

CrossPointe Community Church
Constitution & By-Laws
Ratified October 21, 2018

CONSTITUTION

Of

CrossPointe Community Church

Our Statement of Faith

“What We Believe”

We teach that **the Bible** is God’s written revelation to man, and thus the 66 books of the Bible given to us by the Holy Spirit constitute the plenary (inspired equally in all parts) Word of God (1 Corinthians 2:7-14; 2 Peter 1:20-21). We teach that the Word of God is an objective, propositional revelation (1 Thessalonians 2:13; 1 Corinthians 2:13), verbally inspired in every word (2 Timothy 3:16), absolutely inerrant in the original documents, infallible, and God-breathed. We teach the literal, grammatical-historical interpretation of Scripture which affirms the belief that the opening chapters of Genesis present creation in six literal days (Genesis 1:31; Exodus 31:17). We teach that the Bible constitutes the only infallible rule of faith and practice (Matthew 5:18; 24:35; John 10:35; 16:12-13; 17:17; 1 Corinthians 2:13; 2 Timothy 3:15-17; Hebrews 4:12; 2 Peter 1:20-21).

God created and sustains all things. He is unchanging, infinite, perfect, and eternally exists as three persons: Father, Son, and the Holy Spirit, and is sovereign over all that He created. Genesis 1:1; Deuteronomy 6:4; Matthew 28:19.

Man is created in the image of God (Genesis 1:26-27). Man rebelled against God (also called sin) of his own free will (Genesis 3) and is thereby spiritually dead and must be spiritually reborn. God restores us to Himself through the gift of salvation that comes by the grace of God through faith in Jesus Christ on the basis of His death and resurrection. We cannot earn or work to gain our salvation. Those who accept Christ as Savior are born of the Holy Spirit, adopted as children of God and cannot lose their salvation. John 3:5, 10:9, 28-30; 20:31; Romans 5:12, 8:38-39; Ephesians 2:8, 9.

Angels are created beings that worship God and minister to believers (Hebrews 1:14). Because they are created beings they are not to be worshiped. Satan, a fallen (and created) angel, also known as the devil, rebelled against God, is a deceiver who is presently ruler of this world, and will one day be eternally judged. He has been defeated through the death and resurrection of Jesus Christ and shall be eternally punished in the lake of fire. Isaiah 14:12-17; Ezekiel 28:11-19; Matthew 25:41; John 14:30; 2 Corinthians 4:4, Revelation 20:2, 10.

Jesus Christ is fully God and fully man. He was born of a virgin and lived a sinless life. Our Lord Jesus Christ accomplished our redemption through the shedding of His blood and sacrificial death on the cross. His death was voluntary, vicarious, substitutionary, propitiatory, and redemptive (John 10:15; Romans 3:24-25; 5:8; 1 Peter 2:24). He rose bodily from the dead and is at the right hand of God the Father. John 1:1, 14, 18; Isaiah 7:14; Hebrews 7:26; 1 Corinthians 15:3; Acts 1:11; Titus 3:4-7; Romans 5:8.

Jesus Christ may return at any moment, meeting believers in the air before God’s seven-year judgment of the earth, which occurs before a literal one-thousand-year reign. 1 Thessalonians 4:13-18; Revelation 20:1-7.

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48 Those who are saved will be raised to eternal life and blessing in heaven. The unsaved will spend
49 eternity in punishment in hell. Matthew 25:46; Philippians 3:21, Revelation 20:11-15.

50
51 **The Church** consists of all those who place their faith in Jesus Christ, who are then immediately
52 placed by the Holy Spirit into one united spiritual Body, identified as the Church (1 Corinthians
53 12:12-13), of which Christ is the Head (Ephesians 1:22; 4:15; Colossians 1:18). The Holy Spirit
54 indwells and empowers believers to serve using their spiritual gifts and abilities in the local church.
55 The purpose of the church is to glorify God by building itself up in faith, by instruction in the Word
56 of God, by fellowship, by keeping of the ordinances (Baptism and the Lord's Supper), and by the
57 advancing of the Gospel to the entire world. Ephesians 3:21; 4:13-16; 2 Timothy 2:2, 15; 3:16-17;
58 Acts 2:47; 1 John 1:3; Luke 22:19; Acts 2:38-42; Matthew 28:19; Acts 1:8; 2:42.

