

Articles of Incorporation

Of

Good News Bible Church of Cohasset

Article I

The name of this Corporation shall be Good News Bible Church of Cohasset, and the Corporation shall be located at 25 NW. 3rd Street Cohasset, MN. The term or duration for which this Corporation shall exist shall be perpetual.

Article II

The objects for which this Corporation is formed are as follows; for a Church to be conducted according to the Doctrine of the Scriptures as set forth in the following Statement of Faith:

- 1) The Bible in its original documents is the inspired Word of God, the written record of His supernatural revelation of Himself to man, absolute in its authority, complete in its revelation, final in its content, and without any errors in its statements. II Timothy 3:16, St. John 10:35, Psalm 89:34, Hebrews 6:18, II Peter 3:16.
- 2) There is one God, eternally existent, Creator of heaven and earth. He is manifested in three person – Father, Son and Holy Spirit. Isaiah 7:14, Isaiah 9:6, St. John 14:9, I Timothy 3:16, I John 5:7.
- 3) The Lord Jesus Christ is fully God who took on flesh and dwelt on earth. He was sinlessly perfect and gave Himself as a substitutionary sacrifice by shedding His blood and dying on the tree; He then came back from the dead. This was to pay for all sins (past, present, and future) for all who believe. II Corinthians 5:21, Hebrews 2:9, Titus 2:14, Hebrews 10:10-14, Hebrews 9:2-28, Acts 13:38-41, I Peter 2:24, I John 3:5.
- 4) God is absolutely sovereign and in His sovereignty gave man a free will to accept or reject the salvation that He has provided. It is God's will that all would be saved and that none should perish. God foreknows, but does not predetermine, any man to be condemned. God permits man's destiny to depend upon man's choice. I Timothy 2:4, II Thessalonians 2:13, I Peter 1:2, II Peter 3:9, St. John 6:44-65, Acts 10:34, I Corinthians 1:21, Ephesians 1:5-14, Romans 8:29-30, Romans 9:30-32.
- 5) Each member of the human race is fallen, sinful and lost, and regeneration by the Holy Spirit is absolutely essential for the salvation of man. The moment a person receives Christ as their Savior, immediately, the Holy Spirit indwells the believer who is sealed until the day of redemption, Romans 3:23, St. John 3:7, St. John 7:39, I Corinthians 6:19, Ephesians 1:13-14, Luke 24:49, Titus 3:5.

- 6) Man is saved by undeserved mercy through faith and nothing of man enters into his salvation. It is a free gift. Man's efforts regardless of how good or well intended, before or after salvation, have nothing to do with it. Salvation is by the finished work of Christ and nothing can be added to it. Ephesians 2:8-9, Galatians 2:16, Romans 11:6, Colossians 2:13, Titus 3:5, Romans 3:22.
- 7) The Church began with the descent of the Holy Spirit at Pentecost and is composed of all true believers. By the Holy Spirit we are all baptized into the one Body of Christ. Water baptism is not essential for salvation but is a testimony in the world. Acts 1:8, I Corinthians 6:19-20, Acts 2:1-4, I Corinthians 12:13, Ephesians 4:5, Acts 10:47.
- 8) Every true child of God possesses eternal life, being justified by faith, sanctified by God, sealed with the Holy Spirit, is safe and secure for all eternity, and he cannot lose his salvation, However, a Christian can, through sin, lose his fellowship, joy, power, testimony, and reward, and incur the Father's chastisement. Relationship is eternal, being established by the new birth; fellowship, however, is dependent upon obedience. I Corinthians 3:11-17, Hebrews 12:5-11, I Corinthians 5:1-5, I Corinthians 11:30-32.
- 9) A true child of God has two births; one of the flesh, the other of the Spirit, giving man a flesh nature and the Spirit nature. The flesh nature is neither good nor righteous. The Spiritual Man does not commit any sin. This results in warfare between the Spirit and the flesh, which continues until physical death, or the return of the Lord. The flesh nature of man does not change in any way with the new birth, but can be controlled and kept subdued by the new man. St. John 3:3-7, Romans 8:8, Romans 7:15-25, Galatians 5:17, I John 3:9, I Peter 1:23, I John 5:18, I John 1:8.
- 10) There will be resurrection of the saved and of the lost; of the saved unto eternal life, and the lost unto eternal conscious punishment. These two resurrections are separated by at least 1,000 years. I Thessalonians 4:13-18, Daniel 12:2, Revelations 20:1-5, Matthew 25:41.
- 11) We believe in the personal, pre-tribulational, and pre-millennial return of our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ. I Thessalonians 5:9-11, I Thessalonians 1:10, II Thessalonians 2:1-8, Revelations 3:10, Luke 21:36, Titus 2:13, Isaiah 26:17-21, Isaiah 27:1, Revelations 4:4.
- 12) Satan is a person, the author of sin, and he and his angels shall be eternally punished. Ezekiel 28:15, Ezekiel 28:17, Isaiah 14:12-15, Revelations 20:10, Matthew 25:41.
- 13) God can heal, but physical healing is not in the atonement. God heals miraculously today when it is His perfect will to do so. Healing cannot be claimed through the guarantee of the atonement. At times it is God's will for sickness not to be removed. II Corinthians 12:8-10, James 5:14-16.
- 14) The gift of tongues (languages) was a manifestation of the Spirit's power solely for the demonstration of God's wisdom, purpose, and power in the establishment of the early church, and always was in a language that was in use. Acts 2:16, I Corinthians 14:22.

