#### **EXEMPTION APPLICATION INSTRUCTIONS**

### ALL QUESTIONS ON THE APPLICATION MUST BE ANSWERED.

- Please only submit one application per parcel of real estate or account of personal property.
- Please describe only the property in which you are applying for, and not any other properties owned by the applicant.
- The fact that fees are received from the use of the property does not mean that the property is not exempt; but it is important that the applicant describe every charge in detail. Please state what expenses these fees/charges cover.
- If open to the general public, describe how often it is available to the public or which specific groups of people it is open for, or if service oriented, state the number of people available to apply for the services each year.
- Applicants applying for exempt status are typically organizations of some type, not private individuals. However, it is very important that all reasons are explained in detail in order to receive exempt status.
- Incidental Income is defined as income resulting from any use not directly related to the activities of the organization. Such as rental & lease fees for facilities.
- Exemption from state and federal income taxes does not automatically constitute exemption from ad valorem taxes & neither does non-profit status. Applicants must meet all Georgia Law requirements for Exempt status.

# EXEMPT PROPERTYAPPLICATION O.C.G.A. 48-5-41

COUNTY	MAP & PARCEL #	DIGEST YEA	R
Ethingham	R2720018	20	223
TITLE HOLDER'S NAME			
672 Minist	ries Inc		
NAME ON DIGEST			
672 Minis	tries Inc.		
PROPERTY ADDRESS			
5835 Highw	Day 215.		
		TELEPHONE NUMBER	
Kincon GA	31326	912-661	-9008
- / /	IARKET VALUE	OWNERSHIP (LEASE	D, FEE SIMPLE, etc)
12 12 2022	811, 622	OMNED	)
A. Mark (X) the appropriate description of buildings =) If for P			
inventory  Unimproved raw land Gov't owned buildings Non-profit public hospital Public library Public (owned) schools Private school – open to public Housing owned by fraternity chapters Non-profit home for aged Single family residence Concession stand	Recreation Facilities Offices Meeting halls Club house Dormitories Classrooms Parsonage (not rented) Church/Temple Shrine		ify)
Pollution control or energy saving (so D.N.R. No (include copy of			
B. In the space next to the appropri applied, indicate the proper percent Religious burial, 20% Religious wo	tage which each description rep	resents to the total pr	
Obundeveloped Land Sharking Lot Present/Future Building Site Gov't Owned Agricultural Used for Recreation	Place Held 5%	of Religious Worship of Religious Burial for Investment (Specify)	
C. Mark (X) by one response to the questions that do not apply.)	8		YES NO N/A
1) Are any of the improvements we this form AT ANY TIME rente	_		

<ul> <li>the use of any part of this property? (If yes, please iden circumstances and terms on an attached sheet of paper)</li> <li>2) Is the property open to the general public?(ex: if church is it oppublic)</li> <li>3) Is the use of the property restricted, limited, subject to approve the use by any person(s), group(s), or organization?(ex: if a</li> </ul>	pen to the general		
the use by any person(s), group(s), or organization?(ex: if a	a) or reserved for church, can the		
members use the property or is it restricted)			
4) Does any person, group, or organization have priority of use of open to the general public? If yes, please identify.	property which is		
5) Is the premises used for private, social, or fraternal meetings?(e or used where the general public could not attend)	ex: it is rented out		
6) Are the property uses controlled by any individual or organizowner of record?(ex: if owned by private individual, and u purposes, does a board control or the private individual)	zation other than		
7) Is the property owner exempt from Federal/State income tax? IRC Section No. 501 (c) (3) (example Section 501 (c) (3))	If yes, fill in the		
8) If the corporation entity holds IRC 501 (c) exemption, was it July 1, 1959?	obtained prior to		
9) Has the Federal or State Income tax exemption status ever suspended?	been revoked or		
10) Is the property owner a political subdivision or instrumentalistate, or federal gov't?	ity of the county,	<u>/</u>	
11) Is the property within the territorial limits of the political subdiv	vision?		
12) Is the property owned by private individuals?			
13) Is the property owned by private organizations or clubs?			
14) Is the property owner a non-profit corporation without stockhol	Iders?		
15) Does the owner, any stockholder, or officer receive any inconservices rendered from the use of the property? If yes, please experiences are the property of the property?	ome or profit for		

16) Is any part of the property being leased from the applicant? If yes, please explain.	YES	NO ✓	N/A
17) Is any incidental income received from non-rent use of the property? If so, please explain source and how the income is used.		<u> </u>	
18) If services are rendered by the owner (hospital, charity, home for aged, etc) are these services available to the public without regard to the ability to pay by the person requesting services? If no, please explain circumstances.		<u> </u>	
19) Is there any reversionary benefit to anyone upon the sale of property or change in the use of property? If so, please specify whom.			
20) If you answered YES to question 7. Do you fall under 1. Public Charity 2. Private Foundation 3. Private Operating Foundation?	<u> </u>		
21) If Non-Profit do you have a charter & bylaws? If yes, please provide them.			-
22) List sources of funds received along with an approximate percentage breakdown for each source. (example: contributions 50%, federal assistance 25% public or patients 20%, dues or membership fees 5%) Please provide your Income Statement as well as a Cash Flow Statement			
23) Explain briefly how these funds are used.  Operating and maintaining operations and facilities  day to day. Providing Support to our partners locally  and abroad.			

24) If the property or part of the property is a vacant lot, do any activities occur on
the premises? If so, please specify nature of activities and how often.
Eall feetival - more a near : weekly student executs
Easter service - once a year; Summer KidiEvents-Four times in Summer
movie nights for families twice year;
3

I hereby certify the information attached and contained herein to be true and correct to the best of my knowledge and belief.

Chausen (Signature)

(Print Name)

11/15/10/23

(Telephone Number)



**BYLAWS** 

of

672 MINISTRIES INC.

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#### **PREAMBLE**

For the purpose of preserving and making secure the principles of our faith, and to the end that this body may be governed in an orderly manner, consistent with the beliefs of the New Testament, and for the purpose of preserving the liberties inherent in each individual member of the church, and to set forth the relationship of this body to other bodies of the same faith, we do declare and establish these Bylaws:

#### Article 1 - NAME

This church will be known as Connection Church Rincon. This will be a non-profit corporation of the state of Georgia under the name, *672 Ministries, Inc.* This church is autonomous and maintains the right to govern its own affairs, independent of any outside control.

