

**HARBOR LIGHT ASSEMBLY OF GOD
Constitution & Bylaws**

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CONSTITUTION

PREAMBLE

We whose names currently appear upon the Harbor Light Assembly of God roster under the above date do hereby recognize ourselves as a local assembly in fellowship with and part of the Alaska District Council of the Assemblies of God for the purpose of establishing and maintaining a place for the worship of Almighty God, our Heavenly Father to provide a Christian fellowship for those of like precious faith, where the Holy Spirit may be honored according to our distinctive testimony; to assume our share of responsibility and the privilege of propagating the Gospel of Jesus Christ by all available means, both at home and in foreign lands; and adopt the following articles of church order and submit ourselves to be governed by them.

ARTICLE I. NAME

The name of this church shall be Harbor Light Assembly of God of the city of Wrangell in the State of Alaska.

ARTICLE II. MISSION STATEMENT

It is our passion to know God the Father, God the Son and God the Holy Spirit intimately through worship, prayer and service. We envision a Spirit filled church where every person is committed to encouraging, edifying and uplifting one another in love. We are committed to be God's hands, feet, mouth and message to everyone "from the greatest to the least" in Wrangell, in Southeast, in Alaska and for every Tribe, Tongue, People and Nation.

ARTICLE III. PREROGATIVES

Section I. To establish and maintain a place of worship, to conduct under the guidance of the Holy Scriptures the work of evangelizing every person beginning at home and on the foreign field in obedience to the command of our Lord Jesus Christ (Matthew 28:18-20) and in harmony with the teaching and practice of His servants, the apostles (Acts 8:4,5,25,35-40, 13:1-4, 16:6-10; Romans 10:12-17, 15:18-21; II Corinthians 10:16).

Section II. This Assembly shall have the right to govern itself according to the standards of the New Testament Scripture, "endeavoring to keep the unity of the Spirit in the bond of peace,... till we all come in unity of the faith, and of the knowledge of the Son of God, unto a perfect man, unto the measure of the stature of the fullness of Christ" (Ephesians 4:3-13).

Section III. To establish such departments as may be necessary for the propagation of the Gospel and the support of missionary activity.

Section IV. To have the right to own, hold in trust, use or otherwise possess, sell, convey, mortgage, lease or otherwise dispose of such property, real or chattel, as may be deemed needed for the prosecution of its work.

ARTICLE IV. AFFILIATION

This Assembly shall affiliate itself with the Alaska District Council of the Assemblies of God and with the General Council of the Assemblies of God with headquarters in Springfield, Missouri, and shall share in the privileges and assume the responsibilities enjoined by that affiliation; nevertheless; it shall maintain its inherent rights in the conduct of its own affairs.

ARTICLE V. TENETS OF FAITH

The Bible is our all-sufficient rule for faith and practice. This Statement of Fundamental Truths is intended simply as a basis of fellowship among us (i.e., that we all speak the same thing, 1 Corinthians 1:10; Acts 2:42).

The phraseology employed in this statement is not inspired or contended for, but the truth set forth is held to be essential to a full-gospel ministry. No claim is made that it contains all biblical truth, only that it covers our need as to these fundamental doctrines.

Section I. The Scriptures Inspired

The Scriptures, both the Old and New Testaments, are verbally inspired of God and are the revelation of God to man, the infallible, authoritative rule of faith and conduct (2 Timothy 3:15-17; 1 Thessalonians 2:13; 2 Peter 1:21).

Section II. The One True God

The one true God has revealed himself as the eternally self-existent "I AM," the Creator of heaven and earth and the Redeemer of mankind. He has further revealed himself as embodying the principles of relationship and association as Father, Son, and Holy Spirit (Deuteronomy 6:4; Isaiah 43:10,11; Matthew 28:19; Luke 3:22).

The Adorable Godhead

A. Terms Defined

The terms trinity and persons, as related to the godhead, while not found in the Scriptures, are words in harmony with Scripture, whereby we may convey to others our immediate understanding of the doctrine of Christ respecting the Being of God, as distinguished from "gods many and lords many." We therefore may speak with propriety of the Lord our God, who is One Lord, as a Trinity or as one Being of three persons, and still be absolutely scriptural (examples, Matthew 28:19; 2 Corinthians 13:14; John 14:16,17).

B. Distinction and Relationship in the Godhead

Christ taught a distinction of persons in the godhead which He expressed in specific terms of relationship, as Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, but that this distinction and relationship, as to its mode is inscrutable and incomprehensible, because unexplained (Luke 1:35; 1 Corinthians 1:24; Matthew 11:25-27; 28:19; 2 Corinthians 13:14; 1 John 1:3,4).

C. Unity of the One Being of Father, Son, and Holy Spirit

Accordingly, therefore, there is that in the Father which constitutes Him the Father and not the Son; there is that in the Son which constitutes Him the Son and not the Father; and there is that

in the Holy Spirit which constitutes Him the Holy Spirit and not either the Father or the Son. Wherefore, the Father is the Begetter; the Son is the Begotten; and the Holy Spirit is the One proceeding from the Father and the Son. Therefore, because these three persons in the godhead are in a state of unity, there is but one Lord God Almighty and His name one (John 1:18; 15:26; 17:11,21; Zechariah 14:9)

D. Identity and Cooperation in the Godhead

The Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit are never identical as to person; nor confused as to relation; nor divided in respect to the godhead; nor opposed as to cooperation. The Son is in the Father and the Father is in the Son as to relationship. The Son is with the Father and the Father is with the Son, as to fellowship. The Father is not from the Son, but the Son is from the Father, as to authority. The Holy Spirit is from the Father and the Son proceeding, as to nature, relationship, cooperation, and authority. Hence, no person in the godhead either exists or works separately or independently of the others (John 5:17-30,32,37; 8:17,18).

