Preamble

So that things may be done decently and in order in accordance with God's Holy Scriptures and the accepted tenets of other churches of like precious faith, and that we may more readily help each other in our Christian service, we declare and establish this constitution to which we voluntarily submit ourselves.

Woodforest Free Will Baptist Church Constitution
Operating under the assumed name Connect Church Woodforest

Article 1 – Name and Purpose

Section 1 – Name

(A) This congregation of believers shall be known as the Connect Church Woodforest.

Section 2 – Purpose

(A) This congregation is organized as a church exclusively for charitable, religious, and educational purposes within the meaning of Section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 (or the corresponding provisions of any future United States Revenue law), including, but not limited to, for such purposes, the establishing and maintaining of religious worship, the building, maintaining, and operating of churches, parsonages, schools, chapels, radio stations, television stations, rescue missions, print shops, day-care centers, camps, and nursing homes, etc.

(B) The church shall also ordain and license men to the Gospel ministry; evangelize the unsaved by the proclamation of the Gospel of the Lord Jesus Christ; educate believers in a manner consistent with the requirements of Holy Scripture, both in Sunday and weekday schools of Christian education; maintain missionary activities in the United States and any foreign country.

Article 2 – Statement of Faith and Covenant

Section 1 – Statement of Faith

(A) This congregation will take as our Statement of Faith the Treatise of the Faith and Practices of Free Will Baptists, as adopted by the National Association of Free Will Baptists.

Section 2 – Church Covenant

(A) Having given ourselves to God, by faith in Christ, and adopted the Word of God as our rule of faith and practice, we now give ourselves to one another by the will of God in this solemn covenant.

We promise, by His grace, to love and obey Him in all things, to avoid the appearance of evil, to abstain from all sinful amusements and unholy conformity to the world, from all sanction of the use and sale of intoxicating beverages, and to "provide things honest in the sight of all men."

We agree faithfully to discharge our obligations in reference to the study of the Scriptures, secret prayer, family devotions, and social worship; and by self-denial, faith, and good works endeavor to "grow in grace and the knowledge of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ."

We will not forsake the assembling of ourselves together for church conferences, public worship, and the observance of the ordinances of the Gospel; nor fail to pay according to our ability for the support of the church, of its poor, and all its benevolent work.

We agree to accept Christian admonition and reproof with meekness, and to watch over one another in love, endeavoring to "keep the unity of the Sprit" in the bonds of peace, encourage the afflicted, admonish the erring, and as far as we are able, promote the success of the church and of the Gospel.

We will everywhere hold Christian principle sacred and Christian obligations and enterprises supreme; counting it our chief business in life to extend the influence of Christ in society, constantly praying and toiling that the kingdom of God may come, and His will be done on earth as it is in heaven.

To this end we agree to labor for the promotion of educational and denominational efforts for the salvation of the world. And may the God of peace sanctify us wholly, and preserve us blameless unto the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ.

Section 3 – Additional Statements

(A) **Civil Government.** We believe God has ordained and created all authority consisting of three basic institutions: 1) the home; 2) the church; 3) the state. Every person is subject to these authorities, but all (including the authorities themselves) are answerable to God and governed by His Word. God has given each institution specific Biblical responsibilities and balanced those responsibilities with the understanding that no institution has the right to infringe upon the other. The home, church, and state are equal and sovereign in their respective Biblically assigned spheres of responsibility under God (Romans 13:1-7; Ephesians 5:22-22; Hebrews 13:17; I Peter 2:13-14).

(B) **Human Sexuality.**

1. We believe that God has commanded that no sexual activity be engaged in outside of a marriage between a man and a woman. We believe that any form of homosexuality, lesbianism, bisexuality, bestiality, incest, fornication, adultery, and pornography of any kind are sinful perversions of God's gift of sex. Any person holding any position, voluntary or contractual, found to be involved in any immoral activity will be released from their position. Any employee of the church becoming pregnant or causing pregnancy as a result of consensual intercourse, outside of the marriage relationship, shall be terminated from employment (Genesis 2:24; 19:5, 13; 26:8-9; Leviticus 18:1-30; Romans 1:26-29; I Corinthians 5:1; 6:9; I Thessalonians 4:1-8; Hebrews 13:4).

2. We believe that the only legitimate marriage is the joining of one man and one woman (Genesis 2:24; Romans 7:2; I Corinthians 7:10; Ephesians 5:22-23).

