

**BYLAWS OF
LAKE POINTE BIBLE CHURCH
PLYMOUTH, MICHIGAN
(Legal / Corporate Name: Lakepointe Community Chapel)**

Adopted March 20, 2005

**A Michigan Non-profit
Religious Corporation**

BYLAWS

Lake Pointe Bible Church Plymouth, Michigan

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ARTICLE 1 – NAME AND LOCATION OF OFFICES

The assumed name of this Michigan non-profit religious Corporation is Lake Pointe Bible Church (legal / corporate name: Lakepointe Community Chapel). Principal offices are located at 42150 Schoolcraft, Plymouth, Michigan 48170, USA. Telephone number is: 734-420-0515.

NOTE: These Bylaws, as approved by the Corporation at its annual meeting on March 20, 2005, and as amended from time to time, supersede any and all prior Bylaws of this non-profit corporation.

ARTICLE 2 – PURPOSE AND INCORPORATION

This Corporation is organized and incorporated as a 501(c)3 non-profit corporation in the State of Michigan exclusively for religious purposes. Our commission is summarized as follows: "Then Jesus came to them and said, 'All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me. Therefore go and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, and teaching them to obey everything I have commanded you. And surely I am with you always, to the very end of the age.'" (Matthew 28:18-20)

This Corporation accepts the authority of the Bible, God's Word (Scripture), as our guide for doctrine and practice.

ARTICLE 3 – STATEMENT OF FAITH

The statement of faith of this Corporation, as approved by the Elders, is shown as the Attachment to this document.

ARTICLE 4 – CORPORATE MEMBERSHIP

Section 1 – Corporate Members

Members of the Corporation shall be limited to the Board of Elders, the Deacons, and the elected Officers. Any corporate action which requires approval by a majority of members shall require approval only by the Board of Elders, the Deacons, and the elected Officers as a group. All corporate powers shall vest in the Board of Elders, the Deacons, and the elected Officers as a group.

Section 2 – Members of the Church

Nothing contained in Section 1 shall be construed to limit the right of the Corporation to refer to persons associated with the Church as 'church members' even though such persons are not corporate members.

Section 3- Regular Meetings

A regular annual Corporation meeting, to be called by the Board of Elders, shall be held at the principal office of the church, normally in the Spring of each year. At the annual meeting the church members shall consider reports of the affairs of the Corporation, and transact such business as the Board of Elders determine shall be brought before the meeting, including but not limited to election of Officers of the Corporation.

Section 4 – Special Meetings

Special meetings of the Corporation may be called at any time by the Board of Elders, or by a quorum (at least 50%) of the members of the Board of Elders, to conduct any special business that may require the attention of church members as determined by the Elders.

Section 5 – Notice of Corporation Meetings

Notice of regular and special meetings of the Corporation, as called by the Board of Elders, shall be published in the weekly church bulletin for a minimum of two successive Sundays prior to such meeting.

Section 6 – Quorum

At all meetings of the Corporation, whether regular or special, the corporate members present shall constitute a quorum for the transaction of business.

Section 7 – Voting Rights

The Board of Elders and the officers as a group shall constitute the body eligible to vote on any matter requiring approval by the Corporation. Those accepted into membership of the church do not constitute a legislative body, nor do they constitute members of the Corporation, and they cannot vote, pass resolutions binding upon the Corporation, nor shall they have any equity in the real property of the Corporation, or rights to vote on its disposal. Church members may, however, exercise voting rights as defined in Article 5, Section 5 and Article 6 Section 3, below.

ARTICLE 5 – CHURCH MEMBERSHIP

Section 1 – Membership Purpose

The purpose of church membership at Lake Pointe Bible Church is to establish a community of Christian believers who have completed a membership class and been accepted into fellowship by the Elders. Such believers shall constitute a local spiritual body (church), united for the purposes set forth in Article 2 of this document, and who are in full agreement with these Bylaws and with the statement of faith as noted in Article 3 of this document.

