



CONSTITUTION AND BYLAWS

Of

Rock Solid Ministries, Inc.

Of Richmond, Indiana

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Rock Solid Ministries, Inc. Richmond, Indiana

Date Ratified: September 15, 2011

PREAMBLE

For the purpose of establishing and maintaining a place where the love and acceptance of Jesus Christ can be found; we are committed to serve the weary, hurting and challenged of the urban Richmond community with the love and acceptance of Jesus Christ, the life-changing power of the Holy Spirit, Biblical teaching and programs geared to improve their standard of life; to worship Almighty God; to provide Christian fellowship for those of like precious faith where the work of the Holy Spirit may be honored; to assume our share of responsibility and exercise the privilege of propagating the Gospel of Jesus Christ by all and any available means both at home and in foreign lands; we, whose names appear on the membership roster under the above date do hereby recognize ourselves as comprising a local ministry in fellowship with and a part of the Indiana District Assemblies of God, Inc. and the General Council of the Assemblies of God.

CONSTITUTION

ARTICLE I. NAME

The name of this ministry shall be Rock Solid Ministries, Inc. of the city of Richmond, State of Indiana, hereinafter referred to as 'ministry', 'assembly' or by said name.

ARTICLE II. AFFILIATION

This ministry hereby voluntarily enters into the relationship of an affiliated assembly with the General Council of the Assemblies of God with headquarters in Springfield, Missouri and the Indiana District Assemblies of God, Inc. with headquarters in Indianapolis, Indiana to share in the privileges and to assume the responsibilities enjoined by that affiliation.

ARTICLE III. PREROGATIVES

Section 1: This ministry shall have the right to govern itself according to the standards of the New Testament Scriptures.

Section 2: In connection therewith or incidental thereto it shall have the right to purchase or acquire by gift, bequest or otherwise either directly or as trustee and to own, hold in trust, use, sell, convey, mortgage, lease or otherwise dispose of any real estate or personal property as may be necessary for the furtherance of its purposes; all in accordance with its Constitution and Bylaws or as the same may be hereafter amended.

ARTICLE IV. TENANTS OF FAITH

This ministry accepts the Holy Scriptures as the revealed Will of God and hereby adopts and will promote the following tenants of faith for the purpose of maintaining general unity. This is our statement of faith:

1. *The Scriptures Inspired*

The Scriptures, both the Old and New Testaments, are verbally inspired of God and are the revelation of God to man, the infallible, authoritative rule of faith and conduct (2 Tim. 3:15-17; 1 Thess. 2:13; 2 Peter 1:21).

2. *The One True God*

The one true God has revealed Himself as the eternally self-existent "I AM," the Creator of heaven and earth, and the Redeemer of mankind. He has further revealed Himself as embodying the principles of relationship and association as Father, Son, and Holy Ghost (Deut. 6:4; Isa. 43:10, 11; Matt. 28:19; Luke 3:22).

THE ADORABLE GODHEAD

(a) Terms Defined

The terms trinity and persons, as related to the Godhead, while not found in the Scriptures, are words in harmony with Scripture, whereby we may convey to others our immediate understanding of the doctrine of Christ respecting the Being of God, as distinguished from gods many and lords many. We therefore may speak with propriety of the Lord our God, who is One Lord, as a Trinity or as one Being of three persons, and still be absolutely scriptural (examples, Matthew 28:19, 2 Corinthians 13:14; John 14:16,17).

(b) Distinction and Relationship in the Godhead

Christ taught a distinction of persons in the Godhead which He expressed in specific terms of relationship, as Father, Son, and Holy Ghost, but that this distinction and relationship, as to its mode is inscrutable and incomprehensible, because unexplained (Luke 1:35; 1 Corinthians 1:24; Matthew 11:25-27; 28:19; 2 Corinthians 13:14; 1 John 1:3,4).

(c) Unity of the One Being of Father, Son, and Holy Ghost

Accordingly, therefore, there is that in the Father which constitutes Him the Father and not the Son; there is that in the Son which constitutes Him the Son and not the Father; and there is that in the Holy Ghost which constitutes Him the Holy Ghost and not either the Father or the Son. Wherefore the Father is the Begetter; the Son is the Begotten; and the Holy Ghost is the One proceeding from the Father and the Son. Therefore, because these three persons in the Godhead are in a state of unity, there is but one Lord God Almighty and His name one (John 1:18; 15:26; 17:11, 21; Zechariah 14:9).

