



CORNERSTONE PROPOSAL

September 2023

When we consider the legacy of Cornerstone Church it brings to mind the church in Antioch. Acts 13 speaks of Antioch as a church filled with various ethnic and socioeconomic people groups, along with a heartbeat for gospel work. In a similar way, we have learned that Cornerstone has had a significant role in gospel work in Utah for the past seventy-two years. Its involvement in multiple church plants and being a home for multiple ethnic congregations has resulted in it becoming a cornerstone in the Rose Park community.

We have enjoyed our time getting to know Pastor James and his servant's heart. From our conversations, it is clear that he has faithfully led this congregation for the nearly twenty years he has been its pastor. We can imagine that serving bi-vocationally for all those years has been difficult at times, but a significant blessing to the church. This faithful legacy is evidenced in small part by the continued ministry of the church, the updating of the facilities, the maintaining of a healthy budget, and the missional manner in which Cornerstone has allowed other ethnic churches to use the building. From all that we can see, Cornerstone seems uniquely positioned for another season of faithful ministry in Utah, and the next phase of gospel work in the community.

It is the desire of Gospel Grace Church, along with the Bylsmas, to honor Cornerstone's legacy. Throughout this process it has been our aim to treat the church, its members, and its leadership with dignity. Any kind of church partnership is a dynamic and complex process of honoring the church's history, recognizing the pastoral efforts that have been made, and graciously recommending adjustments that would contribute toward greater health. Since transitions often come with seasons of uncertainty, we have sought to offer clarity in this proposal for Pastor James' role, in order to provide a sense of security.

Furthermore, this has required Cornerstone, Gospel Grace, and the Bylsmas to pursue transparency and humility. These characteristics have been and will continue to be essential for us take the next step in this process. With this in mind, we reaffirm our commitment to study, understand, and engage with the history and current standing of the church. We have appreciated how Cornerstone's desire for greater missional impact in the community has allowed for an in-depth study and objective assessment of the church.

With this firm commitment to understand one another for the second phase of the proposal, we aim to keep our eyes fixed on Jesus. Jesus is the one who died for the church, which means He cares more about Cornerstone than anyone else. In light of this, we prayerfully recommend the affirmation of this final proposal.

FINAL PROPOSAL

This partnership has involved four phases; assessment, commitment, transition, and mission. Having walked through the **assessment phase** as described in the initial document, we now are able to provide you with the final proposal for the **commitment phase** of this process. The initial proposal suggested eight categories for the final proposal: (1) the affirmation of Luke Bylsma and the other pastoral team members, (2) a pastoral transition plan for Pastor James, (3) changes to the church documents, (4) the inclusion of Cornerstone into the family of autonomous Gospel churches, (5) a name change to reflect that inclusion into the family of Gospel churches, (6) a commitment to stay in the SLBA, UISBC, and the SBC national convention, (7) a commitment to the current churches using the building, and (8) any other proposals that are deemed necessary as a result of the assessment process. After further discussion, we have determined we can narrow this down to four main categories. These four categories of the **commitment phase** will be the items you will vote on as a congregation on October 15th, 2023.

(1) THE AFFIRMATION OF A PASTORAL TEAM

The affirmation of Luke Bylsma as the senior pastor. This includes an affirmation that he fulfills the qualifications of 1 Timothy 3:1-7, Titus 1:6-9, and 1 Peter 5:1-5. Luke will begin immediately as the new senior pastor of Cornerstone Church, following a positive vote. He will remain on outside financial support until the church is able to support him. He will work with Pastor James, who will step down from being the lead pastor and continue on in a pastoral role until December 31, 2024. They will work together through the transition from October 15, 2023 through March 31, 2024. Pastor James and Theresa will be given a ninety day sabbatical rest to take in 2024. He will retire from active pastoring at the end of December 31, 2024. Furthermore, this is an affirmation that we will pursue additional pastors to transition to a plurality of pastors (paid and non-paid).

(2) THE AFFIRMATION OF A NEW NAME

The name (Gospel _____ Church) will be determined by the pastors of the church with input from the congregation. The name will be decided upon and implemented prior to Resurrection Sunday, March 31, 2024.

(3) THE AFFIRMATION OF NEW DOCUMENTS

The affirmation of the attached updated Constitution, Bylaws, Covenant, and Statement of Faith. We were able to combine key elements of the current Cornerstone documents and the Gospel Grace documents in order to best bridge the differences between them. The more significant

differences between our documents are highlighted with comments explaining the reasoning behind the changes. We encourage you to read the documents you will be voting on.

Additionally, this affirmation includes with it the inclusion into the autonomous Gospel Family of Churches. The documentation also notes the commitment to stay in the SLBA, UISBC, and the SBC convention.

(4) THE AFFIRMATION TO THE OTHER CHURCHES

The affirmation that Cornerstone will continue to help the advancement of the gospel in Rose Park and beyond by allowing Roca De Los Siglos, Divine Grace Urdu Church, and Southern Chin Christian Church to continue to use the Cornerstone facility. Furthermore, the affirmation to continue Cornerstone's heart to let the building be used by like faith churches.

As stated in the initial proposal, the **transition phase** is a period of time for Pastor James and Luke Bylsma to work together to walk the church through the implementation of the four proposed items. This will provide the Bylsmas with time to relocate and get settled into the broader Rose Park area, and for those that transition from Gospel Grace to join the membership of Cornerstone.

Last, the **missional phase** of the proposal includes Pastor James taking a sabbatical and retiring, and the church moving toward outreach into the community. For greater clarity on the transition phase and missional phase see the vision document.

CORNERSTONE CHURCH VISION

What drives this document are five rhythms of church life (gather in worship, learn in studies, serve on teams, grow in community and live on mission) which are infused with key ministry philosophy (expositional preaching, congregational governance, a plurality of pastors, authentic corporate worship, strategic multiplication, intentional evangelism, gospel-centered community, deliberate discipleship, and leadership development). These, we believe, will help us fulfill the future mission statement of Cornerstone Church...

We exist as a church to glorify God by making gospel-centered, grace-saturated disciples of Jesus Christ.

By God's grace, we desire to work toward implementing the following initiatives over the coming years, with priority given to existing and key ministries of the church.

DEVELOP PASTORAL LEADERSHIP — Since a plurality of pastors is Biblical and wise, we desire to pursue men who fulfill the biblical qualifications of a pastor. As soon as possible, we will begin working with potential lay-pastors assessing their character, ability, and fit, so that we can bring them before the church for affirmation.

