

RESURRECTION METROPOLITAN COMMUNITY CHURCH

LOCAL BYLAWS

AN AFFILIATED CHURCH
OF THE
UNIVERSAL FELLOWSHIP
OF
METROPOLITAN COMMUNITY CHURCHES

November, 2015

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ARTICLE I - NAME AND AFFILIATION

- A. The name of this church is Resurrection Metropolitan Community Church, (hereinafter referred to as CHURCH). Except in legal documents the CHURCH may be called Resurrection MCC.
- B. The CHURCH was chartered by the Universal Fellowship of Metropolitan Community Churches (hereinafter referred to as UFMCC) on April 20, 1975 and incorporated on October 7, 1975 under the laws of the State of Texas.
- C. The CHURCH acknowledges the authority of UFMCC Bylaws as adopted and/or amended by the General Conference of UFMCC.
- D. The CHURCH agrees to follow UFMCC requirements for disaffiliation in case such a step should ever become necessary.

ARTICLE II – PURPOSE

The objectives of the CHURCH are:

- A. To bind together individuals for the purpose of sharing in the worship of God in the Christian tradition, and to make God’s will dominant in the lives of all people, individually and collectively, as set forth in the Holy Scriptures.
- B. To instruct people in theology and in allied subjects for the propagation of the teachings of the Christian faith.
- C. To instruct and encourage those who offer themselves to the teaching and philosophy accepted by the CHURCH.
- D. To do all things that are compatible with the work of a Christian Church.

ARTICLE III - GOVERNMENT, ORGANIZATION, STRUCTURE, AND OFFICERS

These provisions supplement and complement UFMCC Bylaws with respect to government, organization and officers.

A. PASTOR

The PASTOR is a duly ordained and licensed clergy person of UFMCC who has been elected by the Congregation of the CHURCH at a Congregational Meeting to be the PRESIDENT and Chief Executive Officer of the corporation as the primary visionary and futurist in order to advance the mission and vision of the CHURCH through the exercise of prophetic challenge, creativity, spiritual and pastoral authority, and leadership. As the primary

93 CHURCH spokesperson, and the Chief Executive Officer, the PRESIDENT is a voting
 94 member of the BOARD, and serves as personnel director; and determines, subject to the
 95 BOARD'S approval, compensation, vacation periods, titles, and delegates such
 96 responsibilities and duties as may seem wise. The PASTOR shall be responsible for leading
 97 the visioning process for the CHURCH, having a presence at global events, teaching,
 98 training, engaging in continuous learning, community relationships, ecumenical relations,
 99 and global social justice. If no duly credentialed UFMCC clergy person is available, UFMCC
 100 may appoint an Interim Pastoral Leader annually.

- 101
- 102 1. The BOARD shall develop a Pastoral Employment Agreement between the PASTOR and
- 103 the CHURCH. The employment agreement shall include a job description and address
- 104 such matters as compensation, which are consistent with equitable local standards, as
- 105 well as benefits, allowances, and leave per the Resurrection Metropolitan Community
- 106 Church Employee Handbook. The PASTOR and the CHURCH may choose at any time to
- 107 terminate their relationship as set forth in the Pastoral Employment Agreement. All
- 108 provisions of the employment agreement shall be subordinate to the Bylaws of the
- 109 UFMCC.
- 110
- 111 2. The UFMCC Bylaws prescribe the reasons for and steps by which the Pastor may be
- 112 removed from office. For the purpose of that section, the duly authorized church officer
- 113 will be the Clerk of the Board of Directors
- 114
- 115 3. The Pastoral Search Committee shall be responsible for presenting a qualified candidate
- 116 for election at a Congregational Meeting. The Pastoral Search Committee shall develop
- 117 and implement the Pastoral Search Process, in consultation with UFMCC, as set forth in
- 118 the Committee's Standard Operating Procedure.
- 119

