Plack Road

Baptist Church



Statement of faith

And By Laws

**Table of Contents**

**Article 1 *Name and Purpose page 1***

**Article 2 *Statement of Faith and Aims***

**Section 1: *Purpose*  *page 1***

**Section 2:  *Statement of Faith page 1***

**Concerning the Scriptures page 1**

**Concerning the True God page 2**

God the Father page 2

God the Son page 2

God the Holy Spirit page 3

**Concerning the Unseen World page 3**

Angels page 3

The Devilpage 3

**Concerning Mankind page 3**

Creation of man page 3

The Fall of Man page 4

Human Sexuality page 4

Marriage and Family page 4

Abortion page 5

Civil Governmentpage 5

**Concerning Salvation page 5**

Concerning Sin page 5

The Law and the Gospel page 5

Atonement for Sin page 6

The Grace of Salvation page 6

The Freeness of Salvation page 6

Regeneration page 6

Repentance and Faith page 7

Justification page 7

Adoption page 7

Sanctification page 7

The Preservation of the Saints page 7

The Righteous and the Wicked page 7

**Concerning the New Testament Church page 8**

Baptism page 8

The Lord’s Supper page 9

Missions page 9

The Lord’s Day page 9

Giving page 9

Lawsuits Between Members page 9

**Concerning The Resurrection and Last things page 9**

Last Things page 10

Living in the Last Days page 10

**Section 3: Authority of Statement of Faith page 11**

**Section 4: Church Covenant page 11**

**Article 3 *Membership***

**Section 1: Qualifications for Membership page 12**

**Section 2: Duties of Members page 13**

**Section 3: Privileges of Membership page 13**

**Section 4: Discipline of Membership page 13**

Personal Problems Between Members page 13

Public Sin page 13

**Section 5: Transfer of Membership page 14 Section 6: Termination of Membership page 14**

**Article 4 *Officers***

**Section 1: Church Officers page 14**

**Section 2: Eligibility for Office page 14**

**Section 3: Terms of Office page 15**

**Section 4: Election of Officers page 15**

**Section 5: Pastoral Oversight page 15**

**Article 5: *Duties of* Officers**

**Section 1: The Pastor page 15**

**Section 2: The Deacon page 16**

**Section 3: Minister or Records page 16**

**Section 4: Minister of Finance page 16**

**Section 5: The Trustee page 16**

**Article 6: *Meetings***

**Section 1: Meetings for Worship page 16**

**Section 2: Church Administration page 16**

**Section 3: Special Meetings page 16**

**Section 4: Fiscal Year page 16**

**Article 7: Unauthorized Expenditures page 17**

**Article 8: Ordination page 17**

**Article 9: Tax-Exempt Provisions page 17**

**Section 1: Private Inurnment page 17**

**Section 2: Political Involvement page 17**

**Section 3: Dissolution page 17**

**Section 4: Racial Nondiscrimination page 17**

**Article 10: Designated Contributions page 17**

**Article 11: Amendments page 17**

**By Laws page 18**

**Date of Adoption page 18**

***CHURCH CONSTITUTION***

PREAMBLE

*Whereas “the last days” are set forth in the scripture as perilous times, and recognizing that these days are upon us and seeing a departure from the Word of God, be it resolved that we the Members of Plack Road Baptist Church of North P0ole, Alaska, make the following declaration of our Biblical position:*

ARTICLE I

**NAME AND PURPOSE**

***SECTION 1 - NAME:***

This congregation of believers shall be known as the **PLACK ROAD BAPTIST CHURCH.**

***SECTION 2 - PURPOSE:***

**(A)** This congregation is organized as a church exclusively for charitable , religious, and educational purposes within the meaning of Section 501 (c) (3) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986(or the corresponding provision of any future United States Revenue Law), including, but not limited to, for such purposes, the establishing and maintaining of religious worship, the building, maintaining and operating of churches, parsonages, schools, chapels, missions, print shops, camps, cemeteries, and any other ministries that the church may be led of God to establish.

**(B)** This Congregation shall also ordain men to the Gospel ministry; evangelize the unsaved by the proclaiming of the Gospel of the Lord Jesus Christ; educate believers in a manner consistent with the requirements of Holy Scripture, both in Sunday and weekday schools of Christian education; maintain missionary activities in the United States and any foreign country; and engage in any other ministry that this congregation may decide, from time to time, to pursue in obedience to the will of God.

ARTICLE II

**STATEMENT OF FAITH AND AIMS**

***SECTION 1 - PURPOSE:***

To set forth a declaration of those things which are most surely believed among us...that you might know the certainty of those things wherein you have been instructed, we send forth the commonly believed confessions of faith held among us, as follows:

***SECTION 2 - STATEMENT OF FAITH:***

**CONCERNING THE SCRIPTURES:**

We believe the Holy Bible is a supernatural book, that it has God as its Author, salvation for its end, and truth without any mixture of error for its matter; that it reveals the principle by which God will judge us; and therefore is, and shall remain to the end of the world, the only complete and final revelation of the will of God to man.

**1**. By the **“Holy Bible**” we mean that collection of sixty-six books from Genesis to The Revelation, and that the King James Version is the preserved Word of God in the English language. We reject the modern paraphrased versions, the modern common version and others which delete the pure meaning of redemption and do injustice to the Deity of Christ. We believe and teach that the Bible is the final authority in all matters of faith and practice.