(d) Identity and Cooperation in the Godhead

The Father, the Son, and the Holy Ghost are never identical as to person, nor confused as to relation; nor divided in respect to the Godhead; nor opposed as to cooperation. The Son is in the Father and the Father is in the Son as to relationship. The Son is with the Father and the Father is with the Son, as to fellowship. The Father is not from the Son, but the Son is from the Father, as to authority. The Holy Ghost is from the Father and the Son proceeding, as to nature, relationship, cooperation and authority. Hence no person in the Godhead either exists or works separately or independently of the others (John 5:17-30, 32, 37; 8:17, 18).

(e) The Title, Lord Jesus Christ

The appellation Lord Jesus Christ is a proper name. It is never applied in the New Testament either to the Father or to the Holy Ghost. It therefore belongs exclusively to the Son of God. (Romans 1:1-3, 7; 2 John 3)

(f) The Lord Jesus Christ, God with us

The Lord Jesus Christ, as to His divine and eternal nature, is the proper and only Begotten of the Father, but as to His human nature. He is the proper Son of Man. He is, therefore, acknowledged to be both God and man; who because He is God and man, is Immanuel, God with us. (Matthew 1:23; 1 John 4:2, 10, 14; Revelation 1:13, 17)

(g) The Title, Son of God

Since the name Immanuel embraces both God and man, in the one person, our Lord Jesus Christ, it follows that the title Son of God describes His proper deity, and the title Son of Man, His proper humanity. Therefore, the title Son of God belongs to the order of eternity, and the title Son of Man to the order of time (Matthew 1:21-23; 2 John 3; 1 John 3:8; Hebrews 7:3; 1:1-13)

(h) Transgression of the Doctrine of Christ

Wherefore, it is a transgression of the doctrine of Christ to say that Jesus Christ derived the title Son of God solely from the fact of the Incarnation, or because of His relation to the economy of redemption. Therefore, to deny that the Father is a real and eternal Father, and that the Son is a real and eternal Son, is a denial of the distinction and relationship in the Being of God; a denial of the Father and the Son; and a displacement of the truth that Jesus Christ is come in the flesh (2John 9; John 1:1,2,14,18,29,49; 1 John 2:22,23; 4:1-5; Hebrews 12:2).

(i) Exaltation of Jesus Christ as Lord

The Son of God, our Lord Jesus Christ, having by himself purged our sins, sat down on the right hand of the Majesty on high, angels and principalities and powers having been made subject unto Him. And having been made both Lord and Christ, He sent the Holy Ghost that we, in the name of Jesus, might bow our knees and confess that Jesus Christ is Lord to the glory of God the Father until the end, when the Son shall become subject to the Father that God may be all in all (Hebrews 1:3; 1 Peter 3:22; Acts 2:32-36; Romans 14:11; 1 Corinthians 15:24-28)

(j) Equal Honor to the Father and to the Son

Wherefore, since the Father has delivered all judgment unto the Son, it is not only the express duty of all in heaven and on earth to bow the knee, but it is an unspeakable joy in the Holy Ghost to ascribe unto the Son all the attributes of deity, and to give Him all the honor and the glory contained in all the names and titles of the Godhead except those which express relationship (see paragraphs b, c, and d), and thus honor the Son even as we honor the Father (John 5:22,23; 1 Peter 1:8; Revelation 5:6-14; Philippians 2:8,9; Revelation 7:9,10; 4:8-11)

3. *The Deity of the Lord Jesus Christ*

The Lord Jesus Christ is the eternal Son of God. The Scriptures declare:

- (a) His virgin birth (Matt. 1:23; Luke 1:31, 35).
- (b) His sinless life (Heb. 7:26; 1 Peter 2:22).
- (c) His miracles (Acts 2:22; 10:38).
- (d) His sub-stitutory work on the cross (1 Cor. 15:3; 2 Cor. 5:21).
- (e) His bodily resurrection from the dead (Matt. 28:6; Luke 24:39; 1 Cor. 15:4).
- (f) His exaltation to the right hand of God (Acts 1:9, 11; 2:33; Phil.2:9-11; Heb.1-3).

4. *The Fall of Man*

Man was created good and upright; for God said, "Let us make man in our image, after our likeness." However, man by voluntary transgression fell and thereby incurred not only physical death but also spiritual death, which is separation from God (Gen. 1:26; 2:17; 3:6; Rom. 5:12-19).

5. *The Salvation of Man*

Man's only hope of redemption is through the shed blood of Jesus Christ, the Son of God.

(a) Conditions to Salvation

Salvation is received through repentance toward God and faith toward the Lord Jesus Christ. By the washing of regeneration and renewing of the Holy Ghost, being justified by grace through faith, man becomes an heir of God according to the hope of eternal life (Luke 24:47; John 3:3; Rom. 10:13-15; Eph. 2:8; Titus 2:11; 3:5-7).

