

The Constitution of The Realigious Network International[©]

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The Realigious Network International
(TRNI)

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PREAMBLE

PURPOSE OF THE CONSTITUTION OF THE REALIGIOUS NETWORK INTERNATIONAL

This Constitution describes the belief system and guiding principles of The Realigious Network International (TRNI). The purpose of the Constitution is to provide a rational, legal, and administrative basis for TRNI's operation. If any difference or dispute should arise during the course of TRNI's affairs, TRNI shall first look to its Articles of Incorporation, then its Constitution, then The Distinctions and its related writings as are from time to time officially amended and updated by the Council of The Distinctions, and then its Policies and Procedures Manual to determine the basis for making its decision.

Chapter 1 – Identifying TRNI

1.1 Name

1.1.1

This organization is known as The Realigious Network International (TRNI), as expressed in the organization's Articles of Incorporation dated July 9, 2016, and filed with the State of Michigan on August 28, 2016.

1.2 Scope

1.2.1

TRNI is the organizing and authority body for all duly designated conscious churches, temples, mosques, and other conscious affiliates in all countries and territories.

1.2.2

TRNI exists in part to help ensure that all conscious affiliates are mindfully and logically organized by geography and custom as needed.

1.3 Articles of Incorporation

1.3.1

TRNI's Articles of Incorporation were adopted by the Executive Board on July 2, 2017.

1.3.2

TRNI's Articles of Incorporation are included as an appendix.

1.4 Constitution

1.4.1

The original adoption date of this Constitution was July 20, 2018. (v1.00)

1.4.2

The most recent amendment to the Constitution was adopted on 10/27/2018 (v2.00)

1.5 Property

1.5.1

As TRNI is the ascending organization of all conscious affiliates, it is authorized to own, buy, and sell real and personal property in any country, state, or other territory where a conscious affiliate is established or may be established.

1.5.2

Property ownership decisions ultimately vest in the authority of the TRNI Executive Board.

1.5.3

No individual and/or for-profit entity shall profit from the sale or distribution of any TRNI property.

1.5.4

All real property, personal property, title, or other form of ownership in any tangible or intangible property held by any conscious affiliate is held for the exclusive benefit of TRNI and its affiliates.

1.5.5

In the event a conscious affiliate becomes disorganized, any property of that conscious affiliate that may exist may in no way be diverted to other purposes, but title shall pass to TRNI for the use of TRNI and other conscious affiliates.

Chapter 2 - Purpose

2.1 Organizational Purpose

TRNI is organized for religious purposes.

2.2 Covenant

2.2.1

The Covenant of TRNI and its conscious affiliates is:

As a member, I shall grow myself toward the best and most complete person that I can become so that I can be an example to others and help others on their journey to becoming that which they are capable of becoming. I shall lead by example. I shall learn each day so that I can teach others. I shall grow my beingness in the most positive way so that I can give to the world the best me that I can become.

2.2.2

The Covenant shall not be altered except by a majority vote of the Council of the Distinctions and thereafter ratified by a majority vote of the Executive Board.

2.3 Faith and Core Values

2.3.1

To minimize, as much as possible, real and potential suffering.

2.3.2

To create a global community and a sustainable global culture. To promote the understanding that we are first humans, that earth's greatest treasure lies within our human personality, that our humanity transcends communal sovereignty, and only thereafter we are members of and belong to other groups.

2.3.3

To create a local community and a sustainable local culture; one that is inclusive, just, wonderful, and ethical, one that meets the human needs for community, a place for people to go to celebrate or mourn, a place of safety and support, a place to ease your cares and to laugh, a place that builds upon the positive aspects that have evolved within religions and religious houses of worship, to create a new communal focal point that allows for freedom of thought, inquiry, and expression; to support and recognize the inherent rights of each individual to be and to become in a welcoming atmosphere. We shall take from the historic religions and churches

those aspects that have allowed for positive communal growth. We shall become the center of moral thought and moral instruction for those at all ages of life. Just as religions and houses of worship have become the centers of landmark celebrations of births, deaths, marriages, educational achievements; the alphas and the omegas of life, so shall we. We shall become the center for community support, for volunteering and outreach; for music and song, for festivities, festivals and fellowship. Upon those positive and beneficial aspects that religions have brought to society we shall build our community and our culture. We shall strive to eliminate those negative aspects of historical religion such as hatred of free thought, unfounded dogma, horror, supernaturalism, ignorance, indoctrination, and predation upon natural human characteristics such as predation upon the credulous and the trusting. We shall build a culture around new customs, traditions and celebrations.

2.3.4

To develop and promote an understanding of god as being that force that has driven creation and is fully responsible for and reconcilable with the substances and energies that are the material world; a concept that god is not supernatural but is the natural driving force behind the cause and reason for what is; a concept of god that is not built in the image of man but one that seeks to understand all that is unknown so that it can be reconciled apart from dogma; a concept that uses reasoning and science and the exploration of alternative perspectives through the scientific method to develop a better understanding over time of all that is. We shall support the Realigious Network as it guides us on the long journey in this process of reconciliation and understanding of god as expressed in our Faith and Core Values and in The Distinctions document as are from time to time amended by the Council of the Distinctions.

2.4 Regarding Faith and Core Values

2.4.1

TRNI members shall worship in such a manner that honors the faith and core values.

2.4.2

The TRNI faith and core values shall not be altered except by a majority vote of the Council of the Distinctions and thereafter ratified by a majority vote of the Executive Board.

2.4.3

The TRNI faith and core values shall be congruent across all conscious affiliates unless a variation is authorized by a unanimous vote of the executive board of the conscious affiliate for which the variation was authorized, by a unanimous vote of the Council of the Distinction, and by a unanimous vote of TRNI's Executive Board.

2.5 Accession

2.5.1

The primary purpose of TRNI is to serve as the leading, organizing, and cooperative entity for all conscious affiliates.

2.5.2

TRNI, through its Constitution and its Policies and Procedures Manual, shall exercise control and oversight over all conscious affiliates and their Curates, executive boards, committees, articles of incorporation, constitutions, policies and procedures manuals, and their affiliated entities. TRNI retains sole authority over all doctrinal, organizational, and financial aspects of the conscious affiliates except as explicitly granted to the conscious affiliates by TRNI.

2.5.3

TRNI shall support its conscious affiliates by providing instructive support, financial support, and other support as deemed necessary by TRNI.

2.5.4

Conscious affiliates shall derive their Realigious teachings solely through the authority and support of TRNI, its Council of Distinctions, and other TRNI committees and entities as authorized by TRNI.

2.5.5

The articles of incorporation and constitutions of the conscious affiliates shall adhere to the standards and formatting established by TRNI in this Constitution and in its Policies and Procedures Manual. The constitution of each of the conscious affiliates shall contain an appendix detailing which chapters, or which parts of chapters, can or cannot be altered by the conscious affiliates without the express approval of TRNI.

2.5.6

A conscious affiliate shall not merge with any other organization unless authorized by a majority vote of the Executive Board of TRNI.

2.5.7

TRNI shall have authority to create intermediate organizations between itself and conscious affiliates to assist TRNI in its mission of supporting those organizations. The power to create, modify, and cease these intermediate organizations rests solely with the Executive Board, or with a permanent or ad hoc committee created by the Executive Board to manage such affairs.

2.5.8

TRNI recognizes that the purpose of TRNI and the purposes of the conscious affiliates are congruent. In that spirit, TRNI shall act in such a manner as to foster the growth of its conscious affiliates.

2.5.9

TRNI recognizes that the purposes of TRNI and the purposes of the conscious affiliates are congruent. In that spirit, TRNI shall develop policies and procedures to ensure that its conscious affiliates act in such a manner toward one another.

2.6 Anti-Discrimination

2.6.1

TRNI shall not discriminate against any person at any time for any reason on the basis of race, creed, color, national origin, sex, marital status, sexual identity or orientation, gender or gender identity, age, or prior religious affiliation.

2.6.2

TRNI believes that marriage and the family are the foundational institution of human society. Marriage and family shall be promoted and supported by TRNI. All human beings no matter how they are sexually oriented have the natural right to form life-long ties. Supporting marriage is in society's best interest as it provides stability to the individuals, the family and to society.

CHAPTER 3 - EXECUTIVE BOARD

3.1 Composition of TRNI's Executive Board

3.1.1

TRNI shall be governed by an Executive Board of Directors (Executive Board).

3.1.2

The Executive Board shall consist of seven members authorized to vote. Members shall be elected or appointed as authorized by this Constitution and by the Policies and Procedures Manual.

3.1.3

Of those seven members, one shall have the title of Executive Board President (hereafter "President"), one shall have the title of Executive Board Vice President (hereafter "Vice President"), one shall have the title of Executive Board Secretary (hereafter "Secretary"), one shall have the title of Executive Board Treasurer (hereafter "Treasurer"), and three shall have the title of Executive Board Member.

3.1.4

The Executive Board at its own discretion, upon nomination by the Executive Board President, and by a majority vote, may also choose to seat up to four non-voting, non-compensated board members. One non-voting Executive Board member can be retained for legal expertise and shall be a licensed attorney authorized to practice in the State of Michigan. One non-voting Executive Board member can be retained for financial expertise and shall be a licensed certified public accountant authorized to work in the State of Michigan. One non-voting Executive Board member can be retained for Church governance expertise and shall have previously served as an Executive Board President of a conscious affiliate. One non-voting Executive Board member can be retained for traditional faith-based religious expertise and shall be an active member of an organized religion other than TRNI.

3.1.5

Except as provided in 3.1.4, all Executive Board members shall be regular members of a conscious affiliate and of legal age in the jurisdiction where they serve.

3.1.6

The Executive Board President shall:

- (a) Be the Chairperson of the Executive Board and shall preside at all Executive Board meetings,
- (b) Be a non-voting member of all permanent and ad hoc Church committees and may delegate a regular church member to attend meetings in the President's absence,
- (c) Nominate members to all permanent and ad hoc Church committees, subject to approval by a majority vote of the Executive Board, and
- (d) Be responsible to present a proposed budget to the Executive Board.

3.1.7

The Executive Board Vice President shall:

- (a) Exercise the powers and duties of the President during the President's absence or inability to act, and
- (b) Perform such other duties as may be assigned.

3.1.8

The Executive Board Secretary shall:

- (a) Give notice and be the recording officer of all Executive Board meetings,
- (b) Be custodian of all Church records, except those specifically assigned to others, and
- (c) Promptly provide written notice to all regular members of the minutes of the annual meetings, special meetings, and Executive Board meetings in a form and manner specified in the Policies and Procedures Manual.

3.1.9

The Executive Board Treasurer is the chief financial agent of the Church and shall:

- (a) Be responsible for membership and financial records of the Church or shall delegate and supervise such duties,
- (b) Have custody of all Church funds and be responsible for their safekeeping,
- (c) With approval of the Executive Board, determine the place and manner of deposit and safekeeping of all funds, securities and legal instruments,
- (d) Disburse funds as directed by the Executive Board and make timely reports of

- funds disbursements to the Board,
- (e) Present non-budgeted expenditures that are over the threshold established in the Policies and Procedures Manual to the Executive Board for approval and payment, and
 - (f) Assist the President in preparing the budget.

