

CONSTITUTION AND BYLAWS OF
**DAYSPRING COMMUNITY CHURCH
OF THE ASSEMBLIES OF GOD, INC.**

OWENSVILLE, INDIANA

For the purpose of establishing and maintaining a place to worship Almighty God, our heavenly Father; to provide 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 exercise the privilege of propagating the gospel of Jesus Christ by all available means, both at home and in foreign lands; this church (including church plants and campuses under its supervision) shall be governed by the following Constitution and By-Laws.

PREAMBLE

Whereas we, being an incorporate body of people of like precious faith, believing in the Lord Jesus Christ individually for eternal life through His vicarious death and the power of His resurrection, believing the Bible to be God's Word and the revelation of His will to man and accepting it as our all-sufficient rule for faith and conduct; and believing that Christian fellowship, mutual edification and evangelical effort, in and through, the form and body of local churches is God's ordained order for His people and that those of each local church are enjoined to assemble themselves together for worship, fellowship, counsel, and instruction in the Word of God, and the work of the ministry; and for the exercising of those mutual gifts and offices provided for in the New Testament; and that the local church is charged by the Word of God to walk in the light of that Word by the Spirit in all godly fear and love; and believing that these things are essential to obtaining the Christian goal, "Be ye therefore perfect even as your Father in heaven is perfect"; and further, believing that God has called us, anointing us to emphasize the fullness of the Gospel in and through the Baptism of the Holy Spirit (which is our distinctive testimony) according to the Scriptures, (Acts 1:4,5; 2:4,39; 10:44-47,19:2,6).

Therefore, we have accepted the following Statement of Fundamental Truths and have adopted the Constitution and By-Laws, which do herein appear. We shall seek, by the grace of God, to be governed by the Constitution and By-Laws as are herein set forth and will also seek to teach and propagate the doctrines as are contained in the Statement of Fundamental truths.

ARTICLE I. NAME

The name of this assembly, as stated in the Articles of Incorporation, the name of this corporate church shall be Dayspring Community Church of the Assemblies of God, in the city of Owensville, State of Indiana.

ARTICLE II. PREROGATIVES AND PURPOSES

The prerogatives and purposes of a General Council affiliated assembly shall be:

1. To Govern

This assembly shall have the right to govern itself and to conduct its own affairs according to the standard of the New Testament Scriptures and of the Indiana District Council and the General Council of the Assemblies of God. This right shall specifically include such matters as the calling of a pastor, the election of the church board, and the discipline of its members and the conducting of its own services and church program.

2. To Acquire and Dispose

In connection therewith, or incidental thereto, this assembly shall have the right to purchase or acquire by gift, bequest or otherwise, either directly or as trustee, and to own, hold in trust, use, sell, convey, mortgage, lease, or otherwise dispose of any real estate or chattels as may be necessary for the furtherance of its purposes, and to exercise all other powers conferred upon it by its charter or by the applicable nonprofit corporation law of this state; all in accordance with its bylaws as the same may be hereafter amended.

3. To Worship, Fellowship, and Propagate

The purpose of this assembly shall be to establish and maintain a place for the worship of Almighty God, our Heavenly Father, to provide for Christian fellowship for those of like precious faith, where the Holy Spirit may be honored according to our distinctive testimony, and 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.

4. To Cooperate

This assembly shall cooperate with the District Council and the General Council to extend the work and kingdom of God throughout the world. It shall support the missionary program as agreed upon. It shall participate in District Council and General Council sessions through its chosen delegates and share in the support of the ministries of these bodies.

5. To Recognize

This assembly shall recognize that the District Council and the General Council have the authority and right to approve scriptural doctrine and conduct; also to disapprove unscriptural doctrine and conduct and to withdraw their certificates of membership if deemed necessary. See Article IX of the Bylaws of The General Council of the Assemblies of God.

ARTICLE III. AFFILIATION

While maintaining its inherent rights to sovereignty in the conduct of its own affairs as herein set forth, this assembly shall voluntarily enter into full cooperative fellowship with assemblies of like precious faith, associated in the Indiana District Council of the Assemblies of God, and 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. Officers of the District Council and General Council shall be recognized and respected by the pastor and members of this assembly. As a member of the General Council, this assembly has the right to request the assistance of both the General Council and the District Council in dealing with any of its problems, upon the request of the pastor, a majority of the church board, or a petition signed by at least twenty percent (20%) 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.

It is understood and agreed that this assembly shall conform its standards of membership, qualifications for deacons, and requirements for a pastor to those standards set by the District Council and the General Council. By its affiliation, the assembly—directors, officers, and members—agree that no provision of these Bylaws shall be inconsistent with the Constitution and Bylaws of both the Indiana District Council of the Assemblies of God and the General Council of the Assemblies of God as now in effect or hereafter amended.

ARTICLE IV. A NON-PROFIT CORPORATION

This corporation is organized pursuant to the General Non-Profit Corporation Law of the State of Indiana; the property of this corporation is irrevocably dedicated to religious and charitable purposes, and upon liquidation, dissolution or abandonment, shall not inure to the benefit of any private person except a fund, foundation, or corporation organized and operated for religious or charitable purposes and as designated in Section 5, Article XII of the Constitution.