GATHER IN WORSHIP — We will worship God through congregational singing, the public reading of Scripture, corporate prayer, confession of sin, and the exposition of Scripture with clear application to our lives.

Expositional Preaching

- Intentionally preach through books of the Bible with clear application for daily life.
- Implement sermon notes or journal Bibles to help people follow along with the sermon

Authentic Corporate worship

- Work with existing leaders to craft a vision for this ministry
- Integrate new members so they can use their gifts of music
- Select songs that help maximize congregational singing and help the word of Christ to dwell richly in us
- Train up new musicians through regular music team practices

LEARN IN STUDIES — We will study together to learn the Bible in a practical way and grow with others so we can become more like Jesus and be better equipped for the mission.

Children's Ministry

- Work with existing leaders and new leaders to evaluate and make a plan for this ministry
- Implement an electronic check-in system for stronger security
- Introduce children's ministry training for the purpose of developing new teachers/volunteers and equipping existing ones
- Implement a children's ministry policy and procedure manual
- Develop and work toward a mid-week children's program for increased discipleship

Youth Group

- Work with existing leaders and new leaders to develop a vision for this ministry
- Implement leader training
- Develop and work toward a mid-week youth group gathering for increased discipleship
- Determine which events at GGC we can join to encourage the teens at Cornerstone (camps, mission trips, retreats, etc)

Men's and Women's Ministry

- Establish a women's Bible study
- Establish a men's Bible study and work with the existing brotherhood ministry
- Develop a pathway for men to be raised up through study of theology, practical ministry, etc.

Young Adults

- Develop a leadership team for the young adults of Cornerstone
- Work with GGC events to foster relationships with other Christian young adults

SERVE IN TEAMS — God's work in His people includes a commission to engage in the greatest of all causes, namely, glorifying him by making disciples of Jesus Christ. With that commission come Spirit-empowered gifts so that each believer can fulfill their role in reaching the lost and serving the church. Consequently, we would desire to work toward the creation of multiple service teams that can help assist the church and its mission. These are some of those teams: host team, safety team, outreach, hospitality, and music.

GROW IN COMMUNITY — This is an essential place where we are known and cared for by one another while applying the gospel to everyday life. Community Groups also provide rest from the anxiety and pressure of life in the city and offer a place to form new and deeper relationships.

- Develop a mid-week community group gathering that digs into application from the Sunday sermon
- Establish groups that are a mix of age and church background

LIVE ON MISSION — These are the ways we will seek to live out our faith in the community, at home, at work, or on the mission field.

Intentional evangelism

- Work with existing leaders to continue to use VBS to engage kids with the gospel
- Work with Plant Camp students to make an impact in the community — Summer 2024
- Strategize a mercy ministry that could work with the concern center and/or help meet the needs of the the Rose Park community
- Implement a summer soccer camp outreach (potentially summer of 2025)
- Begin a Biblical Counseling center that will allow us to reach the hurting and struggling in our community with the gospel (potentially 2026 or later)

Strategic multiplication

- Intentionally work toward developing leaders so that we can be a church that plants churches and helps revitalize others
- Strategically partner with people involved in global missions
- Continue to develop and encourage the relationship with the other ethnic churches

SPECIFIC IMPROVEMENTS

- Create an updated website to help encourage spiritual growth in our church and reach the community
- Put together a history page on the new website as a way to remember the legacy of this church
- Live-streaming our service for public access (those who can't attend, those sick at home, and those exploring the church)
- Update signage to reflect the new name
- Strengthen our online presence for edification and outreach
- Free up time for Pastor James to work on the parking lot paving project to bring it to completion and invest in Cowboy's Rest and other ministries

1. Luke Bylsma

September 7, 2023 at 8:40:38 AM

Why do the documents need to be updated? (1) After thorough examination of the Cornerstone documents it become apparent that there were contradictions along with requirements that would keep a smaller church from being able to carry out business meetings. (2) In every church we are always seeking to become more Biblically faithful. In order to pursue that, the documents need to have sharper clarity brought to the role of the pastor/elder and deacons, and membership. The new documents seek to fulfill that. (3) To bring Cornerstone into closer alignment with the other Gospel Family of Churches in order to partner with them. (4) To provide an easier pathway for members from GGC to join the fellowship of Cornerstone. (5) To provide a measure of confidence to the GGC pastors who are recommending that GGC members consider transitioning to Cornerstone.

As a whole, we've adopted the GGC documents and made key changes to align it closer to the Cornerstone documents.

2. Luke Bylsma

September 7, 2023 at 8:43:26 AM

Though this church has gone by the name of Cornerstone for some time, it is legally known as First Southern Baptist Church. If this proposal moves forward, we would make the new name a DBA of the church. This simply means that the new name (Gospel _____ Church) would also be a legal name. This will help Will Sutton with deposits of checks made out to the new name. However, the original name, First Southern Baptist Church, would still also be its primary legal name.

3. Luke Bylsma

September 7, 2023 at 8:46:43 AM

We've adopted the GGC statement of faith, though you will find it is very similar to Cornerstone's statement. GGC's statement simply provides more detail to each major doctrine. We've highlighted any changes we've made, some of which we did to bring it closer to Cornerstone's statement.

CORNERSTONE CHURCH CONSTITUTION

1

It has pleased Almighty God, by His Holy Spirit, to call certain of His servants to unite in 1950 under the name First Southern Baptist Church for the worship of God and the spread of the gospel of Jesus Christ. Therefore we, the members of First Southern Baptist Church, do hereby organize ourselves in accord with the Utah Nonprofit Corporation and Cooperation Association Act and Section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code and adopt this Constitution as our articles of governance, to be interpreted at all times to reflect the character of and bring glory to Jesus Christ, as revealed in the Holy Bible and articulated in the standards set forth in the Statement of Faith, Covenant, and Bylaws of this church.

ARTICLE I – NAME

2

The name of this Corporation is First Southern Baptist Church (henceforth, Cornerstone Church) as recorded in the Articles of Incorporation in the state of Utah. It is a Utah nonprofit religious Corporation with its principal offices in Salt Lake City, Utah.

ARTICLE II – PURPOSE

This church exists for the glory of God, which shall be the ultimate purpose in all its activities. It is organized as a Baptist congregation for exclusively religious reasons (including charitable purposes common to church ministry as defined by Scripture). This church seeks to worship God in truth, build communities of faith, serve others with love, and share the story of grace.

