# REVIVAL TABERNACLE INC.

# ARTICLES OF INCORPORATION AND GENERAL CONSTITUTION OF REVIVAL TABERNACLE

#### ARTICLE I

Name, Duration, and Officers

- 1. The name of the corporation shall be: REVIVAL TABERNACLE INC.
- 2. The duration of this incorporation shall be perpetual unless dissolved under the laws of the State of Kentucky.
- 3. The officers of this incorporation are as follows:

Incorporator: David Levi Lamb, whose address is: 1091 Scaffold Cane Rd 7A, Berea, KY 40475

Registered Agent: David Levi Lamb, whose address is: 1091 Scaffold Cane Rd 7A, Berea, KY

Director: David Levi Lamb, whose address is: 1091 Scaffold Cane Rd 7A, Berea, KY

Director: April Dawn Lamb, whose address is: 1091 Scaffold Cane Rd 7A, Berea, KY

Director: Rufus Earl Caraway, whose address is: 5289 North East Cubitis Ave, Arcadia, FL

#### **ARTICLE II**

(Purpose and Prerogative)

The objects of this corporation shall be:

- 1. To preach the Gospel and further the cause of the Kingdom of God in the United States of America and foreign lands.
- 2. To promote and maintain churches and missions in the State of Kentucky, the United States of America and foreign lands, to promote fellowship and means of cooperation between churches of similar faith and doctrine, and to promote, establish and maintain certain districts therein, which shall be self-governing insofar as same do not conflict with the objects and purposes of this organization, subject to the jurisdiction and control of the corporation.
- 3. To promote freedom of worship and liberty of expression, within the limits of its own statement of faith and doctrine, among its own churches, ministers and members.
- 4. To ordain, license and otherwise qualify ministers to preach the Gospel and provide credentials for the same.
- 5. To establish and maintain Bible and training schools, inaugurate and maintain charitable institutions, such as homes for the aged, rest homes for ministers and missionaries, orphanages,

cemeteries and kindred institutions.

- 6. To own, operate and maintain such printing and publishing plants as may, in the opinion of the Pastor, be necessary to print and publish Bibles, books, pamphlets, periodicals and other religious literature as may be required for its own use; and to sell, give away or otherwise dispose of same in the furtherance of the work of said organization without pecuniary profits to any members of said corporation.
- 7. To buy, rent, acquire by gift or otherwise, and to own, operate, maintain and use, such real estate and personal and mixed property as shall be necessary for the maintenance, operation and carrying on of the business of the corporation; and to lease, sub-rent, sell, assign, transfer, convey and otherwise dispose of said properties upon such terms and conditions and at such times as, in the opinion of the General Board, be advantageous to the interest of the corporation.
- 8. To include the following:
- a. To borrow money for the purpose of purchasing such real estate, personal and mixed property as, in the opinion of the General Board, may be necessary to properly and adequately carry on the objects and purposes of the corporation business and undertakings, and to execute notes, deeds of trust, mortgages and other evidences of indebtedness, on behalf of the corporation, for the repayment thereof, and to satisfy and release notes, deeds of trust, mortgages and other evidences of indebtedness, on behalf of the corporation.
- b. For clarification purposes in connection with organizational business affecting church-owned properties, the respective interests in properties, both real, personal and mixed, owned in whole or in part by the Pentecostal Church of God (Incorporated), a Kentucky corporation, or any of its districts, shall be construed to be interests in fee simple.
- 9. To maintain such relations with local, state, federal and foreign governments as may be necessary for the successful accomplishments of the purposes of the organization and for the welfare of the churches, ministers and members thereof.
- 10. To engage such employees as may be necessary to perform the duties involved in carrying on the corporation business.
- 11. To make bylaws for the government of the corporation, not inconsistent with the constitution and laws of the State of Kentucky, the United States, other states or foreign countries; and to alter, revise and amend the same at will.

#### ARTICLE III

(Doctrinal Statement)

As a Christian constituency of New Testament believers, we, the Revival Tabernacle, subscribe to the following declaration of the things which are more surely believed among us (Luke 1:1), praying that there be neither harmful nor divisive difference of belief to the injury of any, nor the disturbance

of the peace and harmony of the church, and that we may be all of the same mind and same judgment, speaking the same things in love (1 Corinthians 1:10; Acts 2:42) and with one voice glorifying God, to the edification of His people, and to give Christian witness to the world.