E. The Title, Lord Jesus Christ

The appellation Lord Jesus Christ, is a proper name. It is never applied in the New Testament either to the Statement of Fundamental Truths 2/5 Father or to the Holy Spirit. It therefore belongs exclusively to the Son of God (Romans 1:1-3,7; 2 John 3).

F. The Lord Jesus Christ, God With Us

The Lord Jesus Christ, as to His divine and eternal nature, is the proper and only Begotten of the Father, but as to His human nature, He is the proper Son of Man. He is, therefore, acknowledged to be both God and man; who because He is God and man, is "Immanuel," God with us (Matthew 1:23; 1 John 4:2,10,14; Revelation 1:13,17).

G. The Title, Son of God

Since the name Immanuel embraces both God and man, in the one person, our Lord Jesus Christ, it follows that the title Son of God describes His proper deity, and the title Son of Man, His proper humanity. Therefore, the title Son of God belongs to the order of eternity, and the title Son of Man to the order of time (Matthew 1:21-23; 2 John 3; 1 John 3:8; Hebrews 7:3; 1:1-13).

H. Transgression of the Doctrine of Christ

Wherefore, it is a transgression of the doctrine of Christ to say that Jesus Christ derived the title Son of God solely from the fact of the Incarnation, or because of His relation to the economy of redemption. Therefore, to deny that the Father is a real and eternal Father, and that the Son is a real and eternal Son, is a denial of the distinction and relationship in the Being of God; a denial of the Father and the Son; and a displacement of the truth that Jesus Christ is come in the flesh (2 John 9; John 1:1,2,14,18,29,49; 1 John 2:22,23; 4:1-5; Hebrews 12:2).

I. Exaltation of Jesus Christ as Lord

The Son of God, our Lord Jesus Christ, having by himself purged our sins, sat down on the right hand of the Majesty on high, angels and principalities and powers having been made subject unto Him. And having been made both Lord and Christ, He sent the Holy Spirit that we, in the name of Jesus, might bow our knees and confess that Jesus Christ is Lord to the

glory of God the Father until the end, when the Son shall become subject to the Father that God may be all in all (Hebrews 1:3; 1 Peter 3:22; Acts 2:32-36; Romans 14:11; 1 Corinthians 15:24-28)

J. Equal Honor to the Father and to the Son

Wherefore, since the Father has delivered all judgment unto the Son, it is not only the express duty of all in heaven and on earth to bow the knee, but it is an unspeakable joy in the Holy Spirit to ascribe unto the Son all the attributes of deity, and to give Him all the honor and the glory contained in all the names and titles of the godhead except those which express relationship (see paragraphs b, c, and d), and thus honor the Son even as we honor the Father (John 5:22,23; 1 Peter 1:8; Revelation 5:6-14; Philippians 2:8,9; Revelation 7:9,10; 4:8-11).

Section III. The Deity of the Lord Jesus Christ

The Lord Jesus Christ is the eternal Son of God. The Scriptures declare:

- A. His virgin birth (Matthew 1:23; Luke 1:31,35).
- B. His sinless life (Hebrews 7:26; 1 Peter 2:22).
- C. His miracles (Acts 2:22; 10:38).
- D. His substitutionary work on the cross (1 Corinthians 15:3; 2 Corinthians 5:21).
- E. His bodily resurrection from the dead (Matthew 28:6; Luke 24:39; 1 Corinthians 15:4).
- F. His exaltation to the right hand of God (Acts 1:9,11; 2:33; Philippians 2:9-11; Hebrews 1:3).

Section IV. The Fall of Man

Man was created good and upright; for God said, "Let us make man in our image, after our likeness." However, man by voluntary transgression fell and thereby incurred not only physical death but also spiritual death, which is separation from God (Genesis 1:26,27; 2:17; 3:6; Romans 5:12-19).

Section V. The Salvation of Man

Man's only hope of redemption is through the shed blood of Jesus Christ the Son of God.

A. Conditions to Salvation

Salvation is received through repentance toward God and faith toward the Lord Jesus Christ. By the washing of regeneration and renewing of the Holy Spirit, being justified by grace through faith, man becomes an heir of God according to the hope of eternal life (Luke 24:47; John 3:3; Romans 10:13-15; Ephesians 2:8; Titus 2:11; 3:5-7).

(1) The Evidences of Salvation The inward evidence of salvation is the direct witness of the Spirit (Romans 8:16). The outward evidence to all men is a life of righteousness and true holiness (Ephesians 4:24; Titus 2:12).

Section VI. The Ordinances of the Church

A. Baptism in Water

The ordinance of baptism by immersion is commanded in the Scriptures. All who repent and believe on Christ as Savior and Lord are to be baptized. Thus they declare to the world that they have died with Christ and that they also have been raised with Him to walk in newness of life (Matthew 28:19; Mark 16:16; Acts 10:47,48; Romans 6:4).

B. Holy Communion

The Lord's Supper, consisting of the elements—bread and the fruit of the vine—is the symbol expressing our sharing the divine nature of our Lord Jesus Christ (2 Peter 1:4); a memorial of His suffering and death (1 Corinthians 11:26); and a prophecy of His second coming (1 Corinthians 11:26); and is enjoined on all believers “till He come!”