#### Section A: Name Abbreviations

Whenever it is desirable to abbreviate the name of this organization, the name "Connection Church" shall be considered in every way the legal name of the church corporation. Whenever the word "church" is used in these Bylaws or their amendments or other official action of the church corporation, it shall signify the legal organization of this church as established in the Articles of Incorporation and herein.

#### Article 2 - PURPOSE

This church is organized as a church exclusively for charitable, religious, and educational purposes within the meaning of section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code (IRC) of 1986, for such purposes including, but not limited to, the purpose of providing regular opportunities for public worship, to sustain the sacraments, doctrines, and ethics set forth in the New Testament for the Church of our Lord Jesus Christ, and to do the work committed to the Church by Jesus. Every organization and group within the church shall seek to promote the spiritual life and growth of the community and to exemplify the Spirit of Christ and His teachings. We do so in order that His Gospel will be proclaimed, Disciples will be made, and the mission of the Church will extend to the ends of the earth. Anything contrary to this Spirit and purpose should be eliminated from within the church.

#### Section A: Mission Statement

Connection Church Rincon Exists to Make Disciples and Multiply Churches among all nations.

#### Section B: Earnings

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 to pay reasonable compensation for services rendered and to make payments and distributions in furtherance of the purpose as set forth in in the Articles.

#### **Article 3 – GOVERNMENT**

#### Section A: Autonomy

This church is an independent, autonomous church with full and final authority to determine solely within itself all matters related to the life of this church including but not limited to its financial affairs, affiliations, ownership, and uses of property, and pastoral leadership.

#### Section B: Church Roles

The government of The Church is derived from the principles and patterns evident in the New Testament, as discerned and applied by the pastoral leadership of the church. The Church is to be recognized as Jesus ruled, elder led, and congregationally accountable.

- Jesus Ruled Jesus is the head of the Church. Any other role or office is derived from and flows out of Jesus' role, and our responsibility is to follow Him. No one can take the role of Jesus as head of the Church. He is the Chief Shepherd and Senior Pastor – Jesus alone has the authority and preeminence to rule the Church.
- Elder Governed The Apostle Paul instructed Titus to appoint elders in the church in every city, men who were to lead, pastor, and guard the flock as "shepherds" under the authority of Jesus (1 Timothy, Titus 1:7, 1 Peter 5:1-4). The list of qualifications for such men is given in 1 Timothy 3 and Titus 1. The biblical model of local church leadership envisions a plurality of pastor-elders with a lead pastor serving as first among equals. These men have the responsibility to lead, teach, shepherd, and equip the congregation, directing and serving in a way that models the leadership of Christ. The Elder Body is responsible for making all financial, leadership and directional decisions for Connection Church Rincon. Elders stand under authority. They know that they are both subject to the leadership of Christ as well as accountable to the church at large.
- Congregational Accountability The congregation is responsible for carrying out the mission of Connection Church Rincon. They are also responsible to pray for their leaders and to ensure that Connection Church Rincon remains faithful to its mission and vision as given by Jesus Christ and to its doctrines as laid out in scripture (*The Bible*).

#### Article 4: ARTICLES OF FAITH

#### Section A: Statement of Biblical Authority

At the center of Christian faith and practice stands the belief that God has spoken to the world in the person and work of Jesus Christ, which is accurately and authoritatively revealed in the Christian Bible ("the Bible," "Scripture" or "the Scriptures"). The Bible is the inspired, inerrant, and sufficient Word of God and is thus the ultimate authority for life, faith, and morals. Though the various theological statements of the Church reflect

succinct summaries of biblical boundaries, it is the Bible itself to which we are in ultimate submission.

Members have the responsibility and opportunity to engage the Elder body and Church staff on areas of theological disagreement. However, membership carries with it the implicit understanding that the Central Elders shall function as the interpretive authority on biblical meaning and application for the purpose of Church doctrine, practice, policy, and discipline.

#### Section B: Statement of Basic Beliefs

The following Statement of Basic Belief represents the core orthodox beliefs of the Church from a biblical and historical perspective. While Church Members are not required to fully understand or articulate all aspects of the Statement of Basic Belief, the explicit rejection of any part of it disqualifies one from membership at Connection Church Rincon. Revisions to the Statement of Basic Belief in order to more clearly align to Scripture shall be at the sole discretion of the Elder body, with the understanding that such changes will be communicated to the Members of the Church.

#### We believe...

- The Scriptures are true, authoritative, and sufficient (*Psalm 19:7-11; 2 Timothy 3:16; 2 Peter 1:20-21*).
- There is only one God (Deuteronomy 6:4; Isaiah 46:9-10; John 17:3, 1 Corinthians 8:4-6; 1 Timothy 2:5).
- The Father is God. The Son is God. The Holy Spirit is God. The Father is neither the Son nor the Holy Spirit. The Son is neither the Father nor the Holy Spirit. The Holy Spirit is neither the Father nor the Son (*Genesis 1:26; Psalm 45:6-7; Psalm 110:1; Matthew 3: 13-17; Matthew 28: 17-20; 1 Corinthians 12:4-6*).
- I am, along with all humanity (Christ excluded), by birth and action a sinner (Genesis 6:5; Psalm 51:5; Jeremiah 17:9; Romans 3:23; 5:8, 12-21, 7:18; Ephesians 2:1-3).
- The deserved penalty for sin is death, both physical and spiritual (*Genesis 2:15-17; Genesis 3:19, Romans 5:12; 6:23, James 1:14-15*).
- Jesus Christ is the eternal Son of God, was born of a virgin and is both fully God and fully human (*Matthew 1:20; Luke 2:52; John 1:1-4, 14; Colossians 1:15-20: Hebrews 1:1-3*).
- Jesus Christ died as my substitute to pay the penalty for my sin (*John 1:29; 10:1-18, Romans 5:8, 1 Corinthians 15:1-4; 2 Corinthians 5:21; Galatians 1:4; 1 Peter 3:18*).
- Jesus Christ physically rose from the dead (Matthew 28:1-20; Mark 16:1-8; Luke 24:1-53; John 1:20-21:25; 1 Corinthians 15:12-34).
- Jesus Christ physically ascended into heaven and will one day physically return (John 14:3; Acts 1:11; 1 Thessalonians 4:16; Hebrews 9:28; 1 John 3:2; Revelation 1:7).
- There will be a future physical resurrection of the dead. Those who trust in Jesus Christ alone will be raised to eternal reward. Those who have not trusted in

- Jesus Christ will be raised to eternal punishment (*Matthew 25:31-46; John 5:28-29; Acts 24-15*).
- Only by trusting in the person and work of Jesus Christ alone can I be reconciled to God and experience true life and joy (*John 3:18, 14:6; Acts 4:12; Romans 3:21-26; 1 Timothy 2: 5-6*).

