

Wellsville Baptist Church
CONSTITUTION

REVISED October 19, 2008

CONSTITUTION

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PREAMBLE

Having been led by the Lord, as we believe, to maintain a testimony for Jesus Christ, and recognizing the necessity for a constitution to guide us in the matters of church business, we the members of the Wellsville Baptist Church of Wellsville, Kansas, do ordain and establish the following articles, to which we voluntarily submit ourselves.

ARTICLE I

NAME

The name of this Church shall be the Wellsville Baptist Church of Wellsville, Kansas.

ARTICLE II

PURPOSE

Desiring to have a simple form of worship, conforming as nearly as possible to New Testament teaching and early church practice; and believing that the evangelization of the world is both the privilege and responsibility of the church of Jesus Christ...a sacred trust committed to us by our Lord Himself, We have formed ourselves into a Baptist Church organization affiliated with the East Central Area, The Kansas Baptist Convention, and the American Baptist Churches, U.S.A.

ARTICLE III

ARTICLES OF FAITH

SECTION 1. STATEMENT OF DOCTRINE.

(1). THE HOLY SCRIPTURES: We believe that all scripture is given by inspiration of God, by which men of God were moved by the Holy Spirit to write the very words of scripture in the original manuscripts. It is without error and is our guide to faith and practice. (II Tim. 3:16-17; II Peter 1:21; Matthew 5:18; John 6:12-13).

(2). THE GODHEAD: We believe that the Godhead eternally exists in three persons...The Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit...and that these three are one God. The three persons of the Godhead are eternal in being, identical in nature, equal in power and glory having the same attributes. (Deut. 6:4; John 1:1-2,14; Acts 5:3-4; Hebrews 1:1-3).

(3). THE ORIGIN AND PERSONALITY OF SATAN: We believe that God created an innumerable company of sinless spiritual beings, known as angels. The highest rank, Lucifer, sinned through pride, becoming Satan, of which many demons followed him in his fall. (Isaiah 14:12-15). We believe that Satan is the originator of sin, who led the human race into transgression and accomplished their fall. (Genesis 3:1-19). We believe that Satan is a direct enemy of God, and in his warfare appears as an angel of light to blind men from the Gospel of Christ. (II Cor. 4:3-4; I Peter 5:8).

(4). THE CREATION AND FALL OF MAN: We believe that man was created in the image and likeness of God (Gen. 1:26-27). But that in the

transgression of Adam, (Gen. 3:6-7) the whole human race fell, inherited a sinful nature, (Rom. 5:12) became alienated from God and totally unable to change his lost condition (Ephesians 2:12).

(5). THE PERSON AND WORK OF CHRIST: We believe that the Lord Jesus Christ, the Eternal Son of God, became man, (John 1:14) being conceived of the Holy Spirit and born of the Virgin Mary (Luke 1:35) in order that He might reveal God and redeem sinful man. We believe that He accomplished our redemption through His death on the cross. His blood being the purchase price, (Romans 3:24-25) and that He secured that redemption forever by His literal, bodily resurrection from the dead (Romans 4:25, I Peter 1:3-5).

Our Lord Jesus Christ is now in heaven, exalted at the right hand of God, where as the High Priest for His people, He fulfills the ministry of Representative, Intercessor and Advocate (Hebrews 9:24; 7:25; Romans 8:34; I John 2:1-2).

(6). THE PERSON AND WORK OF THE HOLY SPIRIT: We believe that the Holy Spirit, the third Person of the Trinity took up His abode in the world in a special sense on the day of Pentecost, who according to promise indwells every believer (I Cor. 6:19-20; John 14:16-17.) He baptizes each believer into the Body of Christ, (I Cor. 12:13) seals them unto the day of Redemption (Eph. 4:30; Eph. 1:13-14) and it is the duty of every believer to be filled with the Holy Spirit (Eph. 5:18). The ministry of the Holy Spirit to the world is that of conviction in relation of sin, righteousness and judgment (John 16:7-11).

