

# Certificate of Incorporation

of

RAY OF HOPE, METROPOLITAN COMMUNITY CHURCH

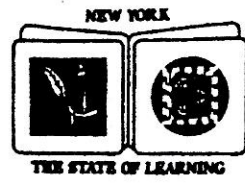
*under section 402 of the Not-for-Profit Corporation Law*

IT IS HEREBY CERTIFIED THAT:

- (1) *The name of the corporation is* RAY OF HOPE, METROPOLITAN COMMUNITY CHURCH
- (2) *The corporation is a corporation as defined in subparagraph (a)(5) of section 102 (Definitions) of the Not-for-Profit Corporation Law.*
- (3) *The purpose or purposes for which the corporation is formed are as follows:*
  - I The primary purpose for which this corporation is formed is sharing in the Worship of God in the Congregational Christian tradition, and to make His will dominant in the lives of men, individually and collectively, as set forth in the Holy Scriptures.
  - II The general purpose for which this corporation is formed are as follows:
    - a. To provide instruction in the science and philosophy of theology and kindred subjects for the propagation of the teachings and philosophy of the Christian Faith, as accepted by the General Conference of the UNIVERSAL FELLOWSHIP OF METROPOLITAN COMMUNITY CHURCHES.
    - b. To instruct and indoctrinate those who offer themselves into the teachings and philosophy as received by this body.
    - c. To do all the things that are compatible with the work and labor of a religious body.
    - d. To acquire by purchase or otherwise, hold, improve, sell, lease, mortgage, or otherwise encumber and convey any real and personal property held by it for such purposes as may seem advisable to carry on the work of this corporation, and to do all things necessary on any property acquired by this corporation for the purpose of carrying on the religious and social work of this corporation.
    - e. To receive donations of money and other property and to take and own personal and real property by gift, devise, and bequest.
    - f. To do and perform every act or thing which may be necessary, expedient, incidental to, or proper, or which may be by its Board of Directors deemed necessary, expedient, incidental to, or proper to the carrying out of the work of this corporation; and finally,
    - g. (See attached addendum.)

*The corporation, in furtherance of its corporate purposes above set forth, shall have all the powers enumerated in section 202 of the Not-for-Profit Corporation Law, subject to any limitations provided in the Not-for-Profit Corporation Law or any other statute of the State of New York.*

19870311



THE STATE EDUCATION DEPARTMENT / THE UNIVERSITY OF THE STATE OF NEW YORK / ALBANY, N.Y. 12234

COUNSEL AND DEPUTY COMMISSIONER FOR LEGAL AFFAIRS

December 12, 1986

TO: Department of State  
Bureau of Corporations

FROM: Office of Counsel and  
Deputy Commissioner for Legal Affairs

BY: Mary L. Gammon  
Legal Assistant

*Mary L. Gammon*  
-js-

SUBJECT: RAY OF HOPE, METROPOLITAN COMMUNITY  
CHURCH

REFERENCE: Proposed Certificate of Incorporation

The attached document was submitted to this office for review to determine whether the provisions of section 216 of the Education Law require the consent of the Commissioner of Education to its filing with the Department of State, or whether the Education Department would have any objections to its filing.

After review it is the opinion of this office that there is no necessity for the Commissioner to consent to filing, and that we have no objection to such filing.

This waiver of consent to filing is granted with the understanding and upon the conditions set forth on the reverse side of this memorandum.

Atts.

503973



Department of the Treasury  
Internal Revenue Service  
ANDOVER, MA 05501

DATE OF THIS NOTICE: 03-25-87  
EMPLOYER IDENTIFICATION NUMBER: 16-1294176  
08010567 0

CP 578

For assistance you may  
call us at:

855-3955 LOCAL BUFFALO  
1-800-424-1040 OTHER NY

RAY OF HOPE METROPOLITAN  
COMMUNITY CHURCH  
PO BOX 6955  
SYRACUSE NY 13217

or you may write to us at the  
address shown to the left. If you  
write, be sure to attach the bottom  
part of this notice.

## Notice of New Employer Identification Number Assigned

Thank you for your Form SS-4, Application for Employer Identification Number (EIN). The number assigned to you is shown above. This number will be used to identify your business account and related tax returns and documents, even if you do not have employees.

Please keep a copy of this number in your permanent records. IRS uses the information provided on Form SS-4 to establish your taxpaying entity. Entity information includes your EIN, business name, trade name, street address, city, state and ZIP code. When filing tax documents or making FTD payments, it is important to use the IRS prepared label and/or coupon. However, if this is not possible, your EIN and complete entity information as shown below must be used to properly identify your account and avoid processing delays. If for any reason this information is not correct, please return the bottom portion of this notice indicating the changes.

