



Constitution Bylaws of True North Church Wake County, North Carolina

Adopted November 2, 2006

We declare and establish these bylaws to preserve and secure the principles of our faith and to govern the body in an orderly manner.

Article I. Name

The name of the corporation is True North Church. This corporation will be further referred to in the bylaws as the "Church".

Article II. Purpose

Section 1. Mission True North Church exists to see lives changed as we journey together toward being passionate followers of Jesus.

Section 2. Values

- a. Worship - True North will connect people with God by placing high emphasis on worship experiences and participation.
- b. Community and Growth - True North will be a place that stresses connecting with a smaller group of friends to journey through life together.
- c. Service and Missional Living - True North will be a place that unashamedly challenges people to live lives of complete service – in our relationships, our community, and our world.

Article III. Statement of Basic Beliefs

God

The God of the Bible is the Creator and the only true God, all knowing and all powerful. He is passionate about a relationship with each individual person. He exists simultaneously as one and three: Father, Son and Spirit. **Genesis 1:1, Psalm 19:1-2**

Bible

The Bible is the inspired word of God revealing his nature, his pursuit of us, and our path to experiencing, knowing and becoming like his son, Jesus. **2 Timothy 3:16-17, 2 Peter 1:21**

Jesus

Jesus Christ was both, God and man, in the flesh. He died for our sins and rose from the dead. He is the only way to salvation. **John 1:1-14, John 14:6, 1 Corinthians 15:1-18**

Spirit

The Spirit is God's presence in the life of a Christian and empowers us to experience, know and become like Jesus. **1 Corinthians 6:19, John 16:13-15**

Mankind

As a creation of God, every person has great value and is designed to worship God. But because of sin we are unable to do so causing relationship with God through human effort to be impossible. **Romans 3:23**

Church

The church is the body of believers that live in community to experience, know and become like Jesus. The church exists to reach those who are far from Christ and disciple believers. **Hebrews 10:25, Matthew 28:18-20**

Salvation



The forgiveness of sins and promise of eternal life are available to all who would accept the free gift of God's grace through Jesus Christ. **John 3:16-17, Ephesians 2:8, Romans 10:9-10**

Baptism

Those who trust Christ should repent of their sins, confess their faith publicly and be immersed.

Acts 2:38, Romans 6:1-4

Article IV. Affiliation

This Church is a free, autonomous, independent body, with authority to determine for itself in the manner set forth in these bylaws, free of any outside control, authority or power, whether governmental or otherwise, the use of its property and all Church policies.

Article V. Church Staff

The Church may employ individuals as the need demands. Their employment shall be indefinite, unless otherwise explicitly stated in writing, and shall continue until the relationship is dissolved at the request of either the staff individual or the Board of Elders. The Senior Pastor may execute staff hiring decisions on his own behalf.

Article VI. Church Government and Elders

The government of this church is overseen by the Board of Elders.

Section 1. Number: The Board of Elders shall consist of a minimum of three (3) persons; one of which is the Senior Pastor.

Section 2. Qualifications: All Elder nominees shall meet the requirements stated in 1 Timothy 3:1-7 and Titus 1:6-9 and they shall be in agreement with the statement of basics beliefs in the bylaws.

Section 3. Authority and Responsibility: The Elders, for all legal purposes, shall constitute the Trustees and shall have authority to execute and deliver any document required by law.

Execution of a document by any two Trustees is sufficient as long as they are acting on behalf of the majority of the Trustees.

The Elders shall oversee and promote the spiritual growth and overall ministry of the Church including the overseeing of the business affairs of the Church.

Section 4. Term of Office: The Church elders serve an indefinite term. An Elder may take a sabbatical with the requirement to be reaffirmed by the Board of Elders upon their return.

Section 5. Appointment and Removal: Any Elder may be removed from the Board of Elders, with or without cause, by a majority of the members of the Board of Elders. New Elders shall be selected and affirmed by the current members of the Board of Elders.

