

## Proposed Revisions to NCD Articles of Incorporation and Bylaws

April 28<sup>th</sup>, 2020 | North Central District Association | Evangelical Free Church of America

### Current

(Only sections with suggested revisions)  
Revised & Approved 4/2/2019

#### ARTICLE 1 NAME

*(No changes)*

#### ARTICLE 2 PURPOSE

*(No changes)*

#### ARTICLE 3 MISSION

The mission of the North Central District is to glorify God in

### Proposed Bylaws

(Document in entirety w/changes added)  
Proposed 4/28/2020

#### ARTICLE 1 NAME

The name of this organization shall be the North Central District Association of the Evangelical Free Church of America, hereafter referred to in these Bylaws as the North Central District.

#### ARTICLE 2 PURPOSE

The purpose of the North Central District Association is to offer a ministry structure which:

- A. Provides member churches with a formal link to the organization, ministry objectives, and resources of the Evangelical Free Church of America;
- B. Provides leadership for ministries which are best done through the combined efforts of its affiliated autonomous churches;
- C. Offers assistance to churches in spiritual and numerical growth;
- D. Helps churches to secure qualified pastoral personnel;
- E. Encourages pastors and leaders in personal development and ministry skills

#### ARTICLE 3 MISSION

The mission of the North Central District is to glorify God **by multiplying transformational churches among all people**

## Proposed Revisions to NCD Articles of Incorporation and Bylaws

April 28<sup>th</sup>, 2020 | North Central District Association | Evangelical Free Church of America

~~fulfilling the Great Commission~~ and shall be involved in those activities pursuant to its purposes through:

- A. Ministries of Outreach
  - 1. Church growth
  - 2. Church planting
  - 3. Social Concerns
  
- B. Ministries of Nurture
  - 1. Serving the churches
  - 2. Ministering to pastors
  - 3. Developing needed resources

### ARTICLE 4 STATEMENT OF FAITH

and shall be involved in those activities pursuant to its purposes through:

- A. Ministries of Outreach
  - 1. Church growth
  - 2. Church planting
  - 3. Social Concerns
  
- B. Ministries of Nurture
  - 1. Serving the churches
  - 2. Ministering to pastors **and church leaders**
  - 3. Developing needed resources

### ARTICLE 4 STATEMENT OF FAITH

The Statement of Faith of the North Central District shall be the same as that of the Evangelical Free Church of America, which is as follows:

The Evangelical Free Church of America is an association of autonomous churches united around these theological convictions:

#### **God**

1. We believe in one God, Creator of all things, holy, infinitely perfect, and eternally existing in a loving unity of three equally divine Persons: the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit. Having limitless knowledge and sovereign power, God has graciously purposed from eternity to redeem a people for Himself and to make all things new for His own glory.

## **Proposed Revisions to NCD Articles of Incorporation and Bylaws**

April 28<sup>th</sup>, 2020 | North Central District Association | Evangelical Free Church of America

### **The Bible**

2. We believe that God has spoken in the Scriptures, both Old and New Testaments, through the words of human authors. As the verbally inspired Word of God, the Bible is without error in the original writings, the complete revelation of His will for salvation, and the ultimate authority by which every realm of human knowledge and endeavor should be judged. Therefore, it is to be believed in all that it teaches, obeyed in all that it requires, and trusted in all that it promises.

### **The Human Condition**

3. We believe that God created Adam and Eve in His image, but they sinned when tempted by Satan. In union with Adam, human beings are sinners by nature and by choice, alienated from God, and under His wrath. Only through God's saving work in Jesus Christ can we be rescued, reconciled and renewed.

### **Jesus Christ**

4. We believe that Jesus Christ is God incarnate, fully God and fully man, one Person in two natures. Jesus—Israel's promised Messiah—was conceived through the Holy Spirit and born of the virgin Mary. He lived a sinless life, was crucified under Pontius Pilate, arose bodily from the dead, ascended into heaven and sits at the right hand of God the Father as our High Priest and Advocate.

### **The Work of Christ**

5. We believe that Jesus Christ, as our representative and substitute, shed His blood on the cross as the perfect, all-sufficient sacrifice for our sins. His atoning death and

## **Proposed Revisions to NCD Articles of Incorporation and Bylaws**

April 28<sup>th</sup>, 2020 | North Central District Association | Evangelical Free Church of America

victorious resurrection constitute the only ground for salvation.

### **The Holy Spirit**

6. We believe that the Holy Spirit, in all that He does, glorifies the Lord Jesus Christ. He convicts the world of its guilt. He regenerates sinners, and in Him they are baptized into union with Christ and adopted as heirs in the family of God. He also indwells, illuminates, guides, equips and empowers believers for Christ-like living and service.

### **The Church**

7. We believe that the true church comprises all who have been justified by God's grace through faith alone in Christ alone. They are united by the Holy Spirit in the body of Christ, of which He is the Head. The true church is manifest in local churches, whose membership should be composed only of believers. The Lord Jesus mandated two ordinances, baptism and the Lord's Supper, which visibly and tangibly express the gospel. Though they are not the means of salvation, when celebrated by the church in genuine faith, these ordinances confirm and nourish the believer.

### **Christian Living**

8. We believe that God's justifying grace must not be separated from His sanctifying power and purpose. God commands us to love Him supremely and others sacrificially, and to live out our faith with care for one another, compassion toward the poor and justice for the oppressed. With God's Word, the Spirit's power, and fervent prayer in Christ's name, we are to combat the spiritual forces of evil. In obedience to Christ's commission,

## Proposed Revisions to NCD Articles of Incorporation and Bylaws

April 28<sup>th</sup>, 2020 | North Central District Association | Evangelical Free Church of America

### Christ's Return

9. We believe in the personal, bodily and ~~premillennial~~ return of our Lord Jesus Christ. The coming of Christ, at a time known only to God, demands constant expectancy and, as our blessed hope, motivates the believer to godly living, sacrificial service and energetic mission.

