



February 9, 2020

To: Members of Morningstar Christian Fellowship

From: Abel Baluyot, Chairman of the Board of Elders

**Re: Changes to the Morningstar Christian Fellowship Constitution**

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

I am pleased to inform you that we have completed a comprehensive review of our Constitution. The revised version is attached for your review. At the Annual General Meeting (AGM) on March 8, 2020, members of Morningstar will be requested to ratify the revised Constitution. We will be taking up questions you may have at a meeting on March 1, 2020 in the evening at 6:00 PM. Please submit your questions/comments to the Elder Board in advance, if possible, so that we may provide a fulsome response.

Key changes are:

- The Statement of Faith is removed from the General Operating By-Law but remains as part of the Constitution. The Constitution will be strictly interpreted at all times in accordance with, and subject to, the Statement of Faith.
- Increased clarity over handling of Policy Statements – concerning practical applications of Biblical principles, doctrinal considerations and Christian conduct – and administrative policies.
- Addresses the complexity and reality of transacting business in our church spanning multiple congregations gathering at multiple worship service times and at multiple campuses.
- Improved Board governance processes such as use of absolute voting – based on a majority of all elders in office.
- Various necessary revisions and clarification throughout including duties specific to the Treasurer and Auditor.

While portions of the Constitution had been amended from time to time, a holistic review had likely not occurred in over a decade. This review included an assessment performed by a special Committee, and by the Executive Pastor on behalf of the Ministry Team. It was subsequently reviewed by our Treasurers and by the entire Elder Board. Various consultations with subject matter experts including legal counsel were conducted during the revision process.

On behalf of the Elders, my sincere thanks go to the Ministry Team and the members of the Commission on Constitutional Amendments who worked alongside me on this – Dean Barrant, Derek Chong, Lillian Hutchins, Jun Naredo, Rob Taylor, and Art Valdes. Likewise our thanks to all of you who have been praying for us and supporting us. None of our work would have any meaning or be possible without the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ. To Him be all honour and glory!

In Christ,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Abel Baluyot", with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Abel Baluyot, Chairman