**2.** By **“inspiration**” we mean that all books of the Bible were written down by holy men of God as they were supernaturally moved by the Holy Ghost, in a definite yet inexplicable way so as to record the very words and sense of God though conveyed within their own literary styles; that such writings are free from all error and from all omission as no other writings have been or ever will be; that the Bible does not merely contain the Word of God, but is the very Word of God. ***II Timothy 3:16; II Peter 1:19-21; Acts 1:16; 3:21; II Samuel 23:2; Acts 28:25; Psalm 119:89,130,160; I Corinthians 2:12,13; Luke 24:25-27,44,45; Psalm 12:6.7; Isaiah 40:8; I Peter 1:23-25; John 10:35; Matthew 5:18; 24:35; Luke 16:17, 29-31; 21:33; John 17:17; Proverbs 30:5,6; Romans 3:4; 15:4, Revelation 22:18,19 John 12:48; Isaiah 8:20; Ephesians 6:17; Hebrews 4:12; Psalm 19:7-11; John 5:39,45-47; Romans 10:17.***

**CONCERNING THE TRUE GOD**

We believe that there is one, and only one, living and true God, an infinite, intelligent Spirit, the maker and supreme ruler of heaven and earth; inexpressibly glorious in holiness, and worthy of all possible honor confidence and love; that in the unity of the Godhead there are three persons, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, The three persons of the Trinity subsist in the same divine nature, essence and being. They are co-existent and co- equal and each one has a distinct office in the work of Redemption. ***Ephesians 4:6; 1 Timothy 1:17; Exodus 20:2-3; Romans 11:33 ; John 4:24; Psalm 90:2; Mt. 28:19; 1John 5:7; II Corinthians 13:14.***

**God the Father**

We believe the Scriptures teach that God the Father reigns with providential care over His universe, His creatures, and the events of human history according to the purposes of His grace; that He is unchangeable in holiness, love and truth; that He is Father in truth to those who are the children of God through faith in the Lord Jesus Christ, and fatherly in His attitude toward all men, not willing that any should perish, but that all should come to repentance and receive His gift of eternal life through Jesus Christ. ***Genesis 1:1; 17:1; Exodus 3:14; 15:11; 20:2,3; I Corinthians 8:6; Ephesians 4:6; John 4:24; Psalm 83:18; 90:2; 147:5; Jeremiah 10:10; Revelation 4:11; I Timothy 1:17; Romans 11:33; Mark 12:30; Matthew 28:19; I John 5:7; Ephesians 2:18; I John 1:5; 4:8; Hebrews 12:29; Deuteronomy 6:4,5; Isaiah 6:3; I Peter 1:15.***

**God The Son**

We believe the Scriptures teach that Jesus Christ is the only begotten Son of God, the second Person of the Trinity co-equal, co-essential, and co-eternal with God the Father and God the Holy Ghost; that He was born into this world of Mary, a virgin, as no other man was ever born or can ever be born of a woman, and that He is both perfect God and perfect man; that He lived a sinless life, honoring the divine Law by His personal obedience, yet identifying Himself completely with mankind; that He died a substitutionary death on the cross securing redemption through His shed blood for sinners; that He supernaturally rose again the third day with a glorified body, was seen of many, and ascended into the heavens to be exalted and seated at the right hand of the Father where He is the Head over His churches, the Mediator and Advocate with God the Father for all believers; and that He is supernaturally coming again to this world to reign personally and visibly over the earth. ***Genesis 3:15; Isaiah 7:14; Matthew 1:18-25; Luke 1:35; Mark 1:1; John 1:1-3,14; Psalm 2:7; Hebrews 1:8; Galatians 4:4; I John 5:20; I Corinthians 15:47; Isaiah 9:6,7; John 8:58; 10:30; 17:5; Philippians 2:5-11; I Timothy 3:16; Hebrews 4:15; 7:26; Romans 9:5; Colossians 1:15-18; Hebrews 13:8; II Corinthians 5:21; Hebrews 9:24-28; Revelation 1:8; Hebrews 10:12; I John 2:1; Isaiah 53:6; I Peter 2:24; 3:18; I Corinthians 15:3,4; John 14:3; Acts 1:11; Colossians 1:18.***

**God The Holy Spirit**

We believe the Scriptures teach that the Holy Spirit is a divine Person, the third Person of the Trinity; co-equal, co-essential, and co-eternal, and co-active with God the Father and God the Son. That He was active in the creation of the universe; that He moved holy men of God to write the Bible; that He is the present representative of the Godhead on this earth, and in His relationship to the unbelieving world restrains evil, convicting men of sin, of righteousness, and judgment; that He bears witness to the Truth of the Gospel in preaching and testimony, and is the Agent of the new birth, regenerating those who by faith believe on the Lord Jesus Christ; that He seals, fills, guides, teaches, sanctifies, and comforts all believers, cultivating in them Christian character and bestowing upon them spiritual gifts by which they serve God in the church, these gifts being entirely unlike those falsehoods perpetrated within the so-called “Charismatic Movement” of today. ***John 14:16,17,26; 15:26,27; 16:8-11,13; Acts 5:3,4,30-32; 11:16; I Corinthians 2:10,11; 12:4-6; Hebrews 9:14; Luke 1:35; 3:16; 24:49; Matthew 3:11; Mark 1:8; John 1:33, 3:5,6; Ephesians 1:13,14; II Thessalonians 2:7,13; Romans 8:14,16,26,27; I Peter 1:2.***