## ARTICLE 5 MEMBERSHIP

we are to make disciples among all people, always bearing witness to the gospel in word and deed.

### Christ's Return

9. We believe in the personal, bodily and **glorious** return of our Lord Jesus Christ. The coming of Christ, at a time known only to God, demands constant expectancy and, as our blessed hope, motivates the believer to godly living, sacrificial service and energetic mission.

### Response and Eternal Destiny

10. We believe that God commands everyone everywhere to believe the gospel by turning to Him in repentance and receiving the Lord Jesus Christ. We believe that God will raise the dead bodily and judge the world, assigning the unbeliever to condemnation and eternal conscious punishment and the believer to eternal blessedness and joy with the Lord in the new heaven and the new earth, to the praise of His glorious grace. Amen.

## ARTICLE 5 MEMBERSHIP

### A. CONSTITUENCY

The North Central District shall consist of churches now affiliated with the Evangelical Free Church of America in the state of Minnesota. Such other churches of like faith and practice as shall recognize this organization and adopt its principles may also enter this fellowship in accordance with the rules and regulations of its Bylaws.

## Proposed Revisions to NCD Articles of Incorporation and Bylaws

April 28<sup>th</sup>, 2020 | North Central District Association | Evangelical Free Church of America

4. Upon being received into membership, a certificate signed by the chairman and secretary of the district and bearing the corporate seal of the district shall be issued to the church.

### B. **ADMISSION**

1. A church seeking admission to membership in the North Central District shall adopt the Evangelical Free Church Statement of Faith as part of its By-laws. The church's Articles of Incorporation and its Bylaws must conform to the policies and practices of the Evangelical Free Church. The congregation shall vote to seek membership in the North Central District.
2. The church shall send a letter of application to the District Superintendent including a copy of its Articles of Incorporation, its Bylaws and its Statement of Faith, signed by the chairman and secretary of the church. The letter of application shall state that the church will agree to abide by the rules and regulations of the district and that it will support the work of the Evangelical Free Church of America and the North Central District.
3. The Board of Directors of the district, after considering the application, shall make recommendation for membership at an official district conference.
4. Upon being received into membership, a certificate signed by the chairman and secretary of the **North Central District Board of Directors** and bearing the corporate seal of the district shall be issued to the church.

## Proposed Revisions to NCD Articles of Incorporation and Bylaws

April 28<sup>th</sup>, 2020 | North Central District Association | Evangelical Free Church of America

### C. WITHDRAWAL

1. If for any reason a member church feels it can no longer fellowship in harmony with the North Central District Association of the Evangelical Free Church of America, as to doctrine, policies or practices, the church shall make its desires and reasons known to the ~~Board of Directors~~, who in turn shall consider the matter and counsel with the church concerning their reasons to see if the differences or the matters can be resolved. Should the resolution of differences fail, the Board of Directors shall accept the request for withdrawal on the part of the church and recommend to the next district conference that the church in question be released from their membership in the district.

### C. WITHDRAWAL

1. If for any reason a member church feels it can no longer fellowship in harmony with the North Central District Association of the Evangelical Free Church of America, as to doctrine, policies or practices, the church shall make its desires and reasons known to the **District Superintendent**, who in turn shall consider the matter and counsel with the church concerning their reasons to see if the differences or the matters can be resolved. Should the resolution of differences fail, the Board of Directors shall accept the request for withdrawal on the part of the church and recommend to the next district conference that the church in question be released from their membership in the district.
2. In the case of a church withdrawing that has at any time received a subsidy from the district, the church shall repay the amount of the subsidy received, as may be agreed and decided by the Board of Directors. Any unpaid loan owed to the North Central District or to any other branch of the Evangelical Free Church of America must also be paid.
3. When a church has withdrawn from membership in the North Central District Association, according to Article I of the Bylaws of the Evangelical Free Church of America, the church

## Proposed Revisions to NCD Articles of Incorporation and Bylaws

April 28<sup>th</sup>, 2020 | North Central District Association | Evangelical Free Church of America

### D. DISCIPLINE

1. Should a member church be charged with being out of harmony with the Evangelical Free Church of America in doctrine, or practice, the charges against such churches shall be presented to the ~~Board of Directors~~ of the North Central District Association. If the evidence indicates that the charges are true, the Board of Directors shall seek to counsel with the church concerning such charges. If the church refuses counsel, or if no agreement can be reached, the Board of Directors will make recommendation to the conference to dismiss the church. The church will be removed by majority vote of the conference.

shall cease to be an Evangelical Free Church and shall lose the right to use the name of Evangelical Free Church and it shall have no claim upon the funds or the property of the North Central District Association or of the Evangelical Free Church of America.

### D. DISCIPLINE

1. Should a member church be charged with being out of harmony with the Evangelical Free Church of America in doctrine, or practice, the charges against such churches shall be presented to the **District Superintendent** of the North Central District Association. If the evidence indicates that the charges are true, the Board of Directors shall seek to counsel with the church concerning such charges. If the church refuses counsel, or if no agreement can be reached, the Board of Directors will make recommendation to the conference to dismiss the church. The church will be removed by majority vote of the conference.
2. Should the Board of Directors find it necessary to report the charges against such a church to the district conference, the church shall be notified that such action is being taken and shall be given the opportunity to defend itself before the Board of Directors prior to the date of the district conference. The church shall also have the right to a hearing before the district conference, but

## Proposed Revisions to NCD Articles of Incorporation and Bylaws

April 28<sup>th</sup>, 2020 | North Central District Association | Evangelical Free Church of America

*(New paragraph)*

### ARTICLE 6 CONFERENCES AND MEETINGS

only by previous arrangement through the Board of Directors. A church, which is under disciplinary action, shall forfeit its voting rights until its status is fully determined by the district conference.

