

BYLAWS

CHRIST CENTER COMMUNITY CHURCH

Ratified unanimously on June 26, 2016

PREAMBLE:

The following matters provide the context to the theology and practice of church governance at Christ Center Community Church.

Foundational Doctrines: As Covenant Members of Christ Center Community Church (hereinafter referred to as the “Christ Center”), we embrace together these foundational theological truths:

1. We believe that the sixty-six books of the Bible are verbally inspired by the Holy Spirit, revealing God’s divine nature and His sovereign will and plan; that it is God’s Self-disclosure which opens to all believers the truth that brings them into a personal, love-relationship with Him; that God’s Word is true and accurate, and is our supreme authority, both individually and corporately, in all matters of faith and life. (2 Timothy 3:16-17; Proverbs 30:5-6; 2 Peter 1:20-21; Matthew 5:18; John 16:12-13; 1 John 4:1)
2. We believe in one, and only one, living and true God, Who is an infinite, intelligent, perfect Spirit and personal being, the creator, preserver, and supreme ruler of the universe, inexpressibly glorious in holiness and all other perfections, and worthy of all possible honor, confidence and love; that within the unity of the Godhead there are three persons -- the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit -- co-eternal in being, co-identical in nature, and co-equal in power and glory; and having the same attributes and perfections so that these three are one God. (John 4:24; Exodus 15:11; Mark 12:30; Deuteronomy 6:4-5; Matthew 28:19; John 4:25, 14:26, 15:26; 2 Corinthians 13:14)
3. We believe that God the Father is perfect in holiness, wisdom, power and love; that He concerns Himself mercifully in the affairs of all creation; that He hears and answers prayers; that He saves from sin and death all who come to Him through Jesus Christ; that He created us in His image, to take delight in those who love Him with all their hearts. (Deuteronomy 6:4; Matthew 28:19; John 4:25, 14:26, 15:26; 2 Corinthians 13:14)
4. We believe that the Lord Jesus Christ, the eternal Son of God, became man, without ceasing to be God, having been conceived by the Holy Spirit and born of Mary, a virgin, in order that He might reveal God, redeem sinful men, and rule over God’s kingdom; that Jesus Christ accomplished our redemption through His death on the cross as a voluntary and vicarious sacrifice; that Jesus Christ made our justification sure by His literal, physical resurrection from the dead, and that He is now ascended to the right hand of the Father,

where He ministers as our Advocate and High Priest . (Psalm 2:7-9; Luke 1:35; John 1:1-14; Hebrews 7:26; Isaiah 9:6; 1 Peter 1:19, 2:22; Romans 3:24-25, 5:8; Ephesians 1:7; 1 Peter 2:24; Matthew 28:6; Acts 2:30-31; 1 Corinthians 15:3-8; Hebrews 7:25, 9:24).

5. We believe that the Holy Spirit is the personal member of the Godhead Who executes the divine will in relation to the world of men in accordance with the sovereign plan of God. His work in the world is to convict the world concerning sin, righteousness and judgment. His work in believers includes that of regeneration, baptism into the body of Christ, indwelling, sanctifying, instructing, empowering for service, and preserving to the day of redemption. The Holy Spirit sovereignly administers spiritual gifts to Christians, to glorify Christ and implement God's work of redeeming the lost and building up believers. (John 16:13-15; 1 Corinthians 12:7-14; Romans 12:3-8; Ephesians 1:13-14; John 14:16-17; 15:26; 16:8-11; Acts 1:8; 2:4; Romans 8:9)
6. We believe that all people are born with a sinful nature, and that Salvation is the free gift of God's grace to meritless sinners, which is received by personal repentance and faith in the Lord Jesus Christ, whose precious blood was shed on Calvary for the forgiveness of sin. (John 1:12; Romans 3:24; Ephesians 2:8-10; 1 Peter 1:18-19)
7. We believe that Jesus Christ will personally and visibly return in glory to raise the dead and bring salvation and judgment to completion. God will fully manifest His Kingdom, and will ultimately establish a new heaven and new earth. (Matthew 26:64; Luke 21:27; Acts 1:11; 1 Thessalonians 4:13-18, 5:1-11; 2 Peter 3:10-13; Revelation 21:1-8).

Governance Preamble: To provide context to the rules of governance of Christ Center, the adopters of this revision of the Bylaws, previously revised in 1998, stipulate to the following distinctions, clarifications, and limits.

1. **A Spiritual Organism:** Christ Center is a local body of believers that is primarily defined as a spiritual "organism" of which Jesus Christ, the Son of God, is the Head. He is the supreme and final authority, enthroned in Heaven, yet present and welcomed to be enthroned in this local church. Christ Center, in all spiritual matters, shall be governed by God's Word, the Bible, in tandem with the guidance of the Holy Spirit, the divine author of the Bible.
2. **A Corporate Organization:** Christ Center, secondarily, is also defined as a religious non-profit 501(c)(3) charitable organization under the laws of the State of Colorado, with physical location and assets, and governance appropriately defined in these Bylaws. The Bylaws, therefore, provide governance to the corporate organization that serves the spiritual organism in fulfilling its mission on behalf of Jesus Christ, our Lord, Whose kingdom Christ Center represents and seeks to extend.
3. **Centrality of Christ:** Because of this dual nature of Christ Center described above, it is the purpose of this revision of the Bylaws to give clarity and priority to the spiritual authority of Jesus Christ over Christ Center. Jesus is the Head of His body, the "Church Universal" (Colossians 1:18). We at Christ Center give Jesus His right to be the Head of our local church. This right He

gained at Calvary, and was granted to Him by God the Father, Who raised Christ from the dead, and seated Him at His own right hand. We are named “Christ Center” to acknowledge His rightful headship here.

