

CONSTITUTION OF

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CONSTITUTION OF

Preamble

Whereas, it is the express purpose of God, our Heavenly Father, to call out of the world a saved people, who shall constitute the body of Jesus Christ, built and established upon the foundation of the Apostles and Prophets, Jesus Christ being the Chief Cornerstone, and,

Whereas, the members of the Body, the Church of Jesus Christ are enjoined to assemble themselves together for worship, fellowship, counsel, and instruction in the Word of God and to the work of the ministry, and for the exercise of those spiritual gifts and offices provided for New testament Church order.

Therefore, be it resolved that we who have received this precious faith and hope, and believed the promise of the Father (Acts 1:4-5), organize ourselves as an assembly of Christians in accordance with the hereinafter given Tenets Of Faith, and adopt the following Constitution and By-Laws, and submit ourselves to be governed by them.

Article I Name And Address

- A. The name of this church shall be: , hereinafter referred to as the Assembly.
- B. The registered address of this church and place of assembly shall be:

.....

Or such other place or places as may be decided by the Church Board from time to time.

Article II Affiliation

- A. Affiliation To The Assemblies Of God

While maintaining its inherent rights to sovereignty in the conduct of its affairs, the Assembly shall voluntarily enter into full co-operative fellowship with the assemblies of like precious faith associated in The Assemblies Of God; and shall share in the privileges and assume the responsibilities enjoined by that affiliation.

- B. Right Of Intervention By The Assemblies Of God:

1. If the Pastor, members of the Church Board or the Assembly does not comply with the Tenets Of Faith set forth herein, the General Superintendent of The Assemblies Of God may at the invitation of the majority through the Secretary of the Assembly, call a meeting with the Assembly to protect the rights of either the majority or the minority that does desire to adhere to these agreements. Such a meeting may be called any time after one announcement at a Sunday Service

2. In the event that the Assembly shall not be able to function as a society or local body or in agreement with the Tenets Of Faith and it becomes apparent that the Assembly cannot continue its activities because of internal strife, open rebellion or the repudiation of the stated Tenets Of Faith or upon such decision by a majority vote of voting members present in any Business Meeting and upon such decision being entered upon the minutes by the Secretary, the said decision shall automatically empower the General Council of The Assemblies Of God the title deed of its church property or its proceeds and the General Council of The Assemblies Of God shall use the property or its proceeds in the furtherance of the gospel work provided, however, that the General Council Executive Committee of The Assemblies Of God shall consent to receive the same.

Article III Objectives

The Assembly is established for the purpose of facilitating, supporting and enabling its members to uphold, to express and to live according to the stated Tenets Of Faith and other Scriptural teachings with the following objectives:

- A. To provide a structure for biblical worship and prayer.
- B. To provide a basis for biblical fellowship.
- C. To develop a fortress for biblical evangelism and outreach.
- D. To maintain a program of biblical education.

Article IV Tenets Of Faith

The Bible is our all-sufficient rule for faith and practice. This statement of our Tenets Of Faith is intended simply as a basis of fellowship among us (ie: that we all speak the same thing, 1 Corinthians 1:10; Acts 2:42). The phraseology employed in these Tenets Of Faith is not inspired or contended for, but the truth set forth is held to be essentials to a full gospel ministry. No claim is made that it contains all Biblical truth, only that it covers our need as to these fundamental doctrines.

A. The Scriptures Inspired

The Scriptures, both the Old and New Testaments, are verbally inspired of God and the revelation of God to man, the infallible, authoritative rule of faith and conduct. (2 Timothy 3:16-17; 1 Thessalonians 2:13; 2 Peter 1:21)

B. The One True God

The one true God has revealed Himself as the eternally self-existent "I AM", the creator of heaven and earth and the Redeemer of mankind. He has further revealed Himself as embodying the principles of relationship and association as Father, Son and Holy Spirit. (Deuteronomy 6:4; Isaiah 43:10-11; Matthew 28:19; Luke 3:22)

C. The Adorable Godhead:

1. Terms Defined

The terms "Trinity" and "persons" as related to the Godhead, while not found in the Scriptures, are words in harmony with the Scriptures, whereby we may convey on others our immediate understanding of the doctrine of Christ respecting the Being of God, as distinguished from "gods many and lords many". We therefore may speak with propriety of the Lord our God, who is One Lord, as a trinity or as a one Being of three persons, and still be absolutely Scriptural (Matthew 28:19; 2 Corinthians 13:14; John 14:16-17).

2. Distinction And Relationship In The Godhead

Christ taught a distinction of Persons in the Godhead which He expressed in specific terms of relationship, as Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, but that this distinction and relationship, as to its mode is inscrutable and incomprehensible because unexplained. (Luke 1:35; 1 Corinthians 1:24; Matthew 11:25-27; 28:19; 2 Corinthians 13:14; 1 John 1:3-4)

3. Unity Of The One Being Of Father, Son And Holy Spirit

Accordingly, therefore, there is that in the Son which constitutes Him the Son and not the Father; and there is that in the Holy Spirit which constitutes Him the Holy Spirit and not either the Father or the Son. Wherefore the Father is the Begetter, the Son is the Begotten; and the Holy Spirit is the one proceeding from the Father and the Son. Therefore, because these three persons in the Godhead are in the state of unity, there is but one Lord God Almighty and His name one. (John 1:18; 15:26; 17:11,21; Zechariah 14:9)

4. Identity And Cooperation In The Godhead

The Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit are never identical as to Person; nor confused as to relation; nor divided in respect to the Godhead; nor opposed as to cooperation. The Son is in the Father and the Father is in the Son as to relationship. The Son is with the father and the Father is with the Son, as to fellowship. The Father is not from the Son, but the Son is from the Father, as

to authority. The Holy Spirit is from the Father and the Son proceeding, as to nature, relationship, cooperation and authority. Hence, neither Persons in the Godhead either exists or works separately or independently of the other. (John 5:17-30, 32, 37, John 8:17-18)

5. The Title, Lord Jesus Christ

The appellation, "Lord Jesus Christ", is a proper name. It is never applied, in the New Testament, either to the Father or to the Holy Spirit. It therefore belongs exclusively to the Son of God. (Romans 1:1-3, 7; 2 John 3)

6. The Lord Jesus Christ, God With Us

The Lord Jesus Christ, as to His divine and eternal nature, is the proper and only Begotten of the Father but as to His human nature, He is the proper Son of Man. He is, therefore, acknowledged to be both God and man; who because He is God and man, is "Immanuel", God with us. (Matthew 1:23; 1 John 4:2, 10, 14; Revelation 1:13,17)

7. The Title, Son of God

Since the name "Immanuel" embraces both God and man in the one Person our Lord Jesus Christ, it follows that the title Son of God, describes His proper deity, and the title Son of Man, His proper humanity. Therefore, the title, Son of God, belongs to the order of eternity, and the title, Son of Man to the order of time. (Matthew 1:21-23; 2 John 3; 1 John 3:8; Hebrews 1:1-13;7:3).