ARTICLE V. STATEMENT OF FUNDAMENTAL TRUTHS

1. The Scriptures Inspired. The Scriptures, both the Old and New Testaments, are verbally inspired of God and are a revelation from God to man, the infallible, authoritative rule of faith and conduct (1 Timothy 3:15-17; 1 Thessalonians 2: 13; 2 Peter 1:21).
2. The One True God. The one true God has revealed Himself as the eternally, self-existent, self-revealed "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; Mark 12:29; Isaiah 43: 10, 11; Matthew 28: 19).
3. 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).

4. 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 1:26-31; 3: 1-7; Romans 5:12-21).

5. The Salvation of Man. Man's only hope of redemption is through the shed blood of Jesus Christ, the Son of God. (A) Conditions of Salvation. Salvation is received through repentance toward God and faith toward the Lord Jesus Christ. By the washing of regeneration and the renewing of the Holy Spirit, being justified by grace through faith, man becomes an heir of God according to the hope of eternal life. (Titus 2:11; Romans 10:13-15; Luke 24:47; Titus 3:5-7; John 3:3). (B) The Evidence of Salvation. The "inward" evidence to the believer of His 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).

6. The Ordinances of the Church.

a. Baptism in Water. The ordinance of baptism by immersion should be observed, as commanded in the Scriptures, by all who have really repented and in their hearts and have truly believed in Christ as Savior and Lord. In so doing, they have the body washed in pure water as an outward symbol of cleansing, while their heart has already been sprinkled with the Blood of Christ as an inner cleansing. Thus they declare to the world that they have died with Jesus and that they have also been raised with Him to walk in newness of life. (Matthew 28:19; Acts 10:47, 48; Romans 6:4; Acts 20:21; Hebrews 10:22).

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 (II 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 comes".

7. The Baptism of the Holy Spirit. All believers are entitled to, and should ardently expect, and earnestly seek, the promise of the Father, the baptism of the Holy Spirit and fire, according to the command of our Lord Jesus Christ. This was the norm 1 experience of all in the early Christian Church. With it comes 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, 1:8; 1 Corinthians 12:1-31). This wonderful 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), and a more active love for Christ, for His Word, and for the lost (Mark 16:20).

8. The 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, (I Corinthians 12:4-10, 28), but different in purpose and use.

9. Sanctification. Sanctification is an act of separation from that which is evil, and of dedication unto God (Romans 12:1, 2; I Thessalonians 5:23; Hebrews 13:12). The 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 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, 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; I Peter 1:8).

10. The Church and It's Mission.

A. The Church is the body of Christ, the habitation of God through the Spirit with divine appointments for the fulfillment of the great commission. Each believer, born of the Spirit, is an integral part of the General Assembly and Church of the First-born, 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 worshipped by man, and to build a body of believers in the image of His Son, the priority reason-for-being of Dayspring Community Church 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 16:16,17).
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, I Corinthians 12:28, 14:12).

B. Dayspring Community Church 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:

1. 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).
 2. Adds necessary dimension to worshipful relationship with God (1 Corinthians 2: 10-16; 12, 13, 14).
 3. Enables them to respond to the full working of the Holy Spirit in expression of fruit, gifts, and ministries as in New Testament times for the edifying of the body of Christ (Galatians 5:22-26; I Corinthians 14:12; Ephesians 4:11,12; I Corinthians 12:28; Colossians 1:29).
11. The Ministry and Evangelism. A divinely called and scripturally ordained ministry has been provided by our Lord for a threefold purpose of leading the Church in: (1) The evangelization of the world (Mark 16:15-20), (2) Worship of God (John 4:23, 24), and (3) Building a body of saints being perfected in the image of His Son (Ephesians 4: 11-16).
12. 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).
13. 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, (I Thessalonians 4:16,17; Titus 2:12; I Corinthians 15:51,52; Romans 8:23).
14. The Millennial Reign of Jesus 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: 1-7). 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).
15. 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).
16. The New Heavens and the New Earth. "We, according to His promise, look for new heavens and a new earth, wherein dwells righteousness" (2 Peter 3:13; Revelation 21,22).

ARTICLE VI. ORDINANCES

1. The ordinance of Baptism by immersion in the Name of the Father, and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit as commanded in the Scriptures, shall be administered to all those who have believed on the Lord Jesus Christ to the saving of their souls and who give clear evidence of their faith (Matthew 28: 19; Colossians 2: 12; Romans 6:3-5).
2. The ordinance of the Lord's Supper shall be observed regularly as a part of public worship, as commanded by the Lord (Luke 22:19,20; I Corinthians 11:23-26).

Privileges

3. Infants and small children may be dedicated to the Lord in the church upon request of the parents or guardians (Mark 10:3-16; Luke 18:15, 16).
4. The ministration of laying on of hands accompanied with the anointing with oil, for the healing of the sick, shall be granted as request is made and the need may require (Mark 16:18; James 5:14).

ARTICLE VII. MEMBERSHIP

1. Membership Eligibility. Membership in this assembly shall be open to all those who give evidence of their faith in the Lord Jesus Christ, who have been baptized by immersion in water as a public profession of their faith in the death, burial and resurrection of Jesus Christ, who subscribe to its tenets of faith, who agree to be governed by its constitution and bylaws as herein set forth or as may be amended by the assembly, and who are approved for membership by the pastor and the Church board shall be referred to herein as active members.

