

**Constitution and By-Laws of:  
Crossroads Church  
Perry, Iowa**

**PREAMBLE**

The New Testament teaches that the local church is the visible organized expression of the Body of Christ. The people of God are to live and serve in obedience to the Word of God and under the Lordship of Jesus Christ.

The Christian and Missionary Alliance operates on the presupposition that the congregation finds broader meaning and outreach in fulfilling its biblical responsibilities within the life and witness of the denomination.

This Constitution has three objectives:

1. Set out in general an outline of organization and administration for this church.
2. Define the relationship of this church to the district of which it is an integral part.
3. Relate this church to the denominational framework through which the worldwide work of The Christian and Missionary Alliance is carried out.

The Uniform Constitution for Accredited Churches has been framed and adopted by the General Council, the denomination's highest governing body. The accredited churches of The Christian and Missionary Alliance have participated in this process through their authorized delegates.

This church can, in accordance with this Constitution and in a manner that is consistent with the bylaws of The Christian and Missionary Alliance, formulate its bylaws so as to carry out its ministry appropriately and efficiently.

This church is an integral part of the district and worldwide fellowship, and is united in governance, fellowship, and service in order to promote unity of faith in the fullness of Jesus Christ as Savior, Sanctifier, Healer, Coming King, and to facilitate the spread of the gospel at home and abroad under the guidance of the Holy Spirit.

**CONSTITUTION: ARTICLE I – NAME**

The official name under which this church is incorporated or organized is **Crossroads Church of The Christian and Missionary Alliance.**

***NO BYLAW***

## **CONSTITUTION: ARTICLE II – RELATIONSHIP**

This church is connected with and subordinate to its parent religious organization, The Christian and Missionary Alliance, a Colorado nonprofit corporation. In consideration of the mutual benefits generated and derived from this relationship, and understanding that The Christian and Missionary Alliance is relying hereon in agreeing to initiate or continue such relationship, this church agrees to be subject to and abide by the terms and conditions of Article XV hereof relating to the reversion of property of accredited churches.

### **BYLAW ARTICLE II – RELATIONSHIPS**

*A. LAY DELEGATE(S) TO GENERAL COUNCIL. Pursuant to Article VI, Section 6.2, paragraph a, Bylaws of The Christian and Missionary Alliance, lay delegates to General Council shall be appointed for each General Council by the Leadership Team. The delegate(s) shall be certified by the senior pastor and reported to the proper authority upon request.*

*B. LAY DELEGATE(S) TO DISTRICT CONFERENCE. Pursuant to Article II, Section 1, paragraph a, Uniform Constitution for Districts of The Christian and Missionary Alliance, lay delegates to District Conference shall be appointed for each District Conference by the Leadership Team. The delegate(s) shall be certified by the senior pastor and reported to the proper authority upon request.*

## **CONSTITUTION: ARTICLE III – MEMBERSHIP**

Qualifications for membership shall consist of:

1. Confession of faith in Jesus Christ and evidence of regeneration.
2. Belief in God the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit; in the verbal inspiration of the Holy Scriptures as originally given; in the vicarious atonement of the Lord Jesus Christ; in the eternal salvation of all who believe in Him and eternal punishment of all who reject Him.
3. Acceptance of the doctrines of the Lord Jesus Christ as Savior, Sanctifier, Healer, and Coming King.
4. Full sympathy with the principles and objectives of The Christian and Missionary Alliance and cooperation by systematic support of its work.
5. Such other qualifications for membership as may be stated in the bylaws.

