

BY-LAWS



OF SOUTHEAST



Southeast Denver Christian Church
also known as Southeast Christian
Church Parker, Colorado

Restated By-Laws: November 2005

SECTION I. NAME

1.1 Name. The name of this congregation shall be Southeast Denver Christian Church, also known as Southeast Christian Church (SOUTHEAST).

SECTION II. PURPOSE

2.1 Primary Purpose. The primary purpose for which this corporation is formed is to fulfill the commission of Jesus Christ—which is to enable people to become Christians and to nurture them to spiritual maturity.

2.2 Secondary Purpose. A secondary purpose of the formation of this corporation is to meet the legal requirements necessary for a church congregation to own, acquire, and dispose of property and to exercise any and all of the powers authorized by the Colorado Nonprofit Corporation Act. For this reason, this congregation has been incorporated according to the laws of the State of Colorado and these BY-LAWS are drawn to include regulation of the congregation as a corporation as well as to govern it in carrying out its chosen work as a church of Jesus Christ.

SECTION III. BELIEF

3.1 Scripture. We believe the Bible is the divinely inspired Word of God. We hold it to be infallible and authoritative

and therefore a sufficient rule of faith and practice for the Lord's Church (2 Timothy 3:16, 17)

3.2 Salvation. We believe that to become a Christian one must accept the New Testament teachings of:

3.2.1 Faith in Jesus Christ as the Son of God and as our personal savior and Lord.

3.2.2 Repentance from sin and toward God.

3.2.3 Confessing faith in Jesus Christ as the Son of God.

3.2.4 Immersion into Jesus Christ for the remission of sins by a penitent behavior.

3.3 Christian Life. We also believe that the New Testament teaches that to live a Christian life we must: (Acts 2:42)

3.3.1 Continue steadfastly in the Apostle's Doctrine

3.3.2 Fellowship – sharing

3.3.3 Break bread

3.3.4 Pray

SECTION IV. MEMBERSHIP

4.1 Membership in the Body of Christ. Church to be the body of Christ, consisting of members who upon receiving the Word were baptized into Christ (1 Corinthians 12:12-13).

4.2 Membership in this congregation. Membership in this congregation is open to all persons accepting Jesus as the Christ, the Son of the Living God, showing their obedience in Christian baptism by immersion and who

commit themselves to fellowship in this congregation.

- 4.3 Transfer of Membership. We also extend the right hand of Christian fellowship to all persons previously baptized into Christ through immersion and confessing Jesus as the Christ, the Son of the Living God and who commit themselves to fellowship in this congregation.
- 4.4 Voting Rights. Members described herein, who meet By-law qualifications, are eligible to vote on congregational issues.
- 4.5 Inactive Members. Those members who have formally placed fellowship at another congregation or those who have informed the leadership of their desire to be removed from the membership roles will be considered inactive members. Those members who do not show interest by their attendance for one (1) year may be referred to the Elders for consideration of transfer to the inactive membership list. Inactive members do not have voting privileges.
- 4.6 Membership Qualification. The Elders have the right to refuse membership to, or terminate the membership of, anyone based upon biblical principals governing unrepentant sin or divisive conduct.

SECTION V. ORGANIZATION

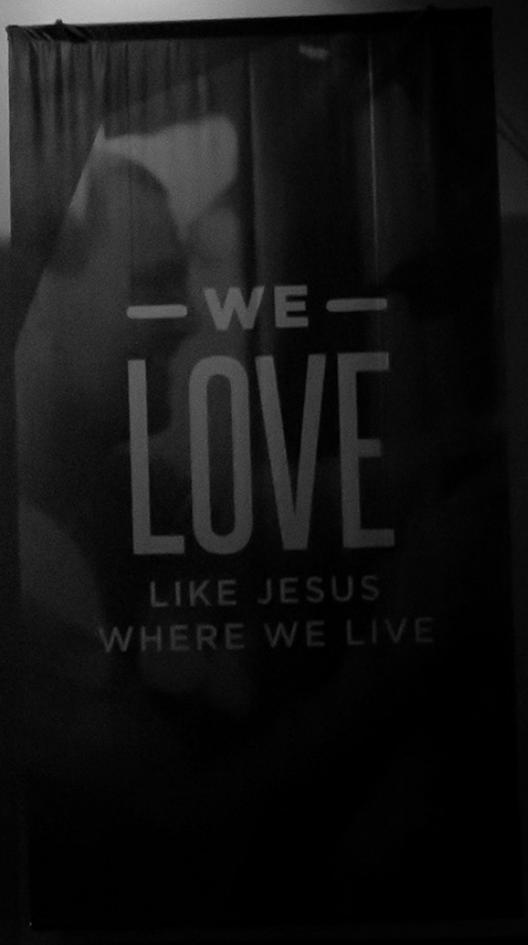
- 5.1 Organizational Guideline. This congregation shall be under the ordinances of the New Testament for the edifying of the body of Christ that all things might be done decently

and in order. The congregation will conduct a church, which is known among religious bodies as an autonomous nondenominational Christian Church. The congregation of this church shall have no creed but Christ; no book of doctrine but that of the Bible, members are known as Christians only but not the only Christians. They are committed to becoming and restoring Christ's church as described in the New Testament of the Bible. The Biblical ordinances of Baptism and the Lord's Supper shall be observed, the former by immersion only, and the latter weekly. The congregation is autonomous and not governed by any organization other than the members of the congregation and the Elders as described in this document. This congregation will be legally and ecclesiastically independent of and beyond control of any and all, real, actual, or advisory, religious denominations, by whatever names now or hereafter known, or mergers thereof.

