

CONSTITUTION OF EAGLE POINT COMMUNITY BIBLE CHURCH

ARTICLE I - NAME

This Church shall be known as THE EAGLE POINT COMMUNITY BIBLE CHURCH.

ARTICLE II - DOCTRINE

We believe in God, the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit; in the verbal inspiration of the Holy Scriptures as originally given; in the eternal deity of Jesus Christ and in the substitute sacrifice of the Lord Jesus Christ; in the total depravity of mankind; in the eternal salvation of all who believe in Him and the eternal punishment of all who reject Him. We believe in the literal resurrection of the body.

ARTICLE III – MINISTRY PLAN

PURPOSE: The purpose of this Church is to glorify God and to enjoy Him forever. It is also the purpose of this Church to proclaim the Gospel of Christ in all its purity, to support faithful Missionaries both at home and abroad, and to encourage all to give themselves unreservedly unto God for HIS service.

VISION: The vision of this Church is to bring the people of our community and the communities we serve into a life transforming encounter with the living God and to teach them to live as members of God’s Family, growing in maturity and becoming Christ-like in their daily lives.

MISSION: The mission of this Church is to accomplish our vision by the following means:

- Equipping believers for works of ministry and helping them to mature in Christ.
- Becoming a church of compassion comprised of praying people willing to give ourselves away for the cause of the least and the lost.
- Building strategic bridges between our church and the communities in which we live, work, and play.

ARTICLE IV - COVENANT

Having been led by the Spirit of God to receive the LORD JESUS CHRIST as our Savior and on the profession of faith, we do now, in the presence of God most solemnly and joyfully enter into covenant with one another, as one body in Christ.

We engage, therefore, to honor, esteem and love our Pastor(s), to pray for them frequently and to maintain a tender regard for their reputations.

We also engage, by the aid of the Holy Spirit, to walk together in Christian love; to strive for the advancement of this Church, in knowledge, holiness and comfort; to promote its prosperity and spirituality; to sustain its worship, ordinances, disciplines and doctrines; to give it a sacred preeminence over all institutions of human origin; to contribute cheerfully and regularly to the support of the ministry; the expenses of the Church, the relief of the poor and the spread of the Gospel through all nations.

We also engage to maintain family and personal devotions; to religiously educate our children; to seek the salvation of our kindred and acquaintances; to walk circumspectly before the world; to be just in our dealings; faithful in our engagements; exemplary in our deportment and zealous in our efforts to advance the kingdom of our Savior. We further engage to watch over one another in brotherly love; to remember each other in prayer; to aid each other in sickness and distress; to cultivate Christian sympathy in feeling and courtesy in speech; to be slow to take offence, but always ready for reconciliation and being mindful of the rules of our Savior to secure that reconciliation without delay.

ARTICLE V - MEMBERSHIP

Qualification for membership shall consist of satisfactory evidences of regeneration and a hearty acceptance of the Doctrine, Purpose, Vision, Mission and Covenant outlined in the above paragraphs and any other requirements stated in the by-laws.

Persons desiring to become members shall submit an application to the Board of Elders and upon their recommendation such persons will be received into Fellowship of the Church Membership.

Due to the interdenominational nature of the Church, the custom of receiving members upon receipt of Church letters has been set aside. Members shall be received only upon profession of their faith in Jesus Christ.

Members in good standing (Active Members) will strive to keep their Covenant obligations.

Active members shall be defined as those attending services regularly and contributing to the welfare of the church.

ARTICLE VI - ORDINANCES

Baptism and the Lord's Supper are recognized as scriptural ordinances. The Lord's Supper shall be administered at least once each month, at the morning service.

ARTICLE VII – CHURCH GOVERNMENT

SECTION 1 PASTOR AND ASSISTANT PASTOR:

The Pastor and Assistant Pastor shall be called by a vote of two-thirds of the members present at a specially called meeting. When called, he shall sign a written contract with the Board of Elders stating the terms of his call. This contract shall be reviewed annually regarding appropriate compensation and benefits. These positions may be resigned at any time by giving the Board of Elders four (4) weeks notice. The Church may ask for a resignation by a vote of two-thirds of the members present at a specially called meeting.

SECTION 2 OFFICERS:

All officers shall be active members of the Church in good standing, regularly attending the meetings of the Church.

ELDERS: There shall be a minimum of six (6) men serving as Elders, elected to a three (3) year term, with at least two (2) being elected each year. At the expiration of the three (3) year term, they shall rotate off the Elder Board for a minimum of one (1) year before being eligible for re-nomination. To serve as an

Elder, one must be a male member of the Church for at least three (3) years and fulfill the scriptural requirements set forth in First Timothy 3:1-7.

DEACONS: Deacons shall be appointed by the Elder Board. To serve as a Deacon, one must be a male member of the Church for at least one (1) year and fulfill the scriptural requirements set forth in First Timothy 3:8-13.

DEACONESS: Deaconesses shall be appointed by the Elder Board. To serve as a Deaconess one must be a female member of the church in good standing.

