

1 BYLAWS OF
2 NEW COMMANDMENT CHURCH OF NORTHEAST MINNEAPOLIS INC.
3 A MINNESOTA NONPROFIT CORPORATION
4 ORIGINAL BY LAWS 2003

5 **ARTICLE I - NAME**

6 NEW COMMANDMENT CHURCH OF NORTHEAST MINNEAPOLIS INC.

7 **ARTICLE II - PURPOSES**

- 8 1. Inasmuch as the Lord Jesus Christ came to glorify the Father (Jn. 17:4), so the
9 purpose of this Church will be to glorify God (Eph. 1:12).
10 2. Inasmuch as the Lord Jesus Christ came to make disciples (Mk. 1:17), so the
11 purpose of this Church will be to disciple persons in Christian belief and practice (
12 Mt. 28:18-20).
13 3. Inasmuch as the Lord Jesus Christ came to save sinners (Lk. 19:10), so the
14 purpose of this Church will be to proclaim salvation through repentance,
15 forgiveness, and faith in Christ (Lk. 24:47).
16 4. Inasmuch as the Lord Jesus Christ came to serve (Mk. 10:45), so the purpose
17 of this Church is to meet humanities' needs as resources are available (Mt.
18 25:31-46).
19 5. Said corporation is organized exclusively for charitable, religious, and
20 educational purposes, including, the making of distributions to organizations
21 under section 501[c][3] of the Internal Revenue Code, or the corresponding
22 section of any future federal tax code.

23 **ARTICLE III - AFFILIATION**

24 This Church is a self governing, nonprofit corporation. It will affiliate
25 itself with any church affiliation or para church ministry, which coincides with
26 Article IV of these by laws and the counsel of the Pastor and Board of Elders.
27 Nevertheless, it will maintain its inherent rights in the conduct of its own affairs,
28 and will fellowship with others of like faith and convictions.

29 **ARTICLE IV - TENETS OF FAITH**

- 30 1. We believe the Bible to be the inspired, the only infallible, authoritative Word
31 of God and inerrant in the original writings.
32 2. We believe there is one God, eternally existent in three persons, Father, Son
33 and Holy Spirit.
34 3. We believe in the deity of our Lord Jesus Christ, in His virgin birth, in His
35 sinless life, in His miracles, in His vicarious and atoning death through His shed

- 36 blood, in His bodily resurrection, in His ascension to the right hand of the Father
37 and in His personal return in power and glory.
- 38 4. We believe that the lost and sinful man must be saved, and that man's only
39 hope of redemption is through the shed blood of Jesus Christ, the Son of God.
- 40 5. We believe in the present ministry of the Holy Spirit by whose indwelling the
41 Christian is empowered to live a Godly life.
- 42 6. We believe in the resurrection of both the saved and the unsaved; they that are
43 saved unto the resurrection of life and they that are unsaved unto the resurrection
44 of damnation.
- 45 7. We believe in the physical and visible second coming of Jesus Christ to this
46 earth to establish His Kingdom. According to scripture, this will happen at an
47 undisclosed date and time.
- 48 8. We believe in the spiritual unity of believers in our Lord Jesus Christ.

49 **ARTICLE V CORE VALUES**

50 For any organization, ministry flows out of relationships. Our relationship
51 with God and others. Without relationships there can be no ensuing discipleship,
52 ministry or fellowship.

- 53 1. We believe that the authority of the Church is in the "gathered" church. Jesus
54 said, "When two or three are "gathered" in my name there am I in the midst of
55 them." We take our marching orders from the Holy Spirit which is in our midst
56 and therefore do not look to Bishops or Archbishops as having authority over the
57 headship of Christ's Spirit in the local church. We do not believe in apostolic
58 succession.
- 59 2. We believe that God will provide to desiring believers an empowerment of the
60 Holy Spirit for the evangelization of the lost and the operation of spiritual
61 empowerments in the Church today.
- 62 3. We believe in unity, not uniformity. Unity in essentials, freedom in non
63 essentials and charity in all things.
- 64 4. We believe in the koinonia or fellowship between true believers and a spirit of
65 love taking preference over a spirit of dominancy, division and discord caused by
66 pride or arguments over endless genealogies or doctrines that are not central to
67 orthodox salvation issues.
- 68 5. We believe it is the Church's apostolic commission to take the good news of
69 the Gospel to every tribe and tongue. We support church planting, missions and
70 works of charity.
- 71 6. We do not believe that a Seminary or Bible School degree is a requirement for
72 ministry. However, we believe it is biblically imperative that we study to show
73 ourselves approved unto God as workmen who need not to be ashamed rightly
74 dividing the Word of truth. Our leaders may or may not hold earned Seminary
75 and Bible College degrees. Our goal is to reveal Christ to believers and

