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# SPREADING A PASSION:

**We exist to spread a passion for the  
Glory of God through the Gospel of  
Jesus Christ**

We do this by:

## **Loving God with all that we are...**

<sup>37</sup>And he said to him, "You shall love the Lord your God with **all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind.** <sup>38</sup>This is the great and first commandment. – Matt. 22:37-38

## **Loving Others as we love ourselves...**

<sup>39</sup>And a second is like it; You shall **love your neighbor as yourself.** <sup>40</sup> On these two commandments depend all the Law and the Prophets. – Matt. 22:39-40

## **Making Disciples of all nations...**

<sup>19</sup> Go therefore and **make disciples of all nations, baptizing** them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, <sup>20</sup>**teaching** them to observe all that I have commanded you. And behold, I am with you always, to the end of the age." – Matt. 28:19,20

# PASSION #1 – LOVE GOD

## ✚ We are all Sinners

Romans 3:10-12: "...as it is written: "**None** is righteous, no, not one; no one understands; **no one seeks** for God. All have turned aside; together they have become worthless; **no one does good**, not even one."

### ARE YOU A GOOD PERSON?

A 10 QUESTION TEST FROM EXODUS 20

- BROKEN
1. **HAVE YOU ALWAYS KEPT GOD 1<sup>ST</sup> PLACE IN YOUR LIFE?**   
"YOU SHALL HAVE NO OTHER GODS BEFORE ME"
  2. **HAVE YOU EVER PUT "STUFF" IN FRONT OF GOD?**   
"YOU SHALL NOT MAKE FOR YOURSELF IDOLS"
  3. **HAVE YOU EVER SWORN/CURSED AT GOD OR OTHERS?**   
"YOU SHALL NOT TAKE THE NAME OF THE LORD IN VAIN"
  4. **HAVE YOU ALWAYS TAKEN TIME TO WORSHIP GOD?**   
"REMEMBER THE SABBATH, TO REST ON THAT DAY"
  5. **HAVE YOU AWLAYS OBEYED AND HONORED YOUR PARENTS?**   
"HONOR YOUR FATHER AND MOTHER"
  6. **HAVE YOU EVER BEEN ANGRY WITH SOMEONE ELSE?**   
JESUS' ANGER CLAUSE – **MATT 5:21**
  7. **HAVE YOU EVER LUSTED SEXUALLY AFTER THE OPPOSITE SEX?**   
JESUS' LUSTING CLAUSE – **MATT 5:28**
  8. **HAVE YOU EVER STOLEN ANYTHING?**   
"YOU SHALL NOT STEAL"
  9. **HAVE YOU EVER LIED ABOUT ANYTHING?**   
"YOU SHALL NOT LIE"
  10. **HAVE YOU EVER DESIRED TO HAVE SOMETHING THAT WASN'T YOURS?**   
"YOU SHALL NOT COVET YOUR NEIGHBORS PROPERTY & POSSESSIONS"

Score            \_\_\_/10

## HOW DID YOU DO?

### ✚ God is on MISSION

1 John 4:9-10: "In this the love of God was made manifest among us, that God sent his only Son into the world, so that we might live through him. In this is love, not that we have loved **God but that he loved us and sent his Son to be the propitiation for our sins.**"

### ✚ Jesus died as our SUBSTITUTE

Isaiah 53:4-6: "Surely he has borne our griefs and carried our sorrows; yet we esteemed him stricken, smitten by God, and afflicted. **But he was wounded for our transgressions; he was crushed for our iniquities;** upon him was the chastisement that brought us peace, and **with his stripes we are healed.** All we like sheep have gone astray; we have turned every one to his own way; and the LORD has laid on him the iniquity of us all."

2 Corinthians 5:21: "For our sake **he made him to be sin who knew no sin**, so that in him we might become the righteousness of God."

### ✚ A sinner is saved by GRACE

Ephesians 2:8,9: "**For by grace** you are saved through faith, this is not of yourselves, but is a gift from God, not of works, so that no one may boast"

### ✚ Salvation means real change

2 Corinthians 5:17: "if any man is in Christ he is a **new creation**, the old is gone, the new has come."

## 2 ESSENTIALS FOR KNOWING JESUS:

### ✚ Repent (Repent = change the way you think)

Acts 17:30: "...now he commands all people everywhere **to repent.**"

John 3:3: "unless a man is **born again** he cannot see the kingdom of God."

