

Omnificent Church Management Institute, Inc.

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July 24, 1996

Rev. Samuel Cruz, Inc.
697 Union Street
Brooklyn, NY 11215

Dear Rev. Cruz:

I want to take this opportunity to add our name to the list of many who have offered you their congratulations on your new by-laws.

I am sure that your members and your trustee board are sharing in the joy of having their church by-laws. It is good to know that you are on your way towards achieving superior accomplishments.

Being in compliance means achieving a higher level of excellence. Your temporal officers such as trustees, secretary and treasurer will need to obtain specific knowledge which is pertinent to them to fulfill their positions. They need to be able and willing to learn for total success in the ministry. If you believe that God has entrusted you with his Ministry and your vision is focused on furthering God's ministry, OCMI is your management team. We will help you to achieve each level of excellence. We will teach your temporal officers how to manage the temporal entity of the Church as a business, we will teach the legal aspects and give you instructions that will assist you in the ministry. We will work with you until you receive full achievement and full success. The reason why some of our churches dissolves is not necessarily because the spirit of God is not their but maybe the spirit of intelligence and management was not their.

Omnificent Church Management Institute, Inc. is a team that works with the Church. OCMI specializes in Church and Clergy Policies. We will assist your church in reaching those levels of excellence that will give you the abilities and the options to obtain grants and other benefits that is available only to those organizations which are in compliance with the State and Federal Government.

Strong leadership and steadfast dedication to education will open new opportunities in your ministry.

Again, my sincere congratulations on your new by-laws.

Sincerely,

Dr. Jerry A. O. Graham.
Bishop Jerry A. O. Graham, BS, Th.D., Ph.D.

Enclosure

By-Laws
for
Latin American
Pentecostal Bible Church,
Inc.

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By-Laws
for
Latin American
Pentecostal Bible Church,
Inc.

Pursuant to Article 10 of the Religious Corporation Laws of the State
of New York

ARTICLE I

NAME AND PURPOSE OF ORGANIZATION:

- A.** This organization *shall* be known as *Latin American Pentecostal Bible Church, Inc.* Herein in these by-laws all reference to the "*Church*" *shall* refer to the *corporate and/or ecclesiastic entity* as appropriately applicable.
- B.** Said *Church shall* be composed of *members/non-members*. With It's sole objective and purpose dedicated to the *promulgating, publicizing and proclaiming* the *Gospel of Jesus Christ* locally, nationally and internationally in *obedience* to the *Great Commission* {*Matt. 28:19, 20; Mark 16:15-20*}. In this connection, members whom the church may judge qualified may be

assigned to appropriate offices in keeping with the object and purposes of the Church.

C. The *purpose* of the *Church* being *exclusively religious charitable*, and *benevolent* is as follows:

1. To establish and/or maintain one or more places of public worship/services and to promote, continue and encourage the assembly of persons, on regular basis, for divine worship and other religious observances and practices.
2. To provide a vehicle and institution for the preaching and teaching, of belief and faith in God.
3. To provide theological training.
4. To institute, participate in and/or support, all worthy activities and projects divinely inspired or assigned.
5. To *ordain*, *license* and *consecrate* individuals who possess the qualifications for ordinations.
6. The Corporation *shall* conduct any and all lawful activities that may be necessary, useful, or desirable for the furtherance or accomplishment of the foregoing purposes, provided that such activities would not endanger the Corporation's not-for-profit status.
7. *In furtherance of the foregoing purposes, the Corporation shall have all of the general powers enumerated in Section 202 of the Not-For-Profit Corporation Law together with the power to solicit grants and contributions for any corporate purpose.*

The Corporation shall have the right to exercise such other powers as now are, or hereafter may be, conferred by law upon a corporation organized for the purposes hereinabove set forth or necessary or incidental to the powers so conferred.

- D. Any funds received by the Corporation prior to the filing of these amendments *shall* be spent in accordance with the purposes of the Corporation as stated prior to these provisions *shall* be spent in accordance with the purposes as stated in this incorporation document.

Internal Revenue Services Provisions:

Federal Income Tax Exemption: Notwithstanding any other provisions of these articles, the corporation is organized exclusively for one or more of the purposes as specified in Section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986, and shall not carry on any activities not permitted to be carried on by a corporation exempt from Federal income tax under IRC Section 501(c)(3) or corresponding provisions of any subsequent Federal tax laws.