- 76 unbelievers in act, disposition, state, thought and will.
- 77 7. We do not believe that knowledge by itself can ever take the place of a
78 personal encounter with the Holy Spirit of God. We spend a life time
79 “theologizing” our biblical and extra biblical knowledge and our personal spiritual
80 experiences with those moments of understanding. Those moments of
81 understanding comes when the Holy Spirit teaches us through divine revelation.
82 St. Paul reminds us that, "the Spirit searcheth all things, yea the deep things of
83 God."
- 84 8. We believe we are called to humility and that pride is deceitful and separates
85 us from God and our fellow man.
- 86 9. We believe we are called to servanthood and to service as a love slave in the
87 household of God. Can a servant be greater than his master? Jesus said, “By this
88 shall all men know that you are my disciples, if you love one another.”
- 89 10. We believe that compassion and forgiveness are better than rightness and
90 justice. Justice has caused more harm than injustice when we have demanded our
91 rights, rather than choosing to “lay them down.”
- 92 12. We believe in grace, but not “cheap” grace. It is free, but it costs us
93 everything. We believe in hope, but not “cheap” hope. Not promises for material
94 wealth, lazy living, or a life without trials and tribulation, but the promise of the
95 Father that in our weakness His strength is made complete and that we are made
96 over comers in Him. He will never leave us or forsake us. He is the rewarder of
97 those who diligently seek Him. He will supply all of our needs according to His
98 riches in glory by Christ Jesus.
- 99 13. We believe in building up, not tearing down. We believe in working hard, but
100 without it being burdensome.
- 101 14. We believe in accepting a seat at the foot of the table while preferring our
102 brothers and sisters and lifting them up . . . if you do it to the least of these my
103 brethren . . . you have done it unto me. God is in the promotion business. Let Him
104 take care of it.
- 105 15. We believe that a kind word spoken in love, an encouraging word even when
106 the blemishes of new birth and the dirt, dust and stuff of this world is readily seen
107 in the lives of one of these young ones whom we seek to encourage and mentor. In
108 Christian Ministry there is never an abdication of truth or a lack of responsibility,
109 but a word fitly spoken in faith, seeing those things which are not yet, but are the
110 substances of things hoped for . . . and we believe that it is seed sown in good soil
111 which will not return void.
- 112 16. We do not believe we live to ourselves, but are a part of a bigger family, a
113 real
114 family . . . the family of, “our Father which art in heaven . . .” Others are not far
115 from the kingdom, they need someone to invite them to “have dinner” with the
116 Savior. John's Revelation tells us, "Behold, I stand at the door, and knock: if any

117 man hears my voice, and opens the door, I will come into him, and will sup with
118 him, and he with me. St. Matthew reminds us of Jesus' own words, "Come unto
119 me, all ye that labor and are heavy laden, and I will give you rest. Take my yoke
120 upon you, and learn of me: for I am meek and lowly in heart: and ye shall find rest
121 for your souls. For my yoke is easy and my burden is light."

122 17. We believe in open communion in the administration of the Lord's Supper to
123 all true believers.

124 18. We believe in water baptism by submersion for all believers in obedience to
125 Christ's commandment and in covenantal dedications of children as an act of faith
126 and commitment by the parent(s) and the congregation. We believe it is the
127 responsibility of the parent (s) and congregation to raise the child in the love and
128 admonitions of the Lord. We pray and trust when the child becomes an age of
129 accountability, they will, of their own free will, confirm their personal faith in
130 Jesus Christ as their Savior and Lord. We believe water baptism in and of itself
131 does not save a child or an adult, but rather the grace of God experienced and
132 through the conviction of sin by the Holy Spirit in one's life and godly sorrow for
133 sins committed. The turning away from sin and the turning toward God and by
134 placing one's faith solely in Christ as Savior and Lord. Water Baptism is a means
135 of grace and a public act showing one's acceptance of God's grace.

136 19. We believe in recognizing the gifts and calling of God in the lives of women
137 as well as men. We do not believe that either a man or a woman should be "puffed
138 up" in pride and seek to take a dominant position one over the other. However, the
139 gifts and calling of each one, will make room for themselves and when valid will
140 be recognized and affirmed by the Body.

141 20. We believe in being faithful . . . and in recognizing and dealing with our
142 imperfections. Our walk with God is a progressive process and our ministries are
143 progressive too. The Father will not allow us to wait until we are fully grown to
144 begin helping with the harvest. Spiritual growth will often be somewhat parallel to
145 ministry growth. Sometimes one runs ahead or one lags behind. But we have no
146 choice to turn away and leave our calling. We try by God's grace to be faithful . . .
147 not in our strength, but His . . . not in our failure, in His forgiveness, not in our
148 rebellion, in His long suffering, in His disciplining and in our brokenness and
149 spiritual healing and somehow through it all, God redefines and brings good out
150 of it and is glorified.

151 21. We believe in loving, serving, encouraging and helping to enable. When we
152 become more of a burden than a blessing we have lost our mandate and we have
153 no spiritual authority to continue.

154 22. We do not believe in quitting. We do not believe in giving up as we grow
155 older, we learn to release power and position, to become available to God for our
156 next assignment as our health and mental competency allow, but always doing
157 what we can. Always working, always witnessing, always serving, always reading

158 God's Word and praying for us and others until our ultimate and final assignment
159 is complete. St. Luke wrote of King David, "After he had served the purpose of
160 God in his generation, he fell asleep and was laid among his fathers." (NASB)
161 The key word is "served."

162 **ARTICLE VI - MEMBERSHIP**

163 **Section 1. Standard of Membership**

164 The standard of membership in this church will be:

165 A) A commitment to Christ. Each member shall have experienced the new
166 birth (Jn. 3:5). By his words and through his life he is to give testimony
167 that Jesus Christ is Savior and Lord.

168 B) A commitment to the Body of Christ. Each member has the opportunity
169 and obligation of ministering to and receiving ministries from other
170 members of the local body, the Church. This involves on the part of each
171 member, faithfulness to the disciplines of prayer, study of Scriptures,
172 witness, regular church attendance, and the stewardship of time and
173 money.

174 C) A commitment to the work of Christ. Each member, willingly and
175 joyfully, participates in the ministry to the Body and to the world
176 according to his ability and the empowerment of the Holy Spirit.

177 **Section 2. Categories of Membership**

178 The Church will have four categories of members. This designation of such
179 categories and the qualifications and rights of the members of such categories will
180 be as follows:

181 A) Active Membership. All members 18 years of age or older, whose names
182 appear on the membership roster and who are in good standing, shall be
183 entitled to exercise the right to vote. The Pastor and all members of the
184 ministerial staff and their spouses shall be extended the right to vote and
185 the privilege of voting in all matters pertaining to the church.

186 B) Junior Membership. Persons below the age of 18 years (12 years to 18th
187 birthday) may be granted Junior Membership upon application. Upon
188 reaching the age of 18 years, a Junior Member who wishes to become an
189 active member shall make his desire known to the Pastor. Junior members
190 are expected to attend all regular and special business meetings. They
191 shall not have a vote in church affairs.