### **BYLAW ARTICLE III – MEMBERSHIP**

#### **A. APPLICATION FOR MEMBERSHIP.**

1. *Following their participation in the Crossroads Membership Class, applicants shall fill out the Crossroads membership application form and then meet with the senior pastor and the other elders to give their personal testimony of conversion and commitment to this church. The senior pastor and the other elders shall then act upon the applications. They shall also act upon requests for membership transfers from other Alliance churches.*

2. *Children of age 12 - 16 may be accepted into a Jr./non-voting membership of the church upon approval by the senior pastor and the other elders with the consent of their parents or guardian, provided they meet all qualifications stated herein. Jr. Members may become full members upon reaching the age of 16 if all qualifications for membership are current and fulfilled. This process will be overseen by the Elders.*
3. *All applicants will be provided with a copy of, and be required to read and consent to this Constitution, and these bylaws.*
4. *Further, they must affirm their willingness to subscribe to the UNIFORM POLICY ON DISCIPLINE, RESTORATION, AND APPEAL, as found in the current edition of The Manual of The Christian and Missionary Alliance. Such consent and affirmation exists when applicants place their signature on the application for membership.*
5. *All applicants will complete the membership class called, "Journey Into Mission" and agree to adhere to the Crossroads Membership covenant.*

#### **B. TYPES OF MEMBERSHIP.**

1. *Active Membership. Active members shall consist of those members who adhere to the conditions stated in the Constitution and Bylaws, and are regularly attending this church, and who meet qualification 1-5, above.*
2. *Inactive Membership.*
  1. *Those who have permanently moved from the community, but have not transferred their membership to another church shall be placed on the inactive membership list. A letter shall be sent informing them of this action.*
  2. *Those, who for any cause, except physical disability or who are temporarily absent from the community, have absented themselves from the regular services of this church for six months or more, shall be placed on the inactive membership list. A letter shall be sent informing them of this action.*
  3. *An inactive member may be placed on the active membership list again by request to and approval of the senior pastor and the other elders.*
  4. *Inactive members shall not be eligible to vote on any question.*

**C. MEMBERSHIP LIST.** *The membership list shall be examined each year by the senior pastor and the other elders one month prior to the annual congregational meeting so that the church will have an updated membership list. After efforts have been made to contact inactive members as to their relationship to the church, the senior pastor and the other elders shall have the power to remove inactive members from the membership list who have exceeded the one-year mark or to extend the inactive status for another year. A letter shall be sent to the member concerned informing him/her of this action.*

**D. TRANSFER OF MEMBERSHIP.** *Upon request, members in good standing may be granted a letter of transfer to other evangelical bodies upon approval of the senior pastor and the other elders.*

**CONSTITUTION: ARTICLE IV – ORDINANCES**

Baptism and the Lord's Supper are recognized as the two ordinances of the church.

Believer's baptism by immersion is taught and practiced as the scriptural mode. The pastor or other elders shall oversee baptism. They shall provide the instruction about baptism and shall administer baptisms themselves or choose other spiritually respected people to do these ministries.

The Lord's Supper is administered regularly. The pastor or other elders shall oversee Communion. They shall provide the instruction about Communion and shall administer the Communion themselves or choose other spiritually respected people to do these ministries.

***NO BYLAW*****CONSTITUTION: ARTICLE V – GOVERNMENT**

There shall be an annual meeting of the members of this church to be held at a time specified in the bylaws at which time the members shall receive reports of ministries including audited reports of the treasurers, and shall elect church officers, elders, and other members of the Governance Authority. Additional ministry positions shall be filled as specified in the local church bylaws. The Governance Authority, as specified in the local church bylaws, shall conduct the affairs of the church between annual meetings and shall be amenable to the membership and the district superintendent as constitutionally defined. Other meetings of the members may be called by proper notice to the membership as specified in the bylaws. On general church matters in which no legal questions are involved, it is understood that all members in good and regular standing who have reached the age of sixteen (16) years are entitled to vote, but in matters involving titles of property or legal procedure, the laws of the state determine the age at which members are eligible to vote.

