

# **BYLAWS OF BREAD OF LIFE GREAT PARK CHURCH**

## **ARTICLE I STATEMENT OF FAITH**

We believe that the Bible is the only divinely inspired, inerrant Word of God. It is the absolute standard for a believer's life and is the only comprehensive truth, beneficial for teaching, reproof, correction, and for training in righteousness.

We believe that there is one God, who is eternally coexistent in three (3) persons: the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit.

We believe that God, the Father, is the creator of heavens and earth and the designer of the eternal plan of salvation.

We believe that God, the Son, our Lord Jesus Christ, is the Father's only begotten Son. He completed the work of salvation by coming into the world and becoming flesh, having been conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of a virgin (Mary). He represents the same essence and nature of the Father, and is uniquely God and Man. He preached good news on earth, healed the sick, raised the dead, cast out demons, and was crucified and died on a cross for the sin of the world. He took the punishment for sin upon himself so that we may enjoy peace. By his wounds we are healed. On the third day, He rose again from the dead and ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of God the Father, and will return to judge the world.

We believe that God, the Holy Spirit, has been given to believers as an assurance of salvation and indwells in every believer, empowering them to know, understand, and walk in truth and to experience a sanctified life of love and service to God, his people, and the world. The Holy Spirit also, at his graciously will, grants to the believers the gifts for the edification of the Church, the Body of Christ.

We believe that the Church is the Body of Christ, consisting of every born-again Christian, and is the chosen instrument of God in fulfilling the Great Commission on earth.

We believe that mankind is a fallen creation as a result of sin and remains in a degenerated state, devoid of personal relationship with God and can only be restored and justified through faith in Jesus Christ, who is the only hope of mankind for the forgiveness of sin, the sanctification, and the eternal life.

We believe in the imminent, glorious, bodily return of Jesus Christ to the earth. He will then judge the world, through the resurrection of both believers and nonbelievers, with believers being granted the blessing of everlasting life and nonbelievers being condemned to everlasting separation from God and damnation of hell.

We believe that marriage as defined in the Bible is between one man and one woman.

## **ARTICLE II NAME**

This religious organization shall be known as Bread of Life Great Park Church (BOLGPC).

## **ARTICLE III PURPOSE**

The purpose of this church shall be to honor God and to live in obedience to him by following his instructions as recorded in the Bible.

## **ARTICLE IV OFFICES**

### **Section 1 Principal Office**

The principal office for the transaction of the business of the corporation (principal church location) is located in the State of California, County of Orange.

The directors may change the principal office from one location to another. Any change of this location shall be noted by the secretary on these bylaws in this section, or this section may be amended to state the new location.

**Section 2 Other Offices**

The Board of Directors may at any time establish branch or subordinate offices at any place or places where the corporation is qualified to do business.

**ARTICLE V  
PERIOD OF EXISTENCE**

The term for which said corporation is to exist is perpetual.

**ARTICLE VI  
DEDICATION OF ASSETS**

The properties and assets of this nonprofit corporation are irrevocably dedicated to fulfillment of the Purpose of this corporation as set forth in Article III hereof. No part of the net earnings, properties, or assets of this corporation, on dissolution or otherwise, shall inure to the exclusive benefit of any private person or individual, or any member or director of this corporation except in fulfillment of said Purpose. On liquidation or dissolution, all properties and assets and obligations shall be distributed pursuant to the non-profit provisions of the California Corporations Code then in effect.

**ARTICLE VII  
MEMBERSHIP****Section 1 Qualifications**

A member is a person who:

- a). Has experienced the saving knowledge of Jesus Christ, following our Lord in water baptism.
- b). Has consistently attended Bread of Life Great Park Church for a period of more than three (3) months.
- c). Agrees with and fully accepts the bylaws of this church.

**Section 2 Termination of Membership**

A member's membership shall terminate upon occurrence of any of the following events:

- a). The resignation of the member.
- b). Not attending BOLGPC for more than three (3) months.
- c). The determination by the Board of Directors or by a committee designated to make such determination that the member has failed in a material and serious degree to observe the rules of conduct governing this corporation as promulgated by the board from time to time.

