Amended and Fully Restated Bylaws

EAST HILLS COMMUNITY CHURCH OF RIVERSIDE, INCORPORATED

East Hills Community Church (EHCC) is affiliated with the Reformed Church in America (RCA). By virtue of that affiliation East Hills Community Church subscribes to the policies and structure of the RCA to the extent they are depicted in the Book of Church Order of The Reformed Church in America.

ARTICLE 1. NAME

Sec. A. The name of this corporation is East Hills Community Church of Riverside, Incorporated.

Sec. B. This church shall be known as East Hills Community Church.

ARTICLE 2. OFFICES

Sec. A. Principal Office - The principal office for the transaction of the activities and affairs of the corporation ("principal office") is located at 20660 Orange Terrace Parkway, Riverside, California 92508, Riverside County, California. The Board of Directors ("the Board") may change the principal office from one location to another. Any change of location of the principal office shall be noted by the Secretary on these Bylaws opposite this section, or this section may be amended to state the new location.

Sec. B. Other Offices - The Board may at any time, establish a branch of subordinate offices at any place or places where the corporation is qualified to conduct its activities.

ARTICLE 3. PURPOSE AND LIMITATIONS

Sec. A. Purposes - This Corporation is a nonprofit religious corporation and is not organized for the private gain of any person. It is organized under the California Nonprofit Religious Corporation Law for religious purposes. This corporation is organized exclusively for religious purposes within the meaning of Section 501(c) (3) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 (or the corresponding provision of any future United States Internal Revenue Law). Notwithstanding any other provision of these Bylaws, this corporation shall not, except to an insubstantial degree, carry on or engage in any activities or exercise any powers that are not in furtherance of the purposes of this corporation, and the corporation shall not carry on any other activities not permitted to be carried on (i) by a corporation exempt from Federal income tax under Section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 (or the corresponding provision of any future United States Internal Revenue Law); (ii) by a corporation, contributions to which are deductible under Section 170(c)(2) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 (or the corresponding provision of any future United States Internal Revenue Law).
Sec. B. Limitations

Sec. B.1. Political Activity - No substantial part of the activities of this corporation shall consist of carrying on propaganda, or otherwise attempting to influence legislation, and this corporation shall not participate in or intervene in (including the publishing or distributing of statements in connection with) any political campaign on behalf of any candidate for public office.

Sec. B.2. Property - The property, assets, profits and net income are dedicated irrevocably to the purposes set forth in Article 3 Sec. A above. No part of the profits or net earnings of this corporation shall ever inure to the benefit of any of its Directors, trustees, officers, members (if any), employees, or to the benefit of any private individual.

Sec. B.3. Dissolution - Upon the winding up and dissolution of this corporation, after paying or adequately providing for the payment of the debts, obligations and liabilities of the corporation, the remaining assets of this corporation shall be distributed to a nonprofit fund, foundation or corporation which is organized and operated exclusively for religious purposes under section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 (or the corresponding provision of any future United States Internal Revenue Law).

ARTICLE 4. MINISTERIAL STAFF

Sec. A. The church shall conduct its ministerial activities through the offices of a ministerial staff, consisting of ordained and non-ordained ministers.

Sec. B. All ministers are responsible to the Lead Pastor for the conduct of their ministerial duties and their personal witness.

Sec. C. Areas of ministry shall be those which support and advance the church’s mission principles.

ARTICLE 5. GOVERNING BOARD

Sec. A. The Governing Board is the governing body of East Hills Community Church and will function within the Guiding Principles. They are the policy makers; overseers of budget, staff and ministry; spiritual discerners; and responsible for church discipline.
Sec. B. The Governing Board will be composed of the Lead Pastor and a minimum of four Board Members.

Sec. B.1. A Board Member will be a male who meets the Biblical qualifications of an Elder and who has been a member of EHCC for at least one year.

Sec. B.2. A Board Member cannot be a part of the paid staff (other than the Lead Pastor).

Sec. B.3. A Board Member cannot be the spouse of a member of the paid staff.

Sec. C. At the discretion of the Governing Board, the Chair of the Governing Board will be the Lead Pastor. A Writer will be selected from the Governing Board Members. In the event the church has no Lead Pastor, the Interim Pastor will assume the role of Chair. If no Interim Pastor is in place, a Chair will be determined by the Governing Board, from among the Governing Board.

Sec. D. The Chair and the Writer will represent the church in the administration of all contracts.

Sec. E. Regular meetings of the Governing Board will be held, as set by the Governing Board, with a minimum of four meetings per year.

