

**AMENDED AND RESTATED  
BYLAWS**

**WILDWOOD COMMUNITY CHURCH**

1501 24<sup>th</sup> Avenue Northeast  
Norman, Oklahoma 73071

Amended and Restated

Effective December 6, 2015

**WILDWOOD COMMUNITY CHURCH  
BYLAWS**

**ARTICLE I**

**LOCATION OF OFFICES**

The name of the Church is Wildwood Community Church (“Wildwood”). It is an Oklahoma Non-Profit Religious Corporation with its principal offices in Norman, Oklahoma.

**ARTICLE II**

**PURPOSE**

The purposes for which Wildwood is formed are:

To establish and maintain a church home for its constituents; to provide a place for the regular assembling together of those who believe in the New Testament teachings of our Lord Jesus Christ on Sundays and at such other times as may be arranged for the spiritual edification and fellowship of those of like mind and faith;

To preach and teach the Gospel of Jesus Christ and to fulfill the mission of the Church in evangelism and edification; and

To acquire such property, real and personal, as may be necessary for carrying out the purpose of the Church; to borrow money and pledge the property of Wildwood to secure the repayment of any monies borrowed; to sell and otherwise dispose of property in order to promote or accomplish the objects for which Wildwood is organized; to collect and maintain finances, receive gifts and donations, and to disburse them for the purposes of operating the local Church and its related activities.

Wildwood is organized and operated exclusively for religious and charitable purposes. At no time, either on dissolution or any time prior to dissolution, shall any part of the funds or assets of Wildwood inure to the benefit of any private individual, or be used for the purpose of carrying on propaganda or otherwise attempting to influence legislation, except as may be permitted by law and the Internal Revenue Code of 1986, as amended, (the “Code”) or corresponding provisions of any subsequent federal tax laws (all references herein to the Code shall include reference to any corresponding provisions of any subsequent federal tax laws). Wildwood shall not participate in or intervene in any political campaign on behalf of any candidate for public office. Wildwood shall carry on only those activities permitted to be carried on by a charitable organization as described in Section 501(c)(3) of the Code.

**ARTICLE III**  
**STATEMENT OF FAITH**

The following Statement of Faith of Wildwood (the “Statement of Faith”) describes the truths that govern our beliefs and practice. This Statement of Faith is supported and supplemented by any doctrinal or ethical position papers produced by the Board of Elders.

3.1 The Bible. We believe and teach that the Bible (“Scripture” or the “Scriptures”), comprised of the 66 books of the Old and New Testaments, is God’s divine revelation to mankind. It is a living book composed by human authors who were supernaturally guided by the Holy Spirit. Thus, it is, as originally written, verbally inspired, without error, and fully reliable. The Scriptures are the complete revelation of God’s will regarding the salvation of mankind and serve as the supreme authority for all matters in this life. The “normal-literal” method is our guiding principle in interpreting Scripture. This method seeks to understand the customary, plain intended meaning of the author by applying the principles of context, grammar, figures of speech, background history, and customs. (II Timothy 3:16-17; II Peter 1:21; Matthew 5:18; Hebrews 4:12).

3.2 God and Creation. We believe and teach that there is one living and true God, who has always existed, and will always exist, in three divine persons – Father, Son and Holy Spirit. Though each person of the Godhead possesses the same nature and is fully God, each functions differently in respect to God’s dealings with man. We understand from Scripture that the Heavenly Father is the planner of redemption from before the foundation of the world. God is the divine designer and originator of everything that exists in the universe. He created all things and He is the upholder of all things. As clearly stated in Genesis, He created the universe out of nothing by His spoken word. (Genesis 1; Colossians 1:16-17; Deuteronomy 6:4; Matthew 28:19; Ephesians 1:3-6, 11).

3.3 Christ. We believe and teach that the Lord Jesus Christ is the eternal Son of God and the true Creator of all things. God in His wisdom chose that Jesus would be conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the Virgin Mary, thus becoming God incarnate in order to give His life as a ransom for our sins. Jesus was completely God and completely man at the same time. He lived a sinless life and offered himself up as the perfect, complete sacrifice for the sins of the world. Jesus fully satisfied the Father’s justice concerning sin when he died for us on the cross. He then demonstrated His victory over sin and death by rising bodily from the dead. Jesus ascended to heaven where He sits at the right hand of God and functions as our High Priest and Advocate before the Heavenly Father. He will personally return to earth one day in power and great glory to reign as King of Kings. (Matthew 1:18-25, 24:29-31; Isaiah 7:14; Luke 1:26-38; Romans 1:4; Acts 1:3; Philippians 2:5-11; I John 2:1-2; Acts 1:9-11; Hebrews 4:14-16, 7:25-26; Colossians 1:15-16, 2:9; Revelation 19:11-16).

3.4 Humanity. We believe and teach that mankind was created in the image and likeness of God, and designed to reflect the character of their Creator. Through Adam humanity sinned and thereby incurred not only physical death, but also spiritual death, which is separation from God. The fall caused by Adam’s rebellion was a once-for-all historical event, and the spiritually deadening effect spread to all men, marring the image of God, corrupting man in

every aspect of his being, and alienating us from God. Thus every person inherits a sinful nature, and naturally chooses to sin in thought, word, and deed. The ultimate result is that all people fall short of God's glorious and holy standards, are fully liable to His judgment, and are in desperate need of salvation. (Genesis 1-3; Romans 3:9-19, 5:12-21, 6:23; Ephesians 2:1-3).

3.5 Salvation. We believe and teach that the heart of the New Testament is the Gospel, which is God's good news for mankind. Salvation is His gracious gift because we could never make up for our sin by self-improvement or good works. Since we are unable to attain to divine righteousness by our own efforts, we can be rescued only by the mercy and grace of God, which was manifested through the death of Christ. The core of the Gospel is simply that Jesus died in our place and bore our sins in His body on the cross. Christ's work on the cross is the only sufficient sacrifice for the sins of the world, and He is the only mediator between God and man. We receive salvation and are justified when we recognize ourselves as sinners and put our trust in Christ and His finished work on the cross of Calvary. Eternal life begins the moment one places their faith in Christ and it can never be lost or taken away. All those redeemed and born again by the Spirit are kept by God's power and are secure in Christ forever, since they are seated in the heavenly places, full citizens of God's Kingdom, and adopted members of God's family. The high priesthood and advocacy of Jesus, along with the sealing ministry of the Holy Spirit are dual cornerstones of this great truth. (John 1:29, 3:16-18, 36, 5:24, 6:3-40, 10:27-30, 14:6; Acts 7:12; Romans 3:24-25, 5:8-9, 8:29-39; I Corinthians 15:1-3; Ephesians 1:5, 13, 2:4-6, 8-9, 4:30; Colossians 3:1-3; Hebrews 7:25, 9:22; I John 2:1-2; I Peter 2:9-10, 24; Hebrews 4, 7:24-25; Isaiah 53:1-12, 64:6).

