## Revival Slavic Baptist Church

# Bylaws

Adopted by the congregation on 18<sup>th</sup> of May 2008

## Contents

1.	General positions	1
	1.1. Principles	1
	1.2. Church name	1
	1.3. Foundation	1
	1.4. Legal status	1
	1.5. Autonomy	1
	1.6. Relation to authorities.	1
	1.7. Responsibilities	1
	1.8. Legal address	1
2.	Church activities	1
	2.1. Services and worship	2
	2.2. Christian Holidays	2
	2.3. Additional activities	2
	2.4. Rites	2
3.	Church organization	3
	3.1. Membership	3
	3.2. Church leadership	5
	3.3. Church departments	8
4.	Minister and servant selection	9
	4.3.1. Senior Pastor	9
	4.3.2. Associate Pastor to Senior Pastor	9
	4.3.3. Church Pastor	9
	4.3.4. Church Deacon	9
5.	Church Discipline	12
	5.1. Rights of servants	
	5.2. Violations	12
	5.3. Means of discipline	12
	5.4. Application of disciplinary means	13
	5.5. Reinstatement to membership	13
6.	Property and financial and economic activity	13
	6.1. Church means.	13
	6.2. Financial management	14
	6.3. Expenses	14
	6.4. Church property	14
	6.5. Employees	14
	6.6. Financial accountability	14
7.	Amendments	15
8.	Dissolution	15
	8.1. Decision to dissolve.	15
	8.2. Liquidation committee	15
	8.3 Decisions	15

#### 1. General positions

- 1.1. Principles. Revival Slavic Baptist Church ("Church") is a voluntary organization of Evangelical Baptist Christian believers, organized for fellowship and worship of God, spiritual growth, spread of the Gospel, raising children and youth in the spirit of the Gospel, and works of mercy and service.
- 1.2. The name of the Church is Revival Slavic Baptist Church.
- 1.3. Foundation. The foundation of doctrine and this document is the Bible, the Word of God, including the books of the Old and New Testaments, Synodal edition, in its canonical make as a complete guide for our lives and salvation in Christ Jesus.
- 1.4. Legal status: The Church is a nonprofit corporation incorporated on September 20, 1999 in the state of Washington, USA. The Church has a simple round seal with the words "Revival Slavic Baptist Church, Incorporated Sep 20, 1999".
- 1.5. Autonomy. The Church in spiritual and organizational leadership is independent of the local and national governments, and any sort of unions or organizations. The Church may participate in joint projects and have fellowship with Churches that have related doctrinal understandings. The Church may also enter into organizations and unions without risking its autonomy.
- 1.6. Relation to authorities.
  - 1.6.1. We recognize obedience to US laws, so long as the laws do not contradict the Bible and do not restrict fulfilling the duties of the Christian faith.
  - 1.6.2. We recognize that the Scriptures forbid the use of an oath, but that in special cases it is possible to promise and call God as a witness to the truth.
  - 1.6.3. We recognize that no force or duress should be used toward those who by a calling of conscience ask to be relieved of bearing arms and warfare. The question of bearing arms is a personal matter of each Christian.
- 1.7. Responsibilities. The Church is responsible for its own affairs and duties and not for the duties of its member. Similarly, members are not responsible for Church responsibilities and duties.
- 1.8. Legal address:

Revival Slavic Baptist Church 3225 S 288TH ST AUBURN, WA 98001

#### 2. Church activities

The main activities of the Church include:

- 2.1. Services and worship in the house of prayer. During these gatherings the Gospel is preached, prayer is offered, various songs are sung, spiritual poetry is recited, and worship is offered on musical instruments. Youth and children participate in all services.
- 2.2. The Church recognizes the following Christian Holidays:
  - Christmas
  - New Year
  - Theophany (Baptism of the Lord)
  - Candlemas (Presentation of Our Lord in the Temple)
  - Annunciation of Mary
  - Palm Sunday (Entry into Jerusalem)
  - Maundy Thursday
  - Easter Resurrection of the Lord
  - Ascension Day
  - Pentecost
  - Transfiguration
  - Celebration of Harvest (Day of Thanksgiving)
- 2.3. The Church also carries out activities of spiritual care, ministry, service outside the Church, conferences for children and youth, Sunday school, retreats, seminars, conferences, creative publications, and television and radio broadcasting.