8. Transgression Of The Doctrine Of Christ

Wherefore, it is a transgression of the Doctrine of Christ to say that Jesus Christ derived the title, Son of God, solely from the fact of the incarnation, or because of His relation to the economy of redemption. Therefore, to deny that the Father is a real and eternal Father, and that the Son is a real and eternal Son, is a denial of the distinction and relationship in the Being of God; a denial

of the Father and the Son; and a displacement of the truth that Jesus Christ is come in the flesh. (2 John 9; John 1:1-2, 14, 18, 29, 49, 1 John 2:22-23; 4:1-5; Hebrews 12:2)

9. Exaltation Of Jesus Christ As Lord

The Son of God, our Lord Jesus Christ, having by Himself purged our sins, sat down on the right hand of the Majesty on high; angels and principalities and powers having been made subject unto Him. And having been made both Lord and Christ, He sent the Holy Spirit that we, in the name

of Jesus, might bow our knees and confess that Jesus Christ is Lord to the glory of God the Father until the end, when the Son shall become subject to the Father that God may be all in all. (Hebrews 1:3; 1 Peter 3:22; Acts 2:32-36; Romans 14:11; 1 Corinthians 15:24-28)

10. Equal Honour To The Father And To The Son

Wherefore, since the Father has delivered all judgment unto the Son, it is only the express duty of all in heaven and on earth to bow the knee but it is an unspeakable joy in the Holy Spirit to ascribe unto the Son all the attributes of Deity, and to give Him all the honour and the glory contained in all the names and titles of the Godhead (except those which express relationship. See paragraph 2, 3 and 4) and thus honour the Son even as we honour the Father. (John 5:22-23; 1 Peter 1:8; Philippians 2:8-9; Revelation 4:8-11; 5:6-14; 7:9-10.)

D. The Deity Of The Lord Jesus Christ

The Lord Jesus Christ is the eternal Son of God. The Scriptures declare:

1. His virgin birth. (Matthew 1:18-25; Luke 1:31, 35)
2. His sinless life. (Hebrews 7:26; 1 Peter 2:22)
3. His miracles. (Acts 2:22; 10:38)
4. His substitutionary work on the cross. (1 Corinthians 15:3; 2 Corinthians 5:21)
5. His bodily resurrection from the dead. (Matthew 28:6; Luke 24:39; 1 Corinthians 15:4) 6. His exaltation to the right hand of God. (Acts 1:9, 11; 2:33; Philippians 2:9-11; Hebrews 1:3)

E. The Fall Of Man

Man was created good and upright; for God said, "Let us make man in our image, in our likeness". However, man by voluntary transgression fell and thereby incurred not only physical death but also spiritual death, which is separation from God. (Genesis 1:26-27; 2:17; 3:6; Romans 5:12-19)

F. The Salvation Of Man

Man's only hope of redemption is through the shed blood of Jesus Christ the Son of God.

1. Conditions To Salvation

Salvation is received through repentance toward God and faith toward the Lord Jesus Christ, by the washing of regeneration and renewing of the Holy Spirit, being justified by grace through faith, man becomes an heir of God according to the hope of eternal life. (Luke 24:47; John 3:3; Romans 10:13-15; Ephesians 2:8; Titus 2:11; 3:5-7)

2. The Evidence Of Salvation

The inward evidence of salvation is direct witness of the Spirit. (Romans 8:16) The outward evidence to all men is a life of righteousness and true holiness. (Ephesians 4:24; Titus 2:12)

G. The Ordinances Of The Church:

1. Baptism In Water

The ordinance of baptism by immersion is commanded in the Scriptures. All who repent and believe on Christ as Saviour and Lord are to be baptized. Thus they declare to the world that they have died with Christ and that they also have been raised with Him to walk in the newness of life. (Matthew 28:19; Mark 16:16; Acts 10:47-48; Romans 6:4)

2. Holy Communion

The Lord's Supper, consisting of the elements – bread and the fruit of the vine – is the symbol expressing our sharing the divine nature of our Lord Jesus Christ (2 Peter 1:4) a memorial of His suffering and death (1 Corinthians 11:26); and a prophecy of His second coming (1 Corinthians 11:26); and is enjoined on all believers "until He comes".

H. The Baptism In The Holy Spirit

All believers are entitled to and should ardently expect and earnestly seek the promise of the Father, the baptism in the Holy Spirit and fire, according to the command of our Lord Jesus Christ. This was the normal experiences of all in the early Christian Church. With it comes the endowment of power for life and service, the bestowments of the gifts and their uses in the work of the ministry (Luke 24:49; Acts 1:4-8; 1 Corinthians 12:1-31). This experience is distinct from and subsequent to the experience of the new birth (Acts 8:12-17; 10:44-46; 11:14-16; 15:7-9). With the Baptism in the Holy Spirit come such experiences as an overflowing fullness of the Spirit (John 7:37-39; Acts 4:8), a deepened reverence for God (Acts 2:43; Hebrews 12:28), an intensified consecration to God and dedication to His work (Acts 2:42), and a more active love for Christ, for His Word and for the lost (Mark 16:20).

I. The Evidence Of The Baptism In The Holy Spirit

The baptism of the believers in the Holy Spirit is witnessed by the initial physical sign of speaking in other tongues as the Spirit of God gives them utterance. (Acts 2:4) The speaking in tongues in this instance is the same in essence as the gift of tongues (1 Corinthians 12:4-10, 28), but different in purpose and use.

