AMENDED AND RESTATED BYLAWS
OF
TRINITY UNITED PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH OF SANTA ANA

Article I- Corporation

Section 1: Name/Principal Place of Business

The name of this corporation and congregation is Trinity United Presbyterian Church of Santa Ana (hereinafter referred to as the "Corporation" or the "Church"). The principal place of business of the Corporation is 13922 Prospect Avenue, Santa Ana, CA 92705.

Section 2: Purpose

The Corporation is a Religious Corporation organized under the California Nonprofit Religious Corporation Law exclusively for religious purposes. The Corporation's specific purpose is to establish and maintain a place (or places) to worship Jesus Christ and to receive instruction; to serve Jesus Christ; and to spread the Christian Doctrine among the people of the world, in accordance with the traditions of the Christian Reformed faith. The Church believes that Jesus Christ alone is Lord of all and the way of salvation; Holy Scripture is the triune God's revealed Word, the Church's only infallible rule of faith and life and that God's people are called to holiness in all aspects of life.

Article II- Authority and Precedence

Trinity United Presbyterian Church of Santa Ana is a congregation of ECO: A Covenant Order of Evangelical Presbyterians, hereinafter referred to as "ECO;" a church denomination exercising ecclesiastical jurisdiction over the Corporation pursuant to the Constitution of ECO. As such, the Corporation will abide by the Constitution of ECO (which includes the *Essential Tenets and Confessional Standards* and the *ECO Polity and Discipline*). These bylaws shall be subordinate to the Constitution of ECO, the California Nonprofit Religious Corporation Law and the articles of incorporation of the Church.

Article III - Organization

Section 1: Session.

The session is the governing body and final authority of the Church and for purposes of church doctrine, practice, policy and discipline, is the Church's final interpretive authority on the Bible's meaning and application, consistent with ECO's polity and governance.

The session shall consist of all installed pastors, associate pastors, and nine to twelve elders, ordinarily divided into three equal classes, elected for three-year staggered terms. The session will determine annually the number of elders to comprise the session for the upcoming year. All members of session, including all installed pastors and associate pastors, are eligible to vote.

A class of elders shall be elected at the annual meeting of the congregation with their terms starting January 1 of the following year. No elder may be elected for a term of more than three years, nor shall an elder serve for

consecutive terms, either full or partial, aggregating more than six years. An elder having served a total of six consecutive years shall be ineligible for reelection for a period of at least one year.

The clerk of session and the church treasurer shall be elders elected annually by the session but need not be actively serving elders.

The responsibilities and powers of the session are set forth in the *ECO Polity and Discipline*. *Trinity United Presbyterian Church Guiding Principles* sets boundary principles for the pastor/head of staff, accountabilities for session, and ministry outcomes for both the pastor/head of staff and session. The session generally shall meet monthly, and from time to time at specially called meetings, to conduct its business. Session meetings shall be governed by the most recent edition of Robert's Rules of Order, Newly Revised to the extent that Robert's Rules of Order does not conflict with these bylaws.

Voting of Session

1. Quorum. The session may conduct business only when both of these are true:

- A majority of all Session members are present, and
- A majority of the elected elders are present.

If attendance drops below this during a meeting, the session may only adjourn or take steps to restore a quorum.

2. Passing a motion. A motion passes only if both of these are true:

- A majority of the members voting vote in favor, and
- A majority of the elders present vote in favor.

3. Abstentions. An elder who is present but abstains counts as present, but not as voting in favor. This means elder abstentions make passage harder, not easier.

4. Conflicts of interest. A member who steps aside from a vote because of a conflict of interest counts toward quorum, but not as an elder present for the elder-majority requirement on that matter.

5. Ties and failed motions. A tie vote fails. A motion that fails because it lacks a majority of the elders present may be brought back at a later meeting.

6. Other requirements. If another provision of these bylaws or the denomination's governing documents requires a higher vote for a particular matter, that requirement also applies. This Section never lowers any such requirement.

Full minutes of the meetings and actions of the session shall be maintained and shall be available to any covenant partner (member) of the congregation.

Section 2: Board of Trustees.

The session shall act as the Board of Trustees when required to conduct business as a corporation in response to the Constitution and laws of the State of California.

All elders shall, by reason of their office, be trustees of the Corporation. The session shall elect, from its members, a president and vice president of the Corporation. Their term of office shall be one year and they may be reelected, subject to the limitations on length of service as an elder.

The clerk of session shall act as secretary of the Corporation.

The church treasurer shall be the treasurer of the Corporation.

Section 3: Board of Deacons.

