

July 2, 2007
Constitution and Bylaws for Life Assembly, Inc.

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CONSTITUTION AND BYLAWS OF LIFE ASSEMBLY, INC

Adopted Sunday 9th of July 2007.

Preamble

The purpose of Life Assembly is to establish and maintain a place where God-based and people-based relationships are created and nourished through worship, discipleship, and connection in order to carry out the commission given by Jesus Christ to His church.

ARTICLE I. NAME AND NATURE OF CHARTER OF INCORPORATION

Section 1. **NAME:** The name of this assembly shall be Life Assembly Incorporated, hereafter referred to as Life Assembly or Life.

Section 2.

- A. **NATURE OF CHARTER OF INCORPORATION:** The nature of Life Assembly in operation shall be a non-profit corporation organized and operated exclusively for the religious purposes of a church within the meaning of Section 501(c) (3) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986, as amended, of the United States of America.
- B. The status of this non-profit corporation is in conjunction with Federal Tax Code 1478 and is held under the General Council of the Assemblies of God.

ARTICLE II. PREROGATIVES AND PURPOSES

The prerogatives and purposes of Life Assembly shall be:

1. To Govern

Life Assembly shall have the right to govern itself and to conduct its own affairs according to the standard of the New Testament scriptures. These principles shall be diffused into the governing structure of Life Assembly through the standards of the Tennessee District Council and the General Council of the Assemblies of God.

2. To Acquire and Dispose

In connection therewith, or incidental thereto, Life Assembly shall have the right to purchase or acquire by gift, bequest or otherwise, either directly or as trustee, and to own, hold in trust, use, sell, convey, mortgage, lease, or otherwise dispose of any real estate or chattels as may be necessary for the furtherance of its purposes, and to exercise all other powers conferred upon it by its charter or by the applicable nonprofit corporation law of this state; all in accordance with its bylaws as the same may be hereafter amended.

3. To Worship, Fellowship, and Propagate

The purpose of this assembly shall be to establish and maintain a place for the worship of Almighty God, our Heavenly Father, to provide for Christian fellowship for those of like precious faith, where the Holy Spirit may be honored according to our testimony, and to assume our share of responsibility and the privilege of propagating the gospel of Jesus Christ by all available means, both at home and in foreign lands.

4. To Cooperate

Life Assembly shall cooperate with the District Council of the Assemblies of God and the General Council of the Assemblies of God to extend the work and kingdom of God throughout the world. It shall support the missionary programs thereof. It shall participate in the District Council and the General Council and share in the support of the ministries of these bodies.

5. To Recognize

Life Assembly shall recognize that the District Council of the Assemblies of God and the General Council of the Assemblies of God have the authority and right to approve scriptural doctrine and conduct; also to disapprove unscriptural doctrine and conduct and to withdraw their certificates of membership if deemed necessary. See Article IX of the Bylaws of The General Council of the Assemblies of God.

ARTICLE III. AFFILIATION

While maintaining its inherent rights to sovereignty in the conduct of its own affairs as herein set forth, Life Assembly shall voluntarily enter into full cooperative fellowship with assemblies of like precious faith, associated in the Tennessee District Council of the Assemblies of God, 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. Officers of the District Council and General Council shall be recognized and respected by the pastor and members of Life Assembly.

ARTICLE IV. TENETS OF FAITH

The Bible is our all-sufficient rule for faith and practice. This Statement of Fundamental Truths is intended simply as a basis of fellowship among us (i.e., that we all speak the same thing, 1 Corinthians 1:10; Acts 2:42). The phraseology employed in this statement is not inspired or contended for, but the truth set forth is held to be essential 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.

1. The Scriptures Inspired

The Scriptures, both the Old and New Testaments, are verbally inspired of God and are the revelation of God to man, the infallible, authoritative rule of faith and conduct (2 Timothy 3:15-17; 1 Thessalonians 2:13; 2 Peter 1:21).

2. 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 Ghost (Deuteronomy 6:4; Isaiah 43:10,11; Matthew 28:19; Luke 3:22).

The Adorable Godhead

(a) Terms Defined

The terms trinity and persons, as related to the Godhead, while not found in the Scriptures, are words in harmony with Scripture, whereby we may convey to 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 one Being of three persons, and still be absolutely scriptural (examples, Matthew 28:19; 2 Corinthians 13:14; John 14:16,17).

(b) 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 Ghost, 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).