#### 2.4. Rites

In its service, the Church carries out the following rites:

- Baptism
- The Eucharist
- Ordination
- Anointing and prayer over the sick
- Matrimony
- Blessing of the children

## 2.4.1. Baptism in water

- 2.4.1.1. Baptism is a commandment of the Lord (Mark 16.16; Matthew 28.19) and is carried out on each sincerely repentant person who promises to God in good conscience and desires to join the local Church.
- 2.4.1.2. An ordained Pastor baptizes though immersion in an open body of water or a baptistery.

- 2.4.1.3. After baptism, the person baptized is prayed over with a laying of hands.
- 2.4.1.4. The Church does not baptize infants.

#### 2.4.2. The Eucharist

- 2.4.2.1. The Eucharist is a commandment of the Lord (Luke 11.19) and is carried out by the Senior Pastor or other ordained servant at his discretion.
- 2.4.2.2. Members and guests who are Evangelical Baptists may participate in Eucharist according to the convictions in their hearts.
- 2.4.2.3. The Eucharist is carried out through the breaking of bread and sharing a cup of wine. (1 Corinthians 11.23-25)
- 2.4.2.4. The Eucharist takes place, as a rule, every first Sunday of every month and on Maundy Thursday.

#### 2.4.3. Ordination and laying of hands

- 2.4.3.1. Ordination occurs when a person is dedicated to service as a Deacon or Pastor, after selection and confirmation by the Church.
- 2.4.3.2. Only an ordained Pastor or Pastors may perform the ordination rite.

## 2.4.4. Prayer and anointment of the sick

Prayer and anointment of the sick is carried out by the Pastor or Pastors over any ill person at his or her request. (James 5.14-15).

## 2.4.5. Matrimony

Matrimony with prayer and a laying of hands is carried out by any Pastor of the Church over a man and a woman who are members of the Evangelical Baptist faith, and who desire to enter into a familial life together. In special cases, counseling and advice is given and there is prayer without the laying of hands.

## 2.4.6. Blessing of children

Prayer about the blessing of children is carried out with parental desire according to the example given by Jesus Christ (Mark.10.13-16; Matthew 19.13-15)

## 3. Church organization

## 3.1. Membership

- 3.1.1. Any person who believes in Jesus Christ as a personal Savior and has been born again and who has been baptized by immersion in water with faith in Jesus Christ, regardless of race, nationality, or social position, can be a member of the Church.
- 3.1.2. The following are excluded from membership:
  - a person who does not fulfill all of the requirements of 3.1.1;
  - a person professing spiritual baptism with speaking in tongues;
  - a person with aggressive psychological deviations (possession);
  - a person supporting same-sex marriages.
- 3.1.3. Acceptance of recent converts

The acceptance to membership of recent converts to the faith occurs in the following way:

- a new convert expresses the desire to be baptized to the Pastor;
- the convert is taught foundations of the faith and bylaws;
- Church servants visit the new convert and family at their home for personal discussion
- during a member meeting, the new convert is tested about the sincerity of faith in Jesus Christ and the second birth;
- the new convert is baptized.
- 3.1.4. Acceptance of members from other Churches
  - 3.1.4.1. Acceptance to membership in the local Church of those coming from other Evangelical Baptist Christians Churches occurs in the following way:
    - The potential member expresses the desire to join the Church to the Senior Pastor;
    - The potential member becomes familiar with the bylaws;
    - The potential member meets with the Pastor not more than one month following the expressed desire to join. It is recommended to have a letter of recommendation from the previous church;
    - The potential member is accepted to full membership during the next member meeting through voting after witness by the potential member and Pastor.
  - 3.1.4.2. Acceptance of members to the local Church of those coming from other churches that are not Evangelical Baptist Christian is first examined by a committee of Pastors and Deacons.
- 3.1.5. Separation from membership in the local Church