J. Sanctification

Sanctification is an act of separation from that which is evil, and of dedication unto God (Romans 12:1-2; 1 Thessalonians 5:23; Hebrews 13:12). The Scriptures teach holy living, for "without holiness no one will see the Lord". (Hebrews 12:14) By the power of the Holy Spirit we are able to obey the command: "Be holy, because I am holy". (1 Peter 1:15-16) Sanctification is realized in the believer by recognizing his identification with Christ in His death and resurrection, by faith reckoning daily upon the fact of that union, and by offering every faculty continually to the dominion of the Holy Spirit. (Romans 6:1-11, 13; 8:1-2, 13; Galatians 2:20; Philippians 2:12-13; 1 Peter 1:5)

K. The Church

The Church is the Body of Christ, the habitation of God through the Spirit with divine appointments for the fulfillment of her great commission. Each believer, born of the Spirit, is an integral part of the General Assembly and Church of the First-born, which are written in heaven. (Ephesians 1:22-23; 2:22; Hebrews 12:23)

L. The Ministry

A divinely called and scripturally ordained ministry has been provided by our Lord for two-fold purpose:

1. The evangelization of the world, and
2. The edifying of the Body of Christ. (Mark 16:15-20; Ephesians 4:11-13)

M. Divine Healing

Divine healing is an integral part of the gospel. Deliverance from sickness is provided for in the atonement, and is the privilege of all believers. (Isaiah 53:4-5; Matthew 8:16-17; James 5:14-16)

N. The Blessed Hope

The resurrection of those who have fallen asleep in Christ and their translation together with those who are alive and remain unto the coming of the Lord is the imminent and blessed hope of the church. (1 Thessalonians 4:16-17; Romans 8:23; Titus 2:13; 1 Corinthians 15:51-52)

O. The Millennial Reign Of Christ

The second coming of Christ includes the rapture of the saints, which is our blessed hope, followed by the visible return of Christ with His saints to reign on the earth for one thousand years. (Zechariah 14:5; Matthew 24:27, 30; Revelation 1:7; 19:11-14; 20:1-6) This millennial reign will bring the salvation of national Israel (Ezekiel 37:21-22; Zephaniah 3:19-20; Romans 11:26-27) and the establishment of universal peace. (Isaiah 11:6-9; Psalms 72:3-8; Micah 4:3-4)

P. The Final Judgment

There will be a final judgment in which the wicked dead will be raised and judged according to their works. Whosoever is not found written in the Book of Life, together with the devil and his angels, the beast and the false prophet, will be consigned to everlasting punishment in the fiery lake of burning sulphur, which is the second death. (Matthew 25:46; Mark 9:43-48; Revelation 19:20; 20:11-15; 21:8)

Q. The New Heavens And The New Earth

"In keeping with His promise we are looking for a new heaven and a new earth, the home of righteousness". (2 Peter 3:13; Revelation 21:1-4)

Article V The Day Of Worship

The first day of the week has been hallowed by the resurrection of Christ from the dead (John 20:1). Believers are to assemble for worship on that day particularly (Acts 20:7) and on the other days as may be announced by the Church Board.

Article VI Membership Of The Assembly

A. Any person born of the Spirit (John 3:5) who have been baptized in water and whose life is consistent with the Word of God and who is in accord with the Tenets Of Faith as stated in this Constitution and who purposes to co-operate with other members of the Assembly for the propagation of our distinctly Pentecostal testimony may apply to the Church Board for admission as members of the Assembly.

B. Membership of the Assembly may be classified into different classes with or without the right to vote. Those members who have the right to vote are collectively referred to as "Eligible Voting Members" hereinafter.

Article VII The Church Board

A. The affairs of the Assembly shall be managed by the Church Board, which shall act for and represent the Assembly in all matters. The scope of this provision shall not supercede the specific authorities vested in the Board of Trustees or the Nominations Committee or any other defined authorities.

B. In co-operation with the Pastor, the Church Board shall serve to exercise both spiritual and practical oversight of the Assembly.

C. The Church Board consists of the Pastor and Associate Pastor if any, the Secretary, the Treasurer, and not less than two other Church Board members who may or may not have assigned portfolios.

D. The Church Board is amendable to the Assembly through any resolutions passed at any Business Meeting of the Assembly, provided that such resolutions do not conflict with the Constitution or the By-Laws of the Assembly.

E. The Church Board is vested with the authority and responsibility to discipline members who are disorderly.

Article VIII The Pastor And Associate Pastor

A. The Pastor shall be considered as the spiritual overseer of the Assembly and shall have oversight of all its activities.

B. The Pastor shall be an ex-officio member of the Assembly and all committees and all departments of the Assembly.

C. Associate Pastor:

1. The Pastor's wife shall be considered as an Associate Pastor, provided that she holds up-to-date licensed or ordained credentials with The Assemblies Of God.

2. In the absence of the Pastor, the Associate Pastor shall act in the place of the Pastor with all due powers and authority and responsibilities.

3. The Associate Pastor shall be an ex-officio member of the assembly and all committees and all departments of the Assembly.

D. Appointments:

1. The Pastor shall be appointed by the Church Board and the appointment shall be approved by a two-thirds majority vote of all voting members at a Business Meeting, and after the first year of service the tenure of the Pastor shall be confirmed by two-thirds majority vote of all voting members at a Business Meeting.
2. As such times when the Pastor is of the opinion that another Associate Pastor should be appointed to share the work of the ministry, the Pastor shall make such a recommendation to the Church Board. This Associate Pastor shall be appointed by the Church Board in consultation with the Pastor and the appointment shall be approved by two-thirds majority vote of all voting members at a Business Meeting, and after the first year of service the tenure of the Associate Pastor shall be confirmed by two-thirds majority vote of all voting members at a Business Meeting.

E. Vacancies:

1. The office of the Pastor or Associate Pastor may be declared vacant by two-thirds majority vote of all voting members at a Business Meeting.
2. The office of the Pastor or Associate Pastor or any ministerial staff shall automatically be considered vacant upon the loss or termination of relevant credentials with The Assemblies Of God.

Article IX The Board Of Trustees

A. In the position of trust, the Board Of Trustees shall act on and execute all legal matters on behalf of the Assembly, and shall for all purposes be a body corporate by the name "Gospel Assembly Of God". In this respect the Board Of Trustees shall be guided by the recommendations of the Church Board and any relevant resolutions or policy that have been passed at any Business Meeting of the Assembly.