(c) Unity of the One Being of Father, Son, and Holy Ghost

Accordingly, therefore, there is that in the Father which constitutes Him the Father and not the Son; there is that in the Son which constitutes Him the Son and not the Father; and there is that in the Holy Ghost which constitutes Him the Holy Ghost and not either the Father or the Son. Wherefore the Father is the Begetter; the Son is the Begotten; and the Holy Ghost is the One proceeding from the Father and the Son. Therefore, because these three persons in the Godhead are in a 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).

(d) Identity and Cooperation in the Godhead

The Father, the Son, and the Holy Ghost 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 Ghost is from the Father and the Son proceeding, as to nature, relationship, cooperation, and authority. Hence no person in

the Godhead either exists or works separately or independently of the others (John 5:17-30,32,37; 8:17,18).

(e) 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 Ghost. It therefore belongs exclusively to the Son of God (Romans 1:1-3,7; 2 John 3).

(f) 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).

(g) 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 7:3; 1:1-13).

(h) 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 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).

(i) 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 Ghost 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).

(j) Equal Honor to the Father and to the Son

Wherefore, since the Father has delivered all judgment unto the Son, it is not only the express duty of all in heaven and on earth to bow the knee, but it is an unspeakable joy in the Holy Ghost to ascribe unto the Son all the attributes of deity, and to give Him all the honor and the glory contained in all the names and titles of the Godhead except those which express relationship (see paragraphs b, c, and d), and thus honor the Son even as we honor the Father (John 5:22,23; 1 Peter 1:8; Revelation 5:6-14; Philippians 2:8,9; Revelation 7:9,10; 4:8-11).

3. The Deity of the Lord Jesus Christ

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

- (a) His virgin birth (Matthew 1:23; Luke 1:31,35).
- (b) His sinless life (Hebrews 7:26; 1 Peter 2:22).
- (c) His miracles (Acts 2:22; 10:38).

- (d) His substitutionary work on the cross (1 Corinthians 15:3; 2 Corinthians 5:21).
- (e) His bodily resurrection from the dead (Matthew 28:6; Luke 24:39; 1 Corinthians 15:4).
- (f) His exaltation to the right hand of God (Acts 1:9,11; 2:33; Philippians 2:9-11; Hebrews 1:3).

4. The Fall of Man

Man was created good and upright; for God said, "Let us make man in our image, after 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).

5. The Salvation of Man

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

(a) 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 Ghost, 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).

(b) The Evidences of Salvation

The inward evidence of salvation is the 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).

6. The Ordinances of the Church

(a) Baptism in Water

The ordinance of baptism by immersion is commanded in the Scriptures. All who repent and believe on Christ as Savior 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 newness of life (Matthew 28:19; Mark 16:16; Acts 10:47,48; Romans 6:4).

(b) 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 "till He come!"

7. The Baptism in the Holy Ghost

All believers are entitled to and should ardently expect and earnestly seek the promise of the Father, the baptism in the Holy Ghost and fire, according to the command of our Lord Jesus Christ. This was the normal experience of all in the early Christian church. With it comes the endowment of power for life and service, the bestowment 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 Ghost 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).

8. The Initial Physical Evidence of the Baptism in the Holy Ghost

The baptism of believers in the Holy Ghost is witnessed by the initial physical sign of speaking with 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.

9. 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). Scriptures teach a life of "holiness without which no man shall see the Lord" (Hebrews 12:14). By the power of the Holy Ghost we are able to obey the command: "Be ye holy, for 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, and 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).

10. The Church and Its Mission

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 firstborn, which are written in heaven (Ephesians 1:22,23; 2:22; Hebrews 12:23). Since God's purpose concerning man is to seek and to save that which is lost, to be worshiped by man, and to build a body of believers in the image of His Son, the priority reason-for-being of the Assemblies of God as part of the Church is:

- a. To be an agency of God for evangelizing the world (Acts 1:8; Matthew 28:19,20; Mark 16:15,16).
- b. To be a corporate body in which man may worship God (1 Corinthians 12:13).
- c. To be a channel of God's purpose to build a body of saints being perfected in the image of His Son (Ephesians 4:11-16; 1 Corinthians 12:28; 14:12).

The Assemblies of God exists expressly to give continuing emphasis to this reason-for-being in the New Testament apostolic pattern by teaching and encouraging believers to be baptized in the Holy Spirit. This experience:

- a. Enables them to evangelize in the power of the Spirit with accompanying supernatural signs (Mark 16:15-20; Acts 4:29-31; Hebrews 2:3,4).
- b. Adds a necessary dimension to a worshipful relationship with God (1 Corinthians 2:10-16; 1 Corinthians 12-14).
- c. Enables them to respond to the full working of the Holy Spirit in expression of fruit and gifts and ministries as in New Testament times for the edifying of the body of Christ (Galatians 5:22-26; 1 Corinthians 14:12; Ephesians 4:11,12; 1 Corinthians 12:28; Colossians 1:29).