- 192 C) Honorary Membership.
193 1) Persons holding any ministerial credential may be granted honorary
194 membership upon application.
195 2) Those whom the church desires to honor for special service rendered to the
196 assembly may also be granted honorary membership.
197 3) Those who have moved away and desire to retain fellowship with the
198 church may be listed as honorary members.

199 Honorary members may attend business meetings if they desire, but shall
200 not speak except upon invitation of the chairperson; neither will they vote nor
201 hold elective office open to the layman.

- 202 D) Inactive Members. Any enrolled member who fails to attend services
203 regularly or who ceases to take an active part in the life of the Church or is
204 out of harmony with its teachings or ministries or is under charges of
205 misconduct, may be transferred to the inactive roll. Inactive members shall
206 not represent the ministry of New Commandment Church or have a vote in
207 church meetings. A written request by the inactive member or a motion by
208 a member of the Board of Directors for reinstatement to the prior status
209 will be considered at the next scheduled meeting of the Board of Directors.
210 Reinstatement must happen 90 days prior to an Annual Meeting or any
211 specially called meeting of the church. An affirmative vote of two-thirds
212 of a quorum of the Board will be required for such action. The pastor can
213 veto the vote.

214 Section 3. Election of Members

215 By Application or Transfer. Persons desiring to become members of the Church
216 shall fill out an application form approved by the Board. The Board of Directors
217 may accept, in lieu of a completed application, a letter of transfer from another
218 evangelical/charismatic church. The Pastor or his designated membership
219 committee shall examine the application or transfer according to the standards of
220 membership, and shall make recommendations to the Board of Directors. The
221 Board of Directors shall consider the application or transfer at its next scheduled
222 meeting. An affirmative vote of two-thirds of a quorum of the Board of Directors,
223 shall be required for election to membership. Persons so elected shall be publicly
224 received into membership at any regular church service.

- 225 A) Membership Class. The Pastor and Board may authorize the establishment of a
226 membership class and require any prospective member to complete the class prior
227 to the prospective member's submission of an application or transfer. The

228 Membership Class shall be under the direction of the Pastor or his designee.

229 B) Credentialed Ministers other than those on the Church Pastoral Staff shall hold
230 only honorary membership in the church. Credentialed Ministers on the Church
231 Pastoral Staff shall hold active membership during the time they hold position
232 with the church.

233 Section 4. Resignation

234 Any member desiring to resign may file a written resignation with the Pastor or
235 Secretary of the church Board who shall present it to the Board at its next
236 scheduled meeting.

237 Section 5. Transfer of Membership

238 Members in good standing desiring to be transferred to another congregation may
239 apply to the Secretary of the Board of Directors for a letter of transfer signed by
240 the Pastor and the Secretary.

241 Section 6. Alteration or Termination of Membership

242 Unscriptural conduct or failure to maintain and abide by the standards of
243 membership given in this Article will constitute sufficient grounds upon which
244 any member may be removed from the membership or disciplined by being placed
245 in a category of membership other than active membership (Mt. 18:15-18, Rom.
246 16:17-18, 1 Cor. 5:11, Gal. 1:8-9, Titus 3:1-5). The Board will ascertain what
247 action has been taken by the Pastor or others to counsel or assist the member. In
248 acting upon any such investigations, the Board will follow the procedures set forth
249 in these By-Laws.

250 Section 7. Review of the Membership Roll

251 The Pastor and Board of Directors will revise the membership rolls within ninety
252 (90) days of the Annual Business Meeting and at such other times as they deem
253 necessary. The review preceding the Annual Business Meeting shall be
254 completed not less than fifteen (15) days prior to the meeting. They shall remove
255 from the rolls all names of members who are deceased, together with the names of
256 those who have resigned, or have been terminated. The rolls shall accurately
257 reflect the category of membership of each member. Persons whose names are
258 removed shall be notified of the action by a letter from the Board.

259 Section 8. Action of the Board Affecting Membership Status

260 The Board, by an affirmative vote of two-thirds of a quorum may alter or
261 terminate the membership of a member for cause at any scheduled meeting
262 provided that at least ten (10) days prior, written notice of such pending action is

263 given to the said member. The member involved will be given an opportunity to
264 be heard at such meeting.

265 Section 9. Right of Appeal

266 Any member whose membership has been altered or terminated by the Board has
267 the right to appeal.

268 **ARTICLE VII - MEETINGS OF MEMBERS**

269 Section 1. Regular Services

270 Meetings for public worship will be held on each Lord's Day and during the week
271 as may be determined by the Pastor and the Board of Directors.

272 Section 2. Special Services

273 Revivals, rallies, missionary services, conventions, and other special services will
274 be planned by the Pastor.

275 Section 3. Annual Business Meeting

276 The church year will be July 1 and running through June 30. There will be a
277 general meeting of the membership to be known as the Annual Business Meeting.
278 It will be held annually during the month of September (Third Quarter of the
279 Year) for the purposes of electing the Board of Directors and for the transaction of
280 such business as may be brought to the meeting. The time and place of the
281 Annual Business Meeting will be set forth by the Board of Directors. The Annual
282 Business Meeting may be postponed by action of the Pastor and the Board of
283 Directors, Elders or Deacons for a period not to exceed thirty (30) days.

284 Section 4. Order of Business

285 The regular order of business for the Annual Business Meeting of the Church will
286 be as follows:

- 287 1. Devotional
- 288 2. Roll call
- 289 3. Review of prior minutes (Minutes will be voted on at a Church
290 Business Meeting within two weeks after the Annual Meeting).
- 291 4. Report of the Pastor
- 292 5. Report of the Treasurer
- 293 6. Reports of Elders, Deacons and committees
- 294 7. Unfinished business
- 295 8. Election or Appointment of officers
- 296 9. New business
- 297 10. Approve This Meetings Minutes (Optional)

298 11. Adjournment

299 Section 5. Special Meetings

300 If a member desires a special meeting for any reason, he will first submit this
301 matter to the Pastor. If the matter is unresolved, the said member may submit the
302 matter to the Board of Directors, who will hear the matter at the next regularly
303 scheduled meeting of the Board. Providing the Board of Directors does not satisfy
304 the member's concern, the matter may be brought before the congregation, at a
305 special congregational meeting.

