# Bylaws of Anthem Church, Inc.

an Oklahoma Not for Profit Corporation

# **ARTICLE I – Name and Principal Office**

The name of the Corporation is ANTHEM CHURCH, INC. This Corporation will be further referred to in the Bylaws as the "Church." The Church maintains its principal office at 7777 South Garnett Road, Broken Arrow, Oklahoma. The Board of Elders of the Church shall have full power and authority to change the principal office from one location to another. The Secretary of the Church shall record any change of this location on these Bylaws, or this ARTICLE may be amended to state the new location. The Church may have such other offices, either within or without the State of Oklahoma, as the Board of Elders may determine or as the affairs of the Church may require from time to time.

# **ARTICLE II – Purpose and Limitations**

# **SECTION 1: Purposes**

The Church is organized and shall be operated exclusively for religious, charitable and educational purposes within the meaning of Section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986, as amended. More particularly, the purposes of this Church are:

- 1. To spread the Gospel of Jesus Christ and the worship of God among its attendants and practice the Christian virtues inculcated in the Holy Scriptures by any and all means possible;
- 2. To ordain, employ and discharge ordained ministers of the Gospel, and others, to conduct and carry on divine services at the place of worship of the Church, and elsewhere, and to collect and disburse any and all necessary funds for the maintenance of said Church and the accomplishment of its purpose within the State of Oklahoma and elsewhere;
- 3. To handle affairs pertaining to property and other temporal matters as required by the civil authorities;
- 4. To make distributions to organizations that qualify as exempt organizations under Section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 as amended;
- 5. To educate the body of Christ through any and all educational means deemed appropriate;
- 6. This Church is also organized to promote, encourage, and foster any other similar religious, charitable and educational activities; to accept, hold, invest, reinvest and administer any gifts, legacies, bequests, devises, funds and property of any sort or nature, and to use, expend, or donate the income or principal thereof for, and to devote the same to, the foregoing purposes of the Church; and to do any and all lawful acts and things which may be necessary, useful, suitable, or proper for the furtherance of accomplishment of the purposes of this Church. Provided, however, no act may be performed which would violate Section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986, as it now exists or as it may hereafter be amended.

# **SECTION 2: Limitations**

In order to carry out the above-stated purposes, the Church shall have all those powers set forth in the Act, as it now exists or as it may hereafter be amended. The powers of the Church to promote the purposes set out above are limited and restricted in the following manner:

1. No part of the net earnings of the Church shall inure to the benefit of or be distributable to its incorporators, officers or other private persons, except that the Church shall be authorized and empowered to make payments and distributions (including reasonable compensation

for services rendered to or for the Church or reimbursement of expenditures) in furtherance of its purposes as set forth in these Articles. No substantial part of the activities of the Church shall be the carrying on of Propaganda, or otherwise attempting to influence legislation, and the Church shall not participate in, or intervene in (including the publication or distribution of statements) any political campaign on behalf of any candidate for public office. Notwithstanding any other provisions of these Articles, the Church shall not carry on any other activities not permitted to be carried on by (i) a corporation exempt from Federal Income Tax under Section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986, as amended, or corresponding provisions of any subsequent federal tax laws, or (ii) a corporation, contributions to which are deductible under Section 170(c)(2) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986, as amended, or corresponding provisions of any subsequent federal tax laws;