11. The Ministry

A divinely called and scripturally ordained ministry has been provided by our Lord for the threefold purpose of leading the Church in: (1) evangelization of the world (Mark 16:15-20), (2) worship of God (John 4:23,24), and (3) building a body of saints being perfected in the image of His Son (Ephesians 4:11,16).

12. 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).

13. 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).

14. 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; Psalm 72:3-8; Micah 4:3,4).

15. 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 lake which burneth with fire and brimstone, which is the second death (Matthew 25:46; Mark 9:43-48; Revelation 19:20; 20:11-15; 21:8).

16. The New Heavens and the New Earth

"We, according to His promise, look for new heavens and a new earth, wherein dwelleth righteousness" (2 Peter 3:13; Revelation 21 and 22).

ARTICLE V. ORDINANCES

Section 1. Baptism in Water

The ordinance of baptism by immersion in water (Matthew 28:19) shall be administered to all who have believed on the Lord Jesus Christ to the saving of their souls, and who give clear evidence of their salvation (Romans 6:3-5; Colossians 2:12).

a. New Members and Transferring Members

Those who have already been baptized have no need to be re-baptized simply because they attend Life Assembly.

Section 2. Holy Communion

The ordinance of the Lord's Supper shall be observed regularly as described in the Scriptures (Luke 22:19,20; 1 Corinthians 11:23-26).

ARTICLE VI. MEMBERSHIP

The membership of this Assembly shall consist of those who have met the requirements for membership as stated in the Constitution, have been received into membership, and have not subsequently been removed from the membership roll. Members shall defined by the following guidelines.

Section 1. Definition of Members

Regardless of age, members must possess the following qualifications:

1. A conversion experience,
2. Baptism in water,
3. Evidences of a fruitful Christian life,
4. Completion the required membership classes (transferring members included),
5. An understanding of their role and responsibilities as a member of Life Assembly; that is the giving

of their time, talent, and treasure.

- a. Time- Regularly attend services and participate in ministries,
 - b. Talent- Move forward with the use of personal gifts to build the Kingdom through the ministries of Life Assembly.
 - c. Treasure- Indicate a willingness to contribute regularly to the financial support of Life Assembly and the endeavors thereof through tithing and the giving of offerings.
6. Members must be at least 18 years old to vote.
 7. Once a younger member reaches the age of 18, they must complete the required membership courses in order to vote.

Section 2. Approval of Membership

Upon completion of the membership requirements, applicants who are approved by the Executive Council will be granted membership status.

Section 3. Matters of Discipline

Matters of discipline will be conducted according to the following guidelines:

1. The Senior Pastor and his staff shall handle the initial issues of discipline as needed.
2. If issues escalate or the member is unwilling to submit to Pastoral correction after several meetings, the Executive Council will meet to confidentially and prayerfully discuss the issue.
3. The Executive Council and the Pastor can decide by consensus the appropriate up to and including removal from membership, probationary periods, or other Biblical discipline procedures that may be required.
4. All matters of discipline shall be carried out in the spirit of unity, reconciliation, and restoration.
5. If needed, Life Assembly shall seek legal counsel to handle civil disputes.

ARTICLE VII. GOVERNMENT

There shall be a system of governance set in place that shall serve as the structure by which the administration, financial affairs, and daily management of Life Assembly functions.

Section 1. Senior Pastor

A. The Senior Pastor serves to:

- a. Oversee all activities of Life Assembly and its operations,
- b. Serve as ex officio member of all committees, councils, groups, etc.
- c. Direct and lead all spiritual matters,
- d. Serve as an Executive Council member and the Chairperson of that council,
- e. Nominate, interview, hire, and fire candidates for employment under the advisement of the Executive Council.
- f. Manage and administrate the staff functions of Life Assembly,
- g. Execute any other policy not explicitly granted to other entities of Life Assembly.

B. The Senior Pastor is expected to fulfill the following:

- a. Faithful to church attendance and involvement,
- b. Follow the patterns that are required of the Executive Council, citizenry, and membership of Life Assembly,
- c. Faithful in giving of tithes and offerings.