**CONCERNING THE UNSEEN WORLD**

**Angels**  
 We believe the Scriptures teach that there is a vast celestial kingdom of spirit beings, in ages past created holy, glorious, and higher than man; a vast company of various ranks worshiping God, ministering to His glorious Person and to His children. ***Psalm 148:2,5; Colossians 1:16; Nehemiah 9:6; Hebrews 1:14; Psalm 103:20; 104:4; Daniel 9:21,22; Luke 9:26; Mark 8:38; Daniel 10:13; 12:1; Jude 9; Revelation 12:7; Psalm 80:1; 99:1; Revelation 4:6-8; Ezekiel 1:4-28; Isaiah 6:1-3; II Thessalonians 1:7,8; Psalm 34:7; Acts 12:7-11; II Kings 6:17.***

**The Devil**

We believe the Scriptures teach that Satan, as the mighty angel Lucifer, was once holy, enjoying heavenly honors; but that through pride and ambition to be as the Almighty, fell and drew after him a host of angels; that he is now the malignant “prince of the power of the air,” the unholy god of this world; that he is man’s great tempter, the enemy of the Lord Jesus Christ, the accuser of the saints, the author of all false religions, the chief power behind the present apostasy; the lord of the antichrist, and the author of all the powers of darkness; destined however to final defeat at the hands of God’s own Son, and the judgment of an eternal justice in the lake of fire, a place prepared for him and his angels. ***Isaiah 14:12-15; Ezekiel 28:14-17; Revelation 12:9; Jude 6; Ephesians 2:2; II Peter 2:4; John 14:30; I Thessalonians 3:5; Matthew 4:1-3; I Peter 5:8; I John 3:8; Matthew 13:25,37-38; Luke 22:3,4; Revelation 12;10; II Corinthians 11:13-15; Mark 13:21,22; I John 4:3; II John 7; I John 2:22; Revelation 13:13,14; 12:7-9; 20; 20:1-3,10; II Thessalonians 2:8-11; Matthew 25:41.***

**CONCERNING MANKIND**

**The Creation of Man**

We believe the Genesis account of creation is to be accepted literally, not allegorically or figuratively. We believe that God created the Heaven and the earth in a direct act, that He brought forth all original matter out of nothing. We believe the Scriptures teach that God created man in His own image and after His own likeness; that man is notably distinct from all other forms of life, being tripartite in nature and having an everlasting soul; that man’s creation was not a matter of evolution or evolutionary change of species, or development through interminable periods of time from lower to higher forms of life. We believe that all animal and vegetable life was made directly and specially, and God’s established law is that they should bring forth only “after their kind.”***Gen. 1:1; Ex. 20:11; Acts 4:24; Col. 1:16-17; Heb. 11:3; Jn. 1:3 Rev. 10:6; Rom. 1:20; Acts 17:23-26; Jer. 10:12; Neh. 9:6; Gen. 1:26-27; 2:21-23; 1:11, 24.***

**The Fall of Man**

We believe the Scriptures teach that man was created in innocence under the law of his Maker, but by voluntary transgression through an act of deliberate disobedience fell from that sinless and happy state; in consequence of which all mankind are now sinners, not by constraint but of choice, being by nature utterly void of that holiness required by the Law of God, positively inclined to evil; that upon reaching a capability of moral action becomes a transgressor and therefore under just condemnation to eternal ruin without defense or excuse. ***Genesis 1:1,11,25-27,31; 2:21-23; Ecclesiastes 7:29; Genesis 3:1-6,24; Romans 1:18,20,28,32; 3:10-19; 5:12,19; Ezekiel 18:19,20; Galatians 3:10,22; Psalm 51:6; Isaiah 53:6; Ephesians 2:3;***

**Human Sexuality**

We believe the Scriptures teach God has clearly commanded that no sexual activity be engaged in outside of a marriage between a man and a woman. We believe that any form of homosexuality, lesbianism, bisexuality, bestiality, incest, fornication, adultery, and pornography are sinful perversions. ***Genesis 2:24; 19:5-7,13; 26:8-11; Leviticus 18:1-30; Romans 1:26-29; I Corinthians 5:1; 6:9; I Thessalonians 4:1-8; Hebrews 13:4.***

**Marriage and the Family**

When God created the family, He “formed the man out of the dust of the ground”, and from a rib in his side, God created the woman to be a fitting help for him. The man and the woman were united in marriage (they became “one flesh”) for life, and from this union, the family was formed. (Genesis chapters 1 and 2)

Every subsequent family is based on this original model, “Therefore shall a man leave his father and his mother, and shall cleave unto his wife: and they shall be one flesh. (Genesis 2:24). Also, throughout scripture, God has consistently shown that God’s plan for the family, was that it was to be constructed of one man (the husband) – who is to be the leader and provider of the home, one woman (the wife) – the nurturer and keeper of the home, and possibly children. (The wife is equal to the husband, but is to submit to him in his leadership; he is to submit to the Lord, and the children to the parents.) (Ephesians chapter 5 & 6)

The Family was created to serve God as a team and for the purpose of reproducing (Gen 1:28, 9:1) and training children for future service.

Therefore, a marriage consists of only one man and one woman who with mutual consent, commit to each other for life, in a ceremony before witnesses and an authorized agent of the state. This marriage “that God hath joined together”, and which forms the Family, is not to be dissolved until the death of the husband or wife. (Matthew 19:3-11) (Romans 7)

Scripture has shown divorce and polygamy to be inconsistent with God’s plan for the family and is detrimental to the family. We believe that God hates divorce and intends marriage to last until one of the spouses dies. Divorce and remarriage is regarded as adultery. Although divorced and remarried persons may hold positions of service in the church and be greatly used of God for Christian service, they may not be considered for the offices of pastor or deacon. ***Mal. 2:14-17; Matt. 19:3-12; Rom. 7:1-3; I Tim. 3:2, 12; Tit. 1:6.***

Marriage between relatives closer than 1st cousin is considered to be incest. This is consistent with scripture **(Lev. 18).**

Plack Road Baptist Church does not consider a “marriage” between two members of the same gender to be a marriage, a family, or a union. This is also consistent with Scripture.