Sec. F. The Chair, or a majority of the Governing Board, or Lead Pastor, may call special meetings whenever required to address pressing matters.

Sec. G. A simple majority of members of the Governing Board must be present to constitute a quorum for the conducting of business.

Sec. H. A written record will be kept of each meeting of the Governing Board.

Sec. I. The process of adding a person to the Governing Board will be as follows:

Sec. I.1. The congregation shall be asked for nominations using a Governing Elder Nomination Form.

Sec. I.2. The Governing Board, shall review the nominations.

Sec. I.3. A committee approved by the Governing Board shall interview a pool of candidates whom have received the minimum number of nominations and are willing to go through the process. This committee shall be led by at least one Governing Board member and may not have any married couples together at the same time.

Sec. I.4. The committee shall prepare a final slate of nominees to be presented to and approved by the Governing Board.

Sec. I.5. Approved nominees will be listed in the weekly Worship Folder for a minimum of two weeks and made available to the congregation to review.
Sec. I.6. Approved nominees will be presented to the congregation for affirmation. If someone votes 'no' during the affirmation process, it must be accompanied by a Biblical reason.

Sec J. The Governing Board is seen as a ministry that God has called men who are gifted in leadership to serve. With this understanding, the tenure of a Governing Board Member will need to be affirmed by the congregation annually, and after the Board Member goes through a process of discernment confirming his call to continue to serve in that role. If someone votes 'no' during the affirmation process, it must be accompanied by a Biblical reason.

Sec. K. Should a Board Member need to be removed (temporarily or permanently) due to (1) a lack of adhering to the Guiding Principles, (2) a lifestyle that is causing, could cause, or perceived to be a stumbling block to the congregation, or (3) mental incompetence, a majority plus one vote by the Governing Board would be necessary and binding.

Sec. L. At the discretion of the Governing Board, a Board Member may take a leave of absence for a period of six months with a possible extension of three months.

Sec. M. The Governing Board will meet with the Deacons for quarterly Consistory Meetings.

ARTICLE 6. OFFICE OF DEACONS

Sec. A. The Deacons oversee the physical needs of the body, the collection and distribution of the church benevolence fund, the maintenance of the church building and property, and the collection and deposit of tithes and offerings.

Sec. B. The Deacons will be composed of males and/or females with the number to be determined by the Governing Board based on the size of the congregation. Each Deacon must meet the Biblical qualifications of a Deacon and have been a member of EHCC for at least one year prior to the start of his/her serving.

Sec. C. The Chair and a Writer of the Deacons will be selected from among the Deacons.

Sec. D. Regular meetings of the Deacons will be held at a minimum of once a month.

Sec. E. The Chair or Lead Pastor may call special meetings whenever required to address pressing matters.

Sec. F. A simple majority of members of the Deacons must be present to constitute a quorum for the conducting of business.

Sec. G. A written record will be kept of each meeting of the Deacons and given to the Lead Pastor to be reported to the Governing Board.

Sec. H. The term of a Deacon will be three calendar years (January 1 - December 31), with the option to serve a consecutive term of another three years (six total). Those who choose to
serve a consecutive term of three years will be presented to the congregation for affirmation. If someone votes 'no' during the affirmation process, it must be accompanied by a Biblical reason. Should a Deacon end his or her term(s), he or she would need to step away from serving for one year before being nominated and serving again.
Sec. I. The process of adding a Deacon to the Deacon Board will be as follows:

Sec. I.1. The congregation shall be asked for nominations using a Deacon Nomination Form.

Sec. I.2. The Governing Board, shall review the nominations.

Sec. I.3. A committee approved by the Governing Board shall interview a pool of candidates whom have received the minimum number of nominations and are willing to go through the process. This committee shall be led by at least one Governing Board member and may not have any married couples together at the same time.

Sec. I.4. The appointed committee shall prepare a final slate of nominees to be presented to and approved by the Governing Board.

Sec. I.5. Approved nominees will be listed in the weekly Worship Folder for a minimum of two weeks and made available to the congregation to review.

Sec. I.6. Approved Deacon nominees will be presented to the congregation for affirmation. If someone votes ‘no’ during the affirmation process, it must be accompanied by a Biblical reason.

Sec. J. At the discretion of the Governing Board, a Deacon may take a leave of absence for a period of six months with a possible extension of three months.

Sec. K. Any Deacon not able to complete his/her term of service for any reason, can be replaced by the Governing Board at its discretion, provided that the replacement meets the qualifications of Article 7, Sec. B.

Sec. L. The Deacons will meet with the Governing Board for quarterly Consistory Meetings.

