



Christ Apostolic Church:

Federation Of Bethel International

Maastricht

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Statement of Faith and Constitution

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Statement of faith

1. THE SCRIPTURES

The Holy Bible was written by men divinely inspired and is the record of God's revelation of Himself to man and He will preserve it until the end of the world. It is a perfect treasure of divine instruction. It has God for its author, salvation for its end, and truth, without any mixture of error, for its matter. The divine inspiration extends equally and fully to all parts of the writings – historical, practical, doctrinal and prophetic – as appeared in the original manuscripts. It reveals the principles by which God judges us. Therefore is, and will remain to the end of the world, the true center of Christian union, and supreme standard by which all humans conduct, creeds, and religious opinions should be tried. The criterion by which the Bible is to be interpreted is Jesus Christ.

Exodus 24:4; Deut 4:1-2; Joshua 8:34; Psalm 19:7-10, 119:11, 89,105,140; Isaiah 34:16, 40:8; Jeremiah 15:16, 36: 1-32; Matthew 5:17-18, 22:19; Luke 21:33, 24:44-46; John 5:39, 16:13-15,17:17; Acts 2:16, 17:11, Romans 14:4, 15:4, 16:25; 2Tim 3:15-17; Hebrews 1:1-2, 4:12; 1Peter 1:25; 2Peter 1:19-21

2. GOD

There is one and only living and true God, He is an intelligent, spiritual, and personal Being, the Creator, Redeemer, Preserver and Ruler of the universe. God is infinite in holiness and all other perfections. To Him we owe the highest love, reverence, and obedience.

The eternal God reveals Himself to us as the Father, Son and Holy Spirit, with distinct personal attributes, but without division of nature, essence or being.

A. God the Father

God as Father reigns with providential care over His universe, His creatures, and the flow of the stream of human history according to the purpose of His grace. He is all powerful, all loving, and all wise. God is Father in truth to those who become children of God through faith in Jesus Christ. He is fatherly in His attitude toward all men.

Genesis 1:1, 2:7; Exodus 3:14, 6:2-3, 15:11, 20:1; Leviticus 22:2, Deut 6:4 32:6; 1Chron 29:10; Psalm 19:1-3; Isaiah 17:13, 43:3, 43:15, 64:8; Jeremiah 10:10; Matthew 6:9, 7:11, 23:9, 28:19; Mark 1:9-11; John 4:24, 5:26, 15:6-13, 17:1-8; Acts 1:7; Romans 8:14-15; 1Cor 8:6; Galatians 4:6; Ephesians 4:6; Col 1:15; 1Tim 1:17; Hebrews 11:6, 12:9; Peter 1:17; 1John 5:7

B. God the Son

Jesus Christ is the eternal Son of God. In His incarnation as Jesus Christ he was conceived of the Holy Spirit and born of the virgin Mary. Jesus perfectly revealed and did the will of God, taking upon Himself completely with mankind yet without sin. He honored the divine law by His personal obedience, and in His death on the cross He made provision for the redemption of men from sin. He was raised from the dead with a glorified body and appeared to His disciples as the person who was with them before His crucifixion. He ascended into heaven and is now exalted at the right hand of God, the Father, where He is the One Mediator, partaking of the nature of God and man. He will return in power and glory to judge the world and to consummate His redemptive mission. He now dwells in all believers as the living and ever present Lord.

Genesis 18:1; Psalm 2:7, 10:1; Isaiah 7:14, 53:1-12; Matthew 1:18-23, 3:17, 8:29, 11:27, 14:33, 16:16, 27, 17:5, 27, 28:1-6, 19; Mark 1:1, 3:11; Luke 1:35, 4:41, 22:70, 24:46, John 1:1-18, 29, 10:30, 38, 11:25-27, 12:44-50, John 14:7-11, 16:15-16, 28, 17:1-5, 21-22, 20:1-20, 28, Acts 1:9, 2:22-24, 7:55-56, 9:4-5, 20, Romans 1,3-4, 3:23-26, 5:6-21, 8:1-3, 34, 10:4, 1Corinthians 1:30, 2:2, 8:6, 15:1-8, 24-28, 2Corinthians 5:5:19, 1Thessalonians 4: 14-18, 1Titus 2:5-6, 3:16, Titus 2:13-14, Hebrews 1:1-3, 4:14-15, 7:14-28, Titus 9:12-15, 24-28, 12:2, 13:8 1Peter 2:21-25, 3:22, 1John 1:7-9, 3:2, 4:14-15, 5:9, 2John 7-9, Revelations 1:13-16, 5:9-14, 12:10-11, 13:8, 19:16