306 Section 6. Notice of Meetings

307 Written notice stating the place, day and hour of any meeting of members will be
308 delivered personally, or verbal announcements either during Sunday worship, or
309 by mail to each member entitled to vote at such a meeting. The notice will be
310 given not less than ten (10) nor more than fifty (50) days before the date of such
311 meeting by or at the direction of the Pastor or the Secretary of the Board of
312 Directors. In case of a special meeting, the purpose or purposes for which the
313 meeting is called will be stated in the notice. The Secretary shall also cause to be
314 posted such notice along with related information in a conspicuous place at the
315 church for not less than ten (10) days prior to the meeting, of which at least two
316 (2) days shall be Sundays.

317 Section 7. Quorum

318 A) Thirty three percent of the voting membership of the church must respond to a
319 call for a business meeting in order to constitute a quorum.

320 B) Fifty percent of the voting membership of the assembly will be required to
321 constitute a quorum when voting on the Pastor for election or reelection, or for the
322 election of members to the Board of Elders or Deacons.

323 C) Fifty percent of the voting membership of the assembly shall be required to
324 constitute a quorum when voting on a resolution authorizing the purchase of real
325 property or to sell, or otherwise alienate any real property of this organization, and
326 in amending the Articles of Incorporation.

327 D) A majority of a board or committee constitutes a quorum, provided all
328 members receive adequate notice.

329 E) Absentee ballots shall be accepted for meetings of the church. Request must
330 be made to the Pastor, Board of Directors, Elders or Deacons, 10 business day

331 prior to the meeting. Each request will be reviewed, approved or denied based on
332 individual circumstances of the request.

333 Section 8. Unauthorized Meetings & Activities

334 No member of this Church shall promote private enterprises, activities, or
335 meetings (such as private prayer meetings, Bible studies, action groups) which
336 involve the membership of this church, and over which the Church has no control
337 or which have not been sanctioned by the Pastor and the Board of Directors. No
338 member shall use his influence to draw other members of the church into such
339 outside activities.

340 **ARTICLE VIII - THE CHURCH BOARD**

341 Section 1. Definition

342 There shall be a Board of this Church which shall consist of the Pastor and active
343 members of the Church. The Board Members will be elected by the Church or
344 appointed by the Pastor to serve as the Board. "Board Members" will be a term
345 referring to Elders, Deacons & Chair Persons of Departments and Committees
346 who serve on the Church Board.

347 Section 2. Qualifications

348 A) The Board Member's Relationship to God. Board members shall be
349 persons who evidence a mature and vital walk with God. They will be the
350 persons in the congregation whom others readily identify as those who
351 walk in Christ's steps. The Board Member is a person people can be turned
352 to in times of spiritual need for godly and wise counsel. They will
353 manifest a life of holiness, wisdom and faith; and who are filled with the
354 Spirit.

355
356 B) The Board Member's Relationship to Family. A board member will be
357 unmarried or married to one spouse. A board member's family will be a
358 positive, wholesome, and imitable influence upon the congregation.
359 Inasmuch as children who have come of age cannot be coerced into the
360 Faith, board members are not to be regarded as necessarily derelict in the
361 Christian duties if their teenage and older children are not believers. [Luke
362 15:11-13]

363 C) The Board Member's Relationship to Self. A board member will be a
364 wholesome person spiritually and emotionally. The board member's life
365 will manifest the fruit of the Spirit (the life qualities of the indwelling
366 Christ): love, joy, peace, endurance, kindness, goodness, faithfulness,
367 gentleness, and self-control.

- 368 D) The Board Member's Relationship to the Congregation. The board
369 members will be persons whom the congregation looks to for providing
370 leadership to the congregation in matters pertaining to the operations of
371 the Church. Their involvement in the life of the congregation and
372 commitment to the disciplines of membership given in Article VI, Section
373 1, will be exemplary.
- 374 E) The Board Member's Relationship to the World. The board member must
375 be above reproach, having a good reputation among those outside the
376 Church.
- 377 F) If at all possible, board members will not be related to each other, unless
378 the board unanimously approves of the election or appointment.

379 Section 3. Duties of Board Members

- 380 A) The Board of Directors with the Pastor, shall be the executive body in the
381 conduct of the functions and privileges of the Church, both as a Church
382 and a legal entity. The Board shall act in an advisory capacity to the
383 Pastor in all matters pertaining to the Church.
- 384 B) The Board of Directors with the Pastor will act in the examination of
385 applicants for membership, and in the discipline of members.
- 386 C) The Board of Directors will be the Trustees of the Church property and
387 will be responsible for care of the same.
- 388 D) The Board of Directors will have portfolios of special responsibility as
389 assigned by the Pastor.
- 390 E) The Board of Directors will adopt procedural rules from time to time as
391 necessary for proper functioning of the Board.
- 392 F) The Directors shall be regular in attendance at Sunday church services and
393 shall serve as a positive model for the Church, by their involvement in the
394 life of the congregation.

395 Section 4. Number of Directors

396 The number of persons serving as Directors will vary according to the size of the
397 active membership. The maximum number of Directors will not be more than
398 double the minimum number of Directors unless appointed by the Pastor.