3. When a church has been dismissed from membership in the North Central District Association it shall have no further voice in the district conferences and according to Article I of the Bylaws of the Evangelical Free Church of America, it shall cease to be a member church in the said Evangelical Free Church of America and shall lose the right to use the name of "Evangelical Free Church".
4. In the case of a church being dismissed from membership that has at any time received a subsidy from the District, the church shall repay the amount of subsidy received, as may be agreed and decided by the Board of Directors. Any unpaid loan owed to the North Central District or to any other branch of the Evangelical Free Church of America must also be repaid.

### ARTICLE 6 CONFERENCES AND MEETINGS

#### A. TIME, PLACE, PURPOSE, AND NOTICE

1. The North Central District shall hold an annual conference. Special business conferences may

## Proposed Revisions to NCD Articles of Incorporation and Bylaws

April 28<sup>th</sup>, 2020 | North Central District Association | Evangelical Free Church of America

2. The purpose of the annual conference shall be:
  - a. to report on the work of the North Central District;
  - b. to elect members of the Board of Directors, ~~other officers, and committee members;~~
  - c. to conduct the general affairs of the North Central District.

also be held at times and places decided at a previous conference or as decided by the Board of Directors. **The Board of Directors may provide that any annual conference or special business conference may be held by one or more means of remote communication or that delegates not physically present may participate by means of remote communication.**

2. The purpose of the annual conference shall be:
  - a. to report on the work of the North Central District;
  - b. to elect members of the Board of Directors **and the District Superintendent, when required;**
  - c. to conduct the general affairs of the North Central District.
3. The Chairman and Secretary of the Board of Directors shall send written notice to member churches of all conferences stating the time, place, and purpose of the conference. Member churches shall receive such notice not less than twenty-one (21) days prior to the conference.

### **B. ORDER OF MEETING**

All district meetings shall be conducted with decency and order as is fitting for the body of Christ. Business may be conducted in an informal manner but all appeals to parliamentary procedure will be

## Proposed Revisions to NCD Articles of Incorporation and Bylaws

April 28<sup>th</sup>, 2020 | North Central District Association | Evangelical Free Church of America

decided by *Robert's Rules of Order* unless otherwise provided for in these Bylaws.

### C. FISCAL YEAR

The fiscal year of the North Central District shall be from July 1 through June 30 of the following year.

### D. DELEGATES

All delegates to an annual conference or to any special business conference of the North Central District shall be members in good standing of a North Central District Evangelical Free Church.

#### 1. DESIGNATED DELEGATES

Designated delegates shall be selected by each member church of the North Central District and shall have full voting privileges. Each church shall be entitled to the following number of designated delegates according to active membership.

150 or less members .....2 delegates  
151-300 members .....3 delegates  
301-500 members .....4 delegates  
501 or more members .....5 delegates

#### 2. OTHER DELEGATES

Other delegates having full voting privileges shall be limited to the following:

- a. Individuals who hold active ministry credentials with the Evangelical Free Church of America and are on the pastoral staff (whether one or more) of a

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- a. Individuals who hold active ministry credentials with the Evangelical Free Church of America and are on the pastoral staff (whether one or more) of a

## Proposed Revisions to NCD Articles of Incorporation and Bylaws

April 28<sup>th</sup>, 2020 | North Central District Association | Evangelical Free Church of America

member church of the North Central District.

- b. ~~Individuals who are members in good standing in the Ministerial Association of the Evangelical Free Church of America and who are members of a member church of the North Central District.~~

- 3. ~~The chairman of the Board of Directors shall appoint the Tellers, Distribution Committee, and all other committees necessary for the work of the conference.~~

### ARTICLE 7 VOTING AND ELECTIONS

member church of the North Central District.

- b. **Individuals who hold active ministry credentials** of the Evangelical Free Church of America and who are members of a member church of the North Central District.
- c. The members of the Board of Directors of the North Central District.
- d. Church planters approved by the North Central District and who hold active ministry credentials with the Evangelical Free Church of America.

### E. CONFERENCE CREDENTIALS

1. Two or more members of the North Central District Board of Directors (other than the chairman) shall serve as the Committee on Conference Credentials of any district business conference.
2. The Committee on Conference Credentials shall examine the conference credentials of delegates for conference approval.
3. The **District Superintendent** shall appoint the Tellers, Distribution Committee, and all other committees necessary for the work of the conference.

### ARTICLE 7 VOTING AND ELECTIONS

## Proposed Revisions to NCD Articles of Incorporation and Bylaws

April 28<sup>th</sup>, 2020 | North Central District Association | Evangelical Free Church of America

### A. VOTING

A two-thirds majority of delegates present and voting at a district conference shall be required to:

1. accept or remove member churches;
2. change the Bylaws or the Articles of Incorporation;
3. elect or remove the District Superintendent;
4. ~~elect or remove any Associate Superintendent or other executive staff member.~~

A simple majority of delegates present and voting at a district conference shall be required for all other business.

### B. NOMINATING COMMITTEE

~~The Nominating Committee shall have at least 4 members chosen as follows:~~

1. ~~One member of each District Council may be appointed by their respective council (Church Health, Church Planting, Ministerial Standing, Student Ministries, Urban/Intercultural, Women's Ministry, and Church-based Training) to be the representative for their council on the Nominating Committee. The representation on the Nominating Committee shall be a balance of laypeople and pastors representing the councils.~~

### ~~C. NOMINATION OF OFFICERS~~

1. ~~The Nominating Committee shall nominate one or more candidates for each of the~~

### A. VOTING

A two-thirds majority of delegates present and voting at a district conference shall be required to:

1. accept or remove member churches;
2. change the Bylaws or the Articles of Incorporation;
3. elect or remove the District Superintendent;

A simple majority of delegates present and voting at a district conference shall be required for all other business.

### B. NOMINATING COMMITTEE

The current members of the Board of Directors shall act as the Nominating Committee for the election of future Directors of the Board and for the District Superintendent.