4. **Decision-Making Authority**. Finding the will of Jesus Christ for Christ Center is to be discerned by attention to the Bible, and attention to the leading of the indwelling Holy Spirit of Truth, Whom Jesus sent to guide His redeemed people into all the truth. In order for Christ Center to enthrone Jesus Christ fully and practically as spiritual Head, we must listen to His Spirit in decision-making. Listening to the Lord is the privilege and responsibility of pastors, elders, Christ Center leaders, and Covenant Members, each of whom have been trained and has matured in his or her ability to discern the mind of Christ together. (1 Corinthians 2:9-16)
5. **Listening Prayer**: In order to ensure that Christ Center is thus guided by Jesus, Who is the true “Shepherd of the flock” (1 Peter 5:1-4), it is necessary that a leadership team be identified who are spiritually mature, who can listen together to discern the unfolding will of the Lord, and who can humbly submit to one another to find the mind of Christ by consensus. The leaders and decision-makers of Christ Center, therefore, shall be men and women who know, and are committed to, the Word of God, who are in agreement with Christ Center doctrine and values, and who are maturing in their ability to practice “Listening Prayer” together.
6. **Responsibility for Discerning Christ’s Direction**: From spiritual “organism” to corporate “organization,” decision-making responsibility at Christ Center shall be as follows: (1) Christ as Head, (2) Pastor/Elder Team for spiritual direction, (3) Church Council for corporate decisions which support spiritual ministry, and (4) Covenant Members who are franchised for specific matters requiring a Confirmation Poll or Advisory Poll process as specified in these Bylaws.

In light of the clarifications above, the Articles of this revision of the Bylaws below specify two types of membership:

- **Communing Members**: Spiritually, the New Testament Church is called “the body of Christ,” and has many “members” (I Corinthians 12-14). Christ Center is a local “family” of God’s children who worship and serve our Lord Jesus. All Christians who profess a committed faith and love for Jesus Christ as revealed in Scripture are welcome to attend regularly. If they desire, and attend regularly, we welcome them to fellowship with us, regarding them as “Communing Members.” They may share the privileges and enjoy the ministries of Christ Center. Their service and support are valued and encouraged. Communing Members, however, may **not** vote or participate in the Confirmation Poll process.
- **Covenant Members**: Organizationally, Christ Center welcomes into Covenant Membership those professing Christians who sense a call to partner with Christ Center in active servanthood to advance its

mission. After training by Christ Center leadership, they choose to commit to Christ Center's mission by signing the Membership Covenant, by which they declare their agreement with the doctrine, values and vision of Christ Center. Covenant Members may participate in votes and Confirmation Poll processes, to hold office, and to take on vital ministry leadership roles.

Supplemental Addenda: While the Christ Center's organizational Bylaws are established, and may be amended periodically by the provisions stated in its rules, Christ Center as an "organism," i.e., as the spiritual Body of Christ, may articulate and append as needed such statements of values, vision, and clarification that serve to give spiritual definition and direction to our Christ Center mission. These statements may arise from our continuing spiritual quest to know and obey the leading of the Lord Jesus Christ through the Word of God.

Such mission statements shall be developed, stated, and amended by the initiative of the pastors and elders, and confirmed by the spiritual discernment of the Church Council, thus not requiring the amending of these Bylaws to which they are merely appended. These statements are matters of pastoral guidance based on Scripture.

The Supplemental Addenda help clarify the greater identity and spiritual purposes of Christ Center as directed by the true Head of the Church, Jesus Christ, Whom we acknowledge as having the supreme spiritual authority at Christ Center. The Supplemental Addenda, therefore, are to be regarded as standing alone, independent of the Bylaws, and not printed directly into these Bylaws.

The documents that are part of the Supplemental Addenda may include, yet are not limited to, the definition of Christ Center's position on such matters as:

- Marriage, Gender, and Human Sexuality at Christ Center
- Facility Usage and Exclusions
- Marriage in the Eyes of God
- Biblical Character: Qualities in Maturing Christians and Leaders
- Policy on Licensure to the Gospel Ministry
- The Biblical Role of Women in Ministry
- Christ Center Policies and Procedures

ARTICLE I **NAME, AFFILIATION AND PURPOSE**

Section 1.01. Name. The legal name of this church shall be Christ Center Community Church, which shall be referred to in these Bylaws as the "Christ Center."

Section 1.02. Affiliation. Christ Center is unaffiliated. We not officially affiliated with any outside, controlling religious entity. Christ Center is independent, built on the foundation of biblical ecclesiology. Christ Center is in spiritual unity and voluntary cooperative ministry kinship with other churches and para-church ministries that are likewise founded on historic Christian truth of the Bible and commitment to Jesus Christ.

Section 1.03. Purpose of Christ Center. The purpose of Christ Center is to be fully devoted to Jesus Christ so that we share His heart for lost and hurting people. It is to serve as God's instrument in His plan to reconcile to Himself a people from among every nation, tongue, and tribe on earth, and serve to reestablish His Kingdom in all the earth. We call all people into relationship with Jesus Christ, finding in Him wholeness, life-purpose and peace. Proclaiming and exemplifying the love of Christ, we implore individuals to accept Jesus Christ as Savior and Lord. We encourage those who have accepted Jesus Christ to grow in their relationship with Him, as well as in their understanding of His purpose for their lives. We strive to maintain the unity of the Spirit in the bond of peace.

