

## **GLOBAL KINGDOM NETWORK CONSTITUTION AND BYLAWS**

### **Article I – Legal Name**

The Legal Corporate name shall be the Global Kingdom Network LLC. (non-profit). We will operate according to the laws which govern the State of Ohio. Hereafter, this organization may be referred to by the initials “GKN”.

### **Article 2 – Purpose**

GKN is a non-profit organization for religious, charitable and educational purposes subject to the laws of the state of Ohio.

### **Article 3 – Location**

The Corporate Address is 1491 Belle Avenue Lakewood, Ohio 44107 for mailing purposes.

Meetings will be held at various locations in the State of Ohio.

### **Article 4 - Statement of Faith**

#### **I. Holy Scripture – *Sola Scriptura***

- a. *Sola Scriptura*, means "by Scripture alone", i.e. traditions, creeds, interpretations and teachings must conform to scripture. The Bible is interpreted through itself, with one area of Scripture being used in the interpretation of others.
- b. The Holy Bible alone is the authoritative written Word of God: inspired, immutable, a mirror of God, resplendent with the Light of Divine Love.
  - i. All Scripture is inspired by God. (*2 Timothy 3:16a*)
- c. Be careful that no one takes you captive through philosophy and empty deceit based on human tradition, based on the elements of the world, rather than Christ. (*Colossians 2:8*)

#### **II. Eternal Godhead**

- a. There is One God in Trinity, and Trinity in Unity; neither confounding the Persons, nor dividing the Essence. For there is one Person of the Father; another of the Son; and another of the Holy Ghost. But the Godhead of the Father, of the Son, and of the Holy Ghost, is all one; the Glory equal, the Majesty coeternal. Such as the Father is; such is the Son; and such is the Holy Ghost. The Father uncreated; the Son uncreated; and the Holy Ghost uncreated. The Father unlimited; the Son unlimited; and the Holy

Ghost unlimited. The Father eternal; the Son eternal; and the Holy Ghost eternal. And yet they are not three eternals; but one eternal. As also there are not three uncreated; nor three infinites, but one uncreated; and one infinite. So likewise the Father is Almighty; the Son Almighty; and the Holy Ghost Almighty. And yet they are not three Almightyies; but one Almighty. So the Father is God; the Son is God; and the Holy Ghost is God. And yet they are not three Gods; but one God. So likewise the Father is Lord; the Son Lord; and the Holy Ghost Lord. And yet not three Lords; but one Lord. For like as we are compelled by the Christian verity; to acknowledge every Person by himself to be God and Lord; so are we forbidden to say, there are three Gods, or three Lords. The Father is made of none; neither created, nor begotten. The Son is of the Father alone; not made, nor created; but begotten. The Holy Ghost is of the Father and of the Son; neither made, nor created, nor begotten; but proceeding. So there is one Father, not three Fathers; one Son, not three Sons; one Holy Ghost, not three Holy Ghosts. And in this Trinity none is before, or after another; none is greater, or less than another. But the whole three Persons are coeternal, and coequal. So that in all things, as aforesaid; the Unity in Trinity, and the Trinity in Unity. (*Athanasian Creed*)

- b. God is love. (1 John 4:8b)
  - i. Love is patient, love is kind. Love does not envy, is not boastful, is not arrogant, is not rude, is not self-seeking, is not irritable, and does not keep a record of wrongs. Love finds no joy in unrighteousness but rejoices in the truth. It bears all things, believes all things, hopes all things, endures all things. (1 Corinthians 13:4-7)

### III. **Salvation by Grace – *Sola Gratia***

- a. You are saved by grace through faith, and this is not from yourselves; it is God's gift — not from works, so that no one can boast. (*Ephesians 2:8-9*)
- b. If righteousness comes through the law, then Christ died for nothing. (*Galatians 2:21b*)
- c. All our righteous acts are like a polluted garment. (*Isaiah 64:6*)
- d. It is from him that you are in Christ Jesus, who became wisdom from God for us—our righteousness, sanctification, and redemption, in order that, as it is written: let the one who boasts, boast in the Lord. (1 Corinthians 1:30-31)