RAY OF HOPE METROPOLITAN  
COMMUNITY CHURCH  
819 MADISON ST  
PO BOX 6955  
SYRACUSE NY 13217

If your business is a partnership which must obtain prior approval for its tax year, the tax year you entered in Block 3 of your Form SS-4 does not establish a tax year. For guidance in determining if you must request prior approval and the method of doing so, see IRS Publication 538, Accounting Periods and Methods, available at most IRS offices.

Please note that the assignment of this number does not grant tax-exempt status to nonprofit organizations. Any organization (other than a private foundation) having annual gross receipts normally of not more than \$5,000 is exempt by statute if it meets the requirements of section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code. These organizations are not required to file Form 1023 (Application for Recognition of Exemption) or file Form 990 (Return of Organization Exempt from Income Tax). However, if the organization wants to establish its exemption with the Internal Revenue Service and receive a ruling or determination letter recognizing its exempt status, it should file Form 1023 with the Key District Director. For details on how to apply for this exemption, see IRS Publication 557, Tax-Exempt Status for Your Organization, available at most IRS offices.

Thank you for your cooperation.

If you have any questions, please return this part with your correspondence so we may identify your account. Please correct any errors in your name or address.

Your Telephone Number  
( ) -

Best Time to Call

DATE OF THIS NOTICE: 03-25-87  
EMPLOYER IDENTIFICATION NUMBER: 16-1294176

INTERNAL REVENUE SERVICE  
ANDOVER, MA 05501

RAY OF HOPE METROPOLITAN  
COMMUNITY CHURCH  
PO BOX 6955  
SYRACUSE NY 13217

19870311-1

CERTIFICATE OF AMENDMENT OF THE CERTIFICATE OF INCORPORATION OF  
RAY OF HOPE, METROPOLITAN COMMUNITY CHURCH  
under Section 803 of the Not-for-Profit Corporation Law

1-961104000 553

The name of this corporation is **RAY OF HOPE, METROPOLITAN COMMUNITY CHURCH.**

The date of incorporation was August 25, 1986, and the incorporation document was filed with the Department of State under the Not-for-Profit Corporation Law of the State of New York June 3, 1987, in Albany, New York (State Index Number 19870311).

The corporation is a corporation as defined in subparagraph (a)(5) of Section 102 (Definitions) of the Not-for-Profit Corporation Law. The corporation type under Section 102 is Type B.

The certificate of incorporation is amended to change the name of this corporation and to restate its corporate purpose, as follows:

Paragraph 1 of the certificate of incorporation is amended to read as follows:

1. The name of the corporation is **RAY OF HOPE CHURCH, INC.**

Paragraph 3 of the certificate of incorporation is amended to read as follows:

3. The purpose or purposes for which the corporation is formed are as follows:
  - I. Corporate Mission.

"In the Spirit of God, and in the footsteps of Christ Jesus, we the Faith Community at RAY OF HOPE CHURCH, INC. commit to:

guide and welcome all people to the Free Gift of Salvation in Christ Jesus, with a God ordained celebration of all sexual orientations, and gender expressions, with an open ministry to persons affected by or infected with HIV/AIDS, their families and friends,

declare and openly assert the truth that same-sex relationships, founded and fostered in God-centered love, are Holy and blessed, and in fact originate by the work of the Holy Spirit; and, that God equally uses blessed same-sex and heterosexual Holy Unions and Marriages to bring God's own love and good news of "Salvation to all who believe" into the world,

uphold, proclaim, and teach the historic Biblical Christian Doctrine, build community through worship and prayer, break the bread, and live the ministry of the Holy Spirit,

A Paragraph 6 to the certificate of incorporation is created, replacing an unnumbered paragraph, to read as follows:

6. The Secretary of State is designated as agent of the corporation upon whom process against it may be served. A copy of any process against it that has been served on the Secretary of State shall be mailed to RAY OF HOPE CHURCH, INC., at Post Office Box 6955, Syracuse, New York 13217-6955. This is the post office address of the corporation in Onondaga County, New York.

#### PASSAGE OF AMENDMENT

This amendment was duly made by its Board of Directors, pursuant to the By Laws of the Corporation at its duly called meeting held on July 14, 1996, at Syracuse, Onondaga County, New York.

#### AUTHORIZATION TO EXECUTE

The undersigned have been authorized to execute and file this certificate by the unanimous affirmative vote of all members of the Board of Directors of said corporation, all of whom were present at a duly scheduled meeting of said Board that had been called pursuant to the requirements of the By-laws of the corporation, all in concurrence with Section 802(a)(2) of the Not-for-Profit Corporation Law.

#### CERTIFICATION

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, *the undersigned have made, subscribed and acknowledged this Certificate this 14th day of July, 1996.*

ROBERT C. BACON, JR. CHAIRMAN OF THE BOARD

Robert C. Bacon Jr.