3.2 Duties of TRNI's Executive Board

3.2.1

The Executive Board shall be responsible for and shall have authority in governance over all matters except where authority is otherwise designated by TRNI's Articles of Incorporation or TRNI's Constitution.

3.2.2

The Executive Board shall be responsible for stating the goals and mission of TRNI and its conscious affiliates.

3.2.3

The Executive Board shall be directly responsible for all programs and activities undertaken by TRNI.

3.2.4

Upon proposal by the Executive Board President, the Executive Board is responsible for developing and approving a budget and for ensuring that adequate resources are available for TRNI, its programs, staff, and other expenses.

3.2.5

The Executive Board shall be responsible for ensuring the integrity of TRNI and its conscious affiliates.

3.2.6

The Executive Board has the authority to create Church committees at its discretion. The Executive Board has exclusive authority, after nomination is made by the Executive Board President, to elect members to permanent and ad hoc committees.

3.2.7

The Executive Board shall be directly responsible for every permanent and ad hoc committee within TRNI. Further, the functions of any committee that lack members or does not function for any reason shall fall to the Executive Board.

3.2.8

The Board shall not vote on the creation of any ad hoc committee unless it has designated the purpose of the committee, the number of committee members, the duties of the committee, the manner in which the committee shall be accountable to the Board, the committee's chain of command, and the committee's funding source.

3.2.9

Committee members shall be nominated by the Executive Board President and shall be appointed by a majority vote of the Executive Board.

3.2.10

Permanent committee members shall serve until the next annual meeting of the Church. Ad hoc committee members shall serve for a period of time designated by the Executive Board President upon their nomination or, if no time period is designated, until the next annual meeting of TRNI.

3.2.11

While TRNI regular ballot items are voted on by local affiliate boards in the same manner as they cast votes for TRNI board positions, TRNI's Executive Board may designate special ballot items that allows for one member, one vote. Members may only cast one vote for these special ballot items and that vote must be cast through their primary affiliate. Any member casting more than one vote for any special ballot items shall be subject to discipline.

3.3 Election of TRNI's Executive Board and the Council of The Distinctions.

3.3.1

Voting for TRNI's Executive Board shall be held annually at each Church's annual meeting after the Executive Board has filled the President's position.

3.3.2

Voting for the Council of The Distinctions for 2-year terms starting in even numbered years shall be held bi-annually, at each Church's annual meeting after the Church's Executive Board has filled the President's position.

3.3.3

The Church President, acting as chair, shall call the meeting to order. Each Church Executive Committee Member may cast one ballot for each position for which a candidate is running.

3.3.4

Church Executive Board members have the right to choose not to vote, and no TRNI or conscious affiliate authority shall restrict the right of a duly elected Church Executive Board member to vote.

3.3.5

Each Church Executive Board Member may cast one vote per specific position for which at least one candidate is running, up to 3 votes for TRNI general board positions based on the number of general board positions on the ballot, up to the maximum of 7 votes total if there are candidates running in each of the 7 positions. Each Church Executive Board Member may cast between zero and the maximum number of Council of The Distinctions candidates based upon the established number of positions for which there are candidates on the ballot. A Church Executive Board Member may not vote for an individual more than one time per position per ballot.

3.3.6

The votes cast by the members of the Church Executive Board shall be tallied. The candidates for each position on the ballot receiving the highest number of votes shall each receive one vote from the Church to be transmitted to the Local Committee of TRNI.

3.3.7

TRNI's Local Committee shall tally the votes as they are received from the Churches and shall not release the tallies or information on the specific votes cast or voting summaries prior to TRNI's Annual Meeting. It shall ensure an accurate count. The designated panel shall ensure the integrity of the election by any and all means necessary.

3.3.8

The Local Committee shall be responsible to plan the annual meeting and to record the minutes of the annual meeting.

3.3.9

All candidates for TRNI's Executive Board shall be designated as a candidate for a specific position (President, Vice President, Secretary, Treasurer, or Board Member) prior to the election in a process established by the Policies and Procedures Manual.

3.3.10

The Policy and Procedures manual shall set forth the process for declaring candidacy and the applicable deadlines as well as prior experience requirements for candidacy. The Policies and Procedures Manual shall also establish the process for tallying and reporting of votes by the Local Committee. The Policies and Procedures Manual shall establish the process for voting which may be in paper ballot or via a secure electronic system or systems.

3.3.11

The Board candidate for each position with the highest number of votes shall be elected and as a group shall comprise the Executive Board for the succeeding year. If there is a tie for an Executive Board seat(s), the outgoing Executive Board President shall select the final Executive Board member(s) from those who tied for the final seat(s). Any Executive Board candidate who ties the vote for the final board seat(s) and who is not selected by the outgoing Executive Board President to fill the seat(s) shall have the right to be appointed to a permanent committee of the candidate's choice by the incoming Executive Board President. A newly elected Executive Board member shall be sworn in and shall assume his or her duties immediately following the conclusion of the annual election. The Executive Board member's oath shall state that he or she shall faithfully honor the tenets of The Distinctions and its affiliated teachings in administering his or her duties as an Executive Board member.

3.3.12

All permanent committee members shall be appointed with due haste following the swearing-in of the new Executive Board..

3.3.13

Permanent committee members shall be nominated by the Executive Board president and shall be confirmed by a majority vote of the Executive Board except where otherwise required by this Constitution.

3.3.14

If an Executive Board non-officer position becomes vacant for any reason more than 21 days prior to the annual election, the Executive Board shall select a TRNI regular member to fill the vacancy until the next annual election. If the vacancy was of the Executive Board President, the Executive Board shall elect a new Executive Board President once any other Executive Board vacancies have been filled. If the vacancy was of an Executive Board officer other than the President, the President shall select the replacing officer from among the Executive Board members.

3.3.15

A newly elected Council of the Distinctions member shall be sworn in at the annual meeting and shall assume his or her duties effective January 1 of the following even numbered year following the conclusion of the annual election. The Council of The Distinctions member's oath shall state that he or she shall faithfully honor the tenets of The Distinctions and its affiliated teachings in administering his or her duties as an Executive Board member.

3.4 Local Affiliate Access to Information

3.4.1

The Executive Boards of conscious affiliates may request information about TRNI's budget, sources of revenue, board composition, staffing, donors, and other issues for which transparency is vital to the proper functioning of an ecclesiastical not-for-profit organization. Such information, once obtained by the Executive Board of the conscious affiliate shall remain confidential and shall not be disseminated outside the conscious affiliate, to any individual, group, or organization without the express written consent of the TRNI's Executive Board.

3.5 Electronic Transmission, Voting, Meetings

3.5.1

Electronic Transmission

Definitions used in this section: "electronic transmission" or "electronically transmitted" is any form of communication that meets all of the following:

- It does not involve the physical transmission of paper.
- It creates a record that may be retained and retrieved by the recipient
- It may be directly reproduced in paper form by the recipient through an automated process.

The Executive Board may participation in meetings by conference telephone or remote communication, subject to guidelines and procedures adopted by the board. A member not physically present at a meeting may participate by means of remote communication and is considered present in person and can vote if all of the following are met:

- Reasonable measures are taken to verify that each person considered present and permitted to vote at the meeting by means of remote communication is a member.
- Each member is provided a reasonable opportunity to participate in the meeting and to vote on matters submitted to the members, including an opportunity to read or hear the proceedings of the meeting substantially concurrently with the proceedings.
- The Executive Board shall maintain a record when a member votes or takes other action at the meeting by means of remote communication.
- A member may be present and vote at an adjourned meeting by a means of remote communication if he or she was permitted to be present and vote by that means or remote communication in the original meeting notice.

When notice is required or permitted to be in writing, electronic transmission is written notice. Any notice or communication electronically transmitted to a member may be in a manner authorized by the person.

For communications with the Corporations Division, the agency may provide written notice by electronic transmission if the document was originally submitted by electronic transmission.

3.5.2

Voting

Voting may be by electronic transmission. The Board may take action by unanimous written consent, without a meeting, and the Board may take action by written consent of a majority of the members present at properly noticed meeting if voting at a meeting. When voting by electronic transmission, consents may be given by electronic transmission. The date of electronic transmission is considered the date the consent was signed. A consent given by electronic transmission is delivered when reproduced in paper form and the paper form delivered to a corporation's principal office in this state or to an office or agent of the corporation.

Voting by directors may be in person, by proxy, or by electronic transmission.

3.5.3

Meetings

The Executive Board or a committee of the board may participate in a meeting by conference telephone or remote communication. Action may be taken without a meeting by written consent of all members then in office of the board or board committee. Consent to the action may be in writing or by electronic transmission.

Chapter 4 - COUNCIL OF THE DISTINCTIONS

4.1 Composition of the Council of The Distinctions

4.1.1

TRNI shall have a Council of The Distinctions.

4.1.2

The Council of The Distinctions shall consist of at least three members who are regular members of TRNI. The Council of The Distinctions may consist of any odd number of members as authorized by the Executive Board.

4.1.3

Once established, the Council of the Distinctions shall establish its own operational and procedural guidance and shall submit those guiding documents to the TRNI Executive Board for ratification, which the Executive Board shall not unduly deny without sufficient just cause.

4.1.4

The Council's governing and procedural guidance may be amended and updated by the Council of the Distinctions with ratification by the Executive Board.

4.2 Duties of the Council of the Distinctions

4.2.1

The Council of The Distinctions is responsible for interpreting, creating, modifying, and refining The Distinctions and its associated teachings based upon its own initiative and upon the advice of TRNI and its members.

4.2.2

The Council of The Distinctions shall become a court of jurisdiction for claims against a Curate and shall hold Curate credential revocation and censure hearings.

These hearings may be initiated:

- a) upon the presentation of claims against a Curate by the Executive Board. The Executive board shall appoint an executor who will investigate, develop, present and prosecute the charges
- b) upon an appeal of a judgement rendered by the Conference of Realigious Curates

The revocation and censure decisions of the Council of the Distinctions are final and not to appeal and are not subject to ratification or approval by the Executive Board.

4.2.3

The Council of The Distinctions shall be responsible for appointing an Examiner for discipline hearings that are held by the Discipline Committee.

4.2.4

A member of a conscious affiliate shall have the right to appear or be represented at The Council of The Distinctions.

4.3 Election of the Council of the Distinctions

4.3.1

Council of The Distinctions members shall be elected or appointed as stated by this Constitution and the Policies and Procedures Manual.

4.3.2

Council of The Distinctions membership election and Council of The Distinctions membership eligibility are subject to the same rules as Executive Board membership election and Executive Board membership eligibility, and conscious affiliate members shall only vote to elect Council of The Distinctions members every other year for 2-year terms as stated in this Constitution and in the Policies and Procedures Manual.