59
60 **Our commission** is to go and tell the good news of salvation to everyone. The Great
61 Commandment is to love the Lord our God with all that we are and to love our neighbor as
62 ourselves. Matthew 28:19-20; Luke 10:27.

63
64 **Communion and baptism** are the ordinances of the church. Communion reminds us of Christ's
65 death on our behalf, and baptism by immersion is our testimony of what the Lord has done for us
66 through salvation in His death, burial, and resurrection. Acts 2:38-42; 8:36-39; Romans 6:4; 1
67 Corinthians 11:23-24.

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ARTICLE I

NAME

This church was established as North Valley Baptist Church in 1962. On May 20, 2007, North Valley Baptist Church voted to adopt the name CrossPointe Community Church. This Church is legally incorporated as North Valley Baptist Church but shall be known as CrossPointe Community Church of Redding, California.

ARTICLE II

PURPOSE

The purpose of this Church is to share Christ with others here and afar, that they may know Him and grow spiritually through training and fellowship. We exist to equip all believers to serve and worship the Lord.

ARTICLE III

CHURCH FELLOWSHIP

This Church shall fellowship with any church, both on a local and national level, insofar as the doctrinal statements and practices of that church do not conflict with the Biblical positions as we understand them.

ARTICLE IV

CHURCH MEMBERSHIP

The membership of this Church shall consist of those persons who confess Jesus Christ as their Lord and Savior, who have been baptized by immersion, who take the Holy Bible as their only rule of faith and practice, and who agree to be governed by this Constitution. Any qualified person may become a member of this Church upon following the procedure as outlined below. In each case, the candidate shall give evidence of a change of heart and testimony of a Christian life and acceptance of the doctrine and practice held by this Church as stated in the Statement of Faith.

Section 1. **Qualifications:** All applicants for membership shall fall into one of the following groups:

- a. Those who confess their faith in Jesus Christ as Savior and Lord and who follow Him in baptism by immersion.
- b. By statement of faith (if once a member of this Church or another Church where baptism by immersion is practiced).

Section 2. **Procedure**

- a. Applicants for Church membership must meet with a member of the Elder Council or a staff pastor and provide information on his/her relationship with Jesus Christ.
- b. Applicants for Church membership shall attend and complete a new member's instruction class (such as Class 101) or such class as is available at the time of application.

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- 141 c. In the new member's class the applicant shall give his/her statement of faith and answer
142 questions about his/her personal spiritual conversion and experience. Prospective members
143 must sign the Covenant of Membership and Statement of Marriage and Sexuality indicating
144 their commitment to the local body of Christ at CrossPointe Community Church.
145
- 146 d. The Elder Council will recommend Church membership for prospective members who have
147 been through the above procedures. Upon an acceptance vote of the majority of the voting
148 members present at a regular church service, the prospective member will be admitted into
149 Church membership.
150

Section 3. **Duties of Members**

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- 153 a. Members shall receive, subscribe, and adhere to the Covenant of Membership and Statement of
154 Marriage and Sexuality in letter and in spirit. Members will strive to keep their Covenant
155 obligations. They will honor and esteem the Church leadership, pray for them regularly and
156 assist them in carrying out the ministries of the Church. They will endeavor to preserve the
157 unity of the Church. If they find themselves opposed to the fundamental doctrines of this
158 Church or if for any other reason are unable to harmonize with others, they will not seek to
159 disrupt its fellowship but will quietly withdraw from its membership.
160
- 161 b. Any member of the flock who harbors a disagreement about any policy or procedure promoted
162 by the Church's leadership should, as a first step, prayerfully and privately approach the
163 leadership. This may be done through informal consultation with an Elder or by means of a
164 signed letter to an Elder. These steps should be taken prior to public discussion of any issue so
165 as to help the leadership minister to the body more effectively and to avoid discord and disunity
166 within the flock (Prov. 13:3; 16:27-28; 17:4). The Church leadership should prayerfully address
167 any complaint thus presented and seek to resolve all problems in a manner which best promotes
168 those benefits mentioned above (Prov. 16:21-24). When this procedure is not followed, it will
169 be necessary to exercise church discipline in order to deal with the offending member as per
170 Article IV Section 5 (Titus 3:10-11).
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- 172 c. Only members at least eighteen years of age who are physically present at a duly called meeting
173 of the Church shall be entitled to vote.
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Section 4. **Voluntary Removal**