- 2. Notwithstanding any other provisions of these Articles, in the event this Church is in any one year a "private foundation" as defined by Section 509(a) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986, as amended, or corresponding provisions of any subsequent federal tax laws, it shall be required to distribute its income for such taxable year at such time and in such manner as not to subject the foundation to taxation under Section 4942 of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986, as amended, or corresponding provisions of any subsequent federal tax laws; and further shall be prohibited from: (I) any act of "self dealing" as defined in Section 4941(d) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986, as amended, or corresponding any "excess building holdings" as defined by Section 4943(c) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986, as amended, or corresponding provisions any subsequent federal tax laws; or (iii) making any investments in such manner as to subject the foundation to taxation under Section 4944 of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986, as amended, or corresponding provisions any subsequent federal tax laws; or (iii) making any investments in such manner as to subject the foundation to taxation under Section 4944 of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986, as amended, or corresponding provisions any subsequent federal tax laws; or (iii) making a taxable expenditures as defined in Section 4945(d) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986, as amended, or corresponding provisions any subsequent federal tax laws; or (iv) making a taxable expenditures as defined in Section 4945(d) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986, as amended, or corresponding provisions of any subsequent federal tax laws; or (iv) making a taxable expenditures as defined in Section 4945(d) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986, as amended, or corresponding provisions of any subsequent federal tax laws;
- The Church shall not accept any gift or grant if the gift or grant contains major conditions which would restrict or violate any of the Church's religious, charitable or educational purposes or if the gift or grant would require serving a private as opposed to a public interest;
- 4. Upon the liquidation, dissolution or winding up of the Church, the Board of Elders of the Church shall, after paying or making provision for payment of all the liabilities of the Church, distribute all Corporate assets to any organization designated by the Board of Elders of the Church which is of like faith and order and is exempt from taxes under Internal Revenue Code Section 501(c)(3) (or the corresponding provision of any future tax law of the United States)."

# **ARTICLE III – Statement of Faith**

The following core beliefs make up the foundation upon which all our ministry endeavors are based:

#### SECTION 1: The Bible

The sole basis of our belief is the Bible, composed of the 66 books of the Old and New Testaments. We believe that Scripture, in its entirety, was inspired by God and that it was given through the instrumentality of chosen men. Scripture thus at one and the same time speaks with the authority of God and reflects the backgrounds, styles, and vocabularies of the human authors. We hold that the Scriptures are infallible and completely trustworthy. They are the unique, full, and final authority on all matters of faith and practice, and there are no other writings similarly inspired by God.

#### SECTION 2: God

We believe that there is one true, holy God, eternally existing in three persons — Father, Son, and Holy Spirit — each of Whom possesses equally all the attributes of deity and the characteristics of personality. In the beginning God created out of nothing the world and all the things therein, thus manifesting the glory of His power, wisdom, and goodness. By His sovereign power, He continues to sustain His creation. By His providence, He is operating throughout history to fulfill His redemptive purposes.

## **SECTION 3: Jesus Christ**

Jesus Christ is the eternal second Person of the Trinity who became both fully God and fully man by a miraculous conception and virgin birth. He lived a life of perfect obedience to the Father and voluntarily atoned for the sins of all by dying on the cross as their substitute, thus satisfying divine justice and accomplishing salvation for all who trust in Him alone. He rose from the dead in the same body, though glorified, in which He lived and died. He ascended into heaven and sat down at the right hand of the Father, where He, the only Mediator between God and man, continually makes intercession for His own. He shall come again to earth to consummate history and the eternal plan of God.

# SECTION 4: The Holy Spirit

The essential accompaniment of a genuine saving relationship with Jesus Christ is a life of holiness and obedience, attained by Christ followers as they submit to the Holy Spirit, the third Person of the Trinity. He was sent into the world by the Father and the Son to apply to mankind the saving work of Christ. He enlightens the minds of sinners, awakens in them a recognition of their need of a Savior, and regenerates them. At the point of salvation, He permanently indwells every Christ follower to become the source of assurance, strength, and wisdom, and uniquely endows each Christ follower with gifts for the up-building of the body and the making of disciples throughout the earth. The Holy Spirit convicts Christ followers of sin and guides them in understanding and applying the Scripture. His power and control are appropriated by faith, making it possible for the Christ follower to lead a life of Christlike character and to bear fruit to the glory of the Father.