### IV. **New Birth, New Man (All Things New)**

- a. You died, and your life is hidden with Christ in God. (*Colossians 3:3*)
- b. Jesus [said], "Truly I tell you, unless someone is born again, he cannot see the kingdom of God ... Truly I tell you, unless someone is born of

water and the Spirit, he cannot enter the kingdom of God. Whatever is born of the flesh is flesh, and whatever is born of the Spirit is spirit.” (*John 3:3,5-6*)

- c. Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ. Because of his great mercy he has given us new birth into a living hope through the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead and into an inheritance that is imperishable, undefiled, and unfading. (*1 Peter 1:3-4*)
- d. If anyone is in Christ, he is a new creation; the old has passed away, and see, the new has come! (*2 Corinthians 5:17*)
- e. All of us who were baptized into Christ Jesus were baptized into his death. Therefore we were buried with him by baptism into death, in order that, just as Christ was raised from the dead by the glory of the Father, so we too may walk in newness of life. For if we have been united with him in the likeness of his death, we will certainly also be in the likeness of his resurrection. For we know that our old self was crucified with him so that the body ruled by sin might be rendered powerless so that we may no longer be enslaved to sin, since a person who has died is freed from sin. Now if we died with Christ, we believe that we will also live with him, because we know that Christ, having been raised from the dead, will not die again. Death no longer rules over him. For the death he died, he died to sin once for all time; but the life he lives, he lives to God. So, you too consider yourselves dead to sin and alive to God in Christ Jesus. (*Romans 6:3-11*)

## **V. Walking in the Kingdom**

- a. The kingdom of heaven has come near. (*Matthew 10:7*)
- b. The kingdom of God is in your midst. (*Luke 17:21*)
- c. [Believers] are not of the world, just as I am not of the world. (*John 17:16*)
- d. Therefore, there is now no condemnation for those in Christ Jesus, because the law of the Spirit of life in Christ Jesus has set you free from the law of sin and death. (*Romans 8:1*)
- e. I say then, walk by the Spirit and you will certainly not carry out the desire of the flesh. For the flesh desires what is against the Spirit, and the Spirit desires what is against the flesh; these are opposed to each other, so that you don't do what you want. But if you are led by the Spirit, you are not under the law. ... If we live by the Spirit, let us also keep in step with the Spirit. (*Galatians 5:16-18,25*)
- f. Walk worthy of the Lord, fully pleasing to him: bearing fruit in every good work and growing in the knowledge of God, being strengthened with all power, according to his glorious might, so that you may have great endurance and patience, joyfully giving thanks to the Father, who has

enabled you to share in the saints' inheritance in the light. He has rescued us from the domain of darkness and transferred us into the kingdom of the Son he loves. (*Colossians 1:10-13*)

- g. As you go, proclaim: 'The kingdom of heaven has come near.' Heal the sick, raise the dead, cleanse those with leprosy, drive out demons. Freely you received, freely give. (*Matthew 10:78-8*)

## **VI. Baptism in the Holy Spirit**

- a. Given at Pentecost, Holy Spirit is the comforter promised us by the Father and sent by Jesus after His ascension to empower us to preach the Gospel throughout the Earth
- b. The Father will give you another Counselor to be with you forever. He is the Spirit of truth. The world is unable to receive him because it doesn't see him or know him. But you do know him, because he remains with you and will be in you. (*John 14:16-17*)
- c. The Counselor, the Holy Spirit, whom the Father will send in my name, will teach you all things and remind you of everything I have told you. (*John 14:26*)
- d. It is for your benefit that I go away, because if I don't go away the Counselor will not come to you. If I go, I will send him to you. When he comes, he will convict the world about sin, righteousness, and judgment: About sin, because they do not believe in me; about righteousness, because I am going to the Father and you will no longer see me; and about judgment, because the ruler of this world has been judged. "I still have many things to tell you, but you can't bear them now. When the Spirit of truth comes, he will guide you into all the truth. For he will not speak on his own, but he will speak whatever he hears. He will also declare to you what is to come. He will glorify me, because he will take from what is mine and declare it to you." (*John 16:7-14*)