Section VII. The Baptism in the Holy Spirit

All believers are entitled to and should ardently expect and earnestly seek the promise of the Father, the baptism in the Holy Spirit and fire, according to the command of our Lord Jesus Christ. This was the normal experience of all in the early Christian church. With it comes the endowment of power for life and service, the bestowment of the gifts and their uses in the work of the ministry (Luke 24:49; Acts 1:4,8; 1 Corinthians 12:1-31). This experience is distinct from and subsequent to the experience of the new birth (Acts 8:12-17; 10:44-46; 11:14-16; 15:7-9). With the baptism in the Holy Spirit come such experiences as an overflowing fullness of the Spirit (John 7:37-39; Acts 4:8), a deepened reverence for God (Acts 2:43; Hebrews 12:28), an intensified consecration to God and dedication to His work (Acts 2:42), and a more active love for Christ, for His Word, and for the lost (Mark 16:20).

Section VIII. The Initial Physical Evidence of the Baptism in the Holy Spirit

The baptism of believers in the Holy Spirit is witnessed by the initial physical sign of speaking with other tongues as the Spirit of God gives them utterance (Acts 2:4). The speaking in tongues in this instance is the same in essence as the gift of tongues (1 Corinthians 12:4-10,28), but different in purpose and use.

Section IX. Sanctification

Sanctification is an act of separation from that which is evil, and of dedication unto God (Romans 12:1,2; 1 Thessalonians 5:23; Hebrews 13:12). Scriptures teach a life of “holiness without which no man shall see the Lord” (Hebrews 12:14). By the power of the Holy Spirit we are able to obey the command: “Be ye Statement of Fundamental Truths 4/5 holy, for I am holy” (1 Peter 1:15,16). Sanctification is realized in the believer by recognizing his identification with Christ in His death and resurrection, and by faith reckoning daily upon the fact of that union, and by offering every faculty continually to the dominion of the Holy Spirit (Romans 6:1-11,13; 8:1,2,13; Galatians 2:20; Philippians 2:12,13; 1 Peter 1:5).

Section X. The Church and Its Mission

The Church is the body of Christ, the habitation of God through the Spirit, with divine appointments for the fulfillment of her Great Commission. Each believer, born of the Spirit, is an integral part of the general assembly and church of the firstborn, which are written in heaven

(Ephesians 1:22,23; 2:22; Hebrews 12:23). Since God's purpose concerning man is to seek and to save that which is lost, to be worshiped by man, to build a body of believers in the image of His Son, and to demonstrate His love and compassion for all the world, the priority reason-for-being of the Assemblies of God as part of the Church is:

1. To be an agency of God for evangelizing the world (Acts 1:8; Matthew 28:19,20; Mark 16:15,16).
2. To be a corporate body in which man may worship God (1 Corinthians 12:13).
3. To be a channel of God's purpose to build a body of saints being perfected in the image of His Son (Ephesians 4:11-16; 1 Corinthians 12:28; 14:12).
4. To be a people who demonstrate God's love and compassion for all the world (Psalms 112:9; Galatians 2:10; 6:10; James 1:27).

The Assemblies of God exists expressly to give continuing emphasis to this reason-for-being in the New Testament apostolic pattern by teaching and encouraging believers to be baptized in the Holy Spirit. This experience:

- a. Enables them to evangelize in the power of the Spirit with accompanying supernatural signs (Mark 16:15-20; Acts 4:29-31; Hebrews 2:3,4).
- b. Adds a necessary dimension to a worshipful relationship with God (1 Corinthians 2:10-16; 1 Corinthians 12-14).
- c. Enables them to respond to the full working of the Holy Spirit in expression of fruit and gifts and ministries as in New Testament times for the edifying of the body of Christ and care for the poor and needy of the world (Galatians 5:22-26; Matthew 25:37-40; Galatians 6:10; 1 Corinthians 14:12; Ephesians 4:11,12; 1 Corinthians 12:28; Colossians 1:29; Galatians 5:22-26).

Section XI. The Ministry

A divinely called and scripturally ordained ministry has been provided by our Lord for the fourfold purpose of leading the Church in:

- (1) evangelization of the world (Mark 16:15-20),
- (2) worship of God (John 4:23,24),
- (3) building a Body of saints being perfected in the image of His Son (Ephesians 4:11,16), and
- (4) Meeting human need with ministries of love and compassion (Psalms 112:9; Galatians 2:10; 6:10; James 1:27).

Section XII. Divine Healing

Divine healing is an integral part of the gospel. Deliverance from sickness is provided for in the Atonement, and is the privilege of all believers (Isaiah 53:4,5; Matthew 8:16,17; James 5:14-16).

Section XIII. The Blessed Hope

The resurrection of those who have fallen asleep in Christ and their translation together with those who are alive and remain unto the coming of the Lord is the imminent and blessed hope of the Church (1 Thessalonians 4:16,17; Romans 8:23; Titus 2:13; 1 Corinthians 15:51,52).

Section XIV. The Millennial Reign of Christ

The second coming of Christ includes the rapture of the saints, which is our blessed hope, followed by the visible return of Christ with His saints to reign on the earth for one thousand years (Zechariah 14:5; Matthew 24:27,30; Revelation 1:7; 19:11-14; 20:1-6). This millennial reign will bring the salvation of national Israel (Ezekiel 37:21,22; Zephaniah 3:19,20; Romans 11:26,27) and the establishment of universal peace (Isaiah 11:6-9; Psalm 72:3-8; Micah 4:3,4).

Section XV. The Final Judgment

There will be a final judgment in which the wicked dead will be raised and judged according to their works. Whosoever is not found written in the Book of Life, together with the devil and his angels, the beast and the false prophet, will be consigned to everlasting punishment in the lake which burneth with fire and brimstone, which is the second death (Matthew 25:46; Mark 9:43-48; Revelation 19:20; 20:11-15; 21:8).