We do not recognize “Common Law Marriage” as being a marriage.

**Abortion**

We believe the Scriptures teach that human life begins at conception and that an unborn child is a living human being. Abortion constitutes the unjustified, unexcused taking of unborn human life. Abortion is murder. . We reject any teaching that justify abortions of pregnancies due to rape, incest, birth defects, gender selection, birth or population control, or the mental well-being of the mother. ***Job 3:16; Psalm 51:5; 139:14-16; Isaiah 44:24; 49:1, 5; Jeremiah 1:5,20”15-18; Luke 1:44; Exodus 21:22-25.***

**Civil Government**

We believe that God has ordained and created all authority consisting of three basic institutions: 1) the home; 2) the Church; and 3) the state. Every person is subject to these authorities, but all (including the authorities themselves) are answerable to God and governed by His Word. God has given each institution specific Biblical responsibilities and balanced those responsibilities with the understanding that no institution has the right to infringe upon the other. The home, the Church, and the state are equal and sovereign in their respective Biblically assigned spheres of responsibility under God. ***Rom. 13:1-7; Eph. 5:22-24; Heb. 13:17; I Pet. 2:13-14; Acts 5:29.***

We further believe the Scriptures teach that civil government is of divine appointment, for the interest and good of human society; that all those in authority are to be prayed for, conscientiously honored and obeyed, except only in things opposed to the revealed will of our Lord Jesus Christ, Who is the only Lord of the conscience, and the coming Prince of the rulers of the earth; that civil rulers have no rights or control over, or interference with, religious matters; that no ecclesiastical group or religious denomination or organization should be preferred above another by the State; that the State should not impose taxes for the support of any form of religion, and that churches and religious organizations should receive no help from the State, except protection and full freedom in the pursuit of spiritual ends; and that the requiring of an implicit faith and absolute blind obedience destroys liberty of conscience and reason**. *Romans 13:1-7; I Peter 2:13,14,17; Matthew 22:21; Titus 3:1; I Timothy 2:1-8; Acts 5:29; Matthew 10:28; Daniel 3:15-18; 6:7,10; Acts 4:18-20; Matthew 23:10; Romans 14:4; Psalm 72:11; II Samuel 23:3; Exodus 18:21,22; Acts 23:5; Philippians 2:10,11.***

Concerning Salvation

**Concerning Sin**

As has been stated under “Concerning Mankind” mankind exists in a sinful, fallen, condemned state. We believe the Scriptures teach that sin is any transgression of or want of conformity to, the revealed will of God; that it has permeated the entire universe, including every realm and affecting every race and species amongst creation; that every man is born with a sin nature, an inherent inclination toward evil which results in acts of wrong-doing; that the wages of sin is death, being separated from God in this life and throughout eternity. ***I John 3:4; Numbers 32:23; Matthew 7:23; 23:28; Romans 6:19; Judges 20:16; Romans 3:23; I Samuel 15:23; Luke 19:10-14; Isaiah 53:6; Jeremiah 17:9; Genesis 3:14,18; Romans 8:22; 1:18-32; Psalm 51:5; 58:3; John 3:19; James 4:17; Romans 6:23; Hebrews 9:27; Romans 5:12,14; Ephesians 2:1; 4:8; Matthew 10:23; Revelation 20:15.***

**The Law And The Gospel**

We believe the Scriptures teach that the Law of God is the eternal and unchangeable rule of His moral government; that it is holy, just, and good; and that the inability which the Scriptures ascribe to fallen men to fulfill its precepts arises entirely from their sinful nature; to deliver them from which, and to restore them through a Mediator of unfeigned obedience to the holy Law is the one great end of the Gospel; that Christ died for our sins according to the Scriptures, and that He was buried, and that He rose again the third day according to the Scriptures. ***Romans 3:20,31; Matthew 5:17; Luke 16:17; Romans 4:15; 7:7,12,14,22; Galatians 3:21; Romans 8:2,4,7,8; 10:4; I Timothy 1:5; Hebrews 8:10.***

**Atonement for Sin**

We believe the Scriptures teach that the Son of God, by agreement with the Father, freely took upon Him our nature, yet without sin; that by His death on the cross made a full and vicarious atonement for our sins; that His atonement consisted not in setting us an example by his death as a martyr, but was the voluntary substitution of Himself in the sinners’ place, the Just dying for the unjust; that having risen from the dead He is now enthroned in Heaven and, uniting in His wonderful Person the most tender sympathies with divine perfections, He is in every way qualified to be a suitable, compassionate, and all-sufficient Saviour. ***Ephesians 2:8; Acts 15:11; Romans 3:24,25; John 3:16; Matthew 18:11; Philippians 2:7,8; Hebrews 2:14; Isaiah 53:4-7; I John 4:10; I Corinthians 15:3,20; II Corinthians 5:21; John 10:18; Galatians 1:4; I Peter 2:24; 3:18; Isaiah 53:11,12; Hebrews 7:25; 9:12-15; 12:2; I John 2:2.***