(b) The Evidences of Salvation

The inward evidence of salvation is the direct witness of the Spirit (Rom. 8:16). The outward evidence to all men is a life of righteousness and true holiness (Eph. 4:24; Titus 2:12).

6. *The Ordinances of the Church*

(a) Baptism in Water

The ordinance of baptism by immersion is commanded in the Scriptures. All who repent and believe on Christ as Savior and Lord are to be baptized. Thus, they declare to the world that they have died with Christ and that they also have been raised with Him to walk in newness of life (Matt. 28:19; Mark 16:16; Acts 10:45; Rom. 6:4).

(b) Holy Communion

The Lord's Supper, consisting of the elements--bread and the fruit of the vine--is the symbol expressing our sharing the divine nature of our Lord Jesus Christ (2 Peter 1:4), a memorial of His suffering and death (1 Cor.11:26), a prophecy of His second coming (1 Cor. 11:26), and is enjoined on all believers "till He come!"

7. *The Baptism in the Holy Ghost*

All believers are entitled to, and should ardently expect and earnestly seek, the promise of the Father and the baptism in the Holy Ghost and fire, according to the command of our Lord Jesus Christ. This was the normal experience of all in the early Christian Church. With it comes the enduement of power for life and service, the bestowment of the gifts, and their uses in the work of the ministry (Luke 24:49; Acts 1:4, 8; 1 Cor. 12:1-31). This experience is distinct from, and subsequent to, the experience of the new birth (Acts 8:12-17; 10:44-46; 11:14-16; 15:7-9). With the baptism in the Holy Ghost come such experiences as an overflowing fullness of the Spirit (John 7:37-39; Acts 4:8), a deepened reverence for God (Acts 2:43; Heb. 12:28), and a more active love for Christ, for His Word, and for the lost (Mark 16:20).

8. *The Evidence of the Baptism in the Holy Ghost*

The baptism of believers in the Holy Ghost is witnessed by the initial physical sign of speaking with other tongues as the Spirit of God gives them utterance (Acts 2:4). The speaking in tongues, in this instance, is the same in essence as the gift of tongues (1 Cor. 12:4-10, 28), but different in purpose and use.

9. *Sanctification*

Sanctification is an act of separation from that which is evil, and of dedication unto God (Rom. 12:1, 2; 1 Thess. 5:23; Heb. 13:12). The scriptures teach a life of "holiness without which no man shall see the Lord" (Heb. 12:14). By the power of the Holy Ghost we are able to obey the command: "Be ye holy, for I am holy" (1 Peter 1:15, 16). Sanctification is realized in the believer by recognizing his identification with Christ in His death and resurrection, by faith reckoning daily upon the fact of that union, and by offering every faculty continually to the dominion of the Holy Spirit (Rom. 6:1-11, 13; 8:1, 2, 13; Gal. 2:20; Phil. 2:12, 13; 1 Peter 1:5).

10. *The Church and Its Mission*

The Church is the Body of Christ, the habitation of God through the Spirit, with divine appointment for the fulfillment of her great commission. Each believer, born of the Spirit, is an integral part of the General Assembly and Church of the Firstborn, which are written in heaven (Eph. 1:22, 23; 2:22; Heb. 12:23). Since God's purpose concerning man is to seek and to save that which is lost, to be worshipped by man, and to build a body of believers in the image of His Son, the priority reason-for-being of the Assemblies of God as part of the Church is:

- a. To be an Agency of God for evangelizing the world (Acts 1:8; Matt. 28:19, 20; Mark 16:15, 16).
- b. To be a corporate body in which man may worship God (1 Cor. 12:13).
- c. To be a channel of God's purpose to build a body of saints being perfected in the image of His Son (Eph. 4:11-16; 1 Cor. 12:28; 14:12).

The Assemblies of God exists expressly to give continuing emphasis to this reason-for-being, in the New Testament apostolic pattern, by teaching and encouraging believers to be baptized in the Holy Spirit. This experience:

- a. Enables them to evangelize in the power of the Spirit with accompanying supernatural signs (Mark 16:15-20; Acts 4:29-31; Heb. 2:3, 4).
- b. Adds a necessary dimension to worshipful relationship with God (1 Cor. 2:10-16; 12, 13, and 14).
- c. Enables them to respond to the full working of the Holy Spirit in expression of fruit, gifts, and ministries as in New Testament times for the edifying of the body of Christ (Gal. 5:22-26; 1 Cor. 14:12; Eph. 4:11, 12; 1 Cor. 12:28; Col. 1:29).

