

Constitution
of the
Wall Chapel Missionary Baptist Church
Moro, AR

Preamble

Since it pleased Almighty God, by His Holy Spirit, to call certain of His servants to unite here under the name Wall Chapel Missionary Baptist Church for the worship of God and the spread of the Gospel of Jesus Christ, and He has sustained and prospered the work to this present day;

We, the members of Wall Chapel Missionary Baptist Church, declare and establish this Constitution to preserve and secure the principles of our faith and to govern the church in an orderly manner, to maintain the autonomy of this church in freedom of action in relation to other churches and organizations.

Article 1-Name

The name of this church is Wall Chapel Missionary Baptist Church located at 4851 Hwy. 121 N. Moro, AR.

Article 2-Purpose

The church shall adhere to the teachings of the Bible. Its objectives and purposes are and shall be:

- A. To maintain the public worship of God and the observance of the Christian ordinances,
- B. The study of Christian doctrines and principles and the practice of the Christian life as revealed and taught in the Bible, exalting Jesus as we help each other grow in Biblical truth, wisdom, faith, and love,
- C. The salvation of the lost at home and abroad,
- D. The promotion and advancement of Jesus' cause and kingdom in all the earth, through missions at home and abroad and in other works to accomplish this purpose.
- E. To pursue a life together in sacrificial, loving, and faithful care for one another through every circumstance of life.

Article 3-Statement of Faith

1. We believe that love one for another as Jesus loves the believer manifests our discipleship, proves our love for God and symbolizes our authority as New Testament churches. Love is therefore the great commandment of the LORD Jesus Christ upon which all others are dependent (*Matt. 22:35-40; John 13:34, 35; John 15:12; 1 John 4:7-21; 1 John 5:1-3; Rev. 2:4, 5*). We believe that we should demonstrate love for others, not only toward fellow believers, but also toward those who are not believers and those who oppose us. (*Lev. 19:18; Matt. 5:44-48; Luke 6:31; John 13:34, 35; Rom. 12:9, 10, 17-21; 13:8-10; Phil. 2:2-4; 2 Tim. 2:24-26; Titus 3:2; 1 John 3:1,18*).
2. We believe in the infallible, verbal inspiration of the whole Bible and that the Bible is the all-sufficient rule of faith and practice (*Psalms 119:160; 2 Tim. 3:16, 17; 2 Peter 1:20, 21*).
3. We believe in the personal triune God: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, equal in divine perfection (*Matt. 28:19*).

4. We believe in the Genesis account of Creation, as interpreted literally (*Gen. 1; 2*).
5. We believe that Satan is a fallen angel, the archenemy of God and man, the unholy god of this world, and that his destiny is the eternal lake of fire (*Isa. 14:12-15; Ezek. 28:11-19; Matt. 25:41; 2 Cor. 4:4; Eph. 6:10-17; Rev. 20:10*).
6. We believe in the virgin birth and sinless humanity of Jesus Christ (*Matt. 1:18-20; 2 Cor. 5:21; 1 Peter 2:22*).
7. We believe in the deity of Jesus Christ (*John 10:30; John 1:1, 14; 2 Cor. 5:19*).
8. We believe the Holy Spirit is the divine Administrator for Jesus Christ in His churches (*Luke 24:49; John 14:16, 17; Acts 1:4, 5, 8; Acts 2:1-4*).
9. We believe that miraculous spiritual manifestation gifts were done away when the Bible was completed. Faith, Hope and Love are the vital abiding Spiritual Gifts (*1 Cor. chapters 12-14*).
10. We believe that Man was created in the image of God and lived in innocence until he fell by voluntary transgression from his sinless state, the result being that all mankind are sinners (*Gen. 1:26; Gen. 3:6-24; Rom. 5:12, 19*).
11. We believe that the suffering and death of Jesus Christ was substitutionary for all mankind and is efficacious only to those who believe (*Isa. 53:6; Heb. 2:9; 1 Peter 2:24; 1 Peter 3:18; 2 Peter 3:9; 1 John 2:2*).
12. We believe in the bodily resurrection and ascension of Christ and the bodily resurrection of His saints (*Matt. 28:1-7; Acts 1:9-11; 1 Cor. 15:42-58; 1 Thess. 4:13-18*).
13. We believe in the premillennial, personal, bodily return of Christ as the crowning event of the Gentile age. This event will include the resurrection of the righteous to eternal heaven, and the Millennium will be followed by the resurrection of the unrighteous unto eternal punishment in the lake of fire and that the righteous shall enter into the heaven age (*John 14:1-6; 1 Thess. 4:13-18; 2 Thess. 2:8; Rev. 19; Rev. 20:4-6; Rev. 20:11-15; Rev. 21:8*).
14. We believe that the depraved sinner is saved wholly by grace through faith in Jesus Christ, and the requisites to regeneration are repentance toward God and faith in the Lord Jesus Christ (*Luke 13:3-5; John 3:16-18; Acts 20:21; Rom. 6:23; Eph. 2:8, 9*), and that the Holy Spirit convicts every sinner, regenerates, seals, secures, and indwells every believer (*John 3:6; John 16:8, 9; Rom. 8:9-11; 1 Cor. 6:19, 20; Eph. 4:30; Titus 3:5*).
15. We believe that all who trust Jesus Christ for salvation are eternally secure in Him and shall not perish (*John 3:36; John 5:24; John 10:27-30; Rom. 8:35-39; Heb. 10:39; 1 Peter 1:5*).
16. We believe that God deals with believers as His children, that He chastises the disobedient, and that He rewards the obedient (*Matt. 16:27; Matt. 25:14-23; John 1:12; Heb. 12:5-11; 2 John 8; Rev. 22:12*).
17. We believe that Jesus Christ established His church during His ministry on earth and that it is

