

## **CHURCH POLICY DOCUMENT STICHTING REDEEMER INTERNATIONAL CHURCH DELFT**

**Church Policy Document of Stichting Redeemer International Church Delft as founded on December 17<sup>th</sup> , 2018.**

**This Church Policy Document is an addition to the applicable Notarized Statutes (further referred to as the Statutes), of the Stichting Redeemer International Church Delft as set out in article 11 of the Statutes. If there is a discrepancy between the Statutes and this Church Policy Document the Statutes shall overrule this Church Policy Document.**

### **Name and registered office**

#### ***Article 1***

1. The Stichting shall carry the name "Stichting Redeemer International Church Delft", hereinafter referred to as the Church, has its registered office in Delft, and operates both in Delft, the surrounding areas, and also in other areas of mission.
2. The Church may consist of one or more satellite churches/locations. Such satellite churches/locations shall also be governed by this Church Policy Document.

### **Duration and fiscal year**

#### ***Article 2***

1. The Church is founded for an indefinite period of time.
2. The fiscal year is congruous with the calendar year.

### **Purpose**

#### ***Article 3***

1. The purpose of the Church will be, in obedience with God's infallible Word ("the Bible"), empowered by the Holy Spirit, to lead people to Jesus and His family, whereby coming to spiritual maturity and learning to exalt His name. In this they shall also be equipped to serve and to proclaim His Kingdom in the world.
2. The Church will strive to attain this purpose through:
  - a) organizing meetings;
  - b) the provision of religious education in the broadest sense;
  - c) organizing missionary and evangelical activities;
  - d) various media, such as the distribution and/or provision of Christian literature;
  - e) active involvement in different forms of social aid;
  - f) cooperation with other organizations that are striving toward the same goals;
  - g) other lawful means.
3. The Church bases its actions on the following confession of faith:
  - a) Faith in the one and only living God, who exists for eternity in three persons in perfect unity: the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit.
  - b) God's inspiration of the entire Bible, which is therefore reliable and the highest authority in all matters of faith and life; there is no error in all that it proclaims.
  - c) Our Lord Jesus Christ, God manifested in the flesh, born from a virgin, His sinless life, His miracles, His substitution and atonement, His bodily resurrection and ascension, His work as a mediator and His personal return in power and glory.

- d) The inner degeneration of men through the fall and the redemption of the sinner through faith in the shed blood of Jesus Christ, God's Son, and His righteousness by grace, not by works but through faith in Him.
- e) The bodily resurrection of the dead; for the believers to everlasting life and for those who are lost, to judgment.
- f) The belief that Jesus commands baptism with water after conversion and encourages the regular celebration of the Lord's supper.
- g) The belief in the spiritual protection of the believers who remain in Christ, in the baptism of the Holy Spirit and the availability of the gifts of the Spirit for all believers.
- h) The work of God, the Holy Spirit, who enlightens the mind, and through rebirth works and lives in the believer, which enables the believer to live a holy life and to witness and work for the Lord Jesus Christ.
- i) The priesthood of all believers, who form together the universal church, the body of Christ, which consists of everybody that is born again and lives as such regardless of their connection with whatever denomination of church, of which Jesus is the head, and which through His commandment are required to preach the gospel in the whole world.
- j) The equipment of the Church through apostles, prophets, evangelists, shepherds and teachers.

## **Funds**

### ***Article 4***

1. Contributed funds are formed as set out in the Statutes.
2. These funds may not be in opposition to the purpose of the Church, they also need to be free from obligations.

## **Membership**

### ***Article 5***

1. The Church has members, for those interested.
2. Members are those who have been admitted in accordance with what is set out in article 6.
3. Those interested are regular attendees, but not yet members.
4. Minors (children) of members, provided they are not a member, take part in church life within their position as a member of their family.

### ***Article 6***

1. A person can be admitted as a member after a written or oral request to the Eldership Team, who decides on their admission.
2. A member must meet a number of requirements, he/she must:
  - a) be converted and born again;
  - b) be baptized after conversion with water;
  - c) have received the baptism of the Holy Spirit or must have indicated the desire for such;
  - d) have a Christian lifestyle (1 Peter 1:15-16);
  - e) agree with the confession of faith of the Church as set out in Article 3 sub 3 of this Church Policy Document;
  - f) show a positive involvement in the different activities of the Church;
  - g) be willing to accept the order and leadership of the Church;
  - h) submit to the spiritual authority of the elders.

3. A member will be given the opportunity to:
  - a) Receive pastoral care from the Church;
  - b) receive equipping and education;
  - c) participate in different activities organized in the Church.

#### ***Article 7***

1. Membership ends through:
  - a) termination on one's own account;
  - b) termination by the Church;
  - c) withdrawal as a member;
  - d) death.
2. Termination on one's own account, if possible, will take place in writing to the Eldership Team or administrators acting on their behalf, who will confirm the termination.
3. Termination by the Church, if possible, will take place in writing by the Eldership Team or administrators acting on their behalf, in the event a member no longer meets the criteria as set out in Article 6 sub 2.
4. The Eldership Team is permitted to determine that a member has withdrawn; if possible they will inform the member in writing.