C. Election of Senior Pastor

- a. The Executive Council shall serve to select, interview, and deliver to the body a Senior Pastoral candidate, upon which the membership shall confirm the candidate by 2/3 majority ratification.
- b. Such a meeting shall be carried out according to the rules for special meetings found in

Article VIII, section 5.

- c. In the event of a vacancy in the Senior pastor position, the Executive Council may reserve the right to decide by a 2/3 consensus whether or not the former Senior Pastor may participate in the nominating and interview process of new Senior Pastoral candidates.

D. Biblical and moral conduct matters regarding the Senior Pastor

- a. In the event that matters of biblical and moral conduct arise with regards to the Senior Pastor's abilities to conduct his duties, the Executive Council shall handle these matters according to Biblical standards and in the spirit of restoration and discretion. The Executive Council can seek the counsel of the Tennessee District Council by a ¾ of the full Executive Council.
- b. If these matters escalate to the point that the Executive Council feels that the Senior Pastor should be removed, it thus becomes necessary for a third party to advise the Executive Council in matters of removal of the Senior Pastor. The officers of the Tennessee District Council of the Assemblies of God shall be this third party and the Executive Council must reach a ¾ majority of the full Executive Council in order to involve those District officers. At such a point of action and under advisement and direction of the Tennessee District, the Executive Council can remove the Senior Pastor by ¾ majority of the full Executive Council.

Section 2. Executive Council

The Executive Council shall consist of the Senior Pastor, the secretary, the treasurer, and the other members of the council.

A. The Executive Council serves to:

- a. Fully assist the Senior Pastor in all of his mandated roles and functions,
- b. Be a source of vital information, thus helping to direct the activities of Life Assembly,
- c. Oversee the activities, funds, and purchase and sales of property of Life Assembly,
- d. In the absence of a Senior Pastor, to appoint by majority consensus a temporary Chairperson of the Executive Council until a new Pastor is installed,
- e. Appoint a secretary by majority consensus who shall keep records of official meetings of the church and council, shall be the custodian of all legal documents,
- f. Appoint a treasurer by majority consensus who shall serve as custodian of the financial affairs of Life Assembly, thus evaluating, assessing, and overseeing the income, audits, expenses, and spending of Life Assembly,
- g. In the event that such is needed, create any other committees and/or groups out of the citizenry and membership that are necessary to accomplish specific tasks that pertain to the welfare of Life Assembly, and to call meetings as necessary of such groups according to Article VIII.
- h. A quorum must be present before voting matters can be decided. 3/4 of the members of the Executive Council must be present to constitute a quorum.

B. The Executive Council is expected to fulfill the following:

- a. Serve as the ultimate Biblical model of what is expected of the membership and citizenry of Life Assembly with regards to membership guidelines, the Tenets of Faith, attendance, faithfulness, lifestyle, and attitude.

C. Election of Executive Council

- a. The first Executive Council members shall be the existing members of the Life Assembly Advisory Council.
- b. When there are vacancies on the Executive Council, an Executive Council Nominating

Committee shall be formed consisting of three members of the pastoral staff, three members of the Executive Council, and three other citizens selected by the Executive Council from among the membership as defined in Article VII, Section 3. Once the appropriate number of nominees (no more than the number of vacancies) have been selected by the Executive Council Nominating Committee, those names shall be submitted to the Executive Council for 2/3 ratification. After this, these candidates will be submitted to the membership at the Annual Business Meeting for majority ratification.

- c. In the event of a mid-term vacancy, the Executive Council may choose to appoint a temporary replacement by 2/3 majority ratification to fill the vacant seat until the next Annual Business Meeting, at which time the membership shall ratify a new Executive Council member.

D. Executive Council Structure and Terms

- a. The Executive Council shall consist of at least 5 council members, not counting the Senior Pastor. At any given term and as needed, the Executive Council shall have the right to change the number of Executive Council members not to exceed 13 members.
- b. Executive Council terms shall be for 3 years, with no limit to the total number of terms allowed.
- c. For the initial Executive Council in its transition from the previous Advisory Council status, various council members shall have the years of their terms staggered depending upon their status and length of service, thus preventing all Executive Council members from going off the council simultaneously.

E. Honorary Executive Council Members Emeritus

- a. In the event that members of the Executive Council in good standing retire from the council, the Executive Council may choose to bestow the title of Executive Council Emeritus upon that individual. Emeritus members may attend any and all Council meetings and events thereafter, although they will not have active voting privileges. They shall serve in advisory functions for life.