The board of deacons shall be elected by the Church. The deacons shall be divided into three equal or near equal classes and elected for three-year staggered terms. The same provisions for length of service shall apply as for the session. The number of deacons shall be determined by the session. In addition, one or more individuals may be ordained and installed to the office of deacon and commissioned for particular service as provided for in the *ECO Polity and Discipline* and shall serve for the length of time set by the session.

The board of deacons generally shall meet monthly, and from time to time at specially called meetings, to conduct its business.

Section 4: Vacancies.

Vacancies on the session or the board of deacons will be filled as soon as is practical either at a special meeting of the congregation or at the annual meeting, as determined by the session. Temporary vacancies may be filled by session until a candidate is chosen for nomination by the Church Nominating Committee, elected and ordained/installed by the congregation.

Section 5: Church Nominating Committee.

The elders and deacons shall be elected at the annual meeting of the congregation, called by the session, and moderated by the pastor/head of staff, to be held in the last quarter of the year. Nominations shall be made by the Church Nominating Committee, a representative nominating committee of members of the congregation. At least two members of this committee shall be elders designated by the session, one of which shall be currently on the session and serve as moderator of the committee. At least one member of the committee shall be designated by and be from the board of deacons. Other members of the committee, in sufficient number to constitute a majority, shall be chosen by the congregation, none of whom may be an active deacon or elder. The pastor/head of staff or his/her designee shall be an ex-officio member of this committee. The Church Nominating Committee shall be elected annually and no member of the committee shall serve more than three years consecutively.

The slate of candidates for elder, deacon, and Church Nominating Committee shall be published for the congregation's review at least four weeks before the annual meeting of the congregation. Additional

nominations of qualified candidates for elder, deacon or the Church Nominating Committee may be made by covenant partners (members), by contacting the Church office so the Church Nominating Committee and session have the opportunity to interview them prior to their presentation to the congregation for consideration.

Article IV – Membership

The Church's fellowship shall be open to all who seek to explore spiritual life by participating in the fellowship of the risen Lord. After completing a meaningful preparation process as determined by the session, those who wish to embrace the Church's covenantal expectations may become covenant partners (members) by action of the session after hearing testimony of their faith in Jesus Christ as Lord and Savior.

Article V- Congregational Meetings

Section 1: Annual Meetings

There shall be an annual meeting of the Church congregation, in the last quarter of each year. The purpose of this meeting is to elect the elders and deacons, to elect the Church Nominating Committee of the congregation, to present the next year's budget and to transact any other business properly coming before such meeting.

Section 2: Specially Called Meetings

Special congregational meetings may be called by the session, by the presbytery, or by the session when requested in writing by one-fourth of the covenant partners (members) of the congregation. Such called meetings shall state clearly the purpose of the special meeting, and no other matter may be considered.

Section 3: Notice of Meetings

Public notice of the time, place, and purpose of meetings of the congregation shall be given on two successive Sundays prior to the meeting at regular services of worship as well as through the congregation's other avenues of communication. The meeting may be convened following the notice given on the second Sunday.

Section 4: Conduct of Meetings

All congregational meetings of the Church shall be opened and closed with prayer.

Ordinarily, the pastor/head of staff shall be the moderator at all congregational meetings and the clerk of session shall be the secretary. If either is unable to serve, alternate(s) shall be selected in accordance with the *ECO Polity and Discipline.*

Congregational meetings shall be governed by the most recent edition of Robert's Rules of Order, Newly Revised to the extent that Robert's Rules of Order does not conflict with these bylaws.

A quorum shall consist of the Moderator, Secretary, and ten percent of the covenant partners (members) of the congregation.

Section 5: Voting

All covenant partners (members) of the congregation shall be entitled to vote on motions made at congregational meetings of the Church. Unless previously determined or otherwise required by the *ECO Polity and Discipline*, all votes shall be decided by a majority of those covenant partners (members), present and voting.

Voting by proxy is not allowed.

Section 6: Meetings Held Electronically

On occasion, it may be necessary to hold meetings of the session and the congregation by electronic means. If deemed necessary, the session, by majority vote, can call for a regular or special meeting of the congregation, including the annual meeting, to be held by electronic means (electronic transmission or electronic video screen communication) or by a combination of electronic means and in-person.

Meetings of the session and congregation held by electronic means, or a combination of electronic means and in-person, are permissible so long as an electronic platform is used that allows all members of session (for session meetings) and all members (covenant partners) of the congregation (for congregational meetings) to communicate with all other members concurrently with the proceeding and to have a reasonable opportunity to participate in the meeting and vote. Proper notice of a congregational meeting that will be held by electronic means, shall be given in the same manner as an in-person congregational meeting. The notice shall contain an adequate description of how to participate in the electronically held congregational meeting.

