

BYLAWS AND REGULATIONS OF EASTPOINTE CHRISTIAN CHURCH

Edition Date: January 30, 2022

The name of this congregation shall be **Eastpointe Christian Church**, incorporated as a nonprofit corporation in the State of Ohio.

ARTICLE 1 – WHY EASTPOINTE CHRISTIAN CHURCH EXISTS

1. WHY – Eastpointe Christian Church exists to love God and love people. Its mission, vision, values, and actions flow from these two commands. (Matthew 22:36-38)

ARTICLE 2 - MEMBERSHIP, VOTING, SOURCE OF FINANCES

1. MEMBERSHIP – The membership of this congregation shall be those who have been baptized at Eastpointe Christian Church and those immersed believers who have transferred their membership to Eastpointe. A membership roll shall be maintained.
2. VOTING/AFFIRMING – Any member may vote/affirm a proposal who has attended, either in person or online, at least 50% of Sunday morning church services over the 3 months immediately preceding a congregational meeting at which there will be a vote/affirmation taken.
3. SOURCE OF FINANCES – This congregation shall be financed with tithes, offerings, gifts and any method or program consistent with established policies of the Elders.

ARTICLE 3 – ELDERS

1. ELDERS – The Elders shall be deemed the Directors, Officers, and Trustees for legal purposes and requirements.
2. QUALIFICATIONS – Elder spiritual and moral qualifications are as found in 1 Timothy 3:1-7 and Titus 1:5-10. Other qualifications may apply according to the established policies of the Elders.
3. DUTIES OF THE ELDERS – The duties of Elders are described by Acts 6, Acts 20, and in 1 Peter 5:2. Elders are to be the spiritual overseers and shepherds. They have four tasks
i. prayer and preaching, ii. setting policies and objectives, iii. protecting sound doctrine, and
iv. providing pastoral care of the congregation.

4. INSTALLATION – New Elders recommended by the existing Eldership to the congregation shall be installed upon receiving a three-fourths majority affirmation from the congregation at a congregational meeting. New Elder recommendations from the existing Eldership shall only occur after there has been a full vetting of person by the Eldership and in accordance with the established policies of the Eldership.

5. TERM OF OFFICE – Elders shall serve the congregation until resignation or removal. A three-fourths consensus by the Elders, not including the Elder in question, is required to remove an Elder from office.

ARTICLE 4 – CONGREGATIONAL MEETINGS

1. GENERAL - All congregational meetings shall be announced at least two weeks in advance from the pulpit and via email unless the Elders unanimously declare the meeting as an emergency, in which case the advance notice requirement shall be shorten to one week. Announcements of congregational meetings will include the items of business to be considered. No other items can be considered. The Elders shall have sole authority to call meetings and determine what matters will be on the agenda. As permitted by Ohio Revised Code Section 1702.22(A)(1), a quorum for transaction of business shall be the number of members present at the meeting. A majority vote/affirmation of the members present shall be sufficient to pass any measure, except for the affirmation of a new Elder as defined in Article 3. The chairman of the Elders or his designee shall preside at all congregational meetings. The annual congregational business meeting of Eastpointe Christian Church shall be held in January each year at a place and time designated by the Elders.

2. VOTE REQUIRED: The Articles of Incorporation and the Bylaws and Regulations may only be amended by a vote of the majority of members present at a congregational meeting at which a quorum is present.

3. PARTICIPATION METHOD - The Elders may also determine if on-line participation shall be allowed at the meeting. In person meetings shall always be the preferred and default method of meeting unless unusual circumstances exist as determined by the Elders. Every notice of a congregational meeting shall advise whether the meeting will be exclusively in person or whether on-line viewing and participating will be permitted.

ARTICLE 5 – LEAD PASTOR (aka SENIOR MINISTER)

1. SELECTION - Recommendation for the Lead Pastor shall originate with the Eldership. Only candidates who are graduates of Restoration Movement colleges or have a minimum five years of experience in leadership at a Restoration Movement church/organization or have been an active member of a Restoration Movement church may be recommended. The Elders will refer their recommended candidate to the congregation for affirmation at a congregational meeting.

2. CALL - The Lead Pastor shall be called by a majority affirmation at a congregational meeting. The congregational call for the Lead Pastor shall be for an indefinite period.

3. TERMINATION - Termination of employment of the Lead Pastor shall not require an action of the congregation, said authority shall reside exclusively with the Elders. Because of privacy, confidentiality, and legal concerns, the Elders may deem it appropriate to keep the reasons for termination confidential.

4. LEAD PASTOR ELDERSHIP - The Lead Pastor shall automatically be an Elder with all of the duties and responsibilities thereof except regarding matters of his own conduct and/or employment.

5. DUTIES - The Lead Pastor's duties and responsibilities shall be described in the formal policies adopted by the Eldership.

ARTICLE 6. Eastpointe Christian Preschool

1. ADMINISTRATOR - Eastpointe Christian Preschool is a ministry of Eastpointe Christian Church. As such, the administrator of the preschool shall also be a paid staff pastor as described in the formal policies of the Elders.

ARTICLE 7. Dissolution

1. In the event of a dissolution of Eastpointe Christian Church, any remaining assets shall be divided among the nonprofit organizations supported monthly by Eastpointe Christian Church. Those remaining assets will be divided in the same percentages as the monthly missionary donations of Eastpointe Christian Church were in the month immediately prior to the dissolution. If there were no donations one month prior to dissolution, then all remaining assets shall all be given to Lifeline Christian Mission, an Ohio nonprofit corporation (Ohio Secretary of State Entity number 565382). No remaining assets of Eastpointe Christian Church will be distributed to any individual or for-profit entity.

ARTICLE 8 AMENDMENTS TO BYLAWS AND REGULATIONS

1. These bylaws may be amended by a majority of the votes cast by members at a congregational meeting called with Bylaws and Regulations amendment on the agenda.