always a local, visible assembly of scripturally baptized believers in covenant relationship to carry out the Commission of the Lord Jesus Christ, and each church is an independent, self-governing body, and no other ecclesiastical body may exercise authority over it. We believe that Jesus Christ gave the Great Commission to the New Testament churches only, and that He promised the perpetuity of His churches (*Matt. 4:18-22; Matt. 16:18; Matt. 28:19, 20; Mark 1:14-20; John 1:35-51; Eph. 3:21*).

18. We believe that there are two pictorial ordinances in the Lord's churches: Baptism and the Lord's Supper. Scriptural baptism is the full immersion of penitent believers in water, administered by the authority of a New Testament church in the name of the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit. The Lord's Supper is a memorial ordinance, restricted to the members of the church observing the ordinance (*Matt. 28:19, 20; Acts 8:12, 38; Rom. 6:4; 1 Cor. 5:11-13; 1 Cor. 11:1, 2, 17-20, 26*).

19. We believe that there are two divinely appointed offices in a church, pastors and deacons, to be filled by men whose qualifications are set forth in Titus and 1 Timothy.

20. We believe that all associations, fellowships, and committees are, and properly should be, servants of, and under control of the churches (*Matt. 20:25-28*).

21. We believe in freedom of worship without interference from the government and affirm our belief in civil obedience, unless the laws and regulations of civil government run contrary to the Holy Scriptures (*Rom. 13:1-7; 1 Peter 2:13-15*).

22. We believe that God established marriage as a union between one man and one woman. We believe that God has commanded that no intimate sexual activity be engaged in outside of marriage. We believe that any form of homosexuality, lesbianism, bisexuality, bestiality, incest, fornication, adultery, and pornography are sinful perversions of God's gift of sex. We believe that God forbids any attempt to alter one's gender by surgery or appearance (*Gen. 2:24; 19:5; Lev. 18:1-20, 22-23, 20:9-21; Rom. 1:26-29; 1 Cor. 5:1, 6-9; 1 Thess. 4:1-8; Heb. 13:4*).

23. We believe that God intends marriage to last until one of the spouses dies. Divorce and remarriage is regarded as adultery except on the grounds of neglect, abuse, or fornication (*Ex. 21:10, 11; Matt. 5:31, 32*). Divorced and remarried persons, or divorced persons, may hold positions of service in the church and be greatly used of God for Christian service. Men shall not remain in the office of Pastor or Deacon if they file for divorce, except on the grounds of neglect, abuse, or fornication, while holding such an office so long as he does not remarry (*1 Tim. 3:2-5, 12*). Should the wife file for divorce, except on the grounds of neglect, abuse, or fornication, the Deacon or Pastor may remain in office so long as he does not remarry (*1 Cor. 7:7-40*).

24. We believe that men and women are spiritually equal in position before God but that God has ordained distinct and separate functions for men and women in the home and the church. The husband is to be the leader of the home, and men are to be the leaders (pastors and deacons) of the church. Accordingly, only men are eligible for licensure and ordination by the church and to teach above the teen level, with the exception of a women's class (*Gal. 3:28; Col. 3:18; 1 Tim. 2:8-15, 3:4,5, 12; Titus 2:3-5*).