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177 Members desiring voluntary removal, who are otherwise in good standing, due to relocation or change of
178 place of worship may, upon a written request submitted to the Elder Council, be removed as a member. If a
179 letter of recommendation is required by the new place of worship and the member is leaving in good
180 standing, a member may request in writing to the Elder Council a letter of recommendation on their behalf.
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Section 5. **Discipline**

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- 184 a. Any member who is guilty of unrepentant sin and who persists in the same after due
185 admonition, in accordance with Matthew 18:15-17, may be excluded from the membership
186 of the Church by a majority vote of the eligible voting members present at a special Church
187 meeting.

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- b. The following steps will be taken in order to insure the protection of the Church membership, restore a sinning Christian who is also a Church member, and guarantee the Biblical intent for Church discipline as stated in Matthew 18:15-17.
- (1) The sole authority in determining heretical deviations of the Statement of Faith of CrossPointe Community Church or violations of the Church's Covenant of Membership is based on the Word of God and rests with the Elder Council.
 - (2) If an Elder is the subject of a disciplinary matter, he shall not sit as a member of the Discipline process. He shall be entitled to the same steps as other Church members and be subject to the same discipline.
 - (3) Members are expected to demonstrate care and concern for one another. When a member becomes aware of an offense to the Church body of serious misconduct so that it hinders spiritual growth and testimony, he is to go alone to the offending party and seek to restore his brother. Before he goes, he should first examine himself. When he goes, he should go humbly with the goal of restoration (Galatians 6:1-5).
 - (4) If reconciliation is not reached, a second member, preferably an Elder, is to accompany the one seeking to resolve the matter. This second step should also be preceded by self-examination and exercised in a spirit of humility with the goal of restoration.
 - (5) If the matter is still unresolved after the steps outlined above have been taken, the matter shall be brought before the Elder Council.
 - (6) If the matter is still unresolved after the steps outlined above have been taken, such members who refuse to repent and be restored are to be removed from the membership of CrossPointe Community Church upon a majority vote of the voting members present at a meeting called for the purpose of considering disciplinary action. Notice of the special Church meeting will be announced at a regular worship service two weeks prior to the meeting. The offending member will be notified by registered letter two weeks prior to the meeting.
 - (7) The procedures provided in this section are based on:
Matthew 18:15-20; Romans 16:17-18; 1 Corinthians 5:1-13; Galatians 6:1; 1 Thessalonians 5:14; 2 Thessalonians 3:10-15; 1 Timothy 5:19-20; and Titus 3:10-11.

Section 6. Membership Removal:

A member who has a continued and unexplained absence from the Church services and has not financially supported the Church for six (6) months may be dropped from the membership. A member who is unrepentant of sin as described in the section on "Discipline" shall be removed from church membership. A member who voluntarily asks to be removed, either by letter or verbally, shall be removed from church membership.

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235 Section 7. **Non-resident Members:**

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237 Non-resident members are expected to contact the Church and/or the Elder Council at least every six (6)
238 months and are also expected to continue their financial support of the Church.

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240 Section 8. **Disputes Between Believers:**

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242 CrossPointe Community Church believes that Christians are prohibited biblically from bringing
243 civil lawsuits against other Christians or the Church to resolve personal disputes in accordance
244 with 1 Corinthians 6:1-8.

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ARTICLE V
CHURCH LEADERSHIP AND SUPPORT STAFF

Section 1. **Overview**

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CrossPointe Community Church operates under the biblical philosophy of team leadership by way of an Elder Council. The Elder Council is that group of men in leadership at CrossPointe Community Church who are a Biblically qualified council of men who have been called by God to serve in the office of Elder and who jointly pastor the church. This group of God-appointed men shall be referred to as the Elder Council.