B. In consultation with the Church Board, the Board Of Trustees shall have the supervision, oversight and care of all immovable property of every description belonging to the Assembly.

C. The Board Of Trustees may acquire by purchase, gift, devise, bequest or otherwise and hold immovable property of every description and may sell, convey, assign, surrender and yield up, charge, mortgage, demise, reassign, transfer or otherwise dispose of, or remodel, upgrade, renovate or otherwise deal with any immovable property of the Assembly so vested in them, provided that such a decision to acquire, or to dispose of, or to deal with such immovable property have been recommended by the Church Board and that such recommendation have been endorsed by two-thirds majority of all voting members at a Business Meeting.

D. The Board Of Trustees consists of the Pastor, two or three of the incumbent Church Board members appointed by the Church Board, and two or three other members.

E. Property In The Name Of The Assemblies Of God:

1. In the administration, supervision, oversight, care of, or in the execution of any business transaction pertaining to any property of the Assembly that is registered in the name of The Assemblies Of God, or any property of The Assemblies Of God that have been assigned to the care of the Assembly, the Board Of Trustees shall be amendable to the General Council of The Assemblies Of God.
2. If any property of the Assembly is registered in the name of The Assemblies Of God or if any property of The Assemblies Of God is assigned to the care of the Assembly, then either the General Superintendent or General Secretary of The Assemblies Of God shall be an ex-officio member of the Board Of Trustees.
3. Plans for the purchase, sale or transfer, construction or remodeling of any property or any part of the property of The Assemblies Of God shall not be executed by the Board Of Trustees

until a written authorization is received from the Executive Committee of the General Council of The Assemblies Of God.

Article X Departments Of The Assembly

- A. The Church Board may create various Departments to conduct various activities, or administer various programs of the Assembly as the need arises from time to time.
- B. All Heads of Departments of the Assembly shall be amendable to the Church Board.
- C. Rules of order of any fashion adopted by any Department of the Assembly shall not be effective until approved by the Church Board and shall not conflict with the Constitution and the By-Laws of the Assembly.

Article XI The Nominations Committee

- A. The Nominations Committee is vested with the authority and responsibility to:
 - 1. Find, assess, and nominate suitably qualified members to serve in the Church Board.
 - 2. Find, assess, and nominate suitably qualified members to serve in the Board Of Trustees except for those Trustees seconded from the Church Board.
 - 3. Find, assess, and nominate suitably qualified members to serve as Heads of Departments of the Assembly.
 - 4. Find, assess, and appoint suitably qualified person(s) to serve as Auditor(s) for the audit of the financial accounts of the Assembly.
- B. The Nominations Committee shall consist of the Pastor, two or three other incumbent Church Board members, and two or three other members of the Assembly. Excluding the Pastor, the number of incumbent Church Board members serving in the Nominations Committee shall be equal to the number of members from without the Church Board.
- C. Except for the Pastor, all members of the Nominations Committee shall be appointed by the Church Board and the appointment shall be approved by a two-thirds majority vote of all voting members at a Business Meeting.

Article XII Appointment Of Officials At The Inauguration Of The Assembly

The provisions under this article shall apply only for the appointment of the first set of officials at the inauguration of the Assembly. After the first set of officials have been so appointed under this article, these provisions shall automatically expire and shall be superceded by the relevant provisions contained in this Constitution.

- A. The Pastor shall be appointed by two-thirds majority vote of all voting members at the inaugural Business Meeting.
- B. The Church Board shall be appointed by two-thirds majority vote of all voting members at the inaugural Business Meeting. This Church Board shall at the earliest convenience appoint the Board Of Trustees, the Heads of Departments, and the Auditor.

Article XIII Amendments

- A. Amendments Of The Constitution:
 - 1. Amendments of the Constitution may be made at any Business Meeting of the Assembly provided that the proposed amendments have been submitted in writing to all Eligible Voting Members of the Assembly not less than one month before the Business Meeting in question and that the proposed amendments have been announced at not less than four Sunday Services of the Assembly before the Business Meeting.

2. Amendments shall require for their adoption a two-thirds majority vote of voting members present at the Business Meeting. Adopted amendments will only come into effect after a written approval of the Executive Committee of the General Council of The Assemblies Of God has been given.

3. Amendments must not alter the meaning of the Tenets Of Faith or the name "Gospel Assembly Of God". 4. Proposals for amendments may originate from the Church Board, the Pastor, or from a written petition submitted to the Church Board carrying the signatures of not less than one-fifth of the Eligible Voting Members.

B. Amendments Of The By-Laws:

1. By-Laws may be adopted or amended at any Business Meeting of the Assembly provided that the proposed amendments have been announced at not less than two (2) Sunday Services of the Assembly before the Business Meeting in question.

2. Amendments or proposals for new By-Laws shall require for their adoption a simple majority vote of voting members present at the Business Meeting.

3. Proposals for amendments or new By-Laws may originate from the Church Board or the Pastor. Any one of the Eligible Voting Members may also propose amendments or new By-Laws provided such proposals are seconded by at least two other Eligible Voting Members and the proposal is submitted in writing to the Church Board.

Article XIV Definitions

Unless otherwise indicated, the definitions of terms used in this Constitution and the By-Laws shall be as follows:

A. "Business Meeting" shall mean a meeting with a quorum of Eligible Voting members of the Assembly called to order for the purpose of dealing with any legal, administrative, policy or any other business matters of the Assembly.

B. "Sunday Service" shall mean the main general meeting of the members of the Assembly held on the first day of each week at the normal address primarily for the purpose of worship, and spiritual edification or outreach.

C. "The Assemblies Of God" shall mean The Assemblies Of God Of Malaysia as incorporated under the Trustees (Incorporation) Ordinances, 1952, of which incorporation was gazetted on the 4th day of April, 1968.

BY-LAWS OF

Preamble

These By-Laws are adopted by as auxiliary to the Constitution and therefore shall not be interpreted in any way to conflict with the said Constitution. Further, terms used in these By-Laws shall have the same meaning as used in the Constitution unless otherwise indicated.

Article I Membership

A. The Church Board shall consider all applications for membership and its decision shall be final.

B. Believers whose membership is approved shall be publicly received into the Assembly by the Pastor at such time as is convenient.