Section 1.04. Purpose of These Bylaws. Christ Center is both an "organism" and an "organization." The purpose of these Bylaws is to establish rules for the corporate, organizational governance of Christ Center, i.e., to regulate and manage the business and legal affairs of Christ Center as a non-profit religious corporation in the State of Colorado. It is not the purpose of these Bylaws to regulate or govern spiritual matters affecting Christ Center or its members since we acknowledge that the Word of God, as proclaimed in the Bible, is the primary and final source of such authority.

ARTICLE II **ESTABLISHMENT AND TERMINATION OF COVENANT MEMBERSHIP**

Section 2.01. Distinguishing Two Types of Membership: Because we understand the dual nature of Christ Center as a spiritual organism and a corporate organization, Christ Center honors and recognizes two types of members. The first we call "Communing Members," and is biblically defined; the second we refer to as "Covenant Members," as defined and governed by these Bylaws.

Section 2.01.1. Communing Members: Every true follower of Jesus Christ who chooses to attend Christ Center regularly is welcomed and valued as a "Communing Member." They are welcome to come, participate, support and serve as they are led of the Lord and qualified for specific services. They are recipients of the blessings of Christ Center fellowship and are embraced as a spiritual part of the family of God. They have all the privileges Christ Center offers by the grace of God, but do **not** carry the responsibility for corporate decision-making through voting or participating in the Confirmation Poll process. They may participate in Advisory Polls.

Section 2.01.2. Covenant Members: Christ Center is a partnership of committed Christians who have been led of the Spirit to join the active team that advances the doctrine, vision, and values of the mission of Christ Center. When a person desires to become a Covenant Member, i.e., a corporate member, he or she shall take the following steps:

1. Apply in writing, affirming their profession of Faith in Christ.
2. Complete the "Understanding Christ Center" classes.
3. Be interviewed by Christ Center leadership to celebrate their profession of faith in Christ, their agreement with the doctrine, vision, and values of Christ Center, and to explore their gifting, abilities, training, and experience as it may relate to an active ministry role in Christ Center.

4. Sign the “Christ Center Covenant of Membership.”
5. At this point, they are privileged to receive the right hand of fellowship to welcome and celebrate their partnership with fellow Covenant Members of Christ Center, and are granted the privilege and responsibility to participate in decision making by means of voting and the Confirmation Poll process, and are eligible for Church Council membership.

Covenant Members are permitted to vote and to participate in the Confirmation Poll process, as well as Advisory Polls, that affect the corporate business of Christ Center. The issues that are to be brought before Covenant Members for confirmation, for which they have mutual decisional authority, are:

1. The approval of revisions to these Bylaws.
2. The calling of a Senior Pastor.
3. Advisory Polls to assist Church Council in confirming new elders.
4. Purchase or sale of real estate.
5. Other matters the Church Council deems proper for their consideration.

Section 2.02. Current Voting Privileges of Covenant Members. Covenant Members will have a current right to vote on the condition that they shall have attended at least twelve (12) Sunday worship services of Christ Center during the twelve (12) calendar months immediately preceding an Annual or Special Meeting of Christ Center.

Section 2.03. Termination of Covenant Membership. Termination of Covenant Membership, including voting privileges, shall occur:

1. By the member’s own written request; or
2. By breach of covenant, e.g., by non-attendance for twelve (12) consecutive months, or by falling out of agreement with the doctrine, values, and/or vision; or by action of the Church Council for good and sufficient cause according to New Testament principles found in the Word of God (Matthew 18); or
3. By death of the Covenant Member.

ARTICLE III **MEMBERSHIP MEETINGS AND VOTING**

Section 3.01. Notice of Annual and Special Meetings. Legally convened meetings of Christ Center’s Covenant Membership shall be the Annual Meeting and Special Meetings providing that notice of such meetings shall first be given to the members as provided herein. Notice of the Annual Meeting shall be given to the members at each of the worship services of Christ Center on the four (4) Sundays prior to the proposed meeting date. Notice of a Special Meeting shall be given to the members at each of the worship services of Christ Center on the two (2) Sundays prior to the proposed meeting date. All notices of Annual or Special Meetings shall be given in the manner established by the Church Council which is reasonably intended to encourage full attendance and participation by Covenant Members of Christ Center at such meetings.

Section 3.02. Date and Business of Annual Meeting. The Annual Meeting of Christ Center shall be held during the last quarter of its fiscal year on a date to be established by the Church Council. Business to be conducted at that meeting may include:

1. Initiating the Advisory Poll process for any new Elder candidate being considered by the Church Council;
2. Reviewing the financial condition and budget of Christ Center;
3. Ratifying any necessary changes to these Bylaws;
4. Giving of reports by officers and staff as specified by the Church Council;
5. Remembrance for those who have been called home to the Lord since the last annual meeting;
6. Conducting such other business as the leadership team of Christ Center may offer for consideration;
7. Advisory Polling may be initiated at the discretion of the Church Council; and
8. Vote on indemnification for Christ Center leaders.