- 399 A) A minimum of three [3] directors if the church has less than one hundred
400 [100] active members.
- 401 B) A minimum of four [4] directors if the church has more than one hundred
402 and one active members but less than two hundred members; [101-200].
- 403 C) A minimum of five [5] directors if the church has more than two hundred
404 and one active members but less than three hundred members; [201-300].
- 405 D) A minimum of six [6] directors if the church has more than three hundred
406 and one active members but less than four hundred members; [301-400].
- 407 E) A minimum of seven [7] directors if the church has more than four
408 hundred and one active members but less than five hundred members;
409 [401-500].

410 Section 5. Election of Directors

- 411 A) The nominating committee will consist of the Pastor, Secretary of the
412 Board of Directors, the Senior Elder, and Senior Deacon.
- 413 B) In addition, any voting member may place a potential nomination of any
414 voting member and will forward the name to the Nominating Committee
415 or Board of Directors 30 days before any Business Meeting of the Church.
416 All nominations must be approved by the Board of Directors.
- 417 C) Directors will be elected by secret ballot. Nominees must be approved by the
418 Board of Directors. Then, nominees will be declared elected upon receiving two
419 thirds of votes cast. If there are more nominees than vacant offices, nominees will
420 be declared elected when they have received the highest number of ballots cast
421 equaling or exceeding two thirds of possible electoral ballots.

422 Section 6. Terms of Office

- 423 A) A Board Member will be elected to serve a perpetual term. However, 30
424 days prior to the Annual Meeting, a Director will be given the option of
425 resigning his/her appointment or making a lateral move upon the
426 application and endorsement of the pastor. Annually, an opportunity for
427 new Directors to serve will be given as stated in Article VIII subcategory
428 C.
- 429 B) A Board Member or officer other than the Pastor will continue in office
430 until their successor assumes office.

431 Section 7. Regular Meetings

432 The Pastor will call a regular meeting of the Board of Directors within thirty (30)
433 days after the Annual Business Meeting. Thereafter, the Board of Directors; may
434 provide by resolution the time and place for additional regular meetings of the
435 Board of Directors. The Board of Directors will attempt to meet once a month.

436 Section 8. Special Meetings

437 Special meetings of the Board of Directors may be called by, or at the request of
438 the Pastor or any two (2) elected Board of Directors. The persons authorized to
439 call special meetings of the Board of Directors may fix the time and place for
440 holding such a special meeting of the Board of Directors.

441 Section 9. Notice of Meetings

442 Notice of any special meeting of the Board of Directors will be given personally
443 or sent by mail pursuant to Article VIII. The attendance of any Board of Director
444 member at any meeting will constitute a waiver of notice of such meeting, except
445 where a Board of Director member attends for the express purpose of objecting to
446 the transaction of business because of failure to notice. The business to be
447 transacted at the meeting need not be specified in the notice or waiver of notice of
448 such meeting, unless specifically required by law or by these Bylaws.

449 Section 10. Quorum

450 A majority of the Board of Director's members will constitute a quorum for the
451 transaction of business. If less than a majority of the Board members are present,
452 a majority of present members may adjourn the meeting from time to time without
453 further notice.

454 Section 11. Manners of Acting

455 The act of a majority of the Board of Directors members present and voting at a
456 meeting at which a quorum is present, will be the act of the Board of Directors,
457 unless the act of a greater number is required by law or these Bylaws.

458 Section 12. Vacancies

459 In the event of a vacancy due to the resignation, death, or removal of a Board of
460 Directors Member, the Pastor may nominate one or more candidates. The Board
461 of Directors will counsel the pastor and assist in filling the vacancy. The Pastor
462 does have the authority to appoint a Director to fill the vacancy or when he deems
463 the appointment would benefit the Board of Directors and Church Body.

464 1. A Board of Director member shall have vacated his office when he or she
465 submits a written resignation or when he or she verbally resigns to the Pastor in

466 the presence of at least one (1) credible witness or at a regular or specially called
467 meeting of the Board of Directors.

468 2. A Board of Director member may have his office declared vacant by a majority
469 vote of a minimum quorum of the active membership present. This can happen at
470 the Annual Business Meeting or at a special business meeting called to vote upon
471 vacating such office. Such a majority action will result in the Board of Director
472 members' position being declared vacant upon declaration of the result of a vote.

473 **ARTICLE IX - BOARD OF DEACONS AND ELDERS**

474 **Section 1. Definition:**

475 There will be a Board of Deacons and Elders of this church, which will consist of
476 the Pastor and active members of this church.

477 **Section 2. Qualifications:**

478 A) **The Deacon's and Elder's Relationship to God.** They shall be persons who
479 evidence a mature and vital walk with God. They shall be the persons in the
480 congregation whom others readily identify as those who walk in Christ's steps.
481 The person should be one who can be turned to in times of spiritual need for godly
482 and wise counsel; who manifest a life of holiness, wisdom, and faith; and who are
483 filled with the Spirit.

484 B) **The Deacon's and Elder's Relationship to Family.** A Deacon or Elder shall be
485 unmarried or married to
486 one spouse. A Deacon's family shall be positive, wholesome and imitable
487 influence upon the congregation.

488 C) **The Deacon's and Elder's Relationship to Self.** A Deacon or Elder shall be a
489 wholesome person spiritually and emotionally. The Deacon's life shall manifest
490 the fruit of the Spirit (the life qualities of the indwelling Christ): love, joy peace,
491 endurance, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness, and self-control.

492 D) **The Deacon's and Elder's Relationship to the Congregation.** A Deacon or
493 Elder shall be a person whom the congregation looks to for guarding the church
494 from false doctrine and false teachers, promoting and/or teaching sound doctrine
495 within the Church, and providing leadership direction and counsel to the
496 congregation in matters pertaining to the Church as a whole. Their involvement
497 in the life of the congregation and commitment to the disciplines of membership
498 given in Article VI. Section 1, shall be exemplary.

499 E) **The Deacon's and Elder's Relationship to the World.** A Deacon or Elder must

500 be above reproach, having a good reputation among those outside of the Church.