C. Believers must have been in regular fellowship with the Assembly for not less than six (6) months before they can formally accepted into the

membership. D. Membership of the Assembly shall be

classified as follows:

1. Youth Members:

a. Believers who have been baptized in water and who have been received into the Assembly by the Church Board, but have not yet reached the age of eighteen shall be received as Youth Members.

b. Youth Members are not eligible to vote.

c. Upon reaching the age of eighteen a Youth Member shall notify the Church Board which shall then upgrade his membership to Ordinary Member if his membership have been in good standing.

2. Ordinary Members:

a. Believers who have been baptized by water and who have been received into the Assembly by the Church Board and who are eighteen years of age and above shall be received as Ordinary Members.

b. Ordinary Members are eligible to vote unless their right to vote is otherwise suspended.

3. Associate Members:

a. Members who are no longer in regular fellowship with the Assembly under one or more of the following conditions shall be classified as Associate Members:

(1) Transferred to another locality due to jobs or further studies.

(2) Ministers holding licensed and ordained credentials with the General Council of The Assemblies Of God.

(3) Bible College students who are sponsored partly or fully by the Assembly.

b. Associate Members shall have no voice in the government or administration of the Assembly and they are not eligible to vote.

c. Upon their return to regular fellowship with the Assembly they may apply to the Church Board to be upgraded to Ordinary Members or Youth Members, provided that they must have been in regular fellowship for not less than three (3) months.

E. Responsibilities Of Members

Applicants for membership shall be deemed to have pledged themselves to the following responsibilities, in addition to any other responsibilities specified or implied in the Constitution and elsewhere in the By-Laws, if their applications for membership is approved:

1. To be loyal, reverent, and obedient to the Lord Jesus Christ and to the Assembly.
2. To be consistent in their personal quiet-times or devotions.
3. To be faithful in attending services of the Assembly.
4. To be faithful in their tithes and offerings.
5. To be zealous for the salvation of others.
6. To be a good Christian testimony in all that they say or do.
7. To avoid indulging in things that are questionable.
8. To edify one another in the Assembly as a Body of Christ.
9. To be available to do the work of the Lord.
10. To be pure in mind, heart and body.
11. To be submissive to the authorities that the Lord has placed in the Assembly.
12. To grow spiritually and thus aim to be mature in Christ.

F. Inactive Members:

1. Members who absent themselves from more than half of the number of regular Sunday Services in a six-month period without good or reasonable cause shall be liable to be considered inactive.
2. The Church Board shall review the membership list not less than twice a year and shall consider factors such as participation or attendance in the other activities of the Assembly or other relevant factors when deciding whether a member should be considered inactive.
3. After reviewing the membership list, the Church Board shall make an attempt to inform the members concerned at their registered address or last known address regarding their liability of being considered inactive. Such members shall be placed on the inactive members' list not less than four (4) weeks after such an attempt has been made.
4. The right to vote is automatically suspended when a member is placed on the inactive members' list by the Church Board.
5. Inactive members shall not hold office. If the inactive member was holding an office prior to becoming inactive and if that office have not been otherwise declared vacant, that office shall automatically be considered vacated when the member is placed on the inactive members' list by the Church Board.
6. Inactive members may be restored on the discretion of the Church Board after returning to regular fellowship with the Assembly for not less than six months. Restoration shall be considered and decided on only at the review of the membership list by the Church Board.

G. Transfer Of Membership:

1. Believers who come from another church affiliated with The Assemblies Of God with an introduction letter in good standing from that church may be received into membership after approval by the Church Board, provided that such believers must have been in regular fellowship with the Assembly for not less than three (3) months.
2. Members who leave the Assembly to live in another town or city may be furnished with a letter of introduction upon application to the Church Board.

H. Resignation Of Membership

Any member who wishes to resign from the Assembly shall notify the Church Board in writing. I.

Termination Of Membership:

1. Members who are present at less than five (5) of the regular Sunday Services in a twelve- month period without good or reasonable cause shall be liable to have their membership terminated.

2. The Church Board shall review the membership list not less than twice a year and shall consider factors such as participation or attendance in the other activities of the Assembly or other relevant factors when deciding whether a membership should be terminated.
3. After reviewing the membership list, the Church Board shall make an attempt to inform the members concerned at their registered address or last known address regarding their liability of having their membership terminated. Such membership shall be terminated not less than four (4) weeks after such an attempt has been made.
4. Believers whose memberships have been terminated and who wish to revive their membership with the Assembly shall make a new application. Such applications shall be subject to the relevant provisions for new membership applicants.

J. Discipline Of Members:

1. Nature And Purpose

Discipline is an exercise of spiritual authority for which the church is responsible. The aims of discipline are that God may be honored, that the purity and welfare of the Assembly may be maintained and that those under discipline may be brought to repentance and restoration. It is to be redemptive in nature as well as corrective and is to be exercised as under a dispensation of mercy. In all cases where disciplinary action may be warranted, pastoral counseling shall first be offered to the member(s) concerned before disciplinary action is initiated.

2. Causes Of Disciplinary Action

Violations which may give cause for disciplinary action by the Church Board are as follows:

- a. Any immoral conduct involving premarital and extramarital relationship, fornications, adultery, homosexuality, pornography and any other sexual perversion and immorality.
- b. Any defamation such as open slander and libel.
- c. Willfully causing divisions in the Assembly.
- d. A declared open change in doctrinal views concerning the Tenets of Faith.
- e. A habit of running into debt which brings reproach upon the Assembly or upon the cause of Christianity.
- f. Embezzlement of funds under trust or breach of trust.
- g. Indulgence in drunkenness, drug abuse, smoking and gambling.
- h. An arbitrary rejection of counsel by the Pastor or the Church Board or arbitrary rejection of decision by the Assembly or its governing instruments.
- i. A violation of the biblical teachings on marriage and divorce.
- j. Resorting to violence.

3. While under investigation a member who is serving in an office may be temporarily suspended from serving in that office at the discretion of the Church Board. He shall be restored to the office if the investigation finds that there is no cause for disciplinary action.

4. Members under investigation for disciplinary action may also have their right to vote suspended by the Church Board. The right to vote shall automatically be restored if the investigation finds that there is no cause for disciplinary action.

5. Any member under charges shall have an opportunity, if he so desires, for a fair and impartial hearing of his case by having the proceedings of the disciplinary inquiry conducted in the presence of a representative panel of up to seven (7) members of the Assembly.

