

RESURRECTION METROPOLITAN COMMUNITY CHURCH

LOCAL BYLAWS

AN AFFILIATED CHURCH
OF THE
UNIVERSAL FELLOWSHIP
OF
METROPOLITAN COMMUNITY CHURCHES

1 **ARTICLE I - NAME AND AFFILIATION** 3
2 **ARTICLE II - PURPOSE** 3
3 **ARTICLE III - GOVERNMENT, ORGANIZATION, STRUCTURE, AND OFFICERS**..... 3
4 A. PASTOR 3
5 B. EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR / EXECUTIVE PASTOR 4
6 C. BOARD OF DIRECTORS 4
7 1. THE CORPORATE OFFICERS 6
8 PRESIDENT OF THE BOARD 6
9 MODERATOR OF THE BOARD 7
10 VICE-MODERATOR OF THE BOARD 7
11 THE TREASURER 7
12 THE CLERK 7
13 D. THE BYLAWS COMMITTEE 8
14 E. THE NOMINATING COMMITTEE 8
15 F. LAY DELEGATES 9
16 **ARTICLE IV - CHURCH MEMBERS AND FRIENDS**..... 9
17 A. CRITERIA FOR MEMBERSHIP 9
18 B. FRIENDS OF THE CHURCH 10
19 C. DISCIPLINE 10
20 **ARTICLE V - CHURCH MEETINGS** 11
21 **ARTICLE VI - CHURCH FINANCES** 12
22 **ARTICLE VII - RESERVATION OF POWERS** 13
23 **ARTICLE VIII - AMENDMENTS**..... 13

1 **ARTICLE I - NAME AND AFFILIATION**

- 2
- 3 A. The name of this church is Resurrection Metropolitan Community Church, (hereinafter
- 4 referred to as CHURCH). Except in legal documents the CHURCH may be called
- 5 Resurrection MCC.
- 6
- 7 B. The CHURCH was chartered by the Universal Fellowship of Metropolitan Community
- 8 Churches (hereinafter referred to as UFMCC) on April 20, 1975 and incorporated on
- 9 October 7, 1975 under the laws of the State of Texas.
- 10
- 11 C. The CHURCH acknowledges the authority of UFMCC Bylaws as adopted and/or
- 12 amended by the General Conference of UFMCC.
- 13

14 **ARTICLE II – PURPOSE**

15

16 The objectives of the CHURCH are:

17

- 18 A. To bind together individuals for the purpose of sharing in the worship of God in the
- 19 Christian tradition, and to make God’s will dominant in the lives of all people,
- 20 individually and collectively, as set forth in the Holy Scriptures.
- 21
- 22 B. To instruct people in theology and in allied subjects for the propagation of the teachings
- 23 of the Christian faith.
- 24
- 25 C. To instruct and encourage those who offer themselves to the teaching and philosophy
- 26 accepted by the CHURCH.
- 27
- 28 D. To do all things that are compatible with the work of a Christian Church.
- 29

30 **ARTICLE III - GOVERNMENT, ORGANIZATION, STRUCTURE, AND OFFICERS**

31

32 These provisions supplement and complement UFMCC Bylaws with respect to government,

33 organization and officers.

34

35 A. PASTOR

36

37 The PASTOR is a duly ordained and licensed clergy person of UFMCC who has been

38 elected by the Congregation of the CHURCH at a Congregational Meeting to be the

39 PRESIDENT and Chief Executive Officer of the corporation as the primary visionary and

40 futurist in order to advance the mission and vision of the CHURCH through the exercise

41 of prophetic challenge, creativity, spiritual and pastoral authority, and leadership. As the

42 primary CHURCH spokesperson, and the Chief Executive Officer, the PRESIDENT is a

43 voting member of the BOARD, and serves as personnel director; and determines,

44 subject to the BOARD’S approval, compensation, vacation periods, titles, and delegates

45 such responsibilities and duties as may seem wise. The PASTOR shall be responsible for

