



ELOI CHRISTIAN CHURCH INTERNATIONAL

CHURCH CONSTITUTION

Our Vision is to be an International leading church that gives maximum praise and glory to our almighty God

“From Crisis To Christ”

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This document is applicable to all Eloi Christian Church International members only
“Making a difference”

1. OUR CHURCH NAME

The name of the church shall be the Eloi Christian Church International (ECCI)

2. OUR PURPOSE AS THE CHURCH

Eloi Christian Church International was founded in 2007 by Bishop Dr BA Mthethwa with the purpose to promote the level of praise and worship to a higher standard. ECCI is a highly charismatic church.

A charismatic church is an attractive, interesting, glamorous, compelling, enigmatic, magnetic and captivating church. It captures and preserves the desire and the importance to worship and praise God.

The church welcomes and accommodates people from all backgrounds, cultures and nationality. Due to the diversity of worshipers, the church is using the English language to accommodate everyone.

3. OUR STATEMENT OF FAITH

We believe:

- a) That the bible, as originally word of God. God is love
- b) That there is one God, eternally existent in three forms/persons: Father, Son and Holy Spirit. God created heaven and earth and pronounced it good
- c) That we belong in Jesus Christ of Nazareth. In His name we can do all things. He is the only the way and the truth
- d) That we are healed in the name of Jesus Christ through His blood
- e) That salvation is only through the redemptive work of the Lord Jesus Christ and received by repentance and faith
- f) That through continuous prayer and fasting all things are possible
- g) That God is pleased when we give Him thanks, praises, worship and glory for all situations
- h) That giving is the will of God and He is waiting/expecting for all members to give and offer as He gave first. Put hands in God's work.
- i) That all members who receive income must contribute tithes(10%) as commanded by God in His word.
- j) That in all we need to put God first
- k) That we need to serve/work and take care of the church work (Gen 2:15)
- l) That we need to share the word and our belonging, properties, food and services
- m) That all our preachings, teaching must be about the love of Jesus Christ and His work/achievements

n) In baptism by immersion in water as an act/symbol of practical repentance (Mk 10:38, Mk 16:16), baby dedication (Mt 19: 14), Lord's Supper (Lk 7:23), pastoral ordination and holy matrimony

1. in fellowship, coming together, keeping together and working together in all situations

4. OUR VISION

It is to be an international leading church that gives maximum praise and glory to our almighty God

5. OUR MISSION

To act and practice the word of God through loving, caring, healing, giving and sharing by faith in prayer in the name of Jesus Christ of Nazareth

6. OUR THEME

Our theme is "Making a difference"

7. OUR PRINCIPLE

Our principle is to be in action for results

8. OUR IDENTITY

- Praise and worship church
- Time management (short and sweet service: straight to the point service)
- Growth and prosperity; Spiritually, Physically, Mentally, educationally and Financially

9. OUR OBJECTIVES

- a) To preach and teach the true gospel of love to all nations for soul winning and spiritual growth
- b) To present Jesus Christ of Nazareth as the only way for salvation and God of mercy and all things are possible with Him
- c) To pray for the sick to receive their permanent healing in the name of Jesus Christ
- d) To organize, give to assist the needy people in our church and in our community
- e) To share knowledge, education, skills, time, understanding for the development for better life
- f) To promote unity, welfare, and support for the increase in number in the church
- g) To promote the spirit of fellowship and care to the children and the youth for the church sustainability