No Private Inurement: No part of the net earnings of the corporation shall inure to the benefit of any member, trustee, director, officer of the corporation, or any private individual (except that reasonable compensation may be paid for services rendered to or for the corporation), and no member, trustee, officer of the corporation or any private individual shall be entitled to share in the distribution of any of the corporate assets on dissolution of the corporation.

Lobbying and Participation in Political Campaigns: No substantial part of the activities of the corporation shall be carrying on propaganda, or otherwise attempting to influence legislation {except as otherwise provided by IRC Section 501(h)} or participating in, or intervening in (including the publication or distribution of

statements), any political campaign on behalf of any candidates for public office.

Federal Excise Taxes: In any taxable year in which the corporation is a private foundation as described in IRC Section 509(a), the corporation shall distribute its income for said period at such time and manner as not to subject it to tax under IRC Section 4942, and the corporation shall not (a) engage in any act of self-dealing as defined in IRC Section 4941(d), retain any excess business holdings as defined IRC Section 4943(c), (b) make any investments in such manner as to subject the corporation to tax under IRC Section 4944, or (c) make any taxable expenditures as defined in IRC Section 4945(d) or corresponding provisions of any subsequent Federal tax laws.

Dissolution: In the event of dissolution, all of the remaining assets and property of the corporation shall, after necessary expenses thereof, be distributed to another organization exempt under IRC Section 501(c)(3), or corresponding provisions of any subsequent Federal tax laws, or to the Federal government, or state or local government for a public purpose, subject to the approval of a Justice of the Supreme Court of the State of New York.

Federal and State Tax Requirements:

1 Peter 2:13&15~ 13. Submit yourselves to every ordinance of man for the Lord's sake: whether it be to the King, as supremel; 15. For so is the will of God that with well doing ye may put to silence the ignorance of foolish men:

The Church:

Shall be classified as the employer, The Pastor, Assistant Pastor, Ministers, Members, Non-Members, and all others that this church has control and/or rule over will be classified as a employee.

If any person{s} that are not sure which classification that they should file under, allow the Internal Revenue Service to make that decision by filing form SS-8.

It is however recommended that the Pastor be classified as an employee instead of self employment for withholdings of Federal/State Income taxes.

The Pastor will be responsible for filing and reporting his/her own self employment taxes.

All employees employed by this church will be issued in the beginning of their employment form W-4, and It 2104.

The church will issue no later then January 31, of each calendar year a W-2 form to each employee.

ARTICLE II

A. LOCATION:

- i. The principal place of worship of the Church is:
697 Union Street
Brooklyn, NY 11215*

B. MEMBERSHIP:

- i. The membership consists of persons acknowledging a sincere desire to live a consistent **Christian life**, who have accepted **Jesus Christ** as their personal savior; and who agree to abide by the by-laws and other rules and regulations of the church. Said persons may become members upon request/approval.*

- ii.* Every member may be eligible to vote for officers of the church at election meetings. Providing all persons who are then members in good and regular standing of such church by admission into full communion or membership therewith in accordance with the rules and regulations thereof, and of the governing ecclesiastic body, if any and who have regularly contributed to the financial support thereof.
- iii.* Member{s}/non-member{s} may be *expelled* for *violation* of the *by-laws*, or other conduct contrary to the standards of the church. Expulsion will be effective only after member{s}/non-member{s} has had an opportunity for a hearing before the Pastor/President and the Executive Board, and if the member{s}/non-member{s} refuses to make amends for misconduct.
- iv.* There may be an annual membership meeting held at which time there may be an election of officers of all boards/groups; calendar set up for ensuing year, and other business. Meetings to resolve situation that arise currently may be called by the Pastor/President at any time he/she deems necessary.
- v.* No member of this ministry and/or any other ministries which is associated with this ministry ***will not*** allow any person{s}, any group{s} of homosexuals, lesbians, bi-sexuals, medically sex change, and any other sexual preferences which are ***prohibited*** and ***abominatable*** to God {*Leviticus 20th chapter*} ***will not*** hold any ecclesiastical or temporal titles/positions, and ***will not*** join any auxillaries, such as: usher board, choir, etc.

