting member of the church at a responsible time in the presence of the Pastor and Treasurer.

## ARTICLE XIX. ELECTIONS AND VACANCIES

### Section 1 Election

#### A. Pastor

##### 1. Qualifications

The Pastor shall be a duly qualified Assemblies of God minister in good standing with the General Council and District Council of The Assemblies of God and shall be in harmonious accord with these by-laws. He shall be a person of good report whose life and conduct conforms with the Scriptures (I Timothy 3:3-7, Titus 1:6-9; I Peter 5:3).

##### 2. Nominations

The Church Board acting in the capacity of a pulpit committee must seek the council of the Division of Foreign Missions of Springfield, MO and together after prayerful inquiry, and with judicious council, full consideration being given to the leading of the Holy Spirit, shall appoint an available, Scripturally qualified minister to the office of Pastor.

##### 3. Elections

Election shall be by secret ballot at a business meeting called for that purpose. Two-thirds of all votes cast shall be required to constitute an election (see Article III, Section 8, Paragraph (b) Quorum). No more than one candidate shall be presented at an annual business meeting.

##### 4. Tenure of Office

The tenure of office for the Pastor shall be for an indefinite period of time.

##### 5. Recourse

If the Pastor seems to overstay his period of ministry or usefulness, counsel in the matter shall be sought from the Division of Foreign Missions of Springfield, MO. However, persons in the church so minded are advised to be extremely careful: that no personal antagonisms or dislikes enter into the situation, lest they be charged with engendering strife and discord, and in turn be disciplined. No person may take it upon himself to decide when the ministry of the Pastor would be terminated. It is alone the duty of the whole church. It is observed that the

spiritual members of every church are most honourable and loyal in their continued support of the Pastor. On the other hand, it is true that spiritual babes and the unspiritual and unscriptural are continually desiring change and upheaval. The tendency of the unspiritual is based action upon admiration, or the lack of it; upon personalities rather than righteous principle and upholding it regardless of personality. This church shall not base its action upon unsound and flimsy provocations. Laws of sound administration, being based upon adherence to principle rather than personality, shall govern the matter.

## **Section 2 Elections**

### **A. Church Board**

#### **1. Nominations**

- (a) The Nomination Committee shall consist of the Pastor, one member from the Church Board and two members from the church membership. The Church Board shall appoint one member from the Church Board and there shall be two members and one alternate appointed from the church membership before the annual business meeting. The Nominating Committee shall be announced or published two Sundays prior to the business meeting.

The Pastor will inform the Nominating Committee of its duties prior to the nominating committee meeting.

Church Board Members shall be selected from the names that have been submitted by the Nominating Committee chosen from the church membership. Final selection shall come from the church board after they have reviewed the names of the nominations.

Names of church members must be submitted 7 days prior to the annual business meeting. The committee shall submit nominees for vacancies that occur on the Official Church Board. Nominations shall not be taken from the floor at the annual business meeting. They shall be elected by secret ballot and a majority vote of active members present shall constitute an election.

- (b) The Church Board Members shall be chosen from the list submitted by the Nominating Committee of the Assembly and shall be elected by a majority vote of active members present at the annual business meeting.



2. The Pastor shall be responsible for the spiritual management of the Assembly. Of this Church Board, one shall be the Secretary and one the Treasurer. Secretary and Treasurer shall be appointed by the Church Board Members from within the Church Board. All portfolios for Church Board Members that have been previously examined and approved by the Church Board will be given as soon as possible following the annual business meeting.
3. The Church Board Members shall be members of mature Christian experience and knowledge, who shall meet the requirements as set forth in I Timothy 3 and Titus 1.
4. The Church Board Members shall be elected to serve one 3-year period. They may not serve more than two consecutive 3-year terms. After serving two consecutive terms, a Deacon shall have a one-year lapse before being eligible for re-election.
5. One Deacon shall be elected each year to serve for a 1-year term.
6. No two people from the same family shall be allowed to serve on the Church Board at the same time.

### **Section 3 Vacancies**

#### **A. The Pastor**

1. The tenure of the Pastor shall be terminated by death, resignation, or disqualification. When a vacancy in the Pastorate shall occur, a temporary supply shall be engaged by the board to serve while a Pastor is being chosen. If the Pastor makes a decision to resign, the resignation shall be in writing addressed to the church and the Division of Foreign Missions. He shall read his resignation to the congregation at the Sunday morning service or any of the regular or specially called meetings of the Assembly. In the event the Pastor does not follow the above, but gives his resignation orally at any Sunday service or specially called meeting of the Assembly, such resignation shall be considered legal and final unless refused by a majority vote of the membership at the time of said resignation. The Division of Foreign Missions shall be notified of his resignation.
2. In case of the resignation or removal of the Pastor, he shall allow or be given a period of at least thirty days to vacate the pulpit, or shall receive severance pay for a minimum of thirty days, or as agreed upon by the Pastor and Official Board.