CHAPTER 5 – CONFERENCE OF REALIGIOUS CURATES

5.1 Composition of the Conference of Realigious Curates

5.1.1

TRNI shall have a Conference of Realigious Curates.

5.1.2

The Conference of Realigious Curates shall consist of all Realigious Curates that are in good standing as defined by the Conference's governing board in its Conference Enactments.

5.1.3

Prior to becoming a member of the Conference of Realigious Curates, each Curate shall swear an oath to faithfully honor the tenets of The Distinctions and its associated teachings in administering their duties as members of the Conference of Realigious Curates and shall agree to abide by the Conference Enactments.

5.1.4

The Conference of Realigious Curates shall have a governing board to be established, named and maintained by a vote of the members of the Conference of Realigious Curates who shall also establish the policies, procedures and general rules of the Conference in its guiding document, Conference Enactments. The Conference Enactments shall include a process for Curate credential revocation and censure. The Conference Enactments shall be submitted to the TRNI Executive Board for ratification, which the Executive Board shall not unduly deny without sufficient just cause.

5.1.5

The Conference Enactments may be amended and updated by the Governing Board of the Conference with approval by the Conference membership, and ratification by the TRNI Executive Board.

5.1.6

The operational and procedural guidance shall provide for right of a Curate to appeal censure and revocation decisions to The Council of The Distinctions.

5.1.7

Dues and fees, plus costs related to educational programming, and other expenses (Costs) for Curates and Curate Candidates (Candidates) shall be established by the Governing Board of the Conference of Realigious Curates. Costs for Curates shall be paid by the Church to which each Curate is assigned and if not assigned to a specific Church the Costs may be paid from a fund to be established by TRNI and supported by all affiliated organizations. Costs for a Candidate shall be paid by the sponsoring Church or from a fund to be established by TRNI and supported by all affiliated organizations. Regular members may sponsor the payment of costs for specific Curates or Candidates through specified donations to a conscious affiliate.

5.2 Duties of the Conference of Realigious Curates

5.2.1

The Conference of Realigious Curates shall develop and provide the training, education, ordination and discipline of Curates.

5.2.2

The Conference shall maintain a directory of Curates authorized to serve as Curate of a conscious affiliate.

5.2.3

The Conference of Realigious Curates shall not prohibit an individual from obtaining designation as a Curate based on the individual's race, creed, color, national origin, sex, marital status, sexual identity or orientation, gender or gender identity, age, or prior religious affiliation.

5.3 Election of the Governing Council of the Conference of Realigious Curates

5.3.1

The procedures for election of the Governing Council of the Conference of Realigious Curates shall be determined by the members of the Conference and shall be set forth in the operational and procedural guidance that it provides to TRNI's Executive Board for Ratification.

5.3.4

Prior to becoming a member of the Conference of Realigious Curates each applicant shall first be a regular member of a conscious affiliate and shall swear an oath to faithfully honor the tenets of The Distinctions and its associated teachings in administering their duties as members of the Conference of Realigious Curates.

5.3.5

The Conference of Realigious Curates is responsible for the training, ordination, regulation and censure of all Curates of TRNI and its conscious affiliates.

5.3.6

The Conference of Realigious Curates is responsible for maintaining a directory of Curates authorized by the Conference of Realigious Curates to serve as a Curate of a conscious affiliate.

5.3.7

The Conference of Realigious Curates shall not prohibit an individual from obtaining designation as a Curate based on the individual's race, creed, color, national origin, sex, marital status, sexual identity or orientation, gender or gender identity, age, or prior religious affiliation.

5.4 Duties of the Curate

5.4.1

The purpose of the Curate is to be the Church's spiritual leader in understanding and disseminating the Church's doctrine as established by TRNI.

5.4.2

The Curate shall abide by the tenets of the Curate's ordination. This shall include deference to and teachings from The Distinctions, related writings and other TRNI teachings, as published and modified by TRNI or the Council of the Distinctions.

5.4.3

The Curate shall enjoy the privilege of teaching material not limited to The Distinctions or its related writings if such material embraces the foundational tenants of TRNI. This privilege is subject to review by TRNI, the Conference of Realigious Curates and the Council of the Distinctions.

5.4.4

The Curate shall choose the teachings and messaging for the Church meetings and other official church events. The Curate shall consider the advice and wishes of the Executive Board in making this decision.

5.4.5

The Curate shall strive to attend all Executive Board and committee meetings as feasible.

CHAPTER 6 - TRNI COMMITTEES

6.1 Nature of Committees

6.1.1

The purpose of TRNI committees shall be to manage specific TRNI programs, duties, or projects as assigned by this Constitution, TRNI's Executive Board, or the Council of The Distinctions as duly designated by this Constitution.

6.1.2

A committee only has the authority vested in it by this Constitution or the Executive Board or the Council of The Distinctions. The Council of The Distinctions and the Conference of Curates are uniquely established and are not committees.

6.1.3

Each permanent committee shall be responsible for writing the policies and procedures related to all aspects of their committee and shall submit them to the Executive Board for ratification and inclusion in the TRNI Policies and Procedures Manual.

6.1.4

The Executive Board or Council of The Distinctions shall ensure committees are properly structured, have a clear chain of command, and have a clear sense of purpose and direction.

6.1.5

The Executive Board, or, as applicable, the Council of The Distinctions, shall ensure committees consist of the correct number of people to perform the committee's duties and responsibilities efficiently and effectively.

6.1.6

TRNI shall have permanent committees and may also have ad hoc committees. Permanent committees shall be listed in this chapter of the TRNI Constitution and shall be added or removed as necessary by amending the TRNI Constitution. Ad hoc committees shall have a limited life expectancy, shall automatically dissolve when they complete their purpose or after a specified period of time, and shall not require an amendment to the TRNI Constitution to exist.

6.1.7

The Executive Board shall have the authority to create permanent or ad hoc committees, or to dissolve permanent or ad hoc committees, or to transform a permanent committee to an ad hoc committee, or to transform an ad hoc committee to a permanent committee. A permanent committee shall be created,

modified, or dissolved by two-thirds approval of the Executive Board. An ad hoc committee shall be created or dissolved by a majority vote of the Executive Board.

6.1.8

The Executive Board shall not vote on the creation of any ad hoc committee unless it has designated the purpose of the committee, the number of committee members, the duties of the committee, the manner in which the committee shall be accountable to the Executive Board or to the Council of the Distinctions, the committee's chain of command, and the committee's funding source.

6.1.9

Ad hoc committee members shall serve for a period of time designated by the Executive Board President upon their nomination or, if no time period is designated, until the next annual meeting of TRNI. Permanent committee members shall serve until the next annual meeting.

6.2 Review Committee

6.2.1

TRNI shall have a Review Committee.

6.2.2

The Review Committee shall be a permanent committee.

6.2.3

The Review Committee shall be responsible with receiving formal recommendations and requests (submissions) to TRNI from conscious affiliates, conscious affiliate executive boards, conscious affiliate committees, and/or conscious affiliate members for changes to policy and organizational structure, including changes to the Articles of Organization, the Constitution, The Distinctions document and other related writings, and other TRNI policies and materials. Submissions for changes to The Distinctions shall be forwarded to the Council of The Distinctions. Submissions related to the Model Constitution shall be forwarded to the Local Committee.

6.2.4

The Review Committee shall consist of three committee members elected by the Executive Board upon nomination by the Executive Board President. Each review committee member must be regular member of TRNI.

6.2.5

The committee members shall select a committee chair

6.2.6

The committee chair shall assume or delegate among the committee members the following responsibilities:

- (a) To record minutes of all committee meetings,
- (b) To deliver the regular committee reports on requests and recommendations to the Executive Board at intervals directed by the Board,
- (c) To efficiently guide committee members to ensure all committee duties and responsibilities are thoroughly and appropriately addressed, and
- (d) The administration, oversight, management, record-keeping, and other functions necessary to ensure the proper, diligent, and faithful delivery of the Review Committee's responsibilities.

6.2.7

All submissions to TRNI's Review Committee shall be in a mode, form and manner prescribed by TRNI's Review Committee as stated in the applicable section of TRNI's Policies and Procedures Manual.

6.2.8

When a submission addresses a church tenet as established by The Distinctions and/or its related documents, the Review Committee shall submit that submission to The Council of the Distinctions within 10 business days.

6.2.9

When a submission is for a recommendation or request not named in this Chapter, the Review Committee shall handle that submission as stated in TRNI's Policies and Manual. The Policies and Procedures Manual shall require a response to the submission within a stated period of time and each such response shall state with specificity why The Review Committee is or is not acting upon the submission. The committee's response will further be submitted to the appropriate TRNI committee, or to TRNI Executive Board, as appropriate.

6.3 Membership Committee

6.3.1

TRNI shall have a Membership Committee.

6.3.2

The Membership Committee shall be a permanent committee.

6.3.3

The Membership Committee shall be responsible for maintaining TRNI membership rolls, monitoring membership rolls for all conscious affiliates, coordinating membership rolls between conscious affiliates as necessary, maintaining membership revocation procedures, and other duties as assigned by the Executive Board.

6.3.4

The Executive Board, upon nomination of the President, shall elect an odd number of committee members.

6.3.5

The membership committee has no authority except for what is granted to it by this Constitution or by the Executive Board.

6.3.6

All committee members shall be regular members of a conscious affiliate.

6.3.7

The committee members shall elect a chairperson.

6.3.8

The committee chair shall assume or delegate among the committee members the following responsibilities:

- (a) To record minutes of all committee meetings,
- (b) To deliver regular committee reports on pertinent membership issues and other issues to the Board at intervals as directed by the Board,
- (c) To efficiently guide committee members to ensure all committee duties and responsibilities are thoroughly and appropriately addressed,

- (d) To delegate administration, oversight, management, record-keeping, and other functions necessary to ensure the proper, diligent, and faithful delivery of TRNI's membership needs as defined by this Constitution, the constitutions of the conscious affiliates, and TRNI's Policies and Procedures Manual.

6.3.9

Maintenance of the membership rolls of the conscious affiliates by the membership committee shall be clearly outlined in TRNI's Policies and Procedures Manual.

6.3.10

The membership rolls shall be subject to periodic audit by the Audit Committee as determined by the Policy and Procedures Manual.

6.3.11

Membership revocation procedures shall be clearly defined in each Church's Policies and Procedures Manual and in TRNI's Policies and Procedures Manual.

6.4 Discipline Committee

6.4.1

TRNI shall have a Discipline Committee.

6.4.2

The Discipline Committee shall be a permanent committee.

6.4.3

Three regular members of TRNI as elected by the Executive Board shall comprise the Discipline Committee.

6.4.4

The Discipline Committee shall hear appeals from conscious affiliate members or conscious affiliates with regard to disciplinary hearings first conducted within those conscious affiliates as well as to investigate grievances and complaints and, with cause, to bring charges against TRNI directors and members, including those holding elected and appointed positions at the TRNI level.