3.6 The Holy Spirit. We believe and teach that the Holy Spirit is the same in essence, majesty, and glory as the Father and the Son. The Holy Spirit is the supernatural personality and agent who: 1) convicts the world of sin, righteousness, and judgment; 2) performs the miracle of new birth and permanently indwells every believer at the moment of conversion; 3) empowers believers to live a life pleasing to God and endows them with spiritual gifts to accomplish distinct ministries. While God always remains the Sovereign Dispenser of spiritual gifts (He can do whatever He wants, whenever He wants), our understanding is that the miraculous "sign gifts" are not normative in God's program for the church today. The baptism of the Holy Spirit is the act of placing the believer into the body of Christ and, thus, it occurs at the time of conversion. (John 14:16-17, 16:7-11; I Corinthians 12; Romans 8:9; Galatians 5:16-25; Ephesians 4:11-16; I Peter 4:10-11).

3.7 Satan. We believe and teach that Satan is a created being who truly exists and is both the enemy of God, and the deceiver and destroyer of men. As a fallen angel he led an active rebellion against God. The Devil was defeated and judged at the cross and therefore his doom is certain. We are able to resist and stand against him and his forces by putting on the whole armor of God. (Matthew 4:1-11; Ephesians 6:10-18; Colossians 2:14-15; Revelation 12:9; Isaiah 14:12-17; Ezekiel 28:12-15).

3.8 The Church. We believe and teach that the universal church is made up of all believers of this present age and is the active expression of the Body of Christ on earth. As a tool to touch the world, the church was created by God to display His glory on earth and in the heavenly places. Local churches – assemblies of professed believers who join together for the purposes of worship, the study of God's word, practice of the ordinances, along with fellowship

and outreach – are the geographical expressions of the larger universal church. We understand the biblical model of church leadership to be a multiplicity of Elders whose job is to oversee, shepherd, protect, and instruct the church according to God’s plan. God has called the local church to serve as God’s ambassadors to this world, to make disciples of all nations, and to shine as light by consistently fulfilling His purposes of: (1) Living out God’s Truth; (2) Investing in reaching others; (3) Giving ourselves in serving; (4) Honoring God in worship; and (5) Teaming together in relationships. (Matthew 5:16, 7:24-25, 26:26-29, 28:18-20; Acts 1:8, 2:42-47; I Corinthians 3:16-17, 12:4-7; II Corinthians 5:18, 20; Galatians 5:13; Ephesians 1:22-23, 3:4-10, 5:8,19; I Timothy 3:1-7, 5:1-2; Titus 1:5-9, 2:10b; Hebrews 12:28, 13:15-16; James 1:22-25; I Peter 4:10-12; I John 3:14-18; Psalm 105:2-3).

3.9 Marriage. We believe God, not man, created marriage. We believe the Bible teaches that the covenant of marriage is sacred and lifelong. The Bible makes it clear that marriage is a legally binding public declaration of commitment and a private consummation between one man and one woman.(Genesis 2:18-25; Malachi 2:14-16; Matthew 5:27-32, 19:3-9; Ephesians 5:22-33; Hebrews 13:4).

3.10 Ordinances. We believe and teach that the local church is clearly called by Jesus to observe both the ordinance of communion and the ordinance of baptism. The Lord’s Supper is a celebration and commemoration of the Savior’s suffering and death. It is a memorial meal taken regularly and repeatedly by believers, reminding them of the communion they have with the Lord and other Christians because of Jesus’ death on our behalf. Baptism should be administered upon confession of faith in Jesus as an outward testimony to one’s new life in Christ. As an act of obedience to Jesus Christ and a testimony to His transforming power, baptism is an important event for the believing community to witness. The New Testament evidence strongly supports the practice of baptism by immersion, a picture of our identification with Christ in His death, burial, and resurrection. We do not see sufficient biblical evidence to support the practice of infant baptism since the clear, repeated pattern of the Book of Acts is that the early followers of Jesus first believed, and then they were baptized. Since infants are unable to comprehend and respond to the Gospel, they are not candidates for baptism, but should be instructed in the Gospel from the earliest age possible. (Matthew 28:19; Luke 22:17-20; Acts 2:41, 8:12, 10:47-48, 16:31-33, 18:8; I Corinthians 10:16-17, 11:23-28).

3.11 Christian Life. We believe and teach that while before salvation we were enslaved to sin, at the point of salvation the dominant power of sin in our lives was broken. At that point God begins to progressively work within believers to make us more like Christ. The Christian walk is the process of cooperating with God’s sanctifying work in our lives through obedience and dependence upon the Holy Spirit, allowing us to grow spiritually and deepen our relationship with Him. It is God’s will for us to be growing continually in Christ-likeness over the course of our lives until we arrive in heaven and are experientially made perfect in Christ. Every believer is called not to be conformed to the values of this world, but to live a life by God’s power that manifests the attitudes and character of the Savior himself. (Philippians 1:6, 2:13; Romans 6-8; I Thessalonians 5:23; Galatians 5:16-25; Romans 12:1-2).

3.12 Eternity. We believe and teach that all people are created as eternal beings and will exist forever. Thus, all of mankind will experience bodily resurrection. Unbelievers will be raised to eternal punishment, separated from God in hell and the lake of fire. Believers will be

raised to joy and fellowship eternally with God in Heaven. The souls of believers are, at death, absent from the body and immediately present with the Lord, where they await their future physical resurrection. The souls of unbelievers remain, at death, in conscious misery awaiting judgment until their future physical resurrection. (Daniel 12:2; Matthew 25:46; John 5:28-29; Luke 16:19-31; I Corinthians 15:1-25; II Corinthians 5:1-10; Philippians 1:23).

3.13 Things to Come. We believe and teach that at His appointed time, God will bring this world to an appropriate end. God has declared there is a time of Great Tribulation coming to earth, which is an expression of the righteous judgment of God upon mankind. Prior to this period the church will be called up to meet the Lord in the air, an event aptly described in Scripture as “the blessed hope.” Upon completion of this tribulation period, according to His promise, Jesus Christ will return personally (physically and visibly) to the earth in power and great glory both to judge mankind and to reign in righteousness. At that time He will set up His Millennial Kingdom on the earth to reign with His saints. The Judgment Seat of Christ is the judgment of believers in reference to rewards, or lack thereof. (I Corinthians 3:10-15; II Corinthians 5:10). The Great White Throne Judgment is the judgment of those who do not know God and who will be eternally separated from God in torment. (Revelation 20:11-15; Daniel 9:24-27; Matthew 24; John 14:1-3; I Corinthians 15:51-52; Philippians 3:20-21; I Thessalonians 4:13-18; Titus 2:13-14; II Thessalonians 1:7-9; Revelation 6-22).

#### **ARTICLE IV**

##### **CORPORATE MEMBERSHIP**

4.1 Corporate Members. Wildwood shall have no corporate members. Any action which would otherwise require approval by a majority of all members shall only require approval of the Board of Elders. All rights which would otherwise vest in the members shall vest in the Board of Elders.