46 leading the visioning process for the CHURCH, having a presence at global events,

47 teaching, training, engaging in continuous learning, community relationships,

48 ecumenical relations, and global social justice. If no duly credentialed UFMCC clergy
49 person is available, an Elder may appoint an Interim Pastoral Leader annually.
50

- 51 a. The BOARD shall develop a Pastoral Employment Agreement between the PASTOR
52 and the CHURCH. The employment agreement shall include a job description and
53 address such matters as compensation, which are consistent with equitable local
54 standards, as well as benefits, allowances, and leave per the Resurrection
55 Metropolitan Community Church Employee Handbook. The PASTOR and the
56 CHURCH may choose at any time to terminate their relationship as set forth in the
57 Pastoral Employment Agreement. All provisions of the employment agreement shall
58 be subordinate to the Bylaws of the UFMCC.
59
- 60 b. The Pastoral Search Committee shall be responsible for presenting a qualified
61 candidate for election at a Congregational Meeting. The Pastoral Search Committee
62 shall develop and implement the Pastoral Search Process, in consultation with the
63 appropriate Elders, as set forth in the Committee's Standard Operating Procedure.
64

65 B. EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR / EXECUTIVE PASTOR
66

67 The EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR / EXECUTIVE PASTOR is accountable to the PASTOR,
68 partners with the BOARD, and is responsible for staff development, and the
69 implementation of strategic enhancement of ministries and operations. The EXECUTIVE
70 DIRECTOR / EXECUTIVE PASTOR shall have authority to implement the operating
71 policies issued by the BOARD. The EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR / EXECUTIVE PASTOR is a
72 non-voting member of the BOARD, and serves as the MODERATOR of the BOARD, and
73 Congregational Meetings.
74

75 C. BOARD OF DIRECTORS
76

77 The BOARD of Directors (hereinafter referred to as BOARD) shall have charge of all
78 matters pertaining to the Articles of Incorporation or documents of legal organization,
79 CHURCH property, and physical and financial affairs of the CHURCH. The BOARD shall
80 consist of eight (8) members elected for staggered terms, plus the PASTOR, who shall
81 serve as PRESIDENT and voting member of the BOARD, plus the EXECUTIVE
82 DIRECTOR / EXECUTIVE PASTOR who shall serve as MODERATOR and non-voting
83 member of the BOARD. BOARD Members, excluding the PASTOR and the MODERATOR,
84 must have been Members In Good Standing prior to their election and shall serve for a
85 term of two (2) years. BOARD Members may serve not more than four (4) full terms
86 consecutively. Consideration will be given to elect members with diverse perspectives,
87 core competencies, and complementary skills consistent with the required functions and
88 responsibilities of the BOARD. All BOARD Members must have passed a background
89 check as well as proven to be able to be bonded prior to election and assumption of
90 duties. Compensated employees of Resurrection Metropolitan Community Church,
91 excluding the PASTOR and the MODERATOR, shall not hold a seat on the CHURCH's
92 BOARD. Any member of the BOARD who wishes to become a compensated employee
93 must first resign their position on the BOARD. A person is not eligible to serve on the
94 BOARD if they are a clergy candidate, a Lay Delegate, or an individual from the same