Such sexual preference *will not* be accepted or permitted in this ministry. A person{s} with such a sexual preference *will* be allowed to remain in a regular church service. Under no circumstances *will* these person{s} who portray these sexual preferences be allowed to be joined together by means of ceremony and/or holy matrimony by this organization, and any other organizations that is associated with this organization. Such person{s} who protrays these preference{s} *shall* be delivered first by God and recognized and acknowledged by the Pastor and the ecclesiastical board before said person{s} *may* be able to fully participate in all church activities.

ARTICLE III

A. DUES AND REVENUES:

- i. The church will derive all of its' revenue from tithes, free-will offerings, donations, fund raisings, and any other legal means.*
- ii. Each member will be required to contribute regularly to the support of the churches.*

ARTICLE IV

NATURE OF THE ORGANIZATION:

The Church which is a *not-for-profit (non-pecuniary)* religious body *shall* be supported by free-will voluntary tithes, offerings, and all other legal means by its

member{s}/non-member{s}. Building funds and/or property received *shall* be constituted as property for the organization and *shall* be handled in all respects like other property of *Latin American Pentecostal Bible Church, Inc.*, in order to foster, extend, spread the gospel to all nations.

ARTICLE V

ORGANIZATION AND ADMINISTRATION

The Church shall have:

- A. a Pastor/President as its spiritual leader or Moderator;
- B. a Secretary/Treasurer;
- C. an Executive Committee Board;
- D. All officers may be recommended by the Pastor/President and presented to the Executive Committee Board for ratification and appointment. Such term of office may be one {1} year, whereupon a successor may be elected. The Pastor/President may appoint officers only in emergency situations for a term not to exceed three {3} months.

ARTICLE VI

ECCLESIASTICAL OFFICERS:

I. OFFICERS

- a. The spiritual officers of the Church *shall* be the *Pastor, Assistant to the Pastor, Ordained Deacons, Ordained Elders, Ordained Evangelist, Licensed Ministers, Licensed Missionaries.*
- b. The operation of the *Pastor, Assistant to the Pastor Ordained Deacons, Ordained Elders, Ordained Evangelist, Licensed Ministers and Missionaries, shall* be in accordance with the rules and regulations of the church.

The Pastor

Scripture: *Jeremiah 3:15:* And I will give you pastors according to mine heart, which shall feed you with knowledge and understanding.

Purpose(s): To provide spiritual nourishment to the congregation and others. To institute and participate in all worthy activities, both ecclesiastical and temporal as they pertain to the institution of the church and its purposes.

Qualifications: The *Pastor shall* have an unquestionable, unmentionable and unequivocal measure of spirituality and leadership traits. The Pastor must be either ordained, licensed, or commissioned. The *Pastor shall* be highly motivated, dedicated, devoted and faithful to the Church and to its members and others. The *Pastor shall* be well versed, able to communicate well and able to consult. The Pastor must be sensitive to the members, and others spiritual and physical needs.

Duties/Responsibilities: *Jeremiah 23:4* And I will set up shepherd over them which shall feed them: and they *shall* fear

no more, nor be dismayed, neither shall they be lacking, saith the Lord.

To Proclaim the gospel, lead church members in the proclamation of the gospel in the church and community. Provide administration leadership to guide the church in the attainment of it's divine mission. Provide leadership for congregational service and lead in conducting the church ordinances such as The Lord's Supper, Baptism, Baby Dedication, Ordination Services, Wedding Ceremonies Services, Funeral Services. Work closely with all organizations in their training and performance in their work for caring and building up of the church fellowship. Supervise church staff members according to plan of staff organization, and provide for staff training and development. The Pastor should be punctual, and preach faithfully.

Power: The ***Pastor shall*** have spiritual charge over the congregation and others. The Pastor may preside, or appoint a representative to preside at all corporate membership meetings. In case of a tie vote at such meetings, the ***Pastor/President may have an additional vote.***

The Pastor's length of office shall be prescribed by the contractual agreement.

The relationship between the Pastor and this organization shall always remain employer and employee.

For income tax purposes the Pastor ***shall*** always be treated as a employee, and will be issued a W-4, IT2104 in the beginning of employment, no later then January 31, of each calendar year a W-2 will be issued.