### **Governing bodies**

#### ***Article 8***

The governing bodies of the Church consists of:

- a) The Eldership Team;
- b) The Board;
- c) Apostolic Authority.

#### ***Article 9***

##### ***The Eldership Team***

1. The Eldership Team is made up of all the Elders of the Church. The Eldership Team is responsible for the spiritual policies of the Church.
2. A Leading Elder is understood to be the Elder that fulfils the leading role within the Eldership Team.
3. Elders need to comply with the biblical criteria as set out in 1 Timothy 3:1-7, Titus 1:5-9 and 1 Peter 5:1-3. The Eldership Team appoints Elders after consulting the Church. By the appointment of Elders, the Apostolic Authority will also be consulted.
4. The advice of the Apostolic Authority regarding the appointment of an Elder is binding to the extent it concerns a decision of the appointment of the Leading Elder, with other appointments this advice will not be binding but shall be of great importance.
5. Elders are appointed for an indefinite period of time.
6. An Elder resigns, notwithstanding what has been set out in the Dutch Civil Code, in the event he deceases, resigns voluntary, resigns periodically or is dismissed. In the event of voluntary resignation, if possible a reasonable notice period should be taken into account, the secretary of the Board needs to be notified in writing of the voluntary resignation. In the event an Elder cannot (continue to) adhere to the confession of faith of the Church, he needs to resign. In all these cases advice needs to be obtained from the Apostolic Authority, in the case of a Leading Elder the advice given will be binding.
7. An Elder whose suspension or dismissal is being questioned, must be given the opportunity in such a meeting, prior to the voting, to give an account through a fair hearing procedure, but he himself shall not participate in the voting.

### **Article 10**

#### *The Board*

1. The Board of the Church is comprised of a majority of Elders, but is not exclusively Elders.
2. The minimum number of members on the Board consists of three and the maximum is five.
3. The Board will appoint a chairman, a secretary and a treasurer and a general assistant -- and shall appoint in the case of absence or disqualification – their substitutes; these positions can be combined, provided that at all times at least three persons fulfill the four functions mentioned.
4. The Board remains legitimate if the number of members has diminished below the minimum three if it is due to vacancies; the board is required to fill as many vacancies as possible in order to meet the minimum requirement.
5. The membership to the Board can be terminated through unrequested dismissal. The Board has the right to suspend or as the case may be dismiss one of its members, if such a person's shows behavior that is in conflict with the Statutes and/or this Church Policy Document, regulations or the common interest of the Church. A decision of the Board for suspension or dismissal must be taken with a majority vote in a meeting in which all members of the Board are present, with the exception of the person in question. In this case advice needs to be obtained from the Apostolic Authority, in the case of a Leading Elder the advice given will be binding.

### **Article 11**

#### *Apostolic Authority*

1. The Church maintains the biblical model of the Apostolic Authority regarding the local church, as set out in Acts 15. This authority rests with the legal entity according to Dutch law: Stichting Redeemer International Church, currently registered at St. Jacobstraat 131, 2512 AN The Hague, the Netherlands.
2. The Apostolic Authority mainly plays a role with appointments and advice surrounding decisions; this does not alter the autonomy of the Church.

## **Tasks and Authority Board**

### **Article 12**

1. The Board is authorized, subject to a majority decision for which all Board members have voted, to enter into agreements to buy, sell or encumber registered goods.
2. The Board is authorized, subject to a majority decision for which all Board members have voted, to enter into agreements, whereby the Church commits itself as guarantor and co-debtor, protects the interests of a third party, or commits itself to being security for the debt of a third party.
3. The Church is represented judicially and extra judicially by the Board, and in addition may be represented judicially and extra judicially by two persons together that have the functions that are named in article 10 sub 3, for the execution of a decision by the Board.
4. Every member of the Board is authorized to accept for the Church all gifts and legacies, which are given to the Church, without incumbencies for the Church, and to sign documents and to execute all that maybe necessary.
5. The Board may reject gifts, inheritances and legacies without giving reason.
6. The (day to day) representation of the Stichting Redeemer International Church Delft by an individual Board member is limited to Euro 1.000,-, per event/representation. In the case where the representation involves an amount above Euro 1.000,- the representation, must be proceeded by a board meeting regarding such representation.