(7). THE WAY OF SALVATION: We believe that Salvation is the gift of God brought to man through grace (Eph. 2:8-9) and received by personal faith in the Lord Jesus Christ (John 1:12-13) whose precious blood was shed for the forgiveness of sins (Eph. 1:7). Because man is dead in trespasses and sins (Eph. 2:1-2) he must be born from above in order to receive God's eternal life (John 3:3; 3:16; 3:36; 5:24). We believe that our redemption was accomplished solely by the work of Christ on the cross, whereby He was made sin for us, dying in our place (II Cor. 5:21). No sincere effort, good resolutions, submission to rules and regulations of the church can add to the finished work of Christ at Calvary, which eliminates "works" as part of our Salvation (Titus 3:5; Eph. 2:8-9).

(8). THE SECURITY OF THE BELIEVER: We believe, because of the eternal purpose of God toward His creation and because of His freedom to exercise grace toward the sinner on the ground of the finished work of Christ, all genuine true believers who are once a child of God are kept secure forever (Rom. 8:1,38,39; John 10:27-30; John 5:24; I Pet. 1:5; John 17:11). We believe it is the privilege of all who are born again to be assured of Salvation (I John 5:13).

We believe, however, that God is a holy and righteous Father and that since He cannot overlook the sin of His children, He will, when they persistently sin, chasten them and correct them in infinite love (Hebrews 12:5-8).

(9). SANCTIFICATION: We believe that sanctification, which is a setting apart unto God is threefold: First, at the time of Salvation, the individual is positionally set apart once for all (Heb. 10:10; I Cor. 6:11). Second, we believe, however, that he retains his sin nature, which cannot be eradicated from his nature, which cannot be eradicated from his life. There is, therefore, a "continual" sanctification wherein the Christian is to grow in grace and in the knowledge of our Savior (John 17:17; II Peter 3:18). Third, we believe that the child of God will be "ultimately" sanctified in his state as he is now in his standing in Christ, when he shall see his Lord and

shall be "like Him". (I Thess. 3:13; 5:23).

(10). THE CHURCH AND ITS MISSION: We believe that the church, the body of Christ, is a spiritual organism, made up of all born-again persons of this present age, irrespective of their affiliation with Christian organization (Eph. 1:22-23; 5:25-27; I Cor. 12:12-14). The local church is a company of believers in Jesus Christ, baptized for worship, work, and fellowship. The mission of the church is to proclaim to the lost world the message of redemption in Jesus Christ as Savior; not only to the local community, but to the entire world (Acts 1:8). The mission does not end here, it also includes nurturing the membership and taking care of their needs. (Matt. 25:35-40; 28:19-20).

(11). THE RETURN OF CHRIST: We believe in the personal imminent coming of the Lord Jesus Christ for His own (I Thess. 4:13-18) and His subsequent premillennial return to earth to set up His Kingdom (Zech. 14:4-11; Rev. 20:6; Acts 15:16-17; Matt. 24:32-35).

(12). THE ETERNAL STATE: We believe that the souls of those who have trusted in the Lord Jesus Christ for salvation do at death immediately pass into His presence (Luke 23:43) and there remain in conscious bliss until the resurrection of the body at His coming, when soul and body, reunited shall be associated with Him forever. The souls of the unbelievers remain after death in conscious misery, until the final judgment of the great white throne at the close of the millennium, when soul and body, reunited, shall be cast into the Lake of Fire, not to be annihilated, but to be punished with everlasting destruction from the presence of the Lord and from the glory of His power (Luke 16:19-26; II Cor. 5:8; II Thess. 1:7-9; Jude 6-7; Rev. 20:11-15).

(13). CHURCH ORDINANCES: We believe that water baptism and the Lord's Supper are the only ordinances of the church and that they are the scriptural means of testimony for the church in this age (I Cor. 11:2).

Believer's baptism is the immersion of a believer in water; in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit; setting forth the essential facts in redemption--the death, burial and resurrection of Christ (Rom. 6:3-6) also the essential facts in the experience of the believer--the death to sin and resurrection to newness to life (Matt. 28:19-20; Acts 8:36-39; Acts 19:3-5).

We believe that the Lord's Supper is a commemoration of His death until He comes and is to be observed at designated intervals by all members of the church (I Cor. 11:23-29).

(14). THE RESPONSIBILITY OF BELIEVERS: We believe that all believers should seek to walk in such a manner as to not bring reproach upon their Lord and Savior and that separation from worldly practices is commanded by God (Romans 12:1-2; 14:13; I Cor. 6:19-20; Col. 3:17; I John 2:15-17).