4.2 Members of the Congregation. Nothing contained in Section 4.1 of this Article shall be construed to limit the right of Wildwood to refer to persons associated with Wildwood as members of the congregation of Wildwood even though such persons are not corporate members of Wildwood, and no such reference outside of these Bylaws shall constitute anyone being a member within the meaning of the Oklahoma General Corporation Act. Wildwood may confer by amendment of its Certificate of Incorporation (its “Certificate”) or of these Bylaws some or all rights of a member, as set forth in the Oklahoma General Corporation Act, upon any person or persons who do not have the right to vote for the election of officers or on a disposition of substantially all of the assets of Wildwood or on a merger or on a dissolution or on changes to Wildwood’s Certificate or Bylaws, but no such person shall be a member within the meaning of the Oklahoma General Corporation Act.

#### **ARTICLE V**

##### **MEMBERSHIP IN THE CONGREGATION OF WILDWOOD**

5.1 Purpose of the Congregation. The congregation of Christian believers who have applied for membership in the congregation of Wildwood and have been duly accepted shall

constitute a spiritual body, united for the spiritual purposes set forth in the Certificate and these Bylaws.

5.2 Active Membership in the Congregation. Active membership in the congregation of Wildwood shall be open to all persons who trust Christ as their Lord and Savior and who have completed the then-current membership application process.

5.3 Rights of Members of the Congregation. Membership in the congregation of Wildwood shall not vest in that member any proprietary rights in Wildwood, but shall only entitle the member of the congregation to vote at a meeting of the members of the congregation on those matters that the Board of Elders chooses to submit to the congregation for affirmation. In such cases, voting privileges are restricted to members of the congregation who are in good standing, who are not under any disciplinary action, and who have passed their sixteenth (16) birthday. Membership in the congregation shall not be assignable during the lifetime of any member nor shall that membership vest to any personal representative, heir, or devisee.

5.4 Application for Membership in the Congregation. All requests for membership in the congregation of Wildwood shall be made to a Pastor or Elder (or their designees). Upon making such a request, the person shall be given an application for membership, these Bylaws, the Statement of Faith, and a copy of the “Essentials of Theology” Statement of Wildwood (the “Essentials of Theology”). The application shall include, at minimum, an affirmation of these items: trust in Jesus Christ as Lord and Savior and a willingness to abide by the responsibilities of membership described in Section 5.7.

5.5 Membership in the Congregation Class. A multiple session membership class shall be offered at regular intervals for those interested in discovering about membership in the congregation of Wildwood. The sessions shall include information about salvation, the Essentials of Theology, the Statement of Faith, Wildwood’s structure, philosophy of ministry, plus the responsibilities of membership described in Section 5.7.

5.6 Denial of Membership in the Congregation. If, upon review of an application for membership or after a meeting with a prospective member of the congregation, the Board of Elders determines that the applicant does not confess Jesus Christ as his Lord and Savior or does not adhere to the other requirements of Wildwood membership, membership shall be denied. The decision made by the Board of Elders shall be final, and there shall be no appeal to any court from that decision.

5.7 Responsibilities of Members. In reliance upon God’s Holy Spirit, each member of the congregation of Wildwood commits to faithfully follow Jesus Christ as their Lord and Savior, be an active part of the congregational community, and invest their life in Christ’s mission according to the gifts and talents given to them. Additionally, each member commits to personally embrace the Essentials of Theology and personally uphold the Statement of Faith as the historic teaching position of Wildwood. Each member also commits to be humble and responsive if lovingly confronted by Wildwood leadership concerning these responsibilities.

5.8 Church Discipline. In order to maintain the purity and peace of Wildwood, Scripture requires the confrontation and discipline of those in the congregation who practice

deliberate and active error, whether doctrinal or moral. (Matthew 18:15-20; I Corinthians 5:1-13; II Thess. 3:6-15; Titus 1:10-11, 13-14; Romans 16:17; Acts 20:28-31). It should be emphasized that whenever biblical confrontation is practiced, love should be the central motivation and restoration of the erring member or regular attendee the sole purpose. The threefold purpose of church discipline is to glorify God by maintaining purity in the local church (I Corinthians 5:6), to edify believers by deterring sin (I Timothy 5:20), and to promote the spiritual welfare of the erring member or regular attendee by calling him to return to a biblical standard of doctrine and conduct. (Galatians 6:1). The following procedure for church discipline shall be followed:

(a) First, it shall be the duty of any member of the congregation of Wildwood who has first-hand knowledge of an erring member's or regular attendee's sin, doctrinal error, or misconduct to make reasonable attempts to privately admonish the one in error and to encourage him to practice the truth, seeking his repentance and restoration. (Matthew 18:15; Luke 17:3; Galatians 6:1).

(b) Second, if private admonishment fails, then one or two additional witnesses shall accompany the original member of the congregation to confront and admonish the erring member or regular attendee. (Matthew 18:16).

(c) Third, if reasonable attempts toward confrontation and correction have failed, the accusations shall be brought to the attention of the Board of Elders. The Board of Elders shall notify the erring member or regular attendee of the charges and the date of the Board of Elders' consideration, and the erring member or regular attendee shall be given the opportunity to reply. If the Board of Elders determines – after thorough investigation in accord with the procedures prescribed by pertinent Scripture – including Matthew 18:15-18 and I Timothy 5:19 – that the accusations are verified, that the member or regular attendee does not show evidence of repentance, and that the matter has not been reconciled to the satisfaction of the Board of Elders, the erring member or regular attendee shall be publicly dismissed from membership in the congregation and attendance at Wildwood. (Matthew 18:17; I Corinthians 5:11-13; I Timothy 5:20; Romans 16:17; II Thessalonians 3:6, 14-15).

(d) Dismissal from Wildwood shall always be practiced with a view toward restoration. (II Corinthians 2:6-8). When, in the opinion of the Board of Elders, the erring member or regular attendee shows evidence of repentance, he shall be publicly restored to all rights, duties, privileges, and responsibilities of fellowship and/or membership.

(e) Notwithstanding the foregoing, the Board of Elders in the exercise of its discretion may proceed directly to the third stage of church discipline, when one or more of the following has occurred:

(i) Where the transgression and the refusal to repent have been public, i.e. openly and to the offense of the whole church. (I Corinthians 5:1-5); or

(ii) Where the erring member or regular attendee has taught or otherwise disseminated doctrine deemed false or erroneous by the Board of Elders, and then chosen to disregard the direction and reproof of the Board of Elders. (Romans 16:14); or



(iii) When the erring member or regularly attendee has been warned twice to cease from factious and divisive conduct and has chosen to disregard that warning. (Titus 3:10-11).

(f) The membership in the congregation of Wildwood, and all other professing Christians who regularly attend Wildwood, agree that there shall be no appeal because of the dismissal or because of the public statements to the congregation at the third stage of church discipline.