Section 3.03. Call of a Special Meeting. A Special Meeting of the members shall be called by the Chairman of the Church Council, or upon the request of eight (8) members of the Church Council or by written petition signed by twenty percent (20%) or more of the eligible Covenant Members of Christ Center. Only those items of business specified and duly announced in such call shall be transacted at the Special Meeting. No new business from the floor shall be recognized.

Section 3.04. Quorum. Fifteen percent (15%) of the eligible Covenant Members of Christ Center shall constitute a quorum for conducting business at an Annual or Special Meeting.

Section 3.05. Voting Qualifications of Eligible Covenant Members. Only Covenant Members, as defined in Section 2.02, who are eighteen (18) years of age or older shall be eligible to vote, and/or participate in the Confirmation Poll process, on matters of business at the Annual or Special Meetings. Any reference in these Bylaws to “eligible members” or “eligible membership” shall be to such Covenant Members.

Section 3.06. Method of Voting. On all matters on which eligible Covenant Members are enfranchised, voting, if not otherwise specified, shall be by show of hands and/or voice vote as determined by the chairman of the meeting. A majority vote shall constitute approval of any items of business unless otherwise specified in these Bylaws. At the discretion of the Church Council, written polls may be initiated. Polling may be conducted in two forms:

Section 3.06.1. Confirmation Poll Process: On matters requiring thoughtful, prayerful responses from the Covenant Members, a written Confirmation Poll is a method of voting, and will be offered as follows:

1. A Confirmation Poll form will be distributed to Covenant Members only. The form may be emailed to members not present;
2. The form will specify the person or matter requiring consideration and approval;
3. Sufficient information will be given to provide the context for a wise, prayerful decision;
4. The Confirmation Poll form will require a signature and date of the Covenant Member. Confidentiality may or may not be offered. If confidentiality is to be

- offered, it must be specified in writing on the form in advance.
5. Opportunity will be given on the form for open-ended written comment(s) attendant to the matter at hand;
 6. A fourteen (14) day time limit will be the standard for returning the form to the Church Office, unless otherwise specified by the Church Council in advance. The Church Council may also specify a minimum number of returned poll forms desired to validate a confirmed consensus.
 7. A majority of poll responses will determine the outcome of Confirmation Polls, unless otherwise specified by the Church Council or provisions in these Bylaws.

Section 3.06.2. Advisory Poll Process: On matters where the Church Council solicits the wise, prayerful advisement of the whole Christ Center “family,” an Advisory Poll may be offered to both Covenant and Communing Members. An Advisory Poll is not a legal “vote,” but a solicitation of input so that the Pastor, Elders, and/or Church Council may act wisely on decisions for which they have the legal authority and responsibility. An Advisory Poll process shall be conducted as follows:

1. The Advisory Poll will be distributed to both Covenant Members, AND to any Communing Member who wishes to participate. (The Poll form may ask participants to specify whether or not they are Covenant Members.)
2. The Advisory Poll will specify clearly the matter on which the Christ Center leadership desires wise input.
3. Sufficient information will be included to give context for wise consideration.
4. The Advisory Poll will offer a range of check boxes to summarize the advisement, such as “In Favor,” “Not in Favor,” “Defer to Others,” etc.
5. Opportunity will be given for written comment(s) on the form, to give the respondent the opportunity to clarify reasons for the response.
6. The Advisory Poll form will require a signature and date; confidentiality may or may not be offered. If confidentiality is to be offered, it must be specified in writing on the form in advance.
7. The Advisory Poll form is generally requested to be returned within fourteen (14) days, unless otherwise specified by the Church Council.
8. The result of the Advisory Poll may or may not be published, at the discretion of the Church Council. Its content will aid the leadership team in making wise, informed decisions on behalf of Christ Center.

Section 3.07. Private Balloting. At Annual or Special Meetings of Christ Center, where a voice vote or show-of-hands vote is appropriate in matters not requiring a Confirmation Poll process, a private vote on any particular issue may be requested by any eligible Covenant Member present.

Section 3.08. Proxy Voting. Proxy voting by eligible members for another Covenant Member not present shall **not** be recognized by Christ Center.

Section 3.09. Absentee Balloting. Absentee balloting for immediate voice votes, show of hands, or written ballots in a Christ Center meeting will **not** be permitted.

Section 3.10. Open Forum Meetings. In addition to the Annual and Special Meetings, Open Forum meetings may be held each year. The Church Council shall determine the dates, time and the format of the forums. The date of each Open Forum meeting shall be announced during the worship service at least seven (7) days prior to the meeting date. The forums shall be informal and shall be conducted in a manner so as to encourage full and open discussion by those in attendance. Questions relating to Christ Center, its ministries and business affairs may be introduced by the Church Council and from the floor by those attending the meetings. Representatives of the Pastoral Staff, the Elders, and the Church Council shall be present at such meetings.

ARTICLE IV **OFFICES OF CHRIST CENTER**

Section 4.01. Senior Pastor

Section 4.01.1. Appointment of the Senior Pastor. Should the Senior Pastor position become vacant, a Pastoral Search Task Force (see Section 6.03.2) shall be appointed by the Church Council to seek and review candidates for the Senior Pastor position in accordance with the procedure established by the Church Council. The Pastoral Search Task Force shall consist of five (5) members, including at least one Elder who will function as chairman of the committee. The members of the Pastoral Search Task Force shall select their own recording secretary from within the committee.