25. We believe that church members are prohibited from bringing civil lawsuits against other church members, or the church to resolve personal disputes. We believe the church possesses all the resources necessary to resolve personal disputes between members. We do believe, however, that a church member may seek compensation for injuries from another church member's insurance company without malice or slander. This may include lawsuits if the insurance company is unwilling to accept responsibility without litigation (*1 Cor. 6:1-8; Eph. 4:31, 32*).

26. We believe that man was created in God's image, and human life is special above all other creation. We believe that life begins at conception, and the intentional taking of innocent human life at any point from conception to natural death is murder. We believe abortion, euthanasia, embryonic stem-cell testing, or any other human intervention that brings about death other than God's divine act, or by God's divine justice as exhibited in His word are considered murder in God's eyes. We reject any teaching that embraces termination of life due to rape, incest, birth defect, gender selection, population control, or the physical or mental well-being of an individual or mother of the unborn child. We acknowledge that God has placed the right of capital punishment in the hand of the government (*Gen. 1:27, 28; Ex. 21:12-14, 22, 23; Ps. 51:5, 139:14-16; Isa. 44:24, 49:1, 5; Jer. 1:5; Luke 1:44; Rom. 13:1-6*).

Article 4-Church Covenant

Having been led, as we believe, by the Spirit of God to receive the Lord Jesus Christ as our Saviour, and on the profession of our faith, having been baptized in the name of the Father and of the Son, and of the Holy Ghost, we do now in the presence of God, angels, and this assembly, most solemnly and joyfully enter into covenant with one another, as one body in Christ.

We engage therefore, by the aid of the Holy Spirit, to walk together in Christian love; to strive for the advancement of this church, in knowledge, holiness, and comfort; to promote its prosperity and spirituality; to sustain its worship, ordinances, discipline, and doctrines; to contribute cheerfully and regularly to the support of the ministry, the expenses of the church, the relief of the poor, and the spread of the gospel through all nations.

We also engage to maintain family and secret devotion; to religiously educate our children; to seek the salvation of our kindred and acquaintances; to walk circumspectly in the world; to be just in our dealings, faithful in our engagements, and exemplary in our deportment; to avoid all tattling, backbiting, and excessive anger; to abstain from the sale and use of intoxicating drinks as a beverage, and to be zealous in our efforts to advance the kingdom of our Saviour.

We further engage to watch over one another in brotherly love; to remember each other in prayer; to aid each other in sickness and distress; to cultivate Christian sympathy in feeling and courtesy in speech; to be slow to take offense, but always ready for reconciliation, and mindful of the roles of our Saviour to secure it without delay.

We moreover engage that when we remove from this place, we will as soon as possible unite with some other church, where we can carry out the spirit of this covenant and the principles of God's Word.

Addendum: We furthermore engage to abstain from the sale of illegal drugs or recreational use of any mind or mood altering substance and to abstain from the sale and use of pornography and to abstain from gambling.

Article 5-Polity and Relationships

The government of this church is vested in the body of believers who comprise it under the headship of Jesus Christ. Persons duly received by the members shall constitute the membership (see Bylaws).

All internal groups created and empowered by this church shall report to and be accountable to the church, unless otherwise specified by church action.

This church is subject to the control of no other ecclesiastical body, but it enjoys mutual counsel and cooperation which are common among Baptist churches. We shall affiliate with churches of like faith in the American Baptist Association, as it now stands. We shall also affiliate with the churches of the State Association of Missionary Baptist Churches of Arkansas, as it now stands.

Article 6-Amendments

Changes in the Constitution and By-laws may be made at any business meeting of the church provided each amendment shall have been presented in writing at a previous business meeting and copies of the proposed amendments shall have been furnished to each active member present at the earlier meeting or upon request. Amendments to the Constitution and By-laws shall be adopted by two-thirds vote of active church members present.

Article 7-Ratification

This constitution is hereby ordained and established for Wall Chapel Missionary Baptist Church of Moro, Arkansas by vote of the membership on *December 21, 2014*.

Bro. Jerry L. Medlock (Moderator/Pastor)

Bro. Jimmy Williams (Deacon)

Bro. Charles Ballard (Deacon)

Bylaws

Article 1-Church Membership

Section 1: General

This is a sovereign and democratic Baptist church under the leadership of Jesus Christ. The membership retains the exclusive right of self-government in all phases of the spiritual and temporal life of this church. This church is subject to the control of no other ecclesiastical body, but enjoys mutual counsel and cooperation with other churches of like faith and order. The membership reserves the exclusive right to determine who shall be members of this church and the condition of such membership. Every member has the right to a voice in the church's government, plans, and discipline.