An Elder is synonymous with the biblical terms overseer, shepherd, bishop, leader, and pastor. Elder Council may serve in paid or unpaid positions of spiritual leadership. We believe the New Testament provides conclusive evidence that the pastoral oversight of the apostolic churches was a team effort; not the sole responsibility of one person. By definition, the elder structure is a plurality form of leadership in which each Elder shares the position, equal authority, and responsibility of the office. It provides a formal structure for genuine accountability for each Elder and allows each Elder to function primarily according to personal giftedness.

The Biblical offices in the church are Elder Council and Deacons. The body of believers making up CrossPointe Community Church has placed its oversight in the Elder Council. The Biblical role of Elder Council is to lead (1Tim. 5:17), oversee (1 Peter 5:2; 1 Timothy 3:5), and shepherd (Acts 20:28-30) the Church Body. Therefore, the Elder Council shall be responsible for overseeing both the spiritual and temporal affairs in response to the needs of the Church Body. All Elder Council must be members of this church prior to assuming their responsibilities.

Section 2. **Elder Council**

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The Elder Council shall be men who satisfy the qualifications for the office of Elder set forth in I Timothy 3: 1–7 and Titus 1: 6–9. The Elder Council shall oversee the ministry and resources of the church. In keeping with the principles set forth in Acts 6:1–6 and I Peter 5:1–4, the Elder Council shall devote their time to prayer, the ministry of the Word (by teaching and encouraging sound doctrine), and shepherding God’s flock.

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a. Serving as an Elder

To serve as an Elder, a candidate must be a member of CrossPointe Community Church, seek to exalt the Lord Jesus Christ, be controlled by the Holy Spirit, and be qualified for leadership as outlined in the Bible, specifically from 1 Timothy 3:1-7 and Titus 1:5-9.

Members of the church, individually, may submit the name or names of potential candidates for nomination as an Elder. The name or names of potential candidates must be submitted to the current Elder Council and must be accompanied by a written statement regarding the qualifications of the potential candidate. These names shall be submitted confidentially and there shall be no open discussion at the time of nomination regarding the candidates or their specific qualifications.

The Elder Council shall investigate, in a confidential manner, the potential Elder candidates' qualifications for Elder. The Elder Council shall hold a closed meeting for discussion of the potential candidates. The Elder Council will then prayerfully consider the Lord's leading with regard to each candidate and shall vote on each candidate for membership to the Elder Council. The appointment to membership of the Elder Council shall require a unanimous vote from all members of the Elder Council in attendance at the time of the vote. Those confirmed shall be presented to the Church Membership at a subsequent Family Focus Meeting for consideration. After allowing at least one week of prayer and inquiry by the Church Body, Elder candidates are presented to the Church Body for a vote of affirmation/ordination. A two-thirds majority of voting members present must approve the calling of the Elder.

b. Duties

The Elder Council shall take particular responsibility to lead in the ministry of the church. They shall examine and instruct prospective members, examine and recommend prospective candidates for offices and positions, oversee the work of the Deacons and appointed church agents and teams, assist in equipping the membership for the work of the ministry, teach and apply sound doctrine, admonish and correct error, oversee the process of church discipline, coordinate and promote the ministries of the church, and train church members to share the Gospel and make disciples in accordance with our Lord's commands in the Great Commission (Matthew 28:16-20). Paid and unpaid Elder Council shall have equal authority.

c. Advisory Teams

To promote efficient handling of Elder Council matters, if there are not at least an equal number of unpaid to paid elders, the Elder Council shall establish ad hoc (temporary) advisory teams to assist them in fulfilling their responsibilities. These teams are selected from within the membership, the staff, and from the church at large by the Elder Council. These teams shall perform tasks solely in accordance with the duties and with powers specifically delegated by the Elder Council. The general functions of advisory teams are:

- (1) To bring recommendations to the Elder Council concerning ministries.
- (2) To provide a wider base of counsel to the Elder Council having the oversight of a specific ministry.
- (3) To provide advice and oversight of financial matters.