3. Before leaving the church, he shall notify the Division of Foreign Missions of his desire to vacate and shall cooperate with the church and the district superintendent in seeking candidates for the Pastorate. The church shall not be left in the hands of a novice nor in a layman, except such arrangement is under the supervision of the Division of Foreign Missions, as the Scriptures and experience have proved the danger in doing so.

## **B. Church Board**

1. Vacancies among the Church Board of the church may be filled by appointment by the Pastor and Church Board until the Annual Business Meeting. At that time, the church body shall elect a member to fulfill the unexpired term.
2. All matters of church government shall be carried on by the Church Board, except in matters affecting the entire body. In such cases requiring congregational approval, they shall present their recommendations to the church for ratification. Members of the Church Board shall be at least 25 years old and shall have been members of the Assembly for at least one year.

## **ARTICLE XX. FINANCES**

The church shall be supported by the tithes and offerings of the members and friends. This is the Scriptural method of financing God's Work (Malachi 3:10; Matthew 23:23; Hebrews 7:4-9). Other methods for special projects may be used with the approval of the Church Board.

## **ARTICLE XXI. DEPARTMENTS AND COMMITTEES**

### **Section 1**

**Departments** - All departments shall be conducted as branches of the church and shall be under the general supervision of the Pastor.

### **Section 2**

**Committees** - Committees may be appointed to serve the church as the need may arise and shall be under the general supervision of the Pastor.

## ARTICLE IX. PROPERTY RIGHTS

### Section 1

**Title of Property** - All property, real or chattel, shall be held, sold, transferred, or conveyed in the name of the Assembly.

### Section 2

**Authorization for Purchase of Real Property** - Authorization to purchase or otherwise acquire real property shall be given by two-thirds vote of a quorum present and voting (see Article III, Section 8, paragraph © of By-Laws) at a regular or special business meeting called for that purpose.

### Section 3

**Authorization to Sell or Encumber** - The sale, lease, mortgage, or alienation of the real property of this Assembly shall be authorized by a two-thirds vote of a quorum present and voting (see Article III, Section 8, paragraph © of By-Laws) at a regular or special business meeting called for that purpose.

### Section 4

**Transactions in Interim Between Pastors** - Property shall not be sold, purchased, leased, mortgaged or alienated in the interim while the church has no Pastor, unless negotiations had begun before the vacancy occurred. In all cases during this period, guidance of the Division of Foreign Missions must be sought.

### Section 5

**Certification** - The President or any other designated officer and Secretary of the Assembly shall certify in such purchases, conveyance, lease, or mortgage, that the same has been duly authorized by the vote of the membership. The President or any other designated officer and the Secretary shall sign all papers and documents required in carrying out the will of the membership in such matters (in accordance with Article V, Section 4).

### Section 6

**Dissolution** - All property of the church body shall irrevocably be dedicated to the purposes of this church organization as set forth in its constitution and By-Laws; and in the event of dissolution, its President and Secretary are hereby authorized and instructed to convey title to all of its property and assets to the Division of Foreign Missions of the Assemblies of God, a non-profit corporation, organization and operated exclusively for religious and charitable purposes, which qualifies for

exemption from Federal Income Tax under provisions of Section 501(c)(3) of Internal Revenue Code, State Franchise Revision Code - provided the Executive Presbytery shall elect to receive the same. Whereupon the Division of Foreign Missions of the Assemblies of God shall take possession of said property and assets, and after paying or adequately providing for the debts and obligations of the church body, shall use the property or the proceeds therefrom for the furtherance of the purposes of the Division of Foreign Missions of the Assemblies of God. In the event that the church dissolves without taking a formal vote in regard to the property, all properties and assets shall automatically revert to the Division of Foreign Missions of God as stated above.

## **ARTICLE XXII. ORDER OF BUSINESS**

The regular order of business for the annual meeting of the Assembly shall be as follows:

- A. Devotional
- B. Roll Call
- C. Reading of the Minutes of the previous meeting by the Secretary
- D. Report by Pastor
- E. Report by Treasurer
- F. Report of Committees
- G. Unfinished Business
- H. Election of Officers
- I. New Business
- J. Adjournment

## **ARTICLE XXIII. AMENDMENTS**

The By-Laws may be amended at any regular or special business meeting of the Assembly by a majority vote of the membership present provided the proposed amendment has been announced publicly on the two Sundays prior to the date of the meeting, announcement to be made by the Pastor or the church Secretary. However, this right to amend shall not be construed as authorization to amend Article XII, Section 6, Dissolution of the Assembly.