Section XVI. The New Heavens and the New Earth

“We, according to His promise, look for new heavens and a new earth, wherein dwelleth righteousness” (2 Peter 3:13; Revelation 21,22).

ARTICLE VI. ORDINANCES

Section I. Water Baptism

The ordinance of Baptism by immersion in water (Matthew 28:19) shall be administered to all those who have repented of their sins and who have believed on the Lord Jesus Christ to the saving of their souls, and who give clear evidence of their salvation (Romans 6:3-5; Colossians 2:12).

Section II. The Lords Supper

The ordinances of the Lord's Supper (communion) shall be observed regularly as enjoined in the Scriptures (Luke 22:10-20; I Corinthians 11:23-26).

ARTICLE VII. MEMBERSHIP

Membership in this Assembly shall be extended, upon application to all those who give evidence of their faith in the Lord Jesus Christ, and who voluntarily subscribe to its TENETS OF FAITH and agree to be governed by its Constitution and By-laws (Article 1) as herein set forth. The membership shall consist of voting and non-voting members. Their respective rights, qualifications, and privileges shall be set forth in the By-laws.

ARTICLE VIII. OFFICERS AND GOVERNMENT

The officers of this Assembly shall consist of the Senior Pastor, Secretary and Treasurer. The Church Board shall be composed of Deacons with the Senior Pastor as chairman.

ARTICLE IX. MEETINGS

Section I. Public Meetings.

Meetings for public worship shall be held each Sunday and at such other times as provided for in the By-laws and as called by the Senior Pastor.

Section II. Business Meetings.

An Annual Business Meeting shall be held in the Assembly each year at which time reports shall be given and election of officers shall take place. Regular business meetings and such special business meetings as may be needed shall be called as provided in the By-laws. All meetings shall be open to the general membership.

ARTICLE X. DEPARTMENT AND COMMITTEES

As need arises departments or committees may be established. If established they shall be formed and conducted under the supervision of the Senior Pastor and the Church Board. All departments and committees shall be subordinate to the Assembly and shall contribute to the harmony and development of the whole. They shall be under the general supervision of the Senior Pastor and the Church Board, and the Senior Pastor shall be an ex-officio member of all committees or departments.

ARTICLE XI. FINANCES

All funds for the operation, development and maintenance of the Assembly shall be provided by the voluntary contributions of tithes, offerings, gifts, devices, bequests, legacies, trusts, annuities and voluntary offerings and shall be administered by the Treasurer or Bookkeeper under the direction of the Senior Pastor and the Church Board (Malachi 3:10; I Corinthians 16:2; II Corinthians 9:6-8),

ARTICLE XII. PROPERTY

All property of Harbor Light Assembly of God shall be deeded to Harbor Light Assembly of God and held in its name. In the event defection shall occur from the TENETS OF FAITH of Harbor Light Assembly of God as the same are stated in the Statement of Fundamental Truths in the Constitution of Harbor Light Assembly of God, any portion of the membership subscribing to and practicing the aforesaid TENETS OF FAITH and retaining membership with Harbor Light Assembly of God shall retain possession of, and title to, all properties of said church with full rights thereto as provided in its Constitution and By-laws.

ARTICLE XIII. DISSOLUTION OF ASSEMBLY

In the event this church shall cease to function for the purposes as declared heretofore in its Articles of Agreement and/or the Articles of its Constitution refer to By-laws Article VII, Section VI.

ARTICLE XIV. RIGHT OF INTERVENTION

We reserve the right, under certain circumstances, to request assistance from the Alaska District Council to intervene in the affairs of the local Assembly. Such circumstances may include, but are not limited to:

- 1) Failure of the Senior Pastor, elected leadership and/or the congregation of the assembly to comply with the TENETS OF FAITH set forth in the Statement of Fundamental Truths in the Constitution of the General Council and Alaska District Council of the Assemblies of God
- 2) Failure of the Senior Pastor, elected leadership and/or the congregation of the Assembly to comply with scriptural moral or ethical standards of conduct
- 3) Failure of the Senior Pastor, elected leadership and/or congregation to abide by the Constitution and By-laws herein set forth
- 4) Conduct by the Senior Pastor, elected leadership and/or congregation that engenders strife and encourages disharmony within the Assembly.

ARTICLE XV. AMENDMENTS

This Constitution may be amended by a two-thirds vote of the membership of the Assembly in attendance at any regular or special business meeting called for that purpose, provided due notice of such proposed change shall have been made at all services on at least two consecutive Sundays immediately prior to the time of such meeting. It shall be understood that this right to amend shall not be construed as authorization to amend the TENETS OF FAITH which stand regardless of majority.

BY-LAWS

HARBOR LIGHT ASSEMBLY OF GOD

ARTICLE I. MEMBERSHIP

Section I. Standard of Membership.

The standard of membership of this Assembly shall be:

- A. An outward and inward evidence of a genuine experience in regeneration (John 1:12,13; 3:3-8; 1 Peter 1:18-25).
- B. Evidence of a consistent Christian life (Romans 6:4; 8:1-4; 13:13; Ephesians 4:17-32; 5:1,2,15).
- C. To subscribe to the TENETS OF FAITH as set forth in the Constitution adopted by this Assembly.
- D. Faithful financial support of the Assembly according to Scripture.
- E. Consistent regular attendance at services and business meetings.

Section II. Reception of Members.

- A. Persons desiring to become voting members of the Assembly shall make the fact known to the Senior Pastor and file an application for membership.
- B. The Senior Pastor shall present the names of all applicants to the Church Board for review and action.
- C. All those who have met the qualifications for membership and have been approved by the Church Board shall be notified of their reception into the membership and received publicly on any regular

Sunday morning service. Their names shall be inscribed on the official church roster, which shall clearly indicate name and membership status.