#### **SECTION 5: Salvation**

The central purpose of God's revelation in Scripture is to call all people into relationship with Himself, thus bringing Glory to His name. Originally created to have fellowship with God, man defied God, choosing to go his independent way, and thus was alienated from God and suffered the corruption of his nature, rendering him unable to please God. The Fall took place at the beginning of human history, and all individuals since have suffered these consequences and are thus in need of the saving grace of God. The salvation of mankind is completely a work of God's free grace and is not the result of human works or goodness. This grace must be personally appropriated by repentance and faith. For those who have chosen to follow Jesus Christ as Lord and Savior, eternal life is secure and cannot be removed or lost. Water baptism is an outward testimony of a person's salvation in Jesus Christ.

#### **SECTION 6: Human Destiny**

Humans were created to exist forever and death in this life seals the eternal destiny of each person. For all mankind, there will be a resurrection of the body into the spiritual world and a judgment that will determine the fate of each individual. Those who reject God's gift of grace and relationship will be eternally separated from God into hell. God's judgment will reveal His justice

in consigning them to perpetuate in eternal retribution their own rejection of God. Each Christ follower will be received into eternal communion with God in heaven and will be rewarded for works done in this life.

# SECTION 7: The Church

The corollary of union with Jesus Christ is that all Christ followers become members of His body, the Church. There is one true Church universal, comprised of all those who acknowledge Jesus Christ as Savior and Lord. The Scripture commands Christ followers to gather together to devote themselves to worship, prayer, the teaching of the Word, the observance of Baptism and Communion, fellowship, service to the body, and mission to the world. Wherever God's people meet regularly in obedience to this command, there is the local expression of the church. Under the watch care of pastors, elders, and other supportive leadership, its members are to work together in love and unity, intent on the one ultimate purpose of glorifying Christ.

# SECTION 8: Church Leadership

The head of our Church is Jesus Christ. As an organization, we seek to reflect His priorities in all we do and how we do it. No decision is ever made that would knowingly contradict any teaching of the scriptures. In addition, through the guidance of the indwelling Holy Spirit, we endeavor to discern God's vision for us as a Church. On a human level, the phrase we use to describe the leadership structure and governance of the Church is that we are guarded by the Elders, guided by the staff, and gifted through the membership.

# SECTION 9: Marriage and Family

In the beginning, God created man and woman in His own image and each gender uniquely represents His divine character and nature. When men and women look to God's design they thrive as unique image bearers and compliment one another as co-heirs over creation. As a gift to humanity, God ordained marriage and defined it as the covenant relationship between a man, a woman, and Himself. Both husbands and wives are called to yield in love to one another out of respect for Christ. Children are God's gift to parents and are inherently precious to God, endowed at conception with worth by their creator, and deserving of love and protection.

#### **SECTION 10: Faith and Practice**

Scripture is the final authority in all matters of faith and practice. This Church recognizes that it cannot bind the conscience of individual members in areas where Scripture is silent. Rather, each Christ follower is to be led in those areas by the Lord, to whom he or she alone is ultimately responsible. We believe this Statement of Faith to be an accurate summary of what Scripture teaches. All members shall refrain from advocating doctrines that are not included in the Statement of Faith in such a way as to cause dissension.

# **ARTICLE IV – Affiliation**

This Church is autonomous and maintains the right to govern its own affairs, independent of any denominational control. Recognizing, however, the benefits of cooperation with other churches in world missions and otherwise, this Church may voluntarily affiliate with any churches (Christian churches and ministries) of like precious faith.

# ARTICLE V – Membership

# **SECTION 1: General**

Membership in this Church shall consist of all persons who have met the qualifications for membership and are listed on the membership role, hereafter referred to in these Bylaws as "Members." The Board of Elders may adopt and amend application procedures for membership in the Church. Any applicable reference to stockholders or members in the Oklahoma General Corporation Act shall be construed to refer to the voting members of the Church.

# SECTION 2: Qualifications for Membership

The following shall serve as the qualifications for membership in the Church:

- 1. A personal commitment of faith in Jesus Christ for salvation;
- 2. Baptism as a testimony of salvation;
- 3. Completion of the Church's membership process;
- 4. Ongoing personal commitment to the Church's membership covenant; and
- 5. Affirmation of the Board of Elders.