- 15) The true child of God is not under the Law but under Grace; Saved by grace and disciplined by grace. Romans 6:14, Romans 11:6, II Corinthians 3:17.
- 16) Repent (metanoeo) means a change of mind. Repentance in salvation means a change of mind from any idea of religion that man may have and to accept God's way of salvation. Repentance does not in any sense include a demand for a change of conduct before or after salvation. Act 20:21, II Corinthians 7:8-10, Matthew 21:32.
- 17) It is every Christian's privilege and duty to make clear God's plan of salvation wherever and in whatever vocation he or she may be. Mark 16:15, I Thessalonians 2:4.
- 18) The general plan of salvation in God's Word in a brief outline that is believed and practiced by the Good News Bible Church of Cohasset is as follows:
- a) Establish the fact that all men are sinners. Romans 3:10, Romans 3:23, Isaiah 64:6, Jeremiah 17:9, James 2:10.
 - b) Establish the fact that the penalty of sin is death. Romans 6:23, Ezekiel 18:20.
 - c) Establish the fact that you must be perfect to enter heaven. Revelations 21:27, Habakkuk 1:13.
 - d) Establish the fact that man can do nothing of himself to obtain this perfection. Ephesians 2:8-9, Galatians 2:16, Romans 4:5.
 - e) Show how God provided a sin-bearer and imputes to man His Righteousness. II Corinthians 5:21, Philippians 3:9, Isaiah 53:6, I Peter 3:18.
 - f) Establish the fact that man needs only belief in the Lord Jesus Christ as his personal Saviour for salvation. John 3:16, Romans 10:9, John 1:12, Acts 16:31.
 - g) Establish the fact that man can be certain of his salvation now, and that his salvation cannot be lost because eternal life is eternal. John 6:37, 39, John 10:28, I Peter 1:5, Hebrews 10:10-14, I John 5:13.

Article III

The Good News Bible Church of Cohasset, Inc., recognizing the great importance of this Doctrinal Statement, resolves that a unanimous vote of the Board of Trustees will be required to change any portion of this Doctrinal Statement. The Board of Trustees alone has the authority to interpret and define the Statement of Faith. All members of the Good News Bible Church of Cohasset, Inc., will be required to believe and to sign without reservation the Doctrinal Statement. Whenever any person finds himself not wholeheartedly in accord with the Doctrinal

Statement, that personal will automatically forfeit his membership or any support provided by the Good News Bible Church of Cohasset, Inc, Jude v.3.

Article IV

The members of this Corporation shall be the undersigned and all other communicant members in good standing in the Good News Bible Church of Cohasset, Inc., Cohasset, MN, and all such other persons as may hereafter from time to time become communicant members in good standing of the said body. The manner and requisites of admission to said body shall conform to the rules of government and discipline that are prescribed by the Board of Elders of said body. A member must subscribe to the objects of the Corporation and to this By-Laws, doctrines, and requirements of the Corporation. All applicants for membership must be approved by the Pastor and the Board of Elders.

Article V

This Corporation will own and maintain a place of worship and meeting for its members, to own and operate schools and Bible institutes, and to ordain men to the Christian ministry. To do and perform such matters and things as are allowed by law and may be reasonable, convenient, or necessary to attain the objects and ends for which it is organized as herein provided. To receive subscriptions and donations of real and personal property to be applied to the uses and purposes of the Corporation.