Section 2: Membership Candidacy

A person who has professed salvation by accepting Jesus Christ as their Savior, fully subscribes to the statement of faith as presented in this Constitution, accepts and enters into the Church Covenant as presented in this Constitution, and agrees to submit to the authority of the church and its leaders may be presented to the church as a candidate for membership.

Any person may present themselves for candidacy at any regular church service by one of the following ways:

1. By profession of faith in Jesus Christ and by identifying with Him in baptism.
2. By promise of a letter of recommendation from another Baptist church of like faith.
3. By statement of personal faith, when it is impossible to obtain a letter from another Baptist church of like faith, this church, being satisfied that the baptism of the candidate is scriptural and valid.
4. By restoration, if having been removed from membership, upon majority vote of the congregation after public confession before the active church membership of the sin or sins involved, and satisfactorily evidencing repentance to the pastor (or deacons if the office of pastor is vacant).

Any person that offers themselves as a candidate for membership must be counseled by the pastor, or by another church member provided the pastor has delegated the counseling for this specific candidate. A candidate for membership will be presented at any regular business meeting and accepted by majority vote of the active church members present given that all requirements have been fulfilled.

Section 3: Membership Classifications

There shall be two membership classifications: (1) a membership roll shall be maintained of "active members" and shall consist of all initial members of the church as of the original date of these bylaws and all members admitted hereafter; (2) a membership roll shall be maintained of "inactive members," meaning members who have not attended a service of the church within the last 12 months, except for members hindered due to illness, age, military duty, or other extenuating circumstances. Such members will be identified through the consultation of the pastor(s) and deacons as part of their regular care for church members. Members will only be moved to inactive status after having been contacted (or having had attempts to contact) as part of the care process and having been sent a letter informing them of the change in their membership status.

Any "inactive member" may request that his/her name be transferred to the roll of "active members" by

contacting the pastor(s)/deacons. Their request shall be made effective 30 days after the member is confirmed “active” again. Any “inactive member” must be in attendance for at least 3 months (attending at least 1 service each week, except for sickness or extenuating circumstances) to be confirmed “active.”

Section 4: Membership Privileges

This church shall expect its members to live exemplary lives in accordance with the teachings of the Holy Bible. The following privileges are available to active members.

1. Voting-Every active member is entitled to vote on all church business provided the member is present.
2. Elected offices-Every active member is eligible for consideration by the active membership for candidacy for elected offices in the church (except for the office of pastor/deacon).
3. Committees-Every active member is eligible to serve on a committee as needed and elected by the membership.
4. Review of Records-Every active member has the right to access all church records (e.g. minutes, bills, receipts, etc.) up to two years in the past.
5. Lord's Supper-Every active member may participate in the ordinance of the Lord's Supper as administered by the church.

Section 5: Termination of Membership

Membership may be terminated at any business meeting because of any of the following conditions:

1. Death of a member
2. Granting of a letter of recommendation to another Baptist church of like faith (letters requesting membership in a Baptist church of like faith will be presented to the church at the next regular business meeting and approved by a majority vote of the active church members present)
3. Exclusion by action of this church (see section 6)
4. Erasure upon request or proof of membership in a non-Baptist church or a Baptist church not of like faith
5. Profession of faith after baptism and church membership, making the previous baptism and membership invalid
6. Bringing a lawsuit against the church or a church member with the exception as provided in the statement of faith (see Article 3 of the Statement of Faith on page 3, #25)

Section 6: Discipline of a Member

It shall be the practice of this church to emphasize to its members that every reasonable measure will be taken to assist any troubled member. The pastor, Deacons, and other members of the church staff are available for counsel and guidance.

The attitude of members toward one another shall be guided by a concern for redemption rather than punishment.

Should some serious condition exist which would cause a member to become a liability to the general welfare of the church, the following steps shall be taken:

1. Members are expected to demonstrate special loyalty and concern for one another. When a member becomes aware of an offense of such magnitude that it hinders spiritual growth and testimony, he is to go alone to the offending party and seek to restore his brother (Matt. 18:15; 1 Thess. 5:14). Before he goes, he should first examine himself (Gal. 6:1). When he goes, he should go with a spirit of humility and have the goal of restoration (1 Cor. 5:1-13).
2. If reconciliation is not reached, a second member, either a Deacon or the pastor, is to accompany the one seeking to resolve the matter (Matt. 18:16). This second step should also be