**Section 3 Procedure for Expulsion.** Following the determination that a member should be expelled under subparagraph c) above, the following procedure shall be implemented:

- a). A notice shall be sent by mail by prepaid, first-class, or registered mail to the most recent address of the member as shown on the corporation's records, setting forth the expulsion and the reasons therefore. Such notice shall be sent at least 15 days before the proposed effective date of the expulsion.
- b). The member being expelled shall be given an opportunity to be heard, either orally or in writing, at a hearing to be held not fewer than 5 days before the effective date of the proposed expulsion. The hearing will be held by a special member expulsion committee composed of not fewer than three people appointed by the president. The notice to the member of his proposed expulsion shall state the date, time, and place of the hearing on his proposed expulsion.
- c). Following the hearing, the expulsion committee shall decide whether or not the member should in fact be expelled, suspended, or sanctioned in some other way. The decision of the committee shall be final.

## **ARTICLE VIII CHURCH MEMBERS' MEETING**

### **Section 1 Representative Voting**

Cell group church is the church structure of BOLGPC. Each cell group constitutes one voting unit in all church members' meetings. The cell group leader is the representative of the cell group and is to consult with one's cell group members before casting the vote of that cell group.

### **Section 2 Place of Meeting**

All church members' meetings are to be held at the regular church meeting places or in the place otherwise designated by the Board of Directors.

### **Section 3 Annual Meeting**

The annual church members' meeting shall be held on the 1<sup>st</sup> Sunday of December (unless the Board of Directors fixes another date and so notifies the members at least 2 weeks ahead of time). The meeting agenda is to be announced to the members at least 2 weeks ahead of time.

### **Section 4 Special Meeting**

A special church members' meeting may be called at any time by the president of the Board of Directors. In the absence of the president, the entire Board of Directors shall make the decision. The meeting time, place and agenda is to be given to the members at least 2 weeks ahead of time.

### **Section 5 Quorum**

**a). Percentage required.** The transaction of business requires a quorum, which is the presence of fifty percent or more of the Cell Group Leaders at a duly called or duly held meeting. Other than amendment of these bylaws as defined in Article XIII, all transactions must be decided by a simple majority vote of a quorum.

#### **b). Loss of Quorum**

If a quorum is present at the beginning of a duly called or duly held meeting and the withdrawal of some Cell Group Leaders during such meeting results in a loss of quorum, the remaining Cell Group Leaders may continue to transact business until adjournment as long as any action taken (other than adjournment) is approved by a simple majority vote of the quorum originally present at the beginning of such meeting.

### **Section 6 Adjourned Meeting**

Any members' meeting, annual or special, whether or not a quorum is present, may be adjourned from time to time by the vote of the majority of the members represented at the meeting, either in person or by proxy. But in the absence of a quorum, no other business may be transacted at that meeting, except as provided in this Article.

## **ARTICLE IX**

### **QUALIFICATION, INSTALLATION AND DISMISSAL OF PASTORS AND STAFF**

#### **Section 1 Senior Pastor**

##### **Qualification:**

The senior pastor shall be:

- 1). One who is a born again Christian and has a calling from God to be in full time ministry.
- 2). One who demonstrates the Christian leaders' qualification as set forth in 1 Timothy 3:1-7 and Titus 1:5-9.
- 3). One who follows the bylaws of this church.

##### **Installation**

- 1). The founding pastor shall be the senior pastor by default, and the term shall be permanent.
- 2). In the event of vacancy, a search committee shall be selected by the Board of Directors for the purpose of identifying potential candidates as expeditiously as possible. The candidate as proposed by the Board of Directors shall be approved by EPT, before he is to be presented to the members' meeting for final approval. The approved candidate shall serve in a probationary status for a period of one year at the end of which time the candidate's performance shall be reviewed by Board of Directors, and then proposed to the membership meeting for approval to a permanent appointment.

##### **Dismissal**

The senior pastor shall be dismissed when one

- 1). Willfully disobeys the biblical truth in life and conduct.
- 2). Willfully disobeys the purpose and the statement of faith of this church.