We believe that it is the obligation of every believer to witness by life and word to the truths of Scripture and to proclaim the gospel to the world (Acts 1:8) that the responsibility of all believers is to remember to pray and to support the work by their means as the Lord has prospered them (I Cor. 16:2).

We believe that it is the obligation of every believer to recognize that God has ordained marriage to be the union of one man and one woman. Sexual intercourse is to be limited to within marriage (Hebrews 13:4). Such expressions of our sexuality as adultery, fornication, homosexual acts, pornography and other gross immorality, are not compatible with Biblical teaching and can severely damage our witness as a Christian. If confessed and repented, these sins can be

forgiven in Jesus' name. The individual can be restored to full fellowship with the Father and His church.

SECTION 2. CHURCH COVENANT.

Having been led, as we believe, by the Spirit of God, (Rom. 8:14) to receive the Lord Jesus Christ as our Savior, (Matt. 10:40; Gal. 4:14; I Thess. 2:12) and on the confession of our faith, (Acts 2:41; 8:37) having been baptized in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit, (Matt. 28:19) 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 (I Cor. 12:13).

We engage therefore, by the aid of the Holy Spirit (John 16:13; 14:26) to walk together in Christian love, (Eph. 5:2; II Thess. 4:9) to strive for the advancement of this church (Eph. 2:21-22; Acts 20:28) in knowledge; (II Peter 3:18) in Holiness; (II Cor. 7:1) and comfort; (I Thess. 5:14) to promote its prosperity and its spirituality; to sustain worship; (Heb. 10:25) ordinances; (I Cor. 11:2) discipline; (II Thess. 3:6; Rom. 16:17) and doctrines; (Acts 2:42; II John 9:10-11) to contribute cheerfully and regularly to the support of the ministry (I Cor. 16:2; Matt. 10:10), the expenses of the church (Acts 4:34-35), the relief of the poor, (Matt. 25:40) and the spread of the Gospel through all nations, (Acts 1:8). We also engage to maintain family and secret devotion; (Deut. 11:18-20) to spiritually educate our children, (Matt. 6:6; Eph. 6:4) to seek the salvation of our kindred and acquaintances, (Mark 5:19) to walk circumspectly in the world, (Matt. 5:16; Eph. 5:15) to be just in our dealings, (Rom. 12:17) faithful in our engagements, (Eph. 4:25) and exemplary in our deportment, (Eph. 5:8) to avoid all tattling, (I Tim. 5:13; Eph. 4:31) backbiting (II Cor. 12:20) and excessive anger, (Eph. 4:26) to abstain from the sale and use of intoxicating drink as a beverage, (Eph. 5:18; I Cor. 6:10) and to be zealous in our efforts to advance the Kingdom of our Savior.

We further engage to watch over one another in brotherly love; (I Thess. 5:14; Rom. 12:10) to remember each other in prayer, (Eph. 6:18; I Thess. 5:25) to aid each other in sickness and distress, (Gal. 6:10) to cultivate Christian sympathy in feeling; (I Cor. 12:25-26) to be courteous in speech, (Titus 3:2) to be slow to take offense, (Romans 12:19) but always ready for reconciliation and mindful of the rules of our Savior to secure it without delay, (Matt. 5:23; 18:15-18).

We moreover engage that when we remove from this place, we shall 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. (Hebrews 10:15-16; 10:25).

ARTICLE IV

MEMBERSHIP

SECTION 1. QUALIFICATION

Any person professing faith in Jesus Christ as personal Lord and Savior, who is in accord with the faith and practice of this church may be admitted to membership. The standard of faith and practices is that set forth in the New Testament and incorporated in the Church Covenant; Membership Covenant; the Articles of faith and the constitution as adopted by this Church.

SECTION 2. RECEPTION OF MEMBERS

Persons may be received into membership by one of three methods, as may be appropriate, upon recommendation of the Pastor and the Board of Deacons, and the vote of the Church. Classes will be made available for assistance in understanding and growth in the Christian life.

(a) BY BAPTISM

Any person professing faith in the Lord Jesus Christ, giving evidence of a change of heart and the testimony of a Christian life, may be received into this Church upon baptism by immersion.