### ✚ Confess (confess = move your mouth) & Believe (believe = move your heart)

Romans 10:9,10: "...that if you **confess with your mouth** Jesus as Lord and **believe with your heart** that God raised Him from the dead, you will be saved."

- **Do you know Jesus Personally?**
- **If you were to die tonight do you know you where your going?**
- **If God were to ask you "Why should I let you into Heaven?" What would your answer be?**

## STORY TIME WITH JOSH...

### Insert 3: Your Testimony

## PASSION #2 – LOVE OTHERS

### ✚ Jesus builds His church

Matthew 16:18: “...I will build my church, and the gates of hell shall not prevail against it.”

### ✚ The church is where God’s truth is found

1 Timothy 3:15: “...if I delay, you may know how one ought to behave in the household of God, which is **the church of the living God, a pillar and buttress of truth.**”

### ✚ Membership involves intimately belonging to one-another

1 Corinthians 12:27: “Now **you are the body of Christ** and individually members of it”

Ephesians 2:21: “in whom the whole structure grows into **a holy temple in the Lord.**”

1 Timothy 3:15: “...**the household of God**, which is the church of the living God.”

Acts 20:28: “Pay careful attention to yourselves and to **all the flock, in which the Holy Spirit has made you overseers, to care for the church of God**, which he obtained with his own blood.”

### ✚ Membership provides opportunities to experience the Word

**Worship** God with one-another (Ephesians 5:18-20).

**Pray** for one another (Ephesians 6:18).

**Carry** one another’s burdens (Galatians 6:2).

**Encourage** one another (I Thessalonians 5:11).

**Confess** our sins to one another (James 5:16).

**Correct** one another (Galatians 6:1; Matthew 18:15).

**Serve** one another (Galatians 5:13).

## SERVING

### ✚ Serving is commanded

John 13:14-17: “If I then, your Lord and Teacher, have washed your feet, you also ought to wash one another’s feet. **For I have given you an example that you also should do just as I have done to you.**”

### ✚ Serving should be for God

Colossians 3:23-24: “Whatever you do, **work heartily, as for the Lord and not for men**, knowing that from the Lord you will receive the inheritance as your reward. You are serving the Lord Christ.”

## ☒ **Serving should for others**

Galatians 5:13: "For you were called to freedom, brothers. Only do not use your freedom as an opportunity for the flesh, **but through love serve one another.**"

## SERVE!

**u Sundays** - Preaching the Word, Communion, Singing, Baptisms

**u Outreach/Calling** - Summer Splash, Back to School Giveaway

**u Small Groups** - Iron-Men & Titus 2 conjunction ministries

**u Prayer** - Sunday Mornings, Prayer Weeks

**u The Well** - Community Counseling, After School Tutoring, Bible Studies, Offices

## GIVING

### ☺ **God Owns Everything**

Psalms 50:10-12: "For every beast of the forest is mine, the cattle on a thousand hills. I know all the birds of the hills, and all that moves in the field is mine. If I were hungry, I would not tell you, **for the world and its fullness are mine.**"

### ☺ **We can't serve God & Money**

Luke 16:11-13: "If then you have not been faithful in the unrighteous wealth, who will entrust to you the true riches? And if you have not been faithful in that which is another's, who will give you that which is your own? **No servant can serve two masters, for either he will hate the one and love the other, or he will be devoted to the one and despise the other. You cannot serve God and money.**"

### ☺ **God desires our giving to be Joyful**

2 Corinthians 9:7: "Each one must give as he has decided in his heart, not reluctantly or under compulsion, for **God loves a cheerful giver.**"

### ☺ **God desires our giving to be Willing**

2 Corinthians 8:3-5: "For they gave according to their means, as I can testify, and beyond their means, **of their own free will...**

## LEADING

### **u Elders serve multiple purposes**

1 Peter 5:1-3: "To **the elders among you**, I appeal as a fellow elder, a witness of Christ's sufferings and one who also will share in the glory to be revealed: **Be shepherds** of God's flock that is under your care, **servicing as overseers**—not because you must, but because you are willing, as God wants you to be; not greedy for money, but eager to serve; not lording it over those entrusted to you, but being examples to the flock.