2. Active Membership. The active (legal) voting membership of this assembly shall consist of all persons whose names appear on the current active membership roll.

ARTICLE VIII. CHURCH OFFICERS

1. PASTOR AND PRESIDENT: The President of the corporation shall be the Elder/Pastor of Dayspring Community Church of the Assemblies of God, Inc., of Owensville, IN. The president shall preside at all business meetings, and be an executive office member of all committees and departments.

2. CHURCH (DEACON) BOARD: There shall be a church board consisting of not less than (3) members and no more than (10) members in addition to the pastor. The board shall appoint a secretary and treasurer from the church deacon board to serve, along with the pastor, as legal officers of the assembly.

3. LEGAL OFFICERS: The legal offices of Dayspring Community Church of the Assemblies of God, Inc. shall consist of a President, a Secretary, and a Treasurer. The President, secretary, and treasurer shall be the designated, legal officers of this assembly. They shall serve as the legal arm of the church board, whose, duties, requirements and terms of office are set forth and governed by its By- Laws.

ARTICLE IX. MEETINGS

1. MEETINGS FOR WORSHIP: Meetings for public worship shall be held each Lord's Day, and during the week as may be provided for, under the direction of the pastor and church board.

2. BUSINESS MEETINGS: There shall be an annual business meeting of the assembly at which time new officers shall be ratified and the reports of church officers and departments shall be read. This meeting should convene no later than the end of March each year.

a. Notice of the date and place of any business meeting shall be made by bulletin, announcement, or by written or electronic correspondence, to the active membership of the church, at least fourteen (14) days and not more than thirty (30) days prior to such meeting,

b. Quorum: No record of any business meeting Dayspring Community Church of the Assemblies of God, Inc. shall be made unless one-third (1/3) or more of the active members are present to constitute a quorum.

c. Order of Business: The regular order of business for a business meeting of Dayspring Community Church of the Assemblies of God Inc. shall be as follows:

- i. Devotional
- ii. Reading of the previous minutes by secretary
- iii. Report of Treasurer
- iv. Report of Committees, departments, and auxiliaries
- v. Unfinished Business
- vi. New Business
- vii. Ratification of Deacons/Officers
- viii. Adjournment

This order of business may be altered or suspended at any meeting by a majority vote of the members present. The usual parliamentary rules as laid down in "Robert's Rules of Order" shall govern all debates when not in conflict with the By-Laws.

3. SPECIAL BUSINESS MEETINGS: Meetings may be called when agreed upon by the majority of the church board or by petition having been signed by one-third (1/3) of the active membership of the assembly. Only those active voting members who have regularly attended services and supported this assembly for a period of three consecutive months prior to the signing of the petition shall be counted. Said petition shall be placed in the hands of the pastor or the church secretary.

4. DISSOLUTION MEETING: Any meeting at which the dissolution of this Assembly, or its merger with another congregation or its withdrawal from affiliation with the Assemblies of God, is discussed shall not be considered a duly called meeting unless the District Officiary has been invited to attend.

5. CHURCH BOARD MEETINGS: The pastor shall meet with the church board monthly when possible, but no less than six times annually, at a time and place agreed upon by the pastor and the church board.

ARTICLE X. FINANCES

All funds needed for the maintenance and outreach of Dayspring Community Church of the Assemblies of God, Inc. shall be provided by the voluntary contributions, tithes and offerings of the members and friends of the church.

It is expected that every member shall decide before God what he or she can and will give cheerfully to the support of the Lord's work at home and in the foreign field (Malachi 3:10; I Corinthians 16:1-2; Romans 12:8).

All members of the Church Board shall be faithful supporters of the local church with their tithes and offerings, setting and example of stewardship for the entire congregation.

ARTICLE XI. DEPARTMENTS

Pastor and board shall be empowered to create ministry departments to support the vision of the ministry.

ARTICLE XII. PROPERTY

1. HOLDING OF PROPERTY: All property, real or chattel, shall be taken, held, sold, transferred, or conveyed in the name of the assembly (Dayspring Community Church of the Assemblies of God) with the pastor, the secretary, and the treasurer acting as the authorized and duly constituted agents of the assembly.

2. PURCHASE OF REAL ESTATE AND CONSTRUCTION OF FACILITIES: No property shall be purchased without the approval of at least two-thirds (2/3) of the voting membership in attendance at a regular or special business meeting of the assembly which has been called for consideration of the same.

3. DISPOSING OF PROPERTY: No real property of the assembly shall be sold, mortgaged, or otherwise alienated without authorization of at least two-thirds (2/3) of the voting membership in attendance at a regular or special business meeting of the assembly which has been called for consideration of the same. All other types of property may be sold, leased, or mortgaged at the discretion of the pastor and Church Board.

4. CERTIFICATION: In the event of congregational approval to purchase property, or to sell, lease, mortgage or otherwise alienate property, the pastor and the secretary of the assembly shall certify that the same has been duly authorized and approved by a vote of the assembly. Such certification shall be held to be conclusive evidence thereof.