The Pastor status as a employee may be determine by the Internal Revenue Service by using form SS-8.

The Pastor *shall* be responsible for filing his/her own tax returns for the Federal as well as the State.

The Pastor can elect to be exempt from Social Security withholdings by filing form 4361 but will be explained the procedures.

The Pastor will be responsible for reporting, filing, and paying all income not related directly to his daily responsibilities as prescribed in the contractual agreement.

Assistant Pastor

The Assistant to the Pastor, may be appointed by the Pastor, and may serve in the absence of the Pastor, in spiritual matters and other matters as directed by the Pastor.

Ordained Deacon/Deaconess

Scripture: *1Timothy 3:8:* Likewise *must* the deacons be grave, not doubletongued, not given to much wine, not greedy of filthy lucre;

Purpose(s): To demonstrate the ability to rule well at home and in the church, to handle situations effecting the ecclesiastical administration as well as the temporal administration to assist the Pastor when ever needed and/or call to.

Qualifications: The *Deacon/Deaconess* primary responsibility to the Church is the ecclesiastical administration. The Deacon/Deaconess is an example setter. *Shall* have the ability to encourage non-members to actively fellowship in the church.

Duties/Responsibility:

- i. inviting strangers;
- ii. encouraging the unsaved;
- iii. exercising and maintaining order among the brethren;
- iv. visiting the sick;
- v. when a building is involved it is the duty of the *Deacon/Deaconess* {being custodian of the keys} to maintain, observe, organize, regulate the structural integrity {keeping clean and sanitary} of such building, its heating, air-conditioning, and other utilities. Advising the Pastor of present and future building codes that will effect the certificate of occupancy of the church.
- vi. *Deacon/Deaconess* is not to be easily swayed or influenced by other organizations into embarking upon individual visits to such groups or bodies, but should inform such person of the proper channel of fellowship, such as a formal invitation to the church for consideration.
- vii. as a *Deacon/Deaconess* let the order of the day be "Courtesy at all times to visitors." Warmth and

kindness will surely enhance the status of the Deacon-Deaconess and uphold the requirements of the Great Commission {God}.

Ordained Elder/Eldress

Scripture: *1 Peter 5:2:* Feed the flock of God which is among you, taking the oversight thereof, not by constraint, but willingly, not for filthy lucre, but of a ready mind.

Purpose(s): To provide spiritual guidance to Church members and others with first approval of the pastor. To institute, implement, and incorporate spiritual furtherance. To motivate and encourage Christology to members and others.

Qualifications: *1 Timothy 5:17:* Let the elders that rule well be counted worthy of double honour, especially they who labour in the word and doctrine. *II Timothy 4:2:* Preach the word' be instant in season, out of season; reprove, rebuke, exhort with all longsuffering and doctrine. *Ephesians 6:13:* Wherefore take unto you the whole armour of God, that ye may be able to withstand in the evil day, and having done all, to stand. *Ephesians 6:16-17:* ¹⁶Above all, taking the shield of faith, wherewith ye shall be able to quench all the fiery darts of the wicked. ¹⁷And take the helmet of salvation, and the sword of the Spirit, which is the word of God.

The Elder/Eldress shall be experienced, and have a just measure of wisdom. The Elder/Eldress shall be biblically knowledged. Must be ordained by a Bishop, may be ordained by another Elder.

Duties/Responsibilities: The Elder/Eldress must be able to administer spiritual as well as temporal advice. The Elder/Eldress must be able to stand in when the Pastor is

unavailable through illness or pertinent duties to an emergency. The Elder/Eldress can also fill the role as the Assistant to the Pastor. The Elder/Eldress must be able to provide theological training. The Elder/Eldress may have the responsibility of performing marriages, baby dedications, baptisms, funerals, and other activities spiritual or assigned.

Ordained Evangelist

Scripture: *2 Timothy 4:5:* But watch thou in all things, endure afflictions, do the work of an evangelist, make full proof of thy ministry.

Purposes: To bring all persons into living active fellowship with God, Through Jesus Christ as the only living Savior and Lord, and through the regenerating of the Holy Spirit. To be able to do God's work nationally, internationally and foreign abroad.