#### Section C: Statement on Marriage and Sexuality

It is the biblical position that marriage involves the union of one man and one woman in permanent sacred fidelity. Though various cultures and customs have evolving definitions of marriage, it is God alone who has ultimate authority to prescribe and describe the marital relationship (*Genesis 2:24, Matthew 19:1-9, Mark 10:1-12*).

Furthermore, sexual intimacy is only properly exercised and pursued within the confines of this marital relationship. Sexual immorality, defined as any sexual activity outside of the boundaries of the sacred marital relationship between one man and one woman, is clearly and expressly prohibited by the Lord (*Matthew 15:19, 1 Corinthians 6:9-11, 1 Thessalonians 4:3, Hebrews 13:4*).

Therefore, the Church regards all forms of sexual immorality, including adultery, fornication, homosexual behavior, bisexual conduct, bestiality, incest, pornography, or even lustful intent toward such, as sinful and ultimately unsatisfying. Moreover, the Church also regards as sinful the intent or desire to surgically alter one's biological sex to a different sex. Since the body is a creation of God, the Church holds sexual identity to be biologically determined, and associated gender norms are to be observed as appropriate to biblical standards. Disagreement with one's biological sex only leads to spiritual confusion and emotional chaos (*Genesis 1:27, Romans 1:26-32, 1 Corinthians 6:9-11*).

In order to preserve the function and integrity of the Church as the local Body of Christ, and to provide a biblical example to the Church Members and the community, it is imperative that all persons employed by the Church in any capacity or united to the Church in membership should abide by and agree to this "Statement on Marriage and Sexuality" and conduct themselves accordingly. Though sinful sexual expression is egregious (as is all sin), the gospel provides redemption and restoration to all who confess and forsake their sin, seeking mercy and forgiveness through Jesus Christ (1 Corinthians 6:9-11, Ephesians 2:1-10, Titus 3:3-7).

Furthermore, there is a difference between temptation and unrepented sin. Jesus was tempted in all ways as we are, yet He never sinned. Members, employees, volunteers, and attendees of the Church wrestling with all manner of sexual temptation will find a Church ready to point them to Jesus and join with them to fight for their obedience to Christ. Jesus called the weary and heavy-laden to Himself. As a church desiring to follow Christ fully, the Church will be a safe place for men and women fighting sexual temptations of all kinds. For those fighting temptation and repenting of sin, the Church will provide love, care, and direction (*Matthew 11:28-30, 1 Corinthians 10:13, Hebrews 2:17-18, Hebrews 4:14-16*).

The Church's Statement on Marriage and Sexuality does not provide grounds for bigotry, bullying or hate, as we fully believe that every person must be afforded compassion, love, kindness, respect, and dignity, regardless of his or her lifestyle. Hateful and harassing behavior or attitudes directed toward any individual are to be repudiated as sinful and are not in accordance with the Scriptures nor the doctrines of the Church.

This specifically gives the Elder body the right and authority to prohibit acts or omissions, including but not limited to (a) permitting any Church assets or property, whether real property, personal property, intangible property, or any property or asset of any kind that is subject to the direction or control of the Church, to be used in any manner that would be—or, in the sole determination of the Elder body, could be perceived by any person to be—inconsistent with this Statement on Marriage and Sexuality; and (b) permitting any Church facilities to be used by any person, organization, corporation, or group that would or might use such facilities to convey, intentionally or by implication, what might be perceived as a favorable impression about any definition of marriage other than that contained in this Section.

The Church's Statement on Marriage and Sexuality is based upon God's will for human life as conveyed to us through the Scriptures, upon which this Church has been founded and anchored, and this shall not be subject to change through any vote; prevailing opinion of Members or the general public; influence of or interpretation by any government authority, agency, or official action; or legal developments on the local, state, or federal level.

#### Article 5: ELDERS

#### Section A: Qualifications for Eldership

The Elder Body (Elders) is to be comprised of men who are gifted leaders, called by God, meeting the biblical qualifications specified in 1 Timothy 3 and Titus 1. These men have the responsibility to lead, teach, shepherd, protect and equip the congregation, governing and serving the church in a way that models the leadership of Christ. In accordance with the teaching of Scripture as set forth in 1 Timothy 3:1-7 and Titus 1:5-9, the role of elder shall be exclusively filled by men.

#### Section B: Elder Responsibilities

The Elder body is responsible for leading the church in all matters of direction, doctrine, and discipline. This includes all decision making on the direction of Connection Church. The Elder body is entrusted with the governance of the Church, leading the Church from a centralized vantage point. The Elder body's oversight includes, but is not limited to, teaching, protecting, leading, disciplining, equipping, and caring for the Church body and its individual Members as well as the oversight of all ministries, operations and finances of the Church. Elders are also responsible for being obedient to the Scriptures in the doctrine of the Church and establishing the overall vision of the Church. The Elders may hire or remove church staff as necessary. The Elder Body may establish

teams and other boards to assist them in any of their duties. They may delegate authority to qualified individuals or teams as they deem fit.

The Elder Body shall consist of the Lead Pastor and one man for every 100 members; however, the Elder Body is not to exceed ten nor have less than three men in total. At least half of the Elder Body shall be lay elders, non-staff members selected from the congregation at large. The remaining half shall consist of the Lead Pastor and staff elders, selected by the Lead Pastor, from the pastoral staff.