## **VII. Gifts and Fruit of the Spirit**

- a. A manifestation of the Spirit is given to each person for the common good: to one is given a message of wisdom through the Spirit, to another, a message of knowledge by the same Spirit, to another, faith by the same Spirit, to another, gifts of healing by the one Spirit, to another, the performing of miracles, to another, prophecy, to another, distinguishing between spirits, to another, different kinds of tongues, to another, interpretation of tongues. One and the same Spirit is active in all these, distributing to each person as he wills. (*1 Corinthians 12:7-11*)
- b. The fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness, and self-control. (*Galatians 5:22-23*)

- c. According to the grace given to us, we have different gifts: If prophecy, use it according to the proportion of one's faith; if service, use it in service; if teaching, in teaching; if exhorting, in exhortation; giving, with generosity; leading, with diligence; showing mercy, with cheerfulness. (*Romans 12:6-8*)

## **VIII. Divine Healing**

- a. He was pierced because of our rebellion, crushed because of our iniquities; punishment for our peace was on him, and we are healed by his wounds. (*Isaiah 53:5*)
- b. Is anyone among you sick? He should call for the elders of the church, and they are to pray over him, anointing him with oil in the name of the Lord. The prayer of faith will save the sick person, and the Lord will raise him up. (*James 5:14-15a*)

## **IX. Occupy Until I Come (Watch and Be Ready)**

- a. They will see the Son of Man coming on the clouds of heaven with power and great glory. Now concerning that day and hour no one knows—neither the angels of heaven nor the Son — except the Father alone. Therefore be alert, since you don't know what day your Lord is coming. This is why you are also to be ready, because the Son of Man is coming at an hour you do not expect. (*Matthew 24:30b, 26,42,44*)

## **X. Kingdom Relationships**

- a. Jesus spoke to them again: "I am the light of the world. Anyone who follows me will never walk in the darkness but will have the light of life." (*John 8:12*)

## **XI. Evangelism**

- a. 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, teaching them to observe everything I have commanded you. And remember, I am with you always, to the end of the age." (*Matthew 28:19-20*)
- b. We are ambassadors for Christ. (*2 Corinthians 5:20*)

## **XII. Generous Giving**

- a. Each person should do as he has decided in his heart — not reluctantly or out of compulsion, since God loves a cheerful giver. (*2 Corinthians 9:7*)

## **XIII. Men and Women in Ministry**

- a. For those of you who were baptized into Christ have been clothed with Christ. There is no Jew or Greek, slave or free, male and female; since you are all one in Christ Jesus. And if you belong to Christ, then you are Abraham's seed, heirs according to the promise. (*Galatians 3:27-29*)

## **XIV. Finished Work of the Cross**

- a. He made the one who did not know sin to be sin for us, so that in him we might become the righteousness of God. (*2 Corinthians 5:21*)
- b. *Jesus' last words, spoken from the cross were* "It is finished." Then bowing his head, he gave up his spirit. (*John 19:30*)

## **XV. Sacred Marriage Provision**

- a. Global Kingdom Network holds sacred that Marriage in the sight of God is between a Man and a Woman dually joined together by God in Holy Matrimony.
  - i. Then the rib which the LORD God had taken from man He made into a woman, and He brought her to the man. And Adam said: "This *is* now bone of my bones and flesh of my flesh; she shall be called Woman, because she was taken out of Man." Therefore a man shall leave his father and mother and be joined to his wife, and they shall become one flesh. (*Genesis 2:22-24 NKJV*)
  - ii. "For this reason a man shall leave his father and mother and be joined to his wife, and the two shall become one flesh." This is a great mystery, but I speak concerning Christ and the church. Nevertheless let each one of you in particular so love his own wife as himself, and let the wife *see* that she respects *her* husband. (*Ephesians 5:31-33 NKJV*).
- b. Those who are licensed in the Global Kingdom Network shall conduct all Marriages in accordance with Global Kingdom Network Statement of Faith and bylaws.