(b) BY LETTER

By letter of dismissal from another Church of like faith and order. Members of other evangelical churches, having been previously baptized by immersion, may be received by letter of recommendation from their respective churches.

(c) BY CHRISTIAN EXPERIENCE

Any believer, having been previously baptized by immersion, may be received upon a satisfactory statement of Christian faith and experience.

SECTION 3. DISMISSAL OF MEMBERSHIP

Members are dismissed from this church by:

(a) Letter, when in good and regular standing, to unite with another Baptist Church of like faith and order; or

(b) Letter of recommendation, when in good and regular standing, to unite with a church other than Baptist but having an evangelical faith; or

(c) Removal, when there is persistent repetition of conduct unbecoming to a child of God, and in all cases involving immorality; or

(d) Removal after death.

SECTION 4. MEMBERSHIP CLASSIFICATION

(a) ACTIVE MEMBER

(b) INACTIVE MEMBER

An inactive member is one who does not attend services or communicate any desire to serve the church. When a member has been inactive for a period of one year the Board of Deacons shall transfer his name to the Inactive Membership List. Consideration of such action shall only be made after a reasonable number of calls have been made to encourage and assist in a renewal of the covenant relationship.

(1) INACTIVE MEMBERSHIP LIST

Persons whose names are on the Inactive Membership List shall not be counted or reported as members, cannot vote in church business meeting, and cannot hold a church office.

(2) RESTORATION

Any person whose name has been placed on the Inactive Membership List, who renews his active status with the church and the fulfillment of his covenant obligations, may be restored to active

membership by the vote of the Board of Deacons.

(c) RECORD OF REFERRAL

Person who has been inactive for two years; (one year not attending the services of the church and the second year on the inactive membership list) shall be placed on the record of referral and will have no official connection with the church.

SECTION 5. MEMBERSHIP COVENANT

I therefore, promise, in dependence upon the grace of God, which helpeth our infirmities, to attend as diligently as possible the public and social worship of God in this church, to sanctify the Lord's Day, to be faithful in private devotions, and to strive in all things to honor my Lord and Savior by a walk and conversation becoming the Gospel of Christ. And, do hereby pledge sincerely and unreservedly to devote myself to the Lord to be His forever.

And furthermore, I do promise to support and sustain the honor and worship of God in this church, in contributing to its support and of the work it may at any time undertake, according as the Lord has given to me.

And to preserve the good name of this church by a consistent walk as the Lord shall give me grace, that no reproach shall be brought upon the name of the Lord and Savior Jesus Christ.

ARTICLE V
GOVERNMENT

The government of this church, under the leadership of the Holy Spirit, is vested in the body of believers who compose it, whose majority vote shall be final. This authority shall rest in the active resident membership of the church, but shall give certain delegated authority to the Board of Deacons, or certain individuals to act in behalf of the church.

ARTICLE VI
OFFICERS

SECTION 1. PASTOR

(a) QUALIFICATIONS: The Pastor shall be a duly ordained Baptist minister "of good report" whose life and character correspond with Scriptural standards set forth in Titus 1:7-9, and who is in full agreement with the doctrinal statement of this church. If at any time he shall depart from these essentials, he shall automatically disqualify himself as Pastor.

(b) CALL AND TENURE: Upon any vacancy in the pastorate, the church shall without delay, take measures to engage a qualified successor, proceeding in the following manner:

(1) PULPIT COMMITTEE: When the resignation of the Pastor has been accepted, the pulpit committee of five members shall be elected by the church body. After having reached a unanimous agreement regarding the candidate of their choice, the Pulpit Committee may arrange to have him speak at one or more regular worship services of the church and/or present his name to the congregation for their decision at a duly noticed business meeting specially called for this purpose, having been previously announced at least a week in advance. Only one candidate shall be proposed at one time.

(2) VOTING: Voting shall be conducted by a secret ballot of active members of the Church. A majority of three-fourths (3/4) of all ballots cast shall be necessary for the election of a Pastor.