The Pastoral Search Task Force shall report its findings and recommendations to the Church Council. If the Church Council approves the Pastoral Search Task Force's recommendation, the Church Council shall invite the pastoral candidate to come for a substantial visit to meet the church family, to teach in a Sunday morning service, and other planned interactions with the Covenant and Communing Members. Thereafter, the Church Council, on assessment of the candidacy experience as positive, and being in agreement, shall submit the pastoral candidate's name to the eligible Covenant Members at an Annual or Special Meeting of Christ Center.

The Church Council shall set a time limit of at least fourteen (14) days for return of the written polling forms, and will specify the minimum number of polling forms to constitute a sufficient return, not to be less than fifty percent (50%) of eligible Covenant Members. Upon at least a seventy-five percent (75%) positive result from a Confirmation Poll process, the Pastoral candidate shall have been approved. He shall be offered the position of Senior Pastor, pursuant to the agreement with the candidate on the employment specifics put forth by the Church Council.

Section 4.01.2. Duration of the Senior Pastor. After a review by the Church Council on the first anniversary of hiring, the duration of the pastorate is for an indefinite period of time.

Section 4.01.3. Duties of the Senior Pastor. The Senior Pastor shall serve as the spiritual leader of Christ Center. The senior pastor is the lead Elder. He, along with the Elders to whom he willingly submits himself for continual accountability, stewards the vision, shepherds the members and attenders, protects Christ Center from doctrinal fallacy and division, and trains the members to achieve their highest potential in Christ Jesus. Also, the Senior Pastor shall serve as the Chief Ministry Administrator of Christ Center. Additional staff pastors are directly under his supervision.

Section 4.01.4. Removal of the Senior Pastor. The Senior Pastor may be removed from the pastoral role at Christ Center. The removal of the Senior Pastor may be initiated in either of two ways:

1. By the Church Council as follows: At a Special Meeting of Christ Center called by the affirmative vote of at least seventy-five percent (75%) of the members of the Church Council at any regularly or specially called Church Council meeting.
2. By Covenant Members as follows: The removal process may also be initiated by the submission of a petition to the Chairman of the Church Council that has been signed by a minimum of twenty percent (20%) of the eligible Covenant Members.

The Covenant Members will determine the issue of removal of the Senior Pastor. A return of at least seventy-five (75%) of written poll responses of Covenant Members returned on a specified date, not less than fourteen (14) days, will be required. Upon a seventy-five percent (75%) or greater affirmative result of a "Confirmation Poll on Removal" by the eligible Covenant Members, the Senior Pastor shall no longer be employed to serve in the office and capacity of Senior Pastor or any other office of Christ Center.

The Church Council shall not modify the timing or percentages of the Confirmation Poll process. The specifics of his termination shall be at Church Council discretion, informed by applicable employment policy as to its timing and appropriate severance package.

Section 4.01.5. Authority in the Absence of a Senior Pastor. In the absence of a designated Senior Pastor, the Church Council, in consultation with the Elders, shall appoint another staff member or non-staff member of Christ Center to act as an "Interim Pastor" in making necessary operational decisions. The interim pastor may or may not be responsible for counseling, preaching or teaching at the discretion of the Church Council. An outside "Interim Pastor" may be selected to minister at Christ Center while a search for a permanent Senior Pastor is undertaken.

Section 4.02. Associate Pastors and Ministers. To serve the growing ministry opportunities of Christ Center, additional staff ministers may be vetted and hired in their gifting for a specialized ministry focus, as an expansion of the ministry team headed by the Senior Pastor.

Section 4.02.1. Calling Associate Pastors and Ministers. Associate Pastors and Ministers, full or part-time, may be called by the Senior Pastor after consultation with the Elders, and upon approval by the Church Council.

Section 4.02.2. Duration of Ministry. The duration of ministry for Associate Pastors and Ministers shall be for an indefinite period of time at the discretion of the Senior Pastor on whose ministry team each associate minister participates.

Section 4.02.3. Removal of Associate Pastors and Ministers. The removal of an Associate Pastor or Minister at Christ Center may be initiated by the Senior Pastor in consultation with the Church Council and in accordance with the procedures established by the Church Council or by a written notice of resignation by the Associate Pastor or Minister.

Section 4.02.4. Licensing Associate Pastors. Individuals may be licensed by Christ Center provided they are recommended by the Pastor and Elders, they meet the written policy requirements established by the Church Council, and they are supervised by the Senior Pastor in consultation with the Elders. Licensure allows for full ministerial recognition and privileges under the ordination credential and supervision of the Senior Pastor, and may be subject to periodic review by the Pastor-Elder Team annually or at their discretion. Ordination shall be at the discretion of the Church Council, and subject to the guidelines detailed in the Christ Center Policies and Procedures.

Section 4.03. Elders. The spiritual wellbeing of Christ Center shall be cared for by a plurality of elders, whose qualification, selection and duties are as follows:

Section 4.03.1. Senior Pastor & Associate Pastors As Elders. The Senior Pastor shall serve as the "Lead Elder" of Christ Center. The associate pastors may serve as Elders if selected in accordance with the procedure set forth in Section 4.03.2, and may vote on the Church Council in their role as Elder.