5. PROPERTY RIGHTS AND REVERSION: In the event this assembly (Dayspring Community Church of the Assemblies of God) ceases to function, in accordance with the purpose set forth in ARTICLE 11 of the established ARTICLES OF INCORPORATION, one of the following procedures will be followed in regards to disaffiliation or dissolution:

a. Disaffiliation: Title to all real property now owned or hereafter acquired by the assembly shall be held in trust as a place of divine worship in full cooperative fellowship and affiliation with The General Council of the Assemblies of God, Springfield, Missouri, and the Indiana District Council of

the Assemblies of God. In the event that the assembly shall be divided over doctrinal or any other issues, or shall vote to disaffiliate from the Assemblies of God, all property of the assembly shall remain with those members, whatever their number, desiring continued affiliation with the Assemblies of God and adhering to its Statement of Fundamental Truths. The determination of which group of members desires continued affiliation with the Assemblies of God and adheres to its Statement of Fundamental Truths shall be arbitrated by the District Presbytery of the Indiana District Council of the Assemblies of God, and its decision shall be final and binding. If all of the members of the assembly shall vote to disaffiliate from the Assemblies of God for doctrinal or any other reasons, then all of the property of such assembly shall revert to said District Council and shall be used by the District as an Assemblies of God church if possible, and if not possible, the District may sell the property and apply the proceeds in any manner consistent with its stated purposes.

b. Dissolution: Upon the dissolution of the assembly, none of its funds or assets shall be distributed to any officer, deacon, trustee, or any other individual. The church board shall, after paying or making provision for the payment of all of the liabilities of the assembly, dispose of all of the funds and assets of the assembly by conveying the same to the Indiana District Council of the Assemblies of God, for the purposes of the assembly, and provided that said District Council at the time qualifies as an exempt organization under section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 (or the corresponding provisions of any future United States Internal Revenue Law). Any such funds or assets not so disposed of shall be disposed of by the Circuit Court of the county in which the principal office of the corporation is then located, to such organization as said Court shall determine; which is organized and operated exclusively for religious purposes.

ARTICLE XIII. DISTRICT SUPERVISION

If at any time the active membership of this assembly falls below twenty (20) in number, or there are not at least three (3) active members qualified to serve as Church Board members in addition to the pastor, this assembly shall become a district supervised church upon request of the congregation or upon declaration of the District Executive Presbytery.

ARTICLE XIV. AMENDMENTS

This Constitution may be amended by a two-thirds (2/3) vote of the voting membership of the assembly in attendance at any regular or special business meeting called for that purpose, provided due notice of the proposed change shall have been given to all voting members at least two weeks prior to the time of said business meeting. It shall be understood that this provision for amending the Constitution does not apply to The Statement of Fundamental Truths, which stands unless amended by the General Council.

**BY-LAWS OF DAYSPRING COMMUNITY CHURCH
OF THE ASSEMBLIES OF GOD INC.
OWENSVILLE, INDIANA**

ARTICLE I. OFFICERS/BOARDS

Section 1: The Pastor/Primary Teaching Elder

- a. The Elder serving in the office of Pastor, herein referred to as the pastor, shall be considered to be spiritual overseer of the assembly and shall direct all of its activities.
- b. He/She shall be president and chief executive officer of the corporation and a credentialed minister of the Assemblies of God, Inc. He shall be elected to serve an indefinite period of time.
- c. He/She shall act as chairman of all business meetings of the assembly and of all meetings of the Church Board.
- d. He/She shall be an ex officio member of all departmental or other committees.
- e. He/She shall provide for all services of the assembly and shall arrange for all special meetings, conventions, and revival campaigns. No person shall be invited to speak or preach in the assembly, or at any of its functions, without his/her knowledge and approval. He/She shall invite all assistant or associate pastors, as well as any other salaried personnel, to serve the assembly. They shall be directly responsible to the pastor who shall assign their responsibilities and determine their length of employment. None of these positions shall be filled, or vacated, by congregational vote or action of the church board. The pastor shall consult with the church board regarding all changes in personnel, duties, and salaries. Prior to employment the church board shall have the right to reject any potential employee of the assembly.
- f. The pastor and the secretary and or treasurer shall act as legal officers and trustees for the assembly, with the consent of the church deacon board, in the holding and conveying of property and in the signing of all legal instruments and documents.

Section 2: The Church Elder Board

- a. They shall serve as lay ministers overseeing and meeting the spiritual needs of the congregation.
- b. Elders shall be initially appointed by the pastor, thereafter by the corporate elder board.
- c. They shall assist the pastor in the ministry of the assembly's ordinances (communion and water baptism) when called upon to serve in this capacity.
- d. They shall not serve on the Official/Legal Church Board, but shall be given solely to prayer/study to assist the pastor in ministering the gospel, ministry of the church ordinances, and to assist in administering church discipline towards members of the assembly.

e. The pastor can terminate offices.

f. Elder board members (in agreement with the General Council and Indiana District Assemblies of God By-laws) cannot, along with the pastor, hold credentials with the Assemblies of God fellowship.

g. In the event the assembly is temporarily without a pastor, the church elder board shall be empowered to provide spiritual oversight for the assembly, provide pulpit ministry, administer the ordinances of the church, and exercise church discipline. Upon acceptance and installation, all such powers shall be shared with the newly elected pastor.