11. *The Ministry*

A divinely called and scripturally ordained ministry has been provided by our Lord for the threefold purpose of leading the Church in (1) Evangelization of the world (Mark 16:15-20), (2) Worship of God (John 4:23, 24), and (3) Building a body of saints being perfected in the image of His Son (Eph. 4:11-16).

12. *Divine Healing*

Divine healing is an integral part of the gospel. Deliverance from sickness is provided for in the atonement, and is the privilege of all believers (Isa. 53:4, 5; Matt. 8:16, 17; James 5:14-16).

13. *The Blessed Hope*

The resurrection of those who have fallen asleep in Christ, and their translation together with those who are alive and remain unto the coming of the Lord, is the imminent and blessed hope of the Church (1 Thess. 4:16, 17; Rom. 8:23; Titus 2:13; 1 Cor. 15:51, 52).

14. *The Millennial Reign of Christ*

The second coming of Christ includes the rapture of the saints, which is our blessed hope, followed by the visible return of Christ with His saints to reign on the earth for one thousand years (Zech. 14:5; Matt. 24:27, 30; Rev. 1:7; 19:11-14; 20:1-6). This millennial reign will bring the salvation of national Israel (Ezek. 37:21, 22; Zeph. 3:19, 20; Rom. 11:26, 27) and the establishment of universal peace (Isa. 11:6-9; Psalms 72:3-8; Micah 4:3, 4).

15. *The Final Judgment*

There will be a final judgment in which the wicked dead will be raised and judged according to their works. Whosoever is not found written in the Book of Life, together with the devil and his angels, the beast and the false prophet, will be consigned to everlasting punishment in the lake which burneth with fire and brimstone, which is the second death (Matt. 25:46; Mark 9:43-48; Rev. 19:20; 20:11-15; 21:8).

16. *The New Heavens and the New Earth*

"We, according to His promise, look for new heavens and a new earth, wherein dwelleth righteousness" (2 Peter 3:13; Rev. 21, 22).

ARTICLE V. ORDINANCES

Section 1: The ordinance of Baptism by immersion in water shall be administered to all those who have repented of their sins, who have believed on and accepted Jesus Christ as Lord and Savior and who give clear evidence to their salvation. Matt. 28:19; Rom. 6:3-5; Col. 2:12.

Section 2: The ordinance of the Lord's Supper (Communion) shall be observed regularly as enjoined in the Scriptures. Luke 22:19-20; 1st Cor. 11:23-26.

ARTICLE VI. MEMBERSHIP

Section 1: Eligibility for membership in this ministry shall be open to all those who give evidence of their faith in the Lord Jesus Christ, who subscribe to its tenants of faith, who agree to be governed by its constitution and bylaws as herein set forth or as may be amended by the ministry and who are approved for membership by the pastor and advisory board.

Section 2: The legal voting membership of this ministry shall consist of all persons whose names appear on the current active membership roll. Proxy votes are allowed with filing of proper proxy paperwork.

ARTICLE VII. CHURCH OFFICERS AND TRUSTEES

Section 1: The senior pastor, the advisory board secretary and the church treasurer shall be designated legal officers of this ministry. The treasurer will be nominated by the pastor and voted on by the current advisory board. The secretary will be nominated by the advisory board and elected by at least a 51% of the current advisory board.

Section 2: The senior pastor, secretary and the treasurer shall be considered trustees by virtue of their office. Additional trustees may be selected as needed.

Section 3: Advisory Board Members of this board are duly recognized members of the ministry who have been in active participation with the ministry for not less than six months. This board is subject to approval by the advisory board after a nomination from the voting congregation. Names of potential advisory board members are collected two weeks prior to the annual meeting and placed on the ballot for voting at the annual meeting. Their length of term will be three years or until they can no longer fulfill the responsibilities of the position or until the advisory board by majority vote deems it necessary to ask them to step down. Advisory Board members term may run concurrently. The Advisory Board is comprised of the senior pastor, assistant pastor(s), secretary, treasurer, head deacon, head elder and other members of the voting church membership. In the case of members of the advisory board who are married, spouses may not be members of this board during their tenure.

ARTICLE VIII. MEETINGS

Section 1: Meetings for public worship shall be held each Lord's Day (Sunday) and during the week as may be provided for under the direction of the pastor.

Section 2: There shall be an annual business meeting of the members of the ministry at which time the reports of church officers and departments shall be read, the annual budget is reviewed and discussed, vacancies in the advisory board are voted on and other church business is discussed as determined. This meeting shall convene prior to February 28th each year unless unforeseen circumstances prevent it. The new date in such cases will be determined by the advisory board.

Section 3: Special business meetings may be called only when agreed upon by the advisory board and always with the senior pastor's knowledge and/or participation.