- preceded by self-examination and exercised in a spirit of humility with the goal of restoration.
3. If the matter is still unresolved after the steps outlined above have been taken, the disciplinary committee shall hear the matter (Matt. 18:17). If the matter is not resolved during the hearing before the disciplinary committee, the committee shall recommend to the members of the church, that they, after self-examination, make an effort personally to go to the offending member and seek that member's restoration (Matt. 18:15-17).
 - a. The disciplinary committee shall consist of the pastor and Deacons. These men shall have the responsibility in determining heretical deviations from the Statement of Faith and violations of the Church Covenant. If the pastor or a Deacon is the subject of a disciplinary matter, he shall not sit as a member of the disciplinary committee. The pastor and Deacons shall be entitled to the same steps as other church members and be subject to the same discipline.
 4. If the matter is still unresolved after the steps outlined in subsections 1-3 have been taken, such members who refuse to repent and be restored are to be removed from the membership of the church upon a majority vote of the active members present at a meeting called for the purpose of considering disciplinary action (Matt. 18:17; 1 Cor. 5:1-3; 2 Thess. 3:6, 14; 1 Tim. 5:19, 20; Titus 3:10, 11).
 5. No matter may be heard by the disciplinary committee or the church unless the steps outlined in subsections 1-2 have been taken, except in the case of a public offense (such cases will be dealt with extemporaneously).
 6. If an unrepentant offending party is removed from the church membership, all contact with him from that point forward (except by family members or occupational association) must be for the sake of restoration (Matt. 18:17; Rom. 16:17; 1 Cor. 5:1-13; 2 Thess. 3:6, 14, 15).

Article 2-Officers, Workers, and Committees

Section 1: Church Officers

The church recognizes two biblical church offices: Pastor and Deacon.

1. Pastor-The pastor shall serve as overseer and spiritual leader of the church whose primary responsibility shall be the ministry of the Word and prayer. The pastor has the responsibility to lead the congregation, the organizations, and the church staff to perform their tasks. The pastor will be expected to delegate appropriate responsibilities to others to insure the work of the church is done in a consistent manner.

The pastor is leader of pastoral ministries in the church. As such, he works with the deacons, and the church staff to: (1) lead the church to carry out the mission and purpose of the church, (2) the proclamation of the gospel both inside and outside the church, (3) to provide appropriate care for both church members and persons in the community. He shall preach the gospel regularly and shall be at liberty to preach the whole counsel of the Word of God as the Lord leads him. He shall tenderly watch over the spiritual interest of the membership. He shall be *ex officio* on all committees of the church, *ex officio* moderator of the business meetings, and *ex officio* messenger for the church in all associations in which the church is a participant.

A pastor shall be chosen and called by the church whenever a vacancy occurs. The election shall take place at a meeting called for that purpose. At least one week's public notice shall be given before a candidate for pastor shall be presented for consideration. Election shall be by secret ballot, an affirmative vote of the simple majority of those active church members present and voting is required to elect a pastor. A pastor pulpit committee shall be elected by the church after prayerful

consideration. Adequate time should be given to the process to help the church through the transition. The pastor pulpit committee will have the responsibility for seeking the person who fulfills the pastor's role for the congregation. Only those who fit the qualifications of 1 Timothy 3:1-7 and Titus 1:5-9 and accept our statement of faith may be considered. The recommendation of the pulpit committee will constitute an invitation to come in view of a call. Any church member has the privilege of making other recommendations for in views of a call.

The church may choose an interim pastor to serve during the search for a full-time pastor. The interim pastor will preach when the church is unable to fill the pulpit, make visitations as needed, and teach classes as needed. The interim pastorate shall not last more than 6 months.

The pastor may relinquish the office of pastor any time he chooses. The church desires that he give at least two weeks' notice to the church at the time of resignation.

The church may declare the office of pastor to be vacant. Such action shall take place at a meeting called for that purpose with at least one week's public notice given. The meeting may be called upon the unanimous recommendation of the deacons or by written petition signed by not less than one third of the active members. The moderator for this meeting shall be designated by the members present and elected by majority vote. The moderator shall be someone other than the pastor. The vote to declare the office vacant shall be by secret ballot; an affirmative vote of the simple majority of the active church members present being necessary to declare the office vacant. The church will compensate the pastor at their discretion. The termination shall be immediate and the compensation shall be paid in no more than thirty days. The pastor shall vacate the church parsonage within thirty days unless other arrangements have been granted by the church.