## **Article 5 - Kingdom Covenant Members**

- 1. Criteria
  - a. Personal relationship with Jesus Christ.
  - b. Agree with GKN statement of faith.
  - c. Expectation of corporate accountability
  - d. Corporate association membership
  - e. Annual membership fee – whether licensed, associate, or other.
- 2. Benefits
  - a. Covering
  - b. Prayer
  - c. Networking resources and mutual growth in the Kingdom
  - d. Global Kingdom University
  - e. Publishing Company Access and Coaching
  - f. Life and Ministerial Coaching
  - g. Ministry for all ages (No Retirement, Only ReFirement).

## **Article 6 – Administrative Council**

The Administrative Council shall consist of at least 3 members, all of whom shall be appointed. Council members shall conduct day to day financial and spiritual decisions. The Council shall meet on a regular basis to review business, finances and approve any salaries. Meetings will be run by Robert's Rules of Order and minutes will be recorded for review and legal purposes.

- Members:
  - Michael A. Bartolone 1491 Belle Ave. • Lakewood, OH 44107-4201
  - Jack B. Irvin, Sr. 158 Marvin Ave. • Akron, OH 44302-1072
  - John H. Whitehouse, Jr. 25935 Detroit Rd. – Suite 241 • Westlake, OH 44145-2452

## **Article 7 – Finances**

All finances shall be handled with the utmost care and integrity. The Administrative Council shall be responsible for all the financial affairs of the Global Kingdom Network LLC.

1. All salaries and compensation shall be approved by the Administrative Council.
2. All Council members have authority to sign checks
3. No Council member may be involved in approving his own compensation.
4. All financial decisions must be made in accordance with the Conflict of Interest Policy set forth in Article 17.
5. The approval of any expenditure for merchandise or services must be documented in the minutes of the Administrative Council as set forth in Article 17(4).

## **Article 8 – Offerings, Gifts and Donations**

All offerings, gifts and donations shall be counted by two appointed and trained individuals who will certify in writing the amount of the offerings. Council will be responsible to deposit monies into an established bank account of Global Kingdom Network. All financial decisions will follow the laws of the State of Ohio. All designated monies shall be used for their intended purposes.

## **Article 9 – Meetings and Gatherings**

All meetings and gatherings can be daily, weekly, monthly, etc. Special meetings like conferences etc. will be announced in advance. Meetings, gatherings and conferences can be held online and offline.

## **Article 10 – Requirements for Chartering Churches**

- Each church must be legally organized according to necessary laws of the state or country in which the church is located.
- Each church must submit a one-time application for approval and a yearly fee mutually agreed to by the church and the Global Kingdom Network Administrative Council.
- All churches that are given a charter are legally responsible for all of their properties.
- Each chartered church shall have a duly appointed board to administer the daily activities of the church in areas of finances, insurance, buildings and any other day to day activities.
- Each charter church will adhere to the Global Kingdom Network Statement of Faith.

### **Article 11 – Affiliations, links and other networks.**

The Global Kingdom Network desires to be in fellowship with other members of the Body of Christ.

### **Article 12 – Administration of Property**

All properties both real, chattel and otherwise shall be held in the corporate name of the Global Kingdom Network LLC.

Adequate insurance shall be maintained for liability and all property activities. The Council shall be responsible for the oversight of all insurance.

### **Article 13 – Credentialing and Ordination**

1. Application for License and Ordination
2. Provide three pastoral five-fold references
3. Successful attendance of Bible Training or Enrolling in Global Kingdom University or a Bible School of your choice.
4. Type of Credentials offered
  - a. Marketplace
  - b. Visitation/Hospital or Prison
  - c. Licensed
  - d. Ordination
5. Credential Fees are \$80.00, Ordination Fee is \$90.00 payable on your anniversary date.



6. Adherence to our Statement of Faith and Bylaws.
7. Essentials in Unity – Different or the same.
8. We will maintain a list of Credentialed Ministers.

