

NEW TESTAMENT

**Christian Churches
of
America, Inc.**

43-1457094



"Church Of All Nations"

**NEW TESTAMENT CHRISTIAN CHURCHES OF
AMERICA, INCORPORATED
PURPOSES**

The purposes for which said corporation is formed, and for which it shall exist are as follows:

1. To preach the Gospel and further the cause of the Kingdom of God in the United States of America and foreign lands.
2. To promote and maintain Churches and Missions in the State of Missouri, The United States of America and foreign lands, to provide fellowship and means of cooperation between churches of similar faiths and doctrines, and to promote, establish and maintain certain districts therein, which shall be self-governing in so far as same do not conflict with the objects and purposes of this corporation, subject to the jurisdiction and control of this corporation.
3. To promote freedom of worship and liberty of expression, within the limits of its own statement of faith and doctrine, among its own churches, ministers and members.
4. To ordain, license, and otherwise qualify ministers to preach the Gospel and provide credentials for the same.
5. To establish and maintain Bible and training schools, inaugurate and maintain charitable institutions, such as homes for the aged, rest homes for ministers and missionaries, orphanages, cemeteries and kindred institutions. Said institution to be governed by administrative officers of said institute with directors or trustees of same to hold responsibility and to hold properties in both institute and incorporation jointly.
6. To own, operate and maintain such printing and publishing plants as may, in the opinion of the Board of Directors, be necessary to print and publish Bibles, books, pamphlets, periodicals, and other religious literature as may be required for its own use; and to sell, give away, or otherwise dispose of same in the furtherance of the work of said

corporation without pecuniary profits to any member of said corporation.

7. To buy, rent, acquire by gift or otherwise, and to own, operate, maintain and use, such real estate, personal and mixed property as shall be necessary for the maintenance, operation and carrying on of the business of the corporation; and to lease, sub-rent, sell, assign, transfer, convey and otherwise dispose of said properties upon such terms and conditions and at such times as in the opinion of the Board of Directors may be advantageous to the interests of the Corporation.

8. To borrow money for the purpose of purchasing such real estate, personal and mixed property as, in the opinion of the Board of Directors, may be necessary to properly and adequately carry on the objects and purposes of the corporation business and undertakings, and to execute notes, deeds of trust, mortgages, and other evidences of indebtedness, on behalf of the corporation, for the re-payment thereof; and to satisfy and release notes, deeds of trust, mortgages, and other evidences of indebtedness, on behalf of the corporation. For clarification purposes in connection with corporate business affecting church owned properties, and respective interests in properties, both real, personal, and mixed, owned in whole or in part by the New Testament Christian Churches of America, Incorporated, a Missouri Corporation, or any of its districts, shall be construed to be interests in fee simple.

9. The corporation shall not engage in any business of a kind ordinarily carried on for profit, and nothing in the Articles of Incorporation or in the By-Laws shall authorize the corporation to, and the corporation shall not, enter into any transaction, carry on any activity, or engage in any business for pecuniary profit.

10. The duration and number of years the corporation is to continue shall be perpetual.

THE DOCTRINAL STATEMENT OF THE
NEW TESTAMENT CHRISTIAN
CHURCHES OF AMERICA,
INCORPORATED

As Christian believers of the New Testament Christian Churches of America, Incorporated, we make the following declaration of the things which are "Believed Among Us" (Luke 1:1), so as, there will be no division or differences among us, and that all our churches preach, teach, and proclaim the following, doing so in love and by direction of the Holy Spirit, and by the Word of God.

I - THE SCRIPTURES

We believe that the Scriptures, (The Bible), are the inspired Word of God, and that they are to be taught and believed in their entirety - (II Timothy 3:15) (II Peter 1:21)

That the Scriptures will give us a complete revelation of God's divine plan of Salvation and His will toward man, and that this is to constitute the complete rule of Christian Faith and the practice of the same.

II - THE GODHEAD

Our God is a Trinity - manifested in three distinct Persons - the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, being co-existent, co-equal, and co-eternal.