Those who want to no longer be a member of the local Church express the desire to the Pastor. The request is told to the congregation in the general service, and if needed during a memberr meeting. Those who leave for more than three months without notice, lose membership in the local Church. In case of a transfer to a different church, one of the Pastors will contact Pastors of the other church, in writing or orally, to ensure proper transfer of spiritual care for the transferring member.

## 3.1.6. Member rights and responsibilities

#### 3.1.6.1. Church members have the following rights:

- Right to vote during decisions of Church questions, Church leadership and servants, and directors of ministries
- Right to participate in gatherings, services, and to help run the Church in accordance with the behaviors in section 4.
- Right to obtain information about the financial status of the Church, in accordance with section 6.6;
- Right to voluntarily stop membership in the local Church.

## 3.1.6.2. Members have the following responsibilities:

- To live in full agreement with the teaching of our Lord, Jesus Christ;
- To spread the light of the Gospels in life, both in word and deed;
- To be concerned with and pray for the blessing of one's family, Church, city, and nation (Jeremiah 29.7; 1 Timothy 2.1-3);
- To aspire to achieve unity (Romans 16.7);
- Regularly attend services and participate in the Eucharist;
- Actively participate in Church life and serve the Lord with the given gifts;
- carry out one's service diligently and regularly attend Church events (rehearsals, studies, and so on) with an appearance becoming to the saints;
- Parents who are members of the Church must raise their children in accordance to the Holy Scriptures, with mindfulness of their physical and spiritual states. When necessary, parents may use physical punishment for their disobedience;
- carry out the decisions made during member meetings;
- carry out the regulations of the bylaws;
- actively be involved in material offerings;
- safeguard the mystery of the Church.

## 3.2. Church leadership

#### 3.2.1. Church member meeting

- 3.2.1.1. The member meeting is the most authoritative body that governs the Church. It can make decisions about any questions regarding the Church when more than 50% of the general membership is in attendance, except for sections 4.3.1.2; 4.3.1.6; 4.3.2.6; 4.3.3.5; 4.3.4.5; 6.5.3; 6.5.4; 7; which require an attendance of at least 60% of the listed membership of the Church.
- 3.2.1.2. The member meeting is a meeting of members of the local Church. At the request of the Senior Pastor, members of other Churches may be present. Invited guests cannot vote on Church issues.
- 3.2.1.3. Member meetings are called when necessary.
- 3.2.1.4. An unscheduled member meeting may be called by:
  - the Senior Pastor:
  - a committee of Deacons and Pastors;
- 3.2.1.5. Decisions during member meetings about key issues (except for sections 4.3.1.2; 4.3.1.6; 4.3.2.6; 4.3.3.5; 4.3.4.5; 6.5.3; 6.5.4; 7) are carried out through voting by a show of hands or secret ballot in a scheduled member meeting. The result is determined by the majority vote based on those present. If a member is unable to attend for a good reason, voting by electronic or conventional mail, or by phone is allowed. The receipt and recording of the vote by the Secretary of the church is done in the presence of at least one witness a member of the Elder Committee.
- 3.2.1.6. Members not present during a meeting where a decision takes place are obligated to follow the decision of the majority.
- 3.2.1.7. The Senior Pastor, his appointee, or other trusted person in the Church conducts member meetings.
- 3.2.1.8. The secretary records meeting notes.

#### 3.2.2. Pastor committee

- 3.2.2.1. The Senior Pastor heads the Pastor committee.
- 3.2.2.2. Ordained Pastors chosen by the local Church take part in the Pastor committee.
- 3.2.2.3. The Pastor committee answers to the member meeting and carries out the decisions of the members.
- 3.2.2.4. Meetings of the Pastor committee shall be convened by the Pastors as necessary and at the initiative of one or more Pastors.
- 3.2.2.5. Except for the Senior Pastor, the Pastor committee shall have at least one Pastor for each 100 members.