Section 2 – Acceptance into Membership

To become a church member, all persons shall complete a membership class (Discovery Class), complete a Membership Commitment form for review by the Elders, be confirmed as members by the Elders, be publicly introduced to the congregation at a Sunday service as church members, and affirm agreement with these Bylaws. No person shall be admitted to membership of this church who has not passed his / her twelfth (12) birthday. An elder may meet with any person desiring church membership in order to affirm that the person confesses Jesus Christ as his or her Lord and Savior; demonstrates evidence of a godly lifestyle; and that the person assents to these Bylaws and to the Statement of Faith as noted in Article 2.

Section 3 – Denial of Membership

If, upon review of a Membership Commitment form, and after meeting with a prospective member, the Elders determine that a person does not confess Jesus Christ as his or her Lord and Savior, does not demonstrate a godly lifestyle, or does not assent to the Statement of Faith, membership shall be denied. The decision of the Board of Elders shall be final and there shall be no avenue of appeal from that decision.

Section 4 – Responsibilities of Members

Members shall seek to exercise their spiritual gifts, within the framework of the Ministry Opportunities document as published by this Church from time-to-time, for the glory of God and for the mutual benefit of the entire church body. Members shall submit to the loving oversight of the Elders.

Section 5 – Voting Privileges

Individual membership at Lake Pointe Bible Church shall not vest in any member property rights or powers in the assets or legal privileges of the Corporation, but shall entitle the member to vote at a meeting of the members on such matters as the Board of Elders chooses to submit to the church members for affirmation. In such cases, voting privileges are restricted to members in good standing, who are not under any disciplinary action, and who have passed their sixteenth (16) birthday. Church membership is not assignable by any member and membership shall not vest to any personal representative (or proxy).

Section 6 – Church Discipline

(a) The threefold purpose of church discipline is: (i) to glorify God by maintaining purity in His body, the local church (1 Corinthians 5:6); (ii) to edify believers by deterring sin; (1 Timothy 5:20); and (iii) to enhance the spiritual welfare of the offending believer by calling him / her to a biblical standard of doctrine and conduct (Galatians 6:1).

(b) Members of this church and all other professing Christians who regularly attend this church who err or engage in conduct that violates Scripture as determined by the Board of Elders shall be subject to discipline up to and including dismissal according to Matthew 18:15-18. Although restoration to the fellowship of the church is always a primary goal of discipline exercised by the elders, dismissal is the final recourse consistent with the threefold purpose of church discipline as noted in (a) above.

(c) The decision of the Elders in any such matter shall be final, and all members and other professing Christians who regularly attend this church agree there shall be no appeal to any court of other authority in cases of discipline.

ARTICLE 6 – CORPORATE GOVERNANCE – OFFICERS

Section 1 – Corporate Governance

As noted in Article 4, Section 1, the Board of Elders and the Deacons (Article 7), and the elected Officers as a group (Article 6), shall together have fiduciary responsibility and overall responsibility for all matters pertaining to corporate governance of Lake Pointe Bible Church.

Section 2 – Officers

The officers, who shall be church members in good standing, shall consist of a President, a Vice President, a Secretary, a Treasurer, and six Trustees. The officers shall serve at the pleasure of the Board of Elders for the terms as noted below. The officers shall assist the Board of Elders in the conduct of corporate business as determined by the Board of Elders.

Section 3- Election & Quorum

With the approval of the Elders, candidates for election to officer positions shall be nominated by the church membership at the annual meeting of the Corporation, and shall be selected by simple majority vote of those church members present at the annual meeting. Only members of the church, in good standing, may be presented as candidates for officer positions. For the purposes of election of officers, or any other business brought before the annual meeting by the Elders, a quorum of the church membership shall constitute not less than 10% of the church membership being present at a duly called annual meeting.

Section 4 – Removal and Resignation

Any officer who is also an Elder or Deacon shall be removed as an officer by the Elders upon disqualification as described in Section 5 of Article 6. Any other officer, who in the collective judgment of the Board of Elders becomes unqualified to serve, may be removed

by the Elders. The decision of the Elders is final in such a case and is not open to appeal in any court or other body.

Section 5 – Inability to Act

In the case of extended absence or inability to act of any officer of the Corporation, the Board of Elders may delegate the powers or duties of such officer to any other officer or other member whom the Elders may select.