- D. To better accomplish the work of the Assembly, each person within the Assembly meeting the qualifications of membership will be encouraged to make application.

Section III. Classification of Members

- A. Voting Membership. All members 18 years of age or more, whose names appear on the membership roster and who are presently meeting the qualifications of membership as set forth in these By-laws shall be extended the privilege of voting in all matters pertaining to the church. Senior Pastor and spouse of the Assembly, and Pastoral Staff, shall be extended the privilege to vote in all matters pertaining to the church with the exception of voting for a Senior Pastor or their staff position.
- B. Adherent-Membership. The adherent membership shall be composed of those who regularly fellowship with the Assembly but have not yet signified their intention of becoming a legal voting member of the Assembly.
- C. Junior Membership. Youth between the ages of 12 and 18 are encouraged to join as junior members of the Assembly. Junior members must meet the same qualifications as voting members. Junior members reaching age 18 years or more, and desiring to become voting members, shall make their intention known to the Senior Pastor.
- D. Absentee membership. Members in good standing with the Assembly who are away from the Wrangell area for a period of time exceeding 90 days may be placed on the absentee membership list. Those on the absentee list shall not have voting privileges. Should absentee members in good standing with the local Assembly desire to return to voting status, they shall do so 30 days after returning to Wrangell.
- E. Inactive Membership. Those members who, without good cause shall (1) willfully absent themselves from the services of the Assembly for a period of three consecutive months, or (2) who may be under written charges of misconduct, or (3) who shall have fallen under condemnation through consistent sinful practices and outward rebellion toward God shall be temporarily suspended from active voting membership pending investigation and action by the Church Board.
(4) if an appeal is made to the Church Board for reconsideration and reinstatement is not granted, in six months they can appeal again to the board for voting membership.
- F. If a name is placed on the inactive membership list, that inactive person shall be contacted by the Pastor or a designated individual and restoration means will be employed to bring the person back and restored to the active membership.

Section IV. Obligations of Members.

- A. Cooperative Action. Each member of this Assembly shall give consent to its forms of government, together with past policies mutually agreed upon, and agree to the policy of fundamental unity and agreement alike in doctrine, conduct and action, and shall conform to the Scriptural injunction that there be no divisions in the body (I Corinthians 1:10). -
- B. Attitude Toward Strife In as much as no Christian institution can comply with the plain teaching of Scripture unless unity and harmony predominate within its circle, no member of this body may use means to incite or engender strife, but shall work in harmony with the membership and its officers, as did the early church (Acts 2:42). If at any time one or more members find themselves opposed to the fundamental doctrines of the Assembly, or if for any reason are unable and unwilling to harmonize with others, they shall not seek to disrupt the fellowship, but will quietly withdraw from the membership and seek the help of the Senior Pastor until such time as they are willing and able to be reinstated as a full member. Any cause for dissatisfaction shall be written and directed to the Senior Pastor who shall make the fact known to the Church Board, who shall make all necessary adjustments (Acts 6:1-7; Matthew 18:15-18).
- C. Financial Support. Each member shall seek to be a supporting member in proportion as the Lord shall prosper them (Malachi 3:10; I Corinthians 16:2; II Corinthians 9:6-9). Each member shall seek

to obey the Lord through Biblical obedience with regard to tithing and generous giving to the Lord's work. Each member's gift, no matter how large or small, is valuable to the Assembly (Luke 21:3).

- D. Involvement in Ministry. Each member shall seek to be involved in the ministry of the Assembly as defined in Ephesians 4:15-16.

Section V. Discipline.

Because we are people of conscience and are in the process of being perfected into the likeness of Jesus Christ, we may, at times, find ourselves at odds. Therefore, the discipline process shall be allowed in a loving manner with the purpose of restoring harmony and unity of spirit. Discipline shall be exercised by the Senior Pastor in the strictest confidence with the recommendation of the Church Board. Any charges directed toward a member of the Assembly must be in writing, signed by at least two witnesses and given to the Senior Pastor. Any member who may come under accusation shall have opportunity to face his/her accusers with the Senior Pastor present. Disciplinary measures may include counseling toward repentance, forgiveness, soundness of doctrine, restitution and/or deliverance from the influence of satanic powers. When all other efforts to bring reconciliation have failed, and a member has consistently refused to exhibit a repentant heart, the Church Board may recommend his/her removal from the list of active members. The action of the Church Board, by a majority decision, shall be considered final. Every person removed from the membership has the right of appeal. Grounds for disciplinary action shall include the following:

- A. Living an immoral and sinful life, while refusing to conform to Scriptural conduct and opposing the influence of the Holy Spirit (Ephesians 5:3-7; I Corinthians 5:11-13; II Thessalonians 3:6-10; Galatians 5:19-21).
- B. Promulgation of erroneous, inconsistent, non-Biblical or extra-Biblical doctrine (Romans 16:17; I Timothy 6:3-5; II Timothy 1:13).
- C. Persistence in those things which the Scriptures forbid, such as:
 - a. Being a habitual busybody (II Thessalonians 3:11; I Timothy 5:13; I Peter 4: 15)
 - b. Having an unbridled (loose, uncontrolled) or evil-speaking tongue (James 1:25,26; Ephesians 4:31).
 - c. Backbiting (saying mean things about a person who is not present), tale bearing (gossip) or slander (Romans 1:30; II Corinthians 12:20; Leviticus 19:16; Proverbs 17:9; Psalm 101:5; 50:19,20; Luke 7:33,34)
 - d. Engendering strife and division (Romans 16:17; I Corinthians 1:10,11; 3:3).