## Proposed Revisions to NCD Articles of Incorporation and Bylaws

April 28<sup>th</sup>, 2020 | North Central District Association | Evangelical Free Church of America

~~required offices except as otherwise specified by these Bylaws.~~

- ~~2. The Board of Directors shall nominate the candidates for the office of District Superintendent, Associate Superintendent, and any other executive staff position and shall instruct the Nominating Committee to place these names on the ballot.~~

### ~~D. ELECTION OF DISTRICT OFFICERS~~

- ~~1. All elections of officers will be made by a majority vote unless otherwise indicated by these Bylaws.~~

## ARTICLE 8 BOARD OF DIRECTORS

### A. COMPOSITION

The Board of Directors of the North Central District shall consist of the following members:

#### 1. ELECTED DIRECTORS

- a. Number The Board of Directors of the North Central District shall have ~~eleven (11)~~ elected Directors.

#### ~~2. APPOINTED DIRECTOR~~

## ARTICLE 8 BOARD OF DIRECTORS

### A. COMPOSITION

The Board of Directors of the North Central District shall consist of the following members:

#### 1. ELECTED DIRECTORS

- a. Number

The Board of Directors of the North Central District shall have **eight to twelve (8-12)** elected Directors.

- b. Qualifications

Each Director shall be a member in good standing of an Evangelical Free Church that is

## Proposed Revisions to NCD Articles of Incorporation and Bylaws

April 28<sup>th</sup>, 2020 | North Central District Association | Evangelical Free Church of America

- a. ~~Number~~—The Board of Directors of the North Central District shall have ~~one (1) Director appointed by the District Superintendent and presented to the annual conference for confirmation.~~
- b. ~~Qualifications~~—Each Director shall be a member in good standing of an Evangelical Free Church that is a member of the North Central District.
- c. ~~Terms~~—The term of each Director shall be for ~~one (1) year. If re-appointed and approved by the conference, each may serve consecutive terms indefinitely.~~

### ~~3. EX-OFFICIO MEMBERS~~

- ~~Number~~—The District Superintendent and any Associate Superintendent shall be ex-officio members of the Board of Directors.

a member of the North Central District. Composition of balance between pastors and laypersons will be a decision of the Board.

#### c. Terms

The term of each Director shall be no more than three (3) years, with the Directors elected by the district at the annual conference in such a way that the terms of four (4) Directors shall expire each year. Any Director who has served two (2) consecutive terms shall not be eligible for re-election until one year after completing the last term of the two consecutive terms.

## 2. OTHER MEMBERS

The District Superintendent shall be a voting member of the Board of Directors.

## B. OFFICES, ELECTIONS

1. Offices: The offices of the Board of Directors shall be Chairman, Vice-Chairman, Secretary, Treasurer.

## Proposed Revisions to NCD Articles of Incorporation and Bylaws

April 28<sup>th</sup>, 2020 | North Central District Association | Evangelical Free Church of America

### D. QUORUM

A majority of the Board of Directors ~~other than the ex-officio members~~ shall constitute a quorum.

2. Election of Officers: At its first meeting following the annual conference, the Board of Directors shall elect its officers from among the Directors. Each officer shall serve a one-year term but may be re-elected to the same or to a different office in successive years. Directors shall be limited to one office at a time. Each officer shall serve until his successor is chosen and qualified. The Chairman shall recommend a member of the Board of Directors to fill any vacant office for the remainder of that term, subject to approval of the Board of Directors.

### C. MEETINGS

The Board of Directors shall hold meetings three (3) to five (5) times a year for the transaction of business whenever designated by the Board. Additional meetings may be called by the Chairman, Secretary, the District Superintendent, or by the request of any other three members of the Board of Directors.

### D. QUORUM

A majority of the Board of Directors shall constitute a quorum.

### E. ACTION WITHOUT MEETING

Electronic communication may take the place of a meeting of the Board of Directors. Voting, during electronic communication shall be done by individual polling of each participant. A record of the polling will be kept on file.

## Proposed Revisions to NCD Articles of Incorporation and Bylaws

April 28<sup>th</sup>, 2020 | North Central District Association | Evangelical Free Church of America

### ARTICLE 9 DUTIES AND POWERS OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS

The Board of Directors shall ~~work with~~ the District Superintendent in directing the work of the North Central District. In so doing, the Board of Directors shall be responsible for:

- A. ~~Planning~~ for the work of the North Central District which shall include:

### F. VACANCIES

A vacancy shall occur on the Board of Directors when a member:

1. ceases to be an active member or a member in good standing of a local church in the North Central District;
2. is absent from two consecutive meetings of the Board of Directors without satisfactory explanation;
3. dies, resigns, or is otherwise unable to continue serving.

The Board of Directors shall fill any vacancies by appointing a qualified person to serve the remainder of the unexpired term. Vacancies among the offices shall also be filled by action of the Board of Directors.

### ARTICLE 9 DUTIES AND POWERS OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS

The Board of Directors shall **oversee** the District Superintendent in directing the work of the North Central District. In so doing, the Board of Directors shall **ultimately** be responsible for:

- A. **Approving plans** for the work of the North Central District which shall include:
  1. assessing present and future needs and opportunities

## Proposed Revisions to NCD Articles of Incorporation and Bylaws

April 28<sup>th</sup>, 2020 | North Central District Association | Evangelical Free Church of America

B. ~~Developing and implementing~~ policies to guide and manage the work of the district which shall include:

C. Overseeing the work of the District Superintendent ~~and any other executive staff employee~~ which shall include:

1. reviewing performance not less than annually;
2. goal-setting;
3. encouraging and nurturing;
4. disciplining, if necessary;
5. terminating duties, if necessary, and only after reviewing the issues with the ~~employee~~.

for service;

2. approving short-term and long-term goals for the work of the district.

B. **Approving** policies to guide and manage the work of the district which shall include:

1. personnel policies;
2. financial policies;
3. all other necessary policies in accordance with the laws of the state and these Bylaws.