- 5.2 Positions of Leadership. Only members of this congregation who meet the scriptural qualifications described herein in Section IV shall hold office, be appointed to any leadership position, or be a voting member of any committee or governing board.
- 5.3 Quorum and Manner of Acting. Except as hereinafter specifically provided, a quorum for any duly convened meeting shall consist of a majority of the voting members present at such meeting, and the act of a simple majority of those voting

- members present at a duly convened meeting shall be the decision of the congregation. All duly convened meetings of the congregation will take place at a time coincident with a regularly scheduled worship services.
- 5.4 Congregational Government. The government of this congregation is vested in the body of immersed believers who compose it. It is subject to the control of no other body, ecclesiastical or otherwise. It receives the Holy Scriptures as its only authority in matters of faith and practice.
- 5.4.1 In matters that come to a congregational vote, the vote of the congregation shall take precedence over the vote of the Elders.
- 5.4.2 In order for the vote of the congregation to take precedence over the vote of the Elders, a minimum affirmative vote of sixty (60) percent of the active members present at a duly convened meeting is required.
- 5.4.3 All congregational meetings, scheduled by the Elders, must be advertised at least twenty-one (21) days in advance by announcements from the pulpit and other forms of communications as deemed appropriate to advise the congregation of such a meeting.
- 5.4.4 Special meetings of the congregation may be called by the Chairman of the Elders or by a signed request of a simple majority of the Elders, or by a signed request of ten (10) percent of the active voting members of the congregation.
- 5.4.5 The minimum voting age and age of spiritual responsibility for the body of this congregation shall be sixteen (16) years.
- 5.5 Board of Elders. The board of Elders shall be the Board of Directors of this corporation. It shall be the duty of the Elders to exercise the spiritual leadership and general supervision over the affairs and business of the congregation in accordance with these By-laws, to see that its purposes and policies are carried out. This board may delegate certain tasks to professional staff, various other boards, committees or individuals, hire, appoint, contract or otherwise engage services of other individuals or organizations as it sees fit, but it cannot relieve itself of the ultimate responsibilities herein defined.
- 5.6 Deacons/Servant Leaders. The Elders shall appoint or delegate such appointment responsibility to senior staff of men or women to lead the various ministries of the church.
- 5.7 Selection of Elders. In order to ensure unity of spirit and purpose, on an annual basis, the board of Elders shall determine an appropriate number of men for the position of Elder with the following procedure:
- 5.7.1 Candidates for the office of Elder must be active members of the congregation for one (1) year prior to their selection.
- 5.7.2 The congregation shall be requested to make recommendations to the Elders, for men whom they feel qualified or called to the office. The





Elders shall have the responsibility to review any and all recommendations to determine if each candidate should be further considered for the office of Elder. Those candidates approved by the Elders will be considered nominees for the office of Elder.

5.7.3 Those individuals nominated for the office of Elder will be presented to the membership who will be given a minimum of thirty (30) days to review the list of Elder candidates and to ask questions or voice objections concerning the candidates. All objections or concerns shall be in written form, accepted and reviewed by the Elders only if they are Biblical in nature and signed by the individual(s) raising the issue.

5.7.4 At the end of the 30-day membership review and after any objections or concerns have been addressed by the Eldership, those individuals nominated for the office of Elder and who are willing to accept the responsibilities of the Eldership at Southeast will be voted on by the Congregation. Candidates must receive at least a sixty (60) percent affirmative vote of those voting active members present at a duly convened meeting of the congregation.

5.7.5 The term of the office for Elders shall be for a maximum of three (3) years.

5.7.6 Elders completing two successive elected terms of service are required to remain off the board of Elders for a period of at least one (1) year before being considered for nomination again.

5.7.7 At a meeting of the board of Elders, any Elder may be removed, with or without cause, by a sixty (60) percent vote of all of the Elders.

5.7.8 In the event an Elder position becomes vacant, the board of Elders may appoint an individual to fill this position until the next duly appointed time for selection of Elders. In no event will the number of Elders on the board be less than five (5).

5.7.9 The senior minister of the congregation can be an Elder of this congregation at the discretion of a simple majority of the Elders.

5.8 Indemnification: Board directors, Elders, officers, employees, fiduciaries and agents of the corporation shall be indemnified to the fullest extent permitted under C.R.S. 7-129-101 et seq.

SECTION VI. RESPONSIBILITIES OF AN ELDER

6.1 Qualification of an Elder. He shall strive to fulfill the qualification set forth in the New Testament of those holding the office of Elder (1 Timothy 3:2-7, Titus 1:6-9, and 1 Peter 5:2,3) providing an example for the Church to pattern their lives after (1 Peter 5:3).