SECTION 3: Specific Powers Entrusted to a Vote of the Membership

Every Member 16 years and older shall have the right to vote on the following matters:

- 1. Dissolution of the Church;
- 2. Disposition of all or substantially all of the Church's assets;
- 3. The call or dismissal of the Lead Pastor;
- 4. Going into debt in excess of the equivalent of twelve months worth of total revenues in the previous fiscal year; and

## SECTION 4: Termination of Membership

Members shall be removed from the Church rolls for any of the following reasons:

- 1. Death;
- 2. Transfer of membership to another church;
- 3. Personal request of the Member;
- 4. Failure of the Member to renew their commitment to membership during the time appointed by the Board of Elders; or
- 5. Dismissal by the Board of Elders for reasons related to not fulfilling the qualifications of membership or for any other reason deemed necessary and not otherwise precluded by law.

#### SECTION 5: Restoration of Members

Members dismissed by the Board of Elders may be restored to full membership privileges by the Board of Elders according to the spirit of 2 Corinthians 2:7-8.

# ARTICLE VI – Meetings

#### SECTION 1: Place

Meetings of the Members shall be held at such place or places as may be designated from time to time by the Board of Elders.

#### **SECTION 2: Called Meeting**

Special meetings shall be called at any time and for any purpose by the Lead Pastor or the Board of Elders, by giving notice to the Members in accordance with ARTICLE VI, SECTION 3.

# **SECTION 3: Notice Requirements**

Whenever Members are required or permitted to take any action at a meeting, notice shall be given to Members no less than ten (10) days or more than sixty (60) days prior to a meeting. Notification of membership meetings shall be given in any form deemed to be a reasonable method by resolution of the Board of Elders for calling a membership meeting. This will include, but is not limited to, at least one of the following means of communication: oral announcement at a weekend service, written material distributed at a weekend service, or written material delivered to each Member on the roll by United States mail. Action by the Members on any items listed in ARTICLE V, SECTION 3 is valid only if the notice specifies the general nature of the proposal.

# SECTION 4: Quorum

Those Members present at a meeting called pursuant to ARTICLE VI, SECTION 3, shall constitute a quorum of the membership for the transaction of business unless otherwise specified in these Bylaws. All items of business will be conducted using simple majority rule except where otherwise specified in these Bylaws.

#### **SECTION 5: Parliamentary Procedure**

In membership business meetings, any parliamentary question not covered by the Articles of Incorporation or the Bylaws of the Church shall be decided by the latest edition of *Roberts Rules of Order* or Rules of Procedure adopted by the Board of Elders. In meetings of the Board of Elders any parliamentary question not covered by the Articles of Incorporation or the Bylaws of the Church shall be decided by the latest edition of *Roberts Rules of Order* or Rules of Procedure adopted by the latest edition of *Roberts Rules of Order* or Rules of the Board of Elders.

# **ARTICLE VII - Board of Elders**

#### SECTION 1: Number and Term

The Board of Elders shall consist of between three and nine Elders. Each Elder, other than the Lead Pastor, shall serve a term of three years. Elders may serve successive terms by mutual decision of the Elder and the unanimous decision of the Board of Elders. All references to "Elder" or "Elders" shall be construed to mean members of the current Board of Elders.

#### **SECTION 2: Qualifications**

Elder candidates will be Members who are in good standing and who meet the spirit of the qualifications for an Elder as outlined in 1 Timothy 3:1-11 and Titus 1:5-9. All qualifications will be clearly spelled out by the Board of Elders. The Lead Pastor shall serve as an Elder as long as he holds the office of Lead Pastor. Other than the Lead Pastor, employees of the Church will not serve as Elders unless otherwise specified by the Board of Elders.

#### **SECTION 3: Nomination and Appointment**

The Board of Elders will ask Members, Officers, and Elders of the Church to nominate Elder candidates. Elders shall be appointed by the unanimous consent of the entire Board of Elders after an appropriate discerning process has been completed. If for any reason it becomes apparent that a certain Elder should not serve on the Board of Elders, the Elder may resign, or by unanimous vote of the other Elders, be immediately retired from the office.