3

ARTICLE III – STATEMENT OF FAITH

The Bible

We believe that the Bible, consisting of the 66 books of the Old and New Testaments (2 Pet. 1:20-21), is the only, authoritative, sufficient, infallible Word of God, verbally inspired and without error in the original manuscripts (2 Tim. 3:16). We hold to a normal, literal interpretation of Scripture.

God

We believe in one God (Deut. 6:4; Is. 45:5-7), existing in a unity of three persons – Father, Son, and Holy Spirit – who are coequal, coeternal, and consubstantial (2 Cor. 13:14). He is the Creator of all things (Gen. 1:1-31; Eph. 3:9), holy, sovereign (Rev. 4:8; Psalm 103:19), loving, and infinitely perfect in every way.

4. Luke Bylsma

September 7, 2023 at 8:48:27 AM

We included “man and woman” from the Cornerstone documents and reworded this section for better clarity. Also, we changed the wording at the end of this section to reflect Ephesians 2:1.

The Father

We believe that God the Father is the first person of the Trinity who is the only absolute, omnipotent ruler in the universe (Rom. 11:36). His fatherhood involves both His designation within the Trinity and His relationship with mankind. As Creator, He is the Father of all men (Eph. 4:6), but He is Spiritual Father only to believers (Rom. 8:14). God the Father elects (Eph. 1:4-6), calls, justifies (Rom. 8:30), adopts (Rom. 8:15), and ultimately glorifies His own.

Jesus Christ

We believe in the eternal deity of our Lord Jesus Christ, in His becoming a man without ceasing to be God (Phil. 2:5-8; Col. 2:9), in His virgin birth (Is. 7:14; Luke 1:34-35), in His sinless life, in His miracles, in His substitutionary and atoning death through His shed blood on the cross (John 10:15; Rom. 3:24-25; 1 Pet. 2:24), in His bodily resurrection (Rom. 4:25; 1 Cor. 15:20,23), and in His ascension to the right hand of the Father (Acts 2:33). We believe He ever lives to make intercession for His saints (Heb. 7:25), and that He is coming again to rule and reign in power and glory (Is. 9:6-7; Luke 1:31-33).

Holy Spirit

We believe that the Holy Spirit convicts men of sin, righteousness, and judgment (John 16:7-8). He regenerates sinners (Titus 3:5) and places them into the body of Christ (1 Cor. 12:13). He also seals (Eph. 1:13), comforts (John 15:26), indwells (Rom. 8:9-11), illuminates (1 Cor. 2:12), guides (Rom. 8:14), equips and empowers (Gal. 5:22-23) believers for Christ-like living and service. He gives gifts for the building up of the church (1 Cor. 12:11; 1 Peter 4:10-11). Every Christian is gifted by the Spirit of God for the purpose of edifying the church and doing the work of the ministry (Acts 1:8; 1 Cor. 12:4-11; Rom. 12:6-8).

Mankind

4 We believe that God created mankind in His own image. God created them male and female, as perfect, sinless human beings (Gen. 1:26-27; 2:7; James 3:9). But through transgression (sin against God), mankind incurred both physical and spiritual death as God’s judgment for disobedience. (Rom. 3:23; 6:23). As a result, all human beings are sinners by nature and by choice, alienated from God, and under His wrath. Apart from God’s gracious intervention, man is without help or hope and dead in their trespasses and sins (Eph 2:1-3; Rom. 5:12).

Salvation

We believe that the forgiveness of sins and the gift of eternal life is a miraculous work of God by grace alone, through faith alone (Eph. 2:8-9), in Christ alone (John 14:6; 1 Pet. 1:18-19). It is the unmerited demonstration of God’s love, available to all those who repent (turn from their sin) and trust in Jesus’ atoning death and victorious resurrection (2 Cor. 7:10; Luke 13:3; Heb. 9:28; John 1:12). It is only through God’s saving work in Jesus Christ that man can be justified, sanctified, and ultimately glorified (1 Cor. 6:11; Rom. 8:30).

5. Luke Bylsma

September 7, 2023 at 8:49:08 AM

We changed the GGC statement on “Things to Come” in order to bring it in closer alignment with Cornerstones statement on this topic.

6. Luke Bylsma

September 7, 2023 at 8:55:00 AM

This is an important word which simply means that this church is self-governing and is not under the authority of another church or outside leadership.

Christian Living

We believe that God’s justifying grace must not be separated from His sanctifying power and purpose. This should result in a life that is separate from sin and set apart to God (Rom 6:1-2; 1 Thess. 4:7). He commands us to love Him supremely and others sacrificially (Matt. 22:37-39; John 15:12-13), and to live out our faith in growing obedience to the Word and Holy Spirit such that we are progressively changed into the likeness of Christ (2 Cor. 3:18). Growing Christians use their God-given gifts for the purpose of edifying the church (Rom 12:6-8; 1 Pet. 4:10), doing the work of the ministry, and obeying our Lord’s command to make disciples (Eph. 4:12; Matt. 28:19-20).

5 Things to Come

We believe in the personal and visible return of the Lord Jesus Christ to earth (Acts 1:11; Titus 2:13) and the establishment of his kingdom (Rev. 20:1-7). We believe in the eternal state wherein the unsaved are judged and condemned to a literal hell (Matt. 25:41; 2 Thess 1:9; Rev. 20:11-15) and the saved are glorified to enjoy everlasting blessing in the presence of God (2 Pet 3:10; John 17:3; 1 Thess. 4:17; Rev. 21:2).

The Church

We believe that the church is the body and bride of the Lord Jesus Christ (1 Cor. 12:12-13; Eph. 5:23-32; Rev. 19:7-8) into which all true believers of the present age are placed. We believe that the members of this spiritual body should assemble themselves together in local **autonomous** churches (1 Cor. 11:18-20; Heb. 10:25) with its members consisting of committed, baptized believers. We believe that the New Testament describes two offices for congregational church governance: pastor/elder-led and deacon served (Acts 6:1-6; 1 Tim 3:1-13; Titus 1:5-9). We believe that the church operates under the authority of the Bible for faith and practice (1 Th. 2:13; 2 Tim. 3:16-17). We believe that the commission of the church is to make disciples, baptize them in the name of the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, and teach them to obey Christ’s commands (Matt 28:19-20). The fulfillment of this commission eventuates in the perpetual, intentional, establishment of new local churches (Acts 13; Acts 14:23,27; II Tim. 2:2). We believe that the church must maintain its purity by practicing biblical discipline (Matt. 18:15-19) and separation from false teaching (Matt. 7:15-20; 2 Timothy 3:14; Titus 3:10).