C. Overseeing the work of the District Superintendent which shall include:

1. reviewing performance not less than annually;
2. goal-setting;
3. encouraging and nurturing;
4. disciplining, if necessary;
5. terminating duties, if necessary, and only after reviewing the **appropriate** issues with the **District Superintendent and allowing for a period of time of correction or improvement.**

D. Providing for the care and management of all the property of the North Central District to include:

1. conducting and signing (or stamping with the seal of the North Central District)

## Proposed Revisions to NCD Articles of Incorporation and Bylaws

April 28<sup>th</sup>, 2020 | North Central District Association | Evangelical Free Church of America

- E. ~~Managing~~ all the legal and financial business of the North Central District to include:
1. entering into legal contracts in accordance with the laws of the state and these Bylaws. Only authorized representatives of the Board of Directors shall enter into such transactions;
  2. ~~setting salaries of district employees;~~
  3. ~~planning a balanced annual budget and submitting the budget in writing to the annual conference for approval by vote of the delegates of the district;~~
  4. ~~implementing and maintaining a balanced budget;~~
  5. ~~submitting to the annual conference a detailed written report of all moneys and valuable papers received and disbursed by the district during the previous year;~~
  6. ~~safekeeping and accounting for all valuable documents and records;~~
  7. being prohibited from incurring financial liability for the operating expenses of the North Central District. For capital improvements they shall have authority to

property transactions and other agreements in accordance with the laws of the state and these Bylaws. Only authorized representatives of the Board of Directors shall enter into such transactions.

- E. **Overseeing** all the legal and financial business of the North Central District to include:
1. Entering into legal contracts in accordance with the laws of the state and these Bylaws. Only authorized representatives of the Board of Directors shall enter into such transactions;
  2. Being prohibited from incurring financial liability for the operating expenses of the North Central District. For capital improvements they shall have authority to assume a total liability not to exceed two hundred thousand dollars (\$200,000). Any liability above two hundred thousand dollars shall require conference action.

## Proposed Revisions to NCD Articles of Incorporation and Bylaws

April 28<sup>th</sup>, 2020 | North Central District Association | Evangelical Free Church of America

assume a total liability not to exceed two hundred thousand dollars (\$200,000). Any liability above two hundred thousand dollars shall require conference action.

- F. Selecting the nominee(s) for the office of District Superintendent ~~and any other executive staff position.~~

- F. Selecting the nominee(s) for the office of District Superintendent.

1. The candidate for the office of District Superintendent shall be ordained, or willing to seek ordination, in the EFCA.

- G. Appointing an Executive Committee to act on behalf of the Board of Directors between its meetings:

1. Consisting of the Chairman of the Board, the Vice-Chairman, Secretary, Treasurer, and the District Superintendent. The Board of Directors at their next regular meeting shall fill a vacancy in the membership of the Executive Committee. The Chairman of the Board of Directors shall be chairman of the Executive Committee.
2. Requiring three (3) members of the Executive Committee present to constitute a quorum for the transaction of business at meetings of the Executive Committee.
3. Having and exercising all the powers of the Board of Directors between meetings of the Board of Directors, except as otherwise provided by law or except for the following, which the Executive Committee shall not have the power to do:

## Proposed Revisions to NCD Articles of Incorporation and Bylaws

April 28<sup>th</sup>, 2020 | North Central District Association | Evangelical Free Church of America

4. providing a written report at each meeting of the Board of Directors of its actions and proceedings since the last meeting of the Board of Directors.

~~H. Establish councils to implement segments of ministry.~~

- I. Electing, and when necessary removing, the Board of Directors of Elim Care, Inc., in accordance with the Bylaws of Elim Care, Inc.

~~J. Providing for the holding of conferences of the North Central District as directed by the district and~~

- a. To accept or reject a member or elect a director of the Board of Directors;
- b. To alter fundamental policies of the Board of Directors;
- c. To make appropriations which are not in accordance with the general policies approved by the Board of Directors;
- d. To modify, revoke or renew any contract or other obligation previously authorized or entered into by the Board of Directors;
- e. To change the person or persons specifically designated by the Board to enter into or execute on behalf of the corporation a particular contract, obligation, agreement, or writing authorized by action of the Board of Directors.

4. Providing a written report at each meeting of the Board of Directors, **if so requested by the Board of Directors**, of its actions and proceedings since the last meeting of the Board of Directors.

H. Electing, and when necessary removing, the Board of Directors of Elim Care, Inc. in accordance with the Bylaws of Elim Care, Inc.

- I. Carrying out the directives of the conference and being accountable to the member churches of the North Central District.

## Proposed Revisions to NCD Articles of Incorporation and Bylaws

April 28<sup>th</sup>, 2020 | North Central District Association | Evangelical Free Church of America

~~as deemed necessary by the Board of Directors and in accordance with these Bylaws.~~

- K. Carrying out the directives of the conference and being accountable to the member churches of the North Central District.

### ARTICLE 10 DUTIES AND POWERS OF OFFICERS

#### A. CHAIRMAN

The Chairman shall:

1. lead the Board of Directors in accomplishing its tasks;
2. preside at all regular and special district conferences and all regular and special meetings of the Board of Directors, and the Executive Committee;
3. ~~appoint councils as necessary, in accordance with the Bylaws, to carry out the work of the district and shall be an ex-officio member of all committees and councils of the district;~~
4. assume or delegate the essential duties of the District Superintendent when that office is vacant;
5. be directly accountable to the North Central District for the work of the Board of Directors.

### ARTICLE 10 DUTIES AND POWERS OF OFFICERS

#### A. CHAIRMAN

The Chairman shall:

1. lead the Board of Directors in accomplishing its tasks;
2. preside at all regular and special district conferences and all regular and special meetings of the Board of Directors, and the Executive Committee;
3. assume or delegate the essential duties of the District Superintendent when that office is vacant; **and**
4. be directly accountable to the North Central District for the work of the Board of Directors.