(g) Separate and apart from the process of church discipline, but subject to the discretion and approval of the Board of Elders, a member of the congregation of Wildwood, any other professing Christian who regularly attends Wildwood, or any other individual may be notified that he is not to be present upon Wildwood premises for such a period of time as is deemed necessary for the safety and well-being of others on Wildwood premises. Such required absence may, but need not, be concurrent with church discipline of that person.

(h) Separate and apart from the process of church discipline, but subject to the discretion and approval of the Board of Elders, the names of any members of the congregation of Wildwood who have not attended a worship service, Sunday school class session, or small group meeting at Wildwood for a period of six months or longer may be removed from the rolls of the members of the congregation of Wildwood.

5.9 Voting Rights. Those admitted to membership in the congregation of Wildwood do not constitute a legislative body, nor do they constitute members of Wildwood as a corporation, and they cannot vote or pass resolutions binding upon Wildwood, nor shall they have any equity in the real property of Wildwood, or rights to vote on its disposal. The property of Wildwood is dedicated to religious and charitable purposes.

## **ARTICLE VI**

### **ELDERS**

6.1 General. The Lord Jesus Christ is acknowledged as the Supreme Head of Wildwood, and Scripture is recognized as the standard which governs the practices of Wildwood. Because the New Testament assigns to Elders the responsibility to oversee the local assembly (Acts 20:17, 28; I Peter 5:1-3; I Timothy 5:17-20; Acts 14:23; Titus 1:5), the governing body of Wildwood shall be the Board of Elders.

6.2 Powers. Subject to the limitations of the Certificate and these Bylaws and of pertinent restrictions of the Oklahoma General Corporation Act, all the activities and affairs of Wildwood shall be exercised by or under the direction of the Board of Elders, which is responsible for shepherding and having oversight of the flock. Without prejudice to such general powers, but subject to these same limitations, it is hereby expressly declared that the Board of Elders shall have the following powers in addition to the other powers enumerated by these Bylaws:

(a) To select and remove all the officers, agents, pastors, staff, and employees of Wildwood; prescribe such duties for them consistent with the Scriptures, with law, with the Certificate, and with these Bylaws; and fix the terms of their offices and their compensation.

(b) To make such disbursements from the funds and properties of Wildwood as are required to fulfill the purposes of Wildwood and generally to conduct, manage, and control the activities and affairs of Wildwood and to make such rules and regulations consistent with Scriptures, with law, with the Certificate, and with these Bylaws, as they deem best.

(c) To adopt, make, and use a corporate seal, and to alter the form of such seal from time to time as they may deem best.

(d) To establish policies and practices for Wildwood consistent with its purposes.

(e) To assist the Senior Pastor in the administration of the ordinances of baptism and communion. Each Elder is authorized to solemnize marriages.

(f) To borrow money and incur indebtedness for the purposes of Wildwood and to cause to be executed and delivered, in Wildwood's name, promissory notes, bonds, debentures, deeds of trust, mortgages, pledges, hypothecations, or other evidences of debt and securities.

(g) To carry on a business and apply any such profit that results from the business activity in which it may legally engage.

6.3 Congregational Input. Notwithstanding the foregoing, whenever major issues are under consideration (including, but not limited to, the purchase of real estate; expansion of the physical plant, and the selection of Elders, Deacons, and pastoral staff), the Board of Elders shall seek input from the local congregation on said issue, prayerfully and carefully considering before the Lord all congregational opinion before making a final determination. Congregational input in other decisions shall be sought at the discretion and approval of the Board of Elders.

6.4 Duties. The central focus of Elders shall be to devote themselves to prayer and to the ministry of Scripture, and their duties shall include the following:

(a) to equip the saints for the work of the ministry.

(b) to shepherd the congregation without compulsion for sordid gain, taking care not to misuse the authority allotted to them.

(c) to be examples to the congregation in speech, conduct, love, faith, and purity.

(d) to guide and protect the purity of life and doctrine in the congregation, providing for the discipline of erring members and individuals regularly attending Wildwood when such is deemed necessary, through the procedures established in Section 5.8 above.

- (e) to establish policies and determine practices for the congregation.

6.5 Number of Elders. The authorized number of Elders shall be determined by the then present Board of Elders, not to fall below 7.

6.6 Nomination, Selection, and Tenure of Office. Recommendations to fill the office of Elder shall be requested at least once every three (3) years from all members of the congregation of Wildwood. The Board of Elders shall review all nominations and determine each nominee's qualifications. After prayerful deliberation by the Board of Elders and upon its approval, a proposed slate of nominees prepared by the Board of Elders shall be presented before the congregation for its consideration. A minimum of two weeks shall be allotted for this consideration. If, in the opinion of the Board of Elders, the candidate has been substantially approved by the congregation, he shall be appointed as an Elder. Ultimate appointment decisions shall be in the sole discretion of the Board of Elders and shall not be appealable to any court or body. The newly selected Elders shall assume office immediately.

6.7 Term. Elders shall be appointed for a term of three (3) years. At the end of the initial term, an Elder's appointment may be extended for another term of three (3) years if there is agreement between the Elder and the remaining Elders. In making this renewal decision, the Board of Elders shall seek consideration from the congregation. After completion of the second term, no Elder can be reappointed until at least one (1) year has passed. The selection procedure for reappointment shall be the same as the selection procedure for appointment. All Elders adhere to the terms described above with the exception of the Senior Pastor. Notwithstanding anything to the contrary in these Bylaws, the Senior Pastor serves as an Elder as long as he holds the office of Senior Pastor, and is not subject to three (3) year terms. Additionally, the current Board of Elders can determine if any additional staff members are essential to the functioning of the Board of Elders (given the role those staff members currently fill) and invite those staff members to serve on the Board of Elders (without being subject to three (3) year terms) as long as their job responsibilities require them to serve as an Elder. A majority of the active members of the Board of Elders must be non-staff positions.

6.8 Qualifications. Each Elder must be an active member of the congregation of Wildwood, demonstrate the ability to serve in the shepherding ministry of Wildwood (I Timothy 5:22), be in agreement with the Statement of Faith established in Article III and possess the qualifications described in I Timothy 3:1-7 and Titus 1:5-9. He shall be a man who:

- (a) Is above reproach. (I Timothy 3:2; Titus 1:6)
- (b) Is husband of one wife; a one-woman man. (I Timothy 3:2; Titus 1:6)
- (c) Is temperate. (I Timothy 3:2)
- (d) Is prudent. (I Timothy 3:2; Titus 1:8)
- (e) Is respectable. (I Timothy 3:2)
- (f) Is hospitable. (I Timothy 3:2; Titus 1:8)

- (g) Is able to teach. (I Timothy 3:2; Titus 1:9)
- (h) Is not addicted to wine. (I Timothy 3:3; Titus 1:7)
- (i) Is not pugnacious. (I Timothy 3:3; Titus 1:7)
- (j) Is not fond of sordid gain. (Titus 1:7)
- (k) Is gentle. (I Timothy 3:3)
- (l) Is not quarrelsome. (1 Timothy 3:3)
- (m) Is free from the love of money. (I Timothy 3:3)
- (n) Manages his own household well. (I Timothy 3:4-5; Titus 1:6)
- (o) Is not a new convert. (I Timothy 3:6)
- (p) Has a good reputation with those outside. (I Timothy 3:7)
- (q) Is not self-willed. (Titus 1:7)
- (r) Is not quick-tempered. (Titus 1:7)
- (s) Loves what is good. (Titus 1:8)
- (t) Is just. (Titus 1:8)
- (u) Is devout. (Titus 1:8)
- (v) Self-controlled. (Titus 1:8)

The phrase “be in agreement with” means to give a promise and full commitment to consistently honor, teach, and publicly support the Statement of Faith as the historic teaching position of Wildwood.