***BYLAW ARTICLE V – GOVERNMENT******A. ANNUAL CONGREGATIONAL MEETING.***

- 1. The annual congregational meeting shall be held at 6 pm on the third Sunday of September each year. The Leadership Team also shall have the authority to change this in a given year when necessary. When such a change is determined appropriate by the Leadership Team, Members shall be notified in a timely manner. E-mail and phone are acceptable means of communication.*
- 2. Annual reports are to be submitted by the pastor(s), elders, secretary, treasurer, audit committee chairman, and others deemed necessary by the Leadership Team. The Leadership Team shall also determine the method of reporting.*

3. *Officers elected at the Annual Meeting shall be the Elders and Members at Large*
4. *Other positions to be elected at the annual congregational meeting are Secretary, Treasurer, Assistant Treasurer, Audit Committee Chair, Nominating Committee elected immediately upon the close of the annual congregational meeting.*
5. *During the first year of operation, the Leadership Team will select nominating committee members from a list of volunteers and will hold a mid-year election to install them into office.*
6. *All other ministry positions shall be determined and appointed by the Leadership Team at their first meeting following the annual congregational meeting. This authorization does not apply to other positions that may become necessary and require election by constitutional authority.*

*B. SPECIAL CONGREGATIONAL MEETINGS. Members shall be notified of special congregational meetings (which are not emergency in nature) in a timely manner. E-mail and phone are acceptable means of communication.*

*C. EMERGENCY CONGREGATIONAL MEETINGS. Any member of the church may request an Emergency Congregational Meeting. However, the Leadership Team shall have sole authority to call an Emergency Congregational Meeting. When a situation warrants an Emergency Congregational Meeting, there shall be a minimum of 24 hours from the time the meeting is called to the time the meeting starts. During this 24 hour period, a reasonable effort shall be made to contact every member of the church via e-mail and/or phone.”*

*D. AUTHORITY. Roberts Rules of Order shall generally govern all matters of church business.*

*E. QUORUM. A quorum of any properly-called congregational business meeting shall consist of those members who are present.*

## **CONSTITUTION: ARTICLE VI – THE CHURCH GOVERNANCE AUTHORITY**

Section 1. General. Each local church shall structure its Governance Authority in accordance with the governing documents of The Christian and Missionary Alliance, the definition of elder authority, the bylaws of the district, and the laws of the state in which the church is located. The members of the Governance Authority shall satisfy the scriptural standards for church leadership and shall be members of this church.

The senior pastor shall be chairman or, at his request, the Governance Authority shall elect an elder as chairman. An elder shall also be elected as vice chairman. Meetings shall be held for prayer and business, and abbreviated minutes shall be reported to the church as the church may decide. Special meetings may be called by the chairman or by written request of one-half of the Governance Authority membership. All officers, committees, and organizations, except the Nominating Committee, are amenable to the collective oversight of the elders.

Section 2. Removal. In consultation with the district superintendent and the senior pastor, any officer or auxiliary official, except licensed pastoral staff, of this church, whether elected at the church annual meeting or appointed by the Governance Authority, or any individual member of the Governance Authority, may be removed by a two-thirds majority vote of the Governance Authority and the approval of the district superintendent if, in the judgment of the Governance Authority, the best interests of this church will be served thereby.

## **BYLAW ARTICLE VI – CHURCH GOVERNANCE AUTHORITY**

*A. FREQUENCY OF MEETINGS. Meetings of the Leadership Team shall be held monthly.*