120 B. PASTORAL VACANCY

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122 In the event of a vacancy in the position of PASTOR, the BOARD shall consult with UFMCC

123 to ensure there is interim pastoral leadership and to determine when to initiate the Pastoral

124 Search Process, including formation of the Pastoral Search Committee.

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126 The Pastoral Search Committee shall consist of no more than seven (7) members, and no

127 less than five (5) members. The composition of the Pastoral Search Committee shall

128 include two current members of the Board. The additional members of the Pastoral Search

129 Committee shall be appointed by the Board from among the Members of the church who

130 are not also current members of the Board. Congregants selected by the BOARD could

131 include former BOARD members. The Pastoral Search Committee members should rank

132 high in five (5) areas: spiritual maturity and sensitivity, ability to work well in a committee

133 setting, listening and communication skills, discernment, and involvement in the ministries

134 of the CHURCH. An understanding of leadership, as well as project management and

135 administrative skills, will also be helpful.

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C. EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR / EXECUTIVE PASTOR

The EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR / EXECUTIVE PASTOR functions as the MODERATOR of the BOARD and of Congregational Meetings. The EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR / EXECUTIVE PASTOR shall not vote at BOARD meetings, but may vote at Congregational Meetings. The EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR / EXECUTIVE PASTOR shall set the Board meeting agenda with input from the PRESIDENT and VICE-MODERATOR and shall manage accountability of Board members for planning, executing, and tracking goals relevant to their respective positions. The EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR / EXECUTIVE PASTOR is accountable to the PASTOR, partners with the BOARD, and shall have authority to implement the operating policies issued by the BOARD.

D. BOARD OF DIRECTORS

The BOARD of Directors (hereinafter referred to as BOARD) shall have charge of all matters pertaining to the Articles of Incorporation or documents of legal organization, CHURCH property, and financial affairs of the CHURCH. The BOARD is accountable for managing the collection and disbursement of funds, maintenance of CHURCH records, managing the cash flow, and reporting to the Congregation and UFMCC. The BOARD shall also have the responsibility and authority for issuing operating policies.

1. COMPOSITION

The BOARD shall consist of nine (9) members, including the PASTOR who shall serve as PRESIDENT of the BOARD; and eight (8) members elected by a Congregational Meeting. Consideration will be given to elect members with diverse perspectives, core competencies, and complementary skills consistent with the required functions and responsibilities of the BOARD.

2. TERM OF OFFICE

The term of office is three (3) years. BOARD members may not serve more than two (2) full terms consecutively. The expiration of the terms of the BOARD members shall be staggered, with no more than three (3) BOARD members transitioning off the BOARD during any election.

3. QUALIFICATIONS

Members of the BOARD must be Members in Good Standing prior to election to the BOARD. Prior to election, candidates for the BOARD must have passed a background check and are able to be bonded. Should a BOARD member no longer be able to be bonded, that individual shall immediately resign from the BOARD by written notification to the CLERK of the BOARD.

- a. Compensated employees of CHURCH, excluding the PASTOR, are not eligible to serve as BOARD members. Any member of the BOARD who wishes to become a compensated employee must first resign from the BOARD.

- 183 b. A person is not eligible to serve on the BOARD if they are a clergy candidate, a Lay
184 Delegate, or an individual from the same household, family, or intimate relationship
185 with an employee, BOARD, or Nominating Committee member.
186

187 4. CORPORATE OFFICERS

188 The Corporate Officers shall be the PRESIDENT, VICE-MODERATOR, TREASURER, and
189 CLERK. Except for the President, the term of office of Corporate Officers shall be one
190 (1) year. Except for the President, Corporate Officers shall be elected by and from the
191 BOARD at the first BOARD meeting following the annual Congregational Meeting.
192

193 PRESIDENT

- 194 a. The PASTOR shall be the PRESIDENT of the BOARD. The PRESIDENT shall establish
195 the church's vision, provide spiritual leadership to the BOARD, and empower and
196 guide the BOARD.
197

