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4 **CONSTITUTION OF THE**
5 **ARKANSAS-LOUISIANA CONFERENCE**
6 **OF SEVENTH-DAY ADVENTISTS**
7 *Effective October 27, 2024*

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9 **ARTICLE I--NAME**

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11 The name of this organization shall be known as the Arkansas-Louisiana
12 Conference of Seventh-day Adventists, hereinafter referred to as the
13 conference.

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15 **ARTICLE II--PURPOSE**

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17 The purpose of this conference is to make disciples of Jesus Christ who
18 live as His loving witnesses and proclaim to all people the everlasting gospel
19 of the Three Angels' Messages in preparation for His soon return (Matthew
20 28:18-20, Acts 1:8, Revelation 14:6-12).

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22 **ARTICLE III--RELATIONSHIPS**

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24 The Arkansas-Louisiana Conference is a member unit of the
25 Southwestern Union Conference of the Seventh-day Adventist Church and
26 is located in the territory of the North American Division of the General
27 Conference of Seventh-day Adventists. The purposes, policies, and
28 procedures of this conference shall be in harmony with the working policies
29 and procedures enacted by the executive committee of the North American
30 Division or the General Conference of Seventh-day Adventists. This
31 conference shall pursue the mission of the Seventh-day Adventist Church in
32 harmony with the Fundamental Beliefs, programs, initiatives, and actions
33 adopted and approved by the General Conference of Seventh-day Adventists
34 in its sessions.

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36 **ARTICLE IV--TERRITORY**

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38 The territory of this conference shall consist of the states of Arkansas
39 and Louisiana, and the city of Texarkana, Texas.

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41 **ARTICLE V--MEMBERSHIP/CONSTITUENCY**

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43 The membership/constituency of this conference shall consist of such
44 churches and companies as have been or shall be properly organized in any
45 part of the geographic territory under its jurisdiction and formally approved
46 for membership by vote of the delegates at any regular or special conference
47 constituency session. Such churches shall remain members unless
48 expelled by a simple majority vote of the delegates in a properly called
49 constituency session of the conference.

50 ARTICLE VI--BYLAWS

51
52 The members of this conference, acting in and through a conference
53 constituency session, may enact bylaws, and/or repeal them, and such
54 bylaws may embrace any provision not inconsistent with the constitution or
55 with the current local conference model constitution and bylaws approved
56 by the Executive Committee of the General Conference of Seventh-day
57 Adventists. While we recognize multiple language groups throughout our
58 constituency and will make every effort to accommodate translation at our
59 sessions, the principal business language of the Arkansas-Louisiana Conference
60 is English and its governing documents shall be in English.

61
62 ARTICLE VII—DISSOLUTION AND DISPOSITION OF ASSETS

63
64 This conference may be dissolved only by a two-thirds (2/3) majority vote
65 of the delegates present and voting at any constituency session.

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67 In the event of the dissolution of this conference and unless otherwise
68 required by local law, all assets remaining after all claims have been satisfied
69 shall be transferred to a legal entity authorized by the North American
70 Division of the General Conference of Seventh-day Adventists.

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72 ARTICLE VIII--AMENDMENTS

73
74 The **bolded text of this constitution and bylaws** shall be periodically
75 reviewed and amended **to conform** as far as locally appropriate **to the local**
76 **conference model constitution and bylaws** when it is amended by action of
77 the General Conference Executive Committee at an Annual Council. Such
78 amendments shall be adopted into the conference constitution and bylaws
79 by a simple majority vote (unless local law requires a higher majority) of
80 delegates present and voting at a conference constituency session. This
81 conference may amend the unbolded text of the constitution and bylaws
82 from time to time at a conference constituency session provided any such
83 changes are in harmony with the spirit and intent of the model constitution
84 and bylaws. Such amendments shall require an affirmative vote of two-thirds
85 (2/3) of the delegates present and voting.