By-Laws February 8, 2015
CENTRAL CHRISTIAN CHURCH
of St. Petersburg, Florida, Inc.

ARTICLE I - MEMBERSHIP

SECTION 1. At Central Christian Church, (the Church), members of any age shall strive for obedience to the commands of our Lord Jesus Christ, repent of sin, make a public confession of faith in Christ before the congregation or privately before the ministers, and submit to Christian Baptism by immersion. Transfers of membership shall be made by letter or by statement that the candidate has completed the above primary obedience.

SECTION 2. Members may be moved from the active roll to inactive status if more than one calendar year passes without adherence to the above criteria. After two consecutive years of inactivity the member's name may be purged from the church membership roll.

ARTICLE II - BOARD OF ELDERS, BOARD OF DEACONS~~,~~

SECTION 1. NUMBER, QUALIFICATIONS, TERMS OF OFFICE: The activities of this Church shall be managed by the Board of Elders, consisting of not less than 3 members who shall be citizens of the State Of Florida. The number of Elders and Deacons shall be determined by the Board of Elders. Elders and Deacons shall be elected for a three-year term as provided by these by-laws.

SECTION 2. ELECTION OF ELDERS AND DEACONS: The election of Elder and Deacon candidates shall occur in December of each year. Only men 18 years of age or older, who have been members for at least 6 months prior to their nomination, willing to serve, and who meet the Biblical qualifications will be eligible for election. The Board of Elders shall serve as the nominating committee and will choose the appropriate number of men as a final slate to be presented to the congregation at the annual election meeting in December. Election shall be by a majority vote of votes cast. January 1st of each year will be the beginning of the term for each newly elected Elder and Deacon candidate.

SECTION 3. THE BOARD OF ELDERS: The Elders shall be the spiritual overseers in all matters pertaining to the local Church. They shall be responsible for the activities and business affairs; shall address matters of Church discipline, disputes between members, and oversee the restoration process for an erring member. The Elders shall also be the Pulpit Committee, charged with calling the Senior Minister; have general policy supervision of the educational and ministerial programs; approval of Sunday School teachers, etc. as presented by the Senior Minister. They shall organize and elect a Chairman, Vice Chairman, Secretary, and Treasurer for the ensuing fiscal year at the regular December Elder's meeting. See Article lll, Section 2.

SECTION 4. THE BOARD OF DEACONS: The Deacons shall be servants of the Church. The Deacons shall cooperate with the Elders in all things pertaining to the welfare of the congregation, as provided in the New Testament Scriptures. They shall organize and elect officers at the regular December Deacon's meeting.
See Article lll, Section 2.

SECTION 5. VACANCIES: Any vacancy on the Board of Elders or Deacons shall be filled by the Board of Elders at a regular or special meeting called for that purpose, and shall be only for the unexpired term of the specific office to be filled.

SECTION 6. COMPENSATION: The office of Elders or Deacons shall not be compensated for their services.

SECTION 7. REMOVAL: Any Elder or Deacon may be removed from office without assignment of cause by a two-thirds vote of the Elders. In the event of removal for cause, a written statement of cause will be presented to the one under consideration for removal. Five days will be provided for a rebuttal after which a special meeting will be called specifically to determine if a removal is warranted. Removal shall require a majority vote of the Elders. No Elder under consideration for removal may vote on that issue.

ARTICLE III - THE EXECUTIVE OFFICERS OF THE CHURCH

SECTION 1. OFFICERS: The executive officers of this Church shall be the Chairman, the Vice Chairman, the Secretary, and the Treasurer of the Board of Elders.

SECTION 2. ELECTION OF OFFICERS: Each year the Board of Elders and the Board of Deacons shall meet to elect their respective officers at the regular board meeting in December. January 1 of each year will be the beginning of the term for each newly elected position.

SECTION 3. TERM OF OFFICE: All executive officers shall serve for one year from January 1 thru December 31 after being elected at the regular December Elders meeting.

SECTION 4. VACANCIES: When a vacancy occurs in one of the executive offices it shall be filled by the Board of Elders for the unexpired term. He shall remain in office until a successor is duly elected.

SECTION 5. COMPENSATION: The executive officers shall receive no compensation for their service as executive officers.

SECTION 6. REMOVAL FROM OFFICE: An executive officer of the Church may be removed by a two-thirds vote of the Board of Elders whenever, in their judgment, the best interest of the Church will be served by his removal. The removal shall be without prejudice to his membership on the Board of Elders.

SECTION 7. THE SENIOR MINISTER: The Senior Minister shall be selected by the Elders and called to serve for an indefinite term by the membership of the Church upon the recommendation of the Elders by a majority vote. The Senior Minister shall serve as an ex-officio member of the Board of Elders. Such ministry shall continue as long as mutually satisfactory to both minister and Church membership. To terminate the Minister's ministry at any time, he shall be given a 30-day written notice after a majority vote for removal by the Church membership at a special meeting called for that purpose upon the recommendation of the Elders. Upon vote for termination, the Elders shall prescribe the rights, privileges, and obligations of the Senior Minister. Should the Senior Minister desire to terminate his ministry at any time, he shall give to the congregation through the Elders, a 60-day written notice of his intention to leave.