Section 6 – President

The President shall serve as the Chief Executive Officer of the Corporation and shall, subject to the control of the Board of Elders, have general supervision, direction, and control of the activities and officers of the Corporation. He shall preside as Chair at the annual meeting of the Corporation. The President shall serve for a four (4) year term and may serve successive terms.

Section 7 – Vice-President

In the absence or disability of the President, the Vice-President shall perform all the duties of the President, or such duties as may be delegated by the President. The Vice President shall serve for a four (4) year term and may serve successive terms.

Section 8 – Treasurer

(a)The Treasurer shall assure that financial stewardship of the financial and physical resources of the corporation is handled in a biblically responsible manner (2 Corinthians 8:18-21). Subject to concurrence by the Board of Elders the Treasurer may select a member(s) in good standing and “of good reputation, full of the Spirit and of wisdom” (Acts 6:3) to assist in implementing the Treasurer’s responsibilities.

(b)The Treasurer shall assure that accurate records are maintained of all financial / business transactions of the Corporation, and that a summary of such transactions is presented to the Board of Elders upon request, and to the church members at the annual meeting of the Corporation.

(c) The Treasurer shall serve for a four (4) year term, and may serve successive terms.

Section 9 – Secretary

The Secretary shall maintain an accurate and current file of all corporate documents, including the Articles of Incorporation, the Bylaws, a current list of church members, and the minutes of annual corporation meetings. The Secretary shall assure that a copy of such documents is filed at the principal office. All meeting minutes shall be so filed no later than 30 days following the date of a meeting. The Secretary shall have other powers and perform such other duties as may be assigned by the Board of Elders. The Secretary shall serve for a four (4) year term and may serve successive terms.

Section 10 – Trustees

Trustees, as approved by the Elders and elected by the members at the annual meeting, shall have the primary responsibility to assist the Elders in any major business transaction defined by the Elders as affecting the Corporation, including but not limited to sale and purchase of real property and other major assets, and dissolution of the Corporation. Trustees shall serve for a three (3) year term, and may serve successive terms. Every year, the term of two Trustees shall expire and two new or successor Trustees shall be elected at the annual Corporation meeting. In the event that any Trustee resigns or leaves the church, the Elders may appoint a replacement Trustee to complete the term of such Trustee.

ARTICLE 7 – CHURCH GOVERNANCE - ELDERS AND DEACONS

Section 1 – Responsibilities of Elders and Deacons

Subject to the limitations of the Articles of Incorporation and these Bylaws and of related restrictions in the Michigan Non Profit Corporation Act, all the activities and affairs of the Corporation shall be exercised by or under the direction of the Board of Elders, who are also responsible for shepherding and oversight of the church fellowship. We believe that Christ alone is the head of the church (Ephesians 1:22-23), and that the Elders are accountable to Christ. Following is a partial summary of the responsibilities of the Elders, in addition to other responsibilities included in these Bylaws:

- (a) To serve in all humility, and to guide, direct, guard and protect members of the church. Elders are to pray for the spiritual and physical well-being of the believers, seeking to meet their needs and to assist in any way possible, and warning them against harmful influences in their lives and the dangers of false teachers (Acts 20:28ff; James 5:14; 1 Peter 5:1-3).
- (b) To select and remove all agents, pastors, staff and employees of the Corporation; and to prescribe duties for them consistent with Scripture, with law, with the Articles of Incorporation, and with these Bylaws; and to establish the terms of their offices and their compensation, if any.
- (c) To approve all officer candidates of the Corporation to support election by the church membership, and to prescribe duties for officers consistent with Scripture, the law, the Articles of Incorporation, and with these Bylaws
- (d) To make, or to direct, such disbursements from the funds and properties of the Corporation, to arrange any indebtedness, as required to fulfill the purposes of this Corporation, and to generally conduct and manage affairs of this Corporation in a manner consistent with Scripture.
- (e) To establish policies and practices for the church consistent with the purposes of this Corporation, and in a manner consistent with Scripture.
- (f) To appoint Deacons, accountable to the Elders, to serve the church with spiritual administration and practical matters in the conduct of the business of this Corporation, including but not limited to: financial / treasury matters, pastoral care of church members, and practical maintenance of Corporation properties.