Section VI. Revision of the Membership Roll.

- A. Members in good standing. Those who move from the Wrangell area and desire to join with another Assembly may apply to the Senior Pastor for a letter of transfer. Upon approval of the Senior Pastor and Church Board, the letter shall be signed by the Senior Pastor and forwarded to the new Assembly.
- B. The Church Board shall annually, and before the election of a Senior Pastor, or before considering other important matters, revise the membership roll of the Assembly. They shall make sure of the additions of all those who have been accepted into the membership of the Assembly. They shall remove from the roll all those who may have become deceased, together with those who have become absent according to Section III. (d), inactive according to Section III. (e), or who have come under the action of discipline according to Section V.
- C. Persons whose names have been removed from the active voting roll of the Assembly will be contacted by the Pastor or a designated individual and restorative means will be employed to bring the person back and restored to the active voting membership.

ARTICLE II. OFFICERS AND GOVERNMENT

Section I. In General

The government of this Assembly shall be vested in the Church Board which shall consist of the Senior Pastor and at least three Deacons, to the extent that such authority is not limited by District Supervision as provide for under the Bylaws of the District Council.

Section II. Officers

There shall be a President, Vice-Chairman, Secretary, and Treasurer. The-Senior Pastor, by virtue of office, shall be the President and Chairman of the Church Board. The offices of Secretary and Treasurer may be held simultaneously by the same individual.

A. Qualifications

a. Senior Pastor

The Senior Pastor shall be in good standing with both the General Council of the Assemblies of God and the District Council, holding a current fellowship card.

i. Associate Pastor/Staff Pastor

If the Senior Pastor shall determine the need for an Associate in the ministry, the name of a candidate of choice shall be presented to the Church Board, who together shall decide compensation.

b. Secretary

The Secretary shall be an active voting member of this Assembly and may be a member of the Church Board.

c. Treasurer

The Treasurer shall be an active voting member of this Assembly and shall currently support the church with tithes, and shall have a cooperative spirit, and shall be faithful in attendance at church services.

B. Duties of Officers

a. Senior Pastor

i. Shall be the spiritual overseer of the Assembly and shall direct its activities.

ii. Shall be recognized as a member of the Church Board, President of the Assembly and shall act as chairman of all the business meetings of the Assembly and of the Church Board.

iii. Shall provide for all services of the Assembly and shall specifically arrange for all special meetings, conventions, and revival campaigns. No person shall be invited to speak or preach in the Assembly without his approval.

iv. Shall, as Chairman of the Church Board, be Chairman of the nominating committee for the selection of Deacon nominees. The Senior Pastor shall privately interview those nominated, ascertaining their eligibility and availability to serve as Deacons.

v. All new board members, and the whole board, shall receive training from the Pastor as needed or determined by the Pastor.

vi. Shall be an ex-officio member of all committees.

b. Associate Pastor(s)/Staff

The Associate Pastor(s)/Staff shall be accountable to the Senior Pastor in all matters pertaining to the ministry, and shall cooperate with, support and affirm the Senior Pastor. Upon such time as this may become impossible, a letter of resignation shall be promptly tendered. The Associate Pastor(s)/Staff shall submit a letter of resignation upon the resignation of the Senior Pastor.

c. Secretary

- i. Shall keep the minutes of the official meetings of the Church Board and of the annual and special business meetings of the Assembly.
 - ii. Shall keep a record of the membership of the Assembly and perform any other clerical work necessary to the proper discharge of his/her duties.
 - iii. Shall be the custodian of all legal documents.
 - iv. Shall file such annual corporation reports with the Secretary of state as may be required by state law.
- d. Treasurer
 - i. Shall provide oversight and be entrusted with all the finances of the Assembly, subject to the supervision of the Church Board, and shall deposit all funds in federally insured accounts in the name of the Assembly. All checks issued in excess of \$1,500 shall require two signatures, both the signature of the Treasurer and one additional authorized officer designated by the board, otherwise the treasurer shall be empowered to write checks with only one signature up to that fixed amount.
 - ii. Shall provide oversight and keep an itemized account of receipts and disbursements shall present a report for each regular meeting of the Church Board, and shall present an annual report to the Assembly in its annual business meeting.
 - iii. Shall provide oversight and assist the Assembly in acquiring and maintaining available tax exemptions under state and local law.
 - iv. Shall provide oversight and provide a record of all identified giving to each donor at least annually.
 - v. Shall provide oversight and be the custodian of all the financial records of the church.

Section III. Elder or Eldership.

Because of the use of the word in the original Greek (Acts 20:17,28; I Timothy 5:17; James 5:14, etc.). The words Elder or Eldership refer to the same office as Pastor, Bishop, or Overseer, therefore we see the Pastoral staff, or any other qualified person as appointed by the Senior Pastor, as the Eldership of the church.

Section IV. Deacons.

A. Qualifications

The Deacons shall be members (men or women) of mature Christian experience and knowledge who shall be expected to meet the requirements set forth in I Timothy 3 and Acts 6. Deacons shall be at least 23 years old, and shall have been members of the Assembly for at least one year or transfer from another Assembly in good standing. They shall currently support the Assembly with their tithes and offerings, have a cooperative spirit, and regularly attend church services. They shall be the custodians of all property of the Assembly and shall be responsible for the maintenance of the property .

- a. Qualifications for the office of Deacon are to be interpreted as stressing matters of character, not of marital history prior to the cross and not to be interpreted as excluding people who were divorced under the conditions stated in Matthew 19:9 or I Corinthians 7:15 or people divorced prior to conversion, from serving as Deacons.