6

The Ordinances

We recognize believer’s baptism by immersion (Matt. 3:13-17; Acts 8:36-39; Rom. 6:3-4) and the Lord’s Supper (Communion) as the Scriptural ordinances for the church in this age (Acts 2:38-42; 1 Cor. 11:23-26). Both of them visibly and tangibly express the gospel, and though they are not means of salvation, when celebrated by the church in faith-filled obedience, these ordinances spiritually nourish the believer and bear witness to the work of our Savior.

7. Luke Bylsma

September 7, 2023 at 8:50:05 AM

If you compare the church covenants of Cornerstone and GGC, you will see that they are very similar. Some of the wording in the GGC version is a little clearer, so we have decided to keep it as it is.

7 ARTICLE IV – CHURCH COVENANT

Summary - The church covenant of Cornerstone Church describes a member's commitment to the body. By signing it upon membership and affirming it regularly, we express our commitment to live out our faith. It reminds us that we cannot live in isolated individualism or unrepentant sin. It provides a biblical standard of behavior and reminds us of the obligations that membership entails for our lifestyles and interactions with each other. Living out the spirit of this covenant reduces nominalism and enhances accountability and growth in the church.

Covenant - Having been brought by the grace of God to repent and believe in the Lord Jesus Christ, and having been baptized by immersion upon our profession of faith in the name of the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, we do now in the presence of God and this assembly solemnly and joyfully renew our covenant with one another as one body in Christ.

By God's gracious aid, we will walk together in Christian love, working and praying for the unity of the Spirit in the bond of peace. We will seek to promote affectionate care and watchfulness over each other, and faithfully admonish and entreat one another as occasion requires. We will rejoice at each other's happiness and endeavor with tenderness and sympathy to bear each other's burdens and sorrows. We will aid one another in sickness and distress and cultivate Christian compassion toward the needy and downtrodden. We will be slow to take offense, but always ready for reconciliation.

We will not forsake the assembling of ourselves together, nor neglect to pray for ourselves and others. We will seek to sustain the church's worship, community, ordinances, doctrines and discipline. We will contribute of ourselves and our resources cheerfully, sacrificially, and regularly to the support of the ministry, expenses of the church, relief of the poor, and the spread of the gospel throughout the world.

We will endeavor to bring up those that are under our care in the nurture and admonition of the Lord, and by a pure and loving example seek the salvation of our family and friends. We will pursue a living relationship with God through the reading and application of His word. We will walk wisely in the world, be just in our dealings, faithful in our engagements, and exemplary in our conduct. We will seek to pursue peace with men and holiness before God.

To these and all other Christian duties we humbly and cheerfully submit ourselves, striving to faithfully perform them in the strength of our Lord. We will, when we move from this place, as soon as possible unite with some other church where we can carry out the spirit of this covenant and the principles of God's Word. May the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, and the love of God, and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit be with us all. Amen.

8. Luke Bylsma

September 7, 2023 at 8:51:26 AM

We adapted this section to come into alignment with the Cornerstone documents. We've also added in the Gospel Family of churches to these partnerships.

Though Cornerstone has these partnerships, it will continue to be a self-governing church. The term used in this document is "autonomous," which simply means that the church does not operate under the authority of any outside church or leadership. It is governed by its own members as explained throughout this document.

ARTICLE V – CHURCH GOVERNMENT

This church acknowledges the Lord Jesus Christ as its only head and Chief Shepherd. The Bible shall be the sole authority in matters of faith and shall prescribe the nature and practice of this congregation. The government of this church shall be congregational with authority vested in its members. They shall hold title to all properties, and their vote shall be final in all matters pertaining to the church. The congregation shall be led by scripturally qualified pastor/elder(s) and served by scripturally qualified deacon(s).

- 8 For the purpose of education, missions, and church planting endeavors, this church will cooperate with and support the Salt Lake Baptist Association, the Utah-Idaho Southern Baptist Convention, the Southern Baptist Convention, and the Gospel Family of Churches (Plant For The Gospel). These partnerships will continue as long as they advance the church's mission and values and do not threaten its autonomy or statement of faith.

ARTICLE VI – MEMBERSHIP

Summary - Members of this church shall be believers in Jesus Christ who profess faith in Him as the sole basis for their salvation. They shall believe wholeheartedly in the Christian faith as revealed in the Bible, have lives that give evidence of regeneration, and have been baptized by immersion following their conversion. Each member must agree to submit to the teaching of scripture as expressed in the Statement of Faith, pledge to keep the commitments expressed in the Church Covenant, and identify with the Mission Statement and Core Values. The pastor/elder(s) shall be responsible for determining each person's qualification for membership. In making this determination, they may rely on a person's profession of faith, or other such evidence as the pastor/elder(s) deem appropriate. Voting in congregational meetings is limited to members who are 18 years or older.

Reception of Members – To be admitted into membership at Cornerstone Church, applicants shall be recommended by the pastor/elder(s) for admission and accepted by vote of the members at any regular or special meeting of the members. In preparation for membership recommendation, applicants must fill out an application form which includes a written testimony of their salvation, a testimony of believer's baptism by immersion, a declaration that they are not under discipline from another church, and a signed affirmation of agreement with the Constitution of the church. In addition to this, applicants are required to complete the New Members curriculum in order to better understand the history, vision, and values of Cornerstone Church.

Duties and Privileges of Membership – Under Christ, this congregation is governed by its members. Therefore, it is the privilege and responsibility of members to attend all members' meetings and vote on the election of officers, on decisions regarding membership status, and on such other matters as may be submitted to a vote. In accord with the duties outlined in the Church Covenant, each member shall be privileged and expected to participate in and contribute

to the ministry and life of the church, consistent with God's leading and with the gifts, time, and material resources each has received from God. Only those shall be entitled to serve in the ministries of the church who are members of this congregation; non-members may serve on an ad-hoc basis with the approval of the pastor/elder(s). Non-members may serve the church for the purposes of administration and professional consultation.

Termination of Membership – The church shall recognize the termination of a person's membership after a three-month period of inactivity or absence (without satisfactory explanation to the pastor/elder(s)), after he or she has voluntarily resigned, after joining with another church, or following his or her death. Membership may also be terminated as an act of church discipline upon vote of the members present at any regular or special meeting of the members. The church shall have authority to refuse a member's voluntary resignation or transfer of membership to another church, either for the purpose of proceeding with a process of church discipline, or for any other biblical reason.