10. CHURCH LEADERSHIP

- a) **Bishop** is the founder and the president of the church. The chairperson of the IEC
- b) **Senior Pastor:** This is person who is responsible for the number of pastors in a region or sub-region for the smooth running of the church and the development of the church
- c) **Pastor** is a person called and anointed to preach, teach the word of God. And lead the church of God
- d) **Assistant Pastor** is a person who is preaching, teaching the word of God under the learning, development and support environment and arrangement
- e) **Chief Administrator (CA);** is a person responsible for the church administration, policies implementation, and recording of church documents working closely with the Church General-Secretary and the Senior Pastors
- f) **International Executive Commission (IEC);** this is the body responsible for the entire existence and functioning of the church based on the church constitution. To ensure that all regions are running properly and international and national events/conventions are well arranged. To be responsible for the development of year plan for each year.
- g) **Church Advisors(Elders Board)** is board is responsible to advise the Bishop and the church on good decision making with regard to all matters on Christianity, cultural and government arrangement for the benefit of the church base on the word of God, this board will also established even in branch level to advice the Pastor and the branch committee,
- h) **Chief whip (CW);** this person is responsible for order, security, discipline to the entire church.
- i) **Revival/outreach department;** the department is responsible for church planting and revival.
- j) **Regional head and Regional Executive Committee;** is responsible for the leading and managing all the branches under the region and to support the branch leadership in terms of its operation with regard to the church policies.
- k) **Branch Executive Committee.** Is responsible to manage , administrate and lead the branch, to ensure about the finance of the branch. The development of the church: spiritual and in number. Also for the building development
- l) **Sunday School Teacher/Pastor** is a pastor for our children, is responsible to preach, teach and lead, build, develop, educate, train them according to God's ways. Is a person who loves and committed to children. A person who is willing to move extra mile for the success of our children
- m) **Youth Executive Committee** is responsible for the youth activities, development, participation, education, functions/events/trips, attendance and fellowship

11. EVENTS MANAGEMENT

Events management will be organized by the following team. Under each manager, there are a lot of activities to be rendered.

- The chief whip
- Chief administrator
- Technical manager

- Hospitality manager

12. CHURCH MEMBERSHIP

Any person wishing to join the church and sure of his decision, is expected to complete a membership form and be entered in the church branch register so as a membership certificate may be issued within four weeks after completion of membership form. The branch pastors shall ensure this process is conducted properly. No member shall be in church for more than two months without a membership certificate. Each member must paid R20.00 for the membership certificate , which is for development and printing

13. WHEN WE PRAY

- a) We pray to praise, worship, give thanks and glory, and to ask God for His mercy, support and prosperity in the Name of Jesus Christ of Nazareth
- b) When we pray to open and close a church service and give praises all members are expected to standup to show respect to our Almighty God all eyes being closed
- c) We at least pray three time a day
- d) Every Tuesday is our fasting and pray day and every Thursday is pastors and preachers fasting and prayer day
- e) When we pray we all close our eyes
- f) Immediately after opening any church service all members are requested to pray our church prayer
- g) We have a special prayer at 24h00 am or 03h00 am, members are reminding each other by means of cell phones.
- h) When the church is praying, no one is expected to enter the church until the prayer is over

14. READING OF THE BIBLE/WORD

- a) All members are expected to read the bible everyday to gain knowledge and understanding of God's will
- b) All church members are to have personal bible as book of life and carry it always to any church service
- c) When reading the bible in any church service, the reader must stand up to respect the Word from God
- d) The reading of the bible to any church service should be in English and in any other languages: Swazi or Zulu

15. HOW TO GET MARRIED

- The member should be ready/matured
 - a. Grown-up at least at 21 years and above
 - b. Be able to meet all marital requirement e.g Lobola and/or wedding party
 - c. Understanding the meaning and the category of marriage
 - d. Have completed his/her studies/education (if possible)
 - e. Be working in order to afford and maintain the family
 - f. Know how to choose a life partner
 - g. Have completed/attended a counseling course in the church
 - h. Be spiritually grownup
- The member, when ready should able to plan/prepared to through;
 - a. communication with branch Pastor about the process and of his/her choice
 - b. A specific counseling course should be conducted for at least three months before engagement
 - c. At least five to ten months preparation and learning before the wedding day
- The marriage of the church member is between the two families. The church is to support, advice, direct and be there for assistance and guidance
- The member should work with the church to determine the wedding day
- The church strictly prohibits sex before marriage.
- An unrespectable Casual relationship which encourages in-appropriate sexual behavior will not be accepted by the church as dating. The church encourages professional and respectable relationship.