6.4.5

Grievances and complaints against Curates shall be first made to the governing board of the Conference of Realigious Curates. Appeals of decisions rendered by the Governing Board of the Conference of Realigious Curates shall be made to the Council of the Distinctions. In the event the Governing Board of the Conference of Realigious Curates denies hearing a grievance or complaint against a Curate an appeal can be made to TRNI's Executive Board who may refer the matter to the Council of The Distinctions.

6.4.6

The Executive Board shall determine the number of members of the Discipline Committee by majority vote. The Discipline Committee shall consist of at least three members, shall have an odd number of members, and shall be comprised of TRNI regular members.

6.4.7

The Discipline Committee has no authority except for what is granted it by this Constitution or by the Executive Board.

6.4.8

All Discipline Committee members shall be members of a conscious affiliate.

6.4.9

The Committee Chair shall assume or delegate among the committee members the following responsibilities:

- (a) To record minutes of all committee meetings,
- (b) To deliver regular committee reports on discipline and other issues to the Executive Board at intervals as directed by the Executive Board,
- (c) To efficiently guide committee members to ensure all committee duties and responsibilities are thoroughly and appropriately addressed,
- (d) The administration, oversight, management, record-keeping, and other functions necessary to ensure the proper, diligent, and faithful delivery of TRNI's discipline policy,

- (e) These responsibilities may be further defined in the Policies and Procedures manual.

6.4.10

Each conscious affiliate shall have a discipline committee whose purpose shall be to address discipline matters that arise within the local affiliate organization. TRNI's Discipline Committee shall have the right to observe local affiliate disciplinary hearings that take place at the local affiliate level to ensure that each conscious affiliate is adhering to the local affiliate's constitution, its Policies and Procedures Manual, the Constitution and Policies and Procedures Manual of TRNI, The Distinctions document and its related writings.

6.4.11

Discipline of regular members shall proceed in the following manner:

- a) The member shall be presented or served with a notice stating that the member is subject to potential discipline, when and where the Discipline Committee shall discuss the potential discipline, and the potential consequences of discipline. This notice shall be presented or served to the Member at least seven days before the scheduled Disciplinary Committee hearing.
- b) The Disciplinary Committee hearing shall proceed in absentia of any committee member as long as Disciplinary Committee reaches quorum and as long as the Member was presented or served with the notice.
- c) A duly appointed person shall take minutes at any Disciplinary Committee hearing. That person shall not be the Member subject to discipline, and it shall not be the Examiner.
- d) The Examiner shall be a TRNI regular member, appointed by the chairperson of the Council of The Distinctions. The Examiner shall commence a disciplinary hearing by listing the reasons for potential discipline against the Member as well as any background information or circumstances as necessary. The Examiner shall present at the hearing the claims and charges against the member who is subject to discipline. The Examiner represents the position of the party or parties that have been adversely affected while respecting the interest of the whole TRNI community. The Examiner may call witnesses and present evidence and may not withhold any evidence that is material to the charges. The Examiner shall reconcile the charges and the evidence in light of the teachings of TRNI including The Distinctions Document and its related writings and shall move the charges be dismissed should there be insufficient evidence to sustain the charges or should there be sufficient evidence contrary to the charges. If, during the hearing the Examiner believes sufficient evidence exists to support the charges the Examiner shall move the hearing be closed and a determination be rendered by the Disciplinary Committee. Should the case involve a charge by one or more members against one or more other members, the Examiner's roll is to bring all relevant information to the case for a proper determination.

- e) The Member subject to discipline has the right to make statements, call witnesses, present affidavits or other documents, or take other action in the Member's defense as permitted by the Discipline Committee. The Member may have a representative if allowed by the Discipline Committee.
- f) Members of Disciplinary Committee shall have the right to question the Member subject to discipline, the Examiner, witnesses, or any other party needed to ascertain their opinion of the matter at issue.
- g) When the Member subject to discipline and the Examiner have nothing further to state for the record, or when the Disciplinary Committee determines both parties have been allowed sufficient time to present their evidence, the Disciplinary Committee shall close the evidentiary portion of the discipline hearing.
- h) After the close of the evidentiary portion of the discipline hearing, the Examiner shall either affirmatively state that the Disciplinary Committee should discipline the Member or that their inquiry is satisfied and that discipline is not necessary.
- i) If the Examiner recommends discipline against the member, the Disciplinary Committee shall confer privately and determine whether to discipline the member and what discipline should be dispensed. This portion of the hearing is not subject to the taking of minutes.
- j) The Discipline Committee's decision in a disciplinary matter shall be by a majority vote.
- k) A member of the Discipline Committee serving as representative shall announce to the Member subject to discipline, the Examiner, and the minute-keeper the results of the decision.
- l) The Discipline Committee shall have discretion to determine discipline for any membership violation except past-due membership dues and fees.
- m) TRNI's Board shall adhere to TRNI membership policy with regard to dues and fees and shall have no discretionary authority in disciplinary matters.
- n) If discipline is taken, the reason for discipline and nature of the discipline shall be recorded in the Member's official records and shall be disclosed to conscious affiliate members upon request.

6.5 Audit Committee

6.5.1

TRNI shall have an Audit Committee.

6.5.2

The Audit Committee shall be a permanent committee.

6.5.3

The Audit Committee shall be responsible for carrying out a process for testing the accuracy, timeliness, and reliability of information presented in TRNI's financial statements and to enhance internal control. This purpose shall be advanced by developing guidelines for the collection, analysis and dissemination of all pertinent information.

6.5.4

The President of the Executive Board shall annually appoint one committee member. The Committee should consist of three members each having a term of three years with alternating expiration dates. A committee member shall be appointed once a year or as needed by a majority vote of the Executive Board. The Committee shall change annually by one member so as to maintain external objectivity.

6.5.5

The committee members shall elect a chairperson.

6.5.6

The Committee shall meet after the close of the fiscal year to test the accuracy of the annual financial records. Any supplemental meetings necessary may be called by the Chair. The Committee should analyze records by way of physical examinations, confirmation, documentation, observations, inquiries, and re-performance. The Committee should follow TRNI's list of review and/or audit procedures for the annual cycle specifying procedure timing, sample sizes and selection methods. The testing procedure will be qualifying relevance, sufficiency, and competence of accounting procedures applied. An annual report will be submitted to the Executive Board following the complete review and/or audit by the Committee with findings and recommendations presented for approval.

6.5.7

The committee shall organize a review and/or audit performed by a third party every 4 years starting with the 2021 fiscal year.

6.5.8

The Committee should confine itself to only those issues that have an impact on the financial operations of the organization. The Committee can best represent TRNI by lending the knowledge and expertise of the committee members to advise the Executive Board as to the financial stability of the organization.

6.5.9

The Committee serves in an advisory capacity to the Executive Board. The positions taken by the committee on review and audit policies and guidelines must

be adopted by the Executive Board before they become the official position of TRNI. No member of the Committee should represent themselves as an official representative of TRNI or any affiliated organization without approval from the President of the Executive Board.

6.5.10

A review and/or audit shall allow for the collection of all accounting materials, including receipts, deposit slips, invoices, cancelled checks, bank statements, statements regarding lost or illegible materials, the last annual financial report, and monthly financial reports.

6.5.11

The Audit Committee shall review all accounts used, including all income accounts, deposits records including income type, deposits reconciled to bank statements, expense accounts, and checks reconciled to bank statements.

6.5.12

The Audit Committee shall verify materials, including the starting balance, invoice or receipts for expenditure, Executive Board-approved budget for each expense type, ensuring expenditures are within the approved budget, that account(s) starting and ending balances match the organization's ledger, that restricted funds are accounted for within the purpose established, any financial agreements or contracts, and a receipt for every expense transaction.

6.5.13

The Audit Committee shall identify and report to TRNI's executive board on any outstanding difference between the organization's reports and bank statements, annual income by category, annual expense by category, the amount and percentage difference from the budget and any discrepancies or suggested improvements to the organization's financial reporting.

6.5.14

The Committee Chair shall assume or delegate among the Committee Members the following responsibilities:

- (a) To record minutes of all committee meetings,
- (b) To deliver regular committee reports on programming and other issues to the Board at intervals directed by the Board,
- (c) To efficiently guide committee members to ensure all committee duties and responsibilities are thoroughly and appropriately addressed, and

- (d) The administration, oversight, management, record-keeping, and other functions necessary to ensure the proper, diligent, and faithful delivery of TRNI's review and auditing functions.

6.6 Local Committee

6.6.1

TRNI shall have a Local Committee.

6.6.2

The Local Committee shall be a permanent committee consisting of at least three and an odd number of TRNI regular members.

6.6.3

The Local Committee shall be responsible to plan the annual meeting and to record the minutes of the annual meeting.

6.6.4

The Local Committee shall be responsible to maintain the model constitution and the model Policies and Procedures Manual used by conscious affiliates.

6.6.5

The Local Committee shall be responsible to coordinate mutually productive relationships between TRNI and the conscious affiliates and between the various conscious affiliates in a manner determined by TRNI's Executive Board and by the Local Committee.

6.6.6

The Local Committee shall be responsible for maintaining TRNI's website and its social media presence.

CHAPTER 7 - MEETINGS

7.1 Annual Meeting Schedule

7.1.1

The annual meeting of TRNI shall be held at 1 p.m. on the Saturday following the first Sunday of December or as otherwise designated by the Executive Board. The location shall be a place designated by the Local Committee upon the advice and consent of the Executive Board.

7.1.2

The Local Committee shall coordinate the meeting and shall provide reasonable accommodations to facilitate the meeting, including voting materials, furniture, audio or video equipment, refreshments, and other items requested by the Executive Board.

7.1.3

All TRNI conscious affiliate members shall have at least 30 days' written notice of the time, date, and location of the TRNI annual meeting. The written notice may be made by posting at TRNI Offices or the primary meeting place of the TRNI.

7.1.4

At minimum, the purpose of the annual meeting is to elect the incoming Executive Board and, in applicable years, to elect the incoming Council of The Distinctions.

7.2 Protocol of Official Meetings

7.2.1

Minutes shall be kept for all annual, Executive Board and committee meetings.

7.2.2

The Executive Board Secretary shall keep minutes at the Executive Board meeting unless another person is designated by the Board.

7.2.3

The Local Committee shall keep minutes at the annual meeting.

7.2.4

An appointed member of each committee shall keep minutes at each committee meeting unless another person is designated by this Constitution, the Executive Board or the committee.

7.2.5

Minutes for all committee meetings shall be filed with the Executive Board Secretary within 60 days of the meeting or within 7 days of the meeting if requested by the Board.

7.2.6

All meetings shall be open to conscious affiliate members except as designated by this Constitution or by the Policies and Procedures Manual.

CHAPTER 8 – MEMBERSHIP

8.1 The Nature of Membership

8.1.1

A person who is a regular member of a conscious affiliate is also a member of TRNI at the same designated membership level.

8.1.2

Membership in TRNI is a privilege rather than a right. However, once granted, membership brings with it rights, privileges, responsibilities and conditions.