6.9 Resignation. Any Elder may resign effective upon giving written notice to the Chairman of the Board of Elders or the Secretary of the Board of Elders, unless the notice specifies a later time for the effectiveness of such resignation. If the resignation is to take effect at some future time, a successor may be selected before that time.

6.10 Removal of Elders. Any Elder may be removed from office at any regular or special meeting of the Board of Elders if he is found to be physically or mentally incapacitated, to be spiritually unqualified (according to pertinent Scripture, including I Timothy 3:1-7 and Titus 1:5-9), to have failed to fulfill the responsibilities of an Elder as designated by the Board of Elders, or to have failed to live in harmony with the standards (either moral or doctrinal) expressed in these Bylaws. Removal shall only occur after thorough corroborating investigation by the Elders in accord with the procedures prescribed by pertinent Scripture, including Matthew 18:15-18 and I Timothy 5:19. If it is determined by the Board of Elders that an Elder has become

spiritually or doctrinally disqualified, or if he fails to heed the admonition of the Board of Elders, he shall be removed from office by a vote of the remaining Elders.

6.11 Leave. An Elder may be placed on inactive status, for reasons including, but not limited to, disability or extended absence, upon a vote of the remaining Elders.

6.12 Place of Meetings. Notwithstanding anything to the contrary provided in these Bylaws, any meeting (whether regular, special, or adjourned) of the Board of Elders may be held at any place within or without the state of Oklahoma.

6.13 Regular Meetings. Regular Meetings of the Board of Elders shall be held without call or notice on the second Saturday morning and fourth Thursday evening of each month, unless otherwise modified by the Board of Elders.

6.14 Special Meetings. Special meetings of the Board of Elders may be called at any time by the order of the Chairman, Vice-Chairman, or the Secretary of the Board of Elders or by a majority of the members of the Board of Elders.

6.15 Notice of Special Meetings. Special meetings of the Board of Elders shall be held upon seven (7) days' notice. Any such notice shall set forth the time and place of the meeting, but need not, unless otherwise required by law, state the purpose of the meeting. The notice shall be addressed or delivered to each Elder or at such Elder's address as it is shown upon the records of Wildwood or as may have been given to Wildwood by the Elder for such purposes of notice.

6.16 Quorum. Except as otherwise provided herein, two-thirds (2/3) of active Elders shall constitute a quorum. A majority of Elders present, whether or not a quorum is present, may adjourn any meeting to another time and place. Except as the Certificate, these Bylaws, and the Oklahoma General Corporation Act may provide, the act or decision done or made by the Elders present at a regular or special meeting duly held at which a quorum was present shall be the act of the Board of Elders. Elders may not vote by proxy.

6.17 Presence at Meetings. Members of the Board of Elders or of any Board committee may participate in a meeting of the Board of Elders or committee by means of conference telephone or similar communications equipment, provided that all persons participating in the meeting can hear each other. Such participation shall be considered to be presence in person at the meeting. The attendance of any Elder at any meeting shall constitute a waiver of notice of the meeting.

6.18 Adjournment. A majority of Elders present, whether or not a quorum is present, may adjourn any Board of Elders meeting to another time and place. Notice of any adjournment to another time and place shall be given prior to the time of the rescheduled adjourned meeting to the Elders who were not present at the time of the adjournment.

6.19 Action without Meeting. Any action required or permitted to be taken by the Board of Elders may be taken without a meeting if all Elders shall individually or collectively consent in writing to a duly prepared resolution to such action. Such consent or consents shall have the same effect as a vote of the Board of Elders and shall be documented by attaching the signed resolution to the minutes of proceedings of the Board of Elders.

6.20 Rights of Inspection. Every Elder shall have the absolute right at any reasonable time to inspect and copy all books, records, and documents of every kind and to inspect the physical properties of Wildwood, for a purpose reasonably related to such person's interest as an Elder.

6.21 Decisions of the Board of Elders. When a quorum is present at any meeting of the Board of Elders, all matters shall be determined by an affirmative vote or consent of at least three-fourths (3/4) of the active Elders present at the meeting, unless these Bylaws, the Certificate, or the Oklahoma General Corporation Act requires a higher percentage. Decisions shall be reached after prayerful consideration and in a spirit of humility with each Elder regarding one another before himself.

6.22 Fees and Compensation. Elders (as such) shall not receive any stated or fixed salary for their services, however, nothing herein contained shall be construed to preclude any Elder from serving Wildwood in any other capacity and receiving compensation in that capacity. Any person receiving compensation directly or indirectly from Wildwood shall not be in a position to determine the nature or amount of said compensation.

## ARTICLE VII

### COUNCILS AND COMMITTEES

7.1 Committees of the Board of Elders. Committees of the Board of Elders may be appointed by resolution passed by the Board of Elders. Committees shall be composed of two or more members of the Board of Elders and shall have such powers of the Board of Elders as may be expressly delegated to it by resolution of the Board of Elders, except with respect to:

(a) The approval of any action which the Oklahoma General Corporation Act requires member approval (which must be approved by the Board of Elders as a whole, as Wildwood has no corporate members).

(b) The filling of vacancies on the Board of Elders or on any committee.

(c) The amendment or repeal of Bylaws or the adoption of new Bylaws.

(d) The amendment or repeal of any resolution of the Board of Elders which by its express terms is not so amendable or repealable.

(e) The appointment of other committees of the Board of Elders or the members thereof.

(f) The approval of any self-dealing transaction.

The Board of Elders shall have the power to prescribe the manner in which proceedings of any such committee shall be conducted. In the absence of any such prescription, such committee shall have the power to prescribe the manner in which its proceedings shall be conducted. Unless the Board of Elders or such committee shall otherwise provide, the regular and special meetings and other actions of any such committee shall be governed by the provisions of Article VI

applicable to meetings and actions of the Board of Elders. Minutes shall be kept at each meeting of each committee.

7.2 Ad Hoc Councils and Committees. To promote efficient handling of Board of Elders matters, in addition to the committees discussed in Section 7.1 above, the Board of Elders may appoint various ad hoc councils and committees from within its membership, the staff, and the congregation of Wildwood at large. These councils and committees shall perform tasks solely in accordance with the duties and with powers specifically delegated by the Board of Elders. The general functions of the councils and committees are:

(a) To bring considered recommendations to the Board of Elders concerning ministries.