C. God the Holy Spirit

The Holy Spirit is the Spirit of God. He inspired holy men of old to write the Scriptures. Through illumination He enables men to understand truth. He exalts Christ. He convicts of sin, of righteousness and of judgment. He calls men to the Savior, and effects regeneration. He cultivates Christian's character, comforts believers, and bestows the spiritual gifts by which they serve God through His church. He seals the believer unto the day of final redemption. His presence in the Christian is the assurance of God to bring the believer into the fullness of the nature of Christ. He enlightens and empowers the believer and the church in worship, evangelism, and service.

Genesis 1:2; Judges 14:6; Job 26:13; Psalm 51:11, 139:7; Isaiah 61:1-3; Joel 2:28-32; Matthew 1:18, 3:16; 4:1, 12:28-32, 28:19; Mark 1:10, 12; Luke 1:35, 4:1, 18-19, 11:13, 12:12, 24:49; John 4:24, 14:16-17, 26, 15:26, 16:7-14, Acts 1:8, 2:1-4, 38,4:31, 5:3, 6:3, 7:55, 8:17,39, 10:44, 13:2, 15:28, 16:6, 19:1-6; Romans 8:9-11, 14-16, 26-27; 1Corinthians 2:10-14, 3:16, 12:3-11; Galatians 4:6; Ephesians 1:13-14, 4:30, 5:18, 1Thessalonians 5:19; 1Timothy 3:16, 4:1; 2Timothy 1:14, 3:16; Hebrews 9:8, 14; 2Peter 1:21; 1John 4:13, 5:6-7; Revelation 1:10, 22:17

3. MAN

Man was created by the special act of God in His own image, and is the crowning work of His creation. In the beginning man was innocent of sin and was endowed by his Creator with freedom of choice. By his free choice men disbelieved and sinned against God and brought sin into the human race resulting in complete separation from God. Through the temptation of Satan man transgressed the command of God, and fell from his original innocence; whereby his posterity inherit a nature and an environment inclined toward sin, and as soon as they are capable of moral action become transgressors and are under condemnation. Only the grace of God can bring man into His holy fellowship and enable man to fulfill the creative purpose of God. The sacredness and value of human life is evident in that God created man in His own image, and in that Christ died for man; therefore every man possesses dignity and worthy of respect and Christian love.

Genesis 1:26-30, 2:5, 7, 18-22, 3, 9:6; Psalm 1:1-6, 8:3-6, 32:1-5, 51:5; Isaiah 6:5; Jeremiah 17: 5; Matthew 16:26; Acts 17:26-31; Romans 1:19-32, 3:10-18, 23, 5:6, 12,19, 6:6, 7:14-25; 8:14-18, 29; 1Corinthians 1:21-31, 15:19, 21-22; Ephesians 2:1-22, Colossians 1:21-22, 3:9-11

4. SALVATION

Salvation involves the redemption of the whole man, and is offered freely to all who accept Jesus Christ as Lord and Savior, who by His own blood obtained eternal redemption for the believers. In its broadest sense, salvation includes faith, regeneration, sanctification, and glorification.

A.

Faith in the redemptive works of Our Lord Jesus Christ; first as the true Son of God who came to this world to reconcile man back to God the Father. He lived on the planet earth suffered for sins He did not commit, was crucified, died and on the third day resurrected and has since ascended to His glorious throne with The Father but still advocating for his whoever believed in Him and His redemptive works.

B.

Regeneration, or the new birth, is a work of God's grace whereby believers become new creatures in Christ Jesus. It is a change of new heart wrought by the Holy Spirit through conviction of sin, to which the sinner responds in repentance toward God and faith in the Lord Jesus Christ.

Repentance and faith are inseparable experiences of grace. Repentance is a genuine turning from sin toward God. Faith is the acceptance of Jesus Christ, His substitutionary atonement (He died in our place) and commitment of the entire personality to Him as Lord and Savior. Justification is God's gracious and full acquittal upon principles of His righteousness of all sinners who repent and believe in Christ. Justification brings the believer into a relationship of peace and favor with God.