Section 3. Citizenry

Those members who over time have demonstrated a dedication and faithfulness to the Kingdom of God and how the principles thereof relate to the unique functioning and distinctive philosophies of Life Assembly, shall be asked to serve in other capacities within the structure of government at Life Assembly. This structure shall be referred to hereafter as the citizenry. The citizenry protects the integrity of the church process by placing onus of ownership upon the core members thereof, thus raising the standard for these members.

A. Citizenry Councils

- a. The Executive Council and pastoral staff shall nominate and appoint from the citizenry any and all councils that are necessary for nominations, projects, searches, or any other endeavor that shall arise.
- b. Such councils may include, but are not limited to: Elder Councils, Building Councils, Search Councils, Advisory Councils, Constitutional Amendment Councils, Spiritual Directive Councils, etc.
- c. Terms, responsibilities, expectations, discipline, and procedures for removal for each of these councils shall be determined and communicated respectively by the pastoral staff and Executive Council at the time of inception of the councils.

ARTICLE VIII. MEETINGS

Section 1. Public Worship

Meetings for public worship shall be held weekly as may be provided for under the direction of the Senior Pastor and the Executive Council.

Section 2. Executive Council Meetings

Meetings of the Executive Council shall be held regularly at the call of the Chairperson. No voting shall occur without a quorum (according to Article VII, section 2). In the instance of the incapacitation of the Chairperson, the secretary of the Executive Council shall assume the temporary duties of the Chairperson.

Section 3. Annual State of the Church Address

There shall be an annual State of the Church Address, at which time the vision, affairs, financial reports, missions endeavors, community relations, and other such dealings shall be conveyed. This meeting shall be announced at least two weeks in advance.

Section 4. Annual Business Meeting

There shall be an annual church business meeting for the membership of Life Assembly. The purpose of this meeting will be to inform the members of budgetary issues, issues relative to property management, and real estate interests. At this meeting, members will ratify the new Executive Council nominees by a majority consensus. This meeting will be announced at least two weeks in advance. All members present shall constitute a quorum.

Section 5. Special Meetings

The Executive Council shall have the right to call any and all meetings that require the presence of the membership for the purposes of ratification of a new Senior Pastor, church-wide emergencies, or any other issue deemed necessary for such a meeting. These meetings shall be announced at least two weeks in advance.

ARTICLE IX. FINANCE

Section 1. Sources and Administration

All funds for the maintenance of Life Assembly shall be provided by voluntary contributions, tithes, offerings and charitable gifts. These monies shall be accepted by Life Assembly at such times and in such ways as agreed upon and administered by the Executive Council (Malachi 3:10; Luke 6:38; 1 Corinthians 16:1,2; 2 Corinthians 9:6-8). All monies shall be counted by at least two authorized persons. A record shall be kept of all receipts and disbursements of Life Assembly and of all individual giving. Life Assembly exists as a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization under the guidelines of Federal Tax Code 1478.

Section 2. Stewardship Safeguards

In order to maintain the stewardship and the integrity of the processes of deposit, disbursement, and other financial matters of Life Assembly, there shall be an annual audit/financial review of church financial records by an impartial, outside auditing professional as approved by the Executive Council.

Section 3. Ten Percent Fund

As much as the leadership of Life Assembly desires to model expectations to its constituents and subsequently ascribes to Biblical standards of tithing, giving, and stewardship, there shall be established a fund hereby known as the “Ten Percent Fund” into which 10% of all income shall be allocated. These funds shall be used exclusively for ministry endeavors rather than for operational necessities. The Executive Council is to be advised of the spending of this money.

Section 4. Gene Jackson Annual Gift

As a constant reminder to us of the leadership, support, and pioneering vision that Rev. Gene Jackson had in the foundation of Life Assembly, annually a gift will be given to the Jackson Conference Center, the Jackson Scholarship Fund, and any other ministry in or that honors the legacy of Gene Jackson or may be given. In the event that these entities no longer exist, the Executive Council shall decide upon other ministries to which the funds shall be donated in the same spirit of giving.

ARTICLE X. DEPARTMENTS

Section 1. In General

This assembly shall create and maintain such departments and sub-organizations as may be necessary and advisable for the extension of its work including those mentioned in this Article. All such departments and organizations shall be subordinate to the assembly and shall contribute to the harmony and development of the whole. They shall be under the general supervision of the Senior Pastor and Executive Council, and the Senior Pastor shall be an ex officio member of all committees or departments.

ARTICLE XI. PROPERTY

Section 1. Title

All property and assets of Life Assembly shall be deeded to Life Assembly, Inc. and held in its name.