- Overseer/bishop indicates the role of oversight - episkopos
- Pastor indicates the role of care - poimen
- Elder indicates the necessity of spiritual maturity - presbyteros

### **uElder qualifications are character qualifications**

1 Timothy 3:1–7: “The saying is trustworthy: If anyone aspires to the office of overseer, he desires a noble task. Therefore an overseer must be **above reproach, the husband of one wife, sober-minded, self-controlled, respectable, hospitable, able to teach, not a drunkard, not violent but gentle, not quarrelsome, not a lover of money. He must manage his own household well**, with all dignity keeping his children submissive, for if someone does not know how to manage his own household, how will he care for God’s church? He must **not be a recent convert**, or he may become puffed up with conceit and fall into the condemnation of the devil. Moreover, he must **be well thought of by outsiders**, so that he may not fall into disgrace, into a snare of the devil.”

### **uDeacons are recognized servants**

Acts 6:2-3: So the twelve summoned the congregation of the disciples and said, “It is not desirable for us to neglect the word of God in order to serve tables. “Therefore, brethren, select from among you seven men of good reputation, full of the Spirit and of wisdom, whom we may put in charge of this task.

### **uDeacons qualifications are character qualifications**

1 Timothy 3:8-13: Deacons likewise must be men of dignity, not double-tongued, or addicted to much wine or fond of sordid gain, but holding to the mystery of the faith with a clear conscience. These men must also first be tested; then let them serve as deacons if they are beyond reproach. Women must likewise be dignified, not malicious gossips, but temperate, faithful in all things. Deacons must be husbands of only one wife, and good managers of their children and their own households. For those who have served well as deacons obtain for themselves a high standing and great confidence in the faith that is in Christ Jesus.

### **Healthy Churches Have Healthy Leaders**

Elders  
 Deacons  
 Small Group Leaders  
 Men’s/Women’s Ministries Leaders  
 Children’s Leaders  
 Nursery Leaders  
 Set-Up/Tear-Down Leaders  
 Outreach Leaders  
 Prayer Leaders

**WHY THE LOCAL CHURCH MATTERS...**

For more on Doctrine and Church Government, see Insert 1,2

## **PASSION #3 – MAKE DISCIPLES**

### **✠JESUS loved sinners**

Mark 2:17 “Those who are well have no need of a physician, but those who are sick. **I came not to call the righteous, but sinners.**”

### **✠JESUS called US to go make disciples**

Matthew 28:19: **Go therefore** and make disciples of all the nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and the Son and the Holy Spirit

### **✠The GOSPEL literally changes peoples lives**

Romans 1:16: “**For I am not ashamed of the gospel, for it is the power of God** for salvation to everyone who believes, to the Jew first and also to the Greek.”

### **✠JESUS would like for us to share**

Romans 10:14-15: “But how are they to call on him in whom they have not believed? And how are they to believe in him of whom they have never heard? And **how are they to hear without someone sharing?** And how are they to share unless they are sent? As it is written, ‘How beautiful are the feet of those who share the good news!’”

## **Membership Process**

### **Membership Requirements**

Believers \_\_\_\_\_

Believers \_\_\_\_\_

# Believers \_\_\_\_\_

Read & Complete: Insert 4,5,6

## Insert 1: Statement of Faith

### **God**

We believe in the only true God—John 17:3. We believe that the Godhead eternally exists in three persons: the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit. These three are one God, having precisely the same nature, attributes and perfections, and are worthy of precisely the same honor, confidence, and obedience—Mark 12:29; John 1:1-4; Matthew 28:19-20; Acts 4:3-4. He created all things - Revelation 4:11 and upholds all things by the Word of His power—Hebrews 1:3. In Him we live and move and have our being—Acts 17:28. He is a God of truth and without iniquity, He is just and right—Deuteronomy 32:4, and He shall judge the world—Psalm 9:8.