SECTION 8. ASSOCIATE MINISTERS: Associate Ministers will be selected by the Senior Minister and approved by a two-thirds vote of the Elders. If it is desired to terminate an Associate Minister's ministry at any time, he shall be given a 30-day written notice after a majority vote for removal by the Elders upon the recommendation of the Senior Minister and/or Elders. Upon vote for termination, the Elders shall prescribe the rights, privileges, and obligations of the Associate Minister. Should an Associate Minister desire to terminate his ministry at any time, he shall give the Senior Minister a 30-day written notice of his intent to leave. The Senior Minister shall inform the Elders immediately of such notice.

SECTION 9. THE CHAIRMAN OF THE BOARD OF ELDERS: The Chairman of the Elders shall: preside at all meetings of the congregation, and the Combined Board of Elders and Deacons, discharge the duties of a presiding officer, present at each annual meeting of the Church a report of the business of the Corporation for the preceding year, and perform whatever other duties the Board of Elders may (from time to time) prescribe.

SECTION 10. THE VICE CHAIRMAN OF THE BOARD OF ELDERS: The Vice Chairman shall, in the absence of the Chairman, perform his duties and exercise the powers of the Chairman. He shall also perform whatever other duties and whatever other powers the Board of Elders or the Chairman may (from time to time) prescribe.

SECTION 11. SECRETARY OF THE BOARD OF ELDERS: The Secretary shall attend all meetings of the Board of Elders, Combined Board of the Elders and Deacons, and the Church corporate meetings; keep a true and complete record of the proceedings of all meetings which shall be permanently kept in the Church Office; keep the corporate seal of the corporation and shall, when directed by the Board of Elders, affix it to any instrument requiring it; cause to be given notice of all meetings of the Board of Elders and/or Deacons or the Corporation, and perform whatever additional duties the Board of Elders or Chairman may (from time to time) prescribe.

SECTION 12. THE TREASURER OF THE BOARD OF ELDERS: The Treasurer shall be responsible for: custody of funds and securities, give a full and accurate account of receipts and disbursements, deposit all corporate monies and other valuable effects in the name of and to the credit of the Corporation in a depository designated by the Board of Elders, disburse all funds and render to the Chairman of the Board of Elders an account of his transactions, and the financial condition of the Corporation including any wills, deeds, contracts, etc.; give monthly reports of these transactions; assist in the preparation of the budget for the fiscal year of the Corporation to be presented to the Board of Elders, Board of Elders and Deacons for the annual meeting of the Corporation. He will also assist in preparation of an annual financial report which includes amounts received by designated categories and their disbursements.

SECTION 13. EX-OFFICIO MEMBER: The Senior Minister, Chairman and Vice-Chairman of the Church shall always be a standing member of the Boards of Elders and Deacons and an ex-officio member of all committees of the Church Corporation.

ARTICLE IV - MEETINGS OF THE BOARDS

SECTION 1. REGULAR MEETINGS: Regular meetings of the Boards of Elders or Deacons shall be held each month at an hour, date and location to be fixed by the Chairman of the Board. Notice of meetings shall be given at least five days prior to the meeting personally, electronically, or by sending a copy of the notice to each board member through the U.S. Mail.

SECTION 2. ANNUAL MEETING: The Board of Elders shall meet at the regular December board meeting following the annual December congregational membership meeting to elect executive officers of the Church for the coming year. See Article lll, Section 2.

SECTION 3. ABSENTEEISM: Any member of the Boards of Elders or Deacons who is absent for three regular meetings without proper excuse, such as sickness or being away from the city, shall be automatically removed from office. Each man is responsible to advise the Chairman or Vice Chairman of the Board of Elders of his reason for absence within one week before or after the meeting in order to constitute a valid excuse. Any member so removed shall only be re-instated upon petition to the Board of Elders and approval by a two-thirds vote of those members present at a meeting specifically called for that purpose.

SECTION 4. SPECIAL MEETINGS: Special meetings of the Boards of Elders and/or Deacons may be called at any time by the Chairman, the Vice Chairman or a majority of the members of the respective Boards.

SECTION 5. WAIVER OF NOTICE: The members of the Board of Elders and/or Deacons may waive, in open meeting, notice of a special meeting of the Boards either before or during that meeting. Their waiver shall be deemed the equivalent of given notice. Attendance of a member of the Board at that meeting shall constitute waiver of notice of that meeting.

SECTION 6. QUORUM: At the meetings of the Board of Elders and/or Deacons, a majority of the board members in office at that time, shall be necessary to constitute a quorum for transaction of business. If a quorum is present, the acts of the majority of the members in attendance shall be the acts of the Board. The initial quorum will be the basis for determining a majority vote, should members leave during the meeting.

SECTION 7. ADJOURNMENT: A meeting of the Board of Elders and/or Deacons may be adjourned upon a motion and a majority vote in favor of adjournment.