Section 2 – Number of Elders and Deacons

- (a) There shall be a minimum of six (6) and a maximum of ten (10) members of the Board of Elders at all times, with a goal to assure plurality of leadership (Proverbs 11:14) for this religious Corporation.
- (b) There shall be a minimum of four (4) and a maximum of eight (8) members of the Board of Deacons.

Section 3 – Selection and Tenure of Office

(a) We believe that in the early church, Elders of local churches were appointed by the apostles or their representatives. The Bible contains a summary of qualifications for Elders so that the church members can recognize those whom the Holy Spirit has raised up to perform the ministry of Elders in the church. The example of the early church implies that the spiritual leaders of the church (Elders) should accept responsibility for the selection of Elders to assure that such selection is based on spiritual qualifications. (Acts 14:23; Acts 20:28; 1 Timothy 3:1-7; Titus 1:5-9.) Accordingly, the Board of Elders shall, from time-to-time, select men who meet the qualifications set forth in Section 4 below to serve as Elders.

(b) In the event the Elders determine the need for an additional Elder, the name of that person will be brought before the church membership for prayerful consideration. The

church membership will then be given 30 days to indicate why the prospective Elder should or should not serve in this leadership capacity. Such information must be given privately and in person to one of the existing Elders. At the end of the 30-day period the selected Elder will be presented to the church in a public meeting for recognition by the membership and for dedication to serve Christ and His church as an Elder.

(c) Elders shall serve with no fixed term, but shall individually re-commit to serve as an Elder each year. Elders shall not be removed unless they resign or for cause as defined in Section 5 below.

(d) The Board of Elders shall have the responsibility to assure that the number of members of the Board of Deacons remains between four (4) and eight (8) by selecting men or women who meet the qualifications set forth in Section 4 below. Deacons shall serve without a fixed term, but shall re-commit individually to serve as a deacon each year. Deacons shall not be removed unless they resign or for cause as defined in Section 5 below.

Section 4 – Qualifications for Elders and Deacons

(a) Each member of the Board of Elders must be an active member of this church and possess the qualifications described in 1 Timothy 3:1-7 and Titus 1:6-9. Elders have the primary responsibility for spiritual oversight of the church and for shepherding the ‘flock’ or membership of the church, to the glory of God.

(b) Each member of the Board of Deacons must be an active member of this church and possess the qualifications described in 1 Timothy 3:8-13; Titus 2:3-5. Deacons have a primary responsibility to serve the church in spiritual administration and practical matters, as noted in Section 7(f) of this article.

Section 5 – Removal of Elders or Deacons

Any Elder or Deacon may be removed from office at any regular or special meeting of the Board of Elders if he / she is found to be physically or mentally incapacitated or spiritually unqualified, after thorough investigation by the Elders. If an Elder or Deacon is removed because of sin that disqualifies him or her from that office, and if he or she refuses to repent of that sin, the removal shall be accompanied by a public rebuke, and notice shall be made before the church at a regularly scheduled service as prescribed in 1 Timothy 5:19-20.

Section 6 - Regular Meetings of Elders and Deacons

(a) Meetings of the Board of Elders shall normally be held twice each month at the church building, as called by the Chair of the Board of Elders. The Elders shall select one person from among their group to serve a chair for a maximum two-year term. No Elder shall serve for more than one consecutive term as chair. Elders’ meetings shall be conducted according to scriptural principles such as set forth in Philippians 2:3-7.

(b) Meetings of the Board of Deacons shall normally be held at least quarterly.

Section 7 – Quorum

(a) For the Board of Elders, at least half (50%) of those currently serving shall constitute a quorum; except that for doctrinal matters affecting the church (under the leadership of the Elders), or for calling or dismissing a pastor, a majority of at least three-quarters (75%) of those currently serving shall constitute a quorum.

(b) For the Board of Deacons, at least half (50%) of those currently serving shall constitute a quorum.

Section 8 – Decisions of the Board of Elders and Deacons

Decisions by Elders shall be reached after prayerful consideration in a spirit of humility, with each Elder regarding other Elders before himself. Decisions by Deacons shall be reached in this same manner, with each Deacon regarding other deacons before himself / herself.