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327 In the event an advisory team member's leadership is questioned by a member of the Church Body,
328 that member, along with two or more witnesses, must first go to that advisory team member
329 personally. If the matter is not satisfactorily resolved, the member, along with two or more
330 witnesses, must present the issue to the Elder Council. The Elder Council shall investigate the issue
331 and decide whether the advisory team member will be retained or dismissed from leadership.
332

d. Church Finances

333
334 The Elder Council is responsible for overseeing and managing the church finances (Acts 4:32-37;
335 11:27-30; 2 Corinthians 8:1-24; 2 Corinthians 9:1-15) except for salaries, which will be governed
336 by the Financial Advisory Team as described. A financial advisory team shall be formed by the
337 Elder Council to help with Church finances regarding budgeting, projects, employee compensation
338 or staffing and the like. The Financial Advisory Team shall be selected from the church
339 membership. Paid Elders shall not vote on or ratify any matters pertaining to employee
340 compensation and/or salaries. Each year the Elder Council shall prepare and present to the church
341 an annual budget for vote of approval. The budget shall be approved with a two-thirds affirmative
342 vote by the church members present.
343

344 No money shall be solicited by or on behalf of the church or any of its ministries without the
345 approval of the Elder Council. The Elder Council may also approve funding for new paid pastoral
346 and support staffing. Before being hired, new pastoral staff members will go through a screening
347 process that includes an advisory team and congregational affirmation.
348

349 In the managing and overseeing of the God-provided church finances, the Elder Council will
350 exercise transparency, accountability, and openness. In this light, periodic and regular reviews will
351 be performed by an approved outside financial entity, such as, a Certified Public Accountant (CPA),
352 or other competent and certified entities.
353

e. Removal of an Elder

354
355 In the event an Elder's leadership is questioned by a member of the Church Body, that member,
356 along with one or more witnesses, must first go to that Elder personally. If the matter is not
357 satisfactorily resolved, the member, along with one or more witnesses, must present the issue to the
358 Elder Council, as required in 1 Timothy 5:19. The Elder Council shall investigate the issue and
359 decide whether the Elder should be retained or dismissed from leadership.
360

361 Any Elder may be removed from office at any regular or special meeting of the Elder Council if he
362 is found to be spiritually unqualified (according to pertinent Scripture, including 1 Timothy 3:1-7
363 and Titus 1:5-9). A unanimous vote by all the other Elder Council will be required to remove an
364 Elder from the Elder Council. In the event an Elder is removed from office the Church Body will be
365 informed of this decision.
366

f. Elder Council Dismissal

367
368 In the event the entire Elder Council's leadership is questioned by a member of the Church Body,
369 that member, along with one or more witnesses, must present the issue to at least one of the Elder
370 Council. If the matter is not satisfactorily resolved, the member, along with one or more witnesses,
371 must present the issue to the Elder Council, as required by 1 Timothy 5:19. If the issue is not
372 satisfactorily resolved there, the matter of removing the entire Elder Council must be brought before
373 the Church Membership at a regularly scheduled or special meeting. Both the persons bringing the

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374 charges and the Elder Council will be given opportunity to present the Scriptural basis for their
375 positions. After a minimum of a week of prayer, the matter will be brought to a vote at a regular or
376 special meeting of the Church Membership. To remove the entire Elder Council requires a two-
377 thirds majority vote of the membership present. If the Church Membership agrees that the Elder
378 Council is functioning in an un-Scriptural manner, the Elder Council will be dissolved, and the
379 Church Membership will prayerfully select and nominate another group of men from the Church
380 Membership to be appointed as Elder Council.
381

382 **g. Number and Term:**

383 The number of Elder Council will be determined by the needs of the Church for ministry and the
384 availability of qualified men who will serve as Elder Council. There shall be at least an equal
385 number of unpaid to paid Elders. There is no specified term limit for Elder Council to serve. An
386 Elder may serve as long as he meets the biblical qualifications; as long as he is able to fulfill the
387 duties of an Elder; as long as the Church acknowledges him as a leader (functionally or formally)
388 and as long as he desires to serve in this capacity.
389

390 **h. Overview:** The Elders, with the counsel of the financial advisory team and as deemed necessary
391 the counsel of an advisory team, shall determine the number of paid Elders based on the Lord's
392 leading, the needs of the church, and the financial health of the church. All Elder Council must be
393 able to teach the Word, but not all desire to work fully at preaching and teaching. Elder Council
394 who are uniquely gifted at preaching and teaching and called to full-time ministry are honored by
395 the church congregation by providing those Elder Council financial support (a salary), which allows
396 some Elder Council to serve the church full or part time (1Tim. 5:17,18). The Bible tells us; "Let
397 the Elder Council who rule well be considered worthy of double honor, especially those who work
398 hard at preaching and teaching. For scripture says, 'You shall not muzzle the ox while he is
399 threshing', and 'The laborer is worthy of his wages'" (1Timothy 5:17-18).
400