*B. NAME AND COMPOSITION OF GOVERNANCE AUTHORITY.*

- 1. NAME. The Governance Authority of the Crossroads Church shall be known as the Leadership Team and shall operate as a Single Board System with a Majority of Elders*
- 2. NUMBER. The number serving as the Leadership Team shall be no less than six and no more than eight*
- 3. COMPOSITION. The Leadership Team shall consist of the senior pastor, three (or at the most four) elders, and two (or at the most 3) members at large.*
  - a. Staff pastors should be non-voting, but full participants on the Team and do not count in the composition total.*
  - b. The positions of Secretary and Treasurer are serving positions that do not carry voting authority. They attend Leadership Team meetings in an advisory capacity only.*
  - c. The Secretary and/or Treasurer positions may be filled by an Elder or Member-At-Large in which case the Elder or Member-At-Large retains the voting authority of the Elder or Member-At-Large position.*
  - d. Among the Elders of the church, only 4 will be elected by the congregation to serve on the Leadership Team.*
  - e. It is up to the Leadership Team to determine whether 2 or 3 members at large are needed.*
  - f. Although every effort is made to nominate and mentor elder and member-at-large candidates prior to voting them into office, this process may not always be completed prior to the annual election. In the event that during any given election process there is insufficient time to fulfill the mentoring requirements for the office of elder or member-at-large, those being voted into office will be allowed to function fully, but provisionally, until they complete or terminate the mentoring process. Successful completion of the mentoring process for elders shall be within 6 months of being elected. The process for members-at-large shall be no longer than 3 months. Success in completion shall be determined by the senior pastor and elders. Once the mentoring process is completed successfully their term of office will automatically proceed and their status will no longer be provisional. If they withdraw from the mentoring process or do not*

*complete it successfully, another qualified nominee will be found to take their place. This will be accomplished according to the mid-term vacancy procedure.*

*D. QUALIFICATIONS. The qualifications for elders are set out in I Timothy 3:1-13 and Titus 1:6-9. Other members of the Leadership Team are expected to maintain a lifestyle in keeping with the spirit and intent of these same references. Further, each must be an active member of this church.*

*E. DUTIES. The duties of leaders are set forth in the Constitution, these bylaws, and position descriptions adopted by the Leadership Team.*

*F. QUORUM. A quorum for the legal conduct of business shall be two-thirds of the Leadership Team Membership, provided there is a majority of elders present.*

*G. Routine business may be conducted without a quorum.*

#### **CONSTITUTION: ARTICLE VII – OFFICERS**

The officers shall be members of this church and shall satisfy the scriptural standards for church leadership. They shall consist of the following who, with the exception of the Pastors and Elders, shall be elected at the annual meeting of the church: secretary, treasurer, assistant treasurer, and such other officers as may be designated in the church bylaws or in the state law.

#### **BYLAW ARTICLE VII – OFFICERS**

*A. The Secretary, Treasurer, and assistant Treasurer are considered officers relative only to the serving duty they perform. These positions carry no decision-making or voting authority.*

#### **CONSTITUTION: ARTICLE VIII – PASTORAL STAFF**

The Governance Authority shall not give consideration to any candidate for the pastoral staff without the approval of the district superintendent. Pastoral staff members shall be called by the Governance Authority and appointed by the district superintendent. The district superintendent shall suggest to the Governance Authority the names of such workers as in his judgment have proper qualifications for pastoral staff. Upon appointment by the district superintendent, a pastoral staff member and spouse become members of this church. Pastoral staff include all those whose position calls for licensing as an "official worker," as defined in the General Regulations in the Manual of The Christian and Missionary Alliance.

Any member of the pastoral staff may resign from this church by giving due notice of this intention to the district superintendent and the Governance Authority. The governance authority may, in conjunction with the district superintendent, ask for the resignation of any member of the pastoral staff. Before such action is taken, the Governance Authority and that member shall follow the guidelines as prescribed by the district superintendent. The district superintendent, with the approval of the District Executive Committee, shall have the authority to remove or transfer a member of the pastoral staff when the

Governance Authority is in disagreement or whenever circumstances make such removal or transfer advisable.

**BYLAW ARTICLE VIII – PASTORAL STAFF**

**A. STAFF SALARIES AND BENEFITS.**

*a. These matters are covered in the Crossroads “Policy and Procedure Manual”.*

**CONSTITUTION: ARTICLE IX – DUTIES OF CHURCH OFFICERS**

Section 1. Senior Pastor. The senior pastor shall have oversight of this church. He shall be chairman of the Governance Authority except as he may choose to proceed according to the provisions in Article VI. He shall preside at all regular or special meetings of the church membership. He is a member ex officio of all church committees and organizations. When the membership has no pastor, the chairman or vice chairman of the Governance Authority shall have oversight of the church in conjunction with the district superintendent. The senior pastor shall be the president of this church where such office is required by law.