B. Duties

- a. They shall act in the examination of applicants for membership and as needed shall revise the official membership roster.
- b. They shall act in the administration of discipline of the membership.
- c. They shall assist in the ministry of the church ordinances.
- d. They shall serve as ministers in the homes of those sick and in need of ministry. They shall serve the congregation according to their gifts of ministry. They shall otherwise assist the

Senior Pastor by fulfilling requested ministry duties pertaining to the spiritual edification of the Assembly.

- e. They shall see to the needs of the Senior Pastor and his family within the means of the Assembly to provide salary, benefits, support and other needs as they arise.
- f. They shall work with the Senior Pastor in formulating both short-term and long-term goals for the ministry of the Assembly.

Section V. Fiduciary Duties.

In accordance with the law, officers and deacons shall exercise due care and diligence, loyalty, avoidance of self-dealing, expending designated contributions for the purposes specified, and not commingling personal and corporate funds.

ARTICLE III. ELECTIONS AND VACANCIES

Section I. Elections.

A. Senior Pastor

- a. **Qualifications.** The Senior Pastor shall be a duly qualified and credentialed Assemblies of God minister in good standing with the General Council of the Assemblies of God.
 - b. **Nominations.** Senior Pastoral candidates shall be nominated by a Pulpit Committee consisting of the Church Board and two (2) persons appointed by the Board from the voting membership. The Committee shall present no more than one (1) nominee at a regular or special business meeting.
 - c. **Elections.** Election shall be by secret ballot at a business meeting called for that purpose. All Senior pastoral elections shall be chaired-by the acting Chairman of the Church Board. A two-thirds majority of all votes cast shall be required to constitute an election.
 - d. **Tenure,** The Senior Pastor shall be elected for an indefinite period of time. A vote of confidence may be taken from the membership at a business meeting called for that purpose at the request of the Senior Pastor. Under no circumstances is an annual election approved of, nor is provision made for such within these By-laws.
 - e. **Recourse,** in the event the Senior Pastor has serious, warranted charges of misconduct preferred in writing or the ministry has ceased to exhibit the signs of a Spirit-led ministry, power is vested in the majority of the Church Board to ask for the resignation of the Senior Pastor at any time. If the Senior Pastor refuses to tender a resignation, the pastorate shall not be considered vacant until the action of the Church Board has been confirmed by a two-thirds majority vote of the membership present at a special business meeting called for that purpose, with notice of said meeting having been given as required in ARTICLE IV Section III of these By-laws. This meeting may be presided over by a district official or appointee of the District.
- B. Church Board.** The members of the Church Board shall be elected from the voting membership of the Assembly. Qualified candidates shall be presented to the membership by the Church Board which shall act as nominating committee. Election shall be by majority vote of the membership present at a business meeting. The term of office for the Church Board members shall be for three years and arranged so that one third of the terms shall expire each year in order to provide continuity to the Board.

Section II. Vacancies.

A. Senior Pastor.

A Senior Pastor shall give at least 30 days notice. The Senior Pastor shall be given 30 days with full pay to vacate the pulpit and parsonage. A temporary minister may be appointed by the Church Board through the cooperative assistance of the District Office until a new Senior Pastor is elected.

- B. Officers.
 - a. Vacancies in any office other than Senior Pastor shall be filled by appointment of the Church Board until the end of the term.
 - b. Any office of the Assembly may be vacated by written resignation, and expressed either to the Church Board or Senior Pastor.
- C. Complaints and Trials. Any office other than Senior Pastor may be declared vacant by an act of the majority of the Church Board. A complaint preferred against any official of the Assembly may be accepted providing:
 - 1. The complaint is written
 - 2. The complaint is signed by at least two witnesses of the alleged misconduct.The action of the majority of the Church Board shall be considered final.

ARTICLE IV. MEETINGS

Section I. Meetings for Worship.

Meetings for public worship shall be held on each Lord's Day and during the week as maybe provided for under direction of the Senior Pastor, or the Church Board if there is no Senior Pastor.

Section II. Annual Meetings.

There shall be an annual business meeting of the Assembly, at which time the election of officers shall take place and the report of all officers shall be presented. This meeting shall be held the first quarter of each year. Notice of the date, time and place of each annual business meeting shall be announced during morning worship services of each of the two Sundays immediately preceding the date of the meeting.

Section III. Special Business Meetings.

Special business meetings of the Assembly may be called by the Senior Pastor, or by a majority of the Church Board, or by a petition signed by not less than fifty percent (50%) of the active voting members of the Assembly. Only those members who have regularly attended services of, and supported, this assembly for a period of at least three consecutive months prior to signing the petition shall be counted. Petitions pertaining to the business affairs of the church shall be submitted to the Senior Pastor or the Secretary of the Church Board. A petition pertaining to the status of the Senior Pastor may be directed to the District Superintendent, who shall arrange for a special business meeting of the Assembly. No more than one petition on a given subject shall be recognized in any 12-month period. Notice of the date, time, place, and purpose of each special business meeting shall be announced during morning worship services on each of the two Sundays immediately preceding the date of the meeting. No business other than that specified in the notice of the meeting shall be transacted at any special meeting of the Assembly.

Section IV. Parliamentary Order.

All business meetings of the Assembly shall be governed by orderly procedure in keeping with the spirit of Christian love and fellowship.

Section V. Voting Constituency

A. Qualifying of Voters

The voting constituency at all business meetings of the Assembly shall consist of all active voting members who are present and who are 18 years of age or older (By-laws Article I, Section III (a))

B. Members Under Process of Discipline

No member under the process of discipline shall be entitled to a vote until the process is completed (By-laws Article 1, Section V).