## SECTION 4: No Compensation

Elders, including the Lead Pastor, shall not receive salaries or compensation for their services to the Board of Elders. The Board of Elders may adopt a resolution providing for payment to Elders for expenses of attendance, if any, at a meeting of the Board of Elders. An Elder may serve the Church in any other capacity and receive reasonable compensation for those services except as prohibited by these Bylaws. Nothing in this section shall be construed as restricting Elders from being reimbursed for expenses incurred in carrying out their responsibilities.

# **SECTION 5: Organization**

The Lead Pastor shall serve as the Chairman of the Board of Elders and shall be present and preside at all Board of Elder meetings. At the first meeting of the fiscal year the Board of Elders shall elect a Vice Chairman, Secretary, Assistant Secretary(ies), Treasurer and Trustee. The Board of Elders has the power to delegate to individuals, committees, or organizations the right to transact any of their business or to exercise any of their powers, but the exercise of such delegation shall be subject to the supervision and control of the Board of Elders. The Chairman of the Board of Elders may sign, with the Secretary or an Assistant Secretary of theChurch, any deeds, mortgages, bonds, or other instruments which the Board of Elders have authorized to be executed except in cases where the signing and execution thereof shall be expressly delegated by the Board of Elders or by these Bylaws or by statute to some other officer or agent of the Church; and in general he shall perform all duties as may be prescribed by the Board of Elders from time to time.

# **SECTION 6: General Corporate Powers**

The Board of Elders shall be considered the board of directors of the Church. Subject to the provisions and limitations of the Oklahoma General Corporation Act and to any limitations in the Certificate of Incorporation or these Bylaws, the activities, business and affairs of the Church shall be conducted and all corporate powers shall be exercised by or under the oversight of the Board of Elders. Elders function primarily as discerners, shepherds, and guardians of the Church in light of three things: the Church's mission, the Church's resources, and the Church's Statement of Beliefs.

#### SECTION 7: Specific Powers Entrusted to the Board of Elders

Without prejudice to the general powers set forth above, and subject to the same limitations, the Board of Elders shall have the power to:

- Lead the church to settle issues of theological dispute, as needed or helpful, by having full authority to amend the Statement of Faith or issue appropriate statements on various issues by unanimous vote of the entire Board of Elders;
- 2. Oversee the application and ordination of Members for the Christian ministry.
- 3. Acquire, sell, or dispose of Church property;
- 4. Maintain the financial stability and integrity of the Church by the following: providing for an appropriate operating reserve; establishing the total allowable operating expenses during any given fiscal period; determining the total compensation of the Lead Pastor; and determining the total allowable staff compensation (for any given period) to be exercised under the discretion of the Lead Pastor;
- 5. Borrow money and incur indebtedness on behalf of the Church and cause to be executed and delivered for the Church's purposes and in the Church's name, promissory notes and other evidences of debt and securities within the limits otherwise reserved for a vote of the Membership;

6. Set Policies and Procedures as necessary and/or helpful regarding the governance and operations of the Church.

# **SECTION 8: Place of Meetings**

Regular or special meetings of the Board of Elders may be held at any place that has been designated from time to time by resolution of the Board of Elders. In the absence of such designation, meetings shall be held at the principal office of the Church. Notwithstanding the above provisions of this SECTION, a regular or special meeting of the Elders may be held at any place consented to in writing by all of the Elders, either before or after the meeting. If such consents are given, they shall be filed with the minutes of the meeting. Any meeting, regular or special, may be held by conference telephone or similar communication equipment, as long as all Elders participating in the meeting can hear one another. All such Elders shall be deemed to be present in person at such meeting.

#### **SECTION 9: Regular Meetings**

Regular meetings of the Board of Elders may be held without notice if the time and place of such meetings have been fixed previously by resolution of the Elders.