## Proposed Revisions to NCD Articles of Incorporation and Bylaws

April 28<sup>th</sup>, 2020 | North Central District Association | Evangelical Free Church of America

### B. VICE-CHAIRMAN

The Vice-Chairman shall:

1. assist the Chairman in carrying out his duties;
2. assume the duties of the Chairman when that office is vacant or, temporarily, when the chairman is unable to serve;
3. ~~serve as chairman of the personnel committee;~~

### D. TREASURER

The Treasurer shall:

1. ~~accept~~, receipt, and deposit all funds received by the North Central District in a bank or banks designated by the Board of Directors;
2. ~~account for~~ all funds received by the North Central District and all disbursements;
3. ~~submit~~ a detailed written report of all receipts and deposits and disbursements to each annual conference and a summary report to any other district conference, and report to the Board of Directors at their regular meetings and any other time at their request;

### B. VICE-CHAIRMAN

The Vice-Chairman shall:

1. Assist the Chairman in carrying out his duties;
2. Assume the duties of the Chairman when that office is vacant or, temporarily, when the chairman is unable to serve.

### C. SECRETARY

The Secretary shall:

1. Keep minutes recording the details of business transacted at any district conference, meeting of the Board of Directors, or meeting of the Executive Committee; and
2. Direct the printing and distribution of minutes for any district conference, meeting of the Board of Directors, or meeting of the Executive Committee.

### D. TREASURER

The Treasurer shall:

1. **Oversee the acceptance**, receipt, and deposit of all funds received by the North Central District in a bank or banks designated by the Board of Directors;
2. **Oversee the accounting of** all funds received by the North Central District and all disbursements;
3. **Oversee the preparation of** a detailed report of all receipts and deposits and disbursements to each annual conference and a summary report to any other district conference, and report to

## Proposed Revisions to NCD Articles of Incorporation and Bylaws

April 28<sup>th</sup>, 2020 | North Central District Association | Evangelical Free Church of America

4. facilitate ~~the~~ annual audit by certified accountants of all financial records.

### G. DISTRICT SUPERINTENDENT

~~To lead this family of interdependent churches toward fulfilling our God-given mission of *Multiplying Healthy Churches Among All People; Reaching Together ... The Generations*. To participate with God, by His grace, for His glory, through the power of the Holy Spirit, to fulfill the mission by pursuing the following:~~

- ~~1. provide spiritual, visionary and organizational guidelines to the District Leadership Team.~~
- ~~2. build and guide staff, ministry councils, and regional teams to multiply and care for leaders and the churches we serve together and to resource them accordingly.~~
- ~~3. respond to individual and local church crises with biblical principles, compassion, and courage in a de-centralized manner as possible~~
- ~~4. communicate the district mission and vision through all available mediums.~~
- ~~5. adequately "capitalize" the mission and vision with the necessary spiritual vitality, prayer and material resources.~~
6. represent the Evangelical Free Church and the North Central District with godly excellence and servant-leadership at all levels of the movement and the kingdom at large.

the Board of Directors at their regular meetings and any other time at their request; **and**

4. facilitate **an** annual audit by certified accountants of all financial records **and procedures**.

### E. DISTRICT SUPERINTENDENT

The District Superintendent shall be the Administrative Officer of the District. Through that position the District Superintendent shall:

1. **Lead the District toward fulfillment of its purpose and mission as stated in Articles 2 and 3;**
2. **Recruit, hire, train, and supervise all North Central District staff personnel, including annual performance reviews, and terminate such personnel as needed;**
3. **Prepare an annual balanced budget which includes annual salaries for all North Central District personnel for approval by the Board of Directors and district conference and shall implement and maintain the approved budget;**
4. **Work to facilitate partnership between the district and the denomination as he oversees responsibilities in ministerial areas such as credentialing, licensing, ordination and placement;**
5. **Be available for church consultation in all manners of ministry, such as conflict management and church evaluation;**
6. Represent the Evangelical Free Church and the North Central District with godly excellence and servant-leadership at all levels of the movement and the kingdom at large.

## Proposed Revisions to NCD Articles of Incorporation and Bylaws

April 28<sup>th</sup>, 2020 | North Central District Association | Evangelical Free Church of America

### **H. ASSOCIATE SUPERINTENDENT(S)**

Duties of the Associate Superintendent shall include:

1. serving in the areas directed by the Superintendent and the Board of Directors;
2. being responsible to the District Superintendent and to the Board of Directors;
3. reporting to the meetings of the Board of Directors and submitting a written report to the annual conference and semi-annual conference;
4. serving as ex-officio member of the Board of Directors.

### **I. OTHER OFFICIAL POSITIONS**

The North Central District may, at its discretion, create other official positions not mentioned in these Bylaws and may elect or appoint volunteers or executive staff to fill such positions. The North Central District may adjust job descriptions contained in these Bylaws providing the modifications do not conflict with the Bylaws. The duties and responsibilities of such positions shall be approved by a vote of a district conference and all

7. Create any committees, councils, and ministry teams that may enhance or further develop the ministry of the North Central District and shall be an ex-officio member of such, as well as affiliated organizations; and
8. Report to the Board of Directors in a manner and schedule to be determined by the Board of Directors.

## Proposed Revisions to NCD Articles of Incorporation and Bylaws

April 28<sup>th</sup>, 2020 | North Central District Association | Evangelical Free Church of America

~~such positions shall be created in accordance with the purpose and mission of the North Central District, and filled in accordance with these Bylaws.~~

### J. TERM OF OFFICE

~~The offices of Superintendent, any Associate Superintendent, or other executive staff, shall be three (3) year terms.~~

### K. TERMINATION

~~The Board of Directors shall have the authority to terminate any salaried employee of the District upon a vote of two-thirds of all the members of the Board of Directors. In the absence of extraordinary reasons for a shorter notice, a three-month notice shall be given to any employee so terminated by the Board of Directors.~~

## ARTICLE 11 ELIM CARE

*(No changes)*

### F. TERM OF OFFICE AND TERMINATION

1. The office of **District Superintendent** shall be a three (3) year term **with an unlimited number of consecutive terms**; and
2. The Board of Directors shall have the authority to terminate **the District Superintendent** upon a vote of two-thirds of all the members of the Board of Directors. In the absence of extraordinary reasons for a shorter notice, a three-month notice shall be given to **the District Superintendent** so terminated.