SECTION 3 DUTIES AND QUALIFICATIONS OF OFFICERS

A. PASTOR

The Pastor is responsible for leading the church in functioning as a New Testament Church. He shall be a believer in and a preacher of the Gospel and of the basic doctrines of faith as stated in this Constitution.

The Pastor shall, by virtue of his calling, serve as a permanent member of the Elder Board. He shall, with the Elder Board, have general supervision of the entire workings of the church.

The Pastor shall conduct the services of public worship on the LORD'S day, administer the ordinances, and tenderly watch over the membership and spiritual interests of the Church.

B. ASSISTANT PASTORS

The Assistant Pastors shall be believers in the Gospel of the basic doctrines as stated in this Constitution. They shall serve under the direction of the Elder Board.

C. ELDERS

It shall be the duty of the Board of Elders as a sacred task, to serve so as to preserve and promote the unity of the Church and, in conjunction with the Pastor, to have general supervision of the entire workings of the Church:

- (1) To assist the Pastor in the performance of the scriptural ordinances of the Lord's Supper and Baptism.
- (2) To prepare and enter into a contract with the Pastor and Assistant Pastor stating the terms of their call. Review of the contract shall be done annually as to compensation and benefits.

- (3) To employ such staff members, as the Church shall need, determining their compensation, benefits and job description.
- (4) To appoint all special committees.
- (5) To examine all applicants for membership.
- (6) To determine the status of members, whether active or inactive and seek to keep the memberships roll up to date.
- (7) To assist in the visitation work of the Church, especially to the members who are sick, afflicted or in need of encouragement.
- (8) To assist in maintaining contact with members and help in arbitrating difficulties between Church members.
- (9) To serve as a committee in securing a supply for the pulpit in case of illness or absence of the Pastor. In the event the Church has no Pastor and the pulpit is vacant, they shall serve as a pulpit committee.
- (10) To oversee the receiving and disbursing of all funds.
- (11) To present a financial report, on a quarterly basis, to the Church body.
- (12) They shall call and set dates for all regular and special business meetings. The Moderator of the Elder Board shall serve as Church Moderator, presiding over all regular and called business meetings of the congregation.
- (13) They shall, in conjunction with the Pastor, be responsible for overseeing those matters pertaining to the spiritual condition of the Church and its members. It shall be their duty to give or withhold consent upon all guest speakers, evangelists or missionaries who will speak or hold services in the Church. The Board of Elders and Pastor shall recommend to the congregation those missionaries whom the Church shall regularly support. They shall also decide for whom special offerings shall be taken.
- (14) The Elders shall approve all the ministries of the Church. Those ministries shall be accountable to the Elder Board for all their activities.
- (15) Since it is of great importance for the Church to keep itself pure, it shall be the duty of the Board of Elders to seek to restore any member who lapses into gross sin. Since the nondenominational nature of this Church does not lend itself to the calling in of an outside moderator for cases where disciplinary action is necessary, the pattern as given in Matthew 5:23-24 and Matthew 18:15-16 shall be used. In case of gross misconduct of a member, one of the Elders which seems best suited to kindly contact the member shall go and prayerfully endeavor to reconcile such a one to the Lord and restore him to fellowship. In case this effort fails, two or more shall go. In case this effort does not succeed, the member will be asked to appear before the Board of

Elders. If no resolution is obtained at this meeting, said member's membership shall be terminated. In the case of an officer of the Church or its departments, termination of membership shall also be considered as a withdrawal from said office.

- (16) The Elders shall also be Trustees of the Church Property. They shall exercise the powers of incorporation but they shall not legally sell, encumber or alienate the property without the consent of two-thirds (2/3) of the members present at a specially called meeting for such a purpose. They shall simply hold the property in trust for the Church to use for its legitimate purposes. They shall be elected according to the laws of the State of Oregon.

D. DEACONS

It shall be the duty of the Deacons to serve under the direction of the Board of Elders.

E. DEACONESSES

Each Deaconess shall work under the leadership of a Elder Board in performing their special duties, namely, but not limited to:

- (1) Overseeing the preparation of the elements for Communion services, and preparing coffee for Sunday morning services.
- (2) Overseeing the provision for the sick and needy of the Church.
- (3) Overseeing the planning and implementation of fellowship meals and special events.
- (4) Overseeing the operation of nursery care.
- (5) Overseeing kitchen facilities.

Each Deaconess will seek to establish a team of people from the church to help carry out her area of responsibility. Each Deaconess shall serve as a part of an Elder's ministry team, and will regularly meet with that team to discuss activities and needs of her committee.

New Deaconesses may be appointed from time to time by the Elder Board to assist in carrying out the ministries of the church.

SECTION 4 METHOD OF ELECTION AND VOTING

- A. The Pastor and the Elder Board shall comprise a Nominations Committee. Prior to the Annual Meeting it shall be their duty to contact all perspective

candidates. There shall be no nominations from the floor. A candidate must receive a majority of the votes cast to be elected to office.

- B. All elections shall be by written ballot; other voting shall be at the will of the church.
- C. Members in good standing who are at least 21 years of age shall be qualified to vote on all matters brought before congregational business meetings.
- D. All vacancies of office shall be filled by appointment of the Elder Board, with said person to serve until the next annual meeting.