**The Grace of Salvation**

We believe and teach that salvation is by God's grace and that salvation is free to all through the Gospel; that it is the duty of all to accept, by faith, that salvation and those who voluntarily reject salvation will face eternal separation from God in a literal place of punishment called Hell in the Scriptures. When a sinner repents and receives Jesus Christ as his personal Saviour he receives eternal life. The eternal purpose of God in Salvation is first of all to preserve the believer forever in Christ; the believer is saved eternally. It is also the eternal purpose of God that the believer will conform to the image of His Son. This salvation wrought by grace then assures us that we are preserved in Christ by the power of God and no man can pluck the saved from the Father's hand. Salvation is everlasting. ***3:15-16; 1 Peter 1:5; John 1:1;2 John 10:27-30; Romans 10:1-13; John 5:24.***

**The Freeness of Salvation**

We believe the Scriptures teach that the blessings of salvation are made free to all by the Gospel; that it is the immediate duty of all to accept them by a cordial, penitent, and obedient faith; and that nothing prevents the salvation of the greatest sinner on earth except his own inherent depravity and voluntary refusal to believe on the Lord Jesus Christ, which refusal will subject him to an aggravated condemnation. ***I Peter 1:2; Titus 1:1; Matthew 11:28; Isaiah 55:1,6,7; Revelation 22:17; Romans 10:13; John 6:37; Acts 2:38; John 3:15,16; I Timothy 1:15; I Corinthians 15:10; Ephesians 2:4,5; John 3:18,36.***

**Regeneration**

We believe the Scriptures teach that regeneration, or the “new birth,” is that change wrought in the heart by the Holy Spirit, by which a new nature and a spiritual life, not before possessed, are imparted, and the person becomes a new creature in Christ Jesus; that a holy disposition is given to the mind, the will subdued, the dominion of sin broken, and the affections changed from a love of sin and self, to a love of holiness and God; that the change is instantaneous and not a process, effected not by culture or character, nor by the will of man, but solely through the power of God through the Word of God, in a manner incomprehensible to reason. ***John 3:3,6; I Peter 1:23; James 1:18; II Corinthians 5:17; I John 2:29; Ephesians 4:24; Colossians 1:13; 2:13; Romans 6:13; John 1:12,13; I Corinthians 6:11; Titus 3:5-7.***

**Repentance and Faith**

We believe that repentance and faith are solemn and inseparable prerequisites for salvation; that they are inseparable graces wrought in the heart by the quickening power of the Holy Spirit, and as the sinner is deeply convicted of his guilt and helplessness he turns in repentance to the Lord Jesus Christ, surrendering himself wholeheartedly and receiving Him as personal Saviour and Lord, he is immediately born again. ***Acts 3:19; 2 Corinthians 7:9-10; Mark 1:15; Acts 2:37-38, 20:21; Matthew 3:1-2.***

**Justification**

We believe the Scriptures teach that the great Gospel blessing which Christ secures to such as believe on Him is justification; that justification includes the pardon of sin, and the gift of eternal life on principles of righteousness; that it is bestowed, not in consideration of any works of righteousness which we have done, but solely through faith in the Redeemer’s blood; by virtue of which faith His perfect righteousness is imputed to us of God; that it brings us into a state of most blessed peace and favor with God, and secures every other blessing needed for time and eternity. ***John 1:16; Ephesians 3:8; Acts 13:39; Isaiah 3:11,12; Romans 5:1-3,9,11; 8:1; Zechariah 13:1; Matthew 9:6; Acts 10:43; Matthew 6:33; I Corinthians 1:30,31; I Timothy 4:8; Isaiah 53:11.***

**Adoption**

We believe the Scriptures teach that adoption is a gracious act by which the Father, for the sake of Christ, accepts believers to the estate and condition of children, by a new and spiritual birth; sending the Spirit of Adoption into their hearts, whereby they become members of the family of God, and entitled to all rights, privileges, and promises of children; and if children, then heirs of God, and joint-heirs with Jesus Christ to the heritage of all saints on earth, and an inheritance reserved in Heaven for them. ***Romans 8:14-16; Galatians 3:26; 4:5-7; Ephesians 1:5; I John 3:1; Hebrews12:7; I Peter 2:9.***

**Sanctification**

We believe the Scriptures teach that sanctification is that work by which, according to the will of God, we are set apart unto God and made partakers of His holiness; that it is both a declared fact and a progressive work; that it is begun in regeneration; and that it is carried out in the hearts of believers by the presence and power of the Holy Spirit, the Sealer and Comforter, through the continual use of the Word of God, self-examination, self-denial, watchfulness, prayer, and in the practice of all godly exercises and duties.I ***Thessalonians 4:3; 5:23; II Corinthians 7:1; 13:9; Ephesians 1:4; 4:11,12; Proverbs 4:18; II Corinthians 3:18; Hebrews 6:1; II Peter 1:5-8; Philemon 12-16; Philippians 2:12,13; I Peter 2:2; II Peter 3:18; II Corinthians 13:5; I Timothy 4:7.***

**The Preservation Of The Saints**

We believe the Scriptures teach that such as are truly regenerate, being born of the Spirit of God, cannot utterly fall away and finally perish, but will endure to the end; that their persevering attachment to Christ is the grand mark which distinguishes them from superficial professors; that a special Providence watches over their welfare; and that they are kept by the power of God through faith unto eternal salvation. ***John 6:39,66-69; 8:31,32; 13:8; I John 2:19,27,28; 3:9; 5:18; Matthew 13:19-21; Romans 8:28,35-39; Matthew 6:20,30-33; John 4:14; Philippians 1:6; 2:12,13; Jude 24,25; Hebrews 1:14; 13:5; John 10:28,29; 16:8; Colossians 1:21-23; I Peter 1:5.***

**The Righteous And The Wicked**

We believe the Scriptures teach that there is a radical and essential difference between the righteous and the wicked; that only such as through faith are justified in the Name of the Lord Jesus Christ, and sanctified by the Spirit of God, are truly righteous in God’s esteem; while all such as continue in impenitence and unbelief are, in His sight, wicked and under the curse; and that this distinction holds among men in this life and after death, in the everlasting felicity of the saved, and the everlasting conscious suffering in the lake of fire of the lost.