Section 9 – Compensation for Elders and Deacons

Elders and Deacons shall not receive any compensation for their services; however nothing herein shall be construed to preclude any Elder or Deacon from serving the Corporation in any other capacity and receiving compensation. Any person receiving compensation from this church shall not be in a position to determine the nature or amount of said compensation.

ARTICLE 8 – PASTORS

The Corporation may from time-to-time employ on a full time basis men who are called to serve the church in a capacity as a full time pastor. For convenience, such men shall be referred to using the term Pastor e.g. Senior Pastor; Associate Pastor; Youth Pastor.

Section 1 – Selection

Any Pastor shall be selected by the Board of Elders and confirmed by the members of the church at a meeting designated by the Elders for that purpose. Although there shall not be a formal vote by the members to confirm acceptance, the Elders shall make every effort to assess the confidence of the members, including personal meetings and discussions with members. Pastors shall remain in office for an indefinite period subject to the following provisions: The Elders reserve the right to terminate employment for Pastors upon giving at least one month's notice of such intention. A Pastor must give a minimum of one month's notice if he intends to resign. The time limit for a Pastor's resignation or termination may be revised if a Pastor and the Elders agree otherwise.

Section 2 – Duties

(a) The Senior Pastor shall serve as a member of the Board of Elders in common with the other Elders. He shall be responsible to the other Elders as a group. The Senior Pastor shall perform duties as directed by the Elders as a group, including responsibility to arrange for and conduct all public and regular services of the church. The Senior Pastor shall be responsible, in conjunction with the other Elders, for general oversight of the spiritual welfare of the church. In the absence of the Senior Pastor, the Elders shall be responsible to arrange for the public and regular services of the church.

(b) Any other pastor shall report to the Senior Pastor, and shall perform such duties as defined for him by the Senior Pastor, consistent with direction established by the Board of Elders.

Section 3 - Evaluation

(a) The Board of Elders shall prepare a written Performance Review to be shared with the Senior Pastor approximately every twelve (12) months. This Review shall serve as the basis to assess the Senior Pastor's performance over the past twelve months, affirm the Senior Pastor's goals and objectives for the forthcoming twelve months, and shall form the basis for any adjustment in compensation that may be proposed by the Board of Elders in its sole discretion. The Senior Pastor shall provide his assessment of performance against goals and objectives for the prior twelve months to the other Elders each year, but shall not otherwise participate in the preparation of his Review.

(b) Based on a process to be pre-agreed with the other Elders, the Senior Pastor shall take lead responsibility for the preparation of a Review for any other pastor approximately every twelve (12) months. Based on the Review for the preceding twelve months, the Senior

Pastor shall recommend any proposed compensation adjustment for other pastors to the Board of Elders for approval.

ARTICLE 9 – SETTLEMENT OF DISPUTES

In the case of any dispute arising between church members, pastors, or staff pertaining to any matter of spiritual teaching or practice, church finances, or property purchased with church contributions, the dispute shall be resolved by the Board of Elders at the sole discretion of the Board. A decision shall be reached after prayerful consideration, in a spirit of humility, with each Elder regarding other Elders before himself and striving to preserve the unity of the Spirit in the bond of peace (Ephesians 4:1-3).

ARTICLE 10 – FINANCIAL POLICY

The purposes of this Corporation and the ministries of this church shall be supported solely by the freewill offerings given by members and others interested in the ministries of this church. The Corporation shall receive all monies or other properties for the purposes for which the Corporation exists (as shown in these Bylaws and in the Articles of Incorporation). However nothing contained herein shall require the Board of Elders or the church to accept any money or property if it shall determine that acceptance of such monies or property is contrary to the expressed purposes of the Corporation as stated in the said Bylaws or Articles.

ARTICLE 11 – CHARITABLE FUNDS ADMINISTRATION

All freewill offerings to this church shall, unless designated for a specific purpose, be used for the general purposes of this church as directed by the elders. In the event that a designation of funds for a specific purpose would be contrary to the charitable purpose of this church, then those funds shall be promptly returned to the donor by the Treasurer. If the donor cannot be identified (e.g. anonymous cash or other donations), the Treasurer shall bring that situation to the attention of the Elders who shall direct proper disposition of the funds consistent with the charitable purpose of this church.