C.

Sanctification is the experience, beginning in regeneration, by which the believer is set apart to God's purpose, and is enabled to progress toward moral and spiritual perfection through the presence and power of the Holy Spirit dwelling in him. Growth in grace should continue throughout the regenerate person's life.

D.

Glorification is the culmination of salvation and is the final blessings and abiding state of the redeemed.

Genesis 3:15; Exodus 3:14-17, 6:2-8; Matthew 1:21, 4:17, 16:21-26, 27:22-28:6; Luke 1:68-69, 2:28-32; John 1:11-14, 29, 3:3-21, 36, 5:24, 10:9, 28-29, 15:1-6, 17:17; Acts 2:21, 4:12, 15:11, 16:30-31, 17:30-31, 20:32; Romans 1:16-18, 2:4, 3:23-25, 4:3, 5:8-10, 6:1-23, 8:1-18, 29-39, 10:9-10, 13, 13:11-14; 1Corinthians 1:18, 30, 6:19-20, 15:10; 2Corinthians 5:17-20; Galatians 2:20, 3:13, 5:22-25, 6:15; Ephesians 1:7, 2:8-22, 4:11-16; Philippians 2:12-13; Col 1:9-22, 3:1; 1Thessalonians 5:23-24; 2Timothy 1:12; Titus 2:11-14; Hebrews 2:1-3, 5:8-9, 9:24-28, 11:1-12:8, 14; James 2:14-26; 1Peter 1:2-23; 1John 1:6-2:11, Revelations 3:2, 21:1-22:5

5. GOD'S PURPOSE OF GRACE

Election is the gracious purpose of God, according to which He draws, regenerates, sanctifies, and glorifies sinners. It is consistent with the free will of man, and comprehends all the means in connection with the end. It is a glorious display of God's sovereign goodness, and His infinite wisdom, holiness, and unchangeability. It excludes boasting and promotes humility.

All true believers endure to the end. Those whom God has accepted in Christ, and sanctified by His Spirit, will never fall away from the state of grace, but shall persevere to the end. Believers may fall into sin through neglect and temptation, whereby they grieve the Spirit, impair their grace and comforts, bring reproach on the cause of Christ, and temporal judgments on themselves, yet they shall be kept by the power of God through faith unto salvation.

Genesis 12:1-3; Exodus 19:5-8; 1Samuel 8:4-7, 19-22 Isaiah 5:1-7; Jeremiah 31:31; Matthew 16:18-19, 21:28-45, 24:22, 31, 25:34; Luke 1:68-79, 2:29-32, 19:41-44, 24:44-48; John 1:12-14, 3:16, 5:24, 6:44-45, 65, 10:27-29, John 15:16, 17:6, 12, 17-18; Acts 20:32; Romans 5:9-10, 8:28-39, 10:12-15, 11:5-7, 26-36; 1Corinthians 1:1-2, 15:24-28, Ephesians 1:4-23, 2:1-10, 3:1-11; Colossians 1:12-14; 2Thessalonians 2:13-14; 2Timothy 1:12, 2:10,19; Hebrews 11:39-12:2; 1Peter 1:2-5, 13, 2:4-10; 1John 1:7-9, 2:19, 3:2

6. THE CHURCH

The New Testament speaks of the church as the body of Christ which includes all of the redeemed of all the ages.

A New Testament church of the Lord Jesus Christ is also a local body of baptized believers who are associated by the covenant in the faith and fellowship of the gospel, observing the two ordinances of Christ, committed to His teachings, exercising the gift, rights, and privileges invested in them by His Word, and seeking to extend the gospel to the ends of the earth.

This church is an autonomous body, operating under the Lordship of Jesus Christ.

Matthew 16:15-19, 18:15-20; Acts 2:41-42, 47, 5:11-14, 6:3-6, 13:1-3, 14:23, 27, 15:1-30, 16:5, 20:28; Rom 1:7; 1Corinthians 1:2, 3:16, 5:4-5, 7:17, 9:13-14, 12, Ephesians 1:22-23, 2:19-22, 3:8-11, 21, 5:22-32; Philippians 1:1; Colossians 1:18; 1Timothy 3:1-15, 4:14

7. BAPTISM, THE LORD SUPPER, AND THE ANNOINTING OF OIL.

Christian baptism is the immersion of a believer in water and in the name of the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit. It is an act of obedience symbolizing the believer's faith in a

crucified, buried, and risen Savior: the believer's death to sin, the burial of the old life, and the resurrection to walk in newness of life in Christ Jesus. It is a testimony to his faith in the final resurrection of the dead. Being a church ordinance, it is a prerequisite to the privilege of church membership.