2. Associate/Youth Pastor-An associate/youth pastor shall be called as the church deems necessary. His responsibilities shall be to help the pastor in his duties, to teach as the church has need, and to lead the youth and youth committee. The qualifications for associate/youth pastor shall be the same as those for pastor. At the time of resignation, the church desires he give at least two weeks' notice to the church. The church may vote to vacate the position following the same procedures for removing a pastor. Such termination will be immediate and compensation conditions shall be the same as for the pastor, except that the amount provided shall relate to the position.
3. Deacons-In accordance with the New Testament, Deacons are to be servants of the church. The ministry of the Deacons is to serve with the pastor and shall be to carry out God's work in the church and community in helping the church members and others in the community any way they can.

All Deacons shall actively support, with time and finances, the work of the Lord through various ministries of the church. All Deacons are expected to attend business meetings of the church as a matter of example and service, in supplying their voice to these deliberations. All Deacons are expected to attend the church worship services and perform assigned duties incidental to the conduct of the Sunday services.

The church shall elect the number of Deacons desired by the church. Only those persons who meet the scriptural qualifications (Acts 6:1-6 and 1 Tim. 3:8-13) and who have been active members of the church for one year shall be elected. There shall be no obligation to recognize as an active Deacon one who has been a Deacon in another church; but in such instances, his previous ordination by another church of like faith and order shall be recognized by this church. A Deacon

joining from another church shall not be elected to serve until an active member of this church for one year.

Elections shall be by a majority of the active church members present by secret ballot at a regular or specially called business meeting. Once elected, Deacons shall serve thereafter as long as they are faithful to their duties. A deacon may no longer serve if the Deacon becomes inactive in membership (see Bylaws, Article 1, section 3). A Deacon may be removed from office at any regular business meeting by majority vote of the active members present upon recommendation from the pastor and deacons due to moral sin, doctrinal error, or misuse of his office.

A Deacon may resign his office.

In the instance that a Deacon is no longer able to physically fulfill his duties, he shall be granted the title Deacon Emeritus and called on for his insight and expertise from time to time.

Section 2: Business Officers

Seeing as how a modern church possesses and maintains earthly facilities and transacts business, the church shall elect business officers to assist the church and church officers in various areas of church business. Such business officers are servants of the church and work with the church officers for the good of the church and its purpose.

1. Moderator/Assistant Moderator-The church shall have a moderator to preside over all business meetings. The pastor shall be moderator *ex officio*. A deacon, as selected by the church, shall serve as assistant moderator and shall moderate when the pastor is unable or the office of pastor is vacant.
2. Clerk/Assistant Clerk-The clerk serves as the church's clerical officer. The clerk is responsible for maintaining records of all official actions of the church, including minutes of the business meetings. The clerk shall be responsible for maintaining a church roll with dates of admissions, dismissals, death or erasure, together with a record of baptisms. The clerk shall issue dismissals approved by the church, while preserving on file all communications and official written reports, and give required notice of all meetings where notice is necessary, as noted in these bylaws. The clerk shall be responsible for preparing annual letters of the church to the various associational meetings. The clerk may delegate these duties as necessary to the assistant clerk. The clerk/assistant clerk shall be elected annually at the annual business meeting of the church.
3. Treasurer/Assistant Treasurer-The treasurer serves as the church's official financial officer. The treasurer shall be responsible for the oversight of all handling of church funds, including receipts and disbursements. It shall be the duty of the treasurer to provide to the church at each regular business meeting a financial report of the receipts and disbursements during the period between business meetings. The treasurer shall be responsible for maintaining copies of receipts, invoices, and any other financial records for a period of two years. The treasurer may delegate these duties as necessary to the assistant treasurer. The treasurer/assistant treasurer shall be elected annually at the annual business meeting of the church.

In the event that one of these officers is unable to complete their term, the assistant for that position will take over.

The offices of clerk and treasurer may be held by the same person.

None of these offices are provided a salary for their services.

Section 3: Non-Ministerial Workers

Non-ministerial workers shall be employed as the church determines the need for their services. These positions include custodian and grounds keeper/maintenance. They shall be compensated at the church's discretion.

Section 4: Church Committees

The church body shall determine the number and type of committees that are needed to fulfill the mission of the church. Standing committees shall be elected annually at the recommendation of the church body at the annual meeting. All committees are servants of the church working to assist the church and church officers to maintain the church's Biblical and spiritual work and focus. All committees work to give a recommendation to the church, but shall not have the authority to make decisions for the church. The church may form a committee for any purpose during any business meeting.

Article 3-Church Ministries

Section 1: Christian Education

This church is committed to the discipleship, growth, and education of church members and those desiring to learn more about God. This is accomplished through preaching and various programs and ministries.

Section 2: Programs and Ministries

Programs and ministries used by this church shall include, but are not limited to, Sunday School, Baptist Training Course, Vacation Bible School, and church camp. These are available to people of all ages.