## **Decisions and meetings Board**

### ***Article 13***

1. Policy decisions (including primarily a cooperation agreement with a full time or part time Elder, the appointment of employees and the establishment of vision and course plans) are taken by the Board.
2. The Board meets at least four times a year.
3. The invitation for assembly of the meeting will be done by or on behalf of the chairman taking into account a notice period of seven days, not counting the day of notification and the meeting day.
4. The meetings are held at the place and at the times as mentioned in the invitation; the agenda and what needs to be put to the vote shall be determined by the Board.
5. In the event the requirements regarding the manner of invitation or the notice period are not adhered to, valid decisions can only be made in a Board meeting, in which all Board members are present or – in accordance with sub 11 – are represented.
6. Of the meeting and the decisions made in the Board meeting, notes will be kept, which will be set and for evidence-sake signed by the chairman and the secretary of the meeting in question. The meeting notes are not public in order to protect the persons and affairs mentioned in the meeting notes.
7. The Board can also make decisions outside of the meeting, under the condition that all Board members agree with the decision in question. Notes of this will be made in the report of the first following Board meeting.
8. When making decisions the Board will strive to general consensus, however decisions, unless stated otherwise in this Church Policy Document, can be made with a majority of the votes. Hereby it is also understood that if the Leading Elder cannot agree to the decision, binding advice will be asked from the Apostolic Authority.
9. Decisions can only be made in a meeting in which the majority of the Board members are present or represented.
10. In the event of absence of the chairman and his substitute those present will designate a Board member as the chairman of that particular Board meeting.
11. A Board member may let himself be represented during the meeting, but only on the basis of a written power of attorney, granted to another Board member, applicable only to one specific meeting, which power of attorney must have been given to the chairman prior to such meeting. A Board member cannot submit more than one vote per power of attorney.
12. No later than the twelfth month of the fiscal year a general Church meeting will be held, in which the Board will present a budget for the upcoming fiscal year.
13. Furthermore within six months after the end of every fiscal year a general Church meeting shall be held. At these meetings the Board shall present their yearly reports (secretarial and financial) and will give an account of its administration over the past fiscal year by way of explaining the balance and state of income and expenses.
14. The Board is required to keep track of the financial position of the Church, in order to be able to establish at all times what the rights and obligations are. The Church is required to keep the above mentioned records in its preceding sub paragraphs for a period of 7 years, unless required longer by law.
15. Sub 12 and 13 will leave the possibility to organize extra Church meetings undiminished.
16. The Board invites members in writing for Church meetings, thereby taking into account a notice period of eight days. The invitation includes an agenda of the meeting and the necessary documentation for the meeting.
17. A report of the Church meeting is made in such a way that a good registration of the decisions is secured. This report will be available, as soon as possible, for viewing with the secretary for the participants of the meeting and members of the Church.

### **Treasury committee**

#### ***Article 14***

1. The accountability of financials as mentioned in article 13 sub 13 will be audited by a treasury committee as appointed by the Board, which is comprised of a minimum of two members of the Church. The committee will make written reports regarding the reliability of the financial administration and makes a proposal to the Board for the discharge of the treasurer for the fiscal year in question.
2. Every year one of the two members of the treasury committee will be replaced, in order that the composition changes and the continuity is ensured.
3. Members of the Eldership Team and the Board cannot be a member of the treasury committee.

### **Dissolution and Liquidation**

#### ***Article 15***

1. The Church can only be dissolved by a unanimous decision of the Board. Prior to dissolution of the Church the Board must consult the Eldership Team and the Church. In addition, advice must be obtained from the Apostolic Authority, this advice is binding.
2. Liquidation takes place by the Board unless decided otherwise.
3. Any surplus balance shall be immediately used in accordance with the Statutes of the Church.

### **In House Regulations**

#### ***Article 16***

Further policies or elaboration on topics that are included in the Statutes and/or this Church Policy Document takes place – to the extent applicable – in additional regulations. These regulations may not conflict with the Statutes and/or this Church Policy Document. These regulations are established – and if necessary changed – by the Board.

### **Change of this Church Policy Document**

#### ***Article 17***

1. This Church Policy Document will be evaluated on a regular/need basis and changed where necessary.
2. This Church Policy Document can only be changed by a unanimous decision of the Board.

### **Transitional Clause**

#### ***Article 18***

1. The objective of the Board of the Church will be, within six months of the (changed) Statutes and/or this Church Policy Document going into effect, to take all measures necessary to put into effect what has been set out/changed in the Statutes and/or Church Policy Document.
2. The registered members, visitors, Eldership Team and the Board, at the moment that the (changed) Statutes and/or this Church Policy Document go into effect, will be considered to have met the requirements as set out in the (new) Statutes and/or this Church Policy Document. This also applies in relation to the Apostolic Authority, it is therefore understood that this authority has given affirmative advice with regards to the appointment of the Eldership Team in office at the moment.

## **Corporate Governance**

### ***Article 19***

1. A Board member and/or Elder shall not have any personal benefits amounting to monetary value and/or in kind from the church.
2. Board members and/or Elders shall at all times disclose to the Board, any benefits gained from the Church that the Board is not aware of.
3. Notwithstanding article 9 sub 7 and article 10 sub 5: A Board member and/or Elder shall not be present at the meeting if a decision pertaining to the individual Board member and/or Elder concerned is in session. Prior to such decision meeting the Board member and/or Elder in question shall have the right to give an account through a fair hearing procedure before the Board members and/or Elders participating in such decision meeting.
4. Article 19 sub 1 and 2 do not apply to situations/instances and/or salaries and/or approved cost reimbursements that are directly related to i) an employment agreement and or any such/other agreement/arrangement in place between the Church and a Board member and/or Elder and/or ii) a general church policy.

## **Final Provisions**

### ***Article 20***

5. In all cases, where both the law as this Church Policy Document do not suffice, the Board will make the decision.