The Lord's Supper is a symbolic act of obedience whereby members of the body of Christ, through partaking of the bread and the fruit of the vine, memorialize the death of the Redeemer and anticipate His second coming. It is the responsibility of each partaker to examine themselves to ensure that they do not partake of the Lord's Supper in an unworthy manner.

The anointing oil is used for and aimed at continued sanctification and remaining in the presence of God and imparting of the Holy Spirit in believers.

Matthew 3:13-17, 26:26-30 28:19-20; Mark 1:9-11, 14:22-26; Luke 3:21-22, 22:19-20; John 3:23; Acts 2:41-42, 8:35-39, 16:30-33, 20:7; Romans 6:3-5; 1Corinthians 10:16, 21, 11:23-29; Colossians 2:12

8. THE KINGDOM

The Kingdom of God includes both His general sovereignty over the universe and His particular kingship over men who willfully acknowledge Him as King. Particularly the Kingdom is the realm of salvation into which men enter by trustful, childlike commitment to Jesus Christ. Christians ought to pray and labor that the Kingdom may come and God's will be done on earth. The full consummation of the Kingdom awaits the return of Jesus Christ and the end of this age.

Genesis 1:1; Isaiah 9:6-7; Jeremiah 23: 5-6; Matthew 3:2 4:8-10, 23, 12:25-28, 13:1-52, 25:31-46, 26:29; Mark 1:14-15, 9:1; Luke 4:43, 8:1, 9:2, 12:31-32, 17:20-21, 23:42; John 3:3, 18:36, Acts 1:6-7 17:22-31, Romans 5:17, 8:19; 1Corinthians 15:24-28; Colossians 1:13; Hebrews 11:10, 16, 12:28; 1Peter 2:4-10, 4:13; Revelations 1:6, 9, 5:10, 11:15, 21-22

9. LAST THINGS

God, in His own time and in His own way, will bring the world to its appropriate end. According to His promise, Jesus Christ will return personally and visibly in glory to the earth; the dead will be raised; and Christ will judge all men in righteousness. The unrighteous will be consigned to Hell, the place of everlasting punishment. The righteous in their resurrected and glorified bodies will receive their reward and will dwell forever in Heaven with the Lord.

Isaiah 2: 4; 11:9; Matthew 16:27, 18:8-9, 19:28; 24:27, 30, 36, 44; 25:31-46; 26:64; Mark 8:38; 9:43-48; Luke 12: 40, 48, 16:19-26, 7:22-37, 21:27-28; John 14:1-3; Acts 1: 11; 17:31; Romans 14:10; 1Corinthians 4:5, 15:24-28, 35-58; 2Corinthians 5:10; Phillipians 3: 20-21; Colossians 1: 5; 3:4; 1Thessalonians 4:14-18; 5:1; 2Thessalonians 1:7; 2:1-17; 1Timothy 6:14; 2 Timothy 4:1, 8; Titus 2:13; Hebrews 9:27-28; James 5:8; 2 Peter 3:7; 1 John 2:28; 3:2; Jude 14; Revelation 1: 18; 3:11; 20:1-22:13

**Constitution of
Christ Apostolic Church
Federation of Bethel International**

1. ESTABLISHMENT AND NAME.

Upon the leadership of God by His Holy Spirit, following the principles as set forth in His Word, the Bible, for the Fellowship and discipleship of believers in Jesus Christ and the advancement of the Kingdom of God, and to the magnification of Jesus Christ our Lord, we establish this church by this constitution. The Church shall be known as: Christ Apostolic Church, Federation of Bethel International. The church shall operate by the guidelines as set forth in this document.

2. MISSION

The mission of this church is to extend the love of God and Evangelize all people of all nations obeying the great commission in a culturally diverse community by:

- bringing back to God, His own creature;
- fend for those who are in need; and
- defend the fatherless and provide comfort for the comfortless.

These we do in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ, compelled by His love, and empowered by the Holy Spirit.