BOB WIGDEN CORPORATE SECRETARY

Bob Wigden

#### VERIFICATION

COUNTY OF ONONDAGA )  
                                  ) SS.  
STATE OF NEW YORK )

I, BOB WIGDEN, being duly sworn, depose and state that I am the Corporate Secretary of Ray of Hope, Metropolitan Community Church, Inc., the corporation named in and described in the foregoing certificate and that I have read the foregoing certificate and know the contents thereof to be true, except as to the matters therein stated to be alleged upon information and belief, and as to those matters, I believe them to be true.

Sworn to before me this 19th  
day of July, 1996

Bob Weyden

Marilyn E. Mazza

MARILYN E. MAZZA  
Notary Public, State of New York  
No. 4713480  
Qualified in Tompkins County  
Expires NOV 30, 1996

JUDICIAL APPROVAL

The foregoing Certificate of Amendment of the Certificate of Incorporation of Ray of Hope,  
Metropolitan Community Church, Inc., is hereby approved this 15 day of July, 1996.

Thomas Morfue  
Justice of the Supreme Court of the  
Fifth Judicial District of the  
State of New York

CERTIFICATE OF AMENDMENT OF THE CERTIFICATE OF INCORPORATION  
OF RAY OF HOPE CHURCH, INC.  
under Section 803 of the Not-for-Profit Corporation Law

11-10-2000  
F001228000578

The name of this corporation is RAY OF HOPE CHURCH, INC.

The date of incorporation was June 3, 1987, under the Not-for Profit Corporation Law of the State of New York and the incorporation document was filed with the New York State Department of State in Albany, New York.

The original name of the corporation was Ray of Hope Metropolitan Community Church. This name was changed by amendment by the Board of Directors, pursuant to the By Laws of the Corporation at a duly called meeting held on July 14, 1996 to Ray of Hope Church, Inc. This amendment has been registered with the Department of State.

The corporation is a corporation as defined in subparagraph (a)(5) of Section 102 (Definitions) of the Not-for-Profit Corporation Law. The corporation type under Section 102 is Type B.

The certificate of incorporation is amended to change the name of this corporation as follows:

Paragraph 1 of the certificate of incorporation is amended to read as follows:

1. The name of the corporation is RAY OF HOPE CHURCH OF OUR LORD JESUS CHRIST, INC.

The Secretary of State is designated as agent of the corporation upon whom process against it may be served. A copy of the process against it that has been served on the Secretary of State shall be mailed to RAY OF HOPE CHURCH OF OUR LORD JESUS CHRIST, INC., at Post Office Box 6955, Syracuse, New York 13217-6955. This is the post office address of the corporation in Onondaga County, New York.

PASSAGE OF AMENDMENT

This amendment was duly made by its Board of Directors, pursuant to the By Laws of the Corporation at its duly called meeting held on November 26, 2000, at Syracuse, Onondaga County, New York.



AUTHORIZATION TO EXECUTE

The undersigned have been authorized to execute and file this certificate by the unanimous affirmative vote of all members of the Board of Directors of said corporation, all of whom were present at a duly scheduled meeting of said Board that had been called pursuant to the requirements of the By Laws of the Corporation, all in concurrence with Section 802(a)(2) of the Not-for-Profit Corporation Law.

CERTIFICATION

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, *the undersigned have made, subscribed and acknowledged this Certificate this 17th day of December 2000.*

*Lawrence I. Fuller*  
LAWRENCE I. FULLER  
CHAIRMAN OF THE BOARD

*Jane Mc Dermott*  
JANE MCDERMOTT  
CORPORATION SECRETARY

VERIFICATION

COUNTY OF CHEMUNG )  
 ) SS.  
STATE OF NEW YORK )

I, JANE MCDERMOTT, being duly sworn, depose and state that I am the Corporate Secretary of Ray of Hope Church, Inc., the corporation named in and described in the foregoing certificate and that I have read the foregoing certificate and know the contents thereof to be true, except as to the matters thereon stated to be alleged upon information and belief, and as to those matters, I believe them to be true.

Sworn to before me this \_\_\_\_\_  
day of \_\_\_\_\_, 2000

\_\_\_\_\_  
Notary Public

*2*

F001228000578

STATE OF NEW YORK  
DEPARTMENT OF STATE

DEC 28 2000 12/28/00

FILED  
TAXS  
BY:

0  
JAA  
Onondaga

001228000630

Certificate of Amendment of the  
Certificate of Incorporation of  
Ray of Hope Church, Inc

3 Send receipt for filing to  
Frank A. Ward, II, Attorney  
PO Box 1676  
Syracuse NY 13201