#### Section C: Appointment of Elders

Candidates for eldership will be selected by the current Elder Body and will undergo a season of training and evaluation (approximately 1 year) before the office or title of Elder is ascribed. This season of examination will include a comprehensive assessment. An elder candidate must meet the following conditions prior to recognition as an elder:

- Meets the biblical qualifications of an elder (1 Tim. 3; Titus 1).
- Embodies the mission, vision, and values of the church.
- Provides reasonable evidence that the Holy Spirit has gifted and called him to this particular platform of service (Acts 20:28).

The existing Elder Body will nominate any new elder candidates. The names of the new candidates will be shared with the congregation at least one month prior to joining the elder body. If any member of the congregation has cause to believe the candidate is scripturally unqualified to serve, they should bring this concern, in writing, to the attention of the elder board during this 21-day period. (*Concerns shall be brought before no less than 2 Elders*)

Elders shall serve terms of four years, at the end of which they may be re-appointed for a second term. An elder shall be allowed to serve two consecutive terms, after which there shall be a lapse of one year before they may be considered for re-appointment. Terms shall be staggered such that no more than two elders' terms end in any one year.

The staff elders on the elder body are selected and appointed by the lead pastor with the consent of the elder body. There is no limitation on the length of service for staff elders on the elder body.

#### Section D: Removal of Elders

An elder may be removed by resignation or by dismissal. Any two members with reason to believe that an Elder should be dismissed should express such concern to the Lead Pastor and one other Elder simultaneously, never alone and, if need be, to the congregation in an orderly and corporate fashion. Any such action shall be done in accordance with instructions of our Lord in Matthew 18:15-17 and 1 Timothy 5:17-21.

Section E: Lead Pastor

The Lead Pastor shall be recognized as the lead elder and spiritual leader of the church. He shall be responsible for all worship and other public gatherings of the church. He shall direct the work of the church staff in cooperation with the elder body.

At least thirty days' notice shall be given of termination of the relationship with the Lead Pastor unless otherwise mutually agreed upon, with both the Lead Pastor and the Elder Body seeking to follow the will of God and the leadership of the Holy Spirit.

In the event of a Lead Pastor vacancy, the Elder Body is responsible for finding a biblically qualified replacement. However, as a part of the Connection Network, any new pastor candidates must also be assessed and approved by the Connection Network in order to maintain the Connection Church title.

#### Section F: Elder Meetings

Elders shall meet regularly to discuss matters of church operations, financial stewardship, spiritual leadership, and prayer. Such meetings shall occur at a time and place deemed appropriate by the elders.

#### Section G: Special Meetings

Special meetings of the Elder Body may be called by or at the request of the Lead Pastor or by any two of the elders. Notice of the time, place, and purpose of any special meeting of the elder board shall be given at least twenty-four hours before such meeting, with as much detail and information as possible. This includes any relevant documentation or pertinent information to be discussed. Every member of the Elder Body should have these details and times 24 hours before special meetings.

#### **Article 6: DEACONS**

#### Section A: Qualifications for Deacons

Deacons may be men or women, to meet the qualifications as specified in 1 Timothy 3:8-13. In this passage, Paul gives an official but not exhaustive list of the requirements for deacons. Deacons will serve a term of (3) years with a year off between terms.

#### Section B: Deacon Responsibilities

The biblical role of deacons is to take care of the physical and logistical needs of the church so that the elders can concentrate on their primary calling "to prayer and to the ministry of the word" (Acts 6:4). Whereas the Bible charges elders with the tasks of teaching and leading the church, deacons' role is more service-oriented. That is, they are to care for the physical or temporal concerns of the church. By handling such matters, deacons free up the elders to focus on shepherding the spiritual needs of the congregation. Yet even though deacons are not the congregation's spiritual leaders, their character is of utmost importance, which is why deacons should be examined and held to the biblical qualifications laid down in 1 Timothy 3.

#### Section C: Appointment of Deacons

The Elder body shall have the sole authority to appoint Deacons. The Elder body shall communicate prospective Deacons to the Church or a subset thereof no less than twenty-one (21) days prior to an Elder body vote. Comments received from the Church will be considered on a case-by-case basis. Confirmation of Deacons will be at the final discretion of the Elder body. After the appointment of deacons, the Elder body will be responsible for discipling and equipping the deacons for service.

#### Section D: Removal of Deacons

Any Deacon may be removed from office for valid cause. A written notice of proposed removal of any Deacon shall be given to the Elder body at least ten (7) days prior to the meeting at which an action to affect such removal is to be taken to ensure that the Deacon is given a reasonable opportunity for defense. The Deacon shall have the opportunity to answer the charges in the presence of his or her accusers but shall not be present during the discussion and vote on his or her removal. The removal of a Deacon will be at the final discretion of the Elder body. Vacancies in the Deacons of the Church by reason of death, resignation or otherwise, shall be filled by the Elder body at their discretion in accordance with these bylaws.

#### **Article 7: CHURCH STAFF**

All personnel employed by Connection Church shall act in accordance with the current Elder-approved Employee Handbook document, as it may be revised, amended, or restated from time to time. The Church will reserve employment for men and women who believe and confess Connection Church's essential biblical convictions and act in accordance with such. Additionally, the Church reserves the right to terminate the employment of any existing employee who fails to meet this general standard of faith and practice.

#### **Article 8: CHURCH MEMBERSHIP**

The membership of this church shall be composed of persons who have given testimony of regeneration by the Holy Spirit; been baptized as a believer following a personal profession of faith; are genuine followers of Jesus Christ. Also, after completing the membership class (Heart & Soul), each member is expected to actively serve, give, and participate in community and a missional lifestyle. No member shall have any right, title, or interest in or to any property of the Corporation. Non-members may serve the church for purposes of administration and professional consultation, and other appropriate ministries with prior approval of the Elders.