Section 3: The Church Deacon Board

a. The church board shall serve under the oversight and guidance of the pastor in the routine management of the assembly.

b. They shall assist the pastor in the ministry of the assembly's ordinances (communion and water baptism) when called upon to serve in this capacity.

c. They shall participate in the examination of applicants for membership in the assembly.

d. They shall, with the pastor, revise all membership rolls of the assembly during the months of November or December according to the provisions of the Constitution and Bylaws.

e. They shall assist the pastor in the administration of discipline toward members of the assembly in the event there are no functioning elders within the congregation.

f. The pastor can terminate offices.

g. In the event the assembly is temporarily without a pastor, the church board shall be empowered to provide for its own chairman from its membership in order to transact business for the assembly. Upon acceptance and installation, all such powers shall revert to the newly elected pastor.

Section 4: The Secretary

a. The secretary shall keep minutes of official meetings of the church board, the annual congregational business meeting, and special business meetings of the assembly.

b. He/She shall be the custodian of all legal documents and be in possession of the corporate seal (where the assembly is incorporated).

c. He/she shall perform any other clerical work necessary to the proper discharge of his/her duties.

d. The secretary shall be appointed to renewable one-year terms of service.

Section 5: The Treasurer

a. The treasurer shall be entrusted with all the finances of the assembly, which are committed to him/her. He/She shall deposit funds, as agreed upon by the pastor and church board, in a responsible bank

in the name of the assembly and shall disburse the same by check as authorized by the pastor and church board.

b. The pastor, financial secretary, and administrative secretary shall serve as signers for all checks and withdrawals of the assembly.

c. The treasurer shall keep an itemized account of receipts and disbursements; He/She shall make an itemized report at the regular meeting of the church board, and a summarized report to the assembly at its regular business meetings, or at such times as requested by the pastor and church board.

d. Accounts of the assembly shall be audited under the direction of the pastor and church board.

ARTICLE II. QUALIFICATIONS OF THE PASTOR AND CHURCH (DEACON) BOARD MEMBERS

Section 1: The pastor shall be a credentialed minister of the Assemblies of God in good standing.

Section 2: Church (Elder) Board Members

a. Board members shall be men/women of mature Christian experience and knowledge who shall, as closely as possible, meet the requirements as set forth in 1 Timothy 3:1-7; and Titus 1:5-9.

b. They shall be active members of the assembly.

c. They shall be at least twenty-one (21) years of age and shall have been active members of the assembly for at least six months.

Section 3: Church (Deacon) Board Members

a. Board members shall be men/women of mature Christian experience and knowledge who shall, as closely as possible, meet the requirements as set forth in Acts 6:1-4; 1 Timothy 3:8-13; and Titus 1:5-9.

b. They shall be active members of the assembly.

c. They shall be at least twenty-one (21) years of age and shall have been active members of the assembly for at least six months.

d. They shall pay their tithes into the church and shall be faithful in attending the services and prayer meetings.

ARTICLE III. ELECTIONS AND VACANCIES

Section 1: The Pastor

a. The pastor shall be elected to serve for an indefinite period or time.

b. The names of the candidates for the pastorate can be secured from the District Officer with thoughtful consideration given to suggestions from the congregation.

c. The Elders and Church Board shall interview candidates for the pastorate, after which they shall nominate one for presentation, in an election at a business meeting of the assembly called for that purpose.

d. Secret ballots shall be cast in all pastoral elections. A two-thirds (2/3) majority of all votes cast by active members shall be required to constitute an election.

e. In the event a pastor has serious charges preferred against him, or his ministry has ceased to be effective, power is vested in the church board (by a majority vote) to ask for his resignation. If such resignation is refused, the pastorate shall not be considered vacant until the action of the church board majority has been confirmed by a two-thirds (2/3) majority vote of the congregation's active membership at a meeting called for that purpose. Such a meeting shall be presided over by the District Officiary. Any petition concerning the status of the pastor shall 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 twelve-month period. In the event of a pastor's removal from office a report shall be made to the district office.

f. When a vacancy in the pastorate occurs, the church board, in consultation with the District Superintendent, can arrange to supply ministries until a pastor is elected.

Section 2: The Church Elder Board

a. The pastor shall make the initial appointment of elders to the church elder board. Thereafter, the pastor and the elder board shall act as the nominating committee to qualify and present nominees for the church elder board to the voting membership for ratification. Names may be submitted to the nominating committee prior to the annual meeting, but nominations may not be made from the floor. Elders shall be ratified by a majority vote of the voting membership present at the annual business meeting.

b. Elders shall be appointed to serve for an indefinite period or time.

c. New members may be added as deemed necessary by the Pastor and Elder Board.

d. Each member of the board shall be a man/woman of faith with a spirit of cooperation showing a spiritual maturity. They shall be examples in faithfulness, attendance, and in tithes and offerings as a faithful steward.

e. The Elder Board shall meet for the discharge of their duties as necessity may demand upon request of the Pastor.