401 Section 3. **Deacons**

402
403 The office of deacon is described in I Timothy 3: 8–13 and Acts 6: 1–7. Deacons shall care for
404 the temporal needs of members, attend to the accommodations for public worship, and encourage and
405 support those able to help others and those with gifts of administration.
406

407 **a. Purpose:** The Deacons shall assist the Elder Council in promoting the spiritual welfare of
408 CrossPointe Community Church. They shall serve in order that the Elder Council and Pastoral Staff
409 may devote themselves to the study of God's Word and the ministry of the Church in keeping with
410 Acts 6:1-7.
411

412 **b. Qualifications:** The Deacons shall meet the Biblical qualifications found in 1 Timothy 3:8-13.
413 Each Deacon shall be a believer who loves the Lord and whose life exemplifies a spiritual
414 transformation and shall affirm the agreement with the CrossPointe Community Church Statement
415 of Faith by signing the Covenant of Membership and Statement of Marriage and Sexuality and shall
416 faithfully uphold the doctrine of the Church.
417

418 **c. Duties:** The Deacons shall oversee the watch-care of the membership of the Church (care of the
419 widows and widowers) and serve to meet the general physical needs of the church. Deacons shall
420 assist in visitation (care of the sick, hurting, and suffering in the church) as needed and other

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421 ministries of the Church to include food distribution when needed, as well as the assistance of
422 facility care.

423
424 **d. Calling:** Members of the church, individually, may submit the name or names of potential
425 candidates for nomination as a Deacon. The name or names of potential candidates must be
426 submitted to the Elder Council and must be accompanied by a written statement regarding the
427 qualifications of the potential candidate. These names shall be submitted confidentially and there
428 shall be no open discussion at the time of nomination regarding the candidates or their specific
429 qualifications.

430
431 The Elder Council shall investigate, in a confidential manner, the Deacons candidates'
432 qualifications. The Elder Council shall hold a closed meeting for discussion of the potential
433 candidates. The Elder Council will then prayerfully consider the Lord's leading with regard to each
434 candidate and shall vote on each candidate for membership to the Deacons. The appointment to
435 membership of the Deacons shall require a confirming vote from all members of the Elder Council
436 in attendance at the time of the vote. Those confirmed shall be presented to the Church
437 Membership.

438
439 **e. Removal of a Deacon:** In the event a Deacon's leadership is questioned by a member of the
440 Church Body, that member, along with one or more witnesses, may first go to that Deacon
441 personally. If the matter is not satisfactorily resolved, the member, along with one or more
442 witnesses, must present the issue to the Elder Council, as required in 1 Timothy 5:19. The Elder
443 Council shall investigate the issue and decide whether the Deacon will be retained or dismissed
444 from leadership.

445
446 **f. Term and Number:** There is no term limit. Deacons meeting the Biblical requirements may
447 serve as long as they feel gifted and led to serve in that position. Deacons may serve as long as they
448 meet the qualifications, as long as they are able to fulfill the duties of a Deacon, as long as the
449 church acknowledges them as a leader (functionally or formally), and as long as they desire to serve
450 in this capacity. The number of deacons will be determined by the needs of the Church for ministry
451 and the availability of qualified men who will serve as deacons.

452
453 Section 4. **Support Staff**

454
455 **a. Definition:** The support staff of CrossPointe Community Church shall consist of those paid
456 positions necessary to facilitate the ministry of the Church as determined by the Elder
457 Council.

458
459 **b. Qualifications:** Each support staff shall be a believer in the Lord Jesus Christ as his/her
460 Savior and have a life that testifies of his/her transformation in Christ. Each support staff
461 employee shall affirm his/her agreement with the CrossPointe Community Church
462 Statement of Faith by signing the Covenant of Membership and Statement of Marriage and
463 Sexuality and shall faithfully uphold the doctrine of the Church.