We believe in a literal heaven the eternal reward of all saved persons. The teaching of the Bible is that those who repent of their sins and exercise a personal trust in Christ’s sacrifice for sins are immediately sealed for eternity (Ephesians 1:13,4:30). The Bible teaches when a saved person dies his soul goes immediately to be with the Lord. (2Corithians 5:8)

We believe in a literal, eternal, burning hell. This is the fate of those who reject the truth and Christ’s sacrifice for sin on the cross. The Bible teaches that following death the lost will be immediately cast into hell will they will remain until the Great White Throne Judgment where they will be condemned to the Lake of Fire forever and ever.

***Malachi 3:18; Proverbs 12:26; Isaiah 5:20; Genesis 18:23; Jeremiah 15:19; Acts 10:34,35; Romans 1:17; 6:16,18,22,23; 7:6; I John 2:7,29; 3:7; 5:19; I Corinthians 11:32; 15:22; Galatians 3:10; John 3:36; Isaiah 55:6,7; 57:21; Psalm 10:4; Proverbs 14:32; Luke 16:25; John 8:21-24; 12:25,26; Luke 9:26; 12:4,5; 11:23-26; Matthew 7:13,14; 25:34; Proverbs 11:31; I Peter 1:18; Hebrews 9:27.***

**Concerning the New Testament Church**

We believe the Scriptures teach that a Baptist Church is an assembly of scripturally baptized believers organized to carry out the Lord’s work. We do not believe in an invisible or universal church. The local New Testament Baptist church is the only body authorized to carry out the Great Commission. The first New Testament Baptist church was founded by Jesus Christ during His own personal ministry, and entrance into the local church is by scriptural baptism. We believe and teach that the Local New Testament Baptist church is an independent assembly and is not governed or controlled by an ecclesiastical hierarchy .The members of a Baptist Church are associated by covenant in the faith and fellowship of the Gospel; they observe the ordinances of Christ; are governed by His laws, and exercise the gifts, rights, and privileges invested in them by His Word, The only scriptural offices of a church are pastors (elders, bishops), and deacons, whose qualifications, claims, and duties are clearly defined in the New Testament. We believe that the true mission of each church is found in the Great Commission, first, to make individual disciples, second, to baptize those believers, third, to teach and instruct as He has commanded; that this order cannot be altered; that each church has the absolute right of self government, free from any interference of any hierarchy of individuals or organizations; that the one and only Head of each church is Jesus Christ through the Holy Spirit; that it is Scriptural for churches of like faith and order to co-operate with each other in contending for the faith and for the furtherance of the Gospel, but that every church is the sole and only judge of the measure and method of its co-operation; that in all matters of membership, policy, government, discipline, and benevolence, the will of each church is final**. *Acts 2:41,42,47; 5:11; 8:1; I Corinthians 4:17; 5:5,11,13; 11:2,23; II Corinthians 8:5,23,24; I Timothy 3:5,15; II Thessalonians 3:7; Romans16:17-20; Matthew 18:15-20; 28:19,20; John 14:15; 15:10; I John 4:21; I Thessalonians 4:2; II John 6; Philippians 1:1; Acts 14:23; 15:22,23; 20:17-28; I Timothy 3:1-13; Titus 1:5-9; Ephesians 1:22,23; 4:11; I Corinthians 12:4,8-11; Acts 6:5,6; Colossians 1:18; Ephesians 5:23,24; I Peter 5:1-4; Jude 3,4; I Corinthians 5:11-13; 6:1-3****.*

**Baptism**

We believe the Scriptures teach that baptism is the immersion in water of the believer in Christ, in the Name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Ghost, performed by the church’s authority; to show forth in solemn and beautiful emblem our faith in the crucified, buried, and risen Savior, with its effect in our death to sin and resurrection to a new life; that it is a pre- requisite to the privileges of church membership. For a believer's baptism to be scriptural it must involve: 1) The Proper candidate, the one who has been born again. 2) The Proper Mode or Method - this is immersion. 3) The Proper Design or Motive - to show the death. burial and resurrection of the believer to a life in Christ. and to make him a member of Christ's assembly. 4) The Proper Administrator or authority to administer scriptural baptism A New Testament Baptist Church.  
***Acts 8:36-39; Matt. 3:6; Jn. 3:23; Rom. 6:4-5; Matt. 3:16; 28:19-20; Rom. 6:3-5; Col. 2:12; Acts 2:41-42; Matt. 28:19-20***

**The Lord's Supper**

We believe the Lord's Supper is a memorial supper administered by the authority and instruction of the local Baptist church. Through the use of unleavened bread and fruit of the vine, it symbolizes the broken body and the shed blood of our Lord Jesus Christ. Only members of the local church whose spiritual lives are in a right relationship with God are qualified participants in the Lord's Supper service.

