

**Articles of Amendment to the Articles of Incorporation  
Evangelical Free Church of Arthur  
Ida County, State of Iowa**

These Articles of Amendment are made pursuant to Iowa Code §504.1003(2), adopted by the members on receipt of a higher percentage of an affirmative vote registered in the minutes of the Corporation. The Articles of Amendment are effective as of the date of filing same with the Secretary of State of Iowa. Said Amendment is as follows:

**Preamble**

We, the members of the Evangelical Free Church of Arthur, in order to fulfill the commission given by the Lord Jesus Christ to His church, do establish the following constitution to which we voluntarily submit ourselves.

**Article I  
[Name of Corporation]**

The name of this corporation shall be the Evangelical Free Church of Arthur.

**Article II  
[Purpose of Corporation]**

This body of believers exists to present Jesus Christ as Savior and Lord and to provide a biblical environment in which Christians flourish in the community of faith, first locally, then globally.

**Article III  
[Statement of Faith]**

The Evangelical Free Church of America (EFCA) Statement of Faith adopted in 2008 shall be that of the Evangelical Free Church of Arthur.

*God*

1. We believe in one God, Creator of all things, holy, infinitely perfect, and eternally existing in a loving unity of three equally divine Persons: the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit. Having limitless knowledge and sovereign power, God has graciously purposed from eternity to redeem a people for Himself and to make all things new for His own glory.

*The Bible*

2. We believe that God has spoken in the Scriptures, both Old and New Testaments, through the words of human authors. As the verbally inspired Word of God, the Bible is without error in the original writings, the complete revelation of His will for salvation, and the ultimate authority by which every realm of human knowledge and endeavor should be judged. Therefore, it is to be believed in all that it teaches, obeyed in all that it requires, and trusted in all that it promises.

### *The Human Condition*

3. We believe that God created Adam and Eve in His image, but they sinned when tempted by Satan. In union with Adam, human beings are sinners by nature and by choice, alienated from God, and under His wrath. Only through God's saving work in Jesus Christ can we be rescued, reconciled and renewed.

### *Jesus Christ*

4. We believe that Jesus Christ is God incarnate, fully God and fully man, one Person in two natures. Jesus--Israel's promised Messiah--was conceived through the Holy Spirit and born of the virgin Mary. He lived a sinless life, was crucified under Pontius Pilate, arose bodily from the dead, ascended into heaven and sits at the right hand of God the Father as our High Priest and Advocate.

### *The Work of Christ*

5. We believe that Jesus Christ, as our representative and substitute, shed His blood on the cross as the perfect, all-sufficient sacrifice for our sins. His atoning death and victorious resurrection constitute the only ground for salvation.

### *The Holy Spirit*

6. We believe that the Holy Spirit, in all that He does, glorifies the Lord Jesus Christ. He convicts the world of its guilt. He regenerates sinners, and in Him they are baptized into union with Christ and adopted as heirs in the family of God. He also indwells, illuminates, guides, equips and empowers believers for Christ-like living and service.

### *The Church*

7. We believe that the true church comprises all who have been justified by God's grace through faith alone in Christ alone. They are united by the Holy Spirit in the body of Christ, of which He is the Head. The true church is manifest in local churches, whose membership should be composed only of believers. The Lord Jesus mandated two ordinances, baptism and the Lord's Supper, which visibly and tangibly express the gospel. Though they are not the means of salvation, when celebrated by the church in genuine faith, these ordinances confirm and nourish the believer.

### *Christian Living*

8. We believe that God's justifying grace must not be separated from His sanctifying power and purpose. God commands us to love Him supremely and others sacrificially, and to live out our faith with care for one another, compassion toward the poor and justice for the oppressed. With God's Word, the Spirit's power, and fervent prayer in Christ's name, we are to combat the spiritual forces of evil. In obedience to Christ's commission, we are to make disciples among all people, always bearing witness to the gospel in word and deed.

### *Christ's Return*

9. We believe in the personal, bodily and premillennial return of our Lord Jesus Christ. The coming of Christ, at a time known only to God, demands constant expectancy and, as our blessed hope, motivates the believer to godly living, sacrificial service and energetic mission.

*Response and Eternal Destiny*

10. We believe that God commands everyone everywhere to believe the gospel by turning to Him in repentance and receiving the Lord Jesus Christ. We believe that God will raise the dead bodily and judge the world, assigning the unbeliever to condemnation and eternal conscious punishment and the believer to eternal blessedness and joy with the Lord in the new heaven and the new earth, to the praise of His glorious grace. Amen.

**Article IV**  
**[Membership]**

Anyone who confesses saving faith in the Lord Jesus Christ, whose conduct is in accord with this profession, who supports the Statement of Faith in Article III, who is committed to the practices of this church, who is willing to support the church in attendance, prayers, giving and service, and who has reached the age of 14 years may apply for membership in this church. Any member sixteen years of age and over shall have the right to vote in all business sessions of the church except in matters where the legal age is required. Membership procedures are defined in the bylaws of this church.

**Article V**  
**[Church Governance]**

The affairs of this church shall be managed by the designated officers, subject to the authority of the congregation. The bylaws define these officers, their election and terms of office.

**Article VI**  
**[Principles of Property]**

1. This church shall have the power to receive, either by gift or purchase, and to hold such real, personal, or mixed property as is authorized by the laws of the State of Iowa and as is deemed necessary for the business of the church, and shall have the power to dispose of such property by mortgage, deed or otherwise. All property shall be held in the name of the church. All purchases or sales of real estate must be approved by a majority vote of the membership in a business meeting as defined in the bylaws.
2. All debts of the church shall be held in the name of the church. The personal and private property of the officers or members of this corporation shall not be used in the payment of the church's debt.
3. In the event of the division of the church membership (which may the grace of God forbid), the property of the church shall belong to that portion of its membership who abides by its constitution and bylaws. In case the church membership dissolves and ceases to be a functioning corporation, the property of the church shall automatically become the property of the Central District of the Evangelical Free Church of America.

**Article VII**  
**[Amendments]**

Any amendments to this constitution shall not be made except at the regular annual business meeting of the church and by a seventy-five percent (75%) majority vote, with a quorum of sixty percent (60%) of the active membership. Active membership is defined in the bylaws of this church under the membership section. Any such proposed change shall be presented at any business meeting of the church at least three months prior to the annual meeting.

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Any previous constitution of this church automatically becomes void with the adoption of this constitution.

Adopted December 10, 2017