- 95 household, family, or committed relationship with an employee, BOARD, or Nominating
96 Committee member.
97
- 98 a. In the event of a vacancy on the BOARD, the BOARD may appoint a qualified person
99 to serve until the next Congregational Meeting when an election will be held to fill
100 the unexpired term.
101
- 102 b. The BOARD is accountable for managing the collection and disbursal of funds,
103 maintenance of CHURCH records, managing the cash flow, and reporting to the
104 Congregation and UFMCC.
105
- 106 c. The BOARD shall also have the responsibility and authority for issuing operating
107 policies.
108
- 109 d. In the absence of the MODERATOR, the roles and responsibilities of the
110 MODERATOR will be assumed by the VICE-MODERATOR. In the extended absence
111 of the MODERATOR, the BOARD may appoint an Interim MODERATOR until such
112 time as the MODERATOR is no longer absent.
113
- 114 e. A quorum shall consist of the MODERATOR or Acting MODERATOR and six (6) other
115 members of the BOARD. A simple majority of the members present and voting shall
116 determine all issues except as otherwise provided for in these Bylaws.
117
- 118 f. The BOARD shall meet at least once a month. Upon agreement of three (3)
119 members of the BOARD, a special meeting may be called. All members must be
120 notified, and the majority of active members must agree on a date and time. Special
121 BOARD meetings may also be called by the MODERATOR or the PASTOR.
122
- 123 g. The approved minutes of all BOARD meetings must be made available to the
124 Congregation upon request.
125
- 126 h. The BOARD shall elect the corporate officers of Vice-MODERATOR, CLERK and
127 TREASURER and whatever other BOARD officers it deems appropriate.
128
- 129 i. The CHURCH cannot condone disloyalty, unbecoming conduct, or dereliction of duty
130 on the part of any member of the BOARD and, therefore, makes the following
131 provisions for discipline or removal: If the BOARD determines that one of its
132 members is unable or unwilling to fulfill the responsibilities of the position, the
133 BOARD may, by a vote of two-thirds (2/3) of the BOARD, recommend that the
134 BOARD remove that member from position. A petition presented to the BOARD and
135 signed by twenty-five percent (25%) of the Members In Good Standing of the
136 Congregation may also initiate such a procedure. The member must be given
137 written notice of the charges and, at that time, becomes inactive. The member has
138 the right to appear and present his/her own defense before the BOARD on his/her
139 own behalf. The BOARD will then review the charges, and, upon majority vote of the
140 BOARD, may remove the member of the BOARD or take such other action as it may
141 deem appropriate. The decision of the BOARD shall be final.

142
143 j. All BOARD Members must be able to be bonded. Should a BOARD Member no longer
144 be able to be bonded, that individual shall in writing inform the CLERK of the BOARD
145 that he/she is resigning from the BOARD immediately.
146

147 k. RESIGNATIONS

148
149 i. ACTUAL RESIGNATIONS: Any member of the BOARD, excluding the PRESIDENT
150 and the MODERATOR, who wishes to relinquish their position, shall submit, in
151 writing, their request for acceptance of their resignation to the MODERATOR of
152 the BOARD, stating reasons for the action, effective date and any other pertinent
153 facts or information. This letter shall be submitted prior to the effective date of
154 the resignation. The MODERATOR will inform the BOARD at the next regular
155 BOARD meeting. The person resigning may or may not, at that person's sole
156 discretion, be present at the meeting of the BOARD.
157

158 ii. ASSUMED RESIGNATIONS: If any member of the BOARD, excluding the
159 PRESIDENT and the MODERATOR, fails to attend two (2) consecutive monthly
160 meetings, that person may have their resignation assumed. By a majority vote of
161 the BOARD a letter will be sent by the CLERK to notify the individual that
162 absence from the next meeting will automatically indicate their resignation. If the
163 next meeting is missed, by a majority vote of the BOARD a letter will be sent by
164 the CLERK to the individual stating that the individual's implied resignation is
165 regretfully accepted. Past services should be acknowledged with gratitude in this
166 final letter.
167

168 I. SENIOR PASTOR VACANCY

169
170 i. In the event of a vacancy in the position of PASTOR, the BOARD shall determine
171 whether to appoint an Interim Pastor and initiate the Pastoral Search Process.
172 This will include formation of the Pastoral Search Committee, and the type of
173 search, i.e. open application, full executive, or other.