16. OUR DRESS CODE

- a) **Clothing**; Our dress codes entail formal wear for all the pastors, preachers, and MCs. The praise and worship team should be formally dressed and preferably in uniform that will be dived by the church. The congregation is expected to dress presentably and in a way befitting a Christian life. The church has no objection on ladies wishing to wear trousers as long as it is not destructive and disturbing to the rest of the congregation. Preferably, with tops overlapping the trousers.
- b) **Hair**; With regard to head gear, ladies are not necessarily expected to cover their hair but they should look presentable. Gentlemen should keep their hair trim; however in the event of long hair or dread locks, it is critical that men maintain well treated and neat hair.
- c) **Earrings**; No gentleman will be allowed to wear earrings at church

17. GENERAL BEHAVIOUR

Eloi Christian church encourages its congregation to always behavior in a Christ like way in church and outside. Our aim as a church being to make a difference should not only be done within the church only but mostly out in our community. Our behavior therefore should be seen as one intending to make a difference.

18. CHURCH DEVELOPMENT

It is the responsibility of the branch pastors, elders, branch executive committee and the entire congregation to develop the church in:

- a) Increasing in number and spiritual growth
- b) Youth development and discipline and employment initiatives.
- c) moral Regeneration (Ubuntu)
- d) Financial management and growth
- e) Mentoring, coaching, and counseling
- f) Family counseling
- g) Women empowerment
- h) Sunday school for good behavior and as a root towards Christian life for our children.

19. REGIONAL/PROVINCIAL CONVENTIONS

- a) All church members of that region are expected to attend conventions especially all committees in the branches, pastors, MCs, praise and worship, Sunday school teachers and elders.
- b) No meetings and discussions during any conventions. Only the Word of God and teachings must be taking place
- c) Branches are expected to organize transport for the members attending conventions independently. They should also contribute towards catering fee in advance of the convention. This contribution should be sent to the international treasury at least 30 days before the convention.
- d) Members are expected to bring a long their own bedding (sleeping bag or blankets, bed sheets pillows and thin mattress), cutlery, bible, note book and offering to any convention.

20. INTERNATIONAL CONVENTIONS/GOODFRIDAY

- a) All church members from all regions/provinces are expected to attend conventions especially all committees in the branches, pastors, MCs, praise and worship, Sunday school teachers and elders.

- b) No meetings and discussions during any conventions. Only the Word of God and teachings must be taking place
- c) Branches are expected to organize transport for the members attending conventions independently. They should also contribute towards catering fee in advance of the convention. This contribution should be sent to the international treasury at least 30 days before the convention.
- d) Members are expected to bring a long their own bedding (sleeping bag or blankets, bed sheets pillows and thin mattress), cutlery, bible, note book and offering to any convention.
- e) This International convention/Goodfriday shall be convened by the IEC

21. INTERNATIONAL ANNUAL CONFERENCES

- a) Church conference is where church matters and constitution are discussed. All matters from regions are presented for discussion and decision making. Year plan is drawn and reviewed. Church Policy amendment will be done on the conference. New ideals are submitted for the development and improvement of the church for sharing. All agreement taken to the conference will be submitted to the convention during December to all members for implementation.

Composition of the Conference

- b) Members to attend are: the Bishop, Senior Pastors, Pastors, International Church Advisors (Elders), IEC members and two delegates from each branch.
- c) This conference is normally conducted during June month of each year. The branch is responsible for the transportation and catering for their pastors and delegates to attend the conference.