6. Disciplinary action shall be determined by the Church Board and may or may not include restitution, suspension or termination of membership, dismissal from office, expulsion from the Assembly or other action deemed appropriate and in accordance with the Scriptures.

K. Members shall inform the Church Board in the event of their change of address.

Article II The Church Board

A. The Church Board may create portfolios within the Church Board to cover specific functions and duties as may be necessary from time to time. Such portfolios may be assigned to any of their incumbent number, or be filled by the normal procedures of appointments to the Church Board.

B. Delegation Of Powers And Duties:

1. The Church Board may delegate to any part of their number such powers and duties or part thereof as they may decide from time to time.
2. Sub-Committees:
 - a. Appropriate powers and duties may also be delegated to a designated sub-committee of the Church Board which shall not have less than two members of the Church Board.
 - b. The Church Board may also co-opt members from without the Church Board to serve in a sub-committee.
 - c. The Church Board may at its discretion request the Nominations Committee to recommend persons to fill the co-opted positions in any sub-committee.
3. All persons or sub-committees with delegated powers and duties shall be amendable to the Church Board, and all decisions by such persons or sub-committees are subject to review by the Church Board.

C. The Church Board is authorized to employ ministerial staff, professional staff, administrative staff and other staff to serve the Assembly as the need arises from time to time. The Church Board shall determine the remuneration for employed staff and other terms of their employment.

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Church Board may at its discretion request the Nominations Committee to search for and recommend persons for employment as staff.

D. Functions Of The Church Board:

1. To carry out and execute the decisions and resolutions passed at any Business Meeting of the Assembly.
2. To decide and execute all matters of the Assembly requiring necessary attention and within the scope of the Constitution and the By-Laws.
3. To manage and administer the funds of the Assembly.
4. To help establish and advise the registration of outreach churches in pursuance of the policy of the Assembly for the propagation of the gospel, and to appoint the respective pastors for those outreach churches.

E. At least two-thirds of the total number of Church Board members must be present in any meeting of the Church Board to constitute a quorum. For sub-committee meetings the quorum shall be two-thirds of the total number constituting the sub-committee.

F. The resolutions of the Church Board shall be deliberated in the spirit of Christian unity and passed by consensus or a simple majority when put to a vote.

G. Duties Of Church Board Members: 1. Secretary:

- a. He shall keep the minutes of all meetings of the Church Board and all Business Meetings of the Assembly.

- b. He shall be the custodian of all legal documents and other written records of the Assembly.
- c. He shall handle all official correspondences.
- d. He shall oversee the keeping of attendance of all the services of the Assembly.
- e. He shall maintain a register of the membership with classifications as defined in Article I of these By-Laws. He shall have an up-to-date roll of Eligible Voting Members for any Business Meeting.
- f. He shall chair the Church Board meeting or Business Meeting of the Assembly if both the Pastor and Associate Pastor are unavailable.

2. Treasurer:

- a. He shall be the custodian of the funds of the Assembly.
- b. He shall make payment of all necessary expenditure from the funds of the Assembly with the approval of the Church Board, except for regular expenditure or expenditure for which the Church Board have approved a standing instruction for the Treasurer to make payments.
- c. He shall receive and deposit all monies in his care in the bank selected by the Church Board in the name of Gospel Assembly Of God and make all disbursements normally by cheques.
- d. He shall maintain petty cash of not more than five hundred Ringgit Malaysia (RM500) at any one time which should be kept in the cash box.
- e. He shall keep a true and accurate account of all monies received and expended and shall present a statement of account both monthly and annually or whenever directed by the Church Board.
- f. He shall make other monetary reports as may be requested from time to time.
- g. All accounts of all Departments of the Assembly shall be presented before the Treasurer each month.
- h. He shall audit all accounts of all Departments of the Assembly at the close of each financial year.
- i. He shall count offerings in the presence of at least one of the Church Board members or the Board Of Trustees or Head of Department.
- j. He shall make recommendations to the Church board with regards to monetary budgeting and forecasting, and other matters pertaining to the management of funds.

3. Other Church Board Members:

- a. They shall generally assist in the functions and duties of Church Board and in the running of the Assembly.
- b. They may be assigned specific portfolios created by the Church Board under Section A of this Article.

H. Terms Of Offices:

- 1. All Church Board members, with the exception of the Pastor and Associate Pastor(s), shall serve for a one-year term beginning on the first day of March each year.
 - 2. No Treasurer shall serve in the same position for more than two (2) consecutive terms.
3. Sub-committees of the Church Board shall serve at the pleasure of the Church Board and otherwise their terms shall automatically expire at the end of the current term of the Church Board.

Article III The Pastor, Associate Pastor(s) and Assistant Pastor(s)

A. The Pastor:

- 1. The Pastor shall be the Chairman of the Church Board, the Chairman of the Board Of Trustees, and the Chairman of the Nominations Committee.

2. The Pastor shall chair all Business Meetings of the Assembly, and all meetings of Heads of Departments, and all meetings of ministerial staff.
3. The Pastor shall be responsible for all the services of the Assembly and shall arrange for all regular or special meetings, conventions or revival meetings. No person shall be invited to speak or preach without his approval.

B. Associate Pastor(s):

The Associate Pastor(s) shall assist the Pastor, and may assigned specifically delegated functions and duties.

C. Assistant Pastor(s):

1. Assistant Pastor(s) shall assist the Pastor in the running of designated departments or specified duties as shall be determined by the Pastor and the Church Board.
2. The Assistant Pastor shall be an ex-officio member of the Assembly and all committees of his designated Department, if any.

D. Term Of Offices:

1. The Pastor and Associate Pastor(s) shall serve indefinitely after securing the confirmation of their tenure, unless the office is otherwise vacated.
2. Assistant Pastor(s) shall serve for the duration specified under the terms of their employment, unless their office is otherwise vacated.

Article IV Appointments

A. Assistant Pastor(s)

As such times when the Pastor is of the opinion that an Assistant Pastor should be added to the ministerial staff of the Assembly, the Pastor shall make such recommendation to the Church Board. This Assistant Pastor shall be appointed by the Church Board in consultation with the Pastor.