Section 2. Secretary. The secretary shall keep the minutes of membership meetings and conduct the correspondence of this church as directed by the Governance Authority. The secretary shall attend and keep minutes of other meetings as specified in the local church bylaws.

Section 3. Treasurer. The treasurer shall receive all monies of this church and shall be responsible for the payment of all bills on the order of the Governance Authority as specified in the local church bylaws, keeping proper book records of all transactions, and filing canceled vouchers and receipts for payments made. The Governance Authority shall determine where funds of this church shall be kept. No offerings shall be solicited from the membership except upon approval of the Governance Authority.

Section 4. Assistant Treasurer. The assistant treasurer shall, with another person or persons appointed by the Governance Authority, be responsible to count all monies and keep a separate record of all receipts. The assistant treasurer may be empowered to issue receipts to the donors.

**BYLAW ARTICLE IX - DUTIES OF CHURCH OFFICERS**

*A. SECRETARY. The elected secretary shall attend and keep the minutes of all congregational meetings and Leadership Team meetings.*

**CONSTITUTION: ARTICLE X – COMMITTEES AND ORGANIZATIONS**

Section 1. Elders. The elders shall be male members of this church and shall be elected as specified in the church bylaws. With authority from Christ the Chief Shepherd and confirmed by the church membership, the pastor and the other elders are the highest level of servant leadership in the local

church. As undershepherds, elders shall serve with the senior pastor to oversee the local church and its ministries to accomplish Christ's mission. They shall constitute the Committee on Membership. They shall be the Committee on Discipline in accordance with the Uniform Policy on Discipline, Restoration, and Appeal of The Christian and Missionary Alliance.

Other committees and organizations shall be permitted to form upon the recommendation of the Governance Authority as their function is beneficial to the purpose and mission of the local church.

### **BYLAW ARTICLE X – COMMITTEES AND ORGANIZATIONS**

*A. POSITION DESCRIPTIONS: The Leadership Team shall maintain a policy and procedure manual and issue individual position descriptions for these and any other appointed or elected position in the church. Such position descriptions shall define responsibilities, delegate authority and specify accountability and are considered directive in nature.*

### **CONSTITUTION: ARTICLE XI – MISSIONS CONFERENCE**

A missions conference shall be held annually for the promotion and support of the worldwide work of The Christian and Missionary Alliance.

### **NO BYLAW**

### **CONSTITUTION: ARTICLE XII – PROPERTY AND RECORDS**

Section 1. Property. This church may acquire, own, dispose of, improve, encumber, and convey property, real and personal, for church purposes, in conformity with the laws of the state where the property is situated.

Real property may be purchased, sold, conveyed, exchanged, mortgaged, or encumbered only by order of the membership through the Governance Authority in consultation with the district superintendent. In states where trustees are required, the order of the membership shall proceed through them.

Section 2. Records. The official records of all officers of the church and all its departments are the property of the church. In the event of the death or resignation of the incumbent or upon the election of his successor, the current records of the office shall be passed on to the newly elected officer. All records other than current shall be kept in a secure repository selected by the Governance Authority.

Section 3. Audit. All financial records shall be examined annually or at more frequent intervals on order of the Governance Authority. At least three persons, none of whom is a financial officer or church staff member, shall be appointed by the Governance Authority to conduct the examination. They shall follow procedures set forth in the current edition of the Manual for Alliance Church Treasurers (and Pastors). The Governance Authority shall authorize actions to conform with additional audit standards that may be required by the jurisdiction in which the church is located.