SECTION 5 AMENDMENTS AND BY-LAWS

- A. This constitution may be amended from time to time by a three-fourths (3/4) vote of the membership present at a specially called meeting for this purpose or at a regular business meeting.
- B. By-laws which do not conflict with the provisions of this constitution may be adopted by the Church by a two-thirds (2/3) vote of the members present at a specially called meeting for such purpose or at a regular business meeting.

SECTION 6 CHURCH MEETINGS

The Church shall meet regularly each Lord's Day for worship, preaching of the Gospel, prayer, testimony, and Bible study, as well as such other times as the Church Leadership may direct.

SECTION 7 BUSINESS MEETINGS

- A. The annual meeting is to be held during the month of January. The purpose of this meeting will be for the election of officers, approval of reports submitted, acceptance of proposed budget, and transaction of other necessary business. A record of all members present shall be taken.

Recommendations and/or suggestions for the advancement of the Church shall be submitted, in writing, prior to the annual meeting, for consideration.

- B. Written reports by each of the following shall be made available to the Church Secretary at least 10 days in advance of this meeting. The Church Secretary shall make copies of these reports available to all members. A copy shall also be attached to and made a part of the minutes of this meeting.
1. Pastor
 2. Elders
 3. Financial

These reports shall cover the actions taken and work accomplished during the previous year. No new items of business, except by unanimous consent, shall be transacted at the meeting without having previously been brought before the Elder Board, in writing.

- C. The Church Secretary shall send written notice of all business meetings including an agenda of the meeting to all active members of the Church at least ten (10) days prior to the date of the meeting. Business meetings shall also be announced from the pulpit at least two (2) Sundays prior to the date of the meeting.

SECTION 8 CHURCH REVENUE

The revenue of this Church shall be derived from voluntary contributions and from income from approved ministries of the Church. Tithing is recommended for all members.

SECTION 9 DENOMINATIONAL STATUS

The Eagle Point Community Bible Church shall be incorporated as a nondenominational Church and shall remain a nondenominational Church.

***BY-LAWS OF
EAGLE POINT COMMUNITY BIBLE CHURCH***

1. JUNIOR MEMBERS

Those under (21) years of age received into the Church become known as Junior Member. Upon reaching the age of 21, they shall attain full voting membership.

2. MEMBERSHIP ROLL

A. REMOVAL OF MEMBERS: Member names shall be removed from the membership roll of the Church for the following reasons:

- (1) Upon death of the member,
- (2) As excluded by church discipline as covered by Article VII, Section 3, paragraph C.15, under Duties of the Elders,
- (3) By erasure {see section C. below}, or
- (4) Upon request of the member

B. CATEGORIES OF THE MEMBERSHIP ROLL: The Membership Roll shall consist of:

- (1) Active Members,
- (2) Active Non-resident Members, and
- (3) Inactive Members.

The Church Secretary shall keep the Membership Roll of the Church, updating it from time to time and placing members in the proper category as directed by the Elder Board.

C. ERASURE: It shall be the duty of the Church Secretary to contact inactive members from time to time as directed by the Elder Board to inquire as to their names remaining on the membership roll. At the request, their name shall remain on the membership roll.

3. MEETING PROCEDURE

- A. All business meetings shall be opened and closed in prayer.
- B. All questions of order shall be settled by the customary rules as given in Robert's Rules of Order.
- C. Any proposed amendments or by-laws to this constitution shall be given in writing to each church member at least ten (10) days prior to the time of voting on said amendments and by-laws.

4. MISSIONS

A minimum of ten (10) percent of the Church's General Fund shall go to the Missions Fund.

5. THE GRIEVANCE COMMITTEE

"If therefore there is any encouragement in Christ, if there is any consolation of love, if there is any fellowship of the Spirit, if any affection and compassion, make my joy complete by being of the same mind, maintaining the same love, united in spirit, intent on one purpose. Do nothing from selfishness or empty conceit, but with humility of mind let each of you regard one another as more important than himself; do not merely look out for your own personal interests, but also for the interests of others. Have this attitude in yourselves which was also in Christ Jesus, who, although He existed in the form of God, did not regard equality with God a thing to be grasped, but emptied Himself, taking the form of a bond-servant, and being made in the likeness of men."

Philippians 2:1-7 (NASB)

- A. In order to promote the unity of the body of Christ, in accordance with the above scripture, the Elder Board shall serve as a grievance committee to deal with complaints of church members against other church members. There shall be no public complaint and none shall be heard until provisions of Matthew 18 have been applied. Shall there be any charges by anyone, they must be lodged in written form and signed by a minimum of two (2) members of regular attendance and of good standing who are not members of the same family. Such grievances shall be filed with the

Moderator of the Elder Board and shall be considered within two (2) weeks of that filing at a meeting of the full Elder Board. The person or persons filing the grievance shall have the opportunity to appear before that meeting, in person, in order to clarify their grievances but may not bring up any new charges that have not already been presented in writing.

- B. All decisions of the Elder Board shall be final and binding. Decisions of the Elder Board shall be dealt with as spelled out in Article VII, Section 3, paragraph C.15 of this constitution.

Revised: 1/25/2009