198 VICE-MODERATOR

- 199 b. The VICE-MODERATOR shall work with the MODERATOR to set the BOARD meeting
200 agenda and manage BOARD member accountability. The VICE-MODERATOR shall
201 serve as MODERATOR in the occasional absence of the MODERATOR or upon the
202 request of the MODERATOR. In the extended absence of the MODERATOR, the
203 BOARD may appoint an Interim MODERATOR until such time as the MODERATOR is
204 no longer absent.
205

206 TREASURER

- 207 c. The TREASURER is responsible for ensuring the receipt and safekeeping of all funds
208 of the CHURCH, including all subsidiary and deposited accounts, and that all monies
209 are disbursed only in accordance with the Operating Budget as approved by the
210 Congregational Meeting or as revised by the BOARD. The TREASURER shall ensure
211 that whenever possible, all funds shall be disbursed by bank checks bearing two (2)
212 authorized signatures. The TREASURER shall ensure that the CHURCH financial
213 records shall be reviewed annually by an Internal Review Committee appointed by
214 the BOARD or an independent auditor named by the BOARD. The TREASURER shall
215 be responsible for ensuring the preparation and maintenance of all financial records.
216 This shall include a monthly financial report to the BOARD and an annual financial
217 report to the Congregation. The monthly and annual financial reports shall reflect
218 receipts, disbursements, and outstanding financial obligations for all CHURCH funds
219 and accounts. The TREASURER shall perform such additional duties as may be
220 assigned by the BOARD.
221

222 CLERK

- 223 d. The CLERK shall perform the duties as Secretary of the Corporation. The CLERK shall
224 be responsible for ensuring maintenance of official correspondence and church
225 records, proper notice of all authorized meetings of the CHURCH, including
226 Congregational Meetings and BOARD meetings, recording minutes of all business
227 transacted at such meetings of the BOARD and of the Congregation, and a complete

228 record of all Members is maintained, showing time and mode of admission and other
229 personal data. The CLERK shall also be responsible for ensuring that a record of
230 Baptisms, Holy Unions, deaths, etc. is maintained. The CLERK is the officer
231 authorized to receive petitions submitted to the Board of Directors. The CLERK shall
232 perform such additional duties as may be assigned by the BOARD.
233

234 5. BOARD MEETINGS

235 The BOARD shall meet at least once a month. Upon agreement of three (3) members of
236 the BOARD, a special meeting may be called and may be conducted face to face or
237 virtually. All members must be notified at least twenty-four (24) hours in advance of a
238 special meeting, if possible, and the majority of active members must agree on a date
239 and time. Special BOARD meetings may also be called by the MODERATOR or the
240 PRESIDENT.

- 241
- 242 a. QUORUM – A quorum shall consist of the MODERATOR or Acting MODERATOR and
- 243 six (6) members of the BOARD. A simple majority of the members present and
- 244 voting shall determine all issues except as otherwise provided for in these Bylaws.
- 245
- 246 b. MINUTES – The approved minutes of all BOARD meetings must be made available
- 247 to the Congregation upon request.
- 248

249 6. RESIGNATIONS

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- 251 a. ACTUAL RESIGNATIONS – Any member of the BOARD, excluding the PRESIDENT,
- 252 who wishes to relinquish their position, shall submit, in writing, their request for
- 253 acceptance of their resignation to the MODERATOR of the BOARD, stating reasons
- 254 for the action, effective date and any other pertinent facts or information. The
- 255 resignation letter shall be submitted prior to the effective date of the resignation.
- 256 The MODERATOR will inform the PRESIDENT within twenty-four (24) hours of
- 257 receipt of the resignation, and the BOARD at the next regular BOARD meeting. The
- 258 person resigning may or may not, at that person’s sole discretion, be present at the
- 259 meeting of the BOARD.
- 260
- 261 b. ASSUMED RESIGNATIONS – If any member of the BOARD, excluding the
- 262 PRESIDENT, fails to attend two (2) consecutive monthly meetings, that person may
- 263 have their resignation assumed. By a majority vote of the BOARD, a letter will be
- 264 sent by the CLERK to notify the individual that absence from the next meeting will
- 265 automatically indicate their resignation. If the next meeting is missed, by a majority
- 266 vote of the BOARD, a letter will be sent by the CLERK to the individual stating that
- 267 the individual’s implied resignation is regretfully accepted. Past services should be
- 268 acknowledged with gratitude in this final letter.
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270 7. VACANCIES