174 ii. The Pastoral Search Committee shall consist of nine (9) members, including the
175 five (5) members of the BOARD and four (4) additional members selected by the
176 BOARD. The Pastoral Search Committee members should rank high in five (5)
177 areas: spiritual maturity and sensitivity, ability to work well in a committee
178 setting, listening, and communication skills, discernment, and involvement in the
179 ministries of the CHURCH. An understanding of leadership, as well as project
180 management and administrative skills, will also be helpful.
181

182 1. THE CORPORATE OFFICERS

183
184 PRESIDENT OF THE BOARD

185
186 The PASTOR shall be the PRESIDENT and serves as a voting member of the BOARD.
187 The PRESIDENT shall establish the church's vision, provide spiritual leadership to the
188 BOARD, and empower and guide the BOARD.

189
190
191
192
193
194
195
196
197
198
199
200
201
202
203
204
205
206
207
208
209
210
211
212
213
214
215
216
217
218
219
220
221
222
223
224
225
226
227
228
229
230
231
232
233
234
235

MODERATOR OF THE BOARD

The EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR / EXECUTIVE PASTOR shall be the MODERATOR and serves as a non-voting member of the BOARD. The MODERATOR shall moderate all BOARD meetings. The MODERATOR 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.

VICE-MODERATOR OF THE BOARD

Elected from and by the BOARD, shall work with the MODERATOR to set the BOARD meeting agenda and manage BOARD member accountability. The VICE-MODERATOR shall serve as MODERATOR in the occasional absence of the MODERATOR or upon the request of the MODERATOR.

THE TREASURER

Elected from and by the BOARD, shall be responsible for ensuring the receipt and safekeeping of all funds of the CHURCH, including all subsidiary and deposited accounts, and that all monies are disbursed only in accordance with the Operating Budget approved by the Congregational Meeting or as revised by the BOARD. The TREASURER shall ensure that whenever possible, all funds shall be disbursed by bank checks, which checks shall bear two (2) authorized signatures. The TREASURER shall prepare or cause to be prepared and presented at the March Congregational meeting, a financial report covering all CHURCH funds and accounts, including a statement of funds on hand at the beginning of the fiscal year, amounts received and disbursed, and amounts on hand in each of such funds at the close of the fiscal year. The CHURCH financial records shall be reviewed annually by an Internal Review Committee appointed by the BOARD or an independent auditor named by the BOARD. The TREASURER shall perform such additional duties as may be assigned by the BOARD. The TREASURER shall be responsible for ensuring the preparation and maintenance of all financial records. This shall include a monthly financial report to the Board and an annual financial report to the Congregation. The monthly and annual financial reports shall reflect receipts, disbursements, and outstanding financial obligations.

THE CLERK

Elected from and by the BOARD, shall perform the duties as Secretary of the Corporation and such duties as may be assigned by the BOARD. The CLERK shall be responsible for ensuring maintenance of official correspondence and church records, proper notice of all authorized meetings of the CHURCH, including Congregational Meetings and BOARD meetings, recording minutes of all business transacted at such meetings of the BOARD and of the Congregation, and a complete record of all Members and Friends is maintained, showing time and mode of admission and other personal data. The CLERK shall also be responsible for ensuring that a record of Baptisms, Holy

236 Unions, deaths, etc. is maintained. The BOARD may delegate the performance of duties
237 of the CLERK, as it deems appropriate. The CLERK is the officer authorized to receive
238 petitions submitted to the Board of Directors.
239

240 D. THE BYLAWS COMMITTEE

241
242 Shall be appointed by the BOARD and shall perform such duties as may be assigned by
243 the BOARD. The Committee shall review the CHURCH Bylaws for consistency and
244 ensure conformity of the CHURCH Bylaws and Operating Procedures with UFMCC
245 Bylaws. It shall prepare for BOARD review proposed changes and statements of
246 rationale and communicate these proposed changes to the Bylaws, if any, to the
247 Congregation for final approval. The make-up of the Committee shall be: one (1)
248 member who shall be a BOARD member and who shall act as liaison to and from the
249 BOARD; three (3) members from the Congregation at large, one (1) of whom shall be
250 Chair; and one (1) staff member who shall be appointed by the PASTOR. Additional
251 non-voting members may serve on the Committee at the discretion of the Chair. The
252 term of office shall be two (2) years.
253