We also teach and believe that there is no saving power or grace in either Baptism or the Lord's Supper. ***Matthew 26:27-30; 28:20; Mark 14:20-26; Luke 22:19,20; I Corinthians 10:16; 11:2,17-34.***

**Missions**

We believe that all mission endeavors should be carried out under the authority of the local church; that mission boards and mission hierarchies tend to corrupt and usurp the authority of the local church. The Great Commission was given to the local New Testament Baptist church, therefore, the authority to preach, baptize and teach rests solely with the local church, and not with any school, board, denomination or other religious organization. It is therefore our responsibility to train those who go forth to spread the Gospel, and to supervise their labors under the direction of the Holy Spirit. The goal of each missionary will be to work toward the establishment of indigenous churches.   
 We do believe that it is the privilege and right of local churches to cooperate with each other in carrying out the great commission. This cooperation should be carried on in such a manner as to preserve the sovereignty and autonomy of each local body in all matters of faith and practice. ***Matthew 28:19-20, Mark 16:15, Acts 1:8 Acts 13:1-4; Php. 4:15-19; Luke 24:47; Acts 26:16-18.***

**The Lord’s Day**

We believe the Scriptures teach that the first day of the week is the Lord’s Day, a joyful commemoration of His resurrection. We believe it should be kept sacred to religious purposes by the devout observance of the day and each member should endeavor to abstain from all unnecessary secular labor and recreation. We further believe that each member of the church ought to assemble throughout the year on the appointed days set by the church . ***Mark 16:9; John 20:19; Acts 20:7; I Corinthians 16:1,2; Colossians 2:16,17; Hebrews 4:3-11; 10:24,25.***

**Giving**

We believe that every Christian, as a steward of that portion of God's wealth entrusted to him, is obligated to support his local church financially. We believe that God has established the tithe as a basis for giving but that every Christian should also give other offerings sacrificially and cheerfully to the support of the Church, the relief of those in need, and the spread of the Gospel. We believe that a Christian relinquishes all rights to direct the use of the tithe or offering once the gift has been made. ***Gen. 14:20; Prov. 3:9-10; Mal. 3:10; Acts 4:34-37; I Cor 16:2: II Cor. 9:1-15; Gal. 6:6-10; Eph. 4:28; I Tim 5:17-18; I Jn. 3:17.***

**LAWSUITS BETWEEN BELIEVERS**

We believe that Christians are prohibited from bringing civil lawsuits against other Christians or the Church to resolve personal disputes. We believe the Church possesses all the resources necessary to resolve personal disputes between members.***I Cor. 6:1-8; Eph. 4:31-32.***

**CONCERNING THE RESURRECTION**

**AND LAST THINGS**

We believe the Scriptures teach that Jesus Christ rose literally and bodily from the dead on the third day; that having ascended into glory, He alone is our merciful and faithful High Priest in things pertaining to God. We believe and teach that Jesus Christ shall catch away all believers before the great Tribulation Period. At the close of the great Tribulation Period the Saints will return with Christ to the earth and shall live and reign with Him 1000 years in his glorious kingdom of peace and righteousness. The Rapture of the Saints is an imminent truth. At the end of the millennial reign at the final day of judgment all Christ-rejecting sinners will be raised, judged, and cast into the lake of fire for everlasting damnation, that the saved will live with Him for eternity according to the sure promises of God.

**Last Things**

**THE RAPTURE**Matthew 24:1-51   
2 Thessalonians 2:1-12   
Luke 21:25-31   
Zechariah 14:1-8   
Mark 13:27-31   
Luke 21:8-19

1Thessalonians 4:13-18

**THE TRIBULATION PERIOD**Daniel 12:1   
Matthew 24:21   
Luke 21:25-26 2   
Thessalonians 2:1-12   
Revelation 6:16-17   
Revelation 14:10-16   
Revelation 16:11-21

**THE CONVERSION OF THE JEWS**Zechariah 12:10-14   
Matthew 24:38   
Zechariah 13:6-9   
Romans 11:1-26

**CHRIST'S RETURN**John 14:3   
Acts 1:11   
1 Thessalonians 4:16-17   
1 Corinthians 15:51-55   
James 5:8   
Philippians 3:20-21

Titus 2:13

**THE BATTLE OF ARMAGEDDON**Revelation 16:12-16   
Ezekiel 38:1-23   
Revelation 19:11-21   
Zechariah 12:1-4

**THE MILLENNIUM**Revelation 20:1-6   
Revelation 11:15-17   
Isaiah 11:9   
Jeremiah 23:5   
Isaiah 32:1   
Isaiah 2:1-5

**THE GREAT WHITE THRONE JUDGMENT**   
Revelation 20:11-15

**Living in the Last Days**

Whereas "the last days" are set forth in Scripture as perilous times, and recognizing that these days are upon us, and seeing a departure from the Word of God, we teach that it is necessary to maintain a total and complete separation from all forms of heresy and ecclesiastical apostasy. We believe the Scripture admonishes us to try them, mark them, rebuke them, to have no Christian or Church fellowship with them, withdraw ourselves, receive them not, have no company with them, reject them, and separate ourselves from them*.*

We oppose the “seeker friendly” church movement of our day, which tries to make the church attractive to the lost world. The Bible teaches that man on his own will not seek after God. (Romans 3:11; Psalms 10:4) When a church offers carnal things to attract visitors, it is violating the word of God. The churches responsibility is not to attract the world to come through its doors, but for its members to go out its doors to evangelize the world then disciple those who are truly born again.