271 In the event of a vacancy on the BOARD, other than the PRESIDENT, the BOARD may
272 appoint a qualified person to serve until the next Congregational Meeting when an
273 election will be held to fill the unexpired term.

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8. DISCIPLINE

The CHURCH cannot condone disloyalty, unbecoming conduct, or dereliction of duty on the part of any member of the BOARD and, therefore, makes the following provisions for discipline or removal: If the BOARD determines that one of its members is unable or unwilling to fulfill the responsibilities of the position, the BOARD may, by a vote of two-thirds (2/3) of the BOARD, recommend that the BOARD remove that member from his/her position. A petition presented to the CLERK and signed by twenty-five percent (25%) of the Members In Good Standing of the Congregation may also initiate such a procedure. The member must be given written notice of the charges and, at that time, becomes inactive. The member has the right to appear and present his/her own defense before the BOARD on his/her own behalf. The BOARD will then review the charges, and, upon majority vote of the BOARD, may remove the member of the BOARD or take such other action as it may deem appropriate. The decision of the BOARD shall be final.

E. THE BYLAWS COMMITTEE

By February 1 of each even-number year, the BOARD shall appoint a Bylaws Committee. The Committee shall prepare for BOARD review proposed Bylaws changes and statements of rationale and communicate these proposed changes, if any, to the Congregation for final approval. The Committee shall review the CHURCH Bylaws for consistency and ensure conformity of the CHURCH Bylaws and Operating Procedures with UFMCC Bylaws. The make-up of the Committee shall be: one (1) member who shall be a BOARD member and who shall act as liaison to and from the BOARD; three (3) members from the Congregation at large, one (1) of whom shall be Chair; and one (1) staff member who shall be appointed by the PASTOR. Additional non-voting members may serve on the Committee at the discretion of the Chair. The term of office shall be two (2) years. During the first meeting of the Bylaws Committee, the Committee shall elect an individual from among its members as its Chair.

F. THE NOMINATING COMMITTEE

The Nominating Committee reviews and develops the procedures of the Nominating Committee, and leads the process for recruiting BOARD and Lay Delegate candidates. The responsibility of the Nominating Committee is to actively solicit candidates for the BOARD and Lay Delegates, review applications, interview those qualified, and select those possessing the necessary behavioral attributes, governance knowledge, and technical/professional skills to be presented to the congregation for the election. By April 1, the BOARD, with input from the EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR / EXECUTIVE PASTOR and the Congregation, shall appoint seven (7) Members in Good Standing to serve as the Nominating Committee. These appointments shall be reviewed annually.

The following individuals shall not be eligible to serve on the Nominating Committee:

1. More than one individual from the same household, family, or committed relationship.

- 320 2. An employee of the CHURCH.
- 321 3. A clergy candidate
- 322 4. A member of the BOARD or individual from the same household, family, or committed
- 323 relationship.
- 324 5. A Lay Delegate.

325
326 The term of the Nominating Committee shall be seven months, beginning May 1 and
327 ending November 30 of each year. During the first meeting, the Nominating Committee
328 shall elect an individual from among its members as its Chair.

