

## **Original Wording:**

### **ARTICLE V – MEMBERSHIP**

*Amended January 23, 2022*

#### *SECTION I: General*

Membership in this Church shall consist of all persons who have met the qualifications for membership and are listed on the membership role.

#### *SECTION II: Qualifications for Membership*

1. A personal commitment of faith in Jesus Christ for salvation.
2. Baptism by immersion as a testimony of salvation.
3. Completion of the Church's membership class.
4. A commitment to abide by the membership covenant.
5. Completion of a membership interview conducted by a pastor of the church.
6. A two-thirds vote of the members present at any business meeting.

Nothing in this article V shall be construed as limiting the right of the Church to refer to persons associated with it as "members."

#### *SECTION III: Designation of Membership*

In an effort to properly reflect the membership of the Church, two rolls shall be maintained. These rolls shall be updated periodically.

1. Active / Resident Members: All members who reside within the Church's ministry area or are currently active in the Church.
2. Inactive / Nonresident Members: Members who have become inactive as a result of permanently moving out of the Church's ministry area and have not joined another Church.

#### *SECTION IV: Responsibilities of Membership*

The responsibilities of membership are described in the membership covenant.

#### *SECTION V: Voting Rights of Membership*

Every Active / Resident Member shall have the right to vote on the following matters:

1. Annual budget of the Church
2. Election of the Trustees
3. Disposition of all or substantially all of the assets of the Church
4. Merger or dissolution of the Church
5. Acquisition of real property and related indebtedness
6. Amendments to the Bylaws of the Church
7. Calling or removing of a Senior Pastor
8. Approving, dismissing, and restoring members.

Each member 16 years and older is entitled to one vote. Voting by proxy is prohibited.

#### *SECTION VI: Termination of Membership*

Members shall be removed from the Church roll for the following reasons:

1. Death
2. Transfer of membership to another church.
3. By personal request of the member.
4. Dismissal by a two-thirds vote of the members according to the following conditions:
  - a. The member's life and conduct are determined to be in serious violation of the membership covenant.
  - b. Procedures for the dismissal of a member shall be according to Matthew 18:15-17.

"Pastors" shall mean the Senior Pastor and the ordained pastors of the church.

#### *SECTION VII: Restoration of Members*

Those who have been dismissed from membership may be restored by a two-thirds vote of the members according to the spirit of 2 Corinthians 2:7-8, when their lifestyles are judged to once again be in accordance with the membership covenant.

## Proposed Updates (all changes are highlighted).

### ARTICLE V – MEMBERSHIP

*Amended January 23, 2022*

#### *SECTION I: General*

Membership in this Church shall consist of all persons who have met the qualifications for membership and are listed on the membership role.

#### *SECTION II: Qualifications for Membership*

1. A personal commitment of faith in Jesus Christ for salvation.
2. Baptism by immersion as a testimony of salvation.
3. Completion of the Church's membership class.
4. A commitment to abide by the membership covenant.
5. Completion of a membership interview conducted by a pastor of the church.
6. Nomination to membership by the interviewing pastor at any special or regular membership meeting at which a quorum is present.
7. A two-thirds vote of the members present at any ~~business meeting~~ special or regular membership meeting at which a quorum is present.

Nothing in this article V shall be construed as limiting the right of the Church to refer to persons associated with it as "members."

#### *SECTION III: Designation of Membership*

In an effort to properly reflect the membership of the Church, two rolls shall be maintained. These rolls shall be updated periodically.

1. Active ~~/Resident~~ Members: All members who reside within the Church's ministry area or are currently active in the Church.
- ~~2. Inactive / Nonresident Members: Members who have become inactive as a result of Permanently moving out of the Church's ministry area and have not joined another Church.~~
2. Terminated Members: Members whose membership has been terminated within the last two years for one of the reasons listed in Section VI.

#### *SECTION IV: Responsibilities of Membership*

The responsibilities of membership are described in the membership covenant are as follows:

1. To protect the unity of the Church by acting in love for other members, refusing to spread gossip and falsehood, and submitting to its leaders.
2. To share in the responsibilities of the Church by praying for its growth, inviting the unchurched to attend, warmly welcoming those who visit, and regularly seeking to share one's faith with the lost.
3. To serve the ministry of the Church by discovering one's gifts and talents, being equipped to serve by the pastors, and developing a servant's heart.
4. To support the testimony of the Church by attending faithfully, living a holy and godly life, and giving regularly to support the Church and its ministry.

#### *SECTION V: Voting Rights of Membership*

Every Active ~~/Resident~~ Member shall have the right to vote on the following matters:

1. Annual budget of the Church
2. Election of the Trustees
3. Disposition of all or substantially all of the assets of the Church
4. Merger or dissolution of the Church
5. Acquisition of real property and related indebtedness
6. Amendments to the Bylaws of the Church
7. Calling or removing of a Senior Pastor
8. Approving, dismissing, and restoring members.

Each member 16 years and older is entitled to one vote. Voting by proxy is prohibited.

#### *SECTION VI: Termination of Membership*

Members shall be removed from the Church roll for the following reasons:

1. Death.
2. Transfer of membership to another church.
3. By personal request of the member in writing or by digital text communication.
4. Dismissal by a two-thirds vote of the members present at any special or regular membership meeting at which a quorum is present according to the following conditions:
  - a. The member's life and conduct are determined to be in serious violation of the membership covenant in accordance with Matthew 18:15-17, OR
  - b. The member has not attended a church service or event in the preceding six months (excepting necessary travel, old age, or infirmity), OR
  - c. The member has permanently moved and is no longer able to attend services or events.

~~Procedures for the dismissal of a member shall be according to Matthew 18:15-17.~~

"Pastors" shall mean the Senior Pastor and the ordained pastors of the church.

*SECTION VII: Restoration of Members*

Those who have been dismissed from membership may be restored by a two-thirds vote of the members present at any special or regular membership meeting at which a quorum is present according to the spirit of 2 Corinthians 2:7-8, when their lifestyles are judged to once again be in accordance with the membership covenant.