

**By-Laws of
Crossroads Community Church
Current, 9/12/10**

Preamble to the By-Laws

This Christ-following church is a congregation which accepts the high standards for local churches as described in the New Testament and seeks the ideal "Acts Church" as its model. The congregation maintains the right to govern its own affairs, independent of any denominational control. Recognizing, however, the benefits of cooperation with other churches in world missions, this church voluntarily affiliates with the Screven Baptist Association, the South Carolina Baptist Convention, and the Southern Baptist Convention.

The mission of Crossroads Community Church is to obey the Great Commandment (Matthew 22:36-40) and fulfill the Great Commission (Matthew 28:19-20).

The purpose of Crossroads Community Church is "*To know Christ and make Him known, together.*"

Article I

The Name of the Church

The name of this church, a South Carolina non-profit corporation, shall be:

Crossroads Community Church
505 Gahagan Road
Summerville, SC 29485

Article II

Membership

- A. An individual who desires to become a member of the Crossroads Community Church congregation shall assure the elders of the following:
 - a. Jesus Christ is personally trusted as LORD and Savior by the candidate.
 - b. Faith in Jesus Christ is publicly affirmed by the candidate, resulting in baptism.
 - c. The Crossroads Community Church new members' class training has been completed and the membership agreement has been signed by the candidate.
- B. Upon the completion of the above membership requirements, the applicant shall be received as a member.
- C. To qualify as an eligible voting member in church meetings, a member must be at least 18 years of age at the time of the vote and not be under the constraints of church discipline.
- D. Eligible voting members will have the responsibility of voting on the following:
 - a. The purchase or sale of real property.
 - b. Committing to any collateralized debt.
 - c. Amending the By-Laws of the church.
 - d. The merger or dissolution of the church.
- E. Termination of membership.
 - a. The membership of any individual member shall be automatically terminated without notice if the member in question has not attended a regular worship service of the church in the preceding six months. Upon good cause being shown to the pastor, this provision for termination may be waived in the case of any individual member at the discretion of the pastor.
 - b. No member of this church may hold membership in another church. If any member unites in membership with another church, that person is automatically terminated without notice from membership in this church.
 - c. A member may resign at any time, but no letter of transfer or written statement of good standing will be issued upon such resignation, except at the discretion of the pastor.

**Article III
Meetings**

- A. The annual business meeting of the church shall be not later than the last week of

- December.
- B. Additional congregational meetings may be called at any time by the recommendation of the elders.
 - C. Notification of members for congregational meetings may be given by any of the following methods no less than two (2) weeks prior to the meeting:
 - a. Distribution of written or electronic materials and/or oral announcement at Sunday services.
 - b. Announcement of the meeting in church publications.
 - D. A quorum shall consist of 100 eligible voting members or 25% of the eligible voting members, whichever is the least at the time of the vote.
 - E. An affirmative vote shall be a simple majority.

Article IV Officers and Trustees

The officers of Crossroads Community Church shall be the elders and the trustees.

- A. Elders shall be selected through the following circumstances:
 - a. An elder shall be a male member of the congregation, who is called by God, according to his personal testimony.
 - b. He shall qualify by scripture (I Timothy 3:1-7; Titus 1:5-11; I Peter 5:1-4). This qualification shall be confirmed by examination of the ordained elders of the church.
 - c. Upon qualification by the ordained elders in one accord, he shall be examined by the congregation.
- B. The responsibilities of the elders are as follows:
 - a. To assert congregational leadership compatible with scripture (e.g., Luke 22:24-27; I Peter 5:1-5; Acts 20:17-32).
 - b. To determine church doctrines and oversee teaching.
 - c. To oversee congregational ministries and church discipline.
 - d. To select and ordain elders.
 - e. To select the trustees.
 - f. To select and ordain the pastor and other ministers.
- C. The term of service of an individual elder is limited by the following circumstances:
 - a. The call of God.
 - b. Resignation for personal reasons.
 - c. Disability or death.
 - d. A mandate of church discipline.
- D. There is no limit on the number of elders in service.
- E. All decisions of the elders shall be in one accord.
- F. The pastor shall serve as an ordained elder and, as such, serve as an officer with them.
- G. Three (3) elders shall serve as the trustees of the church. The pastor shall not be a trustee.
 - a. Each of the three trustees shall be selected by the ordained elders in one accord.
 - b. The trustees shall serve as the legal tenants of all church property, subject to the instructions of the elders.
 - c. The term of a trustee shall be indefinite, continuing by mutual agreement between the individual trustee and the elders; vacancies in the office of trustee shall be filled promptly.
 - d. The elders shall record the names of the three trustees annually in the minutes of the church business meeting.

Article V Discipline

The support of church discipline is the responsibility of every member of the congregation, in obedience to Christ. The discipline of church members and church leaders shall occur under the direction and oversight of the elders in a manner compatible with relevant scriptures. The goal of church discipline is restoration and reconciliation.

- A. The discipline of a member shall proceed in a manner compatible with relevant scriptures (e.g., Matthew 18:15-17 and I Corinthians 5:1-13).
- B. The discipline of elders shall proceed in a like manner, compatible with relevant scripture (e.g., Matthew 18:15-17; I Corinthians 5:1-13; I Timothy 5:19-22).
- C. Each member of the congregation shall hold himself to the strictest standard of New Testament conduct throughout the process (e.g., Galatians 6:1).

Article VI

Indemnification of Officers, Staff and Employees

Crossroads Community Church may purchase and maintain insurance on behalf of any church office, church elder, member of the church staff, minister or employee of the church, current or past, against any liability asserted against such person and incurred by such person in any such capacity, or arising out of such person's status as such, whether or not Crossroads Community Church would have the power or the obligation to indemnify the individual against such liability.

Article VII

Dissolution

- A. Crossroads Community Church shall be dissolved by an affirmative vote by eligible members in a congregational meeting.
- B. Upon an affirmative vote of dissolution, it shall be the responsibility of the elders, after paying or making provisions for payment of all liabilities of Crossroads Community Church, to transfer or convey all of the remaining assets of Crossroads Community Church to one or more non-profit domestic or foreign corporations, or non-profit organizations qualified to receive such assets within the meaning of Section 501(c)(3) of the code.

Article VIII

Amendments

These By-Laws may be amended in whole or in part, or may be replaced, upon the recommendation of the elders, provided that any such actions are approved by an affirmative vote of the congregation in a congregational meeting as set forth in Article III.

Amendments – (September, 2013)

- I. Consistent with biblical theology, this congregation recognizes marriage only as the legal union between one man and one woman as husband and wife. Ministers of this congregation are permitted to officiate only in marriage ceremonies compatible with this definition of marriage, and the facilities or property of this church are not available for ceremonies which do not qualify by this definition.