501 Section 3. Manner of Selection

502 Deacons and Elders shall be selected by the Pastor to assist in the spiritual
503 ministry of the church. They must be affirmed by the Board of Directors and the
504 congregation.

505 Section 4. Terms of Office

506 Deacons and Elders will be appointed for an indefinite period. Subsequent
507 conditions are outlined in Article VIII subcategory C.

508 Section 5. Regular Meetings

509 The Board of Directors will meet monthly and as the need arises. The meeting
510 will be called by the Pastor. Board of Directors' Meetings may be held by
511 telephone.

512 Section 6. Duties of Deacons and Elders

513 A) The Deacons and Elders shall give themselves to prayer and the Word that they
514 might exercise spiritual discernment and guidance within the congregation.

515 B) The Deacons and Elders will minister and provide for ministry to the spiritual
516 and physical needs of the community and congregation. They will pray for the
517 sick and personally minister in whatever manner may be required.

518 C) The Deacons and Elders will seek the extension of the Kingdom of God
519 through evangelism, inclusion of the new converts into the life of the Church,
520 Church planting, and missionary extension.

521 D) The Deacons and Elders shall promote Christian fellowship in the
522 congregation by leading and/or encouraging small groups gathered for prayer,
523 Bible study, evangelism, and sharing.

524 Section 7. Removal of a Deacon or Elder

525 Should anyone in the congregation, including a staff member or another Deacon
526 or Elder, bring an accusation against a Deacon or Elder, charging that he or she
527 does not qualify for his or her position, the Board of Directors may hear the
528 accusation and any response from the Deacon or Elder. Then, in a vote, two
529 thirds of the Board of Directors agrees the Deacon or Elder does not meet the
530 qualifications, that Deacon or Elder may no longer serve in their current position.

531

ARTICLE X - OFFICERS

532

Section 1. Definition: Pastor

533

The Pastor as designated in the Scriptures, is the head of the Church under the leadership of the Lord Jesus, and is referred to under the title of "Pastor" or "Shepherd" (Eph. 4:11), "Bishop" or "Supervisor" (1 Tim. 3:2-7), and "Presbyter" or Elder" (Titus 1:5).

534

535

536

537

Section 2. Qualifications:

538

The Pastor shall be a duly licensed or ordained from the International Ministerial Fellowship, Fellowship of Christian Assemblies or like fellowship, or the local church and shall be in harmonious accord with our Bylaws. He shall be a person of good report whose life and conduct conform with the Scriptures (1 Tim. 3:3-7; Titus 1:6-9, 1 Pet. 5:2-3).

539

540

541

542

543

Section 3. Duties

544

A) New Commandment Church has two complimentary branches, the spiritual body of believers and the legal Corporation. It is the Senior Pastor who administratively bridges the gap between the two branches. Even though the dual roles can be awkward, because the Senior Pastor is primarily responsible for the spiritual life of the church, the Pastor must be in a position corporately to ensure that financial strength is directed toward the ministries to fulfill the vision of the New Commandment Church. The Pastor will have oversight of the Church, its ministries and employees.

545

546

547

548

549

550

551

552

B) The Senior Pastor shall be the President of the Corporation, Chairman of the Board of Directors, and shall preside over all Church Business Meetings and Board meetings. Further, he will be the senior administrator of the church. He is ultimately responsible for all day to day administrative decisions of the church.

553

554

555

556

C) The Pastor shall be an ex-officio member of all other boards and committees within the Church.

557

558

D) The Pastor shall be responsible for the preparations of the agenda for all Church business meetings and board meetings.

559

560

E) The Pastor shall provide for all services of the Church and shall arrange for all

561 special meetings, conventions, and revival campaigns. No person shall be invited
562 to minister in the Church without his approval.

563 F) The Pastor will endeavor to represent the Church in the community of other
564 believers.

565 G) The Pastor shall perform all other duties necessary to the work of the ministry.

566 Section 4. Responsibility of the Senior Pastor

567 It is the responsibility of the Senior Pastor to:

568 A) Provide biblical vision and direction for the congregation.

569 B) Define and communicate the church's purpose.

570 C) Oversee and coordinated the day to day ministries of the congregation and
571 administration of the church.

572 D) Recognize and enlist apostolic, prophetic, evangelistic, pastoral and teaching
573 ministries along with that of Elders, Deacons and additional staff members. As the
574 pastor deems biblical and necessary for the healthy and balanced spiritual ministry
575 to the body of believers.

576 Section 5. Disciplining the Senior Pastor

577 Should the Senior Pastor demonstrate immoral conduct, questionable financial
578 practices or theological views that are contrary to these by laws, the Elders may
579 require personal correction or termination of his position. The Elders will contact
580 the Senior Pastor and then, if necessary, the Board of Directors for investigation
581 and evaluation of any appropriate discipline.

582 A) Process for Investigation

583 Should the Board of Directors be asked to investigate alleged pastoral misconduct,
584 a consensus of two thirds of the Directors is required to take disciplinary action.
585 With such a consensus, the Directors shall assume complete authority over the
586 Senior Pastor; they may decide to remove him from his position or to discipline
587 him in any way they deem necessary.

588 Section 6. Manner of Elections

589 A) The Board of Directors shall serve as the Pastoral Search Committee in the
590 event of a pastoral vacancy. The Pastoral Search Committee shall function only in
591 the event of a vacancy in the pastorate. Other church members may be added if
592 necessary.

593 B) Upon a vacancy in the pastorate, the Board of Directors or Pastoral Search
594 Committee shall provide for an Interim Pastor as needed. The recommended term
595 for an Interim Pastor is 6 months - 1 year.

596 C) The Committee shall make a prayerful determination of the goals and needs of
597 the Church.

598 D) The Board of Directors after much prayer and diligent research, shall
599 recommend one candidate to the Church for consideration as Pastor. The pastoral
600 candidate shall then be invited to the Church to meet with the people and preach
601 to the congregation.