(b) To provide a wider base of counsel to the Elders having the oversight of specific ministries.

All councils and committees shall exist for the period specified by the Board of Elders.

7.3 Deacons. The Board of Elders may, at its discretion, appoint Deacons to assist the Elders in the shepherding of the saints and managing Wildwood, assist the pastor at communion and baptismal services, aid in the general spiritual care of Wildwood, supervise the general operations and maintenance of Wildwood buildings and property, and perform other duties as assigned by the Board of Elders. The Deacons shall consist of members of the congregation of Wildwood possessing the qualifications described in I Timothy 3:8-13 and who are in agreement with the Statement of Faith. The phrase “in agreement with” means to give a promise and full commitment to consistently honor, teach, and publicly support the Statement of Faith as the historic teaching position of Wildwood. There shall be no prescribed number of Deacons. If the Board of Elders appoints Deacons, the Deacons shall be nominated annually by members of the congregation of Wildwood. The Board of Elders shall review all nominations and determine each nominee’s qualifications. After prayerful deliberation by the Board of Elders and upon consensus, a proposed slate of nominees prepared by the Board of Elders shall be presented before the congregation for its consideration. A minimum of two weeks shall be allotted for this consideration. If the Board of Elders decides that the candidate has been substantially approved by the congregation, he shall be appointed as a Deacon. Ultimate appointment decisions shall be in the sole discretion of the Board of Elders and shall not be appealable to any court or body. The Elders shall post written notice in January of each year of the Deacons serving that year. The Deacons shall serve for a term of one (1) year. If it is determined by the Board of Elders that a Deacon has become spiritually or doctrinally disqualified, or if the Deacon in question fails to heed the admonition of the Board of Elders, the Deacon in question shall be removed from office by a vote of the Board of Elders. Grounds for removal include failure to fulfill the responsibilities of a Deacon as designated by the Board of Elders or a failure to live in harmony with the standards (either moral or doctrinal) expressed by these Bylaws. A Deacon may resign effective upon giving written notice to the Chairman of the Board of Elders or the Secretary of the Board of Elders, unless the notice specifies a later time for the effectiveness of such resignation.

7.4 Vacancies. In the event any of the above-mentioned offices becomes vacant during the period between annual designations, the Board of Elders may, at its sole discretion and approval, fill such vacancy for the unexpired term.

## **ARTICLE VIII**

### **OFFICERS**

8.1 Officers. The Board of Elders shall elect such officers of Wildwood as may be necessary to enable Wildwood to sign instruments that comply with the Oklahoma General Corporation Act. The officers of Wildwood shall include at a minimum a Chairman and a Secretary, and may also include a Vice-Chairman, Treasurer, and other officers as the Board of Elders may appoint in accordance with this Article VIII. The officers shall be supervised by the Board of Elders. No officer shall have authority to disburse more than \$20,000 of Wildwood funds without approval from the Board of Elders.

8.2 Election. The officers of Wildwood shall be chosen annually by, and shall serve at the pleasure of, the Board of Elders. Each officer shall hold his office until he shall resign, be removed, or become otherwise disqualified to serve, or until his successor shall be elected and qualified.

8.3 Removal and Resignation. Any officer may be removed upon disqualification and removal as an Elder per Section 6.10 of these Bylaws. Any officer may resign at any time without prejudice to the rights, if any, of Wildwood under any contract to which the officer is a party, by giving written notice to the Board of Elders, or to the Chairman. Any such resignation shall take effect at the date of the receipt of such notice or at any later time specified therein; and unless otherwise specified therein, the acceptance of such resignation shall not be necessary to make it effective.

8.4 Vacancies. A vacancy in any office because of death, resignation, removal, disqualification, or any other cause shall be filled in the manner prescribed in these Bylaws for regular election or appointment to such office, provided that such vacancies shall be filled as they occur and are not required to be filled on an annual basis.

8.5 Inability to Act. In the case of an absence or inability to act of any officer of Wildwood and of any person herein authorized to act in his place, the Board of Elders may from time to time delegate the powers or duties of such officer to any other officer or other person whom the Board of Elders may select.

8.6 The Chairman. The Chairman shall be the Chief Executive Officer of Wildwood and shall, subject to the control of the Board of Elders, have general supervision, direction, and control of the activities and the officers of Wildwood. He shall preside at all meetings of the Board of Elders, which are to be conducted according to the Scriptural principles such as set forth in Philippians 2:2-8. He shall be an ex-officio member of all standing committees, if any, and shall have powers and duties as may be prescribed by the Board of Elders or these Bylaws.

8.7 Vice-Chairman. In the absence or disability of the Chairman, the Vice-Chairman shall perform all the duties of the Chairman, and when so acting shall have all the powers of, and



be subject to all the restrictions upon, the Chairman. The Vice-Chairman shall have such other powers and perform such other duties as from time to time may be prescribed for him by the Board of Elders or these Bylaws.

8.8 Secretary. The Secretary shall keep, or cause to be kept, a book of minutes at the principal office or such other place as the Board of Elders may order, of all meetings of members of the congregation of Wildwood, the Board of Elders, and its committees, with the time and place of holding, whether regular or special, and if special, how authorized, the notice given thereof, the names of those present at the meetings, the Board of Elders and committee meetings, and the proceedings thereof. The Secretary shall keep, or cause to be kept, at the principal office the original and a copy of the Certificate, as amended to date, and a register of the membership of the congregation of Wildwood showing the names of members of the congregation and their addresses. The Secretary shall give, or cause to be given, notice of all meetings of the Board of Elders and any committees thereof required by these Bylaws or by law to be given, and shall have such other powers and perform such other duties as prescribed by the Board of Elders.

8.9 Treasurer. The Treasurer shall ensure the stewardship of the physical and financial resources of Wildwood, “taking precaution that no one should discredit us in our administration . . . for we have regard for what is honorable, not only in the sight of the Lord, but also in the sight of men” (II Corinthians 8:20-21). He shall select people “of good reputation, full of spirit and wisdom” (Acts 6:3) to implement and accomplish this responsibility. The Treasurer shall ensure that all financial activities and transactions are consistent with these Bylaws and the Oklahoma General Corporation Act. The Treasurer shall keep and maintain, or cause to be kept and maintained, adequate and correct accounts of the properties and business transactions of Wildwood. The books of account shall at all reasonable times be open to inspection by any Elder as provided in the Oklahoma General Corporation Act. The Treasurer shall deposit, or cause to be deposited, all monies and other valuables in the name and to the credit of Wildwood with such depositories as may be designated by the Board of Elders. The Treasurer shall disburse or cause to be disbursed, the funds of Wildwood as may be ordered by the Board of Elders, shall render, or cause to be rendered, to the Chairman and the Board of Elders, whenever they request it, an account of all the transactions and of the financial condition of Wildwood, and shall have such other powers and perform such other duties as may be prescribed by the Board of Elders. The Treasurer shall make, or cause to be made, the financial reports at each regular meeting of the Board of Elders and at any meetings of members of the congregation of Wildwood where such financial reports are to be provided. The Treasurer shall have authority to disburse or spend up to a maximum of \$20,000 of Wildwood funds for an individual expenditure without specific approval of the Board. If a need arises to disburse more than this threshold, approval by the Board of Elders is required.