### **Article 14 – Global Kingdom Network University**

1. Mobile Campuses (Sites) and Digital Campuses.
2. On-site and online training
3. Affordable Education. 2 year degree.
4. Take only what you need or sense in the Holy Spirit.
5. Counseling and Coaching Available by phone or online.
6. Non-discrimination policy: see Student Guide on our website.

### **Article 15 - Limitations**

No part of the net earnings of the corporation shall inure to the benefit of, or be distributable to its members, trustees, officers, or other private persons, except that the corporation shall be authorized and empowered to pay reasonable compensation for services rendered and to make payments and distributions in furtherance of the purposes set forth in Article Two hereof. No substantial part of the activities of the corporation shall be the carrying on of propaganda, or otherwise attempting to influence legislation, and the corporation shall not participate in, or intervene in (including the publishing or distribution of statements) any political campaign on behalf of or in opposition to any candidate for public office. Notwithstanding any other provision of these articles, the corporation shall not carry on any other activities not permitted to be carried on (a) by a corporation exempt from federal income tax under section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code, or the corresponding section of any future federal tax code, or (b) by a corporation, contributions to which are deductible under section 170(c)(2) of the Internal Revenue Code, or the corresponding section of any future federal tax code.

### **Article 16 - Dissolution**

Upon the dissolution of the corporation, assets shall be distributed for one or more exempt purposes within the meaning of section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code, or the corresponding section of any future federal tax code, or shall be distributed to the federal government, or to a state or local government, for a public purpose. Any such assets not so disposed of shall be disposed of by a Court of Competent Jurisdiction of the county in which the principal office of the corporation is then located, exclusively for such purposes or to such organization or organizations, as said Court shall determine, which are organized and operated exclusively for such purposes.

### **Article 17 – Conflict of Interest Policy**

#### ***1. Purpose***

*The purpose of the conflict of interest policy is to protect GKN's interest when it is contemplating entering into a transaction or arrangement that might benefit the private interest of an officer or director of GKN or might result in a possible excess benefit transaction. This policy is intended to supplement but not replace any applicable state and federal laws governing conflict of interest applicable to nonprofit and charitable organizations.*

## **2. Definitions**

### **a. Interested Person**

- i. Any director, principal officer, or member of a committee with governing board delegated powers, who has a direct or indirect financial interest, as defined below, is an interested person. If a person is an interested person with respect to GKN or any subsidiary thereof, he or she is an interested person with respect to GKN

### **b. Financial Interest**

*A person has a financial interest if the person has, directly or indirectly, through business, investment, or family*

- i. An ownership or investment interest in any entity with which the GKN has a transaction or arrangement,
- ii. A compensation arrangement with GKN or with any entity or individual with which GKN has a transaction or arrangement, or
- iii. A potential ownership or investment interest in, or compensation arrangement with, any entity or individual with GKN is negotiating a transaction or arrangement. Compensation includes direct and indirect remuneration as well as gifts or favors that are not insubstantial. A financial interest is not necessarily a conflict of interest. Under Article 17, Section 3(b), a person who has a financial interest may have a conflict of interest only if the appropriate governing board or committee decides that a conflict of interest exists.

## **3. Procedures**

### **a. Duty to Disclose**

*In connection with any actual or possible conflict of interest, an interested person must disclose the existence of the financial interest and be given the opportunity to disclose all material facts to the directors and members of committees with governing board delegated powers considering the proposed transaction or arrangement.*

### **b. Determining Whether a Conflict of Interest Exists**

*After disclosure of the financial interest and all material facts, and after any discussion with the interested person, he/she shall leave the governing board or committee meeting while the determination of a conflict of interest is discussed and voted upon. The remaining board or committee members shall decide if a conflict of interest exists.*