Qualifications: He or she must have an unquestionable measure of spirituality, an example to the flock and a devoted helper and assistant in the church. Length of service in the ministry, Religious experience. Personal assessment spiritually, Academic attainment biblically.

Duties/Responsibilities: The scope of the Evangelist is somewhat beyond the bounds of the church. Such duties may entail special operations, such as being assigned as a helper in needy fields and standing in where a pastor is unavailable through illness or pertinent duties to an emergency. The Evangelist can also fill the roll as assistant to the pastor. Prior to appointment, the Evangelist shall meet the full requirements of the Deacon/Deaconess.

Advancement to an Evangelist will depend on:

- A. length of service;
- B. experience;
- C. personal assessment spiritually and;
- D. academic attainment, biblically.

License Minister

Scripture: *1 Timothy 4:6:* If thou put the brethren in remembrance of these things, thou shalt be a good minister of Jesus Christ, nourished up in the words of faith and of good doctrine, whereunto thou hast attained.

Purposes: To provide support to the Christian Ministry. To be an example to Church members and others. To be dedicated, devoted, and faithful in the ministry of Jesus Christ. To be motivated, and to have the love of Jesus Christ in the heart.

Qualifications: The Minister *shall* be able to counsel the youth. The Minister *shall* be a good example. The Minister must have a good measure of spirituality and faith. The Minister *shall* be able to be a leader as needed. The Minister *shall* be able to take rebuke, reproof, correction and instruction. The Minister *shall* not be a novice.

Duties/Responsibilities: The Minister must be able to preach. The Minister must be able to spread the Gospel. The Minister must be able to teach. The Minister must be faithful. The Minister must be a spiritual watchperson.

Licensed Missionary

Scripture: *Acts 13:2:* As they ministered to the Lord, and fasted, the Holy Ghost said, Separate me Barnabas and Saul for the work whereunto I have called them.

Purposes: To visit the sick in homes and/or hospitals. To exercise the gifts in the work of this particular ministry wherever the duty may demand. To exercise all duties pertinent to this office.

Qualifications: The Missionary *shall* be able to counsel. The Missionary *shall* be a good example. The Missionary *shall* have a good measure of spirituality and faith. The Missionary *shall* be able to take rebuke, reproof, correction and instruction.

Duties/Responsibilities: The Missionary must be compassionate. The Missionary must be understanding. The Missionary must be spiritually receptive. The Missionary must be a spiritual laborer. The Missionary must be a spiritual guide. Collect funds and food to supply assistance and baskets for the needy. Visit the sick and offer prayer. To send comforting cards and supply assistance to bereaved families.

c. Credentials

The Credentials given are:

1. Deacon/Deaconess;
2. Elder/Eldress;
3. Evangelist;
4. Minister;
5. Missionary.

ARTICLE VII

TEMPORAL/CORPORATE OFFICERS:

The corporate officers of the church *shall* be the Trustees, President, Secretary, Assistant to the Secretary, Treasurer and Assistant to the Treasurer.

TRUSTEES

Purpose: One who is motivated, dedicated, devoted, has the love for and faithful to the position of a Trustee whether appointed or elected. One who is able and/or willing to learn about the pertinent duties, responsibilities and liabilities of becoming a trustee. A Trustee must be trustworthy, loyal, honest, and professional.

Qualifications: One who is well experience in the area of directing, and managing an organization. One who is able to attest signatures, one who is able to co-sign for the organization. One who have a good to excellent credit profile.

Duties/Responsibilities: The Trustees may have custody and control of all church assets, and *shall* have the power to disburse revenues as necessary upon the approval of the Pastor/President. The Trustees may have control of all temporal matters and/or situations.

- a. The number of trustees of the church *shall* be three {3}.
- b. Trustees may be elected to hold office one {1} year. Trustees may succeed themselves.

- c. The Board of Trustees of *Latin American Pentecostal Bible Church, Inc.* shall consist of *three {3}* members, but said number may be changed, in accordance with the provisions of the Religious Corporation Law without amending this By-Law. The duration shall be in accordance with the Certificate Of Incorporation.
- d. The Board of Trustees have voted and agreed that, *Pastor Samuel Cruz and Maribel Gerena shall* be the signers on all bank account for *Latin American Pentecostal Bible Church, Inc.*

PRESIDENT

Purposes: The President shall be the overseer of the temporal entity of the Church. One who is placed in authority over others; a chief officer, a presiding or managing officer.