(3) EXTENDING A CALL: In its letter of notification to the Pastor elect, the Church shall stipulate such details as: Salary, living accommodations, moving expenses, retirement benefits, automobile expense, vacation, convention expense when representing the Church, Continuing Education expenses, and shall furnish him with a copy of this Constitution, and such other information as shall portray the true condition of the Church.

(4) It shall be the responsibility of the Pulpit Committee to arrange for a suitable installation and public reception as soon as possible after the Pastor is settled on the field. Upon the discharge of this function, they shall dissolve their organization.

(c) RESPONSIBILITIES: The Pastor is recognized as the under-shepherd of Christ's local church. He shall preach the Word of God, administer the Ordinances of the New Testament, safeguard and foster the spiritual interests of the church, and lead it in the fulfillment of its sacred task. The Pastor shall be an ex-officio member of all boards and committees, but his attendance at their meetings shall not be compulsory. He shall preside at church meetings in the absence of the moderator.

(d) TERMINATION OF PASTORATE: It shall be the privilege of either the pastor or the church to dissolve the pastoral relationship by giving at least one months notice, however, by mutual agreement, this period can be lengthened if it is helpful to either the church or pastor. All actions to dismiss a pastor shall be referred to the Board of Deacons for their considerations before action is taken by the church at a meeting specially called for that purpose, notice of which shall have been given on two previous Sundays. A majority vote by secret ballot of active members present shall be required.

SECTION 1-A. CALLING AN ASSISTANT PASTOR FOR WELLSVILLE BAPTIST CHURCH

(a) CALL AND TENURE: Upon any vacancy in the pastorate, the church shall without delay, take measures to engage a qualified successor, proceeding in the following manner:

- (1) PULPIT COMMITTEE: When the resignation of the Assistant Pastor has been accepted, the pulpit committee of five members shall be elected by the church body. After having reached a unanimous agreement regarding the candidate of their choice, the Pulpit Committee may arrange to have him/her speak at one or more regular worship service(s) of the church and/or present his/her name to the congregation for their decision at a duly noted business meeting specially called for this purpose, having been previously announced at least one week in advance. Only one candidate shall be proposed at a time.
- (2) VOTING: Voting shall be conducted by a secret ballot of active members of the Church. A majority of three-fourths (3/4) of all ballots cast shall be necessary for the election of an Assistant Pastor.
- (3) EXTENDING A CALL: In its letter of notification to the Assistant Pastor elect, the Church shall stipulate such details as: salary, living accommodations, moving

expenses, retirement benefits, automobile expense, vacation, convention expense when representing the Church, continuing education expenses, and shall furnish him/her with a copy of this Constitution, and such other information as shall portray the true condition of the Church.

SECTION 2. BOARD OF DEACONS AND DEACONESSES

(a) BOARD: Those elected to serve as Deacons and Deaconesses must be spiritually qualified to hold office. (I Tim. 3:1-13).

(b) ELECTION: The board shall be made up of nine qualified persons, one-third of the board shall be elected each year for a period of three years. No member of the board serving a full term of three years shall be eligible for reelection for a period of at least one year.

(c) RESPONSIBILITIES: Their duties shall be to share with the pastor, responsibilities for the spiritual welfare of the church, to aid in administering the ordinances, and to exercise general oversight of the policies and work of the spiritual life of the church.

SECTION 3. BOARD OF TRUSTEES

There shall be a Board of Trustees, consisting of nine members, more or less, as the church may decide. They shall be chosen for their spirituality, demonstrated business ability and interest in the work of the church.

(a) ELECTION: Their term of office shall be so arranged that one-third shall be elected each year to serve a full term of three years. No member of the board serving a full term of three years shall be eligible for reelection for a period of at least one year.

(b) RESPONSIBILITIES: The trustees as the legal representatives of the church shall collectively hold in trust, all property belonging to the church and shall take all necessary measures for its protection, management, and upkeep; and shall perform such other duties as are imposed upon trustees by the laws and statutes of the state of Kansas.

They shall authorize all the disbursement of all funds in the name of the church. All payments shall be made by check, only when authorized by the Board of Trustees, and shall be signed by the chairman of the Board and one other authorized member of the Board. If one or both of these two people are not available and checks need to be signed, the pastor and/or secretary are authorized to sign the checks.

This board shall submit to the church a quarterly report as well as an annual report. Books are to be audited prior to the annual meeting. The books shall be made available at any time for auditing.