Upon becoming a Covenant Member of Connection Church, Members attest that they have completed the membership process as instructed during Heart & Soul (Membership class), and are willingly agreeing:

- to submit to the authority of Scriptures as the final authority on all issues (Psalm 119; 2 Timothy 3:14- 17; 2 Peter 1:19-21).
- to pursue the Lord Jesus Christ through regular Bible reading, prayer, fellowship, and practice of spiritual disciplines (Luke 18:1; Acts 17:11; 1 Corinthians 9:24-27; Ephesians 5:1-21; 1 Thessalonians 5:12-22).
- to follow the command and example of Jesus by participating in the ordinances prescribed to His Church:
  - by being baptized after conversion.
  - by regularly remembering and celebrating the person and work of Christ through communion
- to steward the resources God has given each member, including time, talents, spiritual gifts, and finances. This stewardship includes regular financial giving, service and participation in community that is sacrificial, cheerful, and voluntary (Matthew 25:14-30; Romans 12:1-2; 2 Corinthians 8-9; 1 Peter 4:10-11).
- by God's grace through the power of the Holy Spirit, to walk in holiness in all areas of life as an act of worship to Jesus Christ (1 Peter 1:13-16, 4:1-3).
   Members should strive to put certain attitudes and actions to death while stirring and stimulating love and good deeds through the Spirit.
- to refrain from such activities that the Scriptures would deem foolish (*Romans* 14:14-23).
- to take seriously the responsibility of Christian freedom, especially actions or situations that could present a stumbling block to another (1 Corinthians 8:1-13).
- to submit to the discipline of God through His Holy Spirit by:
  - o following the biblical procedures for church discipline where sin is evident in another, the hope of such discipline being repentance and restoration.
  - o receiving righteous and loving discipline as explained in Article 6 of these Bylaws when approached biblically by fellow believers (*Psalm* 141:5; *Matthew* 18:15-20; 1 Corinthians 5:9-13; Hebrews 12:5-11).
- to do the following when the Member sins:
  - o confess the sin to God and to fellow believers.
  - repent and seek help to put the sin to death (*Romans 8:13; Colossians 3:5; James 5:16; 1 John 1:6-10*).
- to submit to the Elders and other appointed leaders of the Church and diligently strive for unity and peace within the Church (*Ephesians 4:1-3; Hebrews 13:17; 1 Peter 5:5*).
- to do the following should I leave the Church for righteous reasons:
  - to notify the appropriate staff member on the campus I attend.
  - to seek another church with which I can carry out my biblical responsibilities as a believer.

#### Section A: Membership Renewal or Removal

Membership is reviewed and renewed on a periodic basis. Members can be removed through (a) failure to keep their membership active over long periods of time, (b) voluntary resignation of membership because of a relocation, (c) death, or (d) a decision by the Elder Body as a result of the disciplinary process. Members are prohibited from voluntarily resigning their membership while subject to the formal disciplinary process.

#### **Article 9: CHURCH DISCIPLINE**

Church discipline is a necessary mark of a healthy church and shall be applied in cases of sexual misconduct, gossip, divisiveness, dishonesty, and various other expressions of sin. In accordance with the biblical pattern generally outlined in *Matthew 18:15-17*, a person who evidences such sin will be confronted in an initial one-on-one meeting, followed by escalating engagement by ministerial and pastoral staff and elders. Where the steps of discipline are exhausted in cases of unrepentant and/or habitual sin, the elder body will consider removing a person from membership with the hope of eventual reconciliation and restoration. This removal may or may not include a prohibition to attend Church services and events, depending on the circumstances. In addition, it might include public disclosure of removal from membership and the circumstances leading to this decision to the corporate membership of the Church. Those so disciplined will in turn be restored to fellowship where the Elder Body have determined that appropriate repentance has occurred.

#### Section A: Complaints

All complaints shall be brought to no less than 2 Elders, while a complete Elder body notification is preferable. All discipline shall be formulated and carried out through the Elder body, in the Spirit of Christ with the goal being reconciliation to the body of Christ.

#### **Article 10: CHURCH FINANCES**

The Elder body and staff shall work with the Treasurer (or accountant) in managing the financial affairs of the church.

#### Section A: Treasurer

The Treasurer(s) shall ensure that all funds and securities of the church are properly secured in such banks, financial institutions, or depositories as designated by the church. The Treasurer shall also ensure that full and accurate accounts of receipts and disbursements are kept in books belonging to the church, and that adequate controls are implemented to guarantee that all funds belonging to the church are appropriately handled by any officer, employee, or agent of the church. The Treasurer shall render to the Elders at least once in every year, or whenever they may request it, an account of all financial transactions and of the financial condition of the church. The Treasurer(s) shall be selected to a renewable term of one year upon the recommendation of the Elders. No Elder, or paid staff member of the church, shall be eligible for the office of Treasurer. The Treasurer shall be removed from office upon the recommendation of the Elders.

#### Section B: Budget

The Lead Pastor and staff in conjunction with the treasurer shall prepare an annual budget for approval by the Elder Body.

#### Section C: Fiscal Year

The treasurer in conjunction with the Elder Body shall determine the fiscal year of the church.

#### Section D: Contributions

It shall be the duty of Heart & Soul members to contribute regularly for the expenses of the church, and for its ongoing vision of making disciples and planting churches among the nations.

#### Section E: Designated Contributions

From time to time the church, in the exercise of its religious, educational, and charitable purposes, may establish various funds to accomplish specific goals. If the church receives a designated contribution for these funds or for any other designated purpose, the church will attempt to honor the designation; however, all designated contributions shall be deemed advisory rather than legally mandatory in nature and shall remain subject to the exclusive control and discretion of the Elder body.

#### Section F: Contracts

The Elder Body may authorize to enter into any contract or execute and deliver any instrument in the name and on behalf of the corporation. Such authority must be in writing and may be general or confined to specific instances.

#### Section G: Indebtedness

No motion to pay any money for indebtedness incurred in respect to this church shall be eligible nor will the church be responsible for any indebtedness incurred unless such indebtedness is incurred by a resolution of the church. Exception to this rule is made in respect to the Elder Body in the case of emergencies for which provision cannot be made.

#### Section H: Checks

Both, an Elder and the treasurer for the purpose of accountability shall sign all checks issued in the name of the church.

#### **Article 11: CHURCH RECORDS**

The corporation shall keep 1) adequate and correct books and records of accounts, 2) written minutes of its elder meetings, and 3) a record of each member's name and address.