3. ELDERS

This church shall be governed supremely by the Lord Jesus Christ, making His Lordship known by His Spirit through the Bible. Under His guidance and through the participation of all members according to their gifts it shall do all it can to fulfill its mission as described above (1Cor. 12:1-27). In this we recognize the priesthood of all believers (1Peter 2:5-10).

The oversight of the spiritual welfare of its members and the fulfilling of its mission is entrusted to the Pastor(s), the church warden(s), the elder and the deacons of the church (Ephesians 4:11-12; 1Peter 5:1-4).

The number in each category is determined by the congregation and the number of branches the church has at any particular point in time.

1. The pastor (overseer) or his designate shall be the spiritual and public figure of the church whenever and wherever the occasion demands. The spiritual functions spring the requirements of 1Tim. 3 and Titus 1:

Here is a trustworthy saying: if anyone sets his heart on being an overseer, he desires a noble task. Now the overseer must be above reproach, the husband of but one wife, temperate, self-controlled, respectable, hospitable, able to teach, not given to drunkenness, not violent but gentle, not quarrelsome, not a lover of money. He must manage his own family well and see that his children obey him with respect. (If anyone does not know how to manage his own family, how can he take care of God's church?). He must not be a recent convert, or he may become conceited and

fall under the same judgment as the devil. He must also have a good reputation with outsiders, so that he will not fall into disgrace and into the devil's trap.

–1 Timothy 3: 1 – 7.

An elder must be blameless, the husband of but one wife, a man whose children believe and are not open to the charge of being wild and disobedient. Since an overseer is entrusted with God's work, he must be blameless- not overbearing, not quick-tempered, not given to drunkenness, not violent, not pursuing dishonest gain. Rather he must be hospitable, one who loves what is good, who is self-controlled, upright, holy and disciplined. He must hold firmly to the trustworthy message as it has been taught, so that he can encourage others by sound doctrine and refute those who oppose it. –Titus 1: 6 –9.

We understand the qualification regarding marriage to mean an elder be married, have children and his wife having never divorced.

In addition to these requirements, they should be a member of the church for at least 6 months.

The public functions shall include all public representations and including signatory to financial and treasury; and the link with other outside fellowships. The pastor or his representative presides over all council meetings consisting all designated officers.

2. The officers of the church (the warden, elders deaconesses) including the pastor have the duties as described in the New Testament, i.e. the general oversight of the local church: to be an example for the church, to lead the church and oversee the spiritual welfare of the membership, to organize and oversee the teaching in the church and to stimulate consequently the realization of the purpose of the church. They should handle anything entrusted to them with full confidentiality amongst themselves.
3. The officers of the church decide who will be present to the church for baptism and/or membership (see 4), who will be commissioned to teach and to be involved in pastoral counseling, leads the church in exercising church discipline as needed according to New Testament standards (Matthew 18:15-17; 1Cor 5; 1Tim 5:20, 6:3-5; Titus 3:10-11), decides on the invitations of (guest) speakers and overviews the character of the services to such an extent that these will be orderly and building up the participants according to scriptural guidelines (1Cor.12,14).
4. If in accordance with scriptural guidelines (1Tim.5:19), accusations are raised against an officer, the council will examine these thoroughly in the light of scripture. If the accusations are correct and disqualify the person involved, the board of elders will request that he step down. Depending on the actual development of the situation the person involved may also be subject to church discipline.

5. All officers shall be accountable to the Pastor, who is in turn, accountable to the board. The parish pastors shall also be accountable to the headquarter pastor in the fulfillment of their duties in all matters.

- **Appointment of Elders and Deacons**

The most important qualification for any office in the church shall be the individual genuine spiritual growth and development. Nothing overrides this nor is a substitute for it.

Appointment of an officer of the church starts with an observation and conclusion that he/she has the ability to be in a leadership position. This begins with ability to coordinate teams and groups within the church, being a team leader, Bible group leader, house fellowship, etc, in addition to the scriptural qualification.

While financial contribution is based on individual ability and income, an officer of the church must be seen as participating in the financial running of the church. To qualify for the position of the church Warden, a person must have gone through almost all the departments of the church and be able to effectively operate in such departments, since this is the last position before becoming a pastor.

Leadership training will be constantly organized for all the members who are aspiring to hold offices from time to time.