#### 3.2.3. Elder committee

- 3.2.3.1. Between member meetings, the governing body is the elder committee.
- 3.2.3.2. Servants chosen and confirmed by the Church comprise the elder committee.
- 3.2.3.3. The elder committee meets when necessary.

#### 3.2.4. Committee of brothers

3.2.4.1. All male members of the Church are included in the committee of brothers. The committee meets when necessary, at the discretion of the Pastor committee.

#### 3.2.5. Senior Pastor

- 3.2.5.1. The Senior Pastor heads Church direction, the Pastor committee, and the elder committee
- 3.2.5.2. Senior Pastor responsibilities:
  - general guidance of and responsibility for all services and Church events;
  - organization and carrying out of worship;
  - organization, caretaking, and aid in all Church ministries and departments;
  - leading the member meetings, Pastor committee, elder committee, and committee of brothers;
  - Fulfilling spiritual needs in the Church;
  - spiritual teaching of Pastors, Deacons, preachers, and other Church servants;
  - spiritual care about the Church members;
  - representing the spiritual interests of the Church before ruling bodies and governments;
  - yearly account before the Church regarding his work, and also the work of the Pastor committee and elder committee.

## 3.2.5.3. Senior Pastor rights:

- has the right to demand an account from Church members regarding their behavior;
- has the right to discover and get involved with conflicts in the lives of members and their families;
- if needed, announce deeds done by Church members;
- acts as the legal president of the corporation;
- has the right to represent Church interests and the Church before governing bodies and organizations;
- has signatory authority to enter into agreements, contracts, and needed documents on behalf of the Church.

#### 3.2.6. Associate Pastor

- 3.2.6.1. To aid the Senior Pastor in leadership and care, the Church selects an Associate Pastor.
- 3.2.6.2. The Associate Pastor carries out all the functions of the Senior Pastor at the Senior Pastor's direction and in his absence.

#### 3.3. Church departments

#### 3.3.1. Deacons

- 3.3.1.1. To fulfill the practical and spiritual needs of the Church in accordance with Scripture (Acts 6.1-6;), the Church selects Deacons. There shall be one Deacon for every 30 members.
- 3.3.1.2. Deacons are obligated to assist the Pastor in Church work: participate in administering the Eucharist, visit Church members, engage in discussions with Church members and inquire about their needs, and aid in organizing Church events.
- 3.3.1.3. The Senior Pastor and the elder committee determine the division of tasks for Deacons.

#### 3.3.2. Finance committee

- 3.3.2.1. To make decisions and resolve questions related to finances, the Church elects the head of the finance committee.
- 3.3.2.2. General service committee
- 3.3.2.3. To make decisions and resolve questions related to property and other material matters, the Church elects the head of the general service committee.
- 3.3.2.4. Secretary

The Secretary is selected for implementing and recording acts and decisions of the Church and Church committee.

3.3.2.5. Accountant

The Accountant is selected for maintaining and performing accounting and records of the Church.

3.3.2.6. Cashier

The cashier is selected to perform cash and account operations.

#### 3.3.3. Audit committee

- 3.3.3.1. The Church selects three people for the audit committee to check and verify Church financial activities and transactions.
- 3.3.3.2. A committee head is chosen from the committee.

- 3.3.3.3. The committee performs a financial and asset audit at least once per year and records findings. The committee discloses finding to the members during a member meeting.
- 3.3.3.4. Members of the audit committee are chosen for a period of one year.

## 3.3.4. Church ministries and departments

To best fulfill the purpose of the Church in specific functions, the Church forms departments and ministries. The elder committee selects a director of each department with subsequent confirmation by members during a member meeting.