III - SALVATION

Salvation for man, (which is fallen from his perfect and sinless state through Adam), is attained by the grace of God, through Jesus Christ His Son, by His death upon the cross, through the Holy Spirit's conviction, by repentance, and through an experience of the New Birth. This is accom-

plished by grace, and is made effectual through faith in Jesus Christ by accepting Him as our Personal Saviour. (Titus 2:11) (Romans 10:13-15) (Luke 24:47) (Titus 3:5-7)

IV - THE CHURCH

We believe that the Church is the Body of Jesus Christ (Colossians 1:18) (Ephesians 4:15) and that Jesus is the Head. Its earthly members are made up of believers, born again by the Spirit (John 3:6) and by the Word. (I Peter 1:23).

To the Church is delegated authority, instructions, offices, and rules to govern it, and its members, so as to allow it to fulfill its mission in the fulfillment of Christ's great commission. (Matthew 28:19) (Mark 16:15-20)

V - MINISTRY

God, through the Holy Spirit, definitely calls and sets aside such as He desires to serve as Ministers of the Gospel. No one should under any circumstances be ordained to any office unless the calling is distinct and evident.

VI - WATER BAPTISM

Baptism in water is by immersion, and is a direct commandment of our Lord (Matthew 28:19) and is for believers only. (Romans 6:4) (Colossians 2:12) (Acts 8:36-39)

VII - BAPTISM OF THE HOLY SPIRIT

The Baptism of the Holy Spirit (Matthew 3:11) is a gift from God, as promised by the Lord Jesus Christ, to all believers in this dispensation, and is received subsequent to the New Birth. (John 14:16-17) (Acts 1:8; 2:4; 2:38-39).

The Baptism of the Holy Spirit is accompanied with the speaking in tongues as the Holy Spirit gives utterance, this being the initial physical sign and evidence. (Acts 2:4)

VIII - SANCTIFICATION

The Word of God (The Bible) teaches that without holiness no man can or shall see the Lord (Hebrews 12:14). We believe the Doctrine of Sanctification to be a definite, yet a progressive work of grace in the believer's life, starting at the time of the born again experience in the believer's life. (Hebrews 13:12) (II Thessalonians 2:13) (I Peter 1:2) (Ephesians 5:26) (John 17:17) (Corinthians 6:11) (I Thessalonians 5:23)

IX - THE LORD'S SUPPER

We believe that the ordinance of The Lord's Supper is a commandment of our Saviour, and that its time or frequency of observance is left to the discretion of each congregation. (I Corinthians 11:26)

X - DIVINE HEALING

Healing is for the physical ills of the human body. It is wrought by God, through the power of God, by the laying on of hands and by prayer, through faith. (Mark 16:18) (James 5:14-15)

XI - THE COMING OF THE LORD

We hold that the coming of the Lord is imminent and is the blessed hope of the Church. We also hold that the rapture is to occur prior to the tribulation.

XII - RESURRECTION OF THE JUST AND UNJUST

The Scriptures teach that the just (those born again, being justified by Jesus Christ) shall be raised by Jesus Christ unto eternal life and rewards.

The unjust, (those who have rejected Jesus and His plan of salvation), shall be raised to judgement and eternal punishment.

XIII - HELL

When one dies in his sins without Christ, he is hopelessly and eternally lost in the Lake of Fire, and therefore has no more opportunity of receiving Christ as Saviour, being eternally lost. (Hebrews 9:27)

The Lake of Fire is literal, (Revelation 19:20) and the words eternal and everlasting describe the duration of the punishment of those that are lost.

XIV - RELATION TO WAR

We believe that our government was and is established by God, and whereas we are thankful to the government of the United States of America, for the freedom to worship God according to the dictates of our own conscience, and whereas we understand and believe that the Word of God does not command or teach, either by example or statement, that we should not protect or defend our way of life: be it resolved that during time of war or necessity, we will serve our government, bear arms, protect our citizens from enemies who try to overthrow our government and our country, and to serve in whatever role necessary.