This board shall elect one of its members to serve as financial secretary with the following duties:

(1) Count and receive all of the monies of the church.

(2) Deposit weekly, all church receipts and submit vouchers for same to church office.

(3) A monthly, quarterly, as well as an annual report of all funds received, shall be given to this board and to the church.

SECTION 4. CLERK

(a) ELECTION: The clerk shall be elected annually by a majority vote of the members present and voting at the October business meeting.

No clerk can serve more than three consecutive years.

(b) RESPONSIBILITIES: It shall be the duty of the clerk to keep an exact record of all the proceedings of the church; to preserve all papers and letters of importance, record any current events in the life of the church that are likely to be of historical value.

SECTION 5. MEMBERSHIP CLERK

(a) ELECTION: The membership clerk shall be elected annually by a majority vote of the members present and voting at the October business meeting.

No membership clerk can serve more than three consecutive years.

(b) RESPONSIBILITIES: The membership clerk shall keep a complete alphabetical and a chronological record of the date and manner of admission and dismissal of members; to issue letters of dismissal as directed by the church. The membership clerk shall prepare a yearly report for the annual business meeting of the church.

SECTION 6. SUNDAY SCHOOL SUPERINTENDENT

(a) ELECTION: The superintendent shall be elected annually by a majority vote of the members present and voting at the October business meeting. The Sunday School Superintendent will serve on the Board of Christian Education.

The superintendent shall not serve more than three consecutive years.

(b) RESPONSIBILITIES: The Sunday School Superintendent will be responsible for the general supervision and promoting of the Sunday School program. With the Board of Christian Education's help, the superintendent will arrange for Sunday School classes and their material, recruit, train and support teachers, and bring to the Board programs and ideas for Sunday School growth.

SECTION 7. ASSISTANT SUNDAY SCHOOL SUPERINTENDENT

(a) ELECTION: The assistant superintendent shall be elected annually by a majority vote of the members present and voting at the October business meeting.

(b) RESPONSIBILITIES: The Assistant Sunday School Superintendent will assist the Sunday School Superintendent. The Assistant Superintendent shall recruit persons to lead the opening exercises of the Sunday School each Sunday.

SECTION 8. MODERATOR:

(a) ELECTION: The moderator shall be elected annually by a majority vote of the members present and voting at the October business meeting.

The moderator shall not serve more than three consecutive years.

(b) RESPONSIBILITIES: He shall preside at all business meetings and special meetings of the church.

SECTION 9. MUSIC

The Choir Director, the Church Organist, the Church Pianist, the Sunday School Pianist shall be elected annually at the October business meeting for the following church year. If it be necessary to state any qualifying circumstance, that those circumstances be stated at the time of election and be understood to attend the office for that year.

It shall be the responsibility of the Choir Director to cooperate with the pastor in planning the music for the choir for all regular and special services of the church.

ARTICLE VII

BOARDS AND COMMITTEES

SECTION 1. NOMINATING COMMITTEE

At the beginning of each year the nominating committee shall be selected, which shall consist of five members of the church, and shall be chosen from the congregation as follows: one (1) deacon, one (1) trustee, one (1) member of the Board of Christian Education (these three being elected by their respective boards) and two (2) selected to represent the church at large. These selections are to be made by the moderator.

It shall be the duty of the nominating committee after considering the character and qualifications of those whose names are submitted to fill the elective offices of the church, after having consulted each individual chosen before being nominated, shall submit their nominations to the church, being posted on the church bulletin board at least two Sundays prior to the October business meeting of the church.

Any individual may be nominated to fill a position or office from the floor at the October meeting.

SECTION 2. BOARD OF CHRISTIAN EDUCATION

The Board of Christian Education shall consist of a staff member, Sunday School Superintendent and seven members elected by the church.

It shall be the duty of this board to coordinate the educational program of the Church. Sunday School, the Teen Ministries, the Daily Vacation Bible School, Camp, and Leadership Development are included.

It shall appoint the Sunday School teachers, the superintendent and teachers of the Daily Vacation Bible School and the sponsors of the various Teen Ministries.

No member shall serve more than three consecutive years as a member of this board, with the exception of the staff member.