### **c. Procedures for Addressing the Conflict of Interest**

- i. An interested person may make a presentation at the governing board or committee meeting, but after the presentation, he/she shall leave the meeting during the discussion of, and the vote on, the transaction or arrangement involving the possible conflict of interest.
      - ii. The chairperson of the governing board or committee shall, if appropriate, appoint a disinterested person or committee to investigate alternatives to the proposed transaction or arrangement.
      - iii. After exercising due diligence, the governing board or committee shall determine whether GKN can obtain with reasonable efforts a more advantageous transaction or arrangement from a person or entity that would not give rise to a conflict of interest.
      - iv. If a more advantageous transaction or arrangement is not reasonably possible under circumstances not producing a conflict of interest, the governing board or committee shall determine by a majority vote of the disinterested directors whether the transaction or arrangement is in GKN's best interest, for its own benefit, and whether it is fair and reasonable. In conformity with the above determination it shall make its decision as to whether to enter into the transaction or arrangement.
- d. Violations of the Conflicts of Interest Policy
  - i. If the governing board or committee has reasonable cause to believe a member has failed to disclose actual or possible conflicts of interest, it shall inform the member of the basis for such belief and afford the member an opportunity to explain the alleged failure to disclose.
  - ii. If, after hearing the member's response and after making further investigation as warranted by the circumstances, the governing board or committee determines the member has failed to disclose an actual or possible conflict of interest, it shall take appropriate disciplinary and corrective action.

#### **4. Records of Proceedings**

*The minutes of the governing board and all committees with board delegated powers shall contain:*

- a. The names of the persons who disclosed or otherwise were found to have a financial interest in connection with an actual or possible conflict of interest, the nature of the financial interest, any action taken to determine whether a conflict of interest was present, and the governing board's or committee's decision as to whether a conflict of interest in fact existed.
- b. The names of the persons who were present for discussions and votes relating to the transaction or arrangement, the content of the discussion, including any alternatives to the proposed transaction or arrangement, and a record of any votes taken in connection with the proceedings.

#### **5. Compensation**

- a. A voting member of the governing board who receives compensation, directly or indirectly, from GKN for services is precluded from voting on matters pertaining to that member's compensation.
- b. A voting member of any committee whose jurisdiction includes compensation matters and who receives compensation, directly or indirectly, from GKN for services is precluded from voting on matters pertaining to that member's compensation.
- c. No voting member of the governing board or any committee whose jurisdiction includes compensation matters and who receives compensation, directly or indirectly, from GKN, either individually or collectively, is prohibited from providing information to any committee regarding compensation.

#### **6. Annual Statements**

*Each director, principal officer and member of a committee with governing board delegated powers shall annually sign a statement which affirms that such person:*

- a. has received a copy of the conflicts of interest policy,
- b. has read and understands the policy,
- c. has agreed to comply with the policy, and
- d. understands that GKN is charitable and in order to maintain its federal tax exemption it must engage primarily in activities which accomplish one or more of its tax-exempt purposes.

#### **7. Periodic Reviews**

*To ensure the Organization operates in a manner consistent with charitable purposes and does not engage in activities that could jeopardize its tax-exempt status, periodic reviews shall be conducted. The periodic reviews shall, at a minimum, include the following subjects:*

- a. whether compensation arrangements and benefits are reasonable, based on competent survey information, and the result of arm's length bargaining.
- b. whether partnerships, joint ventures, and arrangements with management organizations conform to GKN's written policies, are properly recorded, reflect reasonable investment or payments for goods and services, further charitable purposes and do not result in inurement, impermissible private benefit or in an excess benefit transaction.

#### **8. Use of Outside Experts**

*When conducting the periodic reviews as provided for in Article 17, Section 7, GKN may, but need not, use outside advisors. If outside experts are used, their use shall not relieve the governing board of its responsibility for ensuring that periodic reviews are conducted.*

### **Article 18 – Amendments to the Bylaws**

The bylaws can be adjusted or changed by the Administrative Council of GlobalKingdomNetworkLLC.

*The Scriptural references contained herein are from the Christian Standard Bible<sup>i</sup> unless otherwise noted. This translation has been chosen because it retains formal, literal accuracy in all cases unless doing so would cause confusion with regard to idiomatic expressions. We recognize that every translation is, ipso facto, a paraphrase.*

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