Section 4: Any meeting at which the dissolution of this ministry or its merger with another congregation or its withdrawal from affiliation with the Assemblies of God is discussed shall not be considered a duly called meeting unless the District Officiary has been invited and is present.

Section 5: The senior pastor shall consult with the advisory board monthly in a manner agreed upon by the pastor and the advisory board. The senior pastor will provide the lead for the basis of the monthly meetings unless the senior pastor cannot in such case the senior pastor will designate a leader for the meeting or schedule for another time convenient for the board.

Section 6: A majority vote is defined as 51%.

ARTICLE IX. DEPARTMENTS AND COMMITTEES

Section 1: A Christian Education department will be created and its activities conducted as a branch of the Rock Solid Ministries program. Included under this department will be any educational endeavors for adults and children.

Section 2: A deacon ministry and elder ministry will be established to minister to the congregation and to maintain the property entrusted to us by Almighty God. The elder ministry will be managed by the designated head elder. The deacon ministry will be coordinated by the Volunteer Coordinator.

Section 3: This ministry shall in a genuine and determined manner endeavor to create a Youth department, a Men's ministry and a Women's ministry with their activities being conducted as branches of the Rock Solid Ministries program. Other departments and committees, whether intended as permanent or temporary, may be established as the need arises as directed by the senior pastor.

Section 4: All department heads will be appointed by the senior pastor agreed upon by the advisory board. The head deacon and the head elder will be appointed by the senior pastor and agreed upon by the advisory board.

ARTICLE X. FINANCES

All funding for the maintenance and outreach of this ministry shall be provided by the voluntary contributions of tithes and offerings of members and friends of Rock Solid Ministries. Offerings shall be accepted at such times and in such ways as agreed upon by the senior pastor and shall be distributed by the treasurer under the Advisory Board's direction. (Malachi 3:10; Luke 6:38; 1st Corinthians 16:1-2; 2nd Corinthians 9:6-8).

ARTICLE XI. PROPERTY

Section 1: All property, real or personal, shall be taken, held, sold, transferred or conveyed in the name of Rock Solid Ministries with the senior pastor, the secretary and the treasurer acting as the authorized and duly constituted agents of the assembly.

Section 2: No real estate shall be purchased nor facilities constructed/remodeled without approval of the senior pastor, secretary and the treasurer. All purchases of furnishings, equipment, and other items of tangible personal property, exceeding \$10,000 in cost, and all purchases and sales of real property shall be authorized by a vote of at least two-thirds of the voting membership who are in attendance at a regular or special meeting of the assembly.

ARTICLE XII. AMENDMENTS

The constitution may be amended, other than the tenants of faith which must agree with the Assemblies of God, by full agreement of the pastor and the church advisory board. Amendments are ratified by a majority vote of active voting membership.

BYLAWS

ARTICLE I. MEETINGS

Section 1: Announcement of Meetings

a) **Congregational Meetings**

All regular and special business meetings of the ministry shall be announced at all services on at least two consecutive Sundays immediately prior to the meeting. An explanation as to the purpose of each meeting shall be included in all said announcements.

b) **Advisory Board Meetings**

Advisory board meetings are held once a month at a set time and day. Special meetings may be called with the notification of the senior pastor.

Section 2: Quorum

a) **Congregational Meetings**

All active voting members attending a duly called meeting shall constitute a quorum, providing all have been duly notified as specified in this Constitution and Bylaws.

b) **Advisory Board Meetings**

No meeting of the Advisory Board shall be considered official and records of its proceedings and decisions shall not be kept unless 50 percent or more of the members are present and the senior pastor has been notified. This will constitute a quorum for the advisory board.

c) **Other Department and Committee Meetings**

No meeting of any department or committee of this ministry shall be considered official and no record shall be kept of its proceedings and decisions unless 50 percent or more of the members of said departments or committees are present and the senior pastor has been notified. This will constitute a quorum.

d) **Proxy Votes**

Members may vote on issues by proxy if they are unable to attend meetings of the congregation. Approved proxy forms will be on file by these members prior to the meeting and votes counted at the tally of such meetings.

Section 3: Minutes

Accurate minutes shall be kept of all Congregational meetings and Advisory Board meetings. These minutes shall be kept in a safe place on church property and will become part of the church's permanent records.

Section 4: Meetings for Worship

Meetings for public worship shall be held on each Lord's Day and during the week as may be provided for under direction of the pastor or the church advisory board if there is no pastor.