4. MEMBERSHIP

A person can apply for membership of this church if he/she:

1. professes sincerely to have repented from his/her sins and has accepted the saving grace of God through surrendering his/her life in faith to Jesus Christ as Lord and Savior;
2. has made a public confession of his/her faith in Jesus Christ by following His example of baptism by immersion;
3. accepts fully and wholeheartedly the contents of the Statement of Faith, this Constitution, and the Christ Apostolic Church, Federation of Bethel International Covenant.

The membership form is submitted to the church council, accepted and ratified and thereby announced and confirmed in a church service.

Christ Apostolic Church, Federation of Bethel International recognizes the following division of Membership:

- a. New Converts
- b. Non-obligatory Members:
- c. Members under the age of 18;
- d. Members that haven't participated in the activities of the church for 6 months.
- e. Officiating members

- f. Membership of Christ Apostolic Church, Federation of Bethel International ends:
 - i. by transferring membership to another Christian church /fellowship
 - ii. as the final step of church discipline (see attached document on this matter

In case an officiating member states he/she wants to end his/her membership without Transferring it to another Christian church/fellowship, Christ Apostolic Church, Federation of Bethel International Fellowship will maintain its obligations to the covenant. The member Involved will become a non-officiating member.

5. Church Council.

Organizationally and materially, the church council will manage the financial matters of the church, and administer the church. The church council consists of the Head Pastor, other pastors, warden, elders and deaconesses and ministry team leaders.

1. The duties of the church council consist of all the charges as given to her by the Church and the requests from the board of trustees; supporting the pastor(s) in Developing policies, leading and managing the interests of the church, including Initiating and managing activities.
2. The church council normally meets monthly or as many more times as is Necessary. These meetings are open for visitors and will be minuted. The church Council is always accountable to the general meeting of the membership.
3. The church council can spend funds, if available, in excess of the budget up to a Maximum amount of 10% of the yearly budget. Expenditures above this limit Should first be approved by the Pastor in Charge.
4. During the period that no church council has been elected yet, the founders of The church, supplemented by other dedicated members, will fulfill the task of The church council. In addition to this the elders in function have the duty to Spend sufficient time on the necessary establishment of the church council.

6. Ministry teams.

Each of the different ministries of the church will be organized and overviewed by a Ministry team. The ministry teams consist of members and regular visitors.

The ministry teams normally meet once per month or as often as is necessary. A ministry team can establish (temporary) workgroups as found necessary for specific tasks within their area of responsibility. Both the number of ministry teams as well as the number of team members in each ministry team can be increased or decreased as at when found necessary. Fulfilling the mission of the church remains the responsibility of all members.

7. .Ministry Teams Leaders.

Each ministry team will be led by a ministry team leader. The ministry team leader must be a member of Christ Apostolic Church, Federation of Bethel International. Ministry team leaders will be appointed by the elders after appropriate prayer and consideration. The normal term for a ministry team leader will be one year. After such a period they can be re-appointed. The duty of the ministry team leaders is to facilitate the meetings of the ministry teams and to represent the ministry team in the council.

6. Deaconis

As it is found necessary by board of elders and/or the church council deaconis can be appointed. This will be subject to the same procedure as the appointing of elders (see 111: 1 and 2) and the requirements according to 1Tim 3:8-13:

Deaconis, likewise, are to be men worth of respect, sincere, not indulging in much wine, and not pursuing dishonest gain. They must keep hold of the deep truths of the faith with a clear conscience. They must first be tested; and then if there is nothing against them, let them serve as deaconesses.

In the same way, their wives are to be woman worth of respect, not malicious talkers but temperate and trustworthy in everything.

A deaconess must be married and staying in the marriage. She must not have divorced nor remarried whiled the earlier husband still lives and must manage her children and her household well. Those who have served well gain an excellent standing and great assurance in their faith in Christ Jesus. 1Timothy 3:8-13

The duty of the deaconis is to assist the elders and the church council regarding the work in the church.

7. Finances

Support

The main sources of financial support for the church consist of voluntary offerings and tithings of the members of the church.

The Pastor remains the custodian of the church funds and chief account officer.

Budget.

All funds will be used solely for the realization of the purpose of the church and all decisions related to this will be made by the church council.

Christ Apostolic Church Federation of Bethel International holds the policy that it will not put itself in debt at any given time or for any purpose.

The treasurer, in cooperation with the team ministry leaders, will prepare the annual budget based on programs, events and commitments.