### **Jesus Christ**

We believe in the total deity of the Lord Jesus Christ and in His eternal Son-ship. We believe He is the manifestation of God in the flesh. We believe He was conceived by the Holy Spirit and born of the virgin Mary. We believe Him to be true God and true man, sinless and perfect and Savior of the world—John 1:1,14,18; 14:8-9; 1 Timothy 3:16.

### **Holy Spirit**

We believe the Holy Spirit is fully God, equal with God the Father and God the Son and of the same nature. We believe that the ministry of the Holy Spirit is to glorify the Lord Jesus Christ—John 16:14. The Holy Spirit regenerates the sinner upon belief in Christ, baptizing the believer into one body of which Christ is the head. The Holy Spirit indwells, seals, guides, instructs, fills, comforts and empowers the believer for godly living—Mark 13:11; John 14:26; 16:13; Romans 5:5; 1 Corinthians 3:16. The Holy Spirit convicts the world of sin, of God's righteousness and of coming judgment -John 16:8-11 and He bears witness to the truth of the Gospel in preaching and testimony.

### **Scriptures**

We believe the Scriptures of the Old Testament and New Testament are verbally inspired by God and inerrant in their original writings. We believe the 66 books of the Old Testament and the New Testament are God's complete and sufficient revelation and therefore carry God's authority for the total well-being of mankind—Psalm 119:97-104,160; Matthew 5:18; John 5:46-47; 10:35; 2 Timothy 3:15-16.

### **Creation**

We believe in the biblical account of the creation of the physical universe, angels and man by God in six literal days. We believe the biblical account is a literal, historical account of the direct creative acts of God. We believe that man was created by a direct work of God and not from

previously existing forms of life. We believe all men are descended from the historical Adam and Eve, first parents of the entire human race – Genesis 1:1, 2; Colossians 1:16, 17; John 1:3

### **Man**

We believe man was created in innocence under the law of his Creator but, by voluntarily transgressing, fell from his sinless state. Consequently, all mankind is sinful - Romans 5:12. All people are born with a sin nature. As sinners they are under just condemnation without defense or excuse - Romans 3:23; 6:23. We believe that every man and every woman is totally depraved and needs a Savior—Genesis 3:1-6; Romans 3:10-19; 1:18, 1:32.

### **Salvation**

We believe that the Lord Jesus Christ died for our sins according to the Scriptures, as a representative and substitutionary sacrifice - II Corinthians 5:21. We believe that the salvation of sinners is initiated by God - Ephesians 1:4. We believe that each person who by faith receives Jesus Christ as personal Savior is justified on the basis of Jesus Christ's shed blood on Calvary. Each person who receives Christ as personal Savior is born again of the Holy Spirit and thereby becomes eternally secure as a child of God - John 3. We believe the Holy Spirit places each believing person into the body of Christ at the moment of salvation - Romans 8:37-39; 2 Corinthians 5:21; 1 Corinthians 12:13.

### **The Gospel**

We believe the Gospel (The Good News) is that Christ died for our sins according to the Scriptures, and that He was buried, and that He rose again the third day according to the Scriptures - I Corinthians 15:3, 4. After His resurrection, the Lord Jesus Christ ascended into heaven and He is presently the believer's High Priest and Advocate—Acts 1:3; 1:9; Hebrews 7:25-26.

### **Security of Believers**

We believe that all who are truly "born again" – John 3, are kept by God the Father for Jesus Christ. They are sealed by the Holy Spirit - Eph. 1:13, 14 and are secure in their salvation, having been given eternal life - John 3:16; 10:28, 29; Romans 8:35-39. We also believe that God does a purifying work in each believer until the Day of Jesus Christ - Philippians 1:6.