Section 5: Annual Business Meeting

There shall be an annual business meeting of the assembly, at which time the election of officers shall take place when necessary and the report of all officers shall be presented. This meeting shall be held prior to February 28th of each year unless unforeseen circumstances prevent it. In this case the Advisory Board will determine an alternate date. The time and place shall be announced by the pastor. Notice of the date, time, and place of each annual business meeting shall be announced from the pulpit during morning worship services on each of the two Sundays immediately preceding the date of the meeting.

Section 6: Special Business Meetings

Special business meetings of the assembly may be called by the senior pastor, or by a majority of the church advisory board, or by a petition signed by not less than twenty percent (20%) of the active voting members of the assembly. Only those active voting members who have regularly attended services and have supported this assembly for a period of at least 3 consecutive months prior to signing the petition shall be counted. Petitions pertaining to the business affairs of the church shall be submitted to the senior pastor or the secretary of the church advisory board.

Section 7: Voting Constituency

a) Qualifying of Voters

The voting constituency at all business meetings of the assembly shall consist of all active voting members who are present and who are 18 years of age or older.

b) Transfer Members

Transfer members shall have voting privileges after 30 days of transfer of membership.

c) Process of Discipline for Members

No member under the process of discipline shall be entitled to a vote until the process is completed.

Section 8: The Advisory Board

The church advisory board shall meet monthly or at the call of the pastor for the transaction of business for the assembly, time and place to be announced by the pastor. A majority of the church advisory board members present shall constitute a quorum.

ARTICLE II. DUTIES OF THE SENIOR PASTOR and BOARD OF ADVISORS

Section 1: The Senior Pastor

- a) The senior pastor shall be considered to be the spiritual overseer of the ministry and shall direct all of its activities.
- b) The senior pastor and their spouse, if present, is the incorporator of the corporation.
- c) The senior pastor shall act as chairperson of all business of the ministry and of all meetings of the Board of Advisors
- d) The senior pastor is an ex officio member of all departments or other committees.
- e) The senior pastor shall provide for all services of the ministry and shall arrange for all special meetings, conventions and revival meetings. No person shall be invited to speak or preach in the ministry or at any of its functions without the senior pastor's knowledge and approval.
- f) The senior pastor shall invite all assistant or associate pastors as well as any other salaried personnel to serve the ministry. They shall be directly responsible to the senior pastor who shall assign their responsibilities and determine their length of employment. Salaried positions under the direction of the senior pastor will be reviewed and approved by the advisory board. None of these positions shall be filled or vacated by congregational vote or by action by any board of the church.

Section 2: Legal Officers of the Ministry

The senior pastor, the treasurer and the board secretary shall act as legal officers and trustees for the ministry in the holding and conveying of property. The signing of all legal instruments and documents shall be in accordance with an approved resolution from the legal officers.

Section 3: The Board of Advisors

The Advisory Board of Rock Solid Ministries is comprised of the senior pastor, the church secretary, the church treasurer, head deacon, head elder, assistant and associate pastors and other members who have been nominated by the active voting membership. No less than 3 and no more than 10 members constitute the advisory board. The length of term is a minimum of three years, but will be determinate by the senior pastor and the advisory board. An advisory board member can be asked by the senior pastor to step down prior to term end due to irreversible conflict with the pastor or upon leaving the ministry.

- a) The Board of Advisors shall serve in an advisory capacity under the oversight and guidance of the pastor in the routine management of the ministry.
- b) They shall assist the senior pastor in the ministry of ordinances.
- c) They shall participate in the examination of applicants for membership in the ministry.
- d) They shall with the senior pastor revise all membership rolls of the ministry periodically and/or prior to the annual business meeting.
- e) They may assist the senior pastor in the administration of discipline toward any member of the ministry.
- f) They shall discuss and advise on direction for all resources the ministry receives. The final decision for the business of the church will be made by the senior pastor in conjunction with the advice of the board.
- g) In the event the ministry is temporarily without a senior pastor, the Board of Advisors shall be empowered to provide for its own chairman from its membership in order to transact business for the ministry.

Section 4: The Board Secretary

- a) Shall keep the minutes of the official meetings of the church board and of the annual and special business meetings of the assembly.
- b) Shall keep a record of the membership of the assembly and perform any other clerical work necessary to the proper discharge of their duties.

Section 5: The Board Treasurer

- a) Shall be entrusted with all the finances of the assembly, subject to the supervision of the church board, and shall deposit all funds in federally insured accounts in the name of the assembly. The treasurer does not make financial decisions alone but must enlist the approval of the senior pastor and the Advisory Board for those expenses outside the normal day to day operation of the ministry. All checks issued for more than \$200 on behalf of the church must be signed by the treasurer and one additional officer authorized by the church board.