Church Discipline – Any member consistently neglectful of his or her duties or guilty of conduct by which the name of our Lord Jesus may be dishonored, and so opposing the welfare of the church, shall be subject to the admonition of the elders and the discipline of the church according to the instructions of our Lord in Matthew 18:15-17 and the example of Scripture. Church discipline should ordinarily be contemplated after individual private admonition has failed. It can include admonition by the elders or congregation, suspension from communion for a definite period, deposition from office, and/or excommunication.

Upon the exercise of Scriptural excommunication, all membership privileges shall be immediately suspended, and all tokens of Christian fellowship shall immediately cease until such time as restoration and reconciliation take place. Instruction and examples concerning this can be seen in Matthew 18:15-17; 2 Thessalonians 3:14-15; 1 Timothy 5:19-20; and 1 Corinthians 5:4-5. The purpose of such discipline should be for the repentance, reconciliation, and spiritual growth of the individual disciplined. It should be for the instruction in righteousness and good of other Christians, as an example to them. It should protect the purity of the church as a whole, and the integrity of its witness to non-Christians. Church discipline is supremely for the glory of God by reflecting His holy character.

ARTICLE VII – CHURCH MEETINGS

Worship and Edification Meetings – The church will meet regularly each Lord's Day (Sunday) for the worship of our God. Additional meetings may be held throughout the week as the church determines. Home discipleship groups, Bible studies, fellowship meetings, baptismal services, and other meetings which complement the advancement of the church's objectives may be organized by the pastor/elder(s) as seen fit.

Members' Meetings – In every meeting together, members shall act in that spirit of mutual trust, openness, and loving consideration which is appropriate within the body of Christ. Things shall

9. Luke Bylsma

August 29, 2023 at 2:18:58 PM
Will Sutton has suggested we transition the Cornerstone fiscal year to the following schedule. This will bring the fiscal year into alignment with the giving statements. Additionally, this change will allow for the vote on the budget to come before the budget year begins. If you have questions on this, please see Will Sutton.

10. Luke Bylsma

September 7, 2023 at 8:57:31 AM
In the spirit of 1 Corinthians 14:40, we will change how we run church meetings. We hope that the inclusion of a clear agenda will help the church as it discusses important business.

11. Luke Bylsma

August 29, 2023 at 3:13:04 PM
This is probably one of the most significant differences between the documents. Cornerstone documents call for a 75% or 90% (for a new pastor) affirmative vote with at least 10 members present (regular meeting) or 20 members (special meeting). Removing these items will allow the church to move forward with decisions, even if the church is small.

Additionally, Cornerstone documents allow for absentee votes. We believe that it is unwise to allow those not in attendance to vote. The reason is that if they are not under the regular ministry of the Word or part of the community that gathers and invests in the church, then they could disrupt the God-honoring direction the church needs to go on a particular matter.

be done decently and in order for the glory of God. All members shall actively seek to maintain the unity of the Spirit in the bond of peace.

9 There shall be a regular members’ meeting quarterly, in the months of March, June, September, and December. The fiscal year for Cornerstone Church begins January 1 and ends December 31 each year. As such, the December meeting will include the presentation of the next annual budget to be approved by the membership in attendance. Prior to this approval and subject to the pastor/elder(s)’ discretion, expenditures may continue at the prior year’s level.

A pastor/elder shall preside as moderator at all members’ meetings of the church unless an alternate is chosen by the pastor/elder(s). It is the pastor/elder(s) responsibility to see that the stated meetings of the church are regularly held and that required reports are submitted to the church by the responsible members. 10 Prior to any regular or special members’ meeting, an agenda shall be published, made available, and announced at least one week in advance. Only recommendations or motions appearing on the meeting agenda will be addressed. Members with ideas or input shall submit a motion in writing to the pastor/elder(s) prior to the posting of an agenda. This will allow the pastor/elder(s) opportunity to evaluate the suggestion and include it in the agenda upon approval. This will allow the pastor/elder(s) to administrate members’ meetings in an orderly and expeditious manner with a minimum of confusion.

11 Provided all constitutional provisions for notification have been met, a quorum shall be understood to be met by those members present. All votes shall be tallied based on the number of votes cast by the members present. No vote of any member shall be by proxy. A member must be personally present in order to vote. The voting process shall follow a simple majority rule. At any regular or special members’ meeting, officers may be elected, and positions filled as needed so long as all relevant constitutional requirements are met.

Routine policy matters, such as receiving members into the church, may be transacted when necessary by majority vote, without regard to agenda or previously stated time requirements.

Special Members’ Meetings – Special members’ meetings may be called as required by the pastor/elder(s), or at the written signed request, submitted to the pastor/elder(s), of ten percent of the voting membership. The date, time, and purpose of any special meeting shall be announced at the public services of the church at least two weeks preceding the meeting. In the event of a written request from the members, the pastor/elder(s) shall call a special meeting to be held within one month of their receipt of the request.

Emergency Members’ Meetings – Emergency members’ meetings may be called by the pastor/elder(s) to deal with issues that are considered extremely important in which it is impractical to wait two weeks or more. In such cases, widest dissemination of the agenda shall take place to the membership informing them of the impending need. Such meetings shall never be secret or spontaneous. Their intended use is limited to responding to urgent and important matters.

12. Luke Bylsma

September 7, 2023 at 9:02:05 AM

This Article underwent the most changes based on conversations with the deacons. You will see various points highlighted throughout this section.

13. Luke Bylsma

August 29, 2023 at 3:13:48 PM

This section on pastor/elders provides great clarity on the qualifications and responsibilities of the pastor. This ensures that for years to come this church will have the right men in this role to lead them to honor the Lord.

12 ARTICLE VIII – OFFICERS AND STAFF

Summary – The Biblical offices in the church are pastor/elder and deacon. In addition, Cornerstone Church recognizes the administrative positions under this constitution of trustee, treasurer, and clerk. All officers must be members of the church in good standing. All officers shall be spiritually mature, of irreproachable Christian character, dedicated, and devoted to the Lord Jesus Christ and to the spiritual and material welfare of the church. They shall have faithful attendance and participation in the church. Officers should be a model of spiritual transparency and single-mindedness.