- 3.3.4.1. A musical and vocal department is formed to carry out musical and vocal service. This department consists of choir conductors of active choirs and the directors of orchestras and bands.
- 3.3.4.2. A youth ministry and department is formed for work with the youth.
- 3.3.4.3. For work with adolescents, a department is formed.
- 3.3.4.4. A department is formed for work with children. The directors of Russian and Sunday schools are a part of this department, as are the conductors for children choirs.
- 3.3.4.5. For the spread of the Gospel and missionary work, a missionary department is formed.
- 3.3.4.6. Other departments may be formed as needed.

#### 4. Minister and servant selection

- 4.1. The Church selects a number of servants (Pastors, Deacons, etc) in accordance with section 3.2.2.5 and 3.3.1.1.
- 4.2. Any member may nominate a person for candidacy for any service and position.
- 4.3. Selection procedures

#### 4.3.1. The Senior Pastor

4.3.1.1. The Senior Pastor may be any male who at the moment of selection actively carries out service in the local Church for at least one year and fulfills the requirements listed in Scripture (1 Peter 5.1-5; 1 Timothy 3.1-7; Titus. 1.6-9).

- 4.3.1.2. The Senior Pastor is selected for a period of three years with the possibility for subsequent terms. After this period, he gives an account and surrenders his powers as a Senior Pastor. The Church has the right to approve him for the next term with 2/3 of the votes of Church members in attendance at the member meeting. The senior elder is elected at a Member Meeting, with the presence of at least 60% of listed church members, and with 2/3 of the votes of those present. Senior Pastor may be released from service due to a personal request, and in case of non-conformance to the biblical principles and characteristics of a Minister in 1 Tim. 3:1-7, Titus 1:6-9 and 1 Pet. 5:1-3 (see Section 5.3.6). The decision to release a Pastor from service is done in the same manner as during selection, at the proposal of the elder committee.
- 4.3.1.3. In case of suspension of service Senior Pastor for the reasons given in section 4.3.1.2 and 5.3.6, the active elder committee sets a period of one month for nominations of candidates for Senior Pastor.
- 4.3.1.4. The elder committee examines each nomination.
- 4.3.1.5. After one month, all nominated candidates are presented before Church members.
- 4.3.1.6. Voting is done during a predetermined and announced special member meeting (with prayer and fasting) through secret ballot. 2/3 of the present members must vote for a candidate to be elected.

#### 4.3.2. Associate Pastor to Senior Pastor

- 4.3.2.1. The Associate Pastor chosen as an aid to the Senior Pastor may be any male who at the moment of selection actively carries out service in the local Church for at least one year and fulfills the requirements listed in Scripture (1 Peter 5.1-5; 1 Timothy 3.1-7; Titus. 1.6-9).
- 4.3.2.2. The selection of the Associate Pastor and his release from service is performed in the same manner as in the case of the Senior Pastor (see section 4.3.1.2 and 5.3.6).
- 4.3.2.3. The active elder committee sets a period of one month for nominations of candidates for Associate Pastor to the Senior Pastor.
- 4.3.2.4. The elder committee examines each nomination
- 4.3.2.5. After one month, all nominated candidates are presented before Church members.
- 4.3.2.6. Voting is done during a predetermined and announced special member meeting (with prayer and fasting) through secret ballot. 2/3 of the present members must vote for a candidate to be elected.

- 4.3.3.1. Any male 25-60 years old who at the moment of selection actively carries out service in the local Church for at least one year and fulfills the requirements listed in Scripture (1 Peter 5.1-5; 1 Timothy 3.1-7; Titus 1.6-9) may be chosen to service as a Pastor.
- 4.3.3.2. The active elder committee sets a period of one month for nominations of candidates for Pastor.
- 4.3.3.3. The elder committee examines each nomination
- 4.3.3.4. After one month, all nominated candidates are presented before Church members
- 4.3.3.5. Voting is done during a predetermined and announced special member meeting (with prayer and fasting) through secret ballot or a show of hands. 2/3 of the present members must vote for a candidate to be elected.
- 4.3.3.6. A Pastor is selected for a trial period of not more than one year.

