



**CONSTITUTION**  
**COMMUNITY BIBLE CHURCH**  
of  
Folsom, California

Revised: September 28, 2014

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## **ARTICLE I – Name and Origin**

Sec. 1. The name of this corporation shall be Community Bible Church of Folsom, CA.

Sec. 2. The principal office shall be 612 Persifer Street, Folsom, California. The principal place of business shall be 601 Natoma Street, Folsom, California.

## **ARTICLE II – Church Affiliation**

This church is affiliated with the Evangelical Free Church of America and the Western District Conference of the Evangelical Free Church of America.

## **ARTICLE III – Purpose**

We exist as a church to know and make known the glory of God.

## **ARTICLE IV – Articles of Faith**

The Statement of Faith of this organization shall be the same as the Statement of Faith of the Evangelical Free Church of America ratified in 2008, which reads as follows:

### **1. God**

We believe in one God, Creator of all things, holy, infinitely perfect, and eternally existing in a loving unity of three equally divine Persons: the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit. Having limitless knowledge and sovereign power, God has graciously purposed from eternity to redeem a people for Himself and to make all things new for His own glory.

### **2. The Bible**

We believe that God has spoken in the Scriptures, both Old and New Testaments, through the words of human authors. As the verbally inspired Word of God, the Bible is without error in the original writings, the complete revelation of His will for salvation, and the ultimate authority by which every realm of human knowledge and endeavor should be judged. Therefore, it is to be believed in all that it teaches, obeyed in all that it requires, and trusted in all that it promises.

### **3. The Human Condition**

We believe that God created Adam and Eve in His image, but they sinned when tempted by Satan. In union with Adam, human beings are sinners by nature and by choice, alienated

from God, and under His wrath. Only through God's saving work in Jesus Christ can we be rescued, reconciled and renewed.

#### **4. Jesus Christ**

We believe that Jesus Christ is God incarnate, fully God and fully man, one Person in two natures. Jesus—Israel's promised Messiah—was conceived through the Holy Spirit and born of the Virgin Mary. He lived a sinless life, was crucified under Pontius Pilate, arose bodily from the dead, ascended into heaven and sits at the right hand of God the Father as our High Priest and Advocate.

#### **5. The Work of Christ**

We believe that Jesus Christ, as our representative and substitute, shed His blood on the cross as the perfect, all-sufficient sacrifice for our sins. His atoning death and victorious resurrection constitute the only ground for salvation.

#### **6. The Holy Spirit**

We believe that the Holy Spirit, in all that He does, glorifies the Lord Jesus Christ. He convicts the world of its guilt. He regenerates sinners, and in Him they are baptized into union with Christ and adopted as heirs in the family of God at the moment of conversion. He also indwells, illuminates, guides, equips and empowers believers for Christ-like living and service.

#### **7. The Church**

We believe that the true Church comprises all who have been justified by God's grace through faith alone in Christ alone. They are united by the Holy Spirit in the body of Christ, of which He is the Head. The true church is manifest in local churches, whose membership should be composed only of believers. The Lord Jesus mandated two ordinances, baptism and the Lord's Supper, which visibly and tangibly express the gospel. Though they are not the means of salvation, when celebrated by the church in genuine faith, these ordinances confirm and nourish the believer.

#### **8. Christian Living**

We believe that God's justifying grace must not be separated from His sanctifying power and purpose. God commands us to love Him supremely and others sacrificially, and to live out our faith with care for one another, compassion toward the poor and justice for the oppressed. With God's Word, the Spirit's power, and fervent prayer in Christ's name, we are to combat the spiritual forces of evil. In obedience to Christ's commission, we are to make disciples among all people, always bearing witness to the gospel in word and deed.

#### **9. Christ's Return**

We believe in the personal, bodily and pre-millennial return of our Lord Jesus Christ. The coming of Christ, at a time known only to God, demands constant expectancy and, as our

blessed hope, motivates the believer to godly living, sacrificial service and energetic mission.