B. Appointments to the Church Board, the Board Of Trustees other than those Trustees seconded from the Church Board, and Heads of Departments shall be subject to an open review in the following manner:

1. A preliminary list of nominations decided by the Nominations Committee shall be displayed on a general bulletin board of the Assembly at the normal address of worship for not less than five (5) consecutive Sundays, and at those Sunday Services announcements shall be made concerning the display of such preliminary list of nominations. For annual appointments, this preliminary list shall be first displayed not later than the 15th day of November.
2. During the period in which the preliminary list is displayed, any Eligible Voting Member may make a written submission to the Nominations Committee. Such a written submission must carry the signature and full name of the member and shall be hand-delivered to any member of the Nominations Committee.
3. The Nominations Committee shall consider all such submissions and may at its discretion, call upon the submitting member to clarify or to substantiate matters stated in his submission.
4. After all submissions have been duly considered, the Nominations Committee shall revise and finalize the list of nominations.

C. Interim Appointments: 1. In the event that an office of the Church Board, or Board Of Trustees, or Head of Department becomes vacant for any reason, and the Nominations Committee or the Church Board is of the opinion that it is in the interests of the Assembly that an interim appointment be made to serve in that position, the Nominations Committee shall make an interim appointment with the approval of the Church Board.

2. The interim appointment shall serve while the due process of normal nomination, review and approval to fill the position is in progress, and the appointment shall not serve more than ninety days in the interim capacity.
3. Persons appointed to such an interim capacity shall meet the minimum qualifications required for normal appointments.

D. The Church Board shall determine and advise the Nominations Committee on the total number of offices in the Church Board, the Board Of Trustees, Heads of Departments and Auditor(s) that need to be filled in accordance with the provisions of the Constitution and the By-Laws.

Article V Qualifications Of Office Holders

A. General Qualifications

All persons to be appointed to any office of the Church Board, Board Of Trustees, Heads of Departments, Nominations Committee, Auditor(s), any staff position or any other offices must be believers who are filled with the Holy Spirit (Act 6:3) and demonstrate spiritual maturity and be exemplary in their Christian faith and testimony. (1 Timothy 3:1-12; Titus 1:6-9)

B. The Pastor:

1. The Pastor shall have up-to-date licensed or ordained credentials with The Assemblies Of God.
2. The Pastor shall have not less than five years of ministerial experience.
3. The Pastor shall have a good track record and shall have a good standing with the previous place of ministry.

C. Associate Pastor:

1. The Associate Pastor shall have up-to-date licensed or ordained credentials with The Assemblies Of God.
2. The Associate Pastor shall have not less than three years of ministerial experience.
3. The Associate Pastor shall have a good track record and shall have a good standing with the previous place of ministry.

D. Assistant Pastor(s)

Assistant Pastor(s) shall have up-to-date credentials with The Assemblies Of God.

E. The Church Board

Church Board members must be Ordinary Members of the Assembly who have been members in good standing for not less than three years and who are not less than twenty-five (25) years of age upon taking up the appointment.

F. Sub-Committees Of The Church Board

Members co-opted to serve in any sub-committee of the Church Board must be Ordinary Members in good standing for not less than one year upon taking up the appointment.

G. The Board Of Trustees

The Trustees, excluding those seconded from the Church Board must be Ordinary Members of the Assembly who have been members in good standing for not less than three years and who are not less than thirty years (30) of age upon taking up the appointment.

H. Heads Of Department

Heads of Departments must be Ordinary Members who have been members in good standing for not less than one year and who are not less than twenty-one (21) years of age upon taking up the appointment.

I. The Nominations Committee

Members of the Nominations Committee must be Ordinary Members who have been members in good standing for not less than three years and who are less than twenty-five (25) years of age upon taking up the appointment.

J. Auditor(s)

Auditor(s) must be Ordinary Members who have been members in good standing for not less than one year and who are not less than twenty-one (21) years of age upon taking up the appointment and shall not be serving in the Church Board at the same time.

Article VI Vacancies

A. Declaration By The Assembly

Excepting the offices of the Pastor and Associate Pastor, any other office may be declared vacant by a simple majority of all voting members at a Business Meeting.

B. The Church Board may declare any office or position to be vacant due to any or any combination of the following:

1. Contravening of the Constitution or By-Laws.
2. Substantial departure from the Tenets of Faith.
3. Transfer or relocation.
4. Voluntary resignation.
5. Retirement or any reason in accordance with the terms of employment or appointment.
6. Inability to discharge responsibilities due to arising circumstances or disabilities.
7. Incompetency in office.
8. Disciplinary action under the provisions of the Constitution or By-Laws.
9. Event of death.

Article VII The Board Of Trustees

A. Property Of The Assembly

In addition to the relevant provisions of the Constitution, and without conflicting with those provisions, the Board Of Trustees is entrusted to safeguard the interests of the Assembly pertaining to property matters in the following manner:

1. The Board Of Trustees may at its discretion, inquire into or review any decisions and actions of the Church Board in relation to any property and satisfy itself that such decisions and actions are in accordance with any resolution or policy that have been passed at any Business Meeting by the Assembly.
2. For any decisions of the Church Board in relation to any property, other than immovable property, not exceeding ten thousand Ringgit Malaysia (RM10,000) in value the Church Board does not need to wait for a review by the Board Of Trustees unless it has been informed by any Trustee that the Board Of Trustees shall inquire into or review that particular decision.
3. For property of every description, other than immovable property, of ten thousand Ringgit Malaysia (RM10,000) or more in value, or any transaction involving a value of ten thousand Ringgit Malaysia (RM10,000) or more in relation to property other than immovable property, the Board Of Trustees shall review all such decisions of the Church Board and satisfy itself that such

decisions and actions are in accordance with any resolution or policy that have passed at any Business Meeting by the Assembly.

4. In reviewing any decision of the Church Board pertaining to property matters, other than immovable property, the Board Of Trustees may at its discretion submit the decision for endorsement by the Assembly at a Business Meeting. This provision shall not conflict with the authority of the Church Board, but shall be exercised in due trust and in the interests of the Assembly.

B. The resolutions of the Board Of Trustees pertaining to property matters must be supported by not less than two-thirds of the total number of Trustees to be valid, otherwise the matter shall be submitted to the Assembly.

C. The Board Of Trustees shall elect among their number a Secretary who shall be responsible for keeping the minutes of all meetings and handle all correspondence of the Board Of Trustees.