ARTICLE 7. CONGREGATIONAL MEETINGS

Sec. A. A congregational meeting will be held annually for the affirmation of the budget, Deacon nominations, and if it applies, Governing Board nominations.

Sec. B. The Lead Pastor and/or the Governing Board may call Additional congregational meetings whenever necessary to address pressing matters may be held as agreed upon by the Governing Board.

Sec. C. All congregational meetings must be announced to the church on three consecutive Sundays prior to the meeting. The meeting can take place on the third Sunday of the announcement.

Sec. D. A congregational meeting is defined as a meeting open to the whole church to discuss the business of the church.
Sec. E. Only members can vote on issues presented at a congregational meeting and a simple majority of attending member votes is all that is necessary to affirm any action.
ARTICLE 8.  WORSHIP AND THE SACRAMENTS

Sec. A. Worship services shall be held each Sunday unless a day of service is declared by the Governing Board.

Sec. B. The sacrament of the Lord's Supper shall be administered a minimum of four times per year.

Sec. C. The sacrament of baptism shall be administered as candidates are available.

ARTICLE 9.  MINISTRIES OF THE CHURCH

Sec. A. Ministries of the church will support the Mission, Vision, Values, and Guiding Principles of the church.

Sec. B. All volunteers must fill out a Volunteer Application and be staff approved.

Sec. C. All Governing Board Members, Deacons, and volunteers working with children (0-18 years of age) must fill out and be trained with a Child Protection Policy and submit to a background check. This is also true of all paid ministerial staff, Governing Board Members and Deacons, even if they currently do not work with children. They will also go through a background check.

ARTICLE 10.  MEMBERSHIP

Sec. A. The membership of EHCC consists of all adults who have professed their faith in Christ, attended a membership class, and signed a membership covenant committing to belong and invest in the ministry of EHCC.

Sec. B. Membership may be received or transferred at the recommendation of the Lead Pastor with the understanding that attendance of our membership class is still necessary.

Sec. C. The church shall be supported by the free-will contributions of its members. The biblical principle of tithing is the minimum standard.

Sec. D. Membership may be revoked by the Governing Board if a member stops adhering to the membership covenant.

ARTICLE 11.  GOVERNING RULES AND AMENDMENTS

Sec. A. The use of church facilities and any fees are managed by the EHCC Staff. Any group or individual seeking to rent facilities shall not conflict with the Christian beliefs and principles taught and practiced by East Hills Community Church. EHCC reserves the right to refuse the use or rental of its facilities to any group for any reason; including but
not limited to schedule conflicts, past rental history, or conflicting beliefs or practices of a
renting organization, group, or individual.

Sec. B. These Bylaws can be changed only by a simple majority vote of the Governing Board, at a
meeting other than that at which the proposal was made. Members of EHCC must
approve of the changes by at least a 2/3 vote.

Sec. C. The Guiding Principles of EHCC can be changed only by a simple majority vote of the
Governing Board, at a meeting other than that at which the proposal was made. All
changes will be reported to the congregation within 60 days.

Sec. D. Marriages performed by Pastors of East Hills are decided on a case-by-case basis and are
up to the discretion of the Pastor. The Pastor has a right to refuse to perform a marriage
ceremony for any reason including but not limited to a belief that said couple should not
be married, failure to adhere to minimum standards (e.g. premarital counseling), or to
schedule conflicts. Pastors of EHCC may not perform any marriage that is in conflict
with the Christian beliefs and principles taught and practiced by EHCC or the Reformed
Church in America.

ARTICLE 12. STATEMENT OF NONDISCRIMINATION

Sec. A. East Hills Community Church admits persons of any race, color, disability, national and
ethnic origin to all the rights, privileges, programs, and activities generally accorded or
made available to all persons at the church. It does not discriminate on the basis of race,
color, disability, national or ethnic origin in administration of any of its policies.
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Amended by the Governing Elder Board of East Hills Community Church on ...December 11, 2013
Approved by Classis of California, Reformed Church in America on .......................March, 2014

Amended by the Governing Elder Board of East Hills Community Church on ... September 24, 2014
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Amended by the Governing Board of East Hills Community Church on ........December 9, 2019
Affirmed by the EHCC Congregation on ......................................................January 5, 2019

Signed and attested as true by the members of the EHCC Governing Elder Board as indicated below by their signatures:

____________________________________ ____________________________________
Roland Gomez - Elder
Mark Manasco Ken Koozin - Elder

____________________________________ ____________________________________
Marty Read Michael Van Hulla - Elder
Greg Solomon - Elder