8.1.3

All TRNI members who have the same membership classification are to be treated the same under TRNI rules unless through action properly taken by a discipline committee.

8.1.4

A membership year shall coincide with TRNI's fiscal year.

8.2 Membership Eligibility and Voting

8.2.1

Any person may become a member of a conscious affiliate within TRNI if they meet the following requirements:

- a) Prospective member is of the age of legal capacity within the jurisdiction of the member's conscious affiliate,
- b) Membership in a conscious affiliate has not previously been revoked unless waiver is obtained through TRNI's Executive Board or Membership Committee,
- c) Not a member of any other religious entity, and
- d) Pays the membership initiation fee unless waiver is obtained through TRNI or its membership committee.

8.2.2

TRNI, through its membership committee, shall create and maintain a membership directory through which its conscious affiliates shall cross-reference individuals who seek membership in a conscious affiliate to ensure the conscious affiliate's

applicant has designated a primary affiliate relationship and to ensure the individual is not barred from membership in a conscious affiliate by the determination of TRNI's Discipline Committee.

8.2.3

Individuals may become a member of and may maintain membership in more than one conscious affiliate by making application and paying the member initiation fee and by maintaining active support of each such conscious affiliate. Individuals maintaining membership in more than one conscious affiliate may vote at each such local affiliate for individuals running for local elected positions and may vote on local ballot items. Individuals holding multiple local affiliate memberships must designate one local conscious affiliate as being primary through which that individual may vote for special ballot issues at the TRNI level. In no event shall any member cast more than one vote for an individual special ballot item at the TRNI level.

8.2.4

Members may only vote

8.3 Rights and Duties of Members

8.3.1

All members shall have the right to identify themselves as members of TRNI and of the member's conscious affiliate(s).

8.3.2

Members shall have the duty to monetarily support the conscious affiliate(s) to which they are a member.

8.3.3

Members shall have the duty to abide by the rules set forth by their conscious affiliates and TRNI including supporting TRNI by supporting their local conscious affiliate(s).

8.3.4

All members facing discipline have the right to have a hearing conducted by the rules established in the Constitutions of TRNI and in the member's conscious affiliate.

8.3.5

A member, having had a disciplinary hearing of any manner with the member's conscious affiliate, shall have the right to appeal the results of the hearing to the Discipline Committee of TRNI for one or more of the following reasons:

- a) The hearing resulted in a mis-finding of fact,
- b) The hearing resulted in punishment not allowed under TRNI rules or under the rules of the conscious affiliate,
- c) The hearing resulted in a punishment that is arbitrary and capricious, or
- d) The hearing did not follow the rules established by the Constitution or by the Policies and Procedures Manual of the conscious affiliate.

8.4 Membership Code of Ethics

8.4.1

The Code of Ethics applies to all Executive Board members, committee members, and members of TRNI. All organizations and individuals with any associative, employee, contractor, member, or other relationship with TRNI and its conscious affiliates are subject to TRNI's code of ethics policies.

8.4.2

The Code of Ethics shall be maintained in the Policies and Procedures Manual. Violations of the Code of Ethics may lead to discipline as stated in the Policies and Procedures Manual.

8.4.3

The purposes of the code of ethics shall be:

- a) To build respect, credibility, and strategic importance within and outside the organizations.
- b) To assist TRNI and the conscious affiliates in achieving their goals.
- c) To adhere to the highest standards of ethical behavior.

- d) To measure the effectiveness of programs as a way to judge if goals have been met.
- e) To strive to live a life compatible with The Distinctions and other teachings of TRNI.
- f) To set high standards and serve as examples for others.
- g) To question pending group and individual actions when necessary to ensure decisions are made and implemented in an ethical manner.
- h) To foster fairness and justice throughout the Church.
- i) To create and sustain an environment that encourages all individuals and the organization to reach their fullest potential in a positive and productive manner.
- j) To respect the uniqueness and intrinsic worth of every individual.
- k) To treat people with dignity, respect and compassion. To foster a trusting work environment free of harassment, intimidation, and unlawful discrimination.
- l) To ensure everyone has the opportunity to develop their skills and new competencies.
- m) To assure an environment of inclusiveness and a commitment to diversity within TRNI and each conscious affiliate.
- n) To develop, administer and advocate policies and procedures that foster fair, consistent and equitable treatment for all.
- o) To support decisions made by TRNI and the conscious affiliates that are both ethical and legal, regardless of the personal interests of the decision-makers.
- p) To act in a responsible manner and practice sound management.

8.5 Regular Membership

8.5.1

Regular membership is the highest membership level available to TRNI members and is attained by becoming a member of a conscious affiliate.

8.5.2

Regular membership is available to individuals who have attained the ability to

reason and understand the purpose of the organization, its teachings, goals and objectives.

8.5.3

Regular membership is not available to individuals whose membership was previously revoked by a TRNI conscious affiliate unless explicitly approved by the TRNI Membership Committee.

8.5.4

An individual shall become a regular member of the Church upon completion of all of the following requirements:

- a) Completion of a membership application,
- b) Payment of a membership initiation fee as set by the Policies and Procedures Manuals of TRNI and the conscious affiliate,
- c) Payment of any other dues or fees as set by the Policies and Procedures Manuals of TRNI and the conscious affiliate,
- d) Approval by the Church Membership Committee in conjunction with standards and procedures established by TRNI, and
- e) Recitation of the Church's Covenant and a voice affirmation by the Church membership at a regular Church service.

8.5.5

An individual may be a member of more than one TRNI conscious affiliate (Church) and may vote at each conscious affiliate to which they are a member and must delegate a primary membership through which to vote in TRNI elections.

8.5.6

Regular members must adhere to the following responsibilities:

- a) Annual financial support must be maintained,
- b) Member shall not be a member of any other religion, and
- c) Member shall live a life in accordance with the principles and teachings of TRNI and the Church.

8.5.7

Regular members in active status shall enjoy:

- a) The right to identify oneself as a Church member and TRNI member,

- b) The right to participate in elections,
- c) The right to seek elected position in the Church(es) to which they are a member and in TRNI leadership,
- d) The right to apply for acceptance into Curate training and other educational programs established by The Conference of Realigious Curates,
- e) The right to seek personal guidance from the Church Curate(s), teacher(s), or counselor(s) in a mode and manner dictated by the Church Executive Board, The Distinctions and The Conference of Realigious Curates),
- f) The right to participate in Church meals,
- g) The right to use Church facilities for individual celebrations as available and as approved by Programming Committee.
- h) The right to attend all Church events, including regular services, meetings, and special events, and
- i) The right to enjoy other privileges as established by the Membership Committee.

8.5.8

Regular membership may be revoked or members disciplined for the following reasons:

- a) False or misleading statements about Church teachings to non-members, or
- b) False or misleading statements about the member's role or authority in the Church to non-members, or
- c) Acting against a Church member in an illegal or immoral manner, or
- d) Acting in a manner to cause extraordinary unrest among Church members, or
- e) Non-payment of Church dues and/or fees for at least 90 days beyond the due date and with at least one written warning by the Church that dues are overdue, or
- f) A reason approved by a majority vote of the Executive Board.

8.5.9

- a) Regular membership shall be automatically placed into inactive status when recordable financial support has not been provided by the member for a period of time that exceeds six months.
- b) The regular member shall automatically be returned to active status following the continuance of providing financial support to the Church unless determined

otherwise by the Discipline Committee of the Church.

8.5.10

- a) Regular membership shall be revoked when a majority of the Church Discipline Committee votes that there is cause to revoke membership.
- b) An appeal of the decision made by the Church's Discipline Committee may be made to TRNI's Discipline Committee.

8.5.11

A revocation hearing shall proceed in the same manner as a disciplinary hearing.

8.5.12

No former member of any Realigious affiliate shall become a member of this Church if their membership in a Realigious affiliate was revoked unless one of the following:

- a) They receive a written statement from TRNI declaring they are eligible for Church membership, or
- b) They receive a written statement from the Board of the Church that revoked their previous membership, and that statement indicates they are eligible for membership. The Church that revoked their previous membership shall not have the authority to issue such a letter if the previous revocation was appealed to TRNI, or
- c) They receive a written statement from the Board of that affiliate which states they are eligible for membership in this Church. The Board of this Church shall not have the authority to issue such a letter if the previous revocation was appealed to TRNI.

8.5.13

A Church member may rescind membership at any time for any reason by delivering in writing a statement that they immediately rescind their membership in the Church to either the Church Curate, the President of the Executive Board, or a member of the Church's Membership Committee. No prorated refund of dues or fees shall be available to a rescinded member.

8.5.14

A Church member may rescind membership in this Church by transferring their membership to another conscious affiliate. The membership committee of the member's new conscious affiliate shall notify the previous church within 14 days that the Member has transferred their membership to the new conscious affiliate. The membership committee of the member's old church shall notify the new conscious affiliate within 14 days of receipt of notice that they have removed the member from the previous church's membership and through what date the

member's dues are valid. The member shall be granted dues credit at the new church for the portion of time for which they paid at the previous church. No money shall be exchanged between the churches during this exchange.

8.5.15

Regular Membership is open without regard to disability, employment status, source of income, language, political opinion, nationality, race, ethnicity, sex, gender, gender identity, sexual orientation, national origin, marital status, or prior religious affiliation.

8.5.16

Membership shall become void upon the death of the Member.

8.6 Associate Membership

8.6.1

Associate Membership shall be available to individuals who are interested in learning about church teachings but are not ready to commit to regular membership and its responsibilities.

8.6.2

Associate Membership may be granted to any individual who is not a Regular Member of the Church. It is not for individuals who have no interest or intention of becoming a Regular Member.

8.6.3

An individual may become an associate member of the Church upon written approval of two individuals:

- a) The nominating approver shall be a Church Curate, a regular member of the Church, or an appointed authority of TRNI.
- b) The succeeding approver shall be the senior Church Curate or a member of the Church Membership Committee. The succeeding approver shall not be the nominating approver of an individual associate member applicant.

8.6.4

Associate Membership may be revoked by a majority vote of the Church Board or by a majority vote of the Church Membership Committee. Revocation may be at any time for any reason or for no reason. Revocation of Associate Membership does not require the concurrence of TRNI or its duly appointed authority.

8.6.5

Upon revocation of an associate membership the Church board shall notify the

Membership Committee of TRNI.

8.6.6

Associate members are not eligible to vote or to hold elected or appointed office.

8.7 Institutional Affiliate Membership

8.7.1

Institutional Affiliate Memberships shall be available to individuals and organizations/institutions involved with scientific, humanist, religious, realigious, secular or other related areas who want to support some aspect of the Church. Institutional Affiliate members are not eligible to vote or to hold elected or appointed Church office but may hold advisory and consultative positions on committees and boards.

8.7.2

An individual may become an affiliate member of the Church upon written approval of two individuals:

- a) The nominating approver shall be a Church Curate, a regular member of the Church, or an appointed authority of TRNI.
- (a) The succeeding approver shall be a Church Curate or a majority vote of the Church Membership Committee. The Curate shall not both nominate and approve.