Qualifications: One who is experience in organizations daily operations, one who is knowledgeable in not-for-profits, and religious organizations. One who is academically inclined one who is able to take charge and who have signs of leadership traits

Duties/Responsibilities: The *President shall* have reasonable authority over the temporal officers and decisions which affect the corporate entity of the Church. The President shall demonstrate leadership abilities at all times.

SECRETARY

Purposes: The Secretary may keep minutes of all corporate membership meetings, keep the roll of members and discharge other duties pertinent to said office at the Pastor's request.

Qualifications: Must be business oriented, must be dedicated, devoted, and faithful in the position of secretary must have a good measure of academic knowledge, must be willing to work for God.

Duties/Responsibilities: One who desires the position of secretary regardless if appointed or elected. One who is able and/or willing to learn about the duties pertinent, responsibilities and liabilities of becoming a Secretary.

ASSISTANT SECRETARY

One who may be appointed by the President/Secretary and/or elected. One who is able to fulfill the position of Secretary when the he/she is unavailable. One who is able to assist the Secretary.

TREASURER

Purposes: The Treasurer must be to the highest integrity, and may have care of all church funds, and keep accurate records of all receipts, disbursements, and deposits in books belonging to the church.

Qualifications: Must fear God. Must have the highest level of integrity and honesty. Must be trustworthy. Must have accounting and bookkeeping knowledge. Must have payroll experience or willing to learn. Must be a professional.

Duties/Responsibilities: One who desires the position of treasurer regardless if appointed or elected. One who is able and/or willing to learn about the duties pertinent, responsibilities and liabilities of becoming a Treasurer.

ASSISTANT TREASURER

One who may be appointed by the President/Treasurer and/or elected. One who is able to fill the positions of Treasurer when he/she is unavailable. One who is able to assist the Treasurer.

EXECUTIVE BOARD

It *shall* be called into session by the Pastor/President. The Board may, in addition to its administrative and organizational role, appoint subsidiary boards and committees as the need arises. *Shall* maintain and seek to uphold the spiritual discipline and integrity of the Organization. The Board may meet from time to time to examine, discuss and dispose of any matter that may affect the Organization.

DEPARTMENTS AND AUXILIARIES

The church *shall* include varied auxiliaries, committees, and departments to enhance the organized function of the church. *All moneys and assets received* by these groups *immediately become the property of the church*. The leaders of these groups *may* be elected by a majority vote of the membership.

The following are to be functionary:

1. Sunday School;
2. Youth Ministry;
3. Missionary Board;
4. Ushers Board;
5. Building Fund;
6. Choir Board;
7. Charity Board.

ARTICLE VIII

A. **DENOMINATION AFFILIATION:**

This church is an *independent* non-denomination organization, but may *affiliate* with other non-denomination{s}/denomination{s}, but at all times affiliation *shall* be *voluntary*, in accordance with and as governed by the *Certificate of Incorporation* of this church.

B. **RULES AND REGULATIONS:**

The Pastor/President and the Board of Trustees may enforce or repeal rules and regulations for the proper functioning of the church.

C. **APPLICABILITY OF BY-LAWS:**

Nothing contained in these *by-laws shall* in any way limit or curtail the *ecclesiastical power* and *authority of the Pastor*, nor *shall* these by-laws in any way change the basic functioning of the church as determined by and indicated in the *Holy Bible* {King James Version}.

D. **REQUIREMENTS:**

No preachers may be licensed to preach in this Church unless he/she has at least a normal school education, a working knowledge of the Bible, knowledge of the doctrine and principles of the Church, have good moral character and have sufficient motivation to work diligently.

E. AMENDMENTS:

- 1. The provisions of this Article, subdivision C, may not, in substance, be changed, altered or repealed.**
2. These by-laws may otherwise be amended at any regularly scheduled or special meeting, provided that a summary or outline of the proposed amendments shall have been made available to the membership at least three {3} weeks prior to the meeting when the said proposed amendment is to be voted on.
3. *No amendment shall, however, authorize the Church to engage in any activities, the purpose or nature of which would prevent the Church from qualifying as an exempt organization under Section 501{C}{3} of the United States Internal Revenue Code or the successor to such provision in force at that time.*

F. *The Gospel Doctrine and Fellowship According To The Bible.*

The basis of our Creed, Discipline, Rules of Order and Doctrine is the *Word of God* {Holy Bible} as taught and revealed by the Holy Ghost. {*John 14:26; I Cor. 2:9-13*}.