XV - TITHES

We recognize the scriptural duty of all people, as well as ministers, to pay tithes unto the Lord. (Hebrews 7:8)

Tithes should be used for the support of the active ministry and for the propagation of the Gospel and work of the Lord, and are not to be given to charity or used for other purposes. (Malachi 3:7-11) (Hebrews 7:2) (I Corinthians 9:7-11; 16:2)

**DUTIES AND REQUIREMENTS OF EXECUTIVES,
GENERAL BOARD AND OFFICERS**

ARTICLE I - Chairman of the Board

- (A) **The Chairman of the Board shall be elected to an indefinite term of office by the incorporators.**
- (B) **This term shall begin immediately upon election and expire upon the decision of the Chairman or his demise.**
- (C) **The Chairman of the Board shall be Chief Executive Officer of the organization. (Hereinafter referred to as C.E.O.)**
- (D) **All officers of the organization shall be appointed by the C.E.O.**
- (E) **He shall be ex-officio member of all standing committees.**
- (F) **He shall have supervision, direction and management over all undertakings and operations of the organization to which he shall devote the amount of time required by such, and for which he shall be paid a stipulated remuneration.**
- (G) **He shall act as Chairman at all General Conventions and Executive Board Meetings.**
- (H) **He is required to give his final approval to all matters, operational, appointments or any new By-Laws or financial obligations or appointments or duties that are designated to officers or workers of the organization, before they can be passed or put into effect.**

ARTICLE II - General Overseer (And President)

- (A) The General Overseer shall work under the C.E.O. He shall give general supervision, direction and management over the undertakings and operations of the organization to which he shall devote amount of time required by such and for which he shall be paid a stipulated remuneration.
- (B) He shall perform such duties as may be required of him as President of the Corporation and shall report his activities to the C.E.O. and General Board.
- (C) He shall be requested to represent our organization to other functions at which we should have a voice and to the government when necessary.
- (D) He shall be on call to the districts when needed. When his services are requested in the district, they are expected to take care of his expenses involved in the trip.

ARTICLE III - Assistant General Overseers

- (A) The Assistant General Overseer shall set as a member of the General Board. His duties are to assist the General Overseer in the work of the organization in the Division over which he is appointed.
- (B) He is to act instead of General Overseer in his Division when General Overseer is not available for some function at which General Overseer would be required.
- (C) He is to devote amount of time required to the discharge

of his duties as are assigned or required of his office for which he shall receive a stipulated remuneration.

- (D) He shall promote the organization as an active officer of such.

ARTICLE IV - General Secretary and Treasurer

- (A) The General Secretary and Treasurer shall keep a clear record of the minutes of all meetings of the General Board and conventions which shall be read at such meetings.
- (B) He shall have charge of all monies received or paid to the corporation which shall be deposited in a bank or such banks which shall be designated by the General Board and shall pay out such funds of the corporation as may be necessary for the maintenance and operation of the corporate business and as directed by the C.E.O.; however, all checks or withdrawals shall be counter-signed or approved by the C.E.O. He shall be paid a stipulated remuneration.
- (C) He shall have custody of the Corporate Seal, and shall maintain and keep up-to-date such books and records as shall fully and truly reflect the financial status of the corporation business at all times, which shall be subject to inspection by such auditors as may be designated by the General Board.
- (D) He shall furnish such bond, for the fruitful performance of his duties, as may be required by the General Board, the premiums for which shall be paid by the corporation.

- (E) He shall maintain records of all ministers and missionaries, and shall issue the necessary credentials and carry on such correspondence as may be required by his office.
- (F) His books shall be closed out each month, and these records are to be stored. Close out is to be presented to the C.E.O. for acceptance and authorization of distribution of finances by the C.E.O.
- (G) He may employ such assistance, with the approval of the C.E.O., as may be necessary to perform such duties.

ARTICLE V- Overseer of World Missions

- (A) The Overseer of World Missions shall have general supervision, direction and operation of the Missionary Department within the United States and in all foreign countries, subject to the C. E. O. and the General Board.
- (B) He shall devote his time to the work of his office for the purpose of promoting greater interest in, and the support of World Missions.
- (C) He shall be granted a place on the General Board and shall be chairman of the Missionary Board. He shall be paid a stipulated remuneration from the Missionary funds.
- (D) He may employ such assistance, with the approval of the General Board, as may be necessary to perform such duties and requirements of his office.