Section 2. Construction Endeavors, Property Purchases, and Sales of Property

- a. All land purchases, property purchases, and construction endeavors, and sales of property in excess of \$100,000 which require the financial support of Life Assembly, shall be authorized by 2/3 consensus of Executive Council and 2/3 ratification of a Building/Purchasing Council comprised of three members of the pastoral staff, three Executive Council members, and three other members of the citizenry nominated by the pastoral staff and the Executive Council. After approval by the Building/Purchasing Council and the Executive Council, the membership shall finalize the decision by majority ratification.

Section 3. Disaffiliation

There are two scenarios that may result in Life Assembly choosing to “disaffiliate” from the General Council of the Assemblies of God, Springfield, Missouri, and the Tennessee District Council of the Assemblies of God:

- a. Life Assembly chooses to disaffiliate due to change in philosophy, policy, or theology at Life Assembly, and not due to any changes in philosophy, policy, or theology by the General Council

of the Assemblies of God, Springfield, Missouri, and the Tennessee District Council of the Assemblies of God. In such a case disaffiliation must occur by a vote of 3/4 of the Executive Council and 3/4 of the membership of the assembly. In the event this vote passes then all of the property and assets of Life Assembly shall be held in trust by the Tennessee District Council until a determination of remaining membership is reached. The determination of which group of members desires to continue the work of Life Assembly, affiliation with the Assemblies of God and adherence to its Statement of Fundamental Truths shall be arbitrated by the District Presbytery of the Tennessee District Council of the Assemblies of God, and its decision shall be final and binding. All property of Life Assembly shall remain with those members, whatever their number, desiring continued affiliation with the Assemblies of God and adhering to the Statement of Fundamental Truths. In the case that no group of members desire to continue the work of Life Assembly, then all of the property and assets of Life Assembly shall revert to the Tennessee District Council and shall be used by the District as an Assemblies of God to plant a new church if possible, and if not possible, the District may sell the property and apply the proceeds in any manner consistent with its stated purposes. The membership is free to form a separate non-affiliated church in separate facilities.

- b. Life Assembly chooses to disaffiliate due to change in philosophy, policy, or theology by the General Council of the Assemblies of God, Springfield, Missouri, and/or the Tennessee District Council of the Assemblies of God, and not due to any changes in philosophy, policy, or theology by Life Assembly. In the unlikely event that the General Council or the Tennessee District Council of the Assemblies of God should have major shifts in philosophy, policy, or theology that are deemed by the Executive Council to be cataclysmic or detrimental to the core values, mission, and purpose of Life Assembly as set forth in Articles II, IV, and V, the Executive Council and membership of Life Assembly shall have the option to vote to disaffiliate from the Assemblies of God. In such a case disaffiliation, must occur by a vote of 3/4 of the Executive Council and 3/4 of the membership of the assembly. In the event this vote passes, all of the property and assets of Life Assembly shall remain with Life Assembly and the existing Executive Council shall adopt a new Constitution relative to the new situation.

Section 4. Dissolution

Upon the dissolution of Life Assembly, none of its funds or assets shall be distributed to any officer, deacon, trustee, or any other individual. The Executive Council shall dispose of all of the funds, assets, debts, and liabilities of Life Assembly by conveying the same to the Tennessee District Council (except in the case of Article XI, section 3b) of the Assemblies of God, for the purposes of Life Assembly, and provided that said District Council at the time qualifies as an exempt organization under section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 (or the corresponding provisions of any future United States Internal Revenue Law). Any such funds or assets not so disposed of shall be disposed of by the Executive Council to any organizations which are organized and operated exclusively for Christian religious purposes.

ARTICLE XII. AMENDMENTS

This constitution may be amended by $\frac{3}{4}$ vote of the full executive council and at special meeting of the membership by a majority vote of the membership present, except as otherwise indicated herein.

- a. Articles I (Name), XI (Property), and XII (Amendments) may not be changed or dissolved.
- b. Article III (Affiliation) may not be changed except as outlined in Article XII, and it may not be changed in such a manner as to interfere with, alter, or dissolve Article XII.
- c. Articles II (Prerogatives and Purposes), and V (Ordinances) of these bylaws may be amended only by the affirmative vote of 3/4 of the active voting members present at a special meeting called for the purpose of amending this constitution. Article IV (Tenets of Faith) of this constitution is not subject to amendment, except to conform to any amendments made to the Statement of Fundamental Truths of the Assemblies of God. All amendments must be consistent with the constitution and bylaws of the District Council.