Article VI

The Board of Trustees of this corporation shall have power to acquire, hold and dispose of real estate and personal property, notes, mortgages, stocks, bonds, and securities of all kinds, and shall have full power and authority to borrow money and execute its notes and/or bonds therefore and to secure the same by mortgage or deed of trust upon its real or personal property. This Board acts when directed by the Congregation. The Board of Trustees shall have a unanimous decision between the Board of Trustees before they acquire, hold and dispose of real estate and personal property, notes, mortgages, stocks, bonds, and securities of all kinds, and shall have full power and authority to borrow money and execute its notes and/or bonds therefore and to secure the same by mortgage or deed of trust upon its real or personal property.

Article VII

The Board of Trustees will be in charge of all property. They will serve until their successors are duly elected by the Board of Elders. Their names and address are as follows:

- Pastor Lance Edminster 400 Itasca St. Lot 38, Grand Rapids, MN
- Herman Giehler 310 Southeast 2nd Avenue, Grand Rapids, MN
- Ron Hines 39654 US Hwy #2, Cohasset, MN
- Fred Grossman 28403 East Bass Lake Road, Grand Rapids, MN

Article VIII

The affairs of the Corporation shall be managed by a Session composed of Elders. The Pastor of the Church shall be the Moderator and ex-office member of this Session. The Board of Elders shall be elected from the members of the Good News Bible Church of Cohasset, MN. The Elders are to hold office for three (3) years term on a rotating basis with the first election being for terms of 1, 2, and 3 years to accomplish an appropriate sequence of terms of office. An Elder may succeed himself once.

Elders may be removed from office by a two-thirds (2/3) vote of the Board of Trustees and Pastor. The vote for removal of Elder from officer shall be by secret ballot.

- Tom Adams 2505 Fraser Street, Grand Rapids, MN
- William Hanson 435 Northwest 1st Street, Cohasset, MN
- Ron Giffen 32967 State Hwy 46, Deer River, MN
- Adam Hines 48848 CO RD 152, Deer River, MN
- Aaron Hines 37668 CO RD 19, Deer River, MN

Article IX

The Elders will have the spiritual oversight of the Congregation and be the governing body of the Church and all department heads. They will be subject to the Charter, By-Laws, and Constitution of the Church. They shall be in control of the finances of the Church and elect, yearly, the Church Treasurer. The Pastor shall be ex-officio member of the Board of Elders and serve as a Moderator with the power to vote on all matters except in any matters pertaining to himself. The Elders shall elect the Clerk of the Session on a yearly basis. He will keep an accurate record of the church business transacted in the meeting and will act as Chairman in case of absence of the Pastor. The Board of Elders has the power to elect, appoint, and delegate authority to officers and committees at their discretion. They shall endeavor, by God's grace, to live and serve in full conformity to the standards set forth by this Charter. I Peter 5:1-8, I Timothy 3:1-7, Titus 1:7-8, Jude, v.3.

Article X

The Board of Deacons shall be under the supervision of the Session. They shall take care of the physical needs of the Church, be entrusted with the upkeep of the Church property, provide ushers, perform all duties delegated by the Session; and make recommendations to the Session for action on any matters they deem advisable. They shall elect their own officers for a one (1) year term, consisting of Chairman and Co-Chairman. The Chairman shall appoint as many committee heads as he feels necessary to accomplish the duties of the Diaconate. The Co-Chairman shall perform the duty of the Chairman in his absence. I Peter 5:5, I Timothy 4:8-13.

Article XI

Election of Elders and Deacons: The Board of Elders will appoint the nominating committee, the Congregation shall present to this committee their suggestions for nomination; then the committee shall investigate thoroughly the qualification of the person they are considering for office as to his or her agreement to the Charter, and his Christian life, loyalty to the Church, and his willingness to serve. The nominating committee shall then present to the Church the names of the persons that it believes are best qualified for the offices shortly to be vacated. It shall be the privilege of the membership to accept or reject in part or in whole the committee report, by majority vote. If rejected, this committee shall continue until a slate is accepted, until otherwise ordered by the Board of Elders.

The vote for election of officers shall be by secret ballot.

Article XII

Oath of Office: All Elders, Deacons, and officers of the Church shall be required to take this oath of office before the Congregation;

We unreservedly subscribe to the Statement of Faith and the Charter and By-Laws of the Good News Bible Church of Cohasset, Inc., and promises;

To be loyal to the Good News Bible Church of Cohasset, Inc.