254 E. THE NOMINATING COMMITTEE

255
256 The Nominating Committee reviews and develops the procedures of the Nominating
257 Committee, and leads the process for recruiting BOARD and Lay Delegate candidates.
258 The responsibility of the Nominating Committee is to actively solicit candidates for the
259 BOARD and Lay Delegates, review applications, interview those qualified, and select
260 those possessing the necessary behavioral attributes, governance knowledge, and
261 technical/professional skills be presented to the congregation for the election. The
262 BOARD, with input from the PASTOR and the Congregation, shall appoint seven (7)
263 Members in Good Standing to serve as the Nominating Committee. These appointments
264 shall be reviewed annually.
265

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

- 267
- 268 a. More than one individual from the same household, family, or committed
269 relationship.
 - 270 b. An employee of the CHURCH.
 - 271 c. A clergy candidate.
 - 272 d. A member of the BOARD or individual from the same household, family, or
273 committed relationship.
 - 274 e. A Lay Delegate.
- 275

276 During the first meeting held after June 1 each year, the Nominating Committee shall
277 elect an individual from among its members as its Chair. The term of office of the
278 Nominating Committee shall be June 1 through May 31.
279
280
281

282 F. LAY DELEGATES
283

284 One (1) Lay Delegate shall be elected at the first Congregational Meeting following the
285 General Conference of UFMCC for every one hundred (100) Members In Good Standing
286 or portion thereof. Lay Delegates shall serve for three (3) years. The duties of the Lay
287 Delegate shall include, but not be limited to, representation of the Congregation at
288 General Conference and to be informed of local, and UFMCC concerns and issues. Lay
289 Delegates shall have been Members In Good Standing at the CHURCH for at least one
290 (1) year. Nominees who receive votes, but are not elected as Lay Delegates, shall be
291 considered as Alternate Lay Delegates and shall fill vacant Lay Delegate positions
292 according to the priority established by the number of votes received. Lay Delegates
293 shall elect from among themselves a leader, known as the Chair. The Lay Delegate
294 receiving the largest number of votes cast shall serve as Interim Chair and shall call an
295 organizational meeting for the purpose of electing the Chair. The Chair shall be
296 responsible for ensuring that all Lay Delegates are kept aware of their responsibilities,
297 of meetings and conference dates and agendas, and shall ensure that a report of all
298 conferences and meetings is presented to the BOARD and the Congregation in a timely
299 manner. In the event that elected Lay Delegates or Alternates are unable to attend a
300 particular conference, the BOARD may appoint a substitute for that conference only. In
301 the event that the elected Lay Delegates or Alternates are unable or unwilling to
302 perform the duties of Lay Delegate, including but not limited to, representation of the
303 Congregation at General Conference, the BOARD may appoint a qualified person to
304 serve until the next Congregational Meeting when an election will be held to fill the
305 unexpired term.

- 306
- 307 1. DISCIPLINE: The church cannot condone disloyalty, unbecoming conduct, or
308 dereliction of duty on the part of any Lay Delegate or Alternate Lay Delegate.
309 Therefore, the BOARD may remove by a majority vote of the full BOARD any Lay
310 Delegate or Alternate Lay Delegate guilty of the above. A petition presented to the
311 BOARD and signed by twenty-five percent (25%) of the Members In Good Standing
312 of the Congregation may also initiate such a procedure.
 - 313
 - 314 2. APPEAL OF DISCIPLINE: A disciplined Lay Delegate or Alternate Lay Delegate may
315 appeal the action to the Congregation at its next regular Congregational Meeting or
316 at a special Congregational Meeting which may be called for the purpose. The
317 decision of the Congregational Meeting is final. Until the Congregational Meeting to
318 consider the appeal, the position held by the disciplined Lay Delegate shall be filled
319 by an Alternate Lay Delegate.