The dismissal process shall be initiated by EPT and Board of Directors jointly, submitted to the church members' meeting for approval.

#### **Section 2 Pastors**

Additional pastors may be sought to assist the senior pastor in furthering the ministry. The term pastor refers to ordained pastor (a reverend) as well as un-ordained pastor (a minister).

##### **Qualification:**

- 1). One who is a born again Christian and has a calling from God to be in full time ministry.
- 2). One who demonstrates the Christian leaders' qualification as set forth in 1 Timothy 3:1-7 and Titus 1:5-9.
- 3). One who follows the bylaws of this church.
- 4). One who works harmoniously under the leadership of the senior pastor.

##### **Installation**

- 1). The senior pastor shall nominate the person, and this nomination is to be approved by the EPT and the Board of Directors.
- 2). The approved candidate shall serve in a probationary status for a period of one year, at the end of which time the candidate's performance shall be reviewed by the senior pastor prior to a permanent appointment.

**Dismissal**

A pastor shall be dismissed when one of the following happens:

- 1). One refuses to accept or abide by the bylaws of this church, seriously violates the bylaws, and/or breaches one's duty.
- 2). One has committed serious immorality and brings harm to the reputation of this organization.
- 3). One refuses to accept the leadership of the senior pastor.

Upon the senior pastor's proposal and the approval of the Board of Directors, the pastor shall be dismissed in one's employment with the church.

**Section 3 Ministerial Staff**

Ministerial staff refers to full time or part time employees hired to assist the pastors in church ministry.

**General Guidelines:**

- 1). Ministerial staff must accept and abide by the bylaws of this church.
- 2). EPT shall interview and extend the hiring to potential employees in accordance with the guidelines of the annual budget.
- 3). The Board of Directors shall approve the hiring based upon the availability of the church finance.

**Dismissal**

A ministerial staff shall be dismissed when one of the following happens:

- 1). One refuses to accept or abide by the bylaws of this church, seriously violates the bylaws, and/or breaches one's duty.
- 2). One has committed serious immorality and brings harm to the reputation of this organization.
- 3). One refuses to accept the leadership of one's supervising pastors.

Upon EPT's proposal and the approval of the Board of Directors, the ministerial staff shall be dismissed in one's employment with the church.

BOLGPC abides by the State of California employment laws in relations to hiring and dismissal of employees.

## **ARTICLE X**

### **EXECUTIVE PASTORAL TEAM (EPT)**

#### **Section 1 Definition**

The Executive Pastoral Team (EPT) is the decision-making body that exercises oversight of all ministry areas of the organization. The EPT shall consist of the senior pastor as its chairperson and other EPT members whom the senior pastor shall nominate and the Board of Directors shall approve.

#### **Section 2 Qualification**

An EPT member must be

- 1). One who demonstrates the Christian leaders' qualification as set forth in 1 Timothy 3:1-7 and Titus 1:5-9.
- 2). One who follows the bylaws of this church.

#### **Section 3 Appointment**

The number of EPT members shall be decided by the senior pastor. The members shall be nominated by the senior pastor and approved by the Board of Directors. Each appointment is for a period of two years, starting at the beginning of a year. There is no term limit for the EPT members so long as the person is nominated by the senior pastor at the end of one's current term.

The senior pastor shall nominate the EPT members before the end of October, and the Board of Directors shall make their decision of approval or disapproval by the end of December that same year. Nominees shall be appointed after being approved by the Board of Directors.

#### **Section 4 Duties**

- 1). To decide the goals and directions of the church ministry.
- 2). To create an organizational structure so as to execute the goals and directions of the church ministry.
- 3). To propose the annual church budget to facilitate the achieving of the goals of the church ministry.
- 4). Authorize the hiring and subsequent annual evaluations of pastors and staff.

## **ARTICLE XI**

### **ELECTIONS AND TERMS FOR BOARD OF DIRECTORS**

**Section 1 Definition and Numbers**

- 1). The Board of Directors shall consist of president, secretary, treasurer, and other members as the work load may require.
- 2). The number of the Board of Directors shall be jointly decided by EPT and the Board of Directors.