Section 4.03.2. Selection of Elders. Elder candidates shall be selected from the eligible Covenant Members, as initiated by the Senior Pastor. Any eligible member of Christ Center may make candidate recommendations to the Senior Pastor. The candidate's qualifications shall be reviewed by an Elder Review Task Force (see Section 6.03.3) in accordance with 1 Timothy 3:1-7 and Titus 1:6-9. Those candidates recommended by their respective Elder Review Task Force shall be submitted for approval to the Church Council and, if approved, be submitted to the Covenant Members at the next Annual Meeting or Special Meeting of Christ Center through an Advisory Poll process. The Elders and the Church Council will evaluate the Advisory Poll content in making their decision to confirm the candidate as elder. An Elder thus confirmed shall immediately be recognized and added to the Elders to serve the spiritual needs of Christ Center.

Section 4.03.3. Duties of the Elders. The elders have authority to serve the spiritual needs of Christ Center. Generally, the Elders shall exercise the shepherding ministry of Jesus Christ, the Chief Shepherd. In particular, the Elders shall promote the spiritual growth and welfare of Christ Center; give spiritual oversight to the needs of all whose lives Christ Center ministry touches, both inside and outside the regular church gatherings; visit the sick and home bound; encourage, by example and word, the missionary, evangelical, educational, and stewardship vision of Christ Center; consult with the Senior Pastor on all matters affecting the welfare of Christ Center and its members and attenders; and perform such other duties as may be assigned by the Senior Pastor. The elders are *ex officio* members of the Church Council, with four elders designated to count toward a quorum and to be eligible to vote (See Section 4.03.6).

Section 4.03.4. Term of Office for Elders. The office of Elders shall have no specified term limits. An Elder may request a leave of absence from active participation as an Elder for personal or family reasons. The request for a leave of absence, or to resign, shall be made in writing to the Senior Pastor.

Section 4.03.5. Removal of Elders. With the exception of the Senior Pastor and Associate Pastors, the removal of an elder from his office and position of responsibility may be initiated by a petition signed by at least twenty percent (20%) of the eligible Covenant Members of Christ Center and submitted to the Senior Pastor with a copy of the petition going to the Chairman of the Church Council. The Church Council may poll the Covenant Members, setting both a date and percentage of returns to constitute a valid decision.

An elder shall be removed from office on a vote of at least seventy-five percent (75%) of eligible corporate members.

Section 4.03.6. Elders Serving on the Church Council. Up to four (4) Elders will be counted toward the quorum of the Church Council in any council meeting. While all elders are encouraged to attend Church Council meetings and participate in discussions, only the four Elders, designated at the beginning of the meeting, may be counted toward the quorum and may vote in that particular council session.

ARTICLE V **CHURCH COUNCIL**

Section 5.01. Purpose of the Church Council. The Church Council acts with authority in matters relating to the “organization” of Christ Center, supporting and coordinating with the Pastor and Elders who act with authority regarding the spiritual purposes of Christ Center as an “organism,” the Body of Christ. The purposes of the Church Council are as follows:

1. The Church Council shall act with authority as the “Board of Directors” for Christ Center, as specified in the Articles of Incorporation under the non-profit, corporate laws of the State of Colorado;
2. The Church Council shall be stewards of the fiscal/physical aspects of the Christ Center corporation, attending to the practical needs of Christ Center for its ministries to operate successfully. These stewardship matters include developing an annual budget, stewardship management, financial audits, organizational policies, facility maintenance and improvement, risk-management, contracts, and other matters that support the existing and proposed ministries of Christ Center.
3. The Church Council shall consider and adopt policies in conformity to the Word of God in consultation with the Senior Pastor and Elders of Christ Center.
4. The Church Council will perform all such duties as are required by the laws of the State of Colorado for non-profit corporations.

Section 5.02. Membership of the Church Council. Members of the Church Council shall be chosen from the active Covenant Members to allow for a wide representation of ministries and to gain wisdom and prayer in finding the mind of Christ together.

The Church Council shall consist of ten (10) voting members as follows: Four (4) Elders, the Senior Pastor, the Treasurer, and four (4) active At-Large Covenant Members of Christ Center. The At-Large members shall be recommended by the Pastor and elders, and become official voting members of the Church Council as follows:

1. The Church Council will select four (4) candidates, either men or women, from the active Covenant Members of Christ Center.
2. These At-Large Church Council candidates will be confirmed by the Covenant Members of Christ Center by the Confirmation Poll process.
3. At-Large Church Council members will serve for a period of two (2) years and may be re-nominated by the Church Council, to be reconfirmed by the Covenant Members by the Confirmation Poll process, to be retained for a successive term.

Section 5.03. Non-Voting Members of the Church Council. The non-voting members of the Church Council include the staff associate pastors and the Business Administrator. Additionally, in order to gain wisdom and understanding, at their discretion, the Church Council may appoint a non-voting Covenant or Communing Member to act in an advisory capacity as a non-voting participant on the Church Council

Section 5.04. Alternates. Any member of the Church Council unable to attend a given meeting may consult with the Chairman of the Church Council, and another Covenant Member may be selected and seated to serve as an alternate for that specific session.

Section 5.05. Vacancies. Members who retire before the end of their term may be replaced by an alternate selected by the Church Council to fill the remainder of the term of the retiring member.

Section 5.06. Removal of Council Members. Any Church Council member may be excused or removed from office by:

1. Church Council acceptance of a written resignation of the Council member for personal reasons, or
2. A unanimous vote of the remaining Church Council members at a duly-called Church Council Meeting.

Section 5.07. Church Council Meetings. Regular Church Council meetings shall be held once per quarter, or more often as needed. The date, time, and place shall be established by the Chairman in consultation with the Business Administrator.