329
330 G. LAY DELEGATES

331
332 One (1) Lay Delegate shall be elected at the first Congregational Meeting following the
333 General Conference of UFMCC for every one hundred (100) Members In Good Standing or
334 portion thereof. Lay Delegates shall serve for three (3) years. The duties of the Lay
335 Delegate shall include, but not be limited to, representation of the Congregation at General
336 Conference and to be informed of local, and UFMCC concerns and issues. Lay Delegates
337 shall have been Members In Good Standing at the CHURCH for at least one (1) year.
338 Nominees who receive votes, but are not elected as Lay Delegates, shall be considered as
339 Alternate Lay Delegates and shall fill vacant Lay Delegate positions according to the priority
340 established by the number of votes received. Lay Delegates shall elect from among
341 themselves a leader, known as the Chair. The Lay Delegate receiving the largest number of
342 votes cast shall serve as Interim Chair and shall call an organizational meeting for the
343 purpose of electing the Chair. The Chair shall be responsible for ensuring that all Lay
344 Delegates are kept aware of their responsibilities, of meetings and conference dates and
345 agendas, and shall ensure that a report of all conferences and meetings is presented to the
346 BOARD and the Congregation in a timely manner. In the event that elected Lay Delegates
347 or Alternates are unable to attend a particular conference, the BOARD may appoint a
348 substitute for that conference only. In the event that the elected Lay Delegates of
349 Alternates are unable or unwilling to perform the duties of Lay Delegate, including but not
350 limited to, representation of the Congregation at General Conference, the BOARD may
351 appoint a qualified person to serve until the next Congregational Meeting when an election
352 will be held to fill the unexpired term.

- 353
354 1. DISCIPLINE: The church cannot condone disloyalty, unbecoming conduct, or dereliction
355 of duty on the part of any Lay Delegate or Alternate Lay Delegate. Therefore, the
356 BOARD may remove by a majority vote of the full BOARD any Lay
357 Delegate or Alternate Lay Delegate guilty of the above. A petition presented to the
358 BOARD and signed by twenty-five percent (25%) of the Members In Good Standing of
359 the Congregation may also initiate such a procedure.
- 360
361 2. APPEAL OF DISCIPLINE: A disciplined Lay Delegate or Alternate Lay Delegate may
362 appeal the action to the Congregation at its next regular Congregational Meeting or at a
363 special Congregational Meeting which may be called for that purpose. The decision of
364 the Congregational Meeting is final. Until the Congregational Meeting to consider the

365 appeal, the position held by the disciplined Lay Delegate shall be filled by an Alternate
366 Lay Delegate.

367
368 H. CONFLICTS WITHIN THE CHURCH

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370 When there are conflicts within the CHURCH that cannot be resolved, including
371 apparent irreconcilable differences between the Pastor and Congregation, (1) an
372 invitation by the Pastor/Interim Pastor Leader (2) a majority vote of the BOARD or
373 (3) a petition signed by a minimum of one-third (33%) of the members of the
374 CHURCH shall trigger intervention by UFMCC to attempt to resolve the conflict, in
375 accordance with UFMCC Bylaws.

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378 **ARTICLE IV - CHURCH MEMBERS AND FRIENDS**

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380 A. CRITERIA FOR MEMBERSHIP

381
382 After completing the CHURCH membership requirements, as established by the PASTOR
383 and affirmed by the BOARD, a person may become a Member of the CHURCH through the
384 Rite of Attaining Membership in the CHURCH. Members In Good Standing are members
385 who have registered attendance, identified financial support, made a definite service
386 contribution, and expressed interest and loyalty as determined by the BOARD. An Inactive
387 Member is a member who has been removed from the list of Members in Good Standing by
388 the BOARD.