**Section 2 Qualifications**

A director shall be

- 1). One who demonstrates the Christian leaders' qualification as set forth in 1 Timothy 3:1-7 and Titus 1:5-9.
- 2). One who follows the bylaws of this church.
- 3). One who has served or is serving as a small group leader of the church.

**Section 3 Appointment**

- 1). A candidate shall be jointly nominated by EPT and the Board of Directors.
- 2). The nominee shall be rectified by members at the annual church members' meeting.
- 3). Each director is to serve for a term of two years, and can be elected for another term. One is then to rest for one year before being considered for candidacy again.
- 4). In the church planting stage, before a church becomes self supporting, the directors are appointed by the senior pastor.

**Section 4 Dismissal**

A director shall be dismissed when one of the following happens:

- 1). One refuses to accept or abide by the bylaws of this church, seriously violates the bylaws, and/or breaches one's duty.
- 2). One has committed serious immorality and brings harm to the reputation of this organization.

The dismissal process shall be initiated by the Board of Directors and submitted to the church members' meeting for approval.

**Section 5 Duties**

- 1). To call for the time and place of the church members' regular and special meetings.
- 2). To review and advise on the budget as proposed by EPT, then send it to the annual church members' meeting for approval.
- 3). To terminate the member's membership.

- 4). To decide on the salaries and benefits of the pastors and ministerial staff. When deciding on the salary and the benefits of the senior pastor, the senior pastor is to be excluded from the meeting.
- 5). To approve of the EPT members as proposed by the senior pastor.
- 6). To approve of the addition or dismissal of pastors as proposed by the senior pastor.
- 7). To approve of the addition or dismissal of ministerial staffs as proposed by EPT.
- 8). To search for the candidate in the case when the position of the senior pastor is vacant; to evaluate the performance of the senior pastor at the end of the probation period, and to make recommendations to the church members' meeting for decision regarding permanent appointment of the senior pastor.

## **Section 6 Meetings**

The Board of Directors is to hold a regular meeting two weeks to one month before the annual church members' meeting at the time and place as notified by the president. The President may call for special meetings in addition to the regular meeting with time and place notified at least two weeks before the meeting.

## **ARTICLE XII CHURCH OFFICERS AND DUTIES**

### **Section 1 Church Officers**

The church officers shall be members of this church and shall satisfy the scriptural standards for church leadership. They shall consist of senior pastor, secretary, treasurer, and such other officers as may be required in the state law. They shall be the legal representative of the church and authorized by the church to sign legal documents such as binding contracts with other organization or entities.

### **Section 2 Senior Pastor**

The senior pastor shall have oversight of this church. He shall be chairman of the governance authority (EPT and Board of Directors), except at his request, the governance body may elect one from among them in his place. The senior pastor shall preside over all regular or special church members' meetings. He is a member ex officio of all church committees and organizations. The senior pastor shall be the president of this church where such office is required by law. When the church has no senior pastor, the chairperson of EPT, or the

chairperson of the Board of Directors, in this order of priority, shall have oversight of the church in conjunction with the senior pastor, or his designee, of the mother church.

### **Section 3 Secretary**

The secretary shall keep the minutes of church members' meetings and the correspondence of this church. The secretary shall attend and keep minutes of other meetings as the Board of Directors may require.

### **Section 4 Treasurer**

The treasurer shall receive all monies of this church and shall be responsible for the payment of all bills on the order of the governance authority according to BOLGPC budget procedure and guidelines, keeping proper book records of all transactions, and filing canceled vouchers and receipts for payments made. The Board of Directors shall determine where funds of this church shall be kept. No offerings shall be solicited from the membership except upon approval of the Board of Directors.

## **ARTICLE XIII AMENDMENT**

Any addendum, deletion, or revision to the bylaws shall first be proposed by EPT and the Board of Directors jointly. A subcommittee of at least five persons shall be designated by the joint EPT and Board of Directors to process the amendment.

The amendment shall be approved by the joint EPT and Board of Directors and then submitted to church members' meeting for final approval. The quorum for approving the amendment shall be one half of the representative voting members, and it requires two-third majority vote to approve the amendment. It shall become effective as soon as it is approved at the church members' meeting.