- b) Shall ensure the safe deposit of church funds and accurate and accountable record keeping in accord with the policies set by the Advisory Board.
- c) Shall keep an itemized account of receipts and disbursements, shall present a report for each regular meeting of the church board, and shall present an annual report to the assembly in its annual business meeting.
- d) Shall assist the assembly in acquiring and maintaining available tax exemptions under state and local law.
- e) Shall provide a record of all identified giving to each donor at least annually.
- f) Shall be the custodian of all the financial records and legal documents of the church.

ARTICLE III. MEMBERSHIP REQUIREMENTS

Membership in this assembly is open to all who give evidence of their faith in and relationship with the Lord Jesus Christ, who agrees with the Statement of Faith of Rock Solid Ministries, who agrees to be governed by its constitution and bylaws and who are approved for membership by the senior pastor and church advisory board. The legal voting membership of Rock Solid Ministries consists of all persons whose names appear on the current active membership roll.

Section 1: Membership Standards

- a) An evidence of a genuine experience in regeneration (new birth, born-again). [John 3:3-8 and 1st Peter 1:18-25]
- b) An evidence of a consistent Christian life. [Romans 6:8,8:1-4, 13:13-14 and Ephesians 4:17-32, 5:1-2,15 and 1st John 1:6-7]
- c) To fully subscribe to the tenets of faith as set forth in the Constitution and By-laws of Rock Solid Ministries.
- d) To have a willingness to attend the services and contribute regularly to the support of Rock Solid Ministries to his or her ability.

Section 2: Reception of Members

Persons desiring membership at Rock Solid Ministries shall complete an application for membership and submit it to the pastor. The senior pastor and church advisory board shall determine their qualification for membership based on the Standards for Membership. Upon approval for membership by the pastor and church advisory board, their name will be added to the current membership roll. Persons desiring to transfer their membership to Rock Solid Ministries from another Assembly of God church will need a letter of transfer from the former assembly. Upon approval for transfer, their name will be added to the current membership roll. All members will be publicly recognized.

Section 3: Membership Categories

a) Active Membership

Active members must be at least 18 years of age and shall have met the above standards of membership. Active members maintain a presence at regular congregational meetings and actively participate in assembly ministries. Consistent absence from regular congregational meetings for more than three months will be cause for consideration to move the member to inactive status, as determined by the advisory board. Active members have voting privileges in all business meetings of Rock Solid Ministries.

b) Junior Membership

Junior membership is open to those between the ages of 12 and 18 years of age and who have met the standards of membership. Junior members do not have voting privileges.

c) Honorary Membership

Honorary members are members that cannot engage in regular attendance. Honorary members include those in the armed services serving a tour of duty or those of advanced physical age or chronic health issues that prohibits regular attendance or those who have left the area, but still support the ministry. Active membership can be reinstated for honorary members by making the desire known to the pastor and attending regular services. Honorary members do not have voting privileges.

d) Inactive Membership

Inactive members are past active members who, without good cause as deemed by the pastor, absent themselves from the services of the assembly for a period of over three months, who are out of harmony with the teachings or ministry efforts of Rock Solid Ministries, who are incarcerated, who are under charges of misconduct or who have fallen under condemnation through worldly and sinful practices. Their names will be moved to the inactive membership roll at the discretion of the pastor and the church advisory board.

e) Changes in Category of Membership

Any change in category to a member will be recorded at the advisory board meeting when the change was determined. A member whose category changes will be notified with a record of notification and kept as part of the permanent records of Rock Solid Ministries. Any active member whose membership category has changed may appear before the pastor and church advisory board for reconsideration or explanation of their action. The decisions of the senior pastor and church advisory board in these matters are final.

ARTICLE IV. DISCIPLINE

In the disciplining of members, the following principals shall be observed. Counseling will be conducted in love at all times first by the pastor and then by the senior pastor and the church advisory board. Members considered under disciplinary action are exempt from voting privileges until the senior pastor determines them eligible. The following Scripture will be used as a guideline: Matt. 18:15-17, Rom. 16:17-18 and 2nd Thess. 3:6-15.

ARTICLE V. MINISTRY REQUIREMENTS

Any active member who regularly attends services offered at Rock Solid Ministries for at least six months may be considered to fulfill openings in the Advisory Board, Worship Team, or other servant/leader positions they qualify for. All servant/leader positions are overseen and directed by the senior pastor.

ARTICLE VI. ELECTIONS, VACANCIES, AND REMOVALS

Section 1. Elections

A. Senior Pastor

- 1) The senior pastor shall be nominated by the church advisory board. Recommendations may be made to the church advisory board by any member of the assembly.
- 2) The senior pastor shall be elected to serve for an indefinite period of time.