ARTICLE VI- DISTRICT OVERSEER

- (A) The District Overseer shall have general supervision over his district. He shall sit as a member of the General Board and shall represent his district at General Conventions. He shall be paid remuneration from his district as set forth in financial policy of organization.

ARTICLE VII- DISTRICT PRESBYTERS

- (A) The District Presbyter shall sit as a member of the General Board. He shall together with the District Overseer represent his district at General Board Meetings and General Conventions.
- (B) The duties of the District Presbyter shall be to cooperate with and assist the District Overseer; to open new fields, to assist the pastors and evangelists in evangelizing new fields.

ARTICLE VIII- DISTRICT SECRETARY and TREASURERS

- (A) The District Secretary and Treasurer shall have charge of all monies received and paid to the districts and shall deposit in such banks or bank as shall be designated by the General Board and shall pay out of such funds of the district as may be necessary for the maintenance of such district business and assistance as is directed by the General Board; however, all checks or withdrawals or such are to be counter-signed or approved by the General or Assistant General Overseer.

ARTICLE IX- BOUNDARIES OF THE DISTRICTS ARE TO BE SET BY THE GENERAL BOARD.

- (A) In order to become a district there must be at least five churches or affiliate churches within the area of fellowship.
- (B) All ministers living or having residence within the boundaries of an established district shall be members of that district. Where there is no established district, ministers work under the national office until such time as there is a district formed that will take in his area, at which time he will immediately become a member of that district.
- (C) No district shall be divided until such time as is necessary for the welfare of that district. This is to be done by the General Board after proper investigation to assure that this will be advisable for the welfare of the churches as a whole.
- (D) All churches shall be pastored by a person holding credentials with the organization and must abide by by-laws of organization.

ARTICLE X- All General and Executive Board members are to pay all of their tithe into the General Tithes Fund.

ARTICLE XI- All ministers shall pay their tithe according to financial policy of organization. Tithe to be governed by financial policy is to be explained when licenses are issued. All ministers must keep an up-to-date tithing record.

ARTICLE XII- Financial policy is to be set by the Executive

Committee and is to govern all districts and the General Offices.

ARTICLE XIII- VACATIONS

A 30-day vacation, with pay, is granted each General Executive each year. It shall be taken within the year for which it is granted.

ARTICLE XIV- AUTOMOBILE OWNERSHIP

- (A) The New Testament Christian Churches of America may furnish an automobile to any General Official, at the discretion of said official, approved by the General Board.
- (B) The New Testament Christian Churches of America may grant said official full and exclusive use of the automobile; however, it is understood and agreed that sole ownership of the automobile shall vest in the organization, which shall maintain full jurisdiction over said automobile and its use.
- (C) Payments on the car, insurance coverage and mileage will be withheld from the mileage account of the individual each month or arranged by the General Board.
- (D) Credit cards for gasoline, in the name of the organization, shall be given to any authorized personnel. All mileage, along with invoices, on official business, will be reported to the secretary of the department for which the business was handled.
- (E) Any repairs and other costs, such as tires, batteries, etc., shall be borne by the individual using the auto.

- (F) At the expiration of his term of office, he shall accept the title of the car along with all financial obligations.
- (G) In all insurance matters, a rider shall be attached to insurance policies fully indemnifying the organization against any loss, in order to prevent suits against the organization.

ARTICLE XV- GENERAL BOARD

- (A) The General Board shall meet at a designated place and time, twice a year. The time is to be set in six month periods. Each meeting is to be set at the one prior. All members are to be notified of the time and place and no further notice of such meetings shall be given.
- (B) A majority vote should be required to pass any motion, resolution, or other matter before the Board.

ARTICLE XVI- GENERAL CONVENTIONS

- (A) The General Board shall be authorized to decide the location and dates for General Convention.
- (B) The schedule of services and activities are to be determined by the General Board.