***NO BYLAW*****CONSTITUTION: ARTICLE XIII – NOMINATING COMMITTEE**

A Nominating Committee shall consist of the senior pastor, two elected by but not necessarily from the governance authority, and two elected from the church membership-at-large, as stipulated by the local church bylaws, at least one month prior to the annual meeting. Members of the Nominating Committee shall be members of this church. Members of the Nominating Committee shall be members of this church and shall be elected by ballot at a regular or special meeting of the Governance Authority or membership meeting, respectively. The Governance Authority and the membership shall elect by ballot from among at least four nominees.

***BYLAW ARTICLE XIII – NOMINATING COMMITTEE***

- A. The Nominating Committee shall prepare a written report of its work, and publish it at least seven days prior to the annual meeting.*
- B. The Leadership Team will elect and appoint two of its members to assist the Senior Pastor on the Nominating Committee.*
- C. There will be two elected from the membership-at-large at the annual congregational meeting to serve on the Nominating Committee in the upcoming year.*

**CONSTITUTION: ARTICLE XIV – ELECTIONS**

In consideration of elections, the Nominating Committee shall present at least one name for each office to be filled. Other nominations may be made from the membership. The officers shall be elected by ballot at the annual meeting. Where only one name is presented, the ballot may be waived by unanimous vote.

***BYLAW ARTICLE XIV – ELECTIONS***

- A. THOSE TO BE ELECTED: Those to be elected at the annual congregational meeting shall be the: officers, and the members at large.*
  - 1. Those being nominated to fill the office of Elder and/or Member-at-Large shall be recommended to the Nominating Committee, pending satisfactory completion of the mentoring requirements for “Elders in Training” or “Member-at-Large Training” in the policy and procedure manual.*

2. *If the person being nominated for Elder or Member-at-Large has served in that position previously, the Leadership Team will determine if further mentoring is necessary prior to another term of service. The training for the position of Elder is inclusive of the Member-at-Large training, so that an Elder can potentially hold the office of Member-at-Large without additional training at the discretion of the Leadership Team. The training for the Position of Member-at-Large does not qualify someone to be an Elder.*
3. *Election Ballots for positions of Elder will not provide a choice between individual elder candidates. Voting will be to accept or not to accept the candidate(s) on the ballot.*

*B. NOMINATIONS FROM THE MEMBERSHIP: Any active member of the membership may nominate any person for an elected position according to the following:*

1. *The member wishing to place someone in nomination must contact and obtain permission from the person to be nominated and receive assurance that the person will allow his/her name to be considered.*
2. *The member wishing to place the name in nomination will then submit the name to the Nominating Committee, in writing, within 7 days following the annual election of the Nominating Committee (See Article XIII above).*
3. *The Nominating Committee will satisfy itself that the person to be nominated meets the criteria of the Constitution and bylaws for holding elected office.*
4. *The Nominating Committee may consider the person to be nominated as their nominee if so desired. The Nominating Committee may also elect NOT to consider the person as their nominee.*
5. *Once the Nominating Committee has completed its work and rendered its report, an OFFICIAL BALLOT will be prepared for use at the annual meeting. The Official Ballot will contain the names as presented for each position by the Nominating Committee. Further, those names presented by the membership that meets the required criteria will also be placed on the Official Ballot. However, they will be identified by an asterisk (\*), and an appropriate footnote explanation that they were nominated by the membership.*
6. *There will be no nominations received from the floor during the election process.*

*C. PLURALITY: Where required, the election shall be based on the rule of plurality.*

*D. TERM OF OFFICE.*

1. *Elected members of the Leadership Team shall serve for a period of two years and shall commence office immediately following the election process, unless the mentoring period has not been completed. They may not serve more than two 2-year terms in succession. The election shall be arranged so that approximately one half of the elected Leadership Team is elected annually.*
2. *The term of office for Elders shall also be two years, but there is no term limitation for the office of Elder.*
3. *The Leadership Team shall have the authority to appoint qualified persons to fulfill unexpired terms of those elected persons as necessary.*

4. *In the first year of organization two of the elders and one of the members-at-large shall be elected to three year terms. This provides initial continuity in leadership and offsets the expiration of terms.*

#### **CONSTITUTION: ARTICLE XV – REVERSION OF PROPERTY**

Recognizing the purposes of the members of this congregation to support both the doctrines and the mission of The Christian and Missionary Alliance through the contributions of their tithes, offerings, and special gifts, and to ensure that the future use of such assets and real property as this church may from time to time acquire shall not be diverted from this purpose, this church adopts the following property protection clause.