# 1. The Scriptures

The Scriptures of the Old and New Testaments are the inspired Word of God (2 Timothy 3:16) presenting to us the complete revelation of His will for the salvation of men, and constituting the Divine and only rule of Christian faith and practice (2 Peter 1:21).

# 2. The Godhead

We believe there is but one true and living God, who is everlasting, infinite in power, wisdom and goodness; that He is the Creator of all things, visible and invisible, and Preserver of all things (Romans 1:20; Colossians 1:16). In the unity of this Godhead, there are three persons of one individual essence, who are co-equal, co-existent and co-eternal; namely, the Father, the Son and the Holy Ghost (Matthew 3:16, 17; 28:18, 19; 2 Corinthians 13:14; John 1:1, 2, 18; 10:33; 14:26; 15:26; Philippians 2:6; Hebrews 9:14).

The Son is the eternally begotten of the Father and accepted earthly limitations for the purpose of incarnation, being true God and true man; conceived by the Holy Ghost and born of the Virgin Mary. He died upon the cross, the just for the unjust as a substitutionary sacrifice, and all who believe in Him are justified on the grounds of His shed blood. He arose from the dead according to the Scriptures. He is now at the right hand of the Majesty on High as our great High Priest, and He will return again to establish His Kingdom of righteousness and justice.

The Holy Spirit is a Divine Person, Executive of the Godhead on earth, the Comforter sent by the Lord Jesus Christ to indwell, to guide and to teach the believer, and to convince the world of sin, of righteousness and of judgment.

# 3. Man, His Fall and Redemption

Man is a created being, made in the likeness and the image of God, but through Adam's transgression and fall, sin and physical depravity came into the world (Romans 5:12). "All have sinned and come short of the glory of God" (Romans 3:23). "As it is written, there is none righteous, no, not one" (Romans 3: 10). Jesus Christ, the Son of God, was manifested to undo the work of the devil, and gave His life and shed His blood to redeem and restore man to God (1 John 3:8).

# 4. Salvation

Salvation is made possible through the meritorious work of Jesus Christ on the cross and through Holy Spirit conviction. Godly sorrow works repentance and makes possible the experience of the new birth, and Christ formed within us is the gift of eternal life (Titus 2:11; Romans 10:13-15; Luke 24:47; Titus 3:5-7). Salvation is the gift of God to man, separate from works and the Law, and is made operative by grace through faith in Jesus Christ, producing works acceptable to God (Ephesians 2:8).

Man is a free moral agent and can at any time after the new birth experience turn away from God and die in a state of sin; with the consequences of hell to look forward to.

# 5. The Church

The true Church, built upon the Foundation of Jesus Christ (1 Corinthians 3:11; Ephesians 2:20), is the Body of our Lord (Romans 12:5; 1 Corinthians 12:27); Christ being the Head (Ephesians 1:22; Colossians 1:18). Its earthly constituents are all true believers, born again of the Spirit (John 3:6) and of the Word (1 Peter 1:23), who are living an overcoming Christian life (Ephesians 5:27; Revelation 21:27). To the Church, through its members, is delegated the various gifts and offices of the Holy Ghost (1 Corinthians 12:7-11, 27, 28) which are necessary for the successful evangelization of the world and the perfecting of the Body of Christ (1 Corinthians 12:7; Ephesians 4:11, 12). This universal, invisible, sanctified Church is the chaste virgin Bride of Christ (2 Corinthians 1:1, 2; Ephesians 5:26, 27; Revelation 21:9b, 27). It is this Bride for whom Jesus Christ returns, just prior to the Great Tribulation, to catch her away and take her to heaven (John 14:23; 1 Thessalonians 4:13-18).

# 6. The Ministry

God, through the Holy Spirit, definitely calls such as He desires to serve as apostles, prophets, evangelists, pastors and teachers, and specifically endues the one called with the talents and gifts peculiar to that office or offices (Ephesians 4:11-13). Under no circumstances should anyone be ordained or set apart to any such office unless the calling is distinct and evident and they meet the Biblical qualifications set forth in 1Ti 3:1-13.