ARTICLE XVII- MINISTERIAL RELATIONS

- (A) Our ministers shall cultivate mutual fellowship and work in harmony. Our pastors or evangelists shall not lend themselves to any disgruntled element in any of our churches for the purpose of deposing the present pastor, or causing dissension or strife. Those doing such things

are liable to drastic discipline.

- (B) Ministers and workers are advised not to interfere with others who may have charge of a church or mission, whether it be by contacting the members without consent of the one in charge, or by corresponding with the members of the church, so as to affect the influence of the leaders. All inquiries or correspondence which concerns the church, such as visiting the field, conducting meetings, etc; should be addressed to the pastor, or where there is no pastor, the correspondence should be addressed to the Assistant General Overseer of that Division.
- (C) The renewal of Fellowship Certificates shall be made through the General Office.
- (D) We shall not be confined in our fellowship and cooperation to those affiliated with us, and we shall not discriminate against any other member of the body of Christ.
- (E) Any minister, or his companion, holding credentials with the New Testament Christian Churches of America cannot hold credentials, nor hold an office, in any other church organization or religious fellowship that issues credentials to preach the Gospel.
- (F) THE PLACE OF WOMEN IN THE CHURCH- The gifts and callings of God are without repentance, and the Holy Spirit divideth upon each as He will. "In the last days our sons and daughters shall prophesy" (Joel 2:28-29; Acts 2:17-18). When called of God and anointed by the Spirit, our women may freely serve as helpers and evangelists, but in order to fulfill the admonition of the Apostle Paul in Timothy 2:12, all executive positions in

the districts and the national movement shall be occupied by men.

(G) Whereas, the Bible teaches that we should not be unequally yoked together with unbelievers, and, whereas a Christian's effectiveness in witnessing would be drastically impaired, if not entirely destroyed, by maintaining membership in a lodge, secret order or secret society; no minister, on any level of the New Testament Christian Churches of America shall be permitted to carry credentials with this organization and belong at the same time to a lodge, secret order or society.

1. This shall not refer to trade unions, where membership is necessary for employment.

2. Each district constitution and by-laws shall carry this provision.

3. Should any of our ministers currently hold membership in a lodge, secret order or secret society, he shall cancel said membership or forfeit his membership and credentials in this association.

ARTICLE XVIII- DISCIPLINE

1. All ministers are amendable to the General Board in all matters of conduct and doctrine.
2. In actions, other than those taken directly by the General Board, to whom each minister must remain amendable, the following procedure shall be strictly adhered to: All charges against a minister shall be made in writing, in triplicate, and signed by two or more accusers. The original and one copy thereof shall be filed with the General Overseer, who shall send one copy to the accused minister, and one copy shall be retained by the

accusers; and the General Overseer shall designate a suitable time and place for a hearing of the charges, and shall give all interested parties ten (10) days or more written notice thereof. Said notice is to be mailed to the last known address of the accused.

3. A Court of Inquiry shall hear and pass upon all such charges, so made, which shall consist - except in those cases and By-laws of the organization, of the District Overseer, The District Presbyter, and such other District and/or General officers as may desire to be present, whose decision shall be final; except in cases involving ordained ministers and/or chartered churches, which may be appealed to the General Executive Board, whose decision shall be final in those cases; and the accused shall be considered innocent until proven guilty to the satisfaction of a majority vote. However, in the event of an appeal to the General Board from the decision of the Court of Inquiry, the ordained minister, who has been found guilty by the Court of Inquiry, shall be suspended, or otherwise dealt with according to the decision of the Court of Inquiry, pending the outcome of the appeal, and said ordained minister shall not be accorded privileges in either a District or a General Convention.
4. No testimony or evidence shall be admissible at such hearings, except that which directly bears the charges made in writing, as aforesaid; which rule shall be enforced by the chairman of the meeting.
5. If the accused confesses and truly repents, and shows a contrite heart, he should be given reasonable consideration and leniency; and, if possible, full restoration, after a suitable and proper probationary period of time. We

2. Local church pastors are to be appointed by General Board.
3. Pastors and workers are to be reviewed every two years.

ARTICLE XX- Amendments to By-Laws are to correspond with the Incorporation Articles. They may be amended and added to by the General Board.