## ARTICLE 11 ELIM CARE

### A. PURPOSE

Elim Care, Inc. is organized and shall be operated only for religious, educational or charitable purposes within the meaning of Section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1954, as amended, including, for these purposes:

1. providing health care services in the Spirit of Christ to the elderly, handicapped and others having specialized needs as part of the ministry of and in communities served by and contiguous

## Proposed Revisions to NCD Articles of Incorporation and Bylaws

April 28<sup>th</sup>, 2020 | North Central District Association | Evangelical Free Church of America

to the North Central District Association of the Evangelical Free Church of America;

2. owning and operating nursing homes which provide high quality nursing home services to the elderly, handicapped and others having specialized needs;
3. developing and operating additional programs and facilities for the elderly handicapped and others with specialized needs;
4. providing educational and other support services to pastors, laity and others who desire to serve the elderly, handicapped and others with specialized needs; and
5. engaging in any and all lawful activities incidental to the foregoing purposes, except as restricted herein.

No substantial part of the activities of this corporation shall be the carrying on of propaganda, or otherwise attempting to influence legislation, and this corporation shall not participate in or intervene in (including the publishing or distributing of statements) any political campaign on behalf of or in opposition to any candidate for public office.

### **B. Structure**

1. The sole member of Elim Care, Inc. shall be A & E Care, a Minnesota nonprofit corporation (the

## Proposed Revisions to NCD Articles of Incorporation and Bylaws

April 28<sup>th</sup>, 2020 | North Central District Association | Evangelical Free Church of America

“Elim Parent Corporation”). The Elim Parent Corporation shall also be the sole member of Augustana Care, a Minnesota nonprofit corporation. The board of directors of the Elim Parent Corporation shall be appointed by action of the respective boards of directors of Elim Care, Inc. and Augustana Care.

2. The Elim Parent Corporation shall not, however, appoint the board of directors of Elim Care, Inc.
3. The board of directors of Elim Care, Inc. shall be appointed by resolution of the Board of Directors of the North Central District in accordance with the bylaws of Elim Care, Inc.
4. The Board of Directors of the North Central District, by resolution adopted at a duly convened meeting, may at any time, with or without cause, remove any or all members of the board of directors of Elim Care, Inc.

### ARTICLE 12 DISSOLUTION

*(No changes)*

### ARTICLE 12 DISSOLUTION

In the event that the North Central District shall be dissolved, all of its property, real, personal, or mixed shall become the property of the Evangelical Free Church of America.

## **Proposed Revisions to NCD Articles of Incorporation and Bylaws**

April 28<sup>th</sup>, 2020 | North Central District Association | Evangelical Free Church of America

### **ARTICLE 13 AMENDMENTS**

The procedure for amending the Bylaws and or Articles of Incorporation of the North Central District shall be as follows:

1. Written copies of all proposed amendments shall be sent to member churches not less than sixty (60) days prior to the district conference at which they are to be introduced.
2. The proposed amendments shall be introduced at an annual conference for discussion and decision; and shall be presented at the following conference for discussion and voted upon without alteration for final adoption.
3. Two-thirds of all votes cast will be required for adoption.

Previous revision and amendment dates include:

April 1, 1959

May 16, 1967

November 19, 1969

April 11, 1972

March 27, 1973

March 26, 1974

April 2, 1979

April 6, 1981

April 13, 1983

April 9, 1984

April 7, 1986

April 6, 1989

April 15, 2007

April 2, 2019 (Art.8, Sec. A.3; Art. 11, Sec. B)

## Proposed Revisions to NCD Articles of Incorporation and Bylaws

April 28<sup>th</sup>, 2020 | North Central District Association | Evangelical Free Church of America

### Current

(Only sections with suggested revisions)

Revised & Approved 4/2/2019

#### ARTICLE 1 NAME

*(No changes)*

#### ARTICLE 2 PURPOSE AND MISSION

The mission of the North Central District is to glorify God ~~in fulfilling the Great Commission~~ and shall be involved in those activities pursuant to its purposes through:

### Proposed Articles of Incorporation

(Document in entirety w/changes added)

Proposed 4/28/2019

#### ARTICLE 1 NAME

The name of this organization shall be the North Central District Association of the Evangelical Free Church of America.

*(Amended 1952)*

#### ARTICLE 2 PURPOSE AND MISSION

The purpose of the North Central District Association is to offer a ministry structure which:

- A. Provides member churches with a formal link to the organization, ministry objectives, and resources of the Evangelical Free Church of America;
- B. Provides leadership for ministries which are best done through the combined efforts of its affiliated autonomous churches;
- C. Offers assistance to churches in spiritual and numerical growth;
- D. Helps churches to secure qualified pastoral personnel;
- E. Encourages pastors and leaders in personal development and ministry skills

The mission of the North Central District is to glorify God **by multiplying transformational churches among all people** and shall be involved in those activities pursuant to its purposes through:

## Proposed Revisions to NCD Articles of Incorporation and Bylaws

April 28<sup>th</sup>, 2020 | North Central District Association | Evangelical Free Church of America

### A. Ministries of Outreach

1. Church growth
2. Church planting
3. Social Concerns

### B. Ministries of Nurture

1. Serving the churches
2. Ministering to pastors
3. Developing needed resources

## ARTICLE 3 MEMBERSHIP

*(No changes)*

## ARTICLE 4 ANNUAL CONFERENCE AND OFFICIAL ADDRESS

*(No changes)*

### A. Ministries of Outreach

1. Church growth
2. Church planting
3. Social Concerns

### B. Ministries of Nurture

1. Serving the churches
2. Ministering to pastors **and church leaders**
3. Developing needed resources

*(Amended 1930, 1972, 1989)*

## ARTICLE 3 MEMBERSHIP

This organization shall consist of churches now affiliated with the Evangelical Free Church of America in the State of Minnesota. Such other churches of like faith and practice as shall recognize this organization and adopt its principles may also enter this fellowship in accordance with the rules and regulations of its Bylaws.