ARTICLE V - MEMBERSHIP MEETINGS

SECTION 1. VOTING ELIGIBILITY: Members eligible to vote during congregational meetings will be those active members 18 years of age or older who actively support the church and strive to be obedient to Christ.

SECTION 2. ANNUAL MEETING: An annual meeting of the Church congregation (members of the Corporation) shall be held in December of each year, and the members shall elect the proper number of Elder and Deacon Candidates and approve the annual budget at that meeting. The Elders may transact other business as necessary.

SECTION 3. NOTICE OF MEETINGS: A notice or printed notice of the annual or special meetings, stating the place, date, and time shall be verbally announced at all services and printed in the Church Bulletin on the two Sundays immediately preceding the date of the meeting.

SECTION 4. SPECIAL MEETINGS: Special meetings of the members of the Church congregation may be called by the Chairman of the Board of Elders, or in his absence, the Vice Chairman of the Board of Elders, or by a majority vote of those present and voting at a meeting of the Board of Elders at which a quorum is present (Article IV - Section 6).

SECTION 5. QUORUM: Those members present shall constitute a quorum at an annual, regular or special meeting of the Church membership. The acts of the majority of the members in attendance shall be the acts of the membership.

SECTION 6. VOTING RIGHTS: Subject to the provisions of the law of the State of Florida, and the Charter of this Corporation, each member of the Corporation 18 years of age or older shall be entitled to one vote and only one vote at each membership meeting per issue transacted.

SECTION 7. PROXIES: Proxies shall not be authorized at a membership meeting of this Church Corporation.

SECTION 8. ADJOURNMENTS: A meeting of members may be adjourned upon a motion and a majority vote in favor of adjournment. Announced business not acted upon at an adjourned meeting will become old business for the next subsequent duly called meeting and must be the first order of business.

ARTICLE VI - FINANCIAL MATTERS AND FISCAL YEAR

SECTION 1. FISCAL YEAR: The fiscal year of this Corporation shall be January 1 through December 31 of each year.

SECTION 2. AUDIT: The Finance Ministry Team shall make a yearly recommendation to the Board of Elders for the arrangement of a review of the financial books of the Church. The review will be conducted by an independent third party at the close of each fiscal year.

SECTION 3. CONGREGATIONAL MEETING: A congregational Church meeting shall be called in December for the purpose of adopting the budget for the ensuing fiscal year. At such a meeting a written year-to-date financial report shall be given to the membership of the current fiscal year.

SECTION 4. CHURCH FUNDS: Church funds may be expended or indebtedness incurred on behalf of the Church by the official action of the Board of Elders consistent with the budget or approved amendments to the budget as made by the Board of Elders with congregational approval.

SECTION 5. FINANCE MINISTRY: A finance ministry team shall be appointed by the Chairman of the Board of Elders to serve for a one year term, and shall include, but not be limited to: the Senior Minister, the Chairman and Vice Chairman, the Secretary, and the Treasurer of the Board of Elders.

SECTION 6. FINANCE REPORTS: The Treasurer shall make a written report to the Board of Elders at the regular monthly meeting, showing receipts, disbursements, and such other information as may be requested during the meeting.

SECTION 7. SIGNING OF CHECKS AND NOTES: Two signatures are required for all checks, notes, drafts, and demands for money and depository accounts and shall be signed by any one of the executive officers of this Corporation, and those authorized by the Board of Elders. No check, note, draft or demand for money on any account of this Corporation shall be valid without the proper signatures as set forth in these By-Laws (Article II, Section 3).

SECTION 8. PROMISSORY NOTES: All promissory notes shall be executed by executive officers of the Church Corporation, and shall only be executed after acceptance by the Board of Elders with congregational approval.

ARTICLE VII - AMENDMENTS

ARTICLE II, SECTION 1, AMENDED: These By-Law*s* may be amended as provided by our charter and shall be made, altered or rescinded by first being proposed by a majority vote of the Board of Elders and then being approved and adopted by two-thirds of the members present and voting at a regular or special meeting of the congregation's membership of the Church.

BY-LAWS
REFERENCES

ARTICLE I - MEMBERSHIP

1. John 13:34-35, 15:10-14; I Peter 1:14-16, 1:22

2. Ephesians 2:8-9; Romans 1:16-17; Galatians 2:20; Hebrews 12:2; Romans 10:17

3. 2 Peter 3:9; Acts 2:38, 3:18-21, 17:30-31; 2 Corinthians 7:8-11

4. Romans 10:9-10; 1 John 1:8-10; Philippians 2:9-11; Matthew 16:13-17

5. Romans 6:1-10; Colossians 2:11-13; Ephesians 4:5; 1 Peter 3:18-22

ARTICLE II – BOARD OF ELDERS, BOARD OF DEACONS

Section 1 -

John 13:13-17; Acts 20:28; Ephesians 4:11-13; Philippians 2:1-11; 1Thessalonians 5:12-18; Hebrews 13:17-18; 1 Peter 5:2-3

Section 2-3 -

1 Timothy 3:1-7; Titus 1:6-9

Section 4 -

1 Timothy 3:8-13; Acts 6:1-6