## **10. Response and Eternal Destiny**

We believe that God commands everyone everywhere to believe the gospel by turning to Him in repentance and receiving the Lord Jesus Christ. We believe that God will raise the dead bodily and judge the world, assigning the unbeliever to condemnation and eternal conscious punishment and the believer to eternal blessedness and joy with the Lord in the new heaven and the new earth, to the praise of His glorious grace. Amen.

## **ARTICLE V – Membership**

- Sec. 1. The reception of Members shall be by confession of faith. Any person who professes faith in Jesus Christ as their savior and Lord, and agrees with the views of faith and practice as set forth in the Bible, may be received into Membership. Qualifications for Membership are in the Bylaws.
- Sec. 2. Member status and responsibilities are defined in the Bylaws.

## **ARTICLE VI – Church Property**

- Sec. 1. This corporation shall have the power to receive, either by gift or purchase, and to hold such real, personal or mixed property as is authorized by the laws of the State of California and as deemed necessary for the business of the church, and shall have power to dispose of such property by mortgage, deed, or otherwise. All such property shall be used in a manner consistent with Article IV of this Constitution, Articles of Faith, and Article VIII of the Bylaws, Faith and Practice.
- Sec. 2. All such property shall be held in the name of this church and no Member shall have any claim or title to such property.
- Sec. 3. In case of a division of this church (from which may God in His mercy preserve us) the property of this church shall belong to those who retain and abide by this Constitution.
- Sec. 4. In case of dissolution of this church, the property shall be transferred to the Western District Conference of the Evangelical Free Church of America, or its successor organization.
- Sec. 5. Dissolution may be by approval of the Board of Elders and two-thirds majority approval of the Members.

- Sec. 6. Intellectual property - As between Community Bible Church and its employees, officers and volunteers, any intellectual property developed by such employees, officers and volunteers during the course of their service with Community Bible Church shall remain their sole and exclusive property at all times, and nothing in this Constitution or the Bylaws shall be interpreted to deprive such employees, officers and volunteers of any right, title or interest they may have in or to such intellectual property.

## **ARTICLE VII – Organization**

- Sec. 1. The Community Bible Church was incorporated under the laws of the State of California on December 20, 1956.
- Sec. 2. The fiscal year for this church shall be from October 1 through September 30.
- Sec.3. This church shall adhere to the congregational form of government, with the church Members constituting the final authority under the Lordship of Jesus Christ.
- Sec. 4. The governing body of Community Bible Church shall be the Board of Elders.
- Sec. 5. The qualifications and responsibilities of the Board of Elders, pastors, and staff shall be specified in the Bylaws of this church.

## **ARTICLE VIII – Officers**

- Sec. 1. The corporate officers of this church shall consist of the Church Chairman (The corporate chief executive officer), Church Secretary (the corporate secretary), and Church Treasurer (the corporate chief financial officer).
- Sec. 2. The duties and selection of the church officers shall be specified in the Bylaws of this church.

## **ARTICLE IX – Membership Meetings**

- Sec. 1. Annual Business Meeting
- An annual business meeting of the active members shall be held between fifteen and thirty days prior to the end of each current fiscal year.
  - The date of the annual business meeting shall be set by the Board of Elders.

- The purpose of the annual business meeting is to report, discuss, and decide upon necessary ministry, business or legal matters, including the adoption of a budget, and any other matters of major importance.
- Sec. 2. Special Active membership meetings may be called pursuant to Article I, Section 3, of the Bylaws, Membership Meetings.

## **ARTICLE X – Amendments & Bylaws**

- Sec. 1. This Constitution may be amended by a three-fourths vote of the Active Members present at any Membership meeting, provided written notice of the proposed amendments are made available to the Members at least sixty (60) days prior to the meeting.
- Sec. 2. Bylaws shall be adopted by this church at an annual Membership or special meeting of this church by a vote of two-thirds majority of the Active Membership. Subsequent changes to the Bylaws may be amended by a two-thirds vote of the Active Members present at any Membership meeting provided that the proposed changes are made available to the Members at least thirty (30) days prior to the meeting.

## **ARTICLE XI – Authority**

All prior Constitutions are hereby repealed as of the effective date of this Constitution.