When meetings are conducted through electronic means, reasonable effort will be made to conduct such meetings through the use of Internet meeting services designated by the moderator that support anonymous voting and support visible displays identifying those participating, identifying those seeking recognition to speak, showing (or permitting the retrieval of) the texts of pending motions, and showing the results of votes. In order to allow for greater access to the designated electronic platform and to provide for greater participation, Session may, if deemed prudent, arrange for satellite locations where members can attend and participate in the electronically held meeting.

Session may adopt rules in its Session Administrative Policies, Procedures and Guidelines manual to govern meetings that are conducted through electronic means which may include any reasonable limitations on, and requirements for, covenant partners' (members) participation. Any rules deemed necessary and adopted by Session to facilitate such meetings may, without violating these bylaws, supersede any conflicting rules in Robert's Rules of Order, Newly Revised, but shall not otherwise conflict with or alter any rule or decision of the *ECO Polity and Discipline*. An anonymous vote conducted through the designated Internet meeting service shall be deemed to be a ballot vote, fulfilling any requirement in the bylaws or rules that a vote be conducted by ballot.

Article VI- Election of Pastors

Section 1: Election and Term

The members of the Church elect the pastor/head of staff and each associate pastor at a congregational meeting called by the session for that purpose. Each pastor holds office until the pastor's resignation or removal.

Assistant pastors and/or interim/transitional pastors, if any, may be elected solely by the session and serve the term designated by the session.

Section 2: Pastor/Head of Staff and Associate Pastor Nominating Committee

In the event of a current or pending vacancy in the position of pastor/head of staff or associate pastor, the session may call a special meeting of the Church to elect a Pastor Nominating Committee ("PNC") or Associate Pastor Nominating Committee ("APNC"). The Church Nominating Committee will nominate the candidates to serve on the PNC/APNC.

The slate of candidates for the PNC/APNC shall be published for the congregation's review at least two weeks before the congregational meeting. Additional nominations of qualified candidates for the PNC/APNC may be made by covenant partners (members), by contacting the Church office in advance of the congregational meeting so the Church Nominating Committee has the opportunity to interview them prior to their presentation to the congregation for consideration.

At the special meeting of the congregation to elect the PNC/APNC, the Church will vote from the slate of candidates nominated by the Church Nominating Committee plus any other candidates nominated by the congregation prior to the meeting. The candidates receiving the most votes will be elected.

When a PNC/APNC has determined a candidate for pastor/head of staff or associate pastor, the session will call a special meeting of the Church to vote on the candidate. Additional information regarding filling pastoral vacancies is contained in ECO Polity.

Article VII – Marriage/Gender/Sexuality

A marriage ceremony is a worship experience. The Church believes, according to *The Westminster Confession of Faith on Marriage* (Chapter XXIV, 1), that "Christian marriage is an institution ordained of God, blessed by our Lord Jesus Christ, established and sanctified for the happiness and welfare of mankind, into which spiritual and physical union, one man and one woman enter, cherishing a mutual esteem and love, bearing with each other's infirmities and weaknesses, comforting each other in trouble, providing in honesty and industry for each other and for their household, praying for each other, and living together the length of their days as heirs of the grace of life."

Approval of wedding ceremony requests, whether the wedding will be held on campus or elsewhere, is at the discretion of the pastor who is invited to officiate, based upon his/her consideration and discernment and shall be consistent with the Church's religious beliefs, policies and the Constitution of ECO.

Further delineation of the Church's religious beliefs regarding marriage, gender and sexuality are contained within the Church's Statement on God's Vision for Marriage (see Session Administrative Policies, Procedures and Guidelines) and in the ECO document Gender, Sex, and the Kingdom Theology Resources. We hold to these understandings and practices primarily as an expression of our Christian faith, as set forth in the Bible, but also as an act of free exercise of religion under the First Amendment of the Constitution of the United States.

Article VIII- Use of Facilities

The use of the Church facilities and campus must be consistent with the Church's religious beliefs, policies and the Constitution of ECO. Use of the Church facilities must be approved by the Church and is subject to the Facilities Use Policy.

Article IX-Amendment of Bylaws

These bylaws may be amended by a majority vote of the members of the Church present at any properly called and convened meeting of the congregation, provided that the amendment(s) be set forth in complete form at least seven days prior to the meeting.

The effective date of these bylaws is November 15, 2026. These bylaws supersede any previously approved bylaws.

Approved and Adopted:

John Marder, **President of the Corporation**	**Mike Kenyon,** **Co-Lead Pastor**	**Glyn Norman,** **Co-Lead Pastor**	**Julie Turner,** **Secretary/Clerk of Session**