22. INTERNATIONAL EXECUTIVE COMMISSION (IEC)

Composition of the International Executive Commission

IEC shall be comprised of 15 members elected by the International Conference as follows:

The Bishop, Senior Pastors, Chief Administrator, Chief Whip, National reps.
Two elders, Mrs Bishop and Regional Chairpersons

Convening of the International Executive Commission

- a) The International Executive Commission shall be convened and chaired by the Bishop
- b) The quorum shall be 67% or 2/3 of the relevant members

Term of Office

The term of office for IEC members shall be five (5) years

23.REGIONAL/PROVINCIAL CHURCH COUNCIL

- a) Church council meeting is where all branches of that region meet to report about their progress, development, challenges, new ideals, and advice each other on best running and conducting of the branch. Sharing their plans and learning from each other. A written report of each branch must be submitted to the General-Secretary of the regional committee after presentation
- b) Members to attend this church council meeting are: all pastors, branch committee members, Sunday school Pastor, youth executive committee members, praise and worship team members and elders of the church.
- c) At least five members per branch must attend the church council. The church council meeting is conducted by the regional executive committee.
- d) The church council meeting should be conducted per month on the second Sunday of each month at 14h00-16h30. The branch will be responsible for transportation and catering for its members to attend the church council meeting.

Convening of the Regional Church Council

- a) The Regional Church Council meeting shall be convened and chaired by the Regional Executive Church Council Chairperson
- b) The quorum shall be 67% or 2/3 of the relevant members

Term of Office

The term of office for Regional Executive Church Council members shall be three (3) years

24. OFFERINGS AND TITHES

- a) **Tithe**: It is compulsory for members, who are receiving any income to pay tithes in the house of the lord to cater for pastors needs. Tithe is 10% of your gross income before deductions.
- b) The 80% of the total amount of the tithes for the unemployed branch pastor should be deposited to the branch account and 20% to the main account of the church. The 50% of the total amount per month of the total tithes for the employed branch pastor be deposited to the branch account and 50% be deposited to the main account of the church
- c) The branch executive committee must ensure that the branch pastor receive his/her share monthly direct to the bank account. Deposit slips must be kept for record sake.
- d) The about calculation of percentage will be implemented until the decision from the Bishop new arrangement.
- e) **Free Offering**: Members are encouraged to give offering in order to run the operations of their branches. 50% of Free Offerings should be deposited to the branch account and other 50% be deposited to main account of the church
- f) **Youth offering**: this offering is given every second week of the month in the place of free offering. The youth offering will go into youth development projects, and courses. To be banked in the branch account.
- g) **Sunday school offering**: this will be collected every Sunday during Sunday school service and the main service. This offering will go into developing Sunday school, purchase of Sunday school materials and kits. This offering should be banked in the branch account.
- h) **Building/Developmental fund**: this offering is contributed once in a month towards development of branch churches.
 - R10.00 to be contributed by the Sunday school member
 - R20.00 to be contributed by the youth and unemployed church member
 - R40.00 to be contributed by pensioners
 - R100.00 and above to be contributed by employed church members

- R100.00 to be contributed by the Bishop to each branch. This contribution should be banked on the branch account.
- i) **Revival fund:** this offering is to be contributed by the branch to the amount of R200 every month to support the revival team. The amount should be banked in the revival account.
- j) **Pledge offering:** this is a special offering done by any member for individual special blessing. It can be for any activity in the church such as church development. This can be organized by the branch for fundraising or an individual might feel to give to the church or direct to the branch pastor. Any gift or offering directed to the pastor, that offering is personal and direct to the pastor without any discussion

25. FINANCIAL MANAGEMENT

BANK ACCOUNT

a) Branch bank Account

The branch bank account can be opened by three church members: chairperson, treasurer and secretary. Savings Account type

b) Church Main Bank Account

This account will be opened by the Bishop, Chief Administrator/Mrs Bishop and Treasurer

This should also be a savings account type or cheque if possible.

c) CASH DEPOSIT/OFFERING COLLECTED

All money collected by the branch as offering must be bank as soon as possible. Church money must not be kept by any treasurer more than five days. A bank deposit book must be used by all branches for banking church money/offering for record sake.

d) OFFERING MONITORING

The branch pastor and/or pastor and the branch executive committee must twice a month monitor the flow and usage of church money. The branch must not depend on the treasurer for the branch church money.