*(Amended 1952, 1989)*

## ARTICLE 4 ANNUAL CONFERENCE AND OFFICIAL ADDRESS

Section 1 This organization shall hold its annual meeting or conference as provided for in its Bylaws.

*(Amended 1952)*

Section 2 The principal office of this organization and its official address shall be Minneapolis, State of Minnesota.

## Proposed Revisions to NCD Articles of Incorporation and Bylaws

April 28<sup>th</sup>, 2020 | North Central District Association | Evangelical Free Church of America

*(Adopted 1927)*

### ARTICLE 5 BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Section 1 There shall be a board of directors of ~~eleven (11)~~ who shall be elected from among the membership at the annual conference of the members of this corporation, or at a special meeting of the members called for this purpose. The exact number of directors and their respective terms of office for which each director is to be elected shall be provided in the Bylaws of this corporation, or pursuant to a resolution which may be adopted by majority vote at any annual conference.

*(Amended 1972, 2008)*

Section 3 The board of directors shall ~~handle, manage~~ and be responsible for

### ARTICLE 5 BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Section 1 There shall be a board of directors of **eight to twelve (8-12)** who shall be elected from among the membership at the annual conference of the members of this corporation, or at a special meeting of the members called for this purpose. The exact number of directors and their respective terms of office for which each director is to be elected shall be provided in the Bylaws of this corporation, or pursuant to a resolution which may be adopted by majority vote at any annual conference.

*(Amended 1972, 2008)*

Section 2 The board of directors shall have the authority to order, or direct its officers to sign and seal papers and documents of this corporation, but shall have no right or power to ignore, over-rule, or contradict resolutions and decisions carried by a majority vote of the annual meeting of the organization or in a special meeting thereof.

*(Amended 1972)*

Section 3 The board of directors shall **oversee, supervise** and be responsible for

## Proposed Revisions to NCD Articles of Incorporation and Bylaws

April 28<sup>th</sup>, 2020 | North Central District Association | Evangelical Free Church of America

moneys received and other forms of property given to the organization and shall have careful oversight of and be responsible for such property.

*(Amended 1972)*

moneys received and other forms of property given to the organization and shall have careful oversight of and be responsible for such property.

*(Amended 1972)*

### Section 4

A majority of the members of the board of directors shall constitute a quorum, unless otherwise provided in the Bylaws. All of the directors shall be responsible for all of the property of this organization and they shall make detailed reports of such property each year at the annual conference of the members.

*(Amended 1972)*

## ARTICLE 6 OFFICERS AND COMMITTEES

*(No changes)*

## ARTICLE 6 OFFICERS AND COMMITTEES

### Section 1

The board of directors shall elect the following officers for one-year terms: chairman, vice-chairman, secretary, and treasurer in a manner provided for in the Bylaws.

*(Amended 1972, 2008)*

### Section 2

The board of directors may appoint other officers, boards and committees besides those mentioned in Section 1 for such purposes and duration and under such conditions as may be provided in the Bylaws of this

## Proposed Revisions to NCD Articles of Incorporation and Bylaws

April 28<sup>th</sup>, 2020 | North Central District Association | Evangelical Free Church of America

### ARTICLE 7 FILLING VACANCIES

*(No changes)*

### ARTICLE 8 EXISTENCE

*(No changes)*

### ARTICLE 9 NO CAPITAL STOCK, NON-PROFIT CORPORATION

*(No changes)*

### ARTICLE 10 DISSOLUTION

*(No changes)*

organization to facilitate the management of evangelistic, educational and the charitable work of this organization.

*(Amended 1972)*

### ARTICLE 7 FILLING VACANCIES

Vacancies occurring in the office of directors or any of the other authorized officers of this organization shall be filled by action of the board of directors and the members appointed to fill such vacancies shall serve until the next annual conference. *(Amended 1972)*

### ARTICLE 8 EXISTENCE

The duration of this corporation shall be perpetual. *(Added 1972)*

### ARTICLE 9 NO CAPITAL STOCK, NON-PROFIT CORPORATION

There shall be no capital stock issued by this corporation. This corporation is not organized for profit nor shall any person or member derive any pecuniary profit or benefit therefrom. There shall be no personal liability for members for corporate obligations.

*(Added 1972)*

### ARTICLE 10 DISSOLUTION

In the event this corporation should cease to exist as an active corporation and cease to use its property for purposes as set forth in these Articles, then the property shall revert to the Evangelical Free Church of America, with

## Proposed Revisions to NCD Articles of Incorporation and Bylaws

April 28<sup>th</sup>, 2020 | North Central District Association | Evangelical Free Church of America

### ARTICLE 11 AMENDMENTS

*(No changes)*

full authority to sell this property or use it in any way it sees fit for the fulfillment of its purposes.

*(Added 1972)*

### ARTICLE 11 AMENDMENTS

These Articles may be amended at any meeting of the corporation according to the procedures stated in its Bylaws, provided that notice of the amendment is given to its membership at least sixty (60) days prior to the date of the meeting. It shall require a two-thirds vote of the members present and voting to pass such an amendment.

*(Added 1972)*

*Note: The Articles of Incorporation were originally adopted on May 24, 1927, and were amended on November 2, 1930, on March 18, 1952, on April 11, 1972, and on April 16, 1989. Articles VIII, IX and X are entirely new Articles added on April 11, 1972.*