Section 3: The Church Deacon Board

a. The Church Board shall consist of not less than three (3) selected from the membership of Dayspring Community Church of the Assemblies of God, Inc., of Owensville, Indiana.

b. They shall serve for one-year renewable terms and new members may be added as deemed necessary by the Pastor.

c. Each member of the board shall be a man/woman of faith with a spirit of cooperation showing a spiritual maturity. They shall be examples in faithfulness, attendance, and in tithes and offerings as a faithful steward.

d. The Church Board shall serve in an advisory capacity to the Pastor and Elder Board in all matters pertaining to the management of Dayspring Community Church of the Assemblies of God, Inc., of Owensville, Indiana and shall act in an advisory capacity as a building committee in the purchasing of property, construction of facilities, and the discharging of the same.

e. They shall be the trustees of all the property of Dayspring Community Church of the Assemblies of God, Inc., of Owensville, Indiana and shall be responsible for the maintenance of the same.

f. The Church Board shall meet for the discharge of their duties as necessity may demand upon request of the Pastor.

Section 4: Trustees/Legal Officers

a. The trustees/legal officers shall consist of the pastor/president, secretary, and treasurer.

b. The Vice-Chairman, secretary, and treasurer are appointed by the pastor and ratified by the church board.

c. They shall serve renewable 1-year terms. The pastor can terminate offices.

d. The secretary or treasurer, in conjunction with the pastor shall act in behalf of the church board in signing legal documents for Dayspring Community Church of the Assemblies of God, Inc., of Owensville, Indiana.

Section 5: Ministerial Staff

a. Ministerial staff may be invited to attend church board meetings at the invitation of the pastor. Such staffs, in attendance, are without voice or vote unless voice is granted by the pastor for input into specific discussions.

b. All ministers are appointed by the Pastor and President and ratified by the Church Board. The Pastor can terminate offices.

Section 6: Vacancies

a. The Church Elder Board at any of its regular or special meetings may fill any vacancy on either board, or any department or committee of the assembly.

b. Vacancies in any office or the assembly, its departments, or committees may be declared by action of the pastor and the Church Board at any regular or special church board meeting. Grounds for such action shall be:

1. Unscriptural conduct
2. Doctrinal departure from the tenets of faith
3. Incompetency in office
4. An attitude on insubordination that is out of harmony with the principles and purposes of the church
5. Resignation
6. Death
7. For any other good and sufficient reason

Section 7: Absentee Ballots and Blank Ballots

- a. Absentee ballots of voting members shall be accepted at the annual business meeting and at special business meetings of the assembly in cases where the voting member is unable to attend said meetings due to illness, employment during the meeting, or is on vacation. Absentee ballots shall be placed in a sealed envelope bearing the member's name and given to the pastor or the secretary prior to the meeting during which the votes are to be cast.
- b. Blank ballots shall not be included in the determination of any election or vote result.

ARTICLE IV. MEETING

Section 1: Quorum

- a. Congregational Meetings. No meeting of the congregation shall be considered official, and no record shall be kept of its proceedings and decisions, unless one third (1/3) or more of the active members are present to constitute a quorum.
- b. Church Board Meetings. No meeting of the Church Board shall be considered official, and no record shall be kept of its proceedings and decisions, unless one-half (1/2) or more of the church board members are present to constitute a quorum.
- c. Departments and Committees. No meeting of any departmental or other committee of the assembly shall be considered official, and no record shall be kept of its proceedings and decisions, unless one-half (1/2) or more of the department or committee members are present to constitute a quorum.

Section 2: Announcement of Meetings

- a. Congregational Meetings. All regular and special business meetings of the assembly shall be announced by bulletin, announcement or by written or electronic correspondence, at least, two Sundays or 14 days prior to the meeting, in accordance with Article IX, paragraph A of the constitution. An explanation as to the purpose of each meeting shall be included in said announcements.
- b. Church Board Meetings. All Church Board members shall be notified of each board meeting except where such notification is not possible.
- c. Minutes. Accurate minutes shall be kept of all Congregational Business Meetings and Church Board Meetings. Said minutes shall be made a permanent part of the assembly's records and shall be kept in a safe place at the church, except in instances when such is considered impractical and the pastor and Church Board agree upon a different location.

ARTICLE V. MEMBERSHIP

Section 1: The Standards Of Membership Are As Follows:

- a. An evidence of a genuine experience in regeneration (the new birth) (John 1:12- 13; John 3:3-8; I Peter 1:18-25). To be followed by water baptism by immersion as a public profession of their faith, when possible (Matthew 28:19; Romans 6:4; Hebrews 10:22).
- b. An evidence of a consistent Christian life (Romans 8:1-4; 13:13-14; Ephesians 4:17-32; 5:1-2, 15; 1 John 1:6-7).

c. To fully subscribe to the tenets of faith as set forth in the Constitution and Bylaws adopted by the assembly.

d. A willingness to attend the services and contribute regularly to the support of the assembly according to his or her ability.