# 7. Water Baptism

Baptism in water is by immersion, a direct commandment of our Lord (Matthew 28:19), and is for believers only. The ordinance is a symbol of the Christian's identification with Christ in His death, burial and resurrection (Romans 6:4; Colossians 2:12; Acts 8:36-39). The following recommendation regarding the water baptism formula is adopted, "On the confession of your faith in the Lord Jesus Christ the Son of God, and by His authority, I baptize you in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Ghost. Amen."

# 8. The Baptism of the Holy Ghost

The Baptism of the Holy Ghost and fire (Matthew 3:11), is a gift from God, as promised by the Lord Jesus Christ to all believers in this dispensation, and is received subsequent to the new birth (John 14:16, 17; Acts 1:8; 2:4, 38, 39; 10:44-48).

## 9. Sanctification

The Bible teaches that without holiness no man can see the Lord (Hebrews 12:14). We believe in the doctrine of sanctification as a definite, yet progressive, work of grace, commencing at the time of regeneration and continuing until the consummation of salvation (Hebrews 13:12; 2 Thessalonians

2:13; 1 Peter 1:2; Ephesians 5:26; 1 Corinthians 6:11; John 17:17; 1 Thessalonians 5:23).

# 10. The Lord's Supper

The ordinance of the Lord's Supper is a commandment of our Savior; and being a memorial to His death and resurrection, is strictly limited to Christian believers (1 Corinthians 11:27). The time and frequency of its observance is left to the discretion of each congregation (1 Corinthians 11:26). Only unfermented grape juice, the fruit of the vine, as recommended by our Lord (Matthew 26:29; Mark 14:25; Luke 22:18) shall be used in connection therewith.

# 11. Foot Washing

Foot washing is recognized among many believers as a Christian practice, and the time, manner and frequency of its observance is left to the discretion of each local congregation (John 13).

# 12. Divine Healing

Healing is for the physical ills of the human body and is wrought by the power of God, through the prayer of faith, and by the laying on of hands (Mark 16:18; James 5:14, 15). It is provided for in the atonement of Christ and is available to all who truly believe.

#### 13. The Resurrection of the Just

The Bible promises, "This same Jesus shall so come in like manner" (Acts 1:11). His coming is imminent; when He comes, "The dead in Christ shall rise first: then we which are alive and remain shall be caught up together with them in the clouds to meet the Lord in the air" (1 Thessalonians 4:16, 17). Following the tribulation, He shall return to earth as King of kings and Lord of lords, and together with His saints, who shall be kings and priests, He shall reign a thousand years (Revelation 20:6).

# 14. Setting a Time for the Lord's Return

It is unwise to teach that the Lord will come at some specified time, thereby setting a date for His appearing. It is also unwise to teach, preach or publish visions of numbers and dates which would tend to fix the time of the second coming of the Lord (Mark 13:32, 33).

# 15. The Coming of the Lord

We believe the Bible presents the coming of Christ as personal, imminent, pre-tribulational and premillennial. We further contend that this position alone admonishes watchfulness, incites holy living, prevents spiritual declension, and provides maximum incentive and motive for urgency and zeal in evangelizing the unsaved. As demonic deception and satanic darkness deepens, we urge our ministers to maintain and proclaim this doctrinal viewpoint as the "blessed hope" of the Church. Furthermore, we recommend that should any of our preachers hold to the mid or post- tribulation doctrine, they refrain from preaching and teaching it. Should they persist in emphasizing this doctrine to the point of making it an issue, their standing in the fellowship will be seriously affected.

### 16. Hell and Eternal Retribution

The one who physically dies in his sins without Christ is hopelessly and eternally lost in the Lake of Fire, and therefore has no further opportunity of hearing the Gospel or for repentance (Hebrews 9:27). The Lake of Fire is literal (Revelation 19:20). The terms "eternal" and "everlasting" used in describing the duration of the punishment of the damned (Matthew 25:41-6) in the lake of fire, carry the same thought and meaning of endless existence, as used in denoting the duration of joy and ecstasy of saints in the presence of God.