8.7.3

Affiliate Memberships are revocable by a majority vote of the Church Board or Church Membership Committee and does not require the concurrence of TRNI or its duly appointed agents.

8.7.4

Upon revocation of an affiliate membership the Church Board shall notify the Membership Committee of TRNI.

CHAPTER 9 – STAFF

9.1 TRNI Staff

9.1.1

TRNI staff means any paid TRNI personnel excluding Executive Board members or committee members. Staff includes the Curate, educators, counselors, and any other person classified by TRNI as an employee or agent.

9.1.2

TRNI members and members of TRNI's conscious affiliates shall receive preference in hiring for TRNI staff positions if those members are qualified for the position.

9.1.3

TRNI's Policies and Procedures Manual shall provide staff and personnel policies in line with applicable law and the mission of TRNI and its conscious affiliates.

9.1.4

TRNI shall comply with all applicable federal, state, and local employment laws.

9.1.5

TRNI's compensation arrangements shall be based upon information about compensation paid by similarly situated taxable or tax-exempt organizations for similar services, current compensation surveys compiled by independent firms, or actual written offers from similarly situated organizations, or as otherwise duly authorized by TRNI's Policy and Procedure manual.

9.2 Staff and Member Whistleblower Policy

9.2.1

TRNI requires Executive Board members, committee members, regular members, and all employees to observe high standards of business and personal ethics conducting their TRNI duties and responsibilities. As representatives of TRNI, they must act with honesty and integrity in fulfilling their responsibilities and must comply with all applicable laws, regulations, and with TRNI policies and procedures.

9.2.2

This Whistleblower Policy is intended to encourage and enable employees and others to raise serious concerns internally so that TRNI can address and correct inappropriate conduct and actions. It is the responsibility of all Executive Board members, committee members, regular members, and employees to report concerns about violations of TRNI's Articles of Incorporation, Constitution, Policies and Procedures Manual, code of ethics, or suspected violations of law or regulations that govern TRNI's operations.

9.2.3

It is contrary to the values of TRNI for anyone to retaliate against any Executive Board member, committee member, regular member, or employee who in good faith reports an ethics violation, or a suspected violation of law, such as a complaint of discrimination, or suspected fraud, or suspected violation of any regulation governing the operations of TRNI. Anyone associated with TRNI who retaliates against someone who has reported a violation in good faith is subject to discipline by the Discipline Committee.

9.2.4

TRNI suggests that members and employees share their questions, concerns, suggestions or complaints with the Discipline Committee. If an individual is not comfortable speaking with the Discipline Committee, he or she is encouraged to speak with the Curate or a member of the Executive Board. Board members and committee members are required to report complaints or concerns about suspected ethical and legal violations in writing to the Discipline Committee, which has the responsibility to investigate all reported complaints. Employees with concerns or complaints may also submit their concerns in writing directly to their supervisor or the Discipline Committee.

9.2.5

The Discipline Committee is responsible for ensuring that all complaints about unethical or illegal conduct are investigated and resolved. The committee shall advise the Executive Board of all complaints and their resolution.

9.2.6

Anyone filing a written complaint concerning a violation or suspected violation must be acting in good faith and have reasonable grounds for believing the information disclosed indicates a violation. Any allegations that prove not to be substantiated

and which prove to have been made maliciously or knowingly to be false will be viewed as a disciplinary offense and subject to review by the Discipline Committee.

9.2.7

Violations or suspected violations may be submitted on a confidential basis by the complainant. Reports of violations or suspected violations will be kept confidential to the extent possible, consistent with the need to conduct an adequate investigation.

9.2.8

The Discipline Committee shall handle all referred complaints as instructed by this Constitution and the Policies and Procedures Manual.

9.3 Financial Management Policy

9.3.1

An executive board member, committee member, or employee's travel expenses will be reimbursed as governed by the Policies and Procedures Manual.

9.3.2

TRNI's Policies and Procedures Manual shall regulate in detail how TRNI cash is handled, including checks and safeguards.

9.3.3

The method by which TRNI's assets are invested shall be governed by the Policies and Procedures Manual.

9.3.4

The Policies and Procedures Manual shall regulate in detail the TRNI gift acceptance policy for Executive Board members, committee members, Curates, all conscious affiliate members, employees, and all staff.

CHAPTER 10 – WORSHIP, TEACHING, RITUALS & CUSTOMS

10.1 The Nature of Realigious Worship

10.1.1

Each of us, member and non-member alike, only have the time that we are here on this earth to become who we are capable of becoming and we only have a limited set of opportunities to help others along the path of becoming who they are capable of becoming, and given that we are each an infinitesimally small part of the creation and therefore an infinitesimally small part of god, we shall worship within the Church and outside of the Church. We shall regularly engage in worship at regular Church meetings, at other Church events, and in the course of our daily lives. We shall each worship by being our best selves, by striving for growth in ourselves, and by supporting growth in others. Included within the purpose of every Church meeting is to worship as we are inspired by The Distinctions and its related writings.

10.1.2

It is the duty of TRNI, The Conference of Realigious Curates, and the Council of The Distinctions to assist its conscious affiliates by defining worship and in assisting the members of those conscious affiliates in worship at their regular organization meetings, at other organization events, and in the course of their daily lives.

10.1.3

The Conference of Realigious Curates and the Council of The Distinctions shall provide guidance to Curates and conscious affiliate members as to the nature of conscious worship as is inspired by and expressed in The Distinctions and its related writings.

10.1.4

All conscious affiliate members have a duty to engage in worship by being his or her best self, by striving for growth in himself or herself, and by supporting growth in others.

10.2 Teaching Realigious Truths

10.2.1

Each of us, member and non-member alike, only have the time that we are here on this earth to become who we are capable of becoming and we only have a

limited set of opportunities to help others along the path of becoming who they are capable of becoming. We shall therefore teach realigious truths within the Church and outside of the Church as inspired by The Distinctions and its related writings as are from time to time amended by the Council of the Distinctions. We shall seek opportunities to teach at regular Church meetings, at other Church events, and in the course of our daily lives. We shall teach others and shall be living examples for others by being our best selves, by striving for growth in ourselves, and by supporting growth in others. Included within the purpose of every Church meeting is to teach realigious truths.

10.2.2

It is the duty of TRNI, The Conference of Realigious Curates, and the Council of The Distinctions to assist its conscious affiliates by providing materials and training that teach realigious truths and that assist the members of those conscious affiliates in learning and in teaching others. Teaching shall be a regular component at regular organization meetings, at other organization events, and in the course of our daily lives.

10.2.3

TRNI, through The Conference of Realigious Curates and the Council of The Distinctions, shall provide educational materials to Curates, conscious affiliates and members for use in teaching the realigious truths as expressed in The Distinctions and its related writings.

10.2.4

All conscious affiliate members have a duty to become educated on realigious truths and teachings including The Distinctions and its related writings as a part of becoming his or her best self, in the pursuit of personal growth, and as a part of becoming better prepared to teach and to support growth in others.

10.3 Realigious Rituals, Customs and Traditions

10.3.1

Being organized early in first century of the third millennium according to the Gregorian calendar, The Realigious Network is a young religion that does not seek to build its Rituals, Customs and Traditions upon the religions that have come before us. Ours is a new form of religion that is established apart from historic supernaturalism. The Realigious Network has at its foundation The Distinctions and its related writings, the Constitutions of TRNI and its Conscious affiliates, the Churches and our members. Each part of our organization shall all contribute to the evolution of what will become the Realigious Rituals, Customs and Traditions of the Realigious Network. The Rituals, Customs and Traditions that develop within TRNI and its conscious affiliates shall naturally evolve based on the needs and the

desires of those involved and shall not be an exclusive dictate from one individual, board or committee.

10.3.2

As Rituals, Customs and Traditions are woven into the fabric of our organization they shall be shaped by the members and protected and refined within the structural fabric of the Network. It is the duty of TRNI, through The Conference of Realigious Curates and the Council of The Distinctions to facilitate the evolution of Realigious Rituals, Customs and Traditions within TRNI and its conscious affiliates by providing a forum for the exchange of ideas and materials that are developed throughout the organization.

CHAPTER 11 - CONTROLS

11.1 Ecclesiastical Not-for-Profit Organization

11.1.1

TRNI shall forever be operated as an ecclesiastical not-for-profit organization. No TRNI property shall inure to an individual or a for-profit organization.

11.1.2

TRNI shall obtain and retain non-profit and religious status under Sec. 501 of the Internal Revenue Code or its successor legislation.

11.1.3

TRNI shall ensure its conscious affiliates are also ecclesiastical non-profit organizations.

11.2 Accounting and Bookkeeping

11.2.1

TRNI's fiscal year shall be from January 1 through December 31.

11.2.2

TRNI shall maintain its accounts and bookkeeping in accordance with all legal and financial requirements for ecclesiastical non-profit corporations in the United States, the State of Michigan, and under the rules set forth in the Policies and Procedures Manual.

11.2.3

The accounts and other financial records of TRNI shall be available for inspection by TRNI regular members upon request by their primary Church Executive Board and within a reasonable period of time. TRNI members shall not disseminate any account or financial record information to any person who is not a TRNI member.

11.3 (reserved for future use)

11.4 Revenue

11.4.1

TRNI shall receive its revenue as follows:

- (a) By tithes and offerings made by TRNI members or TRNI's conscious affiliates to the TRNI general fund,
- (b) By tithes and offerings made by TRNI members or TRNI's conscious affiliates

- to a restricted fund,
- (c) By gifts made by non-members as authorized by an Executive Board, and
- (d) Through other sources as authorized by an Executive Board and in accordance with TRNI guidelines and principles.

11.4.2

Sharing percentages for dues, fees and other revenue received by affiliated conscious affiliates shall be established annually by the TRNI Executive Board at their October meeting for the following year. This date may be changed by the Executive Board to allow each affiliated organization time to prepare their annual budgets. Each conscious affiliate shall be responsible for their own budgets and expenses and for financially supporting TRNI as directed by TRNI through the actions and policies adopted by TRNI's Executive Board.

11.5 Payments and Property Transfers

11.5.1

TRNI salaries, fees, accounts payable, and other disbursements may be made from TRNI funds as authorized by the Policies and Procedures Manual if made by the duly appointed authority of TRNI. This shall not include amounts lower than a nominal monetary value established by the Policies and Procedures Manual. Any such disbursement shall be identified in writing.

11.5.2

The Policies and Procedures Manual shall describe detailed procedures to ensure the integrity of TRNI's property and finances. Specifically, no individual or for-profit entity shall inure personal gain from TRNI property. Adequate safeguards shall be established to ensure TRNI property is handled in an honest, secure, transparent, and legal manner.

11.5.3

The Executive Board may authorize a debit card to selected TRNI representatives solely for the purpose of TRNI expenses.

11.6 Budget

11.6.1

The Executive Board shall annually approve the organization's budget not later than January 31 in the budget year.