389
390 A Member shall continue in membership until such time as the Member requests to be
391 removed from the list of Members In Good Standing or until death. The BOARD, may take
392 action to remove the Member from the list of Members In Good Standing. Such action by
393 the BOARD shall be done in accordance with the procedure as shown below:

- 394
395 1. The BOARD shall ensure that the membership roll is reviewed in the month of August of
396 each year.
- 397
398 2. The BOARD shall make note of Members who have not registered attendance, identified
399 financial support, made a definite service contribution, and demonstrated interest and
400 loyalty within the preceding period of one (1) year. The BOARD shall notify these
401 Members in writing that they are subject to being removed from the list of Members
402 and placed on a list of inactive Members.
- 403
404 3. The notified Members shall be given an opportunity to respond within one (1) month.
- 405
406 4. Following notification, the BOARD shall have the authority, at its discretion, to drop any
407 such Member from the local church membership roll. The BOARD shall take into account
408 the notified Member's response before placing them on the Inactive Members list.

409 5. The Inactive Member may request to be restored to the list of Members In Good
410 Standing. The BOARD may vote to restore the Inactive Member without a public
411 reception into membership.
412

413 B. FRIENDS OF THE CHURCH
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415 A person who, for one reason or another, feels unable to become a Member but who
416 supports the goals of the church and wants to be a part of the work of the church may be
417 designated as a "Friend of the Church."
418

- 419 1. The church shall not maintain a list of Friends of the Church.
420
421 2. Limitations on Friends of the Church – Friends may serve on appointed committees and
422 may participate in all activities of the church. Friends may not vote at Congregational
423 Meetings, serve on the BOARD, or serve as Lay Delegate or Alternate Lay Delegate.
424 Friends shall not be considered in determining the number of Lay Delegates.
425

426 C. DISCIPLINE
427

428 The church cannot condone disloyalty or unbecoming conduct on the part of any Member
429 or Friend. The BOARD is empowered to remove by majority vote any Member or Friend or
430 take other appropriate disciplinary action.
431

432 RIGHT TO APPEAL: The action of the Board may be appealed to the next regular
433 Congregational Meeting or a Special Congregational Meeting called for that purpose. The
434 decision of the Congregational Meeting is final. Pending the outcome of the appeal of
435 discipline, the disciplined Member shall remain under discipline and shall retain the right to
436 vote at regular and Special Congregational Meetings, including the Congregational Meeting
437 held to consider the appeal. Pending the outcome of the appeal of discipline, the
438 disciplined Friend shall remain under discipline until a decision is reached at the next
439 regular Congregational Meeting or a Special Congregational Meeting
440 called for that purpose.
441

- 442 1. Appeal Process - The request for an appeal shall be submitted to the CLERK of the
443 BOARD within thirty (30) days of the disciplinary action taken by the BOARD.
444
445 2. The BOARD may consider the appeal and reverse its earlier decision without taking the
446 matter to the Congregational Meeting.
447
448 3. Should the BOARD sustain its earlier decision and the disciplined Member or Friend
449 wishes the appeal to continue, the request shall be included as an agenda item for the
450 next regular Congregational Meeting or a Special Congregational Meeting called for the
451 purpose of considering the appeal.
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ARTICLE V - CHURCH MEETINGS

Government of the CHURCH is vested in its Congregational Meeting, which exerts the right to control of its affairs, subject to the provisions of the UFMCC Articles of Incorporation, Bylaws, or documents of legal organization, and the General Conference.