### **Church**

Upon accepting the Lord Jesus Christ as Savior, a believer becomes part of His body, which is the church. There is one church universal, composed of all those throughout the world who acknowledge and believe in Jesus Christ as Savior and Lord. The Scriptures command believers to gather in order to devote themselves to worship, prayer, teaching of the Word, observance of the ordinances (baptism and communion), fellowship, service to the body through the development and use of talents and gifts, and outreach to the world in fulfillment of the command of Christ to make disciples of all believers—Ephesians 5:23; Romans 12:1; Acts 2:42-46; 1 Corinthians 14:26; Matthew 28:18-20. Wherever God's people meet regularly in obedience to this command, there is the local expression of the church –(local church) under the oversight of elders. The church's members (immersed believer's) are to work together in love and unity, intent on the ultimate purpose of glorifying Christ—Ephesians 4:16.

### **The Devil, or Satan**

We believe in the reality and personality of Satan, the Devil; and that he was created by God as an angel but through pride and rebellion became the enemy of his Creator. At his fall, he became the unholy god of this age and the ruler of all powers of darkness and is destined to the judgment of an eternal justice in the lake of fire – Matthew 4:1-11; John 8:44; II Corinthians 4:4; Revelation 20:10

### **Heaven, Hell, and the Return of Christ**

We believe in the blessed hope: the bodily, pre-millennial, imminent return of the Lord Jesus Christ. We believe in the bodily resurrection of both the saved and the lost. The saved are raised to eternal, conscious bliss in Heaven - Matthew 25:34; John 14:2; 2 Corinthians 5:1; Revelation

2:7. The lost are raised to eternal torment in Hell in conscious separation from God—Matthew 8:12; 10:28; 13:49-50; Mark 9:47-48; Luke 12:5; Revelation 21:8.

## Insert 2: By-Laws

### **BYLAW I. Church History & Purpose**

Living Waters Fellowship was established in 2008 through the vision of Saylorville Baptist Church (Des Moines, IA) to spread the gospel of Jesus Christ in the Central Iowa area. In planting local churches, Saylorville Baptist Church is establishing the Engage network. Engage is a network of local churches that are of the same mind doctrinally, passionately committed to the gospel of Jesus Christ. So far the churches in the Engage network include: Saylorville Baptist Church, Lakeside Fellowship (Polk City, IA - 2005), and Living Waters Fellowship.

The purpose of Living Waters Fellowship is to glorify God through the gospel of Jesus. Living Waters Fellowship fulfills this purpose by loving God, loving others and making disciples. Living Waters Fellowship is organized and shall be operated exclusively for religious, charitable and educational reasons within the meaning of section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code.

### **BYLAW II. Membership/Partnership**

#### **A. Admission of Member/Partner**

1. Each applicant for membership must be a self-professed follower of Jesus Christ, who has obeyed the command for believer's baptism and has committed to living according to the standards set forth in the Scriptures.
2. Prospective members may apply for membership by preparing and submitting an application form to be approved by the Elders. Upon acceptance into membership by the Elders the individual will give his/her personal testimony to the church at large.

#### **B. Termination of Membership/Partnership**

1. Any member who is found to live or teach in a manner contrary to the Word of God or the Statement of Faith shall be admonished to change. If there is no repentance after the process following the pattern of Matthew 18:15-18, membership will be terminated and the reason for the

termination shall be stated in a letter to the terminated member, sent by certified mail with return receipt requested.

2. A member who has been removed from the church membership and desires reinstatement may be restored to membership by giving evidence of repentance and reformation to the satisfaction of the Elders.

3 Any member who indicates a lack of interest in the ministry of the church for a period of one year as evidenced by lack of attendance and/or financial support shall be subject to having his or her membership terminated.

4. Any member may voluntarily withdraw his or her membership by written notice, provided that individual is not currently in the process of church discipline as described in Matthew 18:15-18.

### **BYLAW III. Business Meetings**

#### **A. Quarterly Business Meetings.**

Quarterly business meetings will be conducted and shall be announced by a written notice to members (church bulletin will suffice) and at a public service at least fourteen days prior to the meeting.

#### **B. Special Business Meetings.**

When the Elders determine that a meeting of special importance should be called and time is of the essence, Paragraph A does not apply. Notice shall be provided by a designated Elder stating the time, location and purpose of the meeting.

#### **C. Annual Business Meetings.**

The annual meeting of members shall be held in December on a date set by the Elders.