#### 17. Tithes

We recognize the scriptural duty of all our people, as well as ministers, to pay tithes as unto the Lord (Hebrews 7:8). Tithes should be used for the support of the active ministry and for the propagation of the Gospel and work of the Lord in general and not given to charity or used for other purposes (Malachi 3:7-11; Hebrews 7:2; 1 Corinthians 9:7-11; 16:2).

# 18. Spiritual Gifts

We believe in the gifts of the Spirit, in 1<sup>st</sup> Corinthians chapter 12, are attainable and for the use of edifying the body of Christ.

#### 19. Modest Dress

We believe that all members should dress in modesty: 1st Timothy 2:9; 1st Peter 3:1-6, Deuteronomy 22:5; Jeremiah 4:30; Ezekiel 23:40-44; Romans 12:1-2. Modesty defined as: No shorts or any ungodly apparel for men: shirts must have sleeves and kept buttoned up. For women: no pants or shorts, no "low-cut" neck blouses; all dresses or skirts must be below or cover the knees. We stand against the use of any form of make-up or cosmetics, the wearing of necklaces, earrings, bracelets, ie. any form of jewelry. We also stand against mixed bathing and wearing of such bathing apparel.

- 20. That all women should (after they are saved) not cut their hair. And that all men should (after they are saved) keep their hair cut. Men's hair should be off of the ears and off of the collar of their shirt. 1<sup>st</sup> Corinthians chapter 11.
- 21. We stand against all forms of Homosexuality or lesbianism of any kind, or any kind of sexual perversion of life. Romans 1:1-32; Leviticus 18:1-30. The pastor of Revival Tabernacle reserves the right to ban any person who participates in these lifestyles from any form of service at Revival Tabernacle or any function connected to Revival Tabernacle
- 22. We stand against the "evil" and "ungodliness" that can be viewed from the television.

#### ARTICLE IV

Form of Government

- 1. he Revival Tabernacle now has, and shall always maintain a pastorally (top down) guided form of church government.
- 2. We shall have a pastor who shall, after set in, not be voted on unless his lifestyle, actions, and/or character go against the teachings and /or declaration of faith of Revival Tabernacle.
- 3. If at all possible, the church shall have a secretary/treasurer that is set in by the pastor. He/she will keep records of all business transacted by the church. He/she will also act as clerk, do clerical duties necessary. He/she will attend all business meetings for the purpose of: A) Keeping the "minutes of the meeting" and recording them. B) Be prepared and read all old minutes at the beginning of each new meeting. Secretary/treasurer will serve in this capacity until: A) They resign. B) Deemed incompetent for job. C) His/her conduct not conducive to the "teachings" and "articles of faith" of the church.
- 4. All teachers shall be set in or removed by the pastor at any time. They must be a member, abiding by the "teachings" & "articles" of the church.
- 5. The church, any office-holder, or teacher must consult the pastor for approval before any business decisions or transactions occur.
- 6. The church will STRIVE to have 3 to 5 men on a "Board" (this may not be possible at times). These men will be members of the church, in good faith, full of the Holy Ghost. They shall uphold the teachings and articles of faith. No Women will be on this board. They will be faithful to the church in attendance, tithing/giving. They will meet the qualifications of a "deacon" outlined in 1st Timothy 3: 8-16. The board shall serve as men of counsel and input to the pastor. Until the board of men are determined and even thereafter, the Pastor has consenting authority to conduct any & all business transactions for the church without permission or advise from any other person.
- 7. If for any reason the pastorate of Revival Tabernacle is vacant a new pastor shall be appointed by the overseer of the South Florida Holiness Fellowship (Rufus E. Caraway) only after careful deliberations with the tithe paying members of the church.
- 8. No one shall bring up anything or anyone that might cause bad feelings in a church Meeting. They shall go to the pastor with these issues. Then if deemed necessary the pastor will bring up theses issues in a meeting.
- 9. The Pastor shall be overseer of all transactions and business of the church.
- 10. Any member not willing to uphold the teachings and articles of faith of the church will be counseled by the pastor. Then if they fail to, or choose not to abide within the teachings and "articles," they will be taken off of the books of the church as a member.

#### ARTICLE V

Declaration of Faith for Ministers

We believe that all ministers of Revival Tabernacle should observe holiness and sanctification of life, and dress as saints professing Godliness.