- 3) In the event a senior pastor has serious charges preferred against him, or his ministry has ceased to be effective, power is vested in the Advisory Board to ask for his (or her) resignation. If such resignation is refused the pastorate shall not be considered vacant until the action of the Advisory Board has been confirmed by a majority vote of the congregation at a meeting called for that purpose. Such a meeting shall be presided over by the district officary. In the event of a senior pastor's removal from office a report shall be made to the district office. When a vacancy in the pastorate occurs, supply shall be arranged by the Advisory Board in consultation with the District Superintendent until a senior pastor is elected.
- 4) In the event either the senior pastor or any other member or members of the assembly shall challenge the validity of an election, the validity of the election shall be arbitrated by the District Executive Presbytery, or any three persons of its choice, and its decision shall be final.
- 5) In the event the senior pastor's position needs to be filled, the acting Advisory Board will expand to a Transition Team by asking for the assistance of at least two other current members of the church to help in the selection of a new pastor. Resumes will be encouraged from the District office and local venues, if the transition team agrees it to be necessary.
- 6) One candidate will be selected by the transition team and asked to come for a special evening service arranged for the occasion. The entire church will be invited to this event. After the candidate comes and preaches, a vote of the congregation will be held to determine if the church will call this person to senior pastor. A two-thirds majority vote of all active members cast shall be required to constitute an election. If two-thirds vote is not received, the transition team will continue its process.

B. Secretary

The secretary shall be nominated by the pastor and elected by the Advisory Board (majority vote). The term of office shall be three years, and the secretary may serve consecutive terms without limitation as determined by the senior pastor, Advisory Board members and the serving secretary.

C. Treasurer

The treasurer shall be nominated by the pastor and elected by the advisory board (majority vote). The term of office shall be three years, and the treasurer may serve consecutive terms without limitation as determined by the senior pastor, advisory board members and the serving treasurer.

ARTICLE VII. FINANCE

Section 1: In General

All funds for the maintenance of the assembly shall be provided by the voluntary contributions, tithes, and offerings of the members and friends of the organization. Offerings shall be accepted by the assembly at such times and in such ways as agreed upon by the church advisory board and shall be administered by the treasurer under their direction (Malachi 3:10; Luke 6:38; 1 Corinthians 16:1,2; 2 Corinthians 9:6-8).

Section 2: Handling of Offerings

All offerings shall be counted by at least two Advisory Board members before the funds are removed from the church building. An offering receipts form shall be signed by those counting the offering. A record shall be kept of all receipts and disbursements of the local assembly and of all individual giving.

Section 3: Pastoral Compensation

a) Regular Compensation

The senior pastor shall be compensated for his services by a salary or by other means agreed upon by the church advisory board and by the pastor. The church advisory board shall review the senior pastor's compensation annually.

b) Reimbursement for Expenses

The senior pastor shall be given consideration by the church advisory board for expenses incurred by his attendance at District Councils, General Councils, and other District functions by reimbursement of such expenses, or by an offering to help defray such expenses, according to the ability of the church as determined by the church advisory board.

c) Severance Pay

In the event a senior pastor is removed from office by a vote of the active voting membership of the church, or shall fail to be sustained by a vote of the active voting membership at the end of a term, he shall be given a minimum of 2 months regular or average remuneration as severance pay, payable as determined by the departing pastor and the church advisory board except in the case of moral failure.

ARTICLE VIII. PROPERTY

Section 1: Title

All property of the assembly shall be deeded to the assembly and held in its name or, if required by law, to trustees acting on behalf of the assembly and their successors in office.

Section 2: Purchases and Sales of Property

All purchases of furnishings, equipment, and other items of tangible personal property, exceeding \$10,000 in cost, and all purchases and sales of real property shall be authorized by a vote of at least two-thirds of the voting membership who are in attendance at a regular or special meeting of the assembly.

Section 3: Dissolution

Upon the dissolution of the assembly, none of its funds or assets shall be distributed to any officer, deacon, trustee, or any other individual. The church board shall, after paying or making provision for the payment of all of the liabilities of the assembly, dispose of all of the funds and assets of the assembly by conveying the same to the Indiana District Council of the Assemblies of God, for the purposes of the assembly, and provided that said District Council at the time qualifies as an exempt organization under section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 (or the corresponding provisions of any future United States Internal Revenue Law). Any such funds or assets not so disposed of shall be disposed of by the Circuit Court of the county in which the principal office of the corporation is then located, to such organization as said Court shall determine which is organized and operated exclusively for religious purposes.

ARTICLE IX. AMENDMENTS

The bylaws may be amended at any regular or special business meeting of the assembly by a majority vote of the active voting membership present, except as otherwise indicated herein.