SECTION 3. THE BOARD OF CHRISTIAN HOSPITALITY

The Board of Christian Hospitality shall be selected annually by a majority vote of the members present and voting at the October business meeting. This Board shall consist of six members.

Their duties shall consist of planning for selected social functions of the church, such as quarterly business meetings, funeral dinners, new members dinners, fellowship refreshments and individual members concern.

SECTION 4. SPECIAL COMMITTEES

All special committees of the church shall be chosen in the same manner as is used to select the nominating committee (see Article VII, Section 1).

Section 5. PRESCHOOL BOARD OF DIRECTORS

The name of this preschool shall be: The Special Blessings Preschool. This organization shall operate as a subsidiary organization to the Church. The Preschool Board shall be composed of the pastor as ex-officio, a deacon representative, trustee representative, and a Board of Christian Education representative, who are selected from their respective boards for a one year term. An at-large-representative from the Church will be elected to a three year term by the Church at the October Church's business meeting.

The Preschool Board shall elect its own chairman and secretary. The Preschool Board has the authority to guide and manage the coordination of business activities of the preschool in accordance with the current Church policies. The Preschool Board will meet quarterly to review the operation of the preschool. The parents of preschool children will be notified of these meetings.

The Preschool Board shall be responsible for preparing and submitting to the Church for approval a policy and procedures manual which outlines the personnel policies, financial procedures, use of facilities and procedures for satisfying governmental regulations. The Preschool Board shall be responsible for hiring, supervising and terminating the director and all other preschool employees. The Preschool Board shall be responsible for setting the salary of the director and upon recommendation of the director shall set all other preschool salaries.

The director/lead teacher shall be directly responsible to the Preschool Board. The director/lead teacher may make recommendations as to the hiring and termination of all other preschool employees and salary structure for those employees, but the Preschool Board shall have final authority in these decisions. The preschool director/lead teacher shall be responsible for the day to day operations of the preschool and would be expected to adhere to the policies and guidelines set forth by the Preschool Board. The director/lead teacher shall be required to attend quarterly preschool board meetings.

SECTION 6. CHURCH REPRESENTATIVES TO COMMUNITY AFTER SCHOOL ENRICHMENT (C.A.S.E., INC.)

- (a) ELECTION: The Church elects two members to serve on the C.A.S.E. Board of Directors. One individual will be elected to a one-year term, with the other individual serving a two-year term. The election will take place during the October Business Meeting.
- (b) RESPONSIBILITIES: The two representatives will attend the Board Meetings of C.A.S.E. on a monthly basis. They will report in writing, to the Church at each quarterly business meeting of the church.

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ARTICLE VIII

MEETINGS

SECTION 1. ANNUAL MEETING

The fiscal year of the church shall end on the last day of December each year. The annual meeting for the reception of the reports, and other business shall be held on the first Sunday following the third Wednesday in January. This will include a fellowship dinner, and a devotion; evening service will be dismissed after each business meeting.

SECTION 2. QUARTERLY MEETINGS

A regular quarterly meeting for the transaction of business shall be held the first Sunday following the third Wednesday of each quarter. This will include a fellowship dinner, and a devotion; evening service will be dismissed after each business meeting.

SECTION 3. SPECIAL MEETINGS

Special meetings may be called by the pastor or by the moderator. Any action taken at a special meeting must be reported at the next quarterly meeting of the church.

SECTION 4. RULES OF ORDER

The business meetings of the church shall be conducted according to Roberts Rules of Order.

SECTION 5. NOTICES

Notices of the annual election of officers and any meeting where major policy changes are to be considered are to be published in the church bulletin two weeks prior to the meeting.

ARTICLE IX

ORDINANCES

SECTION 1. BAPTISM

Baptism shall be administered only upon the recommendation of the pastor and the Board of Deacons.

The mode of baptism shall be by immersion.

SECTION 2. LORD'S SUPPER

The Lord's Supper shall be administered on the First Lord's Day of each month unless circumstances require a change.

ARTICLE X

AMENDMENTS

The Constitution of the Church may be amended at any regular called business meeting of the church. Any proposed amendment shall be presented in writing two (2) weeks prior to the meeting, and shall require two-thirds vote of active members present for its adoption.