#### **D. Business Meetings Protocol.**

1. The Chairman of the Elders shall preside at all business meetings or designate a moderator to preside in his place or absence.
2. Robert's Rules of Order (Latest Edition) shall be the parliamentary manual except wherein they may be contrary to this Constitution.
3. Voting Rights - Only members who are eighteen years of age or older may vote. Voting rights are effective immediately upon acceptance into membership. Proxy voting by members or Elders is not permitted. Neither may votes be made by mailed ballot or written communication.
4. Quorum - A quorum shall consist of those voting members present at any duly called regular or special business meeting.
5. Decisions - All matters in regular and special business meetings shall be decided by majority vote, unless otherwise specified herein. Election of elders and deacons, amendments to the Constitution and Bylaws and the calling of any position for Pastor will be by secret ballot and require a 75% majority vote.

### **BYLAW IV. Church Government**

Jesus is boss of this church. Jesus Christ is the "Head of the Body" and "Chief Shepherd" (Ephesians 4:15, I Peter 5:4). As such, Jesus Christ is the Supreme authority in the church. Living Waters Fellowship is committed to the Bible's teaching that Jesus Christ has gifted the local church with men who hold the offices of Elder and Deacon. These men are to oversee various functions of the local church. The Bible's teaching on the subject of two church offices is found in 1 Timothy 3:1-16 and Titus 1:5-9.

## COMPOSITION

**ELDERS** - The Elders shall consist of a minimum of 3 members unless there are not 3 men who meet the qualifications of Elder as set forth in I Timothy 3:1-8; Titus 1:5-9. Others may be added as the Elders determine need. The number of lay Elders-at-large may be greater in number than the number of "paid" Elders. The Senior Pastor by his very qualifications is an Elder.

**Lead Elder** - Living Waters Fellowship recognizes that the Bible teaches all elders must meet the same biblical qualifications. However, Living Waters Fellowship also recognizes the need for a "Senior Elder/Pastor" who, because of his public presence and responsibility before the congregation, will take leadership responsibility amongst the Elders. This leadership responsibility will reside in the person called to be the "Senior Pastor/Elder." The Senior Pastor/Elder shall be authorized to sign any legal documents requiring the signature of the Chairman of the Corporation.

**Selection of Elders** - The process for selection of the Elder(s) will be as follows: The current Elders will examine certain individuals for the position of Elder. After examination (using the qualifications from I Timothy 3 and Titus 1) and upon consensus, the Elders will then recommend a candidate(s) to the congregation. Over the next month the candidate(s) is to be observed, prayed for and questioned so as to ascertain the Lord's perfect will. At the end of 1 month the membership will vote on the candidate for the position of Elder, with a 75% majority necessary. In the case of the absence and search for the Senior Elder/Pastor – The current Elders will act as the Elder search and nominating committee. Upon consensus they will recommend a candidate for the position of Senior Elder/Pastor to the congregation at large. Upon careful and prayerful examination of the candidate the congregation will vote with a 75% vote necessary to extend a "call" to the candidate for the position of Senior Elder/Pastor. The same process is to be followed for the calling of any "outside" candidate for the position of Elder. Lay Elders will serve for a term of 3 years with no restriction on the number of terms served concurrently. At the end of each term, the Lay Elder must be recommended for another term by the same process in which he was first chosen. All paid Elders (those Elders called and paid by the church) will serve Living Waters Fellowship until either resignation or termination. Termination of an Elder requires both the consensus of the other Elders as well as a 75% majority vote of the congregation. Not all paid employees of Living Waters Fellowship must be deemed as qualified to be Elders.

**Elder Responsibilities and Duties** - The Scriptures show that the elders serve by leading and that their responsibility involves the spiritual oversight of the congregation. The Bible uses the words elder, bishop and pastor interchangeably (I Peter 5:1-3) to refer to the same person. The Elders' primary responsibilities include:

- \* **Doctrine** - Ensuring that the doctrine of the church is biblically pure and maintained. This includes teaching the "whole counsel of God."

- \* **Material Needs** – Giving oversight of the financial and other material needs of the church.

- \* **Direction** - Ensuring that the direction of the church is consistent with Living Waters Fellowship purpose and the principles found in the Word of God.