- 1. Trousers or Pants: No clothing that pertains to a woman or that is feminine looking should be worn. (Deuteronomy 22: 5 neither shall a man put on a woman's garment: for all that do so are abomination unto the Lord thy God.)
- 2. Shirts: Shirts must have sleeves, preferred long-sleeve. Shirts must not be low cut or opened in the front, not too thin of a material unless worn with an undergarment, such as a tee-shirt.
- 3. No cut of sleeves, muscle shirts, or any garment with writings or pictures on them that is not proper for a minister of the Gospel. These garments are not to be worn inside or outside of the church; neither advertisements that are not becoming to a minister of the Gospel such as: slogans, products, places ... etc...)
- 4. No Jewelry: Such as necklaces, bracelets, rings (including wedding bands, engagement rings, class rings), no earrings, nose rings, or any type of body jewelry or piercing. Watches are permissible and acceptable as long as they are modest in appearance.
- 5. No Swimsuits or Shorts: Not any garment that will cause a reproach to the name of Christ.
- 6. We believe in the qualifications of bishops as stated in 1<sup>st</sup> Timothy 3:1-7. A minister should uphold these qualifications.
- 7. An ordained minister of Revival Tabernacle will not watch any movie or other programming that compromises his purity and/or brings about a reproach to the body of Christ or the members of Revival Tabernacle. Today's technological advancements (computers, monitors, ipods, cell phones, DVD/VCR players) should be used primarily for educational purposes necessitated by "Home Schooling," work, general education, etc.
- 8. Ministers, as stated in 1<sup>st</sup> Timothy 3:4, will also see that their children do not bring a reproach on their ministry or on Christ in their: dress, conduct, and conversation.
- 9. Separation from the World: All ministers ordained through Revival Tabernacle must agree to abstain from all forms of entertainment which would compromise his purity and/or brings about a reproach to the body of Christ or the members of Revival Tabernacle.
- 10. Our ministers shall cultivate mutual fellowship and work in harmony. They shall not lend themselves to any disgruntled element in any local church for the purpose of deposing the present pastor or causing dissension or strife. Those doing such are subject to discipline.

- 11. Ministers and workers are advised not to interfere with others who may have charge of a church or mission, whether it be contacting the members without the consent of the one in charge, or by corresponding with the members of the church, so as to affect the influence of the leaders. All inquiries or correspondence that concerns the church, such as visiting the field, conducting meetings, etc., should be addressed to the pastor; or where there is no pastor, the correspondence should be addressed to the church secretary and/or trustees.
- 12. Whereas, the Bible teaches that we should not be unequally yoked together with unbelievers, and whereas a Christian's effectiveness in witnessing would be drastically impaired, if not entirely destroyed, by maintaining membership in a lodge, secret order or secret society, no minister, on any level of the Revival Tabernacle, shall be permitted to carry credentials with this organization and belong at the same time to a lodge, secret order or society.
- a. This shall not refer to trade unions, where membership is necessary for employment.
- 13. Revival Tabernacle will ordain and license suitable candidates for the ministry, subject to the conditions set forth in the General Bylaws and the respective district. It is recommended that each candidate first prove his/her ministry, and that a period of license precede the ordination.
- 14. In recognition of the fact that ordination is the highest goal to which a minister may attain and, therefore, is reserved for those who have spent sufficient time in the active ministry so as to prove is/her qualifications for this high office, no person shall be ordained to the ministry who is not active in the ministry at the time application is made for ordination and/or who does not give clear evidence of his or her intention to remain in the active ministry.
- 15. In order to be considered for ordination, the applicant must have fulfilled at least one (1) full year of full-time ministry; if working on a secular job, must have at least two (2) years' experience in an acceptable ministry.
- 16. All ministers of Revival Tabernacle must faithfully pledge their loyalty to Jesus Christ as Lord and Savior.
- 17. All ministers of Revival Tabernacle must affirm complete confidence in the infallible Word of God.
- 18. All ministers of Revival Tabernacle must affirm their commitment to the Great Commission (Matthew 28:19, 20; Mark 16:15, 16) and declare a willingness to go anywhere, do anything and sacrifice everything God requires of them in the fulfillment of that commission.
- 19. All ministers of Revival Tabernacle must accept God's call to preach and teach the Word to all people as God gives opportunity, and we do this because of God's love for every human being who, apart from faith in Christ, is judgment bound and destined for hell.
- 20. All ministers of Revival Tabernacle must endorse the Gospel message of salvation by grace alone through faith in the risen Lord Jesus Christ and

His atoning death on the cross for our sins.