Treasurer.

The treasurer is responsible for maintaining appropriate reimbursements of expenses on behalf of Christ Apostolic Church Federation of Bethel International.

The treasurer is responsible for booking all income and expenses against the appropriate budget and maintaining the books of the church.

Bank transfers for payment and/or reimbursements must be submitted to the pastor or his nominee for verification and authorization.

The treasurer will submit a monthly report of income and expenses to the Pastor and will prepare the annual balance sheet and statement of income and expenses within one month after the end of the financial year.

Banking.

The church banker shall be the ING while our operation remains in the Netherlands. A different banker may be chosen for banking purposes in the event that the church activities grow beyond the Netherlands. All deposits and other transactions shall be through the constitutional bank.

Audit.

On a yearly basis the board of trustees shall appoint two members for the audit of the books. They shall submit their report to the board at the latest 6 weeks after the end of the accounting year.

8. General meeting of the membership.

In the general meeting of the membership all the members of the church will have equal right of speech and members from 18 years and above have the right to participate.

• **Frequency:**

The annual general meeting of the membership will take place in the month of January or February. On request of the church council or on request of any seven members other general assemblies can be set. An announcement of such a meeting is done at least two weeks ahead of time.

• **Agenda:**

The church council will provide an agenda that can be supplemented by members of the church. The church council will appoint one of its members to preside over the general meeting.

CHURCH DISCIPLINE

It is unfortunately possible that a member or more from the church may fall into serious sin. In such a case, appropriate disciplinary action will have to be taken. Such disciplinary action will have to be taken in love and as a deterrent to others not to condole it. The procedure is as laid down as follows:

Matthew 18: 15-17

“Moreover if thy brother shall trespass against thee, go and tell him his fault between thee and him alone: if he shall hear thee, thou hast gained thy brother. But if he will not hear thee, then take with thee one or two more, that in the mouth of two or three witnesses every word may be established.

And if he shall neglect to hear them, tell it unto the church: but if he neglect to hear the church, let him be unto thee as an heathen man and a publican.

1 Corinthians 5:1-13

“It is reported commonly that there is fornication among you, and such fornication as is not so much as named among the Gentiles, that one should have his father's wife. And ye are puffed up, and have not rather mourned, that he that hath done this deed might be taken away from among you.

For I verily, as absent in body, but present in spirit, have judged already, as though I were present, concerning him that hath so done this deed, In the name of our Lord Jesus Christ, when ye are gathered together, and my spirit, with the power of our Lord Jesus Christ, To deliver such an one unto Satan for the destruction of the flesh, that the spirit may be saved in the day of the Lord Jesus.

Your glorying is not good. Know ye not that a little leaven leaveneth the whole lump? Purge out therefore the old leaven, that ye may be a new lump, as ye are unleavened. For even Christ our passover is sacrificed for us: Therefore let us keep the feast, not with old leaven, neither with the leaven of malice and wickedness; but with the unleavened bread of sincerity and truth.

I wrote unto you in an epistle not to company with fornicators: Yet not altogether with the fornicators of this world, or with the covetous, or extortioners, or with idolaters; for then must ye needs go out of the world. But now I have written unto you not to keep company, if any man that is called a brother be a fornicator, or covetous, or an idolator, or a railer, or a drunkard, or an extortioner; with such an one no not to eat.

For what have I to do to judge them also that are without? do not ye judge them that are within? But them that are without God judgeth. Therefore put away from among yourselves that wicked person.

Titus 3: 10

Warn a divisive person once, and then warn him second time. After that, have nothing to do with him.

In Revelation chapters 2 and 3, we read how our Lord Jesus Christ confronts several churches with the fact that they did not exercise appropriate church discipline. The purpose for church discipline is two-fold: to

- Bring the wrong member to repentance from his/her sin;
- Protect the church from being harmed by the sin of the member.

In all relating scriptures, church discipline is related to serious sin. Under the Old Testament laws, such a person would have been subjected to capital punishment for breaking God's commandments in such a manner.

Church discipline, exercised out of love for the member involved, is necessary to keep the whole body of Christ in a healthy condition. Church discipline is a true concern for the entire congregation.

We therefore expect all members of Christ Apostolic Church, Federation of Bethel international to submit to church discipline whenever there is a biblical reason to exercise it.

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