- \* **Discipline** - Administering in love and humility the process of church discipline as outlined in Matthew 18:15-20; Galatians 6:1-4; Titus 3:10; 2 Thessalonians 3:14-15; 1 Timothy 5:17-25; II Corinthians 2:5-11 and Romans 16:17

**DEACONS** – In accordance with the meaning and practice of New Testament churches deacons are to be leading servants. The Bible teaches that deacons lead by serving—Acts 6. The qualifications for Elders and deacons are the same regarding an individual's character, but they differ in aptitude. The Elders are to be able to teach while the deacons are to be able and proved as servants (I Timothy 3:1-13). Some of the areas where deacons lead by serving are: meeting physical needs of church family, maintenance of church property, maintaining unity in the body, as well as supporting/helping the Elders' leadership to carry out all aspects of the ministry.

**Selection of Deacons** - The Elders will examine certain individuals for the position of deacon based on the qualifications set for in I Timothy and Titus 1. After examination and upon

consensus they will then recommend a candidate(s) to the congregation. Over the next month the candidate(s) is to be observed, prayed for and questioned so as to ascertain the Lord's perfect will. At the end of one month the membership will vote on the candidate(s) for the position of deacon with a simple majority necessary for selection. All deacons will serve Living Waters Fellowship for a two year term and may serve up to three consecutive terms upon recommendation of the Elders and approval by the congregation. After three terms a deacon must sit out one year before being considered by the Elders and church for another term. A deacon may be terminated by Elder consensus and a 75% majority vote of the congregation.

**CONGREGATION** - The members of Living Waters Fellowship are called upon to be "followers" of the Biblical leadership structure mentioned above. Members are expected to attend regularly, support the ministry financially and serve as God has gifted. They are looked upon to offer important "advice and consent" by means of their voting in such areas as:

- Annual church budget
- Church discipline (Matthew 18:17)
- Major new directions of ministry
- Recognition and selection of Elder and deacon candidates.

#### **BYLAW V, Finances**

Necessary finances for conducting the church, its program and missionary outreach, shall be obtained through voluntary tithes and regular offerings. The ceiling for non-budgeted expenditures is \$5,000; the voting members of Living Waters Fellowship must approve all other non-budgeted expenditures exceeding \$5,000. Additional funding campaigns and offerings may be taken as deemed advisable by the Elders.

#### **BYLAW VI, Meetings**

Regular public worship or evangelistic services shall be conducted weekly but may be cancelled at the direction of the Elders.

#### **BYLAW VII, Voting**

All members who are at least eighteen years of age are encouraged to vote.

A quorum shall be required for the transaction of business at all business meetings of the church. A quorum shall consist of those voting members present at any regular or special business meeting

A simple majority shall decide every issue except when otherwise stipulated by the Constitution.

#### **BYLAW VIII, Corporation Officers**

The Chairman of the corporation shall be the Senior Pastor/Elder; the Vice Chairman, Treasurer and Secretary of the corporation shall be appointed annually by the Board of Elders

## Insert 3: Your Testimony

“...always be ready to give a defense to everyone who asks you a reason for the hope that is in you, with meekness and fear.” I Peter 3:15

### 1. My life prior to my salvation:

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### 2. The circumstances leading up to my salvation:

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**3. My salvation experience (time, prayer and verses):** John 5:24 “Don’t gloss over the cross over.”

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**4. Evidence of new life since my salvation:**

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Please Turn-in to Mindy Jeske

### Insert 4: Tell us about yourself!

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_ City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_

Phone \_\_\_\_\_ (c) \_\_\_\_\_ (w) \_\_\_\_\_ Birth Date \_\_\_/\_\_\_/\_\_\_

E-mail \_\_\_\_\_

Employer \_\_\_\_\_ Address \_\_\_\_\_

Marital Status: Married Single Widow(er) Separated Divorced Remarried

If you are married or have children please fill out the following:

Name of Spouse \_\_\_\_\_ B-date \_\_\_\_\_ Anniv. \_\_\_\_\_  
 Children \_\_\_\_\_ B-date \_\_\_\_\_  
 Children \_\_\_\_\_ B-date \_\_\_\_\_  
 Children \_\_\_\_\_ B-date \_\_\_\_\_  
 Children \_\_\_\_\_ B-date \_\_\_\_\_  
 Children \_\_\_\_\_ B-date \_\_\_\_\_

Do you know Jesus Christ as personal Savior? \_\_\_\_\_

Were you baptized by immersion after salvation? \_\_\_\_ When? \_\_\_\_\_

### Living Waters Statement on Baptism

Christians believe that the blood of Jesus Christ, shed on the cross, provides the sole basis for the forgiveness of sin. If you have accepted Jesus Christ as your Lord and Savior, then you are ready to be baptized. Just like a bride and groom show others their love for one another by wearing wedding bands, your baptism is your opportunity to show others that you have accepted Christ and are now walking with Him.

**Acts 2:40,41 - 8:12 - 8:35-38 - 18:8**

## Insert 5: Let Me Help

### Practical Service:

- \_\_\_\_ provide a meal/cook
- \_\_\_\_ greeter
- \_\_\_\_ decorating/special events
- \_\_\_\_ snacks – Sunday morning
- \_\_\_\_ set-up/tear-down crew
- \_\_\_\_ provide transportation
- \_\_\_\_ mechanical/construction

### Evangelism:

- \_\_\_\_ bible-studies
- \_\_\_\_ calling
- \_\_\_\_ community event helper

### Men:

- \_\_\_\_ iron-men helper
- \_\_\_\_ discipleship helper

### Mercy:

- \_\_\_\_ wee-ones care & share
- \_\_\_\_ school supply giveaway
- \_\_\_\_ event organizer

### Missions:

- \_\_\_\_ short term trip helper
- \_\_\_\_ short term trip organizer

### Language:

- \_\_\_\_ foreign language teacher
- \_\_\_\_ foreign language helper

### Athletics:

- \_\_\_\_ sports team organizer
- \_\_\_\_ sports team helper
- \_\_\_\_ sports outreach helper

\_\_\_\_\_ event organizer

**Women:**

\_\_\_\_\_ titus 2 helper  
\_\_\_\_\_ discipleship helper  
\_\_\_\_\_ event organizer

**Technology:**

\_\_\_\_\_ photography  
\_\_\_\_\_ videotaping  
\_\_\_\_\_ web management  
\_\_\_\_\_ graphic design

**Music:**

\_\_\_\_\_ vocalist  
\_\_\_\_\_ vocal part \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_ instrumentalist  
\_\_\_\_\_ instrument \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_ sound board  
\_\_\_\_\_ live worship/computer  
\_\_\_\_\_ sound set-up/tear-down

**Children:**

\_\_\_\_\_ puddles helper  
\_\_\_\_\_ nursery helper  
\_\_\_\_\_ vacation bible school

**Students:**

\_\_\_\_\_ outreach organizer  
\_\_\_\_\_ outreach helper

## Insert 6: Membership/Partnership Agreement

As a member, I joyfully agree to walk together with the members of this church by making the following commitments:

- I will, as God enables me, care for my brothers and sisters in Christ in distress, sickness, and poverty.
- I will not neglect to meet together in corporate worship and in small group fellowship in those settings that the church provides.
- I will devote myself to the study of Scripture and to prayer both privately and through group contexts.
- I will seek to grow in the grace and knowledge of our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ through seeking progressive growth in the Word through mature believers.
- I will seek to share my testimony through those relationships God has given to

me in my family, my workplace, and my community.

- I will seek to serve the church's ministries through regular giving of my time, effort, and money.
- I will pursue reconciliation when offense occurs between myself and another member, and I will reject all opportunities to speak or to hear gossip or slander.
- I will watch out for church members and admonish anyone whose practice of sin requires it. If one of our number requires corporate discipline, I will support the efforts and direction of the church, as led by its pastors, to call that member to repent of his sins. I agree with the church's doctrine and practice of church discipline.
- I will, if I move from this place, unite with some other church where I can carry out the spirit of this agreement and the teaching of God's Word.

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Please turn this form in to Mindy Jeske