3. We believe that men and women are spiritually equal in position before God, but that God has ordained distinct and separate spiritual functions for men and women in the home and in the church. The husband is to be the leader of his home and men are to be the leaders (pastors and deacons) of the church. Accordingly, only men are eligible for licensure and ordination by the church (Galatians 3:28; Colossians 3:18; I Timothy 2:8-15; 3:4-5, 12).

(C) **Divorce and Remarriage.** We believe that God hates divorce and intends marriage to last until one of the spouses dies. Divorce and remarriage is regarded as adultery except on the grounds of fornication. Although divorced and remarried persons or divorced persons may hold positions of service in the church and be greatly used of God for Christian service, they may not be considered for the offices of pastor or deacon (Malachi 2:14-17; Matthew 19:3-12; Romans 7:1-3; I Timothy 3:2, 12; Titus 1:6).

(D) **Abortion.** We believe that human life begins at conception and that the unborn child is a living human being. Abortion constitutes the unjustified, unexcused taking of unborn human life. Abortion is murder. We reject any teaching that abortion of pregnancies due to rape, incest, birth defect, gender selection, birth population control, or the mental well-being of the mother are acceptable (Job 3:16; Psalm 51:5; 139:14-16; Isaiah 44:24; 49:1, 5; Jeremiah 1:5; 20:15-18; Luke 1:44).

Section 4 – Authority of Statement of Faith

(A) The statement of faith does not exhaust the extent of our faith. The Bible itself is the sole and final source of all that we believe. We do believe, however, that the foregoing statement of faith accurately represents the teaching of the Bible, and therefore, is binding upon all members. All literature used in the church shall be in complete agreement with the statement of faith.

Article 3 – Membership

Section 1 – Qualifications for Membership

(A) Upon a majority vote of the members present at any church meeting, membership shall be extended to all who have had and whose lives evidence a genuine experience of regeneration through faith in and acceptance of the Lord Jesus Christ as personal Savior; who renounce sin; who endeavor to live a consecrated life wholly unto the Lord; who fully subscribe to the statement of faith contained herein; and who enter into the church covenant contained herein; and upon compliance with any one of the following conditions:

1. By baptism (immersion) as a true believer in Christ Jesus as personal Savior;

2. By letter of transfer from another Bible-believing church of like faith and practice, or other written statement of good standing from the prior church if the applicant has been baptized by immersion subsequent to a profession of faith;

3. By testimony of faith, having been baptized by immersion;

4. By restoration, if having been removed from membership, upon majority vote of the congregation, after confession is made of the sin or sins involved, and satisfactory evidence of repentance is made to the pastor. Confession should be made to the same extent public as the sin is known publicly.

Section 2 – Duties of a Member

(A) On becoming a member of this church, in addition to the covenant contained in **Article 2, Section 2**, each one further covenants to love, honor, and esteem the pastor; to pray for him; and to recognize his authority in spiritual affairs of the church in prayer, tithes, offerings, and with other financial support as the Lord enables; and in accordance with Biblical commands to support through a life-style walk affirmation of the beliefs and practices of the church.

Section3 – Privileges of Membership

(A) This congregation functions not a pure democracy, but as a body under the leadership of the Lord Jesus Christ and the direction of the pastor as the undershepherd. Membership in this church does not afford those individuals with any property, contract, or civil rights based on principles of democratic government. Determination of the internal affairs of this church is ecclesiastical matters and shall be determined exclusively by the church's own rules and procedures. The pastor shall conduct and/or oversee all aspects of this church. Any active, ordained deacons shall be expected to give counsel and assistance to the pastor. The membership of the church has certain limited areas of exercising a vote. Members may not vote to initiate any action, but rather the vote of a member is to confirm and ratify the direction of the church as determined by the pastor and deacons.

(B) Each member of the church shall be entitled to vote on all matters including those pertaining to the disciplining of members, the purchase or sale of property, and the dismissal or call of a pastor. Only members at least sixteen years of age shall be entitled to vote.

Section 4 – Discipline of a Member

(A) In the event of a need for a church member to be disciplined, the pastor shall convene a discipline committee, chaired by himself, consisting of all active, ordained deacons. This committee shall have sole authority in determining heretical deviations from the statement of faith and violations of the church covenant. If the pastor or a deacon is the subject of a disciplinary matter or is of close relation to the disciplined person, he shall not sit as a member of the discipline committee. He shall be entitled to the same steps as other church members and be subject to the same discipline. In the event the pastor is the subject of the disciplinary action, the deacon who has been ordained the longest will chair the discipline committee.

