

BYLAWS OF THE NORTHWEST COMMUNITY CHURCH OF GOD, INC.

ARTICLE 1 - Name

The name of this association shall be "Northwest Community Church of God, Inc." located at 4100 16th Street, N.W., Washington, D.C. 20011.

ARTICLE 2 – Interim Bylaws

In an effort to rediscover God's purpose for Northwest Community Church of God, Inc (formerly National Memorial Church of God), the most recent bylaws renewed in September 2002 are hereby suspended for a period of 2 years beginning February 15, 2006. The following interim bylaws will govern the church over the two-year period with the expectation that new bylaws will be drafted during this period.

Discussion

In the early church, remedial structural measures were taken to address specific problems (Acts 6:1-7, I Cor. 14:34-35, I Tim 2:11-15). These measures were not prescriptive for all churches, but helped the church address specific issues, so that the church could eventually return to a normative structure. The measure contained in these by-laws is a remedial structure intended to help overcome the long-term decline experienced at Northwest Community Church of God, Inc. At the end of the two-year period, it is anticipated that the church will be able to return to a more normative structural model.

ARTICLE 3 - Purpose

The church seeks to follow the mandate of Christ to Reach the World, Teach Believers the Ways of Christ, and to be a Loving and Worshipping Fellowship of Believers.

ARTICLE 4 - Policy

- I. This church acknowledges Jesus Christ as its head and finds in the Holy Scriptures, interpreted by the Divine Spirit through reason, faith, and conscience, its guidance in matters of faith and discipline.
- II. The government of this church shall be vested in a Leadership Team comprised of Church of God (Anderson, IN) District and National leaders for this period of two years. The Leadership Team as described herein shall have full authority to represent the interests of Northwest Community Church of God, Inc in all legal, financial, and church polity matters.

ARTICLE 5 – Leadership Team

- I. Membership shall consist of the following:
 - A. Six local Pastors and Lay-persons in the Chesapeake, Delaware and Potomac (CDP) District of the Church of God, Anderson, IN. These CDP participants shall meet the approval of the CDP District Area Administrator.
 - B. Two nationally recognized leaders in the Church of God, Anderson, IN Nationally recognized members shall meet the approval of the CDP District Area Administrator.
 - C. The Senior Pastor, who shall serve as a non-voting ex-officio member of the Leadership Team
- II. Meetings
 - A. Local members of the Leadership Team shall meet monthly.
 - B. National participants of the Leadership Team shall meet with the group quarterly.
- III. Purpose

- A. To assist the church in rediscovering its role in expanding the Kingdom of God.
 - B. To coordinate and stabilize the total program of the church
 - C. To guide the church in articulating a vision
- IV. Duties
- D. To provide accountability and direction to the Pastor
 - E. To give oversight to the business affairs of the church
 - F. To provide accountability and direction to unpaid staff
 - G. To oversee the visioning process and the development of a new structure
 - H. To offer oversight in all areas of the church including: Christian Education, Worship, Fellowship, Outreach, and Facility upkeep.
 - I. To serve as the budget committee
 - J. To provide oversight to the expenditure of funds

ARTICLE 6 – Church Treasurer

- I. Shall be nominated and approved by the Leadership Team
- II. Shall receive the funds of the church and cause them to be deposited in a local, federally-insured bank approved by the Leadership Team.
- III. Shall be authorized to give receipts for all money given to the church
- IV. Shall cause all vouchers and orders paid to be filed as part of the records of the church. All payments shall be made by check.
- V. Shall make regular reports, at least once a month to the Leadership Team, and congregation, if requested, showing receipts and disbursements and their relationship to the budget.
- VI. The records of total receipts and disbursements shall be open to members of the church.

Official Year: The official year of the church shall begin October 1, and all officers, and unpaid staff shall assume their duties at that time and continue in office until their successors are elected and qualified.

ARTICLE 7 – Church Membership

- I. Members of this church are all persons who make a profession of faith in Jesus Christ, who consider Northwest Community Church of God, Inc their home church, and who consistently support the program of this church.
- II. Those persons who shall have the right to vote in a business meeting must meet the following conditions:
 - A. They must be eighteen (18) years of age or older.
 - B. They must declare in writing, at each business meeting, that they have accepted Christ as Lord and Savior.
 - C. They must consider Northwest Community Church of God, Inc their home church, and consistently support the program of the church.
 - D. They must worship regularly at Northwest Community Church of God, Inc and have Attended at least six (6) services during the three (3) months before the business meeting in which they seek to cast a vote.
 - E. Congregational votes will only be taken at the request of the Leadership Team.

ARTICLE 8- Officers

- I. The officers of the church shall be the Leadership Team Members and shall represent Northwest Community Church of God, Inc in all legal and financial matters.

ARTICLE 9 - Church-Pastor Relationships

- I. Selection and Call of a Pastor:
 - A. Should the Senior Pastor feel led by the Holy Spirit to terminate his or her pastoral leadership role in the Association, he or she shall present a written resignation to the Leadership Team. The Senior Pastor should endeavor to provide a minimum of sixty days before vacating the pastorate, unless other arrangements are made to the satisfaction of both the Leadership Team and the Senior Pastor.

- II. The Retention or Removal of a Pastor:
 - A. Should the Leadership Team in conversation with the congregational members and prompted by the Holy Spirit feel led that a change of Senior Pastoral leadership is needed in order for the Association to accomplish its stated purpose, they may ask for the resignation of the Senior Pastor. Such action would require a six out of eight majority vote of the eight voting members of the Leadership Team. The Senior Pastor should be provided a minimum of sixty days before vacating the pastorate, unless other arrangements are made to the satisfaction of both the Leadership Team and the Senior Pastor.

ARTICLE 10 - Meetings

- I. Annual Meeting:
 - A. The annual meeting shall be held to receive the yearly reports of the church ministries, transact business, and adopt the annual budget.
 - B. The annual meeting shall be held at the church building or some other designated place during September.

ARTICLE 11 - Disposition of Property Upon Final Dissolution

In the event of the dissolution of this Association or the severing of its affiliation with the Church of God, Anderson, IN, no officer, Leadership Team Member(s), employee, Association member, or any private individual shall be entitled to share in the disposition of the assets of the Association, and all its assets shall become the property of Chesapeake, Delaware and Potomac District of the Church of God, Anderson, IN.

ARTICLE 12 -Effective Date

These bylaws shall become effective on February 15, 2006 and shall be terminated on February 15, 2008. If new by-laws are not approved by the Leadership Team during this period, the church shall revert to previous by-laws (updated September 15, 2002) at the end of the effective date of these by-laws.