Special Council Meetings shall be held at the request of the Senior Pastor, the Chairman of the Church Council, or at the request of four (4) members of the Church Council.

Section 5.08. Open Sessions. All Church Council meetings are open to any Covenant Member who wishes to attend. The Church Council may invite other knowledgeable informants to participate in discussions to gain better wisdom in decision-making.

Section 5.09. Executive Sessions. At any time, the Church Council members may agree to continue the meeting in closed session, giving respect to confidential matters. Any member of the Church Council may request, by way of a motion, the convening of a specially-called Executive Session. The Chairman shall consult with the Church Council members to select the purpose, date, time and location of the session. No official business of Christ Center shall be conducted in an Executive Session.

Section 5.10. Quorum. There shall be a minimum quorum of seven (7) voting members present at a Church Council meeting to conduct Christ Center business.

Section 5.11. Voting. Voting shall be by show of hands, by voice vote, or by secret ballot as determined by the Chairman of the Church Council. A majority vote shall constitute approval of any item of business unless otherwise specified in advance by a resolution of the Church Council members.

Section 5.12. Church Council Officers and Their Duties. The office of Chairman of the Church Council shall be elected by the Church Council from its members at the first Church Council meeting of each new fiscal year. The Secretary shall be the Business Administrator, an employee of Christ Center, unless otherwise authorized by the Church Council.

Section 5.12.1. Chairman of the Church Council. The Chairman of the Church Council shall:

1. Be the presiding officer of the Church Council Meetings, Annual Meeting, Special Meetings and Forums;
2. Be a voting member of the Church Council;
3. Perform the duties of the office of Chairman as prescribed by the laws of the State of Colorado with respect to non-profit corporations; and
4. In his absence, the Chairman of the Church Council will designate a member of the Church Council to function in his stead as chairman in a given Church Council session.

Section 5.12.2. Secretary of the Church Council. The Business Administrator of Christ Center is *ex officio* Secretary of the Church Council. The Business Administrator, in the role as Secretary of the Church Council, shall:

1. Be responsible for recording, transcribing and keeping the minutes of the Church Council meetings, Annual Meeting, and Special Meetings;
2. Record the comments and concerns expressed at the Forums;
3. Perform the duties of the office of Secretary as prescribed by the laws of the State of Colorado with respect to non-profit corporations, to act as the Registered Agent on behalf of Christ Center with the State of Colorado;
4. Perform such other duties as may be assigned by the Church Council; and
5. Be a non-voting member of the Church Council.

Section 5.12.3. Treasurer of the Church. The Treasurer of the Church is a voting member of the Church Council. The Treasurer shall:

1. Be responsible for financial matters of Christ Center (e.g., church budget, other sources of income, disbursements of monies, etc.);
2. Give counsel and financial reports to the Church Council;
3. Perform the duties of the office of Treasurer as prescribed by the laws of the State of Colorado with respect to non-profit corporations; and
4. Perform such other duties as may be assigned by the Church Council.

ARTICLE VI **MINISTRY FORMATION, LEADERSHIP AND SUPERVISION**

Section 6.01. Ministry Formation. The leadership of Christ Center will develop, maintain, and advance ministries that support our vision and values, such as worship, prayer, the Word, community and mission. The pastor, Elders, staff, and/or Church Council may create structured ministry teams as needed. The Bylaws allows for the establishment of ministries with their appropriate leadership team, but the Bylaws will not govern the administration of these ministries and team, leaving this to the spiritual leadership of the pastor, elders, staff, and Church Council to develop and manage each ministry by biblical mandate. All such ministries are under the guidance of the Senior Pastor and Elders, who will report such ministry activity, with their needs and successes, to the Church Council.

Section 6.02. Ministries. Ministries of Christ Center may include, but are not limited to, Adult Spiritual Growth, Life-Groups, Youth and Young Adult Ministries, Children's Ministries, Local Outreach Ministry, Global Impact, Membership, fellowship events, hospitality/assimilation teams, library, the Outreach Center, Financial Task Force, Stewardship Team, and any additional ministries that advance the mission of Christ Center.

Section 6.03. Organization and Function of Special Task Forces. Task Forces are formed to function at the request of the Church Council for accomplishing specific tasks. Task Forces are not on-going "standing committees," but are dissolved upon the completion of their responsibilities. The chairperson for each task force shall be appointed by the Senior Pastor and/or Chairman of the Church Council. Such task forces include:

1. Bylaws Revision Task Force
2. Pastoral Search Task Force
3. Elder Review Task Force
4. Financial Trustee Team
5. Any other Task Force as required and initiated by the Church Council.

Section 6.03.1. Bylaws Revision Task Force (BRTF). At the initiative of the Church Council, a Bylaws Revision Task Force shall be formed. The chairperson and no less than three (3) members of this committee shall be appointed by the Chairman of the Church Council with the approval of the Church Council. The committee shall review the Bylaws and recommend changes to the Elders for spiritual review and to the Church Council for organizational impact. If approved, the Church Council will place the proposed revision(s) before the Covenant Membership for approval at the next Annual or Special Meeting by the Confirmation Poll process.

Section 6.03.2. Pastoral Search Task Force. In the event the office of Senior Pastor is vacant, the Church Council shall appoint a Pastoral Search Task Force (see Section 4.01.1) to seek and review candidates for the Senior Pastor position in accordance with procedures established by the Church Council. The Task Force shall be composed of five (5) members, of which one (1) shall be an Elder, the chairman of the Committee, and the remaining members from the eligible Covenant Members of Christ Center. A recording secretary shall be selected from among the Committee's membership. The Pastoral Search Task Force shall report its recommendations to the Church Council.