#### **Article 12: STATEMENT OF FAITH**

Connection Church Rincon is a church under the Lordship of Jesus Christ. Therefore, we are committed to contending for the faith that was once and for all delivered to the saints (Jude 1:3). In unity with the historic Christian church, we believe and confess the Apostles', Nicene, and Chalcedonian Creeds as accurate representations of Scripture's teaching.

The basic doctrines within Connection's Statement of Faith represent what we believe to be core elements of biblical teaching. We expect all members of Connection Church to affirm these doctrines.

The theological distinctives and convictions within Connection's Statement of Faith reflect what distinguishes Connection from other churches who would still affirm the basic doctrines but may hold differing secondary or preferential beliefs. These distinctives and convictions shape the way that Connection Church Rincon is led and the direction the church is heading. We do not expect all members to embrace all aspects of these distinctives, but members should expect that the distinctives will be maintained in all ministry environments at Connection Church Rincon, and members may not teach contrary to them.

#### Doctrine of God -

We believe in one God, eternally existing as one essence and three distinct persons: God the Father, God the Son and God the Holy Spirit, each of whom is fully God, yet there is one God.

We believe in one God eternally existing as one essence and three distinct persons: God the Father, God the Son and God the Holy Spirit. Each person is fully, equally, and eternally God, yet there is one God. Each person has precisely the same nature and attributes and is worthy of precisely the same worship, honor, and praise. The entire Christian faith is bound together with the confession of God's Trinitarian nature (Matt. 28:18-20). We believe in God the Father, the Creator of heaven and earth. We believe in the Son, God from God, eternally begotten but not made, who in history assumed to Himself a human nature for the sake of our salvation (John 1:14; Heb. 1:3). He is fully God and fully man. Through Him, all things came into being and were created. He was before all things, and in Him, all things hold together by the word of His power (Col.1:15-20). He suffered, died, was buried, resurrected, ascended, and sits at the right hand of the Father until He returns for the final judgment and consummation of the Kingdom. We believe in the Holy Spirit who eternally proceeds from the Father and the Son and is sent by the Father and Son to give new life (John 15:26-27). The Holy Spirit unites believers to Jesus Christ in faith, brings about the new birth and dwells within the regenerate (Eph. 1:13-14).

The Holy Spirit has come to glorify the Son who, in turn, came to glorify the Father. He will lead the Church into a right understanding and rich application of the truth of God's Word. He is to be respected, honored, and worshiped as God, the third person of the Trinity.

The triune God, Father, Son and Spirit, is the Creator of all things, visible and invisible. As the immortal and eternal Creator, He sovereignly rules over all of His creation (Ps. 24:1).

#### **Doctrine of Revelation -**

God has made Himself known to the world in Jesus Christ, the Scriptures and creation.

We believe that God has made Himself known to His creation. He has revealed Himself to us in His Son, the incarnate Word (Heb.1:1-2), in Scripture, the inspired Word (2 Tim. 3:16), and in creation (Ps. 8; Rom. 1:20)

We believe that Jesus Christ, the Son of God, is the perfect revelation of who God is. Jesus Christ is the "image of the invisible God" (Col. 1:15), "the exact imprint of his nature" (Heb. 1:3) and a perfect reflection of God the Father (John 5:19). We believe the Scriptures, the 66 books of the Old and New Testaments, are the inspired Word of God and are therefore without error in their original writings. These writings alone constitute the verbally inspired Word of God, which is utterly authoritative and free from error. The Scripture is sufficient for all that God requires for us to believe and do and is therefore to be believed, as God's instruction, in all that it teaches; obeyed, as God's command, in all that it requires; and trusted, as God's pledge, in all that it promises (Is. 40:6-8). As God's people hear, believe, and obey the Word, they are equipped as disciples of Christ and witnesses to the gospel (Rom. 10:14-17).

#### **Doctrine of Creation and Providence -**

We believe that God created the world from nothing and governs all things at all times in all places.

God created the whole world from nothing (Gen. 1:1-2; Ps. 24:1). God's creative work is the overflow of the love present within the Trinitarian fellowship. Creation, according to the design of God, was good (Gen. 1:3-31). God doesn't let the world exist; He makes the world exist. He upholds the universe by the word of His power, and He holds the world together in himself (Col. 1:17).

#### **Doctrine of Humanity -**

We believe that all humanity is created in the image of God and possesses intrinsic dignity and worth.

God made humanity—male and female—in His own image (Gen. 1:27-30). Set apart as His image bearers, every human being is sacred. All men and all women, bearing the image of God, are meant to represent God in His creation (1 Cor. 10:31). God declares the created order to be very good, distinguishing men and women as His agents to care for, manage and govern over it. They enjoy equal access to God by faith in Christ Jesus and are both called to move beyond passive self-indulgence to significant private and public engagement in family, church and civic life. Adam and Eve were made to complement each other in a one-flesh union in the covenant of marriage that establishes the only God-ordained pattern of sexual relations for men and women. In God's wise purposes, men and women are not simply interchangeable, but rather they complement each other in mutually enriching ways.

#### Distinctive || Complementarianism -

Men and women are completely equal in essence, dignity and value but are distinct by divine design. As part of God's good, created order, men and women are to have different yet complementary roles and responsibilities in the home and church. As it relates to the church, men and women are both expected to lead; however, the office of elder is reserved for qualified men (1 Tim. 3; Titus 1).

#### Doctrine of Sin -

We believe that sin has fractured all things, leaving the world in desperate need of salvation.

Through the temptation of Satan, humanity transgressed the command of God and fell from their original holiness and righteousness (Gen. 3). Now the entire human race inherits a corrupt nature that is opposed to God and His law (Rom. 3:9- 20). Therefore, all humans are under condemnation. This depravity is radical and pervasive. It extends to the mind, will, body and affections. Unregenerate humanity lives under the dominion of sin and Satan (Eph. 2:1-3). He is at enmity with God, hostile toward and hateful of God.

#### **Doctrine of Salvation -**

We believe that salvation is by grace alone through faith alone in Christ alone.