11.6.2

The budget shall be approved by a majority vote of the Executive Board.

11.6.3

Any expenditure greater than an amount specified in the Policies and Procedures Manual and made prior to the annual budget approval must be in the ordinary course of business unless explicitly authorized by a majority vote of the Executive Board.

11.6.4

Each conscious affiliate shall annually, upon approval of its budget, submit a copy of the approved budget to TRNI's Executive Board or its designated committee.

11.6.5

Conscious affiliates, their committees, and their appointed agents may not acquire or sell real property without a majority vote of the conscious affiliate's Executive Boards.

11.6.6

Conscious affiliates, their committees, and their appointed agents may not acquire any indebtedness secured by the conscious affiliate, its committees, or its property without a two-thirds majority vote of the Executive Boards of the conscious affiliate and TRNI.

11.7 Special Funds

11.7.1

The Executive Board Treasurer, under the direction of the Executive Board, shall establish funds for specific projects.

11.7.2

Funds may be perpetual or established solely for the completion of a specific goal.

11.8 Debt

11.8.1

TRNI members, committees, Curates, and affiliated organizations may not incur debt in the name of TRNI.

11.8.2

The incurring of debt by TRNI requires a two-thirds majority vote of the Executive Board.

11.9 Indemnification and Arbitration

11.9.1 Limited Liability for Directors

A volunteer director of the Corporation shall not be personally liable to the Corporation for the monetary damages for a breach of the volunteer director's fiduciary duty except for liability for any of the following:

- a) A breach of the volunteer director's duty of loyalty to the Corporation;
- b) Acts or omissions not in good faith or that involve intentional misconduct or a knowing violation of the law;
- c) A violation of section 551(1) of the Michigan Nonprofit Corporations Act;
- d) A transaction from which the volunteer director derived an improper personal benefit;
- e) An act or omission occurring before the effective date of this section 11.9; or
- f) An act or omission that is grossly negligent.

For the purposes of this this section, "volunteer director" means an Executive Board Member who does not receive anything of more than nominal value from the Corporation for serving as director other than reasonable per diem compensation and reimbursement for actual, reasonable and necessary expenses incurred by a director in his or her capacity as a director.

Any repeal, modification or adoption of any provisions in these Articles of Incorporation inconsistent with this section 11.9 shall not adversely affect any right or protection of a volunteer director of the Corporation existing at the time of such repeal, modification or adoption.

11.9.2 Limited Liability for Nondirector Volunteers

The Corporation shall assume all liability for all acts or omissions of a nondirector volunteer occurring on or after the effective date of this section 11.9 if all of the following conditions are met:

- a) The nondirector volunteer was acting or reasonably believed they were acting within the scope of their authority;
- b) The nondirector volunteer was acting in good faith;

- c) The nondirector volunteer's conduct did not amount to gross negligence or willful and wanton misconduct;
- d) The nondirector volunteer's conduct was not an intentional tort; and
- e) The nondirector volunteer's conduct was not a tort arising out of the ownership, maintenance, or use of a motor vehicle for which tort liability may be imposed as provided in Section 3135 of the insurance code of 1956, Act No. 218 of the Public Acts of 1956, being section 500.3135 of the Michigan Compiled Laws.

For purposes of section 11.9, "nondirector volunteer" means an individual performing services for the Corporation, other than a volunteer director, who does not receive compensation or any other type of consideration for the services other than reimbursement for expenses actually incurred.

Any repeal, modification or adoption of any provisions in these Articles of Incorporation inconsistent with this Article VIII shall not adversely affect any right or protection of a nondirector volunteer of the Corporation existing at the time of such repeal, modification or adoption.

11.9.3 Liability Insurance

The Corporation may purchase and maintain insurance to protect itself and any such volunteer director, officer, nondirector volunteer, or other person against any liability asserted against him or her and incurred by him or her in respect of such service whether or not the Corporation would have the power to indemnify him or her against such liability by law or under these provisions.

The right to indemnify shall not be exclusive, and the Corporation may provide indemnification to any person, by agreement or otherwise, on such terms and conditions as the Executive Board may approve that are not inconsistent with the Michigan Nonprofit Corporation Act (or other law). Any agreement for indemnification of any volunteer director, officer, nondirector volunteer, or other person may provide for indemnification rights which are broader or otherwise different from those set forth in, or provided pursuant to, or in accordance with this section. Any amendment, alteration, modification, repeal or adoption of any provision in this Constitution inconsistent with this section shall not adversely affect any indemnification right or protection of a volunteer director, officer, nondirector volunteer, or other person existing at the time of such amendment, alteration, modification, repeal or adoption.

11.9.4

Except as otherwise specified in 11.9.1, 11.9.2 and 11.9.3 all TRNI Executive Board members, committee members, Curates, teachers, educators, and other TRNI representatives shall be indemnified against third-party judgment while that individual is acting in his or her official TRNI capacity. They shall be indemnified against individual losses or damages they may incur in the regular course of their duties.

11.9.5

All TRNI members shall agree to pursue binding arbitration through an arbitrator specified by TRNI and not civil litigation against TRNI, its members, its officers, its staff, its educators and counselors, its Curates, agents, or any other person or entity acting under the legal authority of TRNI or its associated entities. By accepting membership in the conscious affiliate and agreeing to abide by TRNI's Constitution, an individual surrenders his or her right to sue the Church and explicitly agrees to abide by the decision of a third-party arbitrator in any dispute that may arise.

11.9.6

The arbitration process shall be detailed in TRNI's Policies and Procedures Manual.

11.9.7

This subchapter shall not prevent a TRNI member or authorized guest from pursuing a legal claim for personal injury against an insurance company.

CHAPTER 12 - AUXILIARY AND SERVICE ORGANIZATIONS

12.1.0

The Executive Board may choose to foster various phases of members' lives and support member activities such as youth groups, men and ladies' groups, education, activity groups, and other similar endeavors. The Executive Board may also choose to provide for mission, outreach, community service, or other types of activities.

12.2.0

The Executive Board may create auxiliary or service organizations by a majority vote. Such organizations shall be organizationally structured so that conscious affiliates can choose to be a part of or participate in the organization through a local affiliation (extension, unit, chapter, section, etc.) with the goal to allow the organizational benefits be duplicated to conscious affiliates without the need to duplicate time and expense creating separate organizations while creating economies of scale for TRNI and its conscious affiliates.

12.3.0

All auxiliary or service organizations shall be separate legal entities from TRNI.

12.4.0

All auxiliary or service organizations shall report to the Executive Board at regular intervals.

CHAPTER 13 - ORDINATION, LICENSING, AND COMMISSIONING

13.1 Ordination

13.1.1

Ordination shall be required for Curates.

13.1.2

Ordination as a Curate requires the explicit authorization of the Conference of Realigious Curates. Upon ordination, the approved duties of a Curate includes teaching and counseling, therefore the Curate is exempt from 13.2.1.

13.2 Licensing

13.2.1

Licensing shall be required for teachers and counselors.

13.2.2

A regular member licensed as a teacher or counselor of TRNI is thereby put in a position of official representation of the policies, principles, and teachings of TRNI, and their public and private behavior and statements is expected to reflect the teachings of TRNI.

13.2.3

Licensing is subject to the purview of the Council of the Distinctions except where authority is explicitly delegated to another committee or TRNI authority.

13.2.4

Licensing shall be governed by TRNI's Policies and Procedures Manual.

13.3 Commissioning

13.3.1

Commissioning shall be subject to the purview of TRNI's Policies and Procedures Manual.

13.3.2

Commissioning allows individuals to focus primarily on outreach activities. Commissioning releases the individual from TRNI and Church responsibilities while authorizing them to carry on outreach in the individual's chosen field of service.

13.3.3

Privileges and responsibilities of commissioning shall be detailed in TRNI's Policies and Procedures Manual.

CHAPTER 14 - POLICIES AND PROCEDURES MANUAL

14.1.0

A Policies and Procedures Manual shall be created and maintained by TRNI and each conscious affiliate. Those manuals shall detail how all key aspects of the applicable organization's Constitution are implemented.

14.2.0

Each Policies and Procedures Manual shall be developed, implemented, maintained and updated by and under the direction of a majority vote of the organization's Executive Board.

14.3.0

Each permanent committee shall write, review and regularly update the section(s) of the Policies and Procedures Manual that pertains to their committee and shall submit changes to the Executive Board for ratification.

14.4.0

TRNI committees and staff may provide written requests for changes and amendments in the Policies and Procedures Manual to the Executive Board, who shall then consider those requests and indicate its intention to the requestor in writing within 60 days.

14.5.0

In the event of disagreement or dispute in a TRNI policy or procedure, or a disagreement or dispute having been appealed from a conscious affiliate, the matter shall be resolved by the TRNI Executive Board.

14.6.0

TRNI's Policies and Procedures Manual shall require a standard screening for all licensed officials, all Executive Board members and committee members, as well as all TRNI staff and the staff of organizations affiliated with TRNI. These standards shall ensure that TRNI representatives working with vulnerable populations are fit to hold their position in TRNI or its affiliated organizations.

CHAPTER 15 - CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENTS

15.1 The Vitality of TRNI's Constitution

TRNI's Constitution shall be a living document in need of periodic review and updates to ensure the best ongoing operation of TRNI and its conscious affiliates.

15.2 Procedure for Amending TRNI's Constitution

15.2.1

TRNI recognizes that situations shall arise which will need to be addressed through constitutional changes or amendments. Older provisions will need to be altered to comply with current law or a change in principles and new provisions will need to be added and some existing provisions will need to be deleted.

15.2.2

Changes should be made only after thorough consideration has been given to the need and implication of doing so and only by a two-thirds vote of the Executive Board.

15.2.3

A change to this Constitution may only be brought to a vote by an Executive Board member.

15.3 Amending the Constitutions of Affiliated Organizations

15.3.1

TRNI recognizes that local affiliated organizations will need to amend their constitutions. TRNI also recognizes that it is in the best interests of TRNI that substantial uniformity be maintained among the constitutions of local affiliated organizations.

15.3.2

A $\frac{3}{4}$ majority vote of the board of the local conscious affiliate is required to amend the Constitution of a local affiliated organization plus a $\frac{3}{4}$ majority ratification vote by the Executive Board of TRNI.

15.3.3

The Executive Board of TRNI through its Local Committee is responsible for maintaining a model constitution.

15.3.4

The Model Constitution shall be used by each new conscious affiliate as the foundation of their constitution.

CHAPTER 16 - CONFLICTS OF INTEREST

16.1.0

The purpose of the conflicts of interest policy is to help TRNI executive board members, committee members, Curates, and employees of TRNI avoid situations that present potential conflicts of interest.

16.2.0

All organizations and individuals with any associative, employee, contractor, member, or other relationship with TRNI and its conscious affiliates are subject to TRNI's conflicts of interest policies.