Section VI. Quorum.

A quorum shall consist of not less than one-third of those members eligible to vote, to be present at any duly called business meeting.

Section VII. Order of Business.

The regular order of business of the annual business meeting of this Assembly shall be as follows:

- 1) Devotional
- 2) Roll call of roster
- 3) Reading of minutes from business meetings in the last fiscal year
- 4) Report of Treasurer (verbal or written, the balance sheet and other specific financial reports will always be written electronically or in paper format)
- 5) Report of committees (verbal or written)
- 6) Unfinished business
- 7) Election of officers
- 8) New business
- 9) Adjournment

Section VIII. The Church Board.

The Church Board shall meet monthly or at the call of the Senior Pastor for the transaction of business for the Assembly, time and place to be announced by the Senior Pastor. Fifty percent (50%) of the Board members present shall constitute a quorum.

Section IX. Membership Roll.

The Church Board shall review the list of active voting members at least annually, at the regularly scheduled meeting of the Board immediately preceding the annual business meeting, and compile a current list of active voting members.

Section X. Absentee Ballots.

If for any legitimate reason, a voting member cannot be present at a duly called business meeting, they can submit an absentee ballot for any office or issue being considered at said meeting.

ARTICLE V. DEPARTMENTS

Section 1. Ministries

A. Staff.

The Pastoral Staff and Church Board shall have the right to appoint all leadership, officers, teachers, and other workers of Christian Education and various ministries. The Senior Pastor and the Church Board shall oversee all policies and programs of these ministries.

Section II. Other Departments.

Other departments of the church shall be created as there is a need, and shall be under the supervision of the Church Board and Pastoral Staff. By-laws governing such departments shall be subject to the approval of the Church Board and Pastoral Staff.

ARTICLE VI. FINANCES

Section I. Funds.

All funds for the operation, development and maintenance of the Assembly shall be provided by gifts, devices, bequests, legacies, trusts, annuities, voluntary contribution, and the tithes and offerings-(Malachi 3:10; Luke 6:38; I Corinthians 16:1,2; II Corinthians 9:6-9).

Section II. Deposits.

All monies received shall be deposited promptly into the regular church fund by the Treasurer or other appointed person.

Section III. Disbursements.

The disbursement of funds shall be under the supervision of the Senior Pastor with the approval of the Church Board.

Section IV. Collections.

No monies shall be collected by individual members of the Assembly without the consent and approval of the Church Board.

Section V. Senior Pastor's Financial Support.

The Senior Pastor shall be given regular and adequate financial support, the amount of which shall be determined by agreement between the Senior Pastor and the Church Board. The financial efforts of the Assembly toward the Senior Pastor shall be reviewed annually by the Church Board who shall render a decision on changes to salary and/or benefits, if any. Information of all changes shall be presented to the membership during the next regular or special business meeting.

ARTICLE VII. PROPERTY

Section I. Title of Property.

All property, real or chattel, shall be taken, held, sold, transferred or conveyed in the name of the Assembly.

Section II. Authorization to Sell or Encumber.

The sale, lease, mortgage or alienation of the real property of this Assembly shall be authorized by a two-thirds majority vote of a quorum present and voting at a regular or special business meeting called for that purpose. The Church Board shall have the authority to authorize purchases and dispose of equipment up to \$15,000 for any one transaction.

Section III. Certification.

The President and Secretary shall certify in such purchases, conveyance, lease or mortgage that the same has been duly authorized by a vote of the Church Board. The President and the Secretary shall sign all papers and documents required in carrying out the will of the Church Board in such matters.

Section IV. Dissolution.

In the event this church shall cease to function for the purposes as declared heretofore in its Articles of Agreement and/or the Articles of its Constitution, then after providing for the payment of its debts, the remaining assets will not inure to the benefit of any private person or persons but all such remaining assets shall revert to, and be transferred to, the parent body, the General Council of the Assemblies of God, a Missouri Corporation with headquarters at Springfield Missouri. The General Council of the Assemblies of God shall have full authority to sell such property and to use the proceeds derived there from for the extension of the work of the Assemblies of God within the Alaska District and under the direction of the Presbytery of said District.

In the event of cessation of this church, its Church Board shall within one year thereafter transfer all properties and any remaining assets to the General Council of the Assemblies of God in accordance with the foregoing provisions. If such transfer is not made within the time prescribed herein or if the aforesaid, the General Council of the Assemblies of God, shall be unable or unwilling to accept the aforesaid transfer as an organization operated exclusively for religious purposes with tax-exempt status under Section 501 C (3) of the Internal Revenue Code, then disposition therefore shall be made by the court of the borough in which this church is located, provided that in such case proceeds of the dissolution shall be distributed to an organization or organizations having purposes nearest the purposes of the General Council of the Assemblies of God, and which are organized and operated exclusively for religious purposes, and which have established tax-exempt status under Section 501 C (3) of the Internal Revenue Code.

ARTICLE VIII. MISSIONS

Missions shall be a vital, ongoing and expanding ministry of Harbor Light Assembly of God. Any project of, or commitment-to missions shall be considered for approval by a missions committee or Church Board. The missions committee shall consist of the Senior Pastor who shall appoint one Church Board member and at least one member of the Assembly. The missions committee shall regularly assess the status of the missions program and make recommendations to the Church Board concerning support and projects.

ARTICLE IX. AMENDMENTS

The Articles of these By-laws may be changed by a two-thirds majority of the votes cast at any of the regular or special meetings called for that purpose provided due notice of such proposed changes shall have been made at all the services on at least two consecutive Sundays immediately prior to the time of such meeting.