To faithfully perform the Duties of our office to the best of our ability,

To be faithful in attendance at all meetings when it is reasonably possible, and

To exhibit a love for the brethren and promote harmony with the Congregation.

Article XIII

The Pastor shall have the general oversight of the spiritual life of the Church and shall minister the two ordinances of the Church-Baptism, and the Lord's Supper. He shall be at liberty to preach as the Lord leads him. He shall be an ex-office member of all boards and committees of the Church or any of its organizations with the power to vote. The first Pastor shall be Pastor Lance Edminster, whose term shall be for life or until he shall retire, resign, or be removed for apostasy (divergence from the Doctrinal Statement of the Good News Bible Church of Cohasset, Inc.) after due trial by the Elders and two-thirds (2/3) vote of the Congregation.

All succeeding Pastors shall be chosen for one (1) year and may be reelected each year by a majority vote of the Board of Elders.

Article XIV

Call of a New Pastor: The Board of Elders shall act as a pulpit committee. Only one (1) candidate shall be considered at any one (1) time. The Board of Elders shall recommend only such as receive their own unanimous approval. The Church shall vote by ballot and two-thirds (2/3) vote shall be necessary before a call shall be issued. The call shall be written in duplicate and shall state the exact count of vote of the membership, the salary offered, and any other agreements deemed necessary.

No call shall be extended except at a meeting convened for that purpose, public notice having been given at least two (2) weeks previously. The Pastor's salary shall be paid at least monthly. He shall have an annual vacation, the time and length to be determined by the Board of Elders.

Article XV

Membership: Any person who has accepted Christ as Saviour and agrees to the Charter of the Good News Bible Church of Cohasset, gives assurance of their desire to live a positive Christian life, exhibits a love for the brethren, and lives in harmony of its members, shall be eligible for membership.

Baptism by this Church shall be only after receiving Christ as Saviour, and will be done by immersion. We strongly recommend water baptism for all believers.

Article XVI

Dismissal of a Member or Removal from Office: Members may be removed from membership or office by a two-thirds (2/3) vote of the Elders or the Congregation.

Article XVII

Procedure of Discontented Members: All members who are in disagreement or are discontented have the right and privilege and should bring the matter to the attention of the Session.

Any member, by written request, may appear before the Session for fair consideration of their case.

Any member sowing seeds of discord in the Church, causing harm to be done to other members and to the Church, are liable to disciplinary action or dismissal. Criticism can be constructive by this method, and action can be taken. Love and consideration should be shown for one another. Galatians 6:1.

Article XVIII

The Statement of Faith in this Charter under Article II may be changed only by the Board of Trustees as Stated in Article III. The rest of the Charter and By-Laws proposed by any member may be amended, altered, or rescinded by a two-thirds (2/3) vote of the members at a meeting of the Congregation. The Congregation can overrule the Board of Elders by a two-thirds (2/3) vote at any called meeting. Five percent (5%) of the eligible membership constitutes a quorum. On all other business only a majority vote will be required. Write-in votes will be accepted. A voting member of the Church shall be a member in good standing and shall have passed his or her sixteenth (16) birthday. Associate members will have all privileges of the Church except they will be unable to vote or hold office.

Article XIX

Annual Meeting: Each year, not later than the first day of April, the Board of Elders shall call an annual meeting. At the annual meeting, the minutes of the preceding annual meeting and the report of the Church Clerk shall be read. The yearly report of the Treasurer shall be rendered. The fiscal year shall end on December 31st.

Election of officers and any other business decided on by the Board of Elders or the Congregation. The Pastor shall be moderator of all Church business meetings unless otherwise ordered by the Session.

Article XX

Incorporators: The names and addresses of the incorporators to this Charter are as follows:

- Pastor Lance Edminster 400 Itasca St. Lot 38, Grand Rapids, MN
- Herman Giehler 310 Southeast 2nd Avenue, Grand Rapids, MN
- Ron Hines 39654 US Hwy #2, Cohasset, MN
- Fred Grossman 28403 East Bass Lake Road, Grand Rapids, MN

Article XXI

The By-Laws shall contain a provision that upon dissolution, all remaining assets will be distributed to one or more organizations exempt as described in Section 501©3 of the Internal Revenue Code, as an exempt organization, and none of the assets will be distributed to any member, officer, or trustee of the Corporation.

Article XXII

This Corporation shall not afford pecuniary gain incidentally or otherwise to its members.

Article XXIII

This Corporation shall have no capital stock.