464
465 **c. Duties:** Each support staff hired will be given a job description for which they are
466 accountable to the Elder Council.

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- 468 **d. Term:** A unanimous Elder Council shall hire support staff as needed. The Elder Council
469 has the authority to dismiss any support staff.

ARTICLE VI

MINISTRY TEAMS

474 Section 1. **Ministry Teams**

475 The work of the Church will be implemented by teams comprised of members who are led by God into that
476 specific ministry. By the grace of God, He has gifted every Christian with a spiritual gift(s) for the purpose
477 of building up the Body of Christ. Ministry Teams provide the opportunity to glorify God, edify the Body
478 of Christ, and reach the lost through the exercise of each member's God-given spiritual gifts. Each Ministry
479 Team is responsible to lead the church to discover God's will in the specific implementation of their
480 ministry. Teams will be formed as God reveals His will to the Body. The Elder Council will be responsible
481 for overseeing the team structure and providing adequate equipping for that ministry.

ARTICLE VII
MEETINGS

486 Section 1. **Family Focus Meetings**

487
488 There will be regular Family Focus Meetings for the Church Body to hear reports from the Elder Council
489 and Ministry Teams and conduct any necessary business.

- 490 **a.** There will be an annual Family Focus Meeting in October. In addition to the normal purposes of
491 Family Focus Meetings, this meeting is to discuss the annual budget in preparation for its adoption
492 by a vote of the Church Membership.
- 493 **b.** Regularly scheduled Family Focus Meetings will be held on dates determined by the Elder Council.
- 494 **c.** Specially called Family Focus Meetings require a one-week notice and will be used to consider
495 special matters of a significant nature or legal matters that cannot wait. Any church member may
496 request the Elder Council to call a Special Family Focus Meeting.
- 497 **d.** Emergency Family Focus meetings may be called by the Elder Council with at least 24 hours
498 notice. In the case of an emergency meeting, a report must be given to the Church Body regarding
499 the emergency meeting and the nature of the emergency at the next Sunday Service.
- 500 **e.** The quorum for all Family Focus Meetings consists of those church members who attend the
501 meeting, provided it is a stated meeting or one that has been properly called as set forth herein.
- 502 **f.** All business will be conducted in a Christ-like manner and moderated by any Elder. For each matter
503 requiring a vote, two-thirds of the church members present are necessary to approve the business of
504 the church.

506 Section 2. **Meetings of the Elder Council**

507
508 The Elder Council will regularly meet to discuss issues related to the Church Body. Any member or
509 members of the church may request a meeting with the Elder Council for the purpose of discussing current
510 issues. Any member of the Church Body may attend the Elder Council meetings, except for confidential
511 matters, such as discipline, personnel matters, and/or consideration of a new Elder or Deacon.

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514

ARTICLE VIII

515

AMENDMENTS OR REVISIONS

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Section 1. **Amendments to the Constitution and By-Laws**

518

519 Changes to the Constitution or By-laws may be made at any regularly scheduled Family Focus Meeting of
520 the church, provided such amendments shall have been presented in writing at a previous meeting and
521 copies of the proposed amendment change should be furnished to each member present. Changes to
522 Amendments to the Constitution or By-laws shall be approved by two-thirds vote of all members of the
523 church present and voting.

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Section 2. **Interpretation**

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528 If any question arises as to the interpretation of any portion of the Constitution or By-laws, the final
529 authority for interpretation rests with the Elder Council of CrossPointe Community Church.

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531

By – Laws

532

533 1. CrossPointe Community Church members shall consist of those believers in the Lord Jesus Christ
534 who have been baptized by immersion, who take the Holy Bible as their only rule of faith and
535 practice, who have signed the ‘Covenant of Membership’, and who agree to be governed by these
536 by-laws and the Constitution of this Church. Candidates shall be approved for membership by a
537 majority of voting members present at any regular Church service.

538

539 2. Only members at least eighteen years of age who are physically present at a duly called meeting of
540 the Church shall be entitled to vote. There shall be no proxy or absentee voting. The eligible
541 membership of the Church has certain limited areas to exercise a vote. Members may not vote to
542 initiate any Church action, but rather the vote of a member is to confirm and ratify the direction of
543 the Church as determined by the Elder Council.