8.10 Other Wildwood Staff. The Board of Elders shall have the authority to employ or terminate secretarial and other staff in its discretion and as it deems necessary. Such staff shall be responsible to the Board of Elders unless otherwise designated.

## ARTICLE IX

### ORDINATION, LICENSING, AND COMMISSIONING

9.1 Ordination. Ordination refers to the recognition by the Board of Elders of a man's call to ministry, preparation as a shepherd, and qualification to serve. Ordination shall be conferred for life, so long as a man continues to manifest the qualifications of the office.

9.2 Licensing. The license is issued by the Board of Elders and is given in recognition of an individual's service in a ministry. Its aim is to allow an individual to perform the ecclesiastical duties and functions of Wildwood. Licenses will be evaluated – and issued or renewed – each year at the sole discretion and approval of the Board of Elders. Licenses are to be issued only to members of the congregation of Wildwood.

9.3 Commissioning. When local-church certification is required for ministry where ordination would otherwise be unnecessary or inappropriate, a person may be commissioned by the Board of Elders to minister. This commissioning continues as long as the opportunity to minister remains in effect and as long as the person maintains the qualifications for ministry, or until the Board of Elders, in its sole discretion and approval, revokes the commissioning.

9.4 Marriages and Weddings. All who are ordained or otherwise authorized by Wildwood to solemnize marriages may do so, in the exercise of religious freedom, only where the participants are one man and one woman. (Genesis 2:21-24; Matthew 19:4-6; Mark 10:6-9). Wildwood facilities are not open for rental to the public for weddings, but may only be used for weddings when at least one prospective spouse (or their immediate family) is a member of the congregation of Wildwood in good standing.

## ARTICLE X

### THE PASTORAL STAFF

10.1 Qualifications. All members of the pastoral staff of Wildwood, including all staff members as the Board of Elders shall deem appropriate, in its sole discretion and approval, shall be in agreement with the Statement of Faith in Article III and in agreement with the philosophy of ministry as held by the Board of Elders. The Senior Pastor (and other members of the pastoral staff as deemed necessary by the Board of Elders) shall function as members of the Board of Elders and thus must meet the Qualifications for an Elder found in Section 6.8 of these Bylaws.

10.2 Selection. For the selection of the pastoral staff of Wildwood, and in the event of a vacancy, the Board of Elders shall act as the interviewing agency. After prayerful deliberation by the Board of Elders, and upon its approval in accordance with Section 6, a prospective candidate shall be presented to the congregation for its consideration. A minimum of two weeks shall be allotted for this consideration. If the Board of Elders decides that the candidate has been substantially approved by the congregation, he shall be appointed to the vacancy for an indefinite period of time. Ultimate appointment decisions shall be in the sole discretion of the Board of Elders and shall not be appealable to any court or body. The size of the pastoral staff shall be as determined by the Board of Elders.

10.3 Duties. Pastoral staff responsibilities, job descriptions, salaries, and benefits shall be as specified by the Board of Elders. When salary determinations are made by the Board of Elders, no individual may vote on or be allowed to determine his own salary. The pastoral staff shall function under the direct supervision of the Board of Elders.

10.4 Termination. A member of the pastoral staff shall be removed from his position under any of the following:

(a) Death.

(b) Resignation: it shall be the prerogative of any member of the pastoral staff to dissolve his relationship with Wildwood upon giving three (3) months' notice of such intention. This period may be shortened if mutually agreed upon by the resigning party and the Board of Elders.

(c) Disqualification: grounds for disqualification include, but are not limited to, a failure to fulfill the responsibilities of the positions as designated by the Board of Elders or a failure to live in harmony with the moral and doctrinal standards expressed in these Bylaws.

10.5 Senior Pastor. The Senior Pastor shall be selected and confirmed by the Board of Elders. The role of the Senior Pastor is defined as the primary pulpit teacher, executive director, and lead shepherd of the congregation. He shall remain in office an indefinite period of time subject to the following reservations: the Board of Elders reserves the right to dismiss the Senior Pastor upon giving him one month's written notice of its intentions to dismiss. The time limit of the Senior Pastor's dismissal is subject to a lesser time if both the Senior Pastor and Wildwood by mutual agreement provide otherwise. The Senior Pastor shall be an ex officio member of all councils and committees, and he shall be responsible to the Board of Elders. The Senior Pastor shall arrange for and/or conduct all public and regular services of Wildwood and shall be responsible for the overall spiritual welfare of Wildwood. In the absence of the Senior Pastor, the Board of Elders shall be responsible to arrange for the public and regular services of Wildwood.

## **ARTICLE XI**

### **ORDINANCES**

11.1 Believers Baptism. Water baptism is understood as the outward testimony of an inward spiritual transformation. It will be administered only to those who give satisfactory testimony of their personal faith in Jesus Christ as Savior. Wildwood shall practice believer's baptism by immersion, accurately portraying the believer's death, burial, and resurrection with Christ.

11.2 Communion. The Lord's Supper is understood to be a commemoration of His death – the elements being used as emblems of His body and blood – to be observed until His return. It shall be open to all self-examined believers, regardless of church affiliation. It shall be observed on such occasions as the Elders shall deem desirable.

**ARTICLE XII**  
**INDEMNIFICATION**

12.1 Actions Other Than in the Right of Wildwood. Wildwood shall indemnify any person who was or is a party or is threatened to be made a party to any threatened, pending or completed action, suit, or proceeding whether civil, criminal, administrative, or investigative (other than an action by or in the right of Wildwood) by reason of the fact that he is or was an Elder, officer, employee, or agent of Wildwood or is or was serving at the request of Wildwood as a director, trustee, officer, manager, employee, or agent of another corporation, limited liability company, partnership, joint venture, or other enterprise against expenses (including attorney's fees), judgments, fines, and amounts paid in settlement actually and reasonably incurred in connection with such action, suit, or proceeding if such person acted in good faith and in a manner he reasonably believed to be in or not opposed to the best interest of Wildwood and, with respect to any criminal action or proceeding, had no reasonable cause to believe that his conduct was unlawful. The termination of any action, suit, or proceeding by judgment, order, settlement, conviction, or upon a plea of nolo contendere or its equivalent shall not of itself create a presumption that the person did not act in good faith and in a manner that such person reasonably believed to be in good faith and in a manner that he reasonably believed to be in or not opposed to the best interest of Wildwood and with respect to any criminal action or proceeding had reasonable cause to believe that his conduct was unlawful.