- 21. The proclamation of the Gospel must include a thoughtful call of every person to repent, to commit to Jesus Christ and to follow Him as Lord and Savior, and to do all these lovingly and without coercion or manipulation.
- 22. All ministers of Revival Tabernacle must stay prayerfully filled and controlled by the Holy Spirit for a deeply spiritual Christ-centered ministry.
- 23. All ministers of Revival Tabernacle must lead lives of holiness and moral purity, appropriately representing Christian ministry to the Church and the world.
- 24. All ministers of Revival Tabernacle must practice a life of regular Bible study and pray for personal spiritual growth and anointed ministry.
- 25. All ministers of Revival Tabernacle must remember that family is a sacred trust and our responsibility to each family member is to be kept as faithfully as our call to minister to others.
- 26. All ministers of Revival Tabernacle must remember that they are responsible to the local church and will conduct their ministry to build up the local body of believers in the larger interest of the Church universal. They will be subject to those whom God has placed in authority over them.
- 27. All ministers of Revival Tabernacle must be responsible to faithfully discipline all who come to faith under our ministry, to encourage every person to identify with the local church, to work faithfully at evangelism, Christian education and Christian discipleship, and endeavor to train every believer in personal witnessing.
- 28. All ministers of Revival Tabernacle must share the cross of Christ by relieving both the social and spiritual sufferings of humanity, whether rich or poor, healthy or infirmed; we will do our utmost to alleviate human need, following Christ as our example.
- 29. All ministers of Revival Tabernacle must give themselves to prayer, to evangelism, to revival, to Bible-based counseling, to Christian education, to peacemaking and to our particular office, ministry and calling until Christ returns for His own. We do solemnly affirm these biblical principles for Christian ministry.

#### ARTICLE VI

Discipline and Restoration of Ministers

- 1. All ministers are amenable to the pastor and overseer in all matters of conduct and doctrine, however, no rumor or complaint against any minister shall be brought before a committee or board unless the procedure in Matthew 18:15-17 has been followed or the accused is present to defend him/herself.
- 2. If a minister falls commits an indiscretion, confesses and truly repents, and

shows a contrite heart, he/she should be given reasonable consideration and leniency; and, if possible, full restoration, after a suitable and proper probationary period of time. We should not unjustly persecute anyone.

#### **ARTICLE VII**

Marriage, Divorce and Remarriage

Marriage is an institution designed by God and is a sacred covenant relationship between husband and wife for a lifetime. The sanctity of marriage and family is upheld in Scripture. It is understood, therefore, that divorce is the breaking of the marriage covenant and represents less than the ideal. We further understand that sin has disrupted marriage and family relationships. Divorce is not encouraged in Scripture, for the grace of God encourages reconciliation. Yet because of the hardness and stubbornness of the human heart, reconciliation is not always possible. The New

Testament does reflect a higher standard for the ministry because of the responsibility of leadership in the Church and that the minister's life must model his/her message. We seek to comprehend and practice a balance between God's grace and holding the standard set forth in God's Word. Therefore, No divorced and remarried Christian shall be granted ministerial ordination with Revival Tabernacle.

#### ARTICLE VIII

Dissolution

The assets of Revival Tabernacle, Inc., (Incorporated), a Kentucky corporation, are irrevocably dedicated exclusively for religious, charitable and/or education purposes. In the event of dissolution of the corporation, the pastor and overseer of the South Florida Holiness Fellowship (Rufus E. Caraway), after paying or making provisions for the payment of all of the

liabilities of the corporation, dispose of all the assets of the corporation, so as to insure that the remaining assets will not inure to the benefit of any private person or persons, but that all remaining assets will be distributed to a non-profit organization or organizations, which are exempt under Section 501 (c).