320
321 **ARTICLE IV - CHURCH MEMBERS AND FRIENDS**
322

323 A. CRITERIA FOR MEMBERSHIP
324

325 After completing the CHURCH membership classes, a baptized Christian may become a
326 Member of the CHURCH through the Rite of Attaining Membership in the CHURCH.
327 Members In Good Standing are members who have registered attendance, identified

328 financial support, definite service contribution, and expressed interest and loyalty as
329 determined by the BOARD.

330
331 The BOARD shall ensure that the membership roll is reviewed in the month of January
332 and August of each year. A Member shall continue in membership until such time as the
333 Member requests to be removed from the list of Members In Good Standing, until
334 death, or until action by the BOARD to remove the Member from membership. Such
335 action by the BOARD shall be done in accordance with the procedure as shown below:
336

- 337 1. A Member who does not have registered attendance, identified financial support,
338 definite service contribution, and demonstrated interest and loyalty within the
339 preceding period of one (1) year may be removed from the list of Members In Good
340 Standing and placed on a list of inactive Members.
- 341
342 2. The BOARD shall ensure that this Member is notified in writing that the Member has
343 been placed on a list of inactive Members and is not eligible to vote at any business
344 meeting of the church.
- 345
346 3. If the inactive Member has not attended, provided identifiable financial support, and
347 demonstrated further interest or loyalty for a period of two (2) months immediately
348 following notification, the BOARD shall have the authority, at its discretion, to drop
349 any such Member from the local church membership roll.
- 350
351 4. The inactive Member may be restored to the list of Members In Good Standing by a
352 vote of the BOARD without a public reception into membership.

353 354 B. FRIENDS OF THE CHURCH

355
356 A person who, for one reason or another, feels unable to become a Member but who
357 supports the goals of the church and wants to be a part of the work of the church may
358 be designated as a "Friend of the Church."

- 359
360 1. The church shall not maintain a list of Friends of the Church.
- 361
362 2. Limitations on Friends of the Church – Friends may serve on appointed committees
363 and may participate in all activities of the church. Friends may not vote at
364 Congregational Meetings or serve on the BOARD. Friends shall not be considered in
365 determining the number of Lay Delegates.

366 367 C. DISCIPLINE

368
369 The church cannot condone disloyalty or unbecoming conduct on the part of any
370 Member or Friend. The BOARD is empowered to remove by majority vote any Member
371 or Friend or take other appropriate disciplinary action.

372
373 RIGHT TO APPEAL: The action of the Board may be appealed to the next regular
374 Congregational Meeting or a Special Congregational Meeting called for that purpose.

375 The decision of the Congregational Meeting is final. Pending the outcome of the appeal
376 of discipline, the disciplined Member shall remain under discipline and shall retain the
377 right to vote at regular and Special Congregational Meetings, including the
378 Congregational Meeting held to consider the appeal. Pending the outcome of the appeal
379 of discipline, the disciplined Friend shall remain under discipline until a decision is
380 reached at the next regular Congregational Meeting or a Special Congregational
381 Meeting called for that purpose.

- 382
- 383 1. Appeal Process - The request for an appeal shall be submitted to the CLERK of the
384 BOARD within thirty (30) days of the disciplinary action taken by the BOARD.
 - 385
 - 386 2. The BOARD may consider the appeal and reverse its earlier decision without taking
387 the matter to the Congregational Meeting.
 - 388
 - 389 3. Should the BOARD sustain its earlier decision and the disciplined Member or Friend
390 wishes the appeal to continue, the request shall be included as an agenda item for
391 the next regular Congregational Meeting or a Special Congregational Meeting called
392 for the purpose of considering the appeal.

393
394 **ARTICLE V - CHURCH MEETINGS**

395
396 Government of the CHURCH is vested in its Congregational Meeting, which exerts the right
397 to control of its affairs, subject to the provisions of the UFMCC Articles of Incorporation,
398 Bylaws, or documents of legal organization, and the General Conference.