Section 6.03.3. Elder Review Task Force. Upon identification and recommendation of new elder candidates by the Senior Pastor, in consultation with the Elders, the Chairman of the Church Council shall form an Elder Review Task Force. The Task Force shall have five (5) Covenant Members, including an Elder designated to chair the Task Force.

The Elder Review Task Force shall follow the review procedure and qualification guidelines as established by the Elders and approved by the Church Council. Each Elder candidate shall have the affirmative vote of at least four of the five members of the Elder Review Task Force members before being recommended to the Church Council, and for final confirmation at the next Annual Meeting. A separate Elder Review Task Force shall be established for each new Elder candidate.

Section 6.03.4. Financial Trustee Team. To ensure the safeguarding, counting, confidentiality, and banking of offering donations, a team of trusted, trained Covenant Members, will be vetted, trained and supervised by the Business Administrator, in consultation with the Treasurer and Chairman of the Church Council. The Business Administrator will establish best-practice standards and monitor the compliance of the team members who serve Christ Center with honesty and integrity. This Financial Trustee Team may also function as an in-house audit team to augment periodic audits from outside professionals. However, the members of this team serve this vital role at the discretion of the Business Administrator, and therefore do not have any decisional role. The Senior Pastor will not access the donation records of specific individuals, so that he may remain impartial in the discharge of his shepherding duties with integrity before the Lord.

Section 6.03.5. Other Task Forces or Special Committees. The formation of other Task Forces or Special Teams, their membership, and their functions may be authorized and specified by the Church Council and/or Chairman of the Church Council as special needs arise.

ARTICLE VII **THE FISCAL YEAR**

Section 7.01. The fiscal year of Christ Center shall begin July 1, and end June 30, of each year.

ARTICLE VIII **FINANCIAL AUDIT AND REVIEW**

Section 8.01. Christ Center financial records shall be audited periodically at the direction of the Church Council or at the recommendation of the Business Administrator. The financial records shall be open for review by the Covenant Members of Christ Center at Christ Center's business office during normal business hours.

ARTICLE IX **RULES OF ORDER**

Section 9.01. The Bible contains Christ-like qualities that inform the way Christians should conduct business. The Chairman of the Church Council or other presiding officer of any meeting of Christ Center shall have the prerogative to establish biblical rules of order as he deems appropriate for, and conducive to, a full and complete explanation, examination, and discussion of issues before the meeting. Christ Center is not bound by these Bylaws to follow strictly Robert's Rules of Order.

ARTICLE X **AMENDING THESE BYLAWS**

Section 10.01. Motivation and Scope. Periodically, the Bylaws shall be reviewed and revised because of (1) fresh vision and direction from the Lord discerned by the Christ Center leadership, (2) the rapidly changing social/political climate which presents new challenges to our religious freedoms which may need to be addressed with biblical authority and clarity, and (3) potential growth requiring expansion of ministry structures. These periodic reviews may seek changes that are simple and few, or comprehensive, with many amendments and changes. More comprehensive future revisions of the Bylaws may be presented as a whole document for confirmation, as a replacement for the last revision.

Section 10.02. Procedure: Bylaw revision shall be recommended by the Pastor and Elders, and the process initiated by action of the Church Council. Section 6.03.1 prescribes the procedure for the Bylaw Revision Task Force.

Section 10.03. Amendment by Petition. Revisions to the Bylaws may be initiated by any Covenant Member, submitted to the Chairman of the Church Council in writing. The Elders and Church Council will consider the proposed amendment as to its biblical foundation, its organizational coherence, and its merits. The affirmation of three-quarters (3/4) of the Church Council members are required to take the proposal before the Covenant Members for confirmation.

Section 10.04. Advance Notice. The Covenant Membership shall receive at least fourteen (14) days prior notice before a Proposed Amendment is presented for approval or rejection by the Confirmation Poll process.

Section 10.05. Confirmation Procedure. A Confirmation Poll form will be presented to Covenant Members present at the meeting, and made available to Covenant members absent, with a specific date for returning it to the church office.

Section 10.06. Two-Thirds Confirmation. A minimum two-thirds (2/3) approval by the Covenant Members is required for adoption of any Proposed Amendment(s).

ARTICLE XI **CHRIST CENTER FOUNDATION**

Section 11.01. Christ Center Foundation is a separate legal entity, incorporated under the laws of the State of Colorado. Its primary purpose is to support the ministries of Christ Center Community. (See Christ Center Foundation Articles of Incorporation and Bylaws.)

ARTICLE XII **ENACTMENT OF REVISED BYLAWS**

Section 12.01. These revised Bylaws shall go into effect immediately following the positive adoption by the active, voting members of Christ Center.

Section 12.02. The active, voting members of Christ Center who have previously signed the covenant shall automatically become "Covenant Members" under the newly adopted revised Bylaws. Former members wishing to reinstate their membership shall complete the membership classes and sign the Christ Center Covenant of Membership.

Section 12.03. Upon approval of the revised Bylaws, the members of the Church Board shall become designated as the "Church Council," shall serve in the 2016-2017 fiscal year, and shall be subject to the provisions of the revised Bylaws that govern the membership of the Church Council (Article V).