Section 3: Teachers and Workers

The teachers and assistants for Sunday School and Baptist Training Course will be elected on an annual basis at the annual business meeting. Volunteers may work in classes with the approval of the teacher and pastor. The Vacation Bible School director shall be elected at the annual business meeting and shall approve all the teachers and volunteers in conjunction with the pastor.

Article 4-Church Meetings

Section 1: Regular Services

The church shall meet regularly each Sunday morning and evening and each Wednesday evening for classes and worship. The times for these meetings shall be as follows:

Sunday School	10:00am
Sunday Morning Worship	11:00am
Sunday Evening Worship	5:30pm
Wednesday Night BTC	6:30pm

These times are subject to change at the church's discretion.

Section 2: Business Meetings

The church shall hold a regular business meeting on a monthly basis on the second Sunday evening of each month after the evening service. The church shall hold an annual business meeting in conjunction with the regular August business meeting. The church has the right to hold special business meetings as necessary. The church shall make every attempt to provide adequate notice for such meetings.

Section 3: Special Services

The church shall hold special services (e.g. Revival and Bible conferences) for the purpose of spiritual and educational growth. The church may hold these services at its discretion.

Article 5-Church Ordinances

The church recognizes two biblical ordinances: Baptism and the Lord's Supper

Section 1: Baptism

This church shall receive for baptism any person who has publicly professed Jesus Christ as Savior during any worship service and who indicates a commitment to following Jesus Christ as Lord.

1. Baptism shall be by full immersion in water as an outward expression of faith in the death, burial, and resurrection of the Lord Jesus Christ.
2. The pastor or any person designated by the church shall administer the baptism. The authority to baptism resides with the church and not any individual.
3. Baptism shall be administered as an act of worship during any worship service of the church.

Section 2: The Lord's Supper

This church shall observe the Lord's Supper quarterly on the first Sunday evening of the quarter unless otherwise scheduled. The observance of the Lord's Supper shall be taken after the evening service. The pastor and deacons shall oversee its observance and preparation and administration. The pastor will explain the biblical requirements for the Lord's Supper and its importance as mandated in the New Testament. Only present active church members may partake of the Lord's Supper after examining themselves.

Article 6- Ordinations and Licensing**Section 1: Ministerial Licensing**

When a man announces his call to preach and has proved a devotion to the preaching and studying of God's Word, the church may license him for the preaching of the gospel. This may occur when the pastor and deacons have deliberated and given a recommendation to the church during a regular business meeting to grant a license to the preacher. The church will grant the license by simple majority vote of the active church members present. The church shall provide a certificate of license signed by the pastor, deacons, and clerk. The church may revoke the license at their discretion.

Section 2: Ministerial Ordination

This church has the right to ordain a minister to pastor. An ordination signifies that the recipient meets the qualifications and is able to perform the duties of a pastor. This church shall ordain a man for one of the following reasons:

1. He is a licensed minister of this church and has been called by another church as pastor.
2. He has been called as associate/youth pastor to this church and has not yet been ordained.
3. He has been called as pastor of this church and has not yet been ordained.

The request for an ordination will be brought before the church during a regular business meeting and shall be approved by a simple majority of the active church members present and voting. The church will set a date and time for the ordination service and send letters to the surrounding churches requesting ordained ministers to form a presbytery. At the ordination service, the presbytery will assemble and elect someone to question the candidate, someone to present the ordination Bible, and someone to charge the candidate and the church (present a message). The presbytery shall also approve the questions to be asked. Upon completing these tasks, they shall move to the sanctuary where the service will commence. The candidate will be presented, questioned, and deemed eligible/ineligible by the presbytery. The presbytery will give their recommendation to the church. The church will then vote whether or not to proceed. The vote will be by simple majority of active church members present. After an affirmative vote, the elected speaker will charge the candidate and the church, the Bible shall be presented, and the presbytery will lay hands on the candidate. The presbytery will sign the certificate of ordination and present it to the candidate. The church may revoke an ordination at their discretion.

Section 3: Deacon Ordination

The church may choose to ordain a man at their discretion who fits the qualifications to be affirmed as a deacon. The process for which a pastor is ordained shall serve as a model for the ordination of deacons. The church may revoke an ordination at their discretion.

Article 7-Church Finances

Section 1: Accounting Procedures

All funds received for any and all purposes shall pass through the hands of the treasurer or assistant treasurer and properly recorded. Two people must be present when the money is counted. The treasurer shall keep an accurate accounting of the money received for every monthly business meeting.