13 **Pastor/Elder(s)** – The pastor/elder(s) shall be men who satisfy the qualifications for the office set forth in 1 Timothy 3:1-7 and Titus 1:6-9. Subject to the will of the congregation, the pastor/elder(s) shall oversee the ministry and resources of the church. In keeping with the principles set forth in Acts 6:1-6 and 1 Peter 5:1-4, the pastor/elder(s) shall devote their time to prayer, the ministry of the Word (by preaching, teaching, counseling, and encouraging sound doctrine), and shepherding the flock of God. When more than one pastor/elder comprises the leadership team, one of them shall serve as the “lead pastor/elder.” We recognize that there are leaders among the leaders. This was true of the apostolic company, in the early church at Ephesus and Crete, Old Testament Israel, the angelic company, and even the Godhead. We believe that there are distinctions among pastors/elders. 1 Timothy 5:17 conveys that all elders rule, but some also labor in the Word and doctrine. The lead pastor/elder shall be designated as the “first among equals” and function as the primary voice for preaching and vision at Cornerstone Church.

The pastor/elder(s) shall provide leadership through oversight, spiritual guidance, and shepherding for the congregation. We believe that when this leadership team arrangement is possible, the harmonious blend of scripturally qualified men will enhance the longevity, wisdom, and health of pastoral leadership at Cornerstone Church. Each member of the pastor/elder(s) shall find great satisfaction in submitting their gifts to the mission of the team as a whole. Leadership decisions will be made by consensus amongst the pastor/elder(s).

The church shall recognize men gifted and willing to serve in this calling and seek to train them up as pastor/elder(s) for service in ministry. According to 2 Timothy 2:2 and Acts 13:1-3, the church has the responsibility and privilege of reproducing faithful servant leaders who will advance the Kingdom cause through pastoral ministry/eldership.

The pastor/elder(s) shall examine and instruct prospective members; examine and recommend all prospective candidates for offices and positions; oversee the work of deacons and appointed church agents officers, and committees; conduct worship services; administer the ordinances of baptism and communion; equip the membership for the work of the ministry; encourage sound doctrine; practice, admonish, and correct error; oversee the process of church discipline and stewardship of resources; coordinate and promote the ministries of the church; and mobilize the church to advance the Great Commission. The pastor/elder(s) are further to ensure that all who

14. Luke Bylsma

August 29, 2023 at 3:14:03 PM

This section provides more clarity on the role of deacons in the church, as we seek to be more biblically faithful. Noteworthy is that deacons will begin to have term limits. This is for several reasons: (1) it allows deacons to have the freedom to step down more easily, (2) it provides space for new deacons to join, (3) it protects busy men who are juggling their jobs, families and church responsibilities.

minister the Word to the congregation, including outside speakers, share our foundational convictions and faithfully proclaim the Truth.

The pastor/elder(s) may establish ministry positions or committees to assist them in fulfilling their responsibilities. They may also propose funding for new paid positions to include additional pastor/elder(s), ministry staff, pastoral assistants, and interns. The membership shall elect by vote all candidates to fill the positions of pastor/elder. All other positions are filled by pastor/elder appointment predicated upon congregational approval of funding.

The scope and approval of job descriptions for ministry staff, pastoral assistants, and interns shall reside in the hands of the pastor/elder(s). The pastor/elder(s) shall have primary responsibility for hiring, employment, supervision, evaluation, and when necessary, termination. This responsibility may, on a case-by-case basis, be delegated to another staff member.

Each pastor/elder shall serve for an undesignated period of time. The pastor/elder(s) shall perform an annual assessment and affirmation regarding the fulfillment of Biblical qualifications, heart for pastoral ministry, unity, and health of each elder. For the longevity and health of the pastor/elder(s), regular sabbaticals shall be taken at the recommendation of the pastor/elder(s) (or deacon(s) if there is no other elder). A pastor/elder's term of office may be terminated by resignation or by dismissal. Any two members with reason to believe that a pastor/elder should be dismissed should express such concern to the other pastor/elder(s) (or deacon(s) if there is no other elder). Any such action shall be done in accordance with the instructions of our Lord in Matthew 18:15-17 and 1 Timothy 5:17-21. Following such actions, any pastor/elder may be dismissed by a majority vote of the members at any members' meeting of the church.

14 Deacon – The office of deacon is described in 1 Timothy 3:8-13 and Acts 6:1-7. The church shall recognize, nominate and elect men who are scripturally qualified and given to the service of the church. These men shall be received as gifts of Christ to His church and set apart as deacons.

New deacons shall be nominated by the congregation, screened for qualification, ability, and desire by the pastor/elder(s), and then voted upon by the congregation at a regularly scheduled members' meeting. The number of deacons at Cornerstone Church shall correlate with the need as determined by the pastor/elder(s) and the availability of able, qualified, and willing men. A deacon shall be elected to a three-year term. He may be reelected for consecutive terms as long as both he and the pastor/elder(s) concur with the unbroken extension. There may be times when the best interests of the church and/or the deacon's family are served by sabbatical rest. In such cases, reelection would be declined by the pastor/elder(s) and/or the deacon for at least one year.

Deacons shall care for the temporal needs of members, attend to the accommodations for public worship, and serve the church in ways that promote and benefit the ministry. They shall disburse a fund for benevolence, reporting on its use to the pastor/elder(s) at their request, and reporting to the church its total receipts and total disbursements.

15. Luke Bylsma

August 23, 2023 at 11:13:57 AM

We included Trustees into these documents as they are officers listed on the Cornerstone documents. We have made this change to align the GGC documents closer to the Cornerstone documents.

15 Trustees — Three trustees shall be the legal representatives of the church and shall hold in trust all church assets; but shall have no power to buy, sell, mortgage, lease, refinance, or transfer any property without congregational approval. It shall be the function of the trustees to affix their three signatures to legal documents involving the sale, mortgage, purchase, or rental property or other legal documents where signatures of trustees are required. Additionally, the trustees shall annually review church insurance policies upon receipt for sufficient coverage and make recommendations to the church for any adjustments needed. Finally, they shall be responsible to schedule an independent financial audit every other year. The trustees shall be nominated by the pastor/elder(s) and elected by the congregation to serve a three-year term. They will serve on a rotating basis, with one new trustee being elected each year.