602 E) If the pastoral candidate consents, his name will be presented by the Board of
603 Directors for vote by the active membership at a regular or specially called church
604 business meeting. The votes will be counted by members of the Board of
605 Directors or Directors Spouses.

606 F) Election of the Pastor will be by secret ballot. A two-thirds affirmative vote by
607 the voting membership present at a properly called church business meeting will
608 constitute an election.

609 G) In the event the pastoral candidate fails to receive the necessary votes, or upon
610 receiving the necessary votes declines the invitation to be the Pastor, the Board of
611 Directors will repeat the process described in this Section until a pastoral
612 candidate receives the necessary two-thirds votes and accepts the pastorate.

613
614 Section 5. Terms of Office

615 A) The term of the Pastor's office shall be for an indefinite period; the term to
616 expire upon not more than sixty and not less than thirty days notice given by
617 resignation of the Pastor, or by action of the Church. A vote of confidence by
618 secret ballot shall be held at the next Annual Business Meeting upon the
619 completion of the first year of a Pastor's tenure. In the event the Pastor fails to
620 receive two-thirds affirmative votes for the continuation of his tenure, his term of
621 office shall end no later than sixty days from the Annual Business Meeting.

622 B) The Board of Directors may request a Pastor to resign. If the Pastor chooses

623 not to resign, the Board shall either withdraw its request or call a special meeting
624 requesting the membership to sustain its request. A two thirds vote of members
625 present will be required to sustain the request of the Board. If the Board's request
626 is so sustained, the Pastor's term of office shall end no later than sixty days from
627 the annual or specially called meeting.

628 Section 6. Other Pastors and Employees

629 All associate and assistant pastors, directors of youth, music and education, and
630 any other members of the pastoral or Church Staff and all other Church employees
631 will be appointed by the Pastor, subject to prior ratification by the Board of
632 Directors. No regular salaried employee of the Church will be a member of the
633 Board other than the Pastor.

634 Section 7. Chairman Pro-Tempore

635 The Pro-Tempore Chairman of the Church shall be a member of the Board of
636 Directors and shall act as President of the Corporation and preside over all Church
637 business meetings and Board meetings at the request of or in the absence of the
638 President. If the office of Pastor is vacated, the Chairman, Pro-Tempore, with the
639 assistance of the Board, will assume responsibility for the general supervision of
640 the Church.

641 Section 8. Secretary

642 The Secretary of the Church will be a member of the Board of Directors and will
643 keep, or cause to be kept, a book of minutes of all Church business meetings and
644 meetings of the Board. The Secretary will keep, or cause to be kept, a record of
645 the membership of the Church, and will be custodian of all legal documents of the
646 Church and its corporate seal. The Secretary will perform duties as belong to the
647 office. The Secretary will be appointed by the Pastor at the first meeting of the
648 Board following the Annual Business Meeting.

649 Section 9. Treasurer

650 The Treasurer of the Church will be a member of the Board of Directors and will
651 be responsible for all monies received into the treasury of the Church and will
652 disburse, or cause to be disbursed, such funds as directed by the Board under
653 authority granted by the active membership under these Bylaws. The Treasurer's
654 records will be available at all times for audit under the direction of the Board.
655 The Treasurer will be appointed by the Pastor at the first meeting of the Board
656 following the Annual Business Meeting.

657

ARTICLE XI - DEPARTMENTS AND COMMITTEES

658

Section 1. Committees of the Board

659

The Board of Directors, by resolution adopted by a majority of its members, may

660

designate one or more committees, each of which will consist of one or more

661

Board Members, which committees, to the extent provided in said resolution,

662

shall have and exercise the authority of the Board in the management of the

663

Church; but the designation of such committees and the delegation thereto of

664

authority shall not operate to relieve the Board or any individual Board member of

665

any responsibility imposed by the law or these Bylaws upon it or the Board

666

member.

667

Section 2. Other Committees and Departments of the Church

668

Other committees and departments within the Church not having or exercising the

669

authority of the Board of Directors in the management of the Church may be

670

provided for by a resolution adopted by a majority of the Board present at a

671

meeting at which a quorum is present. The members of such committees or the

672

personnel of such departments shall be appointed by the Pastor subject to

673

ratification by the Board. Anyone so appointed shall serve at the pleasure of the

674

Pastor or Board.

675

Section 3. Chairperson

676

One member of each committee shall be appointed chairperson by the person or

677

persons authorized to appoint the members.

678

Section 4. Vacancies

679

Vacancies in the membership of any committee or department position may be

680

filled by appointments in the same manner as provided in the case of the original

681

appointments.

682

Section 5. Quorum

683

Unless otherwise provided in the resolution of the Board of Directors designating

684

a committee, a majority of the whole committee shall constitute a quorum and the

685

act of a majority of the members present at a meeting at which a quorum is

686

present shall be the act of the committee.

687

Section 6. Duties

688

Each committee may adopt rules for its own government consistent with these

689

Bylaws or with rules adopted by the Board of Directors.

690

ARTICLE XII - VACANCIES

691

Section 1. How Declared

692

In the event of cause, any office may be declared vacant by an act of a majority vote of the voting members present at any regular or specially called meeting.

693

694

Section 2. Grounds

695

Grounds for such action will be: unscriptural conduct, departure from the Tenets of Faith (Article IV), incompetency in office, and actions in violation of these Bylaws.

696

697

698

Section 3. Procedures

699

A complaint may be lodged against any incumbent and brought before the Church for action by any active member as described in Article VII Section 5 or upon recommendation of the Board of Directors.

700

701

702

Section 4. Hearing

703

Any incumbent under charge, shall have the opportunity for a fair and impartial hearing before the Church in a regular or specially called business meeting.