Section 2: Reception of Members

a. Membership in this assembly (Dayspring Community Church of the Assemblies of God, Inc. of Owensville, Indiana) shall be eligible 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 as herein set forth, and who further agree to complete an application and present it to the pastor or the church secretary.

b. The Pastor and Church Deacon Board shall determine their qualifications for membership according to the standards for membership.

c. Upon approval for membership by the Pastor and Church Deacon Board, the secretary shall inscribe their name on the assembly roster.

d. Persons desiring to transfer their membership to this assembly from another Assembly of God church or church of like precious faith shall request a letter of transfer from their former assembly. Upon approval for transfer by the pastor and Church Board, the secretary shall inscribe their name on the assembly roster.

e. All new members shall be publicly recognized in a regular Sunday service of the assembly.

Section 3: Categories of Membership

a. Active Membership (Legal Voting Members)

1. Active members shall be at least eighteen (18) years of age.
2. They shall have met the standards for membership as outlined in Section 2 and shall have been received as members according to Section 1.
3. They shall enjoy voting privileges in all business meetings of the assembly.

b. Honorary Membership

1. Active members who are engaged in the ministry of the gospel, or who are enrolled in training for the same, and are unable to regularly attend the services of the assembly shall be placed on the Honorary Membership Roll.
2. Active members who are serving a tour of duty in the armed forces of our country and are unable to regularly attend the services of this assembly shall be placed on the Honorary Membership Roll.
3. Active members who, by reason of advanced years or physical disability, are unable to regularly attend the services of this assembly shall be placed on the Honorary Membership Roll.
4. Honorary members may be reinstated to active membership by regular attendance at the services and by making the desire known to the pastor.
5. Honorary membership in this assembly shall not carry voting privileges in any of the assembly business meetings.

c. Inactive Membership

1. Active members who shall, without good cause, absent themselves from the services of the assembly for a period of three consecutive months or more, who cease to contribute of their means to its support, who may be out of harmony with its teachings or its ministries, who shall be under charges of misconduct, or who may have fallen under condemnation through sinful and worldly practices, shall be transferred to the inactive membership roll and shall lose their voting privileges until they are restored to the fellowship, their standing to be settled by the definite action of the assembly through its elected officers.
2. All transfers from the active membership roll to the inactive membership roll shall be made at the discretion of the pastor and the Church Board.
3. The standing of inactive members shall be determined by action of the pastor and Church Board each November or December.

Section 4: Changes in Category of Membership

- a. Any change in category of membership, made by the pastor and the Church Board, shall be recorded in the minutes of the board meeting in which the change was determined.
- b. The pastor or secretary, in writing, with a copy of said notification kept as a part of the permanent records of the assembly, shall notify any member whose membership category is changed.

Section 5: Discipline of Members

- a. The Church Deacon Board shall record removal of a name from any category of membership for disciplinary reasons, by the pastor and elders, in the minutes of the board meeting in which the action was taken.
- b. A member whose name is removed from any category of membership for disciplinary reasons shall be notified of the same in writing by the pastor or secretary with a copy of said notification kept as a part of the permanent records of the assembly.
- c. An active member whose name has been removed from the membership roll may appeal to the pastor and elders for reconsideration of their action.
- d. If the pastor and elders do not grant reinstatement of an active or inactive member, the decision of the pastor and elders shall be final without appeal.
- e. In the disciplining of members the following principles shall be observed: Matthew 18: 15-17; Romans 16: 17-18; 2 Thessalonians 3:6-15.

Section 6: Resignation and Transfer

- a. Members in good standing who may wish to sever their relationship with this assembly may do so by submitting a written request to the pastor or secretary. The secretary shall then remove their names from the membership roll.
- b. Members in good standing who may wish to transfer their membership to another Assembly of God church or church of like precious faith may request of the pastor or secretary a letter of introduction (transfer) which shall be granted by approval of the pastor and Church Board, The secretary shall then remove their names from the membership roll.

Section 7: Revision of Membership Roll

- a. The pastor or secretary shall be authorized to remove from the membership rolls all names of those who have become deceased.
- b. The pastor and Church Board shall review annually the standing of all inactive members and make disposition regarding them.
- c. The membership roll shall be revised annually during the months of November or December.

ARTICLE VI. DEPARTMENTS AND AUXILIARY MINISTRIES

Section 1: Relationship to the Assembly

- a. All departments, auxiliaries, and committees shall be approved by the pastor and Church Board and shall operate under a set of policies, in harmony with the Constitution and Bylaws of Dayspring Community Church of the Assemblies of God, Inc.
- b. They shall be under the general supervision of the pastor and Church Board with the pastor being an ex officio member of all departments, auxiliaries, and committees.
- c. The pastor and Church Board shall in consultation with the various departments, auxiliaries, and committees determine all their policies and programs.

Section 2: Relationship to the District

All departments and auxiliaries shall, as much as possible, cooperate with and participate in the programs and functions of their equivalent departments on the district level.