For any expenditure the branch executive committee must take decision with the pastor. Consultation must be considered. The branch church must be informed or reported on income received and money used each month.

e) REGIONAL FINANCE MONITORING

To each church council meeting, the regional treasurer must control all the branch finance books and advice where possible.

f) INTERNATIONAL FINANCE MONITORING

All regional treasurers must report to the international treasurer-general of the church on financial management. The ITG must report to the IEC on the church financial status then to the Bishop quarterly.

26. PRAISE AND WORSHIP TEAM

Any member who is gifted and anointed with praise and worshipping can be registered to the team. A team member is expected to be a prayerful member, knowledgeable on the word of God, of good behavior, good attitude, respectful, active, presentable in regard to dress code, and should be one to attend practice.

27. REVIVALS

The church will conduct revivals for church planting and church growth. There is a church team to look after the revival plans and activities that are supported by the church as a whole. Any member willing to be in the revival team should send an application to the team leader and the team leader will make a recommendation to the international commission. The IEC will recommend to the bishop for approval.

28. BAPTISM

Every branch is expected to submit the list of people to be baptized to the regional council. The regional council will organize baptism date and classes to be conducted in branches. The baptism will be conducted by the region and by the regional head. The baptism should be conducted quarterly. Baptism certificate should be issued at least two weeks after the baptism. R20.00 must be paid for certification: development and printing

29. BABY DEDICATION

Any church member with a new born baby is requested to complete the baby dedication form for the baby to be dedicated by the bishop and then the baby to be registered under the church. After the dedication, the baby will be awarded a dedication certificate. R20.00 must be paid for the certification: development and printing

30. ORDINATION

PASTOR

The church will ordain a member of the church to be the church pastor who submitted is application as being called after full completion of one year/probation and meets the following requirement of Eloi Christian church International: (Titus 1:7-9)

- a) Be the member of the Eloi Christian church
- b) Born again and being Faithful to the Lord
- c) Full of love, care, with good behavior
- d) The reader of the Word of God, prayerful
- e) Church developer and soul winner
- f) Committed to church services
- g) Good church and financial manager and administrator

A recommendation letter from his/her branch must be submitted to the regional council for the pastor to be ordain as a full pastor of Eloi Christian Church International. The letter of further recommendation by the region must be submitted to the conference (June) to be discussed and approval by the Bishop.

SENIOR PASTOR

The church will ordain a pastor of the church to be the church senior pastor by the Bishop based on the following requirement of Eloi Christian church International: (Titus 1:7-9)

- a) Be the pastor of the Eloi Christian church branch
- b) Be the church vision promoter
- c) Have a good understanding of the Bishop
- d) Born again and being Faithful to the Lord

- e) Full of love, care, with good behavior
- f) The reader of the Word of God, prayerful
- g) Church developer and soul winner
- h) Committed to church services
- i) Good church and financial manager and administrator
- j) Able to manage more than one branch
- k) Have church leadership experience of more than ten years

This will be the responsibility of the Bishop to appoint senior pastors under the advice of advisory board and further consultation within and outside the church.

31. OUR SERVICES

DAY	TYPE	TIME
Mon-Thur	Home cells	18h00-18h30
Tuesday	Church Fasting and Prayer day	06h00-17h30
Wednesday	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • AET(English and Math classes) • Church service 	16h00-17h30 5h30-18h30
Thursday	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • AET (English & Math classes) • Pastor's Fasting and Prayer 	16h00-17h30 17h00-18h00
Saturday	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Matric classes • Youth Practice and Cleaning 	10h00-16h00 15h00-16h00
Sunday	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Sunday school, Mothers, youth, Fathers services • Main service • Youth choir practice 	09h45-10h45 10h45-12h40 12h40-13h00

32. HOME CELLS

Each branch is expected to establish home cells that will cater small groups of church members for better teaching and better service. The home cells will be conducted during the week in winter between 5.30pm and 6.30pm an in summer between 6.00pm and 7.00pm. Each home cell should have a cell leader.