ARTICLE 12 – OTHER FINANCIAL MATTERS

12.1 – Title to Property

The title to all property, both real and personal, shall be vested in the church.

12.2 – Dedication of Assets

This church does not contemplate pecuniary gain or profit to members thereof except as provided under section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986, as amended from time to time. The property of this church is irrevocably dedicated to tax exempt purposes under said 501(c)(3) as described herein and no part of the net income or assets shall ever inure to the benefit of any Elder, Deacon, Officer of member or to the benefit of any private persons.

12.3 – Contracts, Bank Accounts, etc.

The Elders may authorize any officer or agent to establish such contracts, bank accounts, or to take other actions as may be required to serve the purposes of this church. Unless specifically authorized by the Elders, no person shall have the power to bind the church by any contract or engagement, or to pledge its credit, or to render it financially liable for any purpose or for any amount.

12.4 – Appointment of Advisors and Auditors

The Elders may from time to time authorize the appointment of advisors to assist in the affairs of this church. The Elders are authorized to oversee the engagement of such persons as in their opinion are needed for the administration of the church and to assure payment of reasonable compensation and expenses thereof. Further, the Elders may arrange for the engagement of auditors from time to time to help assure that the financial affairs of this church are managed in conformity with its charitable purposes under section 501(c)(3) of the IRS Code, as amended on occasion.

12.5 – Liability of Elders, Deacons, Officers or Members

No Elder, Deacon, Officer or Member of this church shall be personally liable to its creditors for any indebtedness or liability and any and all creditors shall look only to the church's assets for payment.

ARTICLE 13 – PROHIBITED ACTS

13.1 – Actions Jeopardizing Tax Status

This church shall not take any action or carry on any activity not permitted by an organization exempt under section 501(c)(3) of the IRS Code of 1986 and its regulations as amended, or by any organization, contributions to which are deductible under section 170(c)(2) of such code and its regulations as amended.

13.2 – Political Activities

This church will not lobby or participate in or intervene in any political or judicial campaign on behalf of any candidate for public office whatsoever.

ARTICLE 14 – INDEMNIFICATION

This church shall legally indemnify any Elder, Deacon, Officer Pastor or other member who may be made a party to any legal action affecting the church. Also, any such person shall be indemnified by the church against actual and reasonable expenses incurred by the person in connection with such legal action.

ARTICLE 15 - DISSOLUTION

In the event of dissolution of the Corporation the Board of Elders and the Deacons, with such assistance from the Officers as they may request, shall cause the assets of the Corporation to be distributed to another 501(c)(3) corporation with purposes which are consistent with those stated in Article 2 of these Bylaws.

ARTICLE 16 – AMENDMENTS & INSPECTION

These Bylaws may be amended and new or additional Bylaws may be made from time-to-time by the Board of Elders in the exercise of power granted to said Board of Elders in these Bylaws. No other persons shall have the right to alter, amend or otherwise change these Bylaws.

Any amendments and new or additional Bylaws shall be published in the weekly church bulletin, or otherwise made available, for the information of members of the church prior to adoption.

A copy of these Bylaws shall be kept in the office of the church and be available for review by any person having a reasonable interest to do so at all reasonable times during office hours.

Lake Pointe Bible Church
Plymouth, Michigan

Statement of Faith - What We Believe

The Bible is the inspired Word of God, our final authority in all matters of belief and conduct.

God created and controls the universe, and exists as a Trinity--the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.

Humans were created in the image of God, but are fallen through sin. All people need salvation, and will live eternally in blessing or judgment.

Jesus Christ, the son of God, died on the cross to pay for our sins. He is our Lord, and the only means of salvation for mankind.

The Resurrection of Jesus Christ was in a real, living, glorified body after he had been dead for three days. His resurrection guarantees that every Christian will be raised from the dead when Jesus calls them.

Salvation comes only through faith in Jesus Christ--belief that, when Jesus died on the cross, it was in your place.

The Church is composed of all believers in Jesus, and is led by the Holy Spirit. All believers have been given gifts (talents or abilities) to be used in the ministry of the church.