  After the trial period, the selected Pastor is ordained with a laying of hands.
- 4.3.3.7. Previously ordained Pastors who are selected for service and ministry in the local Church are not ordained again, but are confirmed by the local Church.

#### 4.3.4. Church Deacon

- 4.3.4.1. Any male 25-60 years old who at the moment of selection actively carries out service in the local Church for at least one year and fulfills the requirements listed in Scripture (1 Timothy 3.8-13) may be chosen to service as a Deacon.
- 4.3.4.2. The active elder committee sets a period of one month for nominations of candidates for Deacon.
- 4.3.4.3. The elder committee examines each nomination.
- 4.3.4.4. After one month, all nominated candidates are presented before Church members
- 4.3.4.5. Voting is done during a predetermined and announced special member meeting (with prayer and fasting) through secret ballot or a show of hands. 2/3 of the present members must vote for a candidate to be elected.
- 4.3.4.6. A Deacon is selected for a trial period of not more than one year. After the trial period, if the Deacon has not been previously ordained, the selected Deacon is ordained with a laying of hands.
- 4.3.4.7. Previously ordained Deacons who are selected for service and ministry in the local Church are not ordained again, but are confirmed by the local Church.

#### 5. Church Discipline

- 5.1. Deacons and Pastors have the right to:
  - Ask members for an account for their behavior in the Church, at home, in their families, at work, and in social places;
  - Investigate and delve into conflicts in member lives or the lives of their families;
  - If members violate Biblical principles, use methods of Church discipline for correction and growth.
  - Inform the Church of deeds done by Church members.
- 5.2. Violations of Biblical principles include: slander, deceit, foul language, speaking evil, excess, spousal infidelity, divorce, premarital sex, same-sex marriages, and other distortions (Leviticus 18.22-30; Romans 1.26-32), abortions, marriage with people who do not share Evangelical Baptist faith, occult practices of all kinds (Deuteronomy 18.9-12), smoking, use of alcohol, including beer.

## 5.3. Means of discipline

To maintain order and a normal Church life, in accordance with the Word of God, the following means are taken to discipline members when they violate the Word of God:

- 5.3.1. Edification 1 Thessalonians 5.11
- 5.3.2. Exposition and reproval Ephesians 5.11
- 5.3.3. Informing others 1 Timothy 5.20
- 5.3.4. Putting on notice 2 Thessalonians 3.14
  - 5.3.4.1. A Church member put on notice cannot participate in member meetings, participate in service, and cannot partake of the Eucharist.
  - 5.3.4.2. The duration of the notice is from one to six months, set on a case-by-case basis by the members.
  - 5.3.4.3. If in the duration of the notice a Church member does not repent, the member is subject to excommunication.
- 5.3.5. Excommunication 1 Corinthians 16.22; Matthew 18.15-17; 1 Corinthians 6.9-10
  - 5.3.5.1. An excommunicated member is removed from the Church list of members.
  - 5.3.5.2. An excommunicated member cannot be present during member meetings or participate in service.
  - 5.3.5.3. An excommunicated member cannot partake of the Eucharist, and should not be greeted, to be not subject to God's punishment.

#### 5.3.6. Termination of service

- 5.3.6.1. Any servant of the Church (Pastor, Deacon, and other members who carry out service in the Church) may stop their service.
- 5.3.6.2. The following are reasons why service may be terminated: falling into sin, splitting of the Church, heresy, not fulfilling the Holy Scriptures (1 Peter 5.1-5; 1 Timothy 1.6-9; 3.1-7), unsatisfactory performance, for health reasons, and for personal reasons.