(B) Members are expected to demonstrate special loyalty and concern for one another. When a member becomes aware of an offense of such magnitude that it hinders spiritual growth and testimony, he is to go alone to the offending party and seek to restore his brother. Before he goes, he should first examine himself. When he goes, he should go with a spirit of humility and have a goal of restoration.

(C) If restoration and reconciliation is not reached, a second member, either a deacon or the pastor, is to accompany the one seeking to resolve the matter. This second step should also be preceded by self-examination, and exercised in a spirit of humility with the goal of restoration.

(D) If the matter is still unresolved after the steps outlined in subsections (B) and (C) have been taken, the discipline committee, as the church representatives Biblically responsible for putting down murmuring, shall hear the matter. Such hearing should be preceded with careful prayer and examination, with the goal of restoration and reconciliation.

(E) If the matter is still unresolved after the steps outlined in subsections (B), (C), and (D) have been taken, such members who refuse to repent and be restored are to be removed from the membership of the church upon a majority vote of the membership present at a meeting called for the purpose of considering disciplinary action.

(F) No matter may be officially heard by the discipline committee of the church unless the steps outlined in subsections (B) and (C) have been taken, except in the case of a public offense.

Section 5 – Transfer of Membership

(A) Members in good standing, i.e., not under the disciplining process of **Section 4**, may request that letters of transfer be sent to another church.

Section 6 – Termination of Membership

(A) Absence without cause from regular worship services for a period of six (6) months allows for automatic removal from membership. A letter stating that removal has occurred is to be sent to the removed member.

(B) No member of this church may hold membership in another church. If any member unites in membership with another church, that person is automatically terminated from membership in this church. Such termination of membership does not require notification.

(C) A member may resign at any time, but no letter of transfer or written statement of good standing will normally be issued upon such resignation, except at the discretion of the pastor.

Article 4 – Officers of the Church

Section 1 – Church Officers

(A) The church officers are pastor (see **Article 5, Section 1** for duties of the pastor), deacon (see **Article 5, Section 2** for duties of the deacon), treasurer (see **Article 5, Section 3** for duties of the treasurer), corporate officers (see **Section 5, Section 4** for duties of the corporate officers), and clerk (see **Article 5, Section 5** for duties of the clerk). Other officers may at times need to be appointed, these may be appointed at the discretion of the pastor, subject to a confirmation vote of the church membership. One person may hold two or more offices except that of the pastor.

(B) The man who has received a unanimous recommendation from the Board of Deacons to the church to serve as pastor must receive a ninety percent vote of the body before he may serve in this office. The vote shall be by ballot.

Section 2 – Designation of Corporate Officers

(A) As an accommodation to legal relationships outside the church, the senior deacon shall serve as president of the corporation; other deacons will serve as secretary and treasurer and vice president of the corporation.

Section 3 – Eligibility for Continuance in Office

(A) All church officers shall affirm their agreement with the statement of faith (as set forth in **Article 2**) annually in the presence of each other.

(B) All church officers, except the pastor's staff, deacons, and the department heads, must be approved initially by a majority vote of the membership of the church. Thereafter, all church officers other than the pastor and deacons shall be approved by the pastor to continue their offices.

(C) Only church members are eligible for election or appointment to any church office or position.

(D) Deacons.

1. This church shall be served by a Board of Deacons which shall operate on a rotating basis.
2. The pastor and board of deacons shall recommend to the church the man they feel would serve as deacon for replacement of the one rotating off the board. Only one man may be recommended per year for this office. In case of resignation or death, the board of deacons would recommend another to fill the vacancy of the office.
3. The person recommended for this office shall be "proved" or set aside for a period of one (1) year before being elected and ordained. (I Timothy 3:10) This is done by a three-fourths majority vote.

4. The man set aside or "proved" must receive a ninety percent vote of the body before he may serve in this office. The vote shall be by ballot. Any opposing votes must be acknowledged with reasons stated for such in a private meeting with the pastor and board of deacons by those who are in opposition.
5. Previously ordained deacons remain such as long as they are faithful to the Lord and this church. They may be re-elected to serve. These men need not be "proved" or set aside again before re-election

Section 4 – Terms of Office

(A) The relationship between the pastor and the church shall be permanent unless dissolved at the option of either party by the giving of a two-month's notice, or less by mutual consent. The severance of the relationship between the pastor and the church may be considered at any church administration meeting, provided notice to that effect shall have been given from the pulpit to the church two Sundays prior to the said meeting. A three-fourths majority of the members present and voting shall be required to decide the matter. Disciplinary removal of the pastor from office automatically terminates his membership. A restoration to membership after disciplinary removal will be subject to the requirements of **Article 3, Section 1 (A) 4**, and **Article 3, Section 4**.