12.2 Actions by or in the Right of Wildwood. Wildwood shall indemnify any person who was or is a party or is threatened to be made a party to any threatened, pending or completed action or suit by or in the right of Wildwood to procure a judgment in its favor by reason of the fact that such person is or was an Elder, officer, employee, or agent of Wildwood or is or was serving at the request of Wildwood as a director, trustee, officer, manager, employee, or agent of another corporation, limited liability company, partnership, joint venture, trust, or other enterprise against expenses (including attorney's fees) actually and reasonably incurred in connection with the defense or settlement of such action or suit if such person acted in good faith and in a manner he reasonably believed to be in or not opposed to the best interest of Wildwood; except that no indemnification shall be made in respect of any claim, issue, or matter as to which such person shall have been adjudged to be liable to Wildwood unless and only to the extent that the court in which such action or suit was brought determines, upon application, that despite the adjudication of liability, but in the view of all the circumstances of the case, such person is fairly and reasonably entitled to indemnity for such expenses as the court deems proper.

12.3 Advancement of Expenses. Wildwood may advance expenses incurred in defending a civil or criminal action, suit, or proceeding, in advance of the final disposition of such action, suit, or proceeding upon receipt of an undertaking by or on behalf of the Elder, director, officer, employee, or agent to repay such amount if it is ultimately determined that he is not entitled to be indemnified by Wildwood.

12.4 Insurance. Wildwood may purchase (upon resolution duly adopted by the Board of Elders) and maintain insurance on behalf of any person who is or was an Elder, officer, employee, or agent of Wildwood, or is or was serving at the request of Wildwood as a director, trustee, manager, officer, employee or agent of another corporation, limited liability company,

partnership, joint venture, trust, or other enterprise against any liability asserted against such person and incurred in any such capacity, or arising out of his status as such, whether or not Wildwood would have the power to indemnify such person against such liability.

12.5 Indemnification Required. To the extent that an Elder, officer, employee, or agent of Wildwood has been successful on the merits or otherwise in defense of any action, suit, or proceeding referred to in this Article or in defense of any claim, issue, or other matter, such person shall be indemnified against expenses (including attorneys' fees) actually and reasonably incurred in connection with the matter.

12.6 Entitlement. Every such person shall be entitled, without demand upon Wildwood or any action by Wildwood, to enforce his right to such indemnity in an action at law against Wildwood. The right of indemnification and advancement of expenses provided in this Article shall not be deemed exclusive of any rights to which any such person may now or later be otherwise entitled. Without limiting the generality of the foregoing, the right to indemnity shall not be deemed exclusive of any rights pursuant to statute or otherwise, of any such person in any action, suit, or proceeding to have assessed or allowed in his favor against Wildwood or otherwise, costs and expenses incurred in connection with the matter.

### **ARTICLE XIII**

#### **SETTLEMENT OF DISPUTES**

In any dispute arising between members of the congregation of Wildwood, pastors, or staff pertaining to any matter of spiritual teaching or practices, Wildwood finances, or title to property purchased with Wildwood contributions, the dispute shall be resolved by the Board of Elders. A decision shall be reached after prayerful consideration, in the spirit of humility, with each Elder regarding one another before himself and striving to preserve the unity of Spirit in the bond of peace. (Ephesians 4:1-3).

### **ARTICLE XIV**

#### **OTHER PROVISIONS**

14.1 Endorsement of Documents, Contracts. The Board of Elders, except as these Bylaws otherwise provide, may authorize any officer or officers, agent or agents, to enter into any contract or execute any instrument in the name of and on behalf of Wildwood. Such authority may be general or confined to specific instances. Unless so authorized by the Board of Elders, no officer, agent, or employee, shall have any power or authority to bind Wildwood by any contract or agreement, or to pledge its credit, or to render it liable for any purpose or to any amount. Subject to the provisions of applicable law, any note, mortgage, evidence of indebtedness, contract, conveyance, or other instrument in writing and any assignment or endorsement thereof executed or entered into between Wildwood and any other person, when signed jointly by the Chairman or the Vice-Chairman, and the Secretary and the Treasurer of Wildwood, shall be valid and binding on Wildwood in the absence of actual knowledge on the part of the counter party or counter parties that the signing officers had no authority to execute the same.

14.2 No Implied Rights. Nothing contained in these Bylaws is intended to confer any rights or benefits upon any individual or to confer any private right, remedy or right of action upon any person. These Bylaws are intended for internal corporate use only and solely for the governance of the internal affairs of Wildwood.

14.3 Construction and Definitions. Unless the context otherwise requires, the general provisions, rules of construction, and definitions contained in the general provisions of the Oklahoma General Corporation Act shall govern the construction of these Bylaws.

14.4 Amendments. These Bylaws may be amended, repealed, restated, or new bylaws may be adopted at any regular or special meeting of the Board of Elders upon the approval of the Elders in accordance with Article VI. Any proposal to amend these Bylaws shall be submitted to the Board of Elders in writing and presented to the Elders for review at least one full day before such amendment is taken to a vote. All Bylaw changes shall be consistent with the Certificate.

14.5 Record of Amendments. Whenever an amendment or new bylaw is adopted, it shall be copied in the book of minutes with the original bylaws, in the appropriate place. If any bylaw is repealed, the fact of repeal with the date of the meeting at which the repeal was enacted or written assent was filed shall be stated in the book.

## **ARTICLE XV**

### **RECEIPT, INVESTMENT, AND DISBURSEMENT OF FUNDS**

15.1 Receipt. Wildwood shall receive all monies or other properties transferred to it for the purposes for which Wildwood was formed. However, nothing contained herein shall require the Board of Elders to accept or receive any money or property of any kind if it shall determine in its discretion that receipt of such money or property is contrary to the expressed purposes of Wildwood.

15.2 Disbursement. Wildwood shall hold, manage, and disburse any funds or properties received by it from any source in a manner that is consistent with the expressed purposes of Wildwood.

15.3 Instruments in Writing. All checks, drafts, demands for money, and notes of Wildwood and all written contracts of Wildwood shall be signed by such officer or officers, agent or agents, as the Board of Elders may from time to time designate by resolution.

## **ARTICLE XVI**

### **CORPORATE RECORDS AND REPORTS**

16.1 Records. Wildwood shall maintain adequate and correct accounts, books, and records of its business and properties. All such books, records, and accounts shall be kept at Wildwood's principal place of business in the state of Oklahoma, as fixed by the Board of Elders from time to time.

16.2 Fiscal Year of Wildwood. The fiscal year of Wildwood shall begin on the first day of August and end on the last day of July in each year.

**ARTICLE XVII**

**DISSOLUTION**

Upon dissolution of Wildwood, the Board of Elders shall cause the assets herein to be distributed to another non-profit corporation with similar purposes that qualifies as an exempt organization under Section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986, as amended. At no time, either on dissolution or prior to dissolution, shall any part of the funds or assets of Wildwood inure to the benefit of any private individual, nor be used for the purpose of carrying on propaganda or otherwise attempting to influence legislation, except as may be permitted by law and the Internal Revenue Code of 1986, as amended, or corresponding provisions of any subsequent federal tax laws. Wildwood shall not participate in or intervene in any political campaign on behalf of any candidate for public office.

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