#### **SECTION 10: Special Meetings**

Special meetings of the Board of Elders may be called for any purpose and at any time by the Lead Pastor or by any three Elders.

Notice to the Elders will be provided as follows:

- A. Manner. Notice of the time and place of special meetings shall be given to each Elder by at least one of the following methods: (1) personal delivery of written notice; (2) first class mail, postage paid; (3) e-mail to the Elder's home or office; (4) fax to the Elder's home or office; or (5) telephone communication, either directly to the Elder or to a person at the Elder's office or home who the person giving the notice has reason to believe will promptly communicate the notice to the Elder. Notice may also be given by any other agreed upon means by resolution of the Board of Elders.
- B. Time Requirements. Notice sent by first class mail shall be deposited in the United States mail at least seven (7) days before the time set for the meeting. Notices given by personal delivery, e-mail, fax, or telephone shall be delivered to the Elder at least twenty-four (24) hours before the time set for the meeting, or other agreed upon time requirements by resolution of the Board of Elders.
- C. Notice Contents. The notice shall state the time and place for the meeting. However, the notice does not need to specify the place of the meeting if the special meeting is to be held at the Church's principal office. The notice must specify the purpose of the meeting.

#### SECTION 11: Quorum

A majority of the Board of Elders, present at the beginning of a meeting duly called and noticed, shall constitute a quorum for the transaction of business. If there are only three Elders on the Board of Elders a quorum shall consist of all three Elders. While Elders shall attempt to act by consensus, every action taken or decision made by a supermajority of the membership of the Elders shall be the act of the Board of Elders unless otherwise stated within these Bylaws. The supermajority shall mean not less than two-thirds of the membership of the Elder Board. An Elder who is present at a meeting and abstains from a vote is considered to be present and voting against the proposal for the purpose of determining the decision of the Board of Elders.

# **SECTION 12: Interested Members**

Contracts or transactions between Elders, officers, or members of the Church who have a financial interest in the matter are not void or voidable solely for that reason. Nor are they void or voidable solely because the Elder, officer, or Church member is present at or participates in the meeting that authorizes the contract or transaction, or solely because the interested party's votes are counted for the purpose. However, the material facts must be disclosed to or known by the Board of Elders or other group authorizing the transaction, and approval from disinterested parties must be obtained.

# SECTION 13: Waiver of Notice

The transactions of any meeting of the Board of Elders, however called and noticed or wherever held, shall be as valid as though taken at a meeting duly held after regular call and notice, if a quorum is present, and either before or after the meeting, each of the Elders not present signs a written waiver of notice, a consent to holding the meeting, or approves the minutes, by signing the original copy. The waiver of notice or consent shall specify the purpose of the meeting. All waivers, consents and approvals shall be filed with the corporate records or made a part of the minutes of the meeting. Notice of a meeting need not be given to any Elder who attends the meeting without protesting before or at its commencement about the lack of notice.

#### **SECTION 14: Action Without Meeting**

Any action required or permitted to be taken by the Board of Elders may be taken without a meeting, if all of the Elders, individually, or collectively, consent in writing to the action. Such action by written consent shall have the same force and effect as the unanimous vote of the Board of Elders. Such written consent or consents shall be filed with the minutes of the proceedings of the Board of Elders.

#### SECTION 15: Vacancies on the Board of Elders

In the event the number of Elders should drop below three, the remaining Elder or Elders shall appoint between one and two Interim Elders as needed to conduct the business of the Board of Elders. While Interim Elders are serving, the Board's primary purpose shall be to fill the permanent vacancy or vacancies on the Board of Elders according to the process prescribed in ARTICLE VII, SECTION 3 of these Bylaws. Interim Elders shall be selected first from among previous Elders, then church staff, and finally Members. In the event there are no remaining Elders, an Interim Board of Elders will be appointed in the manner described above by a Trustee, who shall be designated by the Board of Elders at the beginning of each fiscal year. Interim Elders shall serve until three permanent Elders have been appointed. An Interim Elder may not serve for more than twelve months.