Section 5 – Pastoral Oversight of Officers and Staff

(A) On condition that they shall become a member of the church upon assuming their duties, the pastor may hire associates and assistants to assist the pastor in carrying out his God-given responsibilities.

(B) All church staff, whether paid or volunteer, shall be under the supervision of the pastor who has sole authority to hire, appoint, or dismiss the same.

Article 5 – Duties of Officers

Section 1 – The Pastor

(A) The pastor shall preach the Gospel regularly and shall be at liberty to preach the whole counsel of the Word of God as the Lord leads him. He shall administer the ordinances of the church, act as moderator at all church meetings for the transaction of church matter, supervise the teaching ministries of the church, and tenderly watch over the spiritual interests of the membership. He shall extend the right hand of fellowship to all new members on behalf of the church and perform such other duties as generally appertain to the office of pastor. The pastor shall be free to choose the means and methods by which he exercises the ministry that God has given him.

(B) All appointment for public worship and Bible study and the arrangements thereof including time and place and the use of the property belonging to the church for purposes other than the stated appointments shall be under the control of the pastor.

(C) The pastor is an ex-officio member of every board and committee within the church, with the exception of the discipline committee when the pastor is the subject of possible disciplinary action.

Section 2 – The Deacons

(A) The deacons shall assist the pastor, in such manner as he shall request, in promoting the spiritual welfare of the church, in conduction of the religious services, and in performing all other work of the church. They shall make provision for the observance of the ordinances of the church. They shall, if requested by the pastor, consider applications for church membership. They shall, in cooperation with the pastor, disburse the benevolence fund. They shall assist the pastor in visitation and all other evangelistic efforts of the church. They shall provide the pulpit supply and act as leaders for church meeting if the office of pastor is vacant. The deacons shall assist the pastor in caring for the administrative needs of the church' various ministries as requested by the pastor. In the case of pastoral termination of office, the deacons shall serve as the pulpit committee.

Section 3 – The Treasurer

(A) Has charge and custody of, and is responsible for, all funds of the church, and deposits all funds in the name of the church in banks, trust companies, or other depositories as shall be selected by the church membership.

(B) Receives, and gives receipt for all contributions, gifts, and donations to the church.

(C) Disburses, or causes to be disbursed, the funds of the church as may be directed by the pastor and deacons, or budget adopted by the members of the church at the annual church business meeting, taking proper vouchers for the disbursements.

(D) Keeps and maintains adequate and correct accounts of the church's properties and business transactions including account of its assets, liabilities, receipts, disbursements, and capital.

(E) Makes all expenditures of the church by check.

(F) When, and as requested, renders to the pastor accounts of all transactions and of the financial condition of the church.

(G) Presents a written report of the financial condition of the church and budgetary disbursements to the church finance committee prior to the annual church business meeting. Provides monthly financial reports to the members.

(H) Keeps all records of the church and all financial records of the church and delivers them to any successor upon leaving office.

Section 4 – The Corporate Officers

(A) The corporate officers exercise only the following powers:

1. To purchase, hold, lease, or otherwise acquire real and personal property on behalf of the church, and to take real and personal property by will, gift, or bequest on behalf of the church.

2. To sell, convey, alienate, transfer, lease, assign, exchange, or otherwise dispose of, and to mortgage, pledge, or otherwise encumber the real and personal property of the church, to borrow money and incur indebtedness for the purpose and the use of the church; to cause to be executed, issued, and delivered for indebtedness, in the name of the church, promissory notes, bonds, debentures, vouchers, or other evidence of indebtedness; and to secure repayment by deeds of trust, mortgages, or pledges.

3. To exercise all powers necessary for the dissolution of the church corporation, if such action is mandated by a three-fourths vote of the church membership.

Section 5 – The Church Clerk

(A) The clerk shall certify and keep at the office of the church, the original constitution and bylaws or a copy, including all amendments or alterations to the bylaws.