“All scripture is given by the inspiration of God, and is profitable for doctrine, for reproof, for correction, for instruction in righteousness: That the man of God may be perfect, thoroughly furnished unto all good works” {2 Tim. 3:16-17}. We stand for all Scriptures, rightly divided.

IX. GOVERNMENT AND DECORUM:

1. This Organization shall be known as a *Congregational Theocracy {Government}* matters relative to policy and government within the Church shall first be submitted to the Church/President and/or Executive Board for examination and subsequent investigation where necessary by the appropriate authority. Should a query justify a debate, it must first be confirmed in the general conference by an overall two-third majority.
2. Every motion introduced and seconded *shall* be held for observation unless such a motion is withdrawn by its originator.
3. In session, any member who speaks in a debate *shall* rise from his or her seat and address the chair {Moderator}, and that speaker *shall* not be interrupted during his or her speech unless there is an obvious departure from the question under review.
4. No one person *shall* speak more than three {3} times on the same question without leave {order} of the conference.
5. A member *shall* not have the liberty of laughing or whispering during the time of public speaking by another member.
6. No member *shall* abruptly break away or absent him or herself from a conference without permission from the Moderator.
7. The Moderator *shall* not vote unless the house is equally divided, and *shall* be entitled to the privilege of speaking as any other member.
8. It is the Executive Board's duty to meet quarterly in conference, and if any member *shall* fail to attend two regular meetings in succession, without some lawful excuse, he or she

will be under the censure {official reprimand} of the Executive Board.

9. It shall be the duty of the Secretary or Assistant Secretary to keep a true record of all the proceedings of a conference.
10. All Church business *shall* remain within the Church barriers. Church business should not be discussed with *any outside sources*.

CONSTITUTED BELIEFS

A. *ARTICLES OF FAITH {14}*

1. *We believe* in One True and living *God*, and that there are Three Persons existing in the *Godhead* - the Father, the Son, and the Holy Ghost.
2. *We believe* that the scriptures of the Old and the New Testament are *God's* inspired Word, and that they are the only rule of faith and practice.
3. *We believe* that *Jesus* is the only *begotten Son of God the Father*, that He was conceived of the *Holy Ghost*, born of the Virgin Mary, that He was crucified, buried, resurrected from the dead, ascended into heaven and now is at *God* the Father's right hand as man's Intercessor.
4. *We believe* in the doctrine of original sin, and that man is unable to recover himself from the fallen state he is in by nature.

5. *We believe* that repentance is commanded of God and necessary for forgiveness of sins.
6. *We believe* that all have sinned; that justification, regeneration and the new birth are wrought by faith in the blood of *Jesus Christ*.
7. *We believe* that holiness is *God's* standard of living for His people; and that there is eternal life for the righteous and everlasting punishment for the wicked.
8. *We believe* in the baptism with the *Holy Ghost* and that subsequent speaking with other tongues is the initial evidence.
9. *We believe* in water baptism by immersion, and all who truly repent are consequently *baptized* in the *name* of *the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Ghost*.
10. *We believe* that Divine healing is included in *God's* plan of Salvation.
11. *We believe* in the observance of the Lord's Supper.
12. *We believe* in tithing and giving to be the sole Scriptural means of supporting *God's* cause on earth.
13. *We believe* in the Pre-millennial Second Coming of *Jesus Christ*; the resurrection of the righteous dead and the catching-away of the living saints in the air; and the reign on earth a thousand years.

14. We believe that *Jehovah {Yahweh} God* of the Old Testament is *Lord Jesus Christ* of the New Testament. The scriptural evidence of the unity of *Jehovah God* and *Lord Jesus Christ* proves oneness.