Article VII. Church Partnership

Section 1. Partnership in this Church shall consist of all persons who have met the qualifications for partnership and are listed on the official Church partnership list.

Section 2. The qualifications for partnership exist in a commitment to abide by the Church partnership covenant. The attached partnership covenant illustrates the current covenant.

Section 3. Partnership shall be terminated for the following reasons:

- a. Death
- b. Transfer of membership to another church.
- c. By personal request of the partner.
- d. By failure of the partner to indicate commitment to the partnership.
- e. Disciplinary action by the Elders according to the following conditions:
 1. The partner's life and conduct is not in accordance with the partnership covenant in such a way that the partner hinders the ministry influence of the Church in the community.
 2. Procedures for dismissal of a partner shall be according to Matthew 18: 15-17.

Section 4. Partners dismissed by the Elders shall be restored by the Elders according to the spirit of 2 Corinthians 2:7-8, when their life-styles are judged to be in accordance with the partnership covenant.

Article VIII. Meetings

Section 1. This Church shall hold regular meetings for worship, teaching, and fellowship.

Section 2. The Church partners shall vote on (1) the hiring of the Senior Pastor when that position is vacant, as the candidate is presented by the Elders, (2) decisions concerning the purchase, sale or mortgage of buildings and land, (3) changes in the bylaws proposed by the Elders.

Section 3. Business meetings of the Church partnership may be called by the Elders, provided one week's notice has been given to the Church partners. The nature of the business shall be stated in the notice. Notice may be given in writing distributed at a regular worship service or may be given by postal mail to the last known address of the Church partner or by electronic mail to those Church partners who have access to electronic mail.

Section 4. The Elders shall designate the person to preside at Church business meetings. In the absence of a designation any member of the Board of Elders present may preside.

Section 5. A quorum shall consist of not less than twenty per cent (20%) of the Church partnership. Unless otherwise provided in the bylaws, all matters of business shall be decided by a majority vote of the Church partners present and voting.

Section 6. A person designated by the Elders as Church secretary shall keep minutes of each partnership business meeting and shall record the approximate number of Church partners present, whether a quorum was present, and what actions were taken by the Church.

Article IX. Records and Reports

The Church shall maintain the following records and reports:

- a. Adequate and correct books and records of accounts (financial records); and
- b. Written minutes of the proceedings of its Church partners and Elders; and
- c. A record of the Church partners, setting forth the partners' names and addresses; and
- d. Annual contribution statements for contributors.

Article X. Dissolution

Upon dissolution, the Church elders shall realize any assets held by or on behalf of the Church. Any assets remaining after the satisfaction of any proper debts and liabilities shall be given or transferred by the Church Elders to such other nonprofit corporation(s) having objects similar to the objects of the Church as the Church Elders may decide.

Article XI. Amendments

Section 1. These bylaws may be amended, altered, or repealed by a majority vote. A seven (7) day notice shall be given in writing to the Church partnership for bylaw changes.

Certificate of Secretary

I, the undersigned, certify that I am the acting secretary of True North Church, and the above Bylaws are the Bylaws of this Church as adopted November 2, 2006.

Church Secretary  , Date **11-2-2006**



True North Partnership Covenant

The True North Partnership Covenant is designed to build and sustain the unity of the core of this church; and to assure that major decisions that affect the life of this church are made by people who are committed to the church's mission.

I hereby affirm, that:

- I have been baptized by immersion representing my personal faith in Jesus Christ as savior and redeemer of my soul.
- I have completed the Discovering True North partnership class.
- I will protect the unity of the church by loving others, refusing to gossip and respecting the leadership.
- I agree with and will actively support the mission, values, beliefs, and bylaws of True North Church.
- I commit to the following:
 - faithfully attending worship services
 - participating in small groups
 - serving in the church and the community
 - viewing all of my relationships as people who need Jesus
 - regularly giving my finances back to God

Signed

Print

Date