(B) The clerk shall keep a record of the proceedings of all church business meeting, with the time and place of the meeting and a record of all actions voted upon by the membership of the church.

(C) Signs, certifies, or attests documents as may be required by law.

(D) Sees that all notices are duly given in accordance with the provisions of this constitution and bylaws. In case of absence or disability of the clerk, or a refusal or neglect to act, notice may be given by the pastor or by a deacon acting on behalf of the pastor or in his absence.

(E) Be a custodian of the records of the church, including the membership roll, record of baptisms, and provide the certificates of ordination, licenses, and commissions.

(F) Sees that the reports, statements, certificates, and all other documents and records required by law are properly kept and filed.

(G) Exhibits at all reasonable times to proper persons on terms provided by law the minutes of all meetings of the church members.

(H) Keeps an account of all special events in the life of the church which are of historical interest.

Section 6 – Additional Statements of Duties

(A) **Assistant to the Pastor.** Under the direction of the pastor, the assistant to the pastor of the church shall assist the pastor in carrying out the ministries of the church, as designated by the pastor.

(B) **All Officers.** All officers shall surrender any records in their possession to the pastor at the close of their term of office/termination of employment. All records are the property of the church, and shall be filed as a permanent record of the work of the church.

Article 6 – Meetings

Section 1 – Meetings for Worship

(A) Unless otherwise directed by the pastor, the church shall meet each Sunday for public worship, Sunday morning, and at least once during the week for Bible study and prayer. The pastor shall lead in the ordinance of the Lord's Supper and has the discretion over when the service should be conducted.

Section 2 – Meeting for Church Administration

(A) The church shall be called into session for an annual business meeting during January of each year. A quorum shall consist of one-third of the voting membership.

(B) All church business meetings shall be opened and closed with prayer for divine guidance and blessing.

Section 3 – Special Meetings

(A) The pastor (or the deacons if the office of the pastor is vacant or the pastor is the subject of possible disciplinary action) may call a special meeting by giving notice of such a meeting and the purpose for which it is called to the church from the pulpit at least one week prior to said meeting.

(B) A special meeting for the purpose of accepting new members into fellowship may be called by the pastor at his discretion without prior notice to the church.

(C) A meeting for election of a pastor may be called by the deacon board at any regular church meeting at least one week in advance.

(D) Bible conferences, missionary conferences, and revivals may be held as the pastor deems beneficial.

Section 4 – Fiscal Year

(A) The fiscal year for the church shall begin January 1st and end December 31st.

Article 7 – Unauthorized Expenditures

Section 1 – Expenditures

(A) Any expenditure in excess of the regular annual budget, or of an amount exceeding $2,000, must be authorized by the pastor and the deacons and explained to the congregation.

Article 8 – Ordination

Section 1 – Qualifications for Ordination

(A) Any member of this church or its mission churches, who gives evidence of a genuine call of God into the work of the ministry and possesses the qualifications stated in I Timothy 3:1-7 and Titus 1:6-9, may be ordained as a minister of the Gospel.

(B) Upon a conference with the pastor and after the pastor has approved the application of the candidate for ordination, the pastor shall refer the candidate to the Northeast Mississippi Association of Free Will Baptists Ordaining Council for examination. After examining and approving the candidate for ordination he will be ordained by the church.

(C) The pastor and deacons shall make all arrangements for the ordination service, taking into account the desires of the candidate.

Article 9 – Indemnification

Section 1 – Actions Subject to Indemnification

(A) The church may indemnify any person who was or is a party or is threatened to be made a party to any threatened, pending or completed action, suit, or proceeding, whether civil, criminal, administrative, or investigative, including all appeals (other than an action by or in the right of the church) by reason of the fact that the person is or was a pastor, deacon, officer, employee, or agent of the church, against expenses, including attorneys' fees, judgments, fines, and amounts paid in settlement actually and reasonably incurred by him in connection with the action, suit or proceeding; and if that person acted in good faith and in a manner he reasonably believed to be in or not opposed to the best interests of the church and, with respect to any criminal action or proceeding, had no reasonable cause to believe his conduct was unlawful. The termination of any action, suit, or proceeding by judgment, order, settlement, conviction, or on a plea of *nolo contendere* or its equivalent, shall not, of itself, create a presumption that the person did not act in good faith and in a manner that he reasonably believed to be in or not opposed to the best interests of the church and, with respect to any criminal action or proceeding, had reasonable cause to believe that his or her conduct was unlawful.