## 5.4. Application of disciplinary means

- 5.4.1. The use of notice, excommunication, and termination of service are within the powers available to the members as a body with the recommendation of the elder committee.
- 5.4.2. If the sins of fornication and adultery are committed, the member is excommunicated from the time the sin occurs. After the revelation of this fact and telling it to the members during a member meeting, the question of reinstatement can only be examined after at least 6 months.

#### 5.5. Reinstatement to membership

- 5.5.1. The basis for reinstatement is repentance in the committed sin and a request to be reinstated.
- 5.5.2. The Pastor meets with the person to be reinstated for discussion not more than two weeks after the request.
- 5.5.3. The elder committee or the committee of brothers examines the matter.
- 5.5.4. The Pastor announces and presents during a member meeting the person to be reinstated.
- 5.5.5. With a majority vote of present members, the person may be reinstated as a member.
- 5.5.6. An ordained servant who has been excommunicated for sin may be reinstated as a regular member and may not participate in the administration of rites.

## 6. Property and financial and economic activity

#### 6.1. Church means.

Church means consist of:

- 6.1.1. Voluntary charitable contributions and contributions from pledges. The recommended form of contribution for members is a tithe.
- 6.1.2. Charitable contributions from other Churches, nonpolitical organizations, and private persons with a preliminary consideration and agreement with the elder committee.
- 6.1.3. Income from creative publishing and endeavors such as fundraisers, not considered business income unrelated to the functions of the Church.
- 6.1.4. Any other sources not forbidden by law or statute.

6.2. Financial management. The elder committee acts as the executive management body for Church finances.

## 6.3. Expenses

- 6.3.1. Church means are spent on the following: payment of rents and mortgages on real estate, reimbursement of expenses incurred by members while serving the Church, construction and maintenance, purchase of necessary property, salaries, merciful, missionary, charitable contributions, and other expenses not conflicting with Church policy and bylaws.
- 6.3.2. To order and account for expenses, the Church committee and elder committee may create subaccounts and segregated funds.
- 6.3.3. The elder committee with the Church committee prepares an annual budget, which is confirmed at the annual member meeting through open ballot with a majority of the votes.
- 6.3.4. Church assets are used only for Church expenses and needs, and cannot be shared among Church members for their private needs.
- 6.3.5. In case of excommunication, termination of membership, leaving for another Church, or Church split, contributions are not returned to Church members.

## 6.4. Church property

- 6.4.1. Church property may include buildings, structures, religious objects, creative, social, industrial, charitable, and cultural objects, money and securities, vehicles, and other property necessary to accomplish Church goals in accordance with the bylaws.
- 6.4.2. The Church may own property in other countries.
- 6.4.3. The Church may have accounts for checking and savings at a bank.

## 6.5. Employees

- 6.5.1. If needed, the Church may hire contractors and employees or support Church servants financially.
- 6.5.2. Regular employees of the Church must be members of the Church.
- 6.5.3. Wage and compensation is set by the committee of brothers and is confirmed by members during a member meeting though voting by a show of hands of 2/3 present.
- 6.5.4. All changes in compensation are examined by the committee of brothers and are confirmed by members during a member meeting by a 2/3 vote of those present.

## 6.6. Financial accountability

The Finance committee informs the Church about the financial activities and status of the Church.

#### 7. Amendments

Decisions to confirm, restate, change, or add to the bylaws are voted on a preannounced member meeting through voting by a show of hands. A 2/3 vote of those present confirms a change.

#### 8. Dissolution

- 8.1. The decision to terminate Church activity can only be made by members during a member meeting.
- 8.2. A liquidation committee is formed in case the Church is dissolved. The liquidation committee is empowered to make all decisions regarding the Church.
- 8.3. According to the decisions of the liquidation committee, rented Church property is returned to property owners, and any money, assets, and real or personal property remaining after payment of creditors are given to a sister or neighboring Church or the union to which the Church belonged.
- 8.4.
- 8.5.
- 8.6.
- 8.7. ---
- 8.8. Editor's note: this is a translated document; the original language document takes precedence over this translation in case of any discrepancies between the two.