544

545 3. A member, upon five business days’ prior written request, may inspect or copy the prepared
546 monthly financial statements of the Church, the minutes of the proceedings of Church meetings, and
547 the minutes of the proceedings of regular Elder Council meetings.

548

549 a. A member may not, under any circumstances, inspect or copy any record relating to individual
550 contributions to the Church, the list of names and addresses of the Church members, or the
551 confidential financial records of the Church.

552

553 b. The Church may impose a reasonable charge, covering the cost of labor and material, for copies
554 of any documents provided to the member before releasing the copies to the member.

555

556 4. Membership in this Church does not afford the members with any property, contractual, or civil
557 rights based on principles of democratic government. Although the general public is invited to all
558 of the Church’s worship services, the Church property remains private property. The Elder Council
559 (or in their absence, an individual designated by the Elder Council) has the authority to suspend or

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560 revoke the right of any person, including a member, to enter or remain on Church property. If, after
561 being notified of such a suspension or revocation, the person enters or remains on Church property,
562 the person may, in the discretion of the Elder Council (or in their absence, an individual designated
563 by the Elder Council), be treated as a trespasser.
564

565 5. The Elder Council shall elect a Chairman who shall also be the President of the Corporation, a Vice
566 Chairman who shall be the Vice President of the Corporation, and a Secretary who shall be the
567 Secretary of the Corporation. Elder Council are ex-officio (voting) members of the ministry teams
568 to which they are assigned. No Elder or support staff shall vote as a member of any Elder Council,
569 Team, or Committee on an issue which involves salary and benefits and hiring or dismissing the
570 same.
571

572 6. The Church shall not incur any indebtedness outside of the approved annual budget. Normal and
573 customary business practices will include the charging of supplies and services on a month to month
574 basis with payment to be made within a thirty (30) day period. This restriction will not apply in
575 case of an emergency where delay would be likely to cause material or irreparable loss, damage or
576 injury either to persons, property or the welfare of the Church.
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578 7. These By-laws may be altered, suspended, or amended at any Family Focus Meeting (Article VII,
579 Section 1) called for this purpose by a two thirds majority vote of voting members present.
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Covenant of Membership

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Having publicly declared that I trust Christ as my Savior and Lord and having been baptized as a symbol of that commitment to Him, I believe it is the Lord's direction for me to unite with the CrossPointe Community Church family. I am in agreement with CrossPointe Community Church's statement of faith. I am in agreement with CrossPointe Community Church's statement on Marriage and Sexuality. I commit myself to the following:

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I will protect the unity of my Church
...by loving the other members - *Romans 14:19; 1 Peter 1:22*
...by refusing to gossip - *Ephesians 4:29*
...and by following the leadership of the Church - *Hebrews 13:17*

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I will find a place of service in my Church
...by discovering and using my gifts and talents - *1 Peter 4:10; Ephesians 4:11-12*
...by developing a servant's heart - *Philippians 2:3-7*

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I will faithfully support my Church
...by attending faithfully - *Hebrews 10:25*
...by living a Godly life and growing in grace - *Philippians 1:27; 2 Peter 3:18*
...by giving regularly to the work of the Church - *1 Corinthians 16:2; Malachi 3:10*

Statement on Marriage and Sexuality

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Marriage: Because God has ordained marriage and defined it as the covenant between a man and a woman, CrossPointe Community Church will only recognize marriages between one biological man and one biological woman. Genesis 2:18-25; Ephesians 5:22-33. Further, the pastors/Elder Council and staff of CrossPointe Community Church shall only participate in weddings and solemnize marriages between one man and one woman, and the facilities and property of CrossPointe Community Church shall only host weddings between one man and one woman.

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Human Sexuality: In accordance with Scripture, legitimate sexual relations are exercised only within the marriage relationship, as defined above. Therefore, any sexual activity outside of marriage, including but not limited to such practices as adultery, premarital sex, homosexuality, and pedophilia are in direct contradiction with the clear teaching of Scripture. Also, any lascivious conduct, transgender behavior, and the creation and/or distribution and/or viewing of pornography are incompatible with Biblical teaching. As is the case in all expressions of sin, forgiveness is available to all those who confess and repent of their sinful expression in these mentioned areas of human sexuality.