- 399
- 400 A. TIME AND PLACE: An annual Congregational Meeting shall be held each year in the Fall.
401 The time and place of the annual Congregational Meeting shall be determined by the
402 BOARD.
 - 403
 - 404 B. NOTIFICATION: The BOARD shall ensure that Members are notified at least two (2)
405 weeks in advance.
 - 406
 - 407 C. VOTING RIGHTS: Each Member In Good Standing has the right to vote. Proxy or any
408 other form of absentee voting shall not be allowed.
 - 409
 - 410 D. VOTES REQUIRED FOR APPROVAL: Decisions, including elections, requires approval by
411 a vote of more than fifty percent (50%) of those Members present and voting, unless
412 otherwise required by UFMCC Bylaws or otherwise stated in these local church Bylaws.
413 The congregational vote to elect the PASTOR requires approval by a vote of seventy-
414 five percent (75%) or more of those members present and voting.
 - 415
 - 416 E. QUORUM: In order to transact business, no less than fifteen percent (15%) of the
417 Members In Good Standing must be present.
 - 418
 - 419 F. AGENDA: The agenda for Congregational Meetings shall be determined by the BOARD.

- 420
421
422
423
424
425
426
427
428
429
430
431
432
433
434
435
436
437
438
439
440
441
442
443
444
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.
1. CALLING A SPECIAL CONGREGATIONAL MEETING: A special Congregational Meeting may be called either by (a) majority vote of the BOARD, (b) the PASTOR, or (c) a petition signed by at least twenty percent (20%) of the Members In Good Standing and submitted to the CLERK.
 2. The nature and purpose of the special Congregational Meeting shall be stated in the petition and in announcements and be written into the agenda.

445 **ARTICLE VI - CHURCH FINANCES**

- 446
447
448
449
450
451
452
453
454
455
456
457
458
459
460
461
462
463
464
- A. The CHURCH adopts and teaches tithing and stewardship as prescribed in UFMCC Bylaws.
 - B. The BOARD shall ensure that all CHURCH receipts are reported each month to UFMCC as prescribed in UFMCC Bylaws.
 - C. Whenever possible, all funds shall be disbursed by bank checks, which shall bear two (2) authorized signatures. Authorized signatories are the members of the BOARD.
 - D. Annual income and expense budgets for the next fiscal year must be submitted by the BOARD to the Congregation for approval at the Fall Congregational Meeting. To fulfill their responsibility to manage the cash flow, the BOARD has authority if there is a sufficient excess of income over expenses to increase the approved annual expense budget by up to ten percent (10%) of the approved annual expense budget, or if there is insufficient income to meet budgeted annual expenses to decrease the approved expense budget. A greater increase in the approved annual expense budget shall require the approval of a simple majority vote at a Congregational Meeting.

- 465 E. Any agreements regarding lease, purchase, sale and/or physical location of the
466 CHURCH, must be approved by a three-fourths (3/4) majority vote of the Members In
467 Good Standing present at any Congregational Meeting.
468
- 469 F. The fiscal year shall run from January 1 through December 31.
470

471 **ARTICLE VII - RESERVATION OF POWERS**
472

473 All powers not delegated by UFMCC Bylaws are reserved to the CHURCH. All power not
474 delegated by these the CHURCH Bylaws are reserved to the Members In Good Standing of
475 the CHURCH and may be exercised by the voting members in meetings of the CHURCH.
476

477 **ARTICLE VIII - AMENDMENTS**
478

- 479 A. **ADOPTION:** These Bylaws shall become effective immediately upon adoption by the
480 Congregational Meeting and approval by an Elder.
481
- 482 B. **AMENDMENTS:** These Bylaws may be amended or repealed at any duly convened Semi-
483 annual Congregational Meeting. Proposed amendments or repeals shall be submitted in
484 writing to the BOARD no later than ninety (90) days prior to the Congregational Meeting
485 the proposal is to be considered. Adoption of the amendment or the repeal shall require
486 approval by a two-thirds (2/3) affirmative vote and is subject to approval by an Elder.
487 Amendments that are necessitated by amendments made to the UFMCC Bylaws shall
488 not require approval by the congregation.