1. Property Reversion Events. Any of the following shall constitute a "property reversionary event": (a) the decision or action of this church to disaffiliate or otherwise separate itself from The Christian and Missionary Alliance without the prior written approval of such decision or action by the District Executive Committee (or its equivalent) of the district in which this church is located, or (b) the failure for any reason of this church to be subject to or abide by any of the purposes, usages, doctrines, or teachings of The Christian and Missionary Alliance, or (c) the failure for any reason of this church to qualify as an "accredited church" of The Christian and Missionary Alliance (as such term is defined in the bylaws of The Christian and Missionary Alliance), or (d) the termination of this church's existence for any reason.

2. Determination of Reversionary Event. The determination of whether a property reversionary event has occurred shall be considered and decided by the District Executive Committee (or its equivalent) of the district of The Christian and Missionary Alliance in which this church is located in accordance with procedures established from time to time by the Board of Directors of The Christian and Missionary Alliance. The decision of such District Executive Committee (or its equivalent) shall be final and binding on The Christian and Missionary Alliance, the district of The Christian and Missionary Alliance in which this church is located, and this church, and may not be challenged by any party in the absence of fraud, collusion, or arbitrariness.

3. Consequences of a Property Reversionary Event. Upon the occurrence of a property reversionary event as determined in accordance with 2 above, legal title to all real and personal property (tangible and intangible), appurtenances, fixtures, and effects of whatever type then owned, held or used by this church, without regard to how or from whom acquired, shall, upon the demand of the district of The Christian and Missionary Alliance in which this church is located, revert to and become the property of such district of The Christian and Missionary Alliance. During the period of time between the occurrence of the property reversionary event and the complete and final transfer of legal title to the district of The Christian and Missionary Alliance in which this church is located, this church shall hold such property in trust for such district to be used exclusively to further the purposes, usages, doctrines, and teachings of The Christian and Missionary Alliance.

4. Waiver of Certain Property Reversionary Events. In the event of a property reversionary event attributable to differences in doctrine between this church and The Christian and Missionary Alliance, the property reversionary process set forth above may be waived upon the approval of (a) at least two thirds of the active, attending members of this church, (b) the District Executive Committee (or its equivalent) of the district of The Christian and Missionary Alliance in which this church is located, and (c) the Division of Church Ministries of The Christian and Missionary Alliance.

***NO BYLAW***

**CONSTITUTION: ARTICLE XVI – BYLAWS**

Church bylaws not in conflict with the provisions of the Bylaws of The Christian and Missionary Alliance or the laws of the state are required and will be adopted by a duly called meeting of the church. As a minimum, the church bylaws will include provisions for the composition and name of its Governance Authority that is in keeping with Article VI above. A copy of such bylaws shall be filed with the district superintendent.

***NO BYLAW***

**CONSTITUTION: ARTICLE XVII – AMENDMENTS**

This Constitution may be amended only by the General Council of The Christian and Missionary Alliance by a two-thirds majority of the votes cast.

***BYLAW ARTICLE XVII – AMENDMENTS***

*BYLAW AMENDMENTS. These bylaws may be amended by a two-thirds majority of the votes cast at any official congregational meeting of the membership.*

**CONSTITUTION: ARTICLE XVIII – CONFORMANCE WITH APPLICABLE LAW**

In cases where any provision of this Constitution may not conform to state laws, the district concerned shall be authorized to make such adjustments as necessary in counsel with the vice president for National Church Ministries of The Christian and Missionary Alliance so as to conform to such laws.

***NO BYLAW***