704

705

ARTICLES XIII - MANNER OF GIVING NOTICE

706

Whenever these Bylaws do not state otherwise, notice is required to be given to any Board of Directors member, officer or member, and such notice shall not be construed to mean personal notice. Notice may be given verbally or in writing, by mail, by depositing the same in the post office or mailbox, in a post paid sealed envelope, addressed to such members, officer, or Board Member at such addresses as appears on the records of the Church. The notice will be deemed to be given at the time when the same will be mailed.

707

708

709

710

711

712

713

ARTICLE XIV - FINANCE

714

Section 1. Income

715

The financial needs of the Church will be met by tithes, offerings, gifts, devises, bequests, trusts, annuities, contributions and such other means as the Board of Directors may approve.

716

717

718

Section 2. Budget

719

The Board of Directors will prepare annually a unified budget for the Church.

720 Said unified budget will include all monies received or expended by or for any
721 and all departments of the Church.

722 Section 3. Banking

723 The Treasurer will properly account for or cause to be accounted for all monies
724 received by any and all departments of the Church. The Treasurer or other
725 designated person will immediately deposit or cause to be deposited the same in
726 the bank account or accounts of the Church which the Board of Directors will
727 from time to time establish.

728 Section 4. Withdrawals

729 Two signatures will be required on withdrawal of monies from any accounts. The
730 persons authorized to sign for said withdrawals shall be the President, Secretary,
731 Treasurer, or persons named by the Board of Directors. All withdrawals shall be
732 made under the supervision of the Board.

733 Section 5. Audit

734 The Board of Directors shall review monthly income and disbursement statements
735 and make financial statements available on site when requested. The Treasurer or
736 Board of Directors will provide an Annual Financial Report each year at the
737 Church Annual Meeting or any other regular or specially scheduled meeting.

738 Section 6. Encumbering

739 The Board of Directors shall have the power to borrow and to maintain an
740 indebtedness up to an amount equal to ten percent (10%) of the preceding year's
741 contributed un designated income (tithes and offerings). Said amount of
742 indebtedness shall be in addition to any amount authorized by action of the
743 membership.

744 Section 7. Salaries

745 The Pastor shall be given regular and adequate financial support, the amount and
746 manner of which shall be determined by agreement between the Pastor and Board
747 of Directors. The salaries of all members of the pastoral staff and other full-time
748 or part-time employees shall be set by the Board with the advice and counsel of
749 the Pastor. All salaries and benefits shall be reviewed by the Board on an annual
750 basis or more frequently as the Board desires.

751 Section 8. Missionary Commitments and Missions Projects

752 Regular financial support to missionaries, missionary projects, and other person(s)
753 and cause(s) related to missions will be decided upon by the Board of Directors.
754 The congregation will be advisors to the Board of Directors concerning missions.

755

ARTICLE XV - PROPERTY

756

Section 1. Title

757

All property of whatever kind and wherever situated regardless of how it is

758

acquired by the Church shall be held, sold, transferred or conveyed in the name of

759

the Corporation.

760

Section 2. Acquisition / Disposition

761

The Board of Directors will have the power to mortgage, encumber or hypothecate

762

the assets of the Church, without prior approval of the membership only to the

763

extent they are authorized in Article XIV, Section 6, to borrow. From time to

764

time real and/or personal property may be offered to the Church by a donor or

765

donors which are intended to provide support to the Church rather than for actual

766

use by the Church. The Board shall have the power to accept and to dispose of

767

such property in such manners as they deem appropriate and to execute any and

768

all documents necessary and/or conveyance provided that such action shall require

769

a two-thirds vote of the Board. All other transactions involving real property,

770

whether by purchase, lease, mortgage, encumbrance, sale or otherwise, must be

771

approved by a two-thirds majority vote of the voting members present at a Church

772

meeting duly called. Notice of said meeting shall include notice of the action to

773

be considered involving real property.

774

Section 3. Documents

775

The President and Secretary of the Board of Directors shall execute any

776

conveyance, lease, or mortgage when properly approved by the membership or the

777

Board of Directors.

778

Section 4. Dissolution

779

The property of this Corporation is irrevocably dedicated to religious purposes

780

and no part of the net income or assets of this corporation shall ever inure to the

781

benefit of any director, officer or member thereof or to the benefit of any private

782

person. Upon the dissolution or winding up of the corporation, its assets

783

remaining after payment, or provision for payment, of all debts and liabilities of

784

this corporation shall be distributed, at the time of the dissolution of this

785

Corporation, to be as follows;

786

A) Union Gospel Mission.

787

B) Fellowship of Christian Assemblies (For Church Planting).

788

C) Teen Challenge of Minnesota.

789

D) The remaining to be distributed to the existing missions that the church

790 is currently supporting proportioned on the basis of current support.

791 **ARTICLE XVI - ROBERT'S RULE OF ORDER**

792 Where not in conflict with other provisions of these Bylaws, Robert's Rules of
793 Order, latest edition, shall control the procedure for all business meetings of the
794 Church, the meetings of the Board, and committees established by or pursuant to
795 the Articles of Incorporation and/or the Bylaws of this Church.

796 **ARTICLE XVII - NUMBER AND GENDER**

797 Except where the context indicates otherwise, words in the singular number shall
798 include the plural, and words in the masculine gender shall include the feminine,
799 and vice versa.

800 **ARTICLE XVIII - AMENDMENTS**

801 The Bylaws may be amended at any regular or special meeting of the assembly by
802 a majority vote of the membership present, provided the proposed amendment has
803 been announced publicly in all services on the two Sundays prior to the date of the
804 meeting. Announcement to be made by the Pastor or the Church Secretary.

805

Addendums

806 Article One changed **From:** (approved by membership at a general business
807 meeting, October 23, 2005 at 11:15 a.m. at 1429 Madison Street, NE Mpls. MN
808 55413).

809 **ARTICLE I - NAME**

810 NEW COMMANDMENT CHURCH OF NORTHEAST MINNEAPOLIS INC.

811 **To:**

812 the Church, AT NORTHEAST CHRISTIAN CENTER, INC.