- A. TIME AND PLACE: An Annual Congregational Meeting shall be held each year in the Fall. The time and place of the annual Congregational Meeting shall be determined by the BOARD.
- B. NOTIFICATION: The BOARD shall ensure that Members are notified at least two (2) weeks in advance.
- C. VOTING RIGHTS: Each Member In Good Standing has the right to vote. Proxy or any other form of absentee voting shall not be allowed.
- D. VOTES REQUIRED FOR APPROVAL: Decisions, including elections, requires approval by a vote of more than fifty percent (50%) of those Members present and voting, unless otherwise required by UFMCC Bylaws or otherwise stated in these local church Bylaws. The congregational vote to elect the PASTOR requires approval by a vote of seventy five percent (75%) or more of those members present and voting.
- E. QUORUM: In order to transact business, no less than fifteen percent (15%) of the Members In Good Standing must be present.
- F. AGENDA: The agenda for Congregational Meetings shall be determined by the BOARD.
 - 1. CONTENT: The agenda shall include, but not be limited to, election of members to the BOARD, election of Lay Delegates in the appropriate year, presentation of financial report, approval of budget, and receiving reports from the BOARD and the PASTOR.
 - 2. ADDITIONS TO AGENDA: Members may request the BOARD to add agenda items by submitting additional agenda items to the CLERK no later than four (4) weeks prior to the meeting.
- G. ELECTIONS: All votes for positions shall be taken by secret ballot. Votes of affirmation from the floor are not permitted.
- H. SPECIAL CONGREGATIONAL MEETINGS: In addition to the Annual Congregational Meeting, special Congregational Meetings may also be held. Special Congregational Meetings are governed by the same rules as those pertaining to the Annual Congregational Meeting.

- 498 1. CALLING A SPECIAL CONGREGATIONAL MEETING: A special Congregational
499 Meeting may be called either by (a) majority vote of the BOARD, (b) the PASTOR, or
500 (c) a petition signed by at least twenty percent (20%) of the Members In Good
501 Standing and submitted to the CLERK.
502 2. The nature and purpose of the special Congregational Meeting shall be stated in the
503 petition and in announcements and be written into the agenda.
504

505 **ARTICLE VI - CHURCH FINANCES**

- 506
507 A. The CHURCH adopts and teaches tithing and stewardship as prescribed in UFMCC
508 Bylaws.
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510 B. The BOARD shall ensure that all CHURCH receipts are reported each month to UFMCC
511 as prescribed in UFMCC Bylaws.
512
513 C. Whenever possible, all funds shall be disbursed by bank checks, which shall bear two
514 (2) authorized signatures. Authorized signatories are the members of the BOARD.
515
516 D. Annual income and expense budgets for the next fiscal year must be submitted by the
517 BOARD to the Congregation for approval at the Congregational Meeting. To fulfill their
518 responsibility to manage the cash flow, the BOARD has authority if there is a sufficient
519 excess of income over expenses to increase the approved annual expense budget by up
520 to ten percent (10%) of the approved annual expense budget, or if there is insufficient
521 income to meet budgeted annual expenses to decrease the approved expense budget.
522 A greater increase in the approved annual expense budget shall require the approval of
523 a simple majority vote at a Congregational Meeting.
524
525 E. Any agreements regarding lease, purchase, sale and/or physical location of the
526 CHURCH, must be approved by a three-fourths (3/4) majority vote of the Members In
527 Good Standing present at any Congregational Meeting.
528
529 F. The fiscal year shall run from January 1 through December 31.
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531 **ARTICLE VII - RESERVATION OF POWERS**

532
533 All powers not delegated by UFMCC Bylaws are reserved to the CHURCH. All power not
534 delegated by these the CHURCH Bylaws are reserved to the Members In Good Standing of the
535 CHURCH and may be exercised by the voting members in meetings of the CHURCH.
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537 **ARTICLE VIII - AMENDMENTS**

- 538
539 A. ADOPTION: These Bylaws shall become effective immediately upon adoption by the
540 Congregational Meeting and approval by an Elder.
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542 B. AMENDMENTS: These Bylaws may be amended or repealed at any duly convened
543 Annual Congregational Meeting. Proposed amendments or repeals shall be submitted in

544 writing to the BOARD no later than ninety (90) days prior to the Congregational Meeting
545 at which the proposal is to be considered. Adoption of the amendment or the repeal
546 shall require approval by a two-thirds (2/3) affirmative vote and is subject to approval
547 by UFMCC. Amendments that are necessitated by amendments made to the UFMCC
548 Bylaws shall not require approval by the congregation.