16.3.0

The following circumstances constitute a conflict of interest under the TRNI Constitution:

- (a) A contract or transaction between TRNI and a board member, committee member, Curate (other than contract for employment), staff member, or a family member of a board member, committee member, or a business or entity of any of the aforementioned parties, unless unanimously approved by the Executive Board.
- (b) Any party from 16.0(3)(a) receiving a gift or other favor (valued greater than \$100) from any individual or entity under circumstances where it might be inferred that the action was intended to influence or would actually influence the receiving party in the performance of his or her duties.

16.4.0

The Executive Board may unanimously vote to authorize an exception to 16.0(2)(a) or 16.0(2)(b) if the conflicted party appears before the Board, discloses all pertinent facts material to the conflict, the Board discusses the matter outside the presence of the conflicted party, the conflicted party agrees to abide by any conditions imposed by the Board, and the session is recorded in the Board minutes.

CHAPTER 17 - DOCUMENT RETENTION

17.1.0

The following documents shall be retained indefinitely: Articles of Incorporation and Constitution, audit reports from independent auditors, Executive Board resolutions, checks, determination letter from the IRS and correspondence relating to the letter, financial statements (year-end), insurance policies, minutes of board meetings, annual meetings, and special meetings, real estate deeds, mortgages, and bills of sale, and tax returns.

17.2.0

All other pertinent documents shall be retained for seven years, at minimum including minutes of committee meetings, employment records, receipts, membership records, and all other financial documents.

CHAPTER 18 – FUNDRAISING

18.1.0

TRNI's Executive Board shall ensure that all fundraising by TRNI, its members, or its agents complies with all applicable laws in the jurisdiction(s) where the fundraising occurs. It is the responsibility of the TRNI Executive Board, with assistance from the Local Committee, to ensure all conscious affiliates abide by all applicable laws in those jurisdictions.

18.2.0

All communications by TRNI, its members, or its agents with regard to fundraising shall be accurate and honest.

18.3.0

Compensation of fundraisers shall be approved by the TRNI Executive Board. Compensation that includes commission on contributions require a 2/3 vote of approval.

18.4.0

TRNI believes that placing undue pressure on potential donors is a disservice to TRNI and to the greater ecclesiastical not-for-profit community.

18.5.0

TRNI shall be accountable to donors in the following ways:

- a) Sending timely gift acknowledgements
- b) Respecting restrictions on donors' gifts
- c) Public disclosure of donations to the extent required by law
- d) Providing timely required reports to foundations or government reporting source, as applicable
- e) Listing donors on TRNI's website in the manner the donor wishes to be acknowledged for the donation if the donor wishes to be acknowledged.
- f) Respecting the wishes of a donor to remain anonymous if they so choose, and
- g) Transparency within TRNI regarding fundraising costs, including postage, printing, telephone and internet charges, staff time spent gathering donations, maintaining relationships with funding sources, special events related to fundraising, and other costs incurred in collecting contributions.

APPENDIX A - ARTICLES OF INCORPORATION

chk # 2961 \$20.00

CSLICD-503 (Rev 01/14)

MICHIGAN DEPARTMENT OF LICENSING AND REGULATORY SERVICES CORPORATIONS, SECURITIES & COMMERCIAL LICENSING BUREAU											
Date Received JUN 12 2017	This document is effective on the date filed, unless a subsequent effective date within 90 days after received date is stated in the document. FILED JUN 19 2017 BY ADMINISTRATOR CORPORATIONS DIVISION EFFECTIVE DATE										
<table border="1" style="width: 100%; border-collapse: collapse;"> <tr> <td colspan="3" style="padding: 2px;">Name Daniel Holland</td> </tr> <tr> <td colspan="3" style="padding: 2px;">Address 1438 Division Ave S, Ste E</td> </tr> <tr> <td style="width: 33%; padding: 2px;">City Grand Rapids</td> <td style="width: 33%; padding: 2px;">State MI</td> <td style="width: 33%; padding: 2px;">ZIP Code 49507</td> </tr> </table>			Name Daniel Holland			Address 1438 Division Ave S, Ste E			City Grand Rapids	State MI	ZIP Code 49507
Name Daniel Holland											
Address 1438 Division Ave S, Ste E											
City Grand Rapids	State MI	ZIP Code 49507									

Document will be returned to the name and address you enter above
If left blank, document will be returned to the registered office

72078A

ARTICLES OF INCORPORATION For use by Ecclesiastical Corporations (Please read information and instructions on the last page)

We the undersigned desiring to become incorporated under the provisions of Act No. 327, P.A. of 1931, do hereby make, execute and adopt the following articles of association, to-wit:

FIRST

The name assumed by this corporation and by which it shall be known in law, is
The Realigious Network International

SECOND

- 1 The location of said church or society shall be in the city (or village) of
Grand Rapids _____ county of Kent _____ and
State of Michigan
- 2 The name of the resident agent at the registered office is
Daniel R Holland _____
- 3 The address of its registered office in Michigan is
1438 Division Ave S, Suite E _____ Grand Rapids _____ Michigan 49507
(Street Address) (City) (ZIP Code)
- 4 The mailing address of the registered office in Michigan if different than above
_____, Michigan _____
(Street Address or P.O. Box) (City) (ZIP Code)

THIRD

The time for which the corporation shall be created shall be perpetual (If term is for a fixed number of years, then state the number of years instead of perpetual)

JS

FOURTH

The members of the church or society shall worship and labor together according to the discipline rules and usages of the
The Realigious Network International an association of churches

church in the United States of American (other jurisdiction as the case may be), as from time to time authorized and
declared by the Distinctions Review Committee of the The Realigious Network International
(here insert the name of the higher ecclesiastical body or bodies if any authorized to determine such question)

FIFTH (Insert any desired additional provisions authorized by the Act, attach additional pages if needed)

See attached

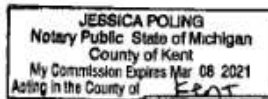
In witness whereof, the parties hereby associating, for the purposes of giving legal effect to these articles hereunto sign our
names and places of residence

Done at the city (or village) of Wyoming
county of Kent and State of Michigan
this 8th day of June 2017

This document requires at least three notarized signatures

(Signatures)	(No)	(Street)	(City)	(State)	(Zip Code)
<u>[Signature]</u>	<u>5757</u>	<u>Pineknoll CT SE</u>	<u>Kentwood MI</u>	<u>MI</u>	<u>495408</u>
<u>[Signature]</u>	<u>1940</u>	<u>Ball Ave NE</u>	<u>Grand Rapids, MI</u>	<u>MI</u>	<u>49505</u>
<u>[Signature]</u>	<u>3643</u>	<u>Colby Ave SW</u>	<u>Wyoming MI</u>	<u>MI</u>	<u>49509</u>

State of Michigan
County of Kent } ss
Subscribed and sworn to before me this 8th day of June 2017
by Michael Holland, Salvatore Russo, Daniel Holland
(NOTARY MUST LIST NAMES OF ALL PERSONS SIGNING)



(Notary Seal)

[Signature]
(Signature of Notary)
Notary Public for Kent County
State of MI
My commission expires 3/8/17

The Realigious Network International
Articles of Incorporation - Continued

FIFTH

Said corporation is organized exclusively for religious purposes that include teaching and spreading religious beliefs and principles, and charitable, educational, and scientific purposes, including, for such purposes, the making of distributions to organizations that qualify as exempt organizations under section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code, or the corresponding section of any future federal tax code

SIXTH

No part of the net earnings of the corporation shall inure to the benefit of, or be distributable to its members, trustees, officers, or other private persons, except that the corporation shall be authorized and empowered to pay reasonable compensation for services rendered and to make payments and distributions in furtherance of the purposes set forth in Article Eighth hereof. No substantial part of the activities of the corporation shall be the carrying on of propaganda, or otherwise attempting to influence legislation, and the corporation shall not participate in, or intervene in any political campaign on behalf of or in opposition to any candidate for public office. Notwithstanding any other provision of these articles, this corporation shall not, except to an insubstantial degree, engage in any activities or exercise any powers that are not in furtherance of the purposes of this corporation

SEVENTH

Upon the dissolution of the corporation, assets shall be distributed for one or more exempt purposes within the meaning of section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code, or the corresponding section of any future federal tax code, or shall be distributed to the federal government, or to a state or local government, for a public purpose. Any such assets not so disposed of shall be disposed of by a Court of Competent Jurisdiction of the county in which the principal office of the corporation is then located, exclusively for such purposes or to such organization or organizations, as said Court shall determine, which are organized and operated exclusively for such purposes

APPENDIX B - GLOSSARY OF TERMS

Authorized Affiliates – all conscious affiliates as well as all auxiliary and service organizations associated with TRNI or a conscious affiliate.

Church – TRNI and its affiliated organizations.

Clergy – the body of all people ordained for realigious duty including ecclesiastics and Curates

Conscious affiliate - all places of worship, wherever located and with whatever customs that adhere to The Distinctions and its teachings and are recognized by TRNI.

Curate – a senior member of the clergy staff

Curacy – Noun - the office, position, or work of a Curate

Designated Alternate - the chair of the election at TRNI's annual meeting if the chair of TRNI's local committee is ineligible or unavailable to serve

Designated Panel - the TRNI members, along with the election chair or designated alternate, who preside over the election of TRNI's annual meeting to ensure its integrity.

Ecclesiastic – Noun - a member of the clergy. Adjective – another term for ecclesiastical.

Ecclesiastical Polity – is the operational and governance structure of TRNI. It also denotes the ministerial structure of the local TRNI affiliate organization and the authority relationship between affiliates.

Election Chair - the head of TRNI's Local Committee who served as chair for the election at TRNI's annual meeting

Family Member - a spouse, parent, child, brother, sister, or a spouse of any of those family members.

Goals – the object of ambition or effort, an aim or desired result.

Inure – Inurement – the use of the income or assets of a tax-exempt organization to directly or indirectly unduly benefit an individual or other person that has a close relationship with the organization or is able to exercise significant control over the organization. Inurement is prohibited by TRNI's Constitution and in the Policies and Procedures Manual.

Metropolitan Curate – A Curate that presides over more than one Conscious Church or who is an ecclesiastic at the Realigious Network Level.

Mission – the result or achievement toward which effort is directed.

Mission Statement – a formal summary of the aims and values of the organization.

Pulpit - a raised platform or lectern in a church or chapel from which the speaker delivers a message or lecture.

Realigious – believing in god and following the practices of a religion that recognizes the non-supernatural nature of god as the creative force or forces that caused the conversion of energy into matter at the beginning of time and space.

The Realigious Network – is The Realigious Network International (TRNI) and its state and national affiliate organizations. For The Conscious Churches in Michigan these affiliates will include The Realigious Network of Michigan and The Realigious Network of North America if and when they are established under The Realigious Network International.

Realigious Custom or Tradition - a traditional and widely accepted way of behaving or doing something that is specific to The Realigious Network International, its members, and/or its affiliated organizations.

Realigious Worship - As described in The Distinctions, the recognition that we are each a small part of the creation and therefor a small part of god and that worship in the realigious context is striving to be the best we can be and in the coming together to support each other in the fulfillment of our individual beingness.