Treasurer – The treasurer may not be an active pastor/elder, trustee, or paid church staff member. He or she shall ensure that all funds and securities of the church are properly secured in such banks, financial institutions, or depositories as appropriate. The treasurer shall also be responsible for presenting regular reports of the account balances, revenues, and expenses of the church at least each month to the pastor/elder(s) and to the church at large at each of the regular members' meetings. Their responsibility may be delegated with the approval of the pastor/elder(s). The treasurer shall ensure that full and accurate accounts of receipts and disbursements are kept in books belonging to the church, and that adequate controls are implemented to guarantee that all funds belonging to the church are appropriately handled by any officer, employee, or agent of the church. The treasurer shall render to the pastor/elder(s) an account of all transactions and the financial condition of the church whenever they may require it. The treasurer shall be nominated by the pastor/elder(s) and elected by the congregation to serve a term of three years.

Clerk – It shall be the duty of the clerk to record the minutes of all regular, special, and emergency members' meetings of the church, to preserve an accurate roll of the membership, to keep baptismal records, to render reports as requested by the pastor/elder(s), deacon(s), or the church. The clerk shall be nominated by the elders and elected by the congregation to serve a three-year term. In the absence or incapacity of the clerk, the elders shall appoint a member to perform the duties of the church clerk.

Removal of Officers – The church congregation has the authority, for good and sufficient cause, to remove from office any elected or appointed person. Grounds for dismissal include immorality, apostasy, heresy, unfaithfulness to duties or Scriptural qualifications, departure from the spirit or principles of the Constitution, or a lack of agreement with the direction or stand of the church. No one shall be removed from office until positive effort has been made to assist that person in correcting (if possible) the cause for proposed removal. All charges against an officer must first be brought directly to the individual(s) concerned. If there is not resolution, the matter must be submitted to the pastor/elder(s) in the form of a signed, written statement. The pastor/elder(s) shall determine if there is sufficient cause for removal and bring recommendations to the church according to Matthew 18:15-20. A simple majority vote of members present at a members' meeting shall be necessary for the removal of an officer.

Paid Ministry Staff and Interns – Church ministry staff and interns shall be called and employed when the church and pastor/elder(s) determine the need for such positions. All ministerial staff and interns will be under the direction of the pastor/elder(s) and shall be required to be in harmony with pastor/elder(s) and their leadership of the church. It is required that all staff members and interns be scripturally qualified and have adequate professional training to perform their designated ministry objectives. Cornerstone Church requires all employees to sign a written contract that requires an affirmation that they agree with and are willing to abide by our organization’s statement of faith, constitution, by-laws, and standards of conduct. The pastor/elder team (if there is not a plurality, then the pastor working with the deacons) may terminate the employment of any staff member or intern at any time.

ARTICLE IX – ELECTIONS

Summary Principles – The process for church election shall be interpreted and carried out to fulfill the following principles: First, biblical standards and qualifications for church leadership shall supersede all other factors under consideration. Second, substantial prayer both individually and corporately should be an integral part of the election process. Third, nominations should proceed with the support of the pastor/elder(s). Fourth, all candidates for church office should be treated with the grace, kindness, and honesty appropriate in evaluating fellow members. And fifth, the election process shall express that spirit of mutual trust, openness, and loving consideration that is appropriate within the body of our Lord Jesus Christ.

Selection of Officers – The election of officers shall be held at a church members’ meeting. The names of approved nominees to serve as pastor/elder shall be presented by the pastor/elder(s) (or search committee when necessary) at least two weeks prior. The names of approved nominees to serve as deacon, trustee, treasurer, or clerk shall be presented at least one week prior. The elders should seek recommendations and involvement from the general membership in the nomination process of deacon. Any member with reason to believe that a nominated candidate is unqualified for an office should express such concern to the pastor/elder(s). Members intending to speak in opposition to a candidate should express their objection to the pastor/elder(s) as far in advance as possible before the time of discussion at the members’ meeting for election. The election shall proceed as directed by the moderator of the members’ meeting. He shall declare elected all men (or women perhaps in the case of trustee, treasurer, or clerk) receiving a majority of all votes cast for the office under consideration. Abstentions will not be considered as votes cast. The person elected shall assume his or her respective office upon election, unless another date has been specifically designated.

Election of a Pastor/Elder – In the calling of any man to this position, the same basic process of election of an officer must be followed. The current pastor/elder(s) shall nominate prospective candidates. Prior to making its judgment on a potential pastor/elder, the church must be given adequate opportunity to assess his aptness for teaching and his scriptural qualifications regarding character and family. The church shall be given a time for question and answer with the candidate. A majority vote of the congregation at a members’ meeting is required for election.

16. Luke Bylsma

August 29, 2023 at 3:15:36 PM

The inclusion of an ordination process helps ensure that as a church we can move forward with raising up more qualified men to lead in the church as pastors. Every church should be seeking a way to develop new leaders to ensure that for years to come there are godly pastors leading the church.

Election of a Lead Pastor/Elder – In the election of a lead pastor/elder, the search committee for prospective candidates will be composed of the other pastor/elder(s) of the church in conjunction with up to three other wise, godly men from the congregation. The inclusion of these additional men is at the discretion of the pastor/elder(s) and may or may not include deacons. In the calling of any man to this position, the same basic process of election of an officer must be followed. In addition, however, the church must be given adequate opportunity to assess the preaching gifts of any potential lead pastor/elder before being asked to express its judgment. They shall be given the opportunity to have an open forum question and answer session with the candidate and a time to meet and evaluate the candidate's family. Any potential candidate for lead pastor/elder must offer wholehearted assent to the Statement of Faith and Church Covenant.

In the event that Cornerstone Church has no pastor/elder(s), the deacons will function as a search committee seeking a biblically qualified man to candidate for the office. If the deacons deem fit, they may invite up to three other wise and godly men from the congregation to join the committee and aid in the pastoral search process.

Election of Paid Ministry Staff and Interns – The pastor/elder(s) shall propose funding for new ministry staff and/or interns. Upon approval by majority vote of the congregation at a members' meeting, the pastor/elder(s) may fill ministry staff and intern positions by appointing skilled and scripturally qualified individuals.

ARTICLE X – ORDINATION

16 Ordination is conferred upon men who receive a consensus recommendation from the pastor/elder(s) and a vote of affirmation from the congregation. Ordination examines a man's call to the ministry, preparation as a shepherd, and qualification to serve, and represents the setting apart of a man for gospel ministry. An ordination council shall be composed of ordained ministers including at least one pastor/elder from Cornerstone Church. The examination for ordination shall include but is not limited to: the applicant's personal relationship with Christ, the qualifications set forth in Scripture, knowledge of Bible content, knowledge of theology, church polity, and practice of piety. After examination, and upon the recommendation of the council, the congregation shall vote to ordain the applicant to the gospel ministry. Ordination shall be conferred for life, so long as the man continues to manifest the qualifications of the office.