Section 2 – Expenses Subject to Indemnification

(A) To the extent that a pastor, deacon, officer, employee, or agent has been successful on the merits or otherwise in defense of any action, suit, or proceeding referred to in this Article, or in defense of any claim, issue, or matter in that action, suit, or proceeding, he or she may be indemnified against expenses, including attorneys' fees, actually and reasonably incurred by him or her in connection with the action, suit, or proceeding.

Section 3 – Limitations of Indemnification

(A) Any indemnification made under this Article, may be made by the church only as authorized in the specific case on a determination that indemnification of the pastor, deacon, officer, employee, or agent is proper in the circumstances because he has met the applicable standard of conduct set forth in **Section 1** of the Article. The determination shall be made (a) by a majority vote of a quorum consisting of the pastor and deacons who were not and are not parties to, or threatened with, the action, suit, or proceeding; (b) if the described quorum is not obtainable, or if a majority vote of a quorum of disinterested deacons so direct, by independent legal counsel in a written opinion; or (c) by a majority vote of the members of the church.

Section 4 – Timing of Indemnification

(A) Expenses of each person seeking indemnification under this Article, may be paid by the church as they incurred, in advance of the final disposition of the action, suit, or proceeding, as authorized by the pastor and deacons in the specific case, on receipt of an undertaking by or on behalf of the pastor, deacon, officer, employee, or agent to repay the amount if it is ultimately determined that he or she is not qualified to be indemnified by the church.

Section 5 – Extent of Indemnification

(A) The indemnification provided by this Article shall be deemed to be discretionary unless otherwise required as a matter of law or under any agreement or provided by insurance purchased by the church, both as to action of each person seeking indemnification under this Article in his official capacity and as to action in another capacity while holding that office, and may continue as to a person who has ceased to be a pastor, deacon, officer, employee, or agent and may inure to the benefit of the heirs, executors, and administrators of that person.

Section 6 – Insurance

(A) The church may purchase and maintain insurance on behalf of any person who is or was a pastor, deacon, officer, employee, or agent of the church against any liability asserted against him and incurred by him in that capacity, or arising out of his status in that capacity, whether or not the church would have the power to indemnify him against liability under the provision of this Article.

Article 10 – Tax-Exempt Provisions

Section 1 – Private Inurement

(A) No part of the net earnings of the church shall inure to the benefit of, or be distributable to, its members, trustees, officers, or other private persons, except that the church shall be authorized and empowered to pay reasonable compensation for the services rendered and to make payments and distributions in furtherance of the purposes set forth in **Article I, Section 2** hereof.

Section 2 – Political Involvement

(A) No substantial part of the activities of the church shall be the carrying on of propaganda or otherwise attempting to influence legislation.

Section 3 – Dissolution

(A) Upon the dissolution of the church, the corporate officers shall, after paying or making provision for payment of all the liabilities of the church, dispose of all of the assets of the church to such organization or organizations formed and operated exclusively for religious purposes as shall at the time qualify as an exempt organization or organizations under Section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 (or the corresponding provision of any future United States Internal Revenue Law), as the trustees shall determine. Assets will be distributed in accordance with the terms recorded in deeds of such properties.

Section 4 – Racial Nondiscrimination

(A) The church shall have a racially nondiscriminatory policy and therefore shall not discriminate against members, applicants, students, and others on the basis of race, color, or national or ethnic origin.

Section 5 – Limitations of Activities

(A) Notwithstanding any other provision of these Bylaws, the church shall not, except to an insubstantial degree, engage in any activities or exercise any powers that are not in furtherance of the purposes stated in **Article 1, Section 2**.

Article 11 – Designated Contributions

(A) From time to time the church, in the exercise of its religious, educational, and charitable purposes, may establish various funds to accomplish specific goals. Contributors may suggest uses for their contributions, but all suggestions shall be deemed advisory rather than mandatory in nature. All contributions made to specific funds or otherwise designated shall remain subject to the exclusive control and discretion of the pastor and finance committee. No fiduciary obligation shall be created by any designated contribution made to the church other than to use the contribution for the general furtherance of any of the purposes stated in **Article 1, Section 2**.

Article 12 – Amendments

(A) This Constitution and Bylaws may be revised or amended by two-thirds vote of the voting quorum present and voting at any regular or special church administration meeting, provided that said revision or amendment has been submitted in writing and announced from the pulpit seven (7) days before the vote is taken.