ARTICLE VII. ARBITRATION OF DISPUTES

Inasmuch as the Scriptures require Christians to take their disputes to the saints and not to the civil courts (1 Corinthians 6:1-8), all disputes which may arise (1) between any member of this church and the church itself, or (2) between any member of this church and any pastor, officer, director, employee, volunteer, or other worker of this church, shall be resolved by binding arbitration if efforts to mediate or conciliate the dispute have failed. Either party to the dispute may initiate the arbitration process by filing with the other party a written request for arbitration within a reasonable time after the dispute has arisen and efforts to mediate or conciliate have failed. In such a case, the member and the church shall each name an arbitrator, and the two so selected shall name a third. All arbitrators must be born-again, Spirit-filled believers who are members of an Assemblies of God church. The third arbitrator chosen by the other two shall disclose, before accepting the appointment, any financial or personal interest in the outcome of the arbitration, and any existing or past financial, professional, family, or social relationships which are likely to affect impartiality or which might reasonably create an appearance of partiality or bias. Either of the parties to the arbitration, on the basis of such disclosures, may disqualify such a candidate from serving as the third arbitrator. A third arbitrator who serves without objection from either party has a continuing duty to disclose relationships or interests which may impair his impartiality. Either party, regardless of the stage of the arbitration process, may on the basis of such disclosures disqualify such a person from further participation. The arbitration process shall not proceed until the third arbitrator is selected. The arbitrators shall appoint the time and place for the hearing and cause notification to the parties to be served personally or by registered mail not less than 30 days before the hearing. Appearance at the hearing waives such notice. The arbitrators may adjourn the hearing from time to time as necessary and, on request of a party and for good cause or upon their own motion, may postpone the hearing to a later date.

The arbitrators may hear and determine the controversy upon the evidence produced notwithstanding the failure of a party duly notified to appear. The parties are entitled to be heard, to present evidence material to the controversy, and to cross-examine witnesses appearing at the hearing. The hearing shall be conducted by all the arbitrators, but a majority of them may determine any question and render a final award. If during the course of the hearing an arbitrator for any reason ceases to act, he shall be replaced in the same manner in which he was originally selected. The arbitrators may in their absolute discretion admit as evidence any affidavit or declaration concerning the matters in dispute, a copy thereof having been given at least 5 days previously to the party against whom the same is offered, but the person whose evidence is so taken shall be subject to cross-examination by such party. The arbitrators shall have the power to order and direct what they shall deem necessary to be done by either of the parties relating to the matters in dispute. Cost of the arbitration shall be determined and assessed by the arbitrators. Any submission of a dispute to arbitration shall not be revoked by the death of any party to the dispute, and any award will be binding upon such person's heirs and successors. The decision of the arbitrators shall be binding on both parties, and both parties submit themselves to the personal jurisdiction of the civil courts in this state (including federal courts), as well as the courts of any other state which may have jurisdiction over any dispute contemplated by this Article, for the entry of a judgment confirming the arbitrators' award. The arbitration process is not a substitute for any disciplinary process set forth in the constitution or bylaws of the church, and shall in no way affect the authority of the church to investigate reports of misconduct, conduct hearings, or administer discipline. Any matter not provided for herein shall be governed by the provisions of the Uniform Arbitration Act. If a dispute may result in an award of monetary damages, then use of this arbitration procedure is conditioned on acceptance of the procedure by the liability insurer of the church, and the insurer's agreement to honor any arbitration award up to any applicable policy limits.

ARTICLE VIII. POSITION ON TRADITIONAL MARRIAGE

I. Dayspring Community Church, including its leadership and members, believes in the sanctity of the marital union as described and defined in Scripture:

God created the first marriage as a sacred covenant relationship between one man and one woman for the purposes of procreation, companionship, and dominion over creation, in keeping with the covenant relationship God himself established with his own creation (Genesis 2:15-24; Romans 1:16-32); and Jesus blessed a marriage celebration between a man and a woman with his presence and his first public miracle, thereby affirming the traditional definition of marriage as a cornerstone of every culture and community (John 2:1-11); and further that he advised those who are for congenital or psychological reasons unable to enter into marriage (i.e. between a man and a woman) to remain single and therefore celibate (Matthew 19:4-12); and society historically has embraced this traditional definition of marriage, eschewing all other unions as unnatural, inappropriate, and anti-social, and has advocated the family unit of husband and wife and their children as the chief building block of society (Leviticus 18:22-30; Psalm 127:3-5; Romans 1:16-32; 1 Corinthians 7:1-2; Hebrews 13:4).

II. Dayspring Community Church, including its leadership and members, believes that marriage is be defined biblically and theologically in God's own terms from the pages of Holy Scripture, rather than man-made terms; and further that this church intentionally adheres to the highest standards for marriage, namely biblical standards, and that other legal definitions and court actions are secondary to biblical mandate.

III. Dayspring Community Church, including its leadership and members, also affirms that all marriage ceremonies performed in the name of this church and any related celebrations or

activities allowed in its facilities shall be for unions that meet the standards named in this church constitution, and further, that church ministers and staff engage only in marriage ceremonies in keeping with this church's adopted biblical and theological definition of marriage.

- IV. Dayspring Community Church will neither recognize nor endorse marriages performed by other organizations or entities (religious or governmental) on behalf of same-sex couples.
- V. These positions are in line with commonly held beliefs on homosexual conduct/and homosexual relationships based on scripture which have been endorsed by the General Council of the Assemblies of God Commission on Doctrinal Purity and the Executive Presbytery.

ARTICLE IX. AMENDMENTS

These bylaws may be amended by a majority vote of the active members of the assembly in attendance, at any regular or special business meeting, called for that purpose. All amendments must be consistent with the constitution and bylaws of the District Council.