# **ARTICLE VIII - Lead Pastor**

#### **SECTION 1: General Powers**

The Lead Pastor shall have the general oversight of the operations of the Church, and shall have the authority to take all actions that are necessary and proper to exercise his oversight responsibilities within the Certificate of Incorporation and within these Bylaws. All powers not otherwise assigned to the Members or Board of Elders shall be entrusted to the Lead Pastor.

# SECTION 2: Specific Powers Entrusted to the Lead Pastor

Without prejudice to the general powers set forth above, and subject to the same limitations, the Lead Pastor shall have the power to:

- 1. Determine programming;
- 2. Provide vision to the various ministries of the Church;
- 3. Oversee the day-to-day operations of the Church;
- 4. Serve as the head of the staff and have the authority to appoint and remove all agents and employees of the Church and prescribe any powers and duties for them that are consistent with the law, with the Certificate of Incorporation, and with these Bylaws; and
- 5. Choose to be personally or by representation an ex officio member of any committee.

# SECTION 3: Call or Removal of the Lead Pastor

The Lead Pastor must meet the qualifications set out for Elders. The Lead Pastor may be called or removed only by the recommendation of the entire Board of Elders, excluding the Lead Pastor, and a vote of at least 75% of the Members in attendance at a Membership meeting called for that purpose pursuant to ARTICLE VI, SECTION 3 of these Bylaws.

#### SECTION 4: Appointment of an Interim Pastor

A vacancy in the office of Lead Pastor, because of death, resignation, removal, disqualification or any other cause may be temporarily filled by an Interim Pastor appointed by a unanimous vote of the Board of Elders. The Interim Pastor shall have all the rights and authorities of the Lead Pastor subject to any limitations established by the Board. However, the Interim Pastor will not be a voting member of the Board of Elders. An Interim Pastor may not serve more than 18 months in this specific capacity.

#### **ARTICLE IX – Officers**

#### **SECTION 1: Officers**

The officers of the Church shall be the Chairman of the Board of Elders, Vice Chairman, Treasurer Secretary, Assistant Secretary(ies), and Trustee who shall have the duties and responsibilities normally attendant upon such corporate officers. The Lead Pastor shall serve as the Chairman of the Board of Directors and shall act as the moderator of the Church. The Vice Chairman shall act as the moderator of the Church and Chairman of the Board of Elders in the absence of the Lead Pastor. The Treasurer of the Church shall act as moderator in the absence of both the Lead Pastor and the Vice Chairman. The Secretary of the Church shall act as moderator in the absence of the Lead Pastor, Vice Chairman, and the Treasurer. One person may serve concurrently as Secretary and Treasurer, but neither the Lead Pastor nor Vice Chairman can serve concurrently as Secretary or Treasurer. All Corporate Officers shall meet the qualifications for Elders.

SECTION 2: Secretary of the Church (Assistant Secretary in absence of Secretary) The Secretary of the Church shall keep the minutes of the meetings of the Church and Board of Elders in one or more books provided for that purpose; give all notices in accordance with the provisions of these Bylaws or as required by law; be custodian of the corporate records and of the corporate seal of the Church, and, in general perform all duties incident to the office of the Secretary and such other duties as from time to time may be assigned to him by the Chairman of the Board of Elders.

## SECTION 3: Treasurer of the Church

The treasurer of the Church shall have custody of funds contributed to the Church for any purpose and shall pay out the same as directed by the Lead Pastor or Board of Elders.

#### SECTION 4: Trustee of the Church

The trustee of the Church shall, in the event there are no remaining Elders, appoint Interim Board of Elders in the manner described herein.

#### **SECTION 5: Election and Term of Officers**

All officers of the Church, other than the Chairman of the Board of Elders, shall be elected for one year terms by the Board of Elders at the first meeting of the fiscal year. Officers may serve successive terms.

#### **SECTION 6: Removal of Officers**

All officers of the Church, other than the Chairman of the Board of Elders, may be removed by supermajority vote of the Board of Elders.