D. The Board Of Trustees shall serve for a one-year term beginning on the first day of March each year, and there is no restriction to the number of terms a member may serve as a Trustee. However, the Trustees who are seconded from the Church Board under Article IX of the Constitution shall automatically vacate the office of Trustees if they no longer serve on the Church Board.

Article VIII Departments Of The Assembly

A. With the approval of the Church Board, a Head of Department may set-up and appoint an Executive Committee which shall be responsible for the running of the Department under the direction of the Head of Department. The Pastor, Associate Pastor and Head of Department shall be ex-officio members of such an Executive Committee.

B. Any decision or action by any Executive Committee or any Department may be reviewed by the Church Board.

C. Within the guidelines approved by the Church Board, a Department may accept into its membership believers who are not members of the Assembly. Such members of the Department shall have no membership status with the Assembly unless an application for such is made and approved.

D. Heads Of Departments shall serve for a one-year term beginning on the first day of March each year.

Article IX The Nominations Committee

A. The Nominations Committee shall elect among their number a Secretary who shall be responsible for keeping the minutes of all meetings and handle all correspondence of the Nominations Committee.

B. The resolutions of the Nominations Committee pertaining to nominations and appointments must be supported by not less than two-thirds of the total number in the committee to be valid.

C. The Nominations Committee shall serve for a one-year term beginning on the first day of September each year. The members of the Nominations Committee who are seconded from the Church Board under Article XI of the Constitution shall continue to serve in the Nominations Committee after expiry of their terms in the Church Board, unless their post is otherwise vacated.

Article X Finances

A. Funds for the maintenance and activities of the Assembly shall be provided by the tithes and the voluntary contributions and offerings of the members and friends of the Assembly. Offerings shall be accepted by the Assembly at such times and such ways as agreed upon by the Pastor and the Church

Board and shall be administered by the Treasurer under their direction. (Malachi 3:10; Luke 6:38; 1 Corinthians 16:1-2; 2 Corinthians 9:6-8)

B. The Church Board may from time to time approve and implement projects for the purpose of raising funds towards the pursuance of the objectives of the Assembly.

C. All cheques drawn on the banking accounts of the Assembly shall be signed by two signatories, one of whom shall be the Treasurer or any one member of the Church Board appointed by the Church Board, and the other signatory shall be the Pastor or the Associate Pastor.

D. The funds of the Assembly may be expended for any purpose necessary for the carrying out of its aims and objectives including the expenses of its administration, the payment of salaries, allowances and expenses of its employed staff and the audit of its accounts.

E. Expenditure on behalf of the Assembly not exceeding one thousand Ringgit Malaysia (RM1000) at any one time may be approved by the Pastor. Expenditure exceeding one thousand Ringgit Malaysia (RM1000) but not exceeding three thousand Ringgit Malaysia (RM3000) at any one time may be approved by the Pastor and another Church Board member. Expenditure exceeding three thousand Ringgit Malaysia (RM3000) at any one time shall first be approved by the Church Board.

F. At the end of each financial year, the Auditor(s) shall be required to audit the accounts of the Assembly for the year. A statement of receipts and payments and a balance sheet for the year shall be prepared and shall be audited by the Auditor(s). The audited accounts shall be submitted for the approval at the next Business Meeting.

G. The financial year of the Assembly shall commence on the first day of January and end on the last day of December each year.

Article XI Classification And Proceedings Of Business Meetings

A. One-third of the total number of Eligible Voting Members shall constitute a quorum at any Business Meeting.

B. Annual General Meeting:

1. A Business Meeting must be held every year before the first day of March, which shall be known as an Annual General Meeting of the Assembly.

2. An Annual General Meeting may be convened by the Pastor or the Church Board.

3. Notice of the Annual General Meeting must be announced at not less than four (4) Sunday Services of the Assembly and such announcement and the agenda shall be displayed on a general bulletin board of the assembly at the normal address of worship for not less than twenty-one (21) days before the Business Meeting.

4. Any requisition for additions or amendments to the agenda must be submitted in writing to the Church Board not later than ten (10) days after the agenda is first displayed, and must carry the signatures of not less than three Eligible Voting Members, and the Church Board shall have the discretion to decide whether such additions or amendments shall be admitted into the final agenda.

5. Order Of Business:

a. The Chairman shall lead in a devotional prayer after declaring the Annual General Meeting open.

b. The minutes of the previous Business Meeting shall be

read. c. The Pastoral Address shall be delivered.

d. The Secretary shall present a report.

e. The Treasurer shall present the financial report and statement of the audited accounts.

f. Reports of various Departments shall be presented. The Chairman shall have the discretion to call for acceptance of the departmental reports en-bloc or individually.

g. Induction Of New Office Holders

The Nominations Committee shall present a summary report of the nominations and review exercise for the new appointments, and present the finalized lists of nominations for the new Church Board, for the Trustees other than those to be seconded from the Church Board, and for Heads of Departments. These new office holders shall be inducted before the Assembly.

h. Any other business matters on the agenda may be considered and resolved. i. The Annual General Meeting shall be adjourned.

C. Extraordinary General Meeting:

1. Any Business Meeting of the Assembly other than the Annual General Meeting shall be known as an Extraordinary General Meeting.

2. An Extraordinary General Meeting may be convened by the Pastor or the Church Board.

3. An Extraordinary General Meeting may also be convened by a written requisition signed by not less than one-fifth of the total number of Eligible Voting Members. Such requisition must be submitted to the Church Board and must state the business matters to be transacted at such Business Meeting. The Church Board shall have the discretion to decide whether the matters stated in such requisition are valid business matters.

4. The Board Of Trustees may also convene an Extraordinary General Meeting to resolve any matters relating to property of the Assembly.

5. All Extraordinary General Meetings of the Assembly shall be publicly announced at not less than two (2) Sunday Services of the Assembly and such announcement and the agenda shall be displayed on a general bulletin board of the Assembly at the normal address of worship for not less than ten (10) days before the Business Meeting.

6. Any requisition for additions or amendments to the agenda must be submitted in writing to the Church Board not later than five (5) days after the agenda is first displayed, and must carry the signatures of not less than three Eligible Voting Members, and the Church Board shall have the discretion to decide whether such additions or amendments shall be admitted into the final agenda.

D. All Business Meetings of the Assembly shall be conducted according to accepted rules of parliamentary procedure and in keeping with the spirit of Christian love, unity and fellowship.