ARTICLE XI – FINANCES

Cornerstone Church is supported by the voluntary contributions from its members who shall give according to their abilities, according to the principles of Scripture, and according to the dictates of their own consciences. Additionally, it may be supported by outside partners or attendees who wish to further its mission.

The church shall have the right to own, buy, or sell tangible properties, both real and personal, in its own name and through its elected trustees, when authorized by congregational vote. No profit from the assets, or holdings, or other transactions in which this Corporation may become involved, shall ever accrue to the benefit of any individual(s).

The pastor/elder(s) shall prepare an annual budget for the ministry of the church in conjunction with the treasurer and selected members' consultation as deemed fit. This proposed budget shall be presented at the December members' meeting for examination and approval by congregational vote. The elder/pastor(s) are responsible for all financial dealings of the church within the guidelines of the congregationally approved budget. The pastor/elder(s) may not disburse annually more than 5% of the approved annual budget for non-budgeted church expenditures without congregational approval. Non-budgeted discretionary expenditures will be reported in the financial report.

ARTICLE XII – OTHER PROVISIONS

God's Design of Gender - We believe that God wonderfully and immutably creates each person as male or female, and that these two distinct, complementary genders together reflect the image and nature of God (Genesis 1:27; Matthew 19:4; Mark 10:6).

God's Plan for Marriage – Men and women are created as spiritual and ontological equals, yet designed in complementary¹ order to assume God-given roles in the home, the church, and society. We believe that God designed the marriage relationship to portray Christ's love for the church, to produce godly offspring, to provide companionship, and to promote sexual purity and fulfillment. Marriage is designed by God to join one man and one woman in an exclusive life-long covenant of fidelity and love. Because God has ordained marriage and defined it as the covenant relationship between a man, a woman, and Himself, Cornerstone Church will only recognize marriages between a biological man and a biological woman. Further, the pastors and staff of Cornerstone Church shall only participate in weddings and solemnize marriages between one man and one woman.

¹ “We affirm that the Scripture reveals a pattern of complementary order between men and women, and that this order is itself a testimony to the Gospel, even as it is the gift of our Creator and Redeemer. We also affirm that all Christians are called to service within the body of Christ, and that God has given to both men and women important and strategic roles within the home, the Church, and the society. We further affirm that the teaching office of the Church is assigned only to those men who are called of God in fulfillment of the biblical teachings and that men are to lead in their homes as husbands and fathers who fear and love God. We deny that the distinction of roles between men and women revealed in the Bible is evidence of mere cultural conditioning or a manifestation of male oppression or prejudice against women. We also deny that this biblical distinction of roles excludes women from meaningful ministry in Christ's kingdom. We further deny that any Church can confuse these issues without damaging its witness to the Gospel.” (Together for the Gospel. “Affirmations & Denials - Article XVI” April, 2006. Accessed April 9, 2016. <http://t4g.org/about/affirmations-and-denials-2/>.)

Finally, the facilities and property² of Cornerstone Church shall only host weddings between one man and one woman.

God's Plan for Singleness - The members of Cornerstone Church believe that God allows some people to be single in order that they may serve Him without the cares of a spouse or children. Singleness carries with it the responsibility to maintain sexual purity as prescribed by Scriptures. Some are divinely gifted to remain single so that they may live their lives with a privileged focus on the things of the Lord and service to others.

God's Plan for Moral Purity - The members of Cornerstone Church believe that God gave sex as a good gift in marriage between one man and one woman; therefore He forbids intimate sexual activity outside of it. We further believe that any form of adultery, fornication, incest, polygamy, homosexuality, bisexuality, transsexuality, bestiality, pedophilia, and pornography are sinful perversions of God's gift of sex. These fleshly practices are contrary to God's creative design and reflect a heart that does not submit to God's good and sovereign right to determine our sex and our boundaries for sexual activity. For an examination of scriptural directives mentioned above, see: Genesis 1:26-27; 2:18, 24; 19:5, 13; 26:8-9; Leviticus 18:1-30; Matthew 19:11-12; Romans 1:26-29; 1 Corinthians 5:1; 6:9; 7:6-11; Galatians 3:28; 5:19-21; 1 Thessalonians 4:1-8; Hebrews 13:4.

Standard of Conduct – Ministry functions and meetings are private events held on private property according to the policies and procedures enacted by the membership. These should not be considered open to the general public under all circumstances. The pastor/elder(s) reserve the right at their discretion to have any participant removed for any reason. A person may be dismissed or removed from any ministry function and asked not to return if he or she demonstrates by conduct or spirit that he or she is out of harmony with the Constitution, the spirit, or the policies of ministry whether on or off property. Readmission considerations following a dismissal or removal will be determined on a case-by-case basis by the pastor/elder(s).

Dispute Resolution – Believing that the Bible commands Christians to make every effort to live at peace and to resolve disputes with each other in private or within the church (see Matthew 18:15-20; 1 Corinthians 6:1-8), the members of Cornerstone Church are required to resolve conflict among themselves according to biblically based principles, without reliance on the secular courts. Consistent with its call to peacemaking, the church shall encourage the use of biblically based principles to resolve disputes between itself and those outside the church, whether Christian or not and whether individuals or corporate entities.

² Information about facility use can be found in the facility use policy.

ARTICLE XIII – DISSOLUTION OF THE CORPORATION

In the event of the dissolution of Cornerstone Church as a non-profit corporation, all of its debts and liabilities shall be fully satisfied, and the remaining assets or holdings shall be irrevocably given and paid over to a non-profit corporation(s) of like faith and practice. The recipient(s) of assets upon dissolution shall be selected by corporate vote of church members prior to dissolution at a special members' meeting. Distribution of assets and holdings shall be in conformity with the requirements of the United States Internal Revenue Service Code, Section 501(c)(3).

ARTICLE XIV – AMENDMENTS

The Constitution of Cornerstone Church (including the Statement of Faith and Bylaws) may be amended or revised by a majority vote at any regular members' meeting on the recommendation of the pastor/elder(s), provided at least two weeks notice of such proposed revision or amendment is posted on an agenda according to constitutional standards.