We believe that, due to universal death through sin, no one can enter the kingdom of God unless born again (John 3:5-8); that salvation is only by grace through faith in the shed blood of Jesus Christ; and that all who receive the Lord Jesus Christ through faith are declared righteous by God and become children of God (Heb.10:19-25). We believe the Scriptures teach that regeneration, or the new birth, is that act of God by which the Holy Spirit imparts a new nature and a new spiritual life, not before possessed, and the person becomes a new creation in Christ Jesus (Gal. 2:20). The mind is given a holy disposition and a new desire to serve God, the dominion of sin is broken, and the heart is transformed from a love of sin and self to a love of holiness and God.

#### Distinctive | Sovereignty of God in Salvation -

The salvation of humanity is fundamentally the work of God. Before the foundation of the world, God elected His people, setting His affection and grace upon them (Rom. 8:29-30). In love God predestined His people for adoption (Eph. 1:4-6). Faith is a gift of grace that is given by the mercy and pleasure of God, so that no one may boast. Apart from the intervention of God, humanity cannot choose of his own accord to worship God and pursue righteousness (Rom. 3; Eph. 2:1-3). God's sovereignty in salvation is comprehensive: from first to last, all of salvation is the work of God.

#### Doctrine of the Church -

We believe that the Church is the body of Christ sent into the world to shine forth the glory of God.

God, by His Word and Spirit, creates the Church, calling sinful humanity into the fellowship of Christ's body (1 Cor. 12:12-31). By the same Word and Spirit, He guides and preserves that newly redeemed humanity. The Church is made up of those who have become genuine followers of Jesus Christ and have personally appropriated the gospel. The Church exists to worship and glorify God as Father, Son and Holy Spirit. The ministry of the Church is an extension of the ministry of Jesus in the power of the Spirit.

The ultimate mission of the Church is to bring glory to God by making disciples (Matt. 28:18-20). The Church is called to make disciples through worship, prayer, teaching of the Word, observance of the ordinances, fellowship, the exercise of our gifts and talents, and the proclamation of the gospel both in our community and throughout the world.

We believe there are two ordinances of the Church. One is that of believer's baptism in the name of the Father, Son and Holy Spirit, and the other is the Lord's Supper. Water baptism is only intended for those who have received the saving benefits of Christ through the new birth of the Holy Spirit. In obedience to Christ's command and as a testimony to God, the Church, oneself and the world, believers are baptized by water in the name of the Father, Son and Holy Spirit. Water baptism is a visual and symbolic demonstration of a person's union with Christ in the likeness of His death and resurrection. It signifies that a former way of life has been put to death and vividly depicts the release from the mastery of Satan, sin, and death.

As with water baptism, the Lord's Supper is to be observed only by those who have become genuine followers of Christ. This ordinance symbolizes the breaking of Christ's body and the shedding of His blood on our behalf and is to be observed repeatedly throughout the Christian life as a sign of continued participation in the atoning benefits of Christ's death. As we come to the table with an attitude of faith and self-examination, we remember and proclaim the death of Christ, receive spiritual nourishment for our souls and signify our unity with other members of Christ's body.

Distinctive || Gifts of the Holy Spirit -

The gifts of the Holy Spirit that we see on display in the New Testament are still active within the life of the church. These gifts did not end with the close of the New Testament or the death of the last apostle (1 Cor. 12:1-11).

Distinctive || Baptism by Immersion -

The precedent we find in the New Testament is baptism following conversion by immersion into water. Baptism by immersion is meant to symbolically depict the believer's real union to Christ in His death and

resurrection (Rom. 6:1-14). (For more on this distinctive, consider attending one of our Baptism classes, held several times throughout the year.)

Doctrine of Resurrection and Consummation of the Kingdom of God – We believe that Jesus Christ is returning to the world in the future to judge the living and the dead.

The consummation of all things includes the future, physical, visible, personal, and glorious return of Jesus Christ, the resurrection of the dead and the glorification of those alive in Christ, the judgment of the just and the unjust, and the fulfillment of Christ's kingdom in the new heavens and the new earth. In the consummation, Satan, with his hosts and all those outside of Christ, are finally separated from the benevolent presence of God, enduring eternal punishment (Rev. 20:7-15), but the righteous, in glorious bodies, will live and reign with Him forever, serving Him and giving Him unending praise and glory. Then the eager expectation of creation will be fulfilled, and the whole earth shall proclaim the glory of God, who makes all things new (Rev. 21:1-5).

#### **Article 13: DISSOLUTION AND MERGERS**

Upon the dissolution of the corporation, the officers shall, after paying or making provision for the payment of all the liabilities of the corporation, dispose of all of the assets of the corporation exclusively for the purposes of the corporation in such a manner or to such organization or organizations organized and operated exclusively for religious purposes as shall at the time qualify as an exempt organization or organizations under section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1954 (or the corresponding provision of any future U.S. Internal Revenue Law), as the Board of Directors shall determine. Any such assets not so disposed of, or physical properties owned by the church shall be given to The Connection Network to enable it to plant more churches and further advance the Gospel of Jesus Christ wherever they see fit.

In the event of a merger of the Church with another church, the net assets of the Church shall be contributed to the surviving entity. Approval of a church merger will only be accomplished through a unanimous vote from the Elder body.

#### **Article 14: INDEMNIFICATION**

To the maximum extent permitted by law, the Church shall indemnify, and shall pay or reimburse reasonable expenses in advance of final disposition of a proceeding to, (a) any individual who is a present or former Trustee or officer of the Church or (b) any individual who serves or has served another corporation, partnership, joint venture, trust, employee benefit plan or any other enterprise as a Trustee or officer of such corporation or as a partner or Trustee of such partnership, joint venture, trust or employee benefit plan at the request of the Church. The Corporation may, with the approval of the Elders, provide such indemnification and advancement of expenses to a person who served as predecessor

of the Church in any of the capacities described in (a) or (b) above and to any employee or agent of the Church or a predecessor of the Church. Neither the amendment nor repeal of this Article, nor the adoption or amendment of any other provision of the bylaws or charter of the Church inconsistent with this Article, shall apply to or affect in any respect the applicability of the preceding paragraph with respect to any act or failure to act which occurred prior to such amendment, repeal, or adoption.

#### **Article 15: AMENDMENT**

The Elder body shall have the power to alter, amend, or repeal these bylaws or adopt new bylaws as it deems fit.