The cell is expected to grow in numbers and spiritually, to attend to individual problems, pray for the sick, conduct bible lessons, to support one another.

A Home can be identified for the members to meet or they can move from one home to another as members see fit.

33. MEMBER ABSENT FROM CHURCH

Church members are expected to report to the branch pastor or chairperson of the executive committee if he/she will not be present in the church or any church meeting through telephone or SMS or letter or sending message by other church member to report. Then it should be announced to the whole church that member x will not be present today, if possible reason can be given.

34. ELOI PRAYER:

Our Father which art in Heaven, hallowed be thy name, thy kingdom come, thy will be done in earth as it is in heaven.

Give us this day our daily bread. Forgive us our debts, as we forgive our debtors.

And lead us not to temptation but deliver us from evil.

For thine is the kingdom, the power, and the glory,

Help us not to repay anyone evil for evil, help us to put our hands in any of your work, and in anything we do make us to put you first,

Let us be able to Love, Care, Give, Heal and Share with one another.

*Let goodness, mercy and love follow us, all the days of our lives, and we will dwell in your house forever **AMEN***

35. OUR SUNDAY MAIN PROGRAMME

DEPARTMENTAL SERVICES: SEPARATE SERVICES

09H45-10H45

PLACE/VENUE	DEPARTMENT	TIME
Centre A & B	Sunday school Service <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Junior Phase (1yr-10yrs) • Senior Phase (11yr-14yrs) 	09h45-10h45
Main Centre	Youth Service (15yrs-before marriage)	09h45-10h45
Centre C	Mothers Service (Married and Single parent/mothers)	09h45-10h45
Centre D	Fathers Service (Married and single parent/fathers)	09h45-10h45

MAIN CHURCH SERVICE TIME: 10h45-12h40

ITEM	PERSON/TEAM	TIME
Interceding	Intercessors	10h45-11h00
Opening prayer	Any elder	11h00-11h05
Choruses	Praise Team and the church	11h05-11h15
Welcoming remark	Chairperson/pastor	11h15-11h20
Music	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Sunday school choir • Youth choir • Mass choir 	11h20-11h35
Testimonies	At least two members	11h35-11h45
Prayer for the church growth and needs	Any items	11h45-11h55
Offering	Treasurer/Elder	11h55-12h00
Announcement	Chairperson/Pastor	12h00-12h05
Praise and Worship	Praise Team and the church	12h05-12h10
Word of God	Pastor/Preacher	12h10-12h30
Praying for needy members/born again	Pastor/Preacher	12h30-12h35
Vote of thanks and give thanks to the Lord	pastor	12h35-12h40

36. OUR MAIN CHURCH SERVICE MC'S

- a) We respect our Sunday main service.
- b) An adult member must conduct the service as the MC.
- c) Well matured, experienced and qualified member must conduct this service
- d) This service must not be used for training MC's
- e) We should remember that we might have visitors during this service

37. OUR PREACHER

A Pastor/Preacher

- a) must be a learner and the reader of the word of God
- b) Must be a prayerful and fasting person
- c) Must prepare the word of God
- d) Must be a discipline person
- e) Must be short, straight to the point when preaching
- f) Must know his/her story
- g) Must not spend time talking about himself/herself or other people but the word of God
- h) Must always promote the vision of the church
- i) Must honor the leadership of the church in his/her introduction
- j) Must ensure that the introduction links with the body and the concluding

NB:

Pastors are requested to produce a pastor's certificate and/or diploma to be recognized as formal and qualified pastors by the Eloi Christian Church International. Those who do not have, they are requested to register to any Bible college/institute in order to be recognized by the church and now are provisional/temporary called pastors.