Section 2: Receipts

Immediately upon collection, offerings will be secured by at least two church members. Sunday offerings will be counted no later than the next available business day by at least two church members. Deposits will be made during normal business hours by the treasurer or assistant treasurer.

Section 3: Expenditures

The church will approve normal expenditures of donations to missions and mission endeavors at the annual business meeting. Regular operating expenses will be paid as due by the treasurer. Any unexpected expenses will be approved by a majority vote of the active church members present at the regular business meeting. In the event the money is needed before the regular business meeting, a special business meeting will be called. In the event of an emergency or extenuating circumstances, verbal approval of the deacons for a use of funds up to \$1000 may be given. The church shall be informed of such events at the next service. The church shall maintain a general fund and may create and maintain designated funds at its discretion.

Section 4: Payroll

Payroll shall be paid on or by the first of every month. The entire monthly salary shall be paid at that time (excluding grounds workers).

Section 5: General

Any financial (bank accounts) or loans in the church's name shall be approved by the active church members present during a business meeting. Such accounts shall be maintained by the treasurer and assistant treasurer. Financial records, which shall include receipts and invoices, shall be maintained by the treasurer and assistant treasurer. These records shall be stored in the church building in the secretary's office. The pastor and/or associate pastor shall not be named on any of the church's financial accounts, loans, or credit cards.

Article 8-Building Use

Section 1: Building Rules

Since the church building and grounds are used to serve, worship, and honor Jesus Christ, we establish the following rules:

1. No alcohol is permitted anywhere on the grounds.
2. Smoking is prohibited within the buildings and within 10 feet of the entrances.
3. Food and drinks are not permitted within the sanctuary.

Section 2: Weddings, Receptions, and Funerals

The church facilities may be used for the purpose of weddings, receptions, and funerals for church members and their immediate family. Only ordained Baptist preachers of like faith and order may conduct services. This church believes that marriage was ordained by God as a union between one man and one woman; therefore, no homosexual or bigamist weddings or unions may be held on church grounds. The wedding party is responsible for any damages occurring to church property. Receptions shall be allowed for church members and their close family (e.g. grandchildren, nieces, nephews, etc.) At least one active church member must be present at all functions.

Pastors, preachers, or members of this church shall not perform homosexual or bigamist weddings.

The church facilities may be used for visitations and funeral services of church members and their close family. Only ordained Baptist preachers of like faith and order may conduct funeral services. No fee will be charged for funeral services.

Section 3: Reservations

The church kitchen, fellowship hall, and other appropriate areas may be reserved by church members for private functions such as reunions, anniversary celebrations, birthday parties, weddings, etc. Reservations and entry arrangements must be made during a regular business meeting or specially called business meeting at least two weeks prior to the event. Church activities take precedence over all other activities.

Article 9: Counseling and Interaction

The pastors or deacons may, at their discretion, provide Bible-based counseling to those of the church family. These men are not trained in secular methods of counseling and/or psychology. Members will be referred to trained therapists for further needs.

The pastors or deacons will provide opposite-sex counseling on church premises only when others are

present in the building. Counseling will be conducted in offices or rooms with windows and/or opened doors. The pastors or deacons will provide opposite-sex counseling off church premises only in an emergency (e.g. death, family emergency, etc.) and only with others present. Telephone counseling is an alternative. The pastors or deacons will provide opposite-sex counseling sessions for a maximum of sixty minutes per session at a limit of three consecutive weekly sessions. If further help is needed, a referral will be made.

The pastors and deacons are charged to maintain all confidences inviolate, including confessional conferences, except in the case of suspected child abuse or neglect or in cases where mandatory reporting is required by civil law.

The pastors or deacons will not provide rides to and/or from homes, events, etc. for those of the opposite-sex except in a group setting, with those of the opposite-sex being dropped off first. The pastors and deacons will have more than one chaperone at children and/or youth activities, preferably including both male and female chaperones. At least two adults must ride in the church van anytime it is used.

Article10-Dissolution

This church is organized and operated primarily for the purpose of engaging in religious worship and promoting the spiritual development and well-being of individuals. The church pledges its assets for use in performing the organization's religious functions. It directs that on discontinuance of the church by dissolution or otherwise the assets are to be transferred to a charitable, educational, or religious organization that is associated with a Baptist church of like faith and order. Of the two types of property, that is real property (land and buildings) and personal property (fixtures and equipment), the real property shall revert to the donating family (the Charles Ballard estate). A committee shall be formed from those remaining members which shall serve as executors to disperse the personal property and funds to a charitable, educational, or religious organization that is associated with a Baptist church of like faith and order.