11:38 AM 02/22/23 Accrual Basis

# 672 Ministries, Inc. Profit & Loss Budget Overview January through December 2023

	Jan - Dec 23
Ordinary Income/Expense	
Income 4200 · Tithes/Offerings	313,021.20
Total Income	313,021.20
Expense	
6110 · Utilities	10,800.00
6111 · Electrical 6112 · Telephone/Internet	2,500.00
6113 · Water/Trash	1,500.00
Total 6110 · Utilities	14,800.00
6120 · Property Payments	36,000.00
6130 · Maintenance & Improvements	
6131 · Improvements	500.00
6132 · Cleaning Supplies 6133 · Pest Control	1,000.00 250.00
Total 6130 · Maintenance & Improvements	1,750.00
6200 · Office Expenses	,
6210 · Accounting Fees	3,800.00
6230 · Insurance Expense	7,000.00
6250 · Postage	120.00
6270 · Office Supplies 6280 · Office Equipment	1,000.00 2,800.00
6302 · Bank Charges	2,400.00
Total 6200 · Office Expenses	17,120.00
6281 · Digital Services	
6281.1 · Redbooth	611.00
6281.2 · Planning Center	1,800.00
6281.5 · Amazon Prime	139.00
6281.6 ⋅ Right Now Media 6281.7 ⋅ Sams	1,200.00 110.00
6281.8 · Other Subscriptions	350.00
Total 6281 · Digital Services	4,210.00
6520 · Ministry Expenses	
6520.1 · Conferences and Meetings	500.00
6521 · Discipleship Materials	1,000.00 . 1,000.00
6522 · Discipleship Meetings 6523 · Heart & Soul Food	1,500.00
6524 · CGL Meetings	1,800.00
6525 · CGL Party	750.00
6526 · Heart and Soul T-Shirts	300.00
Total 6520 · Ministry Expenses	6,850.00
6546 · Ministry Events	200.00
6546.1 · Ordination 6546.10 · Seasonal Events	500.00
6546.2 · Lavish Women	1,000.00
6546,3 · Connector Appreciation	3,000.00
6546.4 · Elder Meetings	300.00 700.00
6546.6 · Staff Christmas Party 6546.7 · Forge Men	1.000.00
6546.8 · Mother's Day	200.00
6546.9 · Father's Day	200.00
Total 6546 · Ministry Events	7,100.00
6560 · People Care	4.000.00
6561 · Benevolence	1,000.00 2,000.00
6562 · Leadership Development	2,000.00

# 672 Ministries, Inc. Profit & Loss Budget Overview January through December 2023

	Jan - Dec 23
6563 · Pastoral Care 6560 · People Care - Other	250.00 1,980.00
Total 6560 · People Care	5,230.00
6565 · Guest Services 6565.2 · Communion Supplies 6565.3 · Baptism T-Shirts 6565.4 · Connector Meetings 6565.5 · Connector T-Shirts 6565.8 · Signage/Storage	200.00 300.00 250.00 300.00 500.00
Total 6565 · Guest Services	1,550.00
6570 · Student Ministry 6570.2 · Seasonal Events 6570.3 · Conference/Development 6570.4 · CS T-Shirts 6570.6 · Food 6570.7 · Student Conference	1,500.00 300.00 500.00 1,200.00 700.00
Total 6570 · Student Ministry	4,200.00
6571 · Kids Ministry 6571.1 · Babies-5th 6671.11 · Christmas 6571.2 · Famlly/Seasonal Events 6571.3 · Kids Camp 6571.4 · Orange T-Shirts 6571.5 · Baby Dedication 6571.6 · Signage 6571.7 · Conference/Development 6571.8 · Background Checks 6571.9 · Orange Curriculum	3,500.00 500.00 3,000.00 1,500.00 200.00 400.00 300.00 300.00 400.00 2,200.00
Total 6571 · Kids Ministry	12,300.00
6580 · Production 6580.2 · Equipment 6580.3 · Lighting Software 6580.5 · Video Software 6581.1 · Ministry Designs 6582 · Subscriptions 6582.1 · Dropbox 6582.2 · Multitracks 6582.3 · Adobe Creative Cloud 6582.4 · Spotify 6582.5 · Propresenter	2,000.00 120.00 100.00 360.00 864.00 550.00 360.00 250.00 318.00
Total 6582 · Subscriptions	2,342.00
Total 6580 · Production	4,922.00
6591 · Worship 6591.1 · Music Equipment 6591.13 · Audio/Visual 6591.14 · Conference/Development 6591.2 · Worship Nights 6591.8 · CCLI Service Licensing	2,000.00 600.00 500.00 200.00 810.00
Total 6591 · Worship	4,110.00
6595 · Printing 6595.1 · Next Step Cards 6595.2 · Connect Cards 6595.3 · Invite Cards 6595.7 · Welcome Magazines 6595.9 · Info Cards 6598 · Salvation Reading Plan	100.00 150.00 300.00 250.00 200.00 150.00

11:38 AM 02/22/23 Accrual Basis

# 672 Ministries, Inc. Profit & Loss Budget Overview January through December 2023

	Jan - Dec 23
6599 - Student Printing	200.00
Total 6595 · Printing	1,350.00
6690 · Payroll Expenses 6692 · Salaries 6693 · Payroll Taxes 6694 · Contract Labor 6696 · Employee Benefits	168,429.20 13,100.00 2,000.00 8,000.00
Total 6690 · Payroll Expenses	191,529.20
Total Expense	313,021.20
Net Ordinary Income	0.00
Other Income/Expense Other Income 4250 · One & One Offering	25,600.00
Total Other Income	25,600.00
Other Expense 6550 · Missions 6550.2 · Hope Academy 6550.3 · Connection Network 6550.4 · Within Reach Global 6550.6 · Thrive Women	3,600.00 15,000.00 3,000.00 4,000.00
Total 6550 · Missions	25,600.00
Total Other Expense	25,600.00
Net Other Income	0.00
Net Income	0.00

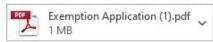
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#### Caution: External Message



### Fwd: Exempt property application for R272-18



Cristina Lawson <clawson@connection-rincon.com>

To Jennifer Keyes

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