6.2 Function of Elders. Elders shall function in cooperation with the ministerial staff as an overseer and shepherd of the total program of the church (1 Peter 5:2, 1 Timothy 3:4,5 and Hebrews 13:17).

6.2.1 The board of Elders shall annually elect from among their number a

Chairman, Vice-Chairman, and a Secretary. No paid employee of the church may serve in any of these capacities.

- 6.2.2 The Elders shall serve as the Pulpit and Nominating Committees for all church officers and positions unless the task is delegated to other individuals by the Elders.
- 6.3 Meetings of the Elders. The Elders shall meet regularly at such places and times as they may determine.
 - 6.3.1 Special meetings of the Elders may be called by the Chairman or by a signed request of a simple majority of Elders, or by a signed request from ten percent (10%) of active voting members of the congregation.
 - 6.3.2 All regularly established sessions of the Elders shall be open to any member of the church but voting privileges shall be restricted to the Elders. The Elders may meet from time to time at their discretion where attendance may be restricted due to the sensitive or confidential nature of the items on the agenda.
 - 6.3.3 Any decisions made by the Elders in a special meeting must be presented and ratified in the next regularly established meeting.
 - 6.3.4 A quorum shall consist of fifty-one (51) percent of the Elders.

SECTION VIII. ADMINISTRATION

- 8.1 Business Officers. The Chairman, or Vice-Chairman and the Secretary, as authorized by the board of Elders,

shall transact all legal business and execute all legal documents and papers for or on behalf of the congregation, including, but not limited to, the authority to execute instruments evidencing the borrowing of money, the mortgaging of real property and improvements thereon, and the granting of a security interest in all types and kinds of fixtures, furnishings, and personality on behalf of the corporation. The Secretary shall keep in trusts all records and documents pertaining to the congregation.

- 8.2 Removal. Any Elder, officer, Minister, Deacon, Servant Leader or staff person may be removed by the board of Elders whenever in their judgment the best interests of the congregation will be served thereby, but such removal shall be without prejudice to the contract rights, if any, of the person so removed. Election or appointment of any position shall not of itself create contract rights.
- 8.3 Vacancies. A vacancy in the offices of Chairman, Vice-Chairman, Secretary, because of death, resignation, removal, disqualification or otherwise, shall be filled by the board of Elders for the unexpired portion of the term.
- 8.4 Annual Meeting. An Annual Meeting will be held as scheduled by the Elders.
- 8.5 Chairman of Board of Elders. The Chairman of the Board of Elders shall be president of the corporation. The president shall be the principal executive officer of the corporation and, subject to the control of the

Elders, shall in general supervise and control the affairs and business of the corporation. He, when present, shall preside at all meetings of the board of Elders and the congregation. He may sign, along with the secretary or any other proper officer of the corporation thereunto authorized, any instrument which the board of Elders have authorized to be executed, except in cases where the signing thereof shall be expressly delegated to another or by these By-laws to some other officer or agent of the corporation, or shall be required by law to be otherwise signed; and in general shall perform all duties incident to the office of president and such other duties as may be prescribed by the board of Elders.

8.6 Vice-Chairman of Board of Elders. The Vice-Chairman of the board of Elders shall be the vice-president of the corporation. In the absence of the president or in the event of his death, inability or refusal to act, the vice-president shall perform the duties of the president, and when so acting, shall have all the powers of and be subject to the restrictions upon the president.

8.7 Secretary of Board of Elders. The Secretary shall record the proceedings of the meetings. He shall maintain a current roster of the membership; be custodian of the Charter, Seal, laws, documents, records, and papers of the Church. He shall issue notices of meetings, add new members, issue notices of elections to the membership, and perform such other duties as may be directed by the Chairman.

(These positions are now accomplished by full-time, paid staff working in conjunction with a group of volunteers to ensure proper accountability and financial oversight using procedures and guidelines approved by the Elders. These procedures include a third-party audit of our church financial records on a regular basis.)

SECTION IX. SALARIED MINISTERS

- 9.1 Ministers Assignments. The salaried ministers are assigned and given responsibilities by the Elders.
- 9.2 Employment. The term of employment of ministers for this congregation shall be “at will” and may be terminated by either party with or without cause.

SECTION XI. AMENDMENTS

- 11.1 These By-laws may be amended by the congregation, except as noted below, by a simple majority of the voting members present at a duly convened meeting of the congregation. Notice of such change must be given in writing to the congregation at least twenty-one (21) days prior to the meeting in which the vote is taken.
- 11.2 The congregation will be provided, in writing, all proposed amendments to these By-laws at least twentyone (21) days prior to the meeting in which the vote for change is to take place. The Secretary will ensure that opportunities for comments and/or questions by the congregation are accepted and reviewed. The vote for

any proposed change will take place at a duly convened meeting of the congregation.

11.3 The secretary will maintain a log of proposed changes to these By-laws for the approval or rejection for each proposed amendme

11.4 Any amendment to Section 5.1 (Organizational Guideline) will require a ninety (90) percent affirmative vote of the congregation at a duly convened meeting of the congregation.



SOUTHEASTCC.ORG

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