#### **SECTION 7: Vacancies in Offices**

A vacancy in any corporate office because of death, resignation, removal, disqualification or any other cause shall be filled only in the manner prescribed in these Bylaws for regular appointments to that office. The Vice Chairman shall fulfill the corporate duties of Chairman of the Board of Elders if there is a vacancy in the Lead Pastor role.

# **ARTICLE X – Indemnification**

#### SECTION 1: Indemnity by Church

The Church shall indemnify any person who comes within the course and scope of their authority on behalf of the church. This includes, but is not limited to, Officers, Employees, Elders, and Members of the Church.

#### **SECTION 2: Scope of Indemnification**

The scope, terms, and rights of the various parties with relation to the indemnification provided by ARTICLE X, SECTION 1 shall be those set forth by law in 18 OS § 1031, as amended from time to time, or of any successor statute. Said statute is incorporated into this SECTION 2 by reference, as if fully set forth herein. Provided, however, that this SECTION 2 shall not be construed to require indemnification of any person who is not entitled to indemnification under ARTICLE X, SECTION 1.

#### **ARTICLE XI – Miscellaneous**

#### SECTION 1: Fiscal Year

The fiscal year of the Church shall begin on July 1<sup>st</sup> and end on June 30<sup>th</sup> or as otherwise established by the Board of Elders.

#### SECTION 2: Seal

The Board of Elders shall provide a corporate seal, which shall be in the form of a circle and shall have inscribed thereon the name of the Church and the words "Corporate Seal of Anthem Church, Inc."

# SECTION 3: Records and Reports

The Church shall maintain the following records and reports:

- 1. Adequate and correct books and records of accounts (financial records);
- 2. Written minutes of the proceedings of its Members and Board of Elders;
- 3. Membership rolls specified in ARTICLE V, SECTION 1 of these Bylaws, which rolls shall set forth the members' names and addresses; and
- 4. Contribution statements for contributors

All such records shall be kept at the Church's principal office. The Church may also maintain any other records as may from time to time be deemed necessary or useful in the pursuit of its purposes. All records and reports shall be made available at the request of any Elder, any Officer, or the Lead Pastor and those specifically designated by the Lead Pastor from time to time. Any other Member of the Church may inspect the records of the Church, as specified in items 1-3 in this ARTICLE XI, SECTION 3 within normal business hours, in the offices of the Church, upon written request of any Elder and subsequent approval of the Board of Elders.

#### **SECTION 4: Contracts**

Contracts of a material nature are to be made in the name of the Church, signed in representative capacity by at least two board members or designees of the board, one of which must be the Chairman of the Board of Elders or his designee, and may be reviewed by legal counsel, unless routine, prior to execution. Contracts that are of a routine or insignificant nature, as determined by the Chairman or Board of Elders, may be signed by the Treasurer or other individual designated by the Chairman. Contracts must be in keeping with the purpose of the Church as outlined in ARTICLE II, the financial procedures established by these Bylaws and subsequently Church adopted policies and procedures, and have obtained all necessary approval as set forth by these Bylaws.

# **ARTICLE XII – Amendments**

Unless otherwise stated within these Bylaws, these Bylaws, or any part thereof, may be altered, amended or repealed, and/or new Bylaws may be adopted, by a vote of two-thirds majority of the Members present at any special or regular membership meeting called according to ARTICLE VI, SECTION 3 hereof, at which a quorum is present. Furthermore, unless otherwise stated within these Bylaws, these Bylaws, or any part thereof, with the exception of ARTICLE V SECTION 3 and ARTCLE VIII SECTION 1-4, may be altered, amended or repealed, and/or new Bylaws may be adopted, by a unanimous vote of the entire Board of Elders without requiring a vote of the membership.

By: \_Brad D. Jenkins\_ Chairman of the Board of Elders

\_09/27/2019\_\_\_\_\_

ATTEST:

By: \_Brian Hailey\_\_\_\_\_ Secretary of the Church \_09/27/2019\_\_\_\_\_