The appointment of any pastor will be considered after twelve months probation.

38. THE FUNCTION OF THE REGIONAL SENIOR PASTOR

1. To ensure that the church is growing in terms of branches
 - a) Promote the vision and mission of the church
 - b) Conduct baptism in consultation with the Bishop
 - c) Identify the place for revivals
 - d) Liaise with the Bishop for any legal issues
 - e) Perform all duties delegated by the Bishop
 - f) Work with branch pastors to improve the church

- g) To manage and conduct funeral services
- h) Work with all regional committees for church growth
- i) To ensure that all branches have all necessary church documents
- j) To monitor the church year plan and the Preaching plan
- k) To support all branches for better branch management
- l) To perform all delegated work/duties by the Bishop
- m) Promote the proper funds utilization by regions and branches

39. BRANCH PASTOR AND EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE FUNCTIONS

- a) To promote the vision of the Bishop and the church
- b) To manage the running of the church (branch)
- c) To be responsible for the administration of the church (branch)
- d) To be responsible for the growth of the church spiritually and in number
- e) To ensure that all church services are conducted properly
- f) To ensure that the preaching plan for the month is developed and implemented
- g) To ensure that the MC's plan for the month or quarter is done and working
- h) To manage the finances of the branch
- i) To ensure that church members do attend conferences and conventions
- j) To ensure that the Sunday school is running well
- k) To work with the branch Pastor and other local Pastors
- l) To ensure that home cells are functioning well
- m) To assist the branch pastor on spiritual matters
- n) To arrange and organize services and meeting to assist the church
- o) To take care of needy church members, widows and orphans
- p) To ensure that the youth department is organized
- q) To work with the Region
- r) The term of office for branch Executive Committee is three years
- s) The Branch executive Committee composing of seven members and two elders and two members from the youth executive committee

40. CHURCH COMMUNICATION CHANNEL

Communication should be a two way traffic. The branch should communicate with the region and region to the International Executive Commission and then to the Bishop's Office. Communication from branches direct to Bishop's Office will be accepted only if the channel of communication is not clear for the benefit of the church. Branch leadership are advised first to communicate with senior pastors before they can communicate direct with the Bishop

41. VOTING

- a) Voting shall be show of hands or by ballot, w
- b) hichever the electing meeting chooses, provided that the method chosen shall be consistent throughout a particular election.
- c) Where a tie occurs, voting shall be repeated until a winner is established

42. ADOPTION OF THE CONSTITUTION

This constitution shall be passed by a 67% vote of International Annual Conference upon its presentation by the Bishop

43. AMMENDMENTS TO THE CONSTITUTION

- a) Ammendments to the constitution may only be made by a seventy five percents (75%) majority vote of the International Annual Conference of the EloiChristian Church International and approved by the Bishop
- b) Ninety (90)days notice,in writing of proposed amendments and this constitution shall be submitted to the IEC
- c) The IEC shall submit proposed amendments to all regions/provinces pastors within thirty (30) days of receipt
- d) It shall be the duty of the regional senior pastor to inform her/his region and return their submissions/inputs to the IEC at least thirty (30) days before the next International Annual Conference

44. DISPUTE RESOLUTION

- a) Where a dispute arises, all relevant church avenues shall be fully explored
- b) All affected members through their leadership must attest to their acceptance of a dispute resolution settlement
- c) If all relevant church avenues have been explored and have failed to resolve the dispute, mediation(elders) will be sought
- d) Finally if there is failure to resolve the dispute through mediation, the Church Bishop and arbitration will be sought as a last resort
- e) Any church member who does not explore all the above channels will bear any legal cost incurred.

45. OUR CHURCH STRUCTURE