B. TENETS OF FAITH {25}

1. Repentance *Mark 1:15; Luke 13:3; Acts 3:19*
2. Justification *Roman 4:1-9; Titus 3:7*
3. Regeneration *Matt. 19:28; Titus 3:5*
4. New Birth *John 3:3; 1 Pet. 1:23; 1 John 3:9*
5. Sanctification *1 Cor. 1:30; 1 Thess. 4:3;*
 Heb 13:12; 1 John 1:9
6. Holiness *Luke 1:74, 75; 1 Thess. 4:7; Heb. 12:14*
7. Water Baptism *Matt. 28:19; Mark 1:8-10; John 3:22-23;*
 Acts 2:38; 8:12-13,16; 36-38; 10:47- 48;
 16:33;19:3-5
8. Baptism with *Matt. 3:11; Luke 24:49-53; Acts 1:4-8;*
Holy Ghost *19: 5-6*
{the Endowment
with power}
9. Speaking in *Acts 2:4; 10:44-46; 19:6*
other Tongues
as the Spirit
gives utterance
10. Spiritual Gifts *1 Cor. 12:1, 7-10, 28, 31; 14:1*
11. Signs following *Mark 16:17-20; Rom. 15:18-19;*

- Believers *Heb 2:4*
12. Fruit of the Spirit *Rom. 6:22; Gal. 5:22-23; Eph. 5:9; Phil. 1:11*
13. Divine Healing for all in the Atonement *Psalm 103:3; Isa. 53:4-5; James 5:14-16*
14. The Lord's Supper *Luke 22:17-20; 1 Cor. 11:22-33*
15. Tithing and Giving *Gen. 14:18-20; 28:20-22; Mal. 3:10; Matt. 23:23; Luke 11:42; 1 Cor. 16:2; 2 Cor. 9:6-9; Heb. 7:1-21*
16. Restitution where possible *Matt. 3:8; Luke 19:8-9; Rom. 13:8*
17. Pre-millennial Second Coming of Christ *Psa. 49:15; 71:20; Hos. 13:14; John. 5:25; 6:40; 11:25; Acts 24:15; 1 Cor. 15:22; 2 Cor. 4:14; 1 Thes. 4:16*
- To Resurrect the dead saints and to catch away the living saints to meet Him in the air; *Matt. 24:27-28; 1 Cor. 15:51-52; 1 Thess. 4:14-17*
- To reign on earth a thousand years *Rev. 20:4-6*
18. Resurrection *Isa. 26:19; Dan. 12:2; John 5:28-29;*

- Acts 24:15; Rev. 20:5, 6*
19. Eternal Life *Matt. 25:46; Luke 18:30; John 10:28;*
for the *Rom. 6:22; 1 John 5:11-13*
Righteous
20. Eternal *Matt. 25:41-46; Mark 3:29; 2 Thess. 1:8-9;*
Punishment *Rev. 20:10-15; Rev. 21:8*
for the wicked
21. Total abstinence *Prov. 20:1; 23:29-32; Isa. 28:7; 1 Cor.*
from liquor or *5:11; 1 Cor. 6:10; Gal. 5:21*
strong drinks
22. Against the use *2 Cor. 7:1; Eph. 5:3-8; James 1:21*
of Tobacco in
any form,
opium, etc.
23. Against *Isa. 52:2; 1 Peter 3:3; 1 John 2:16*
members
wearing
ornaments
excessively
for decoration
24. Against Lodges *Matt. 5:34; John 18:20; 2 Cor. 6:14-17;*
and Secret *James 5:12*
orders
25. Against *Matt. 5:34; James 5:12*
Swearing

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The foregoing by-laws were adopted by the membership of *Latin American Pentecostal Bible Church, Inc.* located at *697 Union Street, City/Town of Brooklyn, County of Kings, State of New York* on the *23rd* day of *July, 1996*.

Samuel Cruz, Pastor

Maribel Gerena, Secretary

JerryAnthony O. Graham

NOTARY PUBLIC

STATE OF NEW YORK :
: SS :
COUNTY OF *SUFFOLK* :

I, *JerryAnthony O. Graham*, a Notary Public for said *County* and *State*, do hereby certify that *Pastor Samuel Cruz* and *Maribel Gerena* of *Latin American Pentecostal Bible Church, Inc.* personally appeared before me this *23rd* day of *July, 1996* and acknowledged the due execution of the foregoing instrument.