We view Contemporary Christian Musicas another attempt to bring the world into the church (Jer.10:2). We reject the idea that music is neutral. Christian music is that music in which the words, music, performers, and performances are conforming to the image of Christ. (Eph.5:19;Col.3:16;).   **Romans 16:17; II Cori*nthians 6:17; Ephesians 5:11; II Thessalonians 3:6,14; Titus 1:13; 3:10; I John 4:1; II John 10,11.***

***SECTION 3 - AUTHORITY OF STATEMENT OF FAITH:***

The Statement of Faith does not exhaust the extent of our faith. The Bible itself is the sole and final source of all that we believe. We do believe, however, that the foregoing Statement of Faith accurately represents the teaching of the Bible, and therefore, is binding upon all members.

***SECTION 4 - CHURCH COVENANT:***

Having been led, as we believe, by the Spirit of God to receive the Lord Jesus Christ as our Saviour, (***John 1:12; Ephesians 2:8; 2 Thessalonians 2:13; Isaiah 12:2; John 3:16; Acts 16:31)***

and on the profession of our faith, having been baptized in the name of the Father, and the Son, and of the Holy Ghost, **(Acts 2:38; Acts 8:36-38; Matthew 28:19; Mark 16:16; Acts 10:48; 16:31-34)**

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. (**1 Corinthians 12:14-27; Romans 12:4-8; Ephesians 2:19-22)**

We engage, therefore, by the aid of the Holy Spirit, to walk together in Christian Love;   
(**1 Corinthians 1:10; Romans 15:5-6; 2 Corinthians 3:5; Amos 3:3; 1 John 2:10)**

To strive for the advancement of this New Testament Baptist Church in knowledge, holiness and comfort; **(Hebrews 10:24; Galatians 5:13; 1 Samuel 12:23; James 5:16; 2 Peter 3:18)**

To promote its prosperity and spirituality; **(1 Thessalonians 5:14; Matthew 18:17; 2 Corinthians 16:2; Ephesians 4:11-12)**

To sustain its worship, ordinances, discipline, and doctrines; (**Hebrews 10:25; Acts 2:42; Romans 6:3-14; 1 Peter 2:9; Matthew 18:15-17)**

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 to all nations. **(2 Corinthians 8:14; 9:7; 1 Thessalonians 5:14; Malachi 3:8-10; Hebrews 13:17; Galatians 6:6; Luke 10:7)**

We also engage to maintain family and secret devotion; **(2 Corinthians 8:5; Matthew 6:6; 7:7; Luke 18:1)**

To religiously educate our children; **(Ephesians 6:4; Deuteronomy 6:7-12; Proverbs 22:6; 2 Timothy 3:15)**

To seek the salvation of our kindred and acquaintances; (**Matthew 5:16; 28:19-20; Romans 9:3; Romans 10:1)**

To walk circumspectly in the world; **(Ephesians 4:1-3; 1 Thessalonians 5:15; 1 John 2:15; Colossians 3:17)**

To be just in our dealings, faithful in our engagements, and exemplary in our deportment;   
**(1 Peter 2:12; Hebrews 13:21; Philippians 3:16- 18)**

To avoid all tattling, backbiting, and excessive anger; **(Matthew 12:36; Proverbs 26:20; Romans 1:30; Ephesians 4:26; Proverbs 6:16-19)**

To abstain from the sale and use of intoxicating drinks as a beverage; **(Proverbs 20:1; 23:29-32; Ephesians 5:18; 1 Thessalonians 5:22)**

To abstain from membership in Lodges and secret organizations and to avoid taking

secret oaths which are contrary to Scripture; **(2 Corinthians 6:14-18; Psalm 1:1; Ephesians 5:11-12; 2 John 9-11; Matthew 5:34-37; James 5:12; Exodus 20:7; Leviticus 5:4-6)**

and to be zealous in our efforts to advance the work of the Saviour**. (John 15:16;**

**1 Corinthians 15:58; 2 Corinthians 5:20)**

We further engage to watch over one another in brotherly love;(**Galatians 6:2; 1 Corinthians 5:13; Romans 14:7; 2 Thessalonians 3:14-15)**

To remember each other in prayer; (**Hebrews 13:18; Ephesians 6:18)**

To aid each other in sickness and distress; **(Romans 12:15; Philippians 4:16)**

To cultivate Christian sympathy in feeling and courtesy in speech**; (1 John 3:17-18; James 3:13; Colossians 3:17; 4:6)**

To be slow to take offense, but always ready for reconciliation, and mindful of the laws of our Saviour, to secure it without delay**. (1 Corinthians 6:7; Matthew 18:15,21-22; Romans 14:19)**

We moreover engage, that when we remove from this place, we will as soon as possible unite with some other New Testament Baptist Church of like faith and practice, where we can carry out the spirit of this covenant and the principles of God's Word. **(Acts 9:19; 18:27; Romans 16:1-2; Hebrews 10:25; Galatians 1:9)**

ARTICLE III

**MEMBERSHIP**

***SECTION 1 - QUALIFICATIONS FOR MEMBERSHIP:***

Upon a majority vote of the members present at any church service or meeting, Membership shall be extended to all who have had and whose lives evidence a genuine experience of regeneration through faith in and acceptance of the Lord Jesus Christ as personal Saviour; who renounce sin; who endeavor to live a consecrated life wholly unto the Lord; who fully subscribe to the Statement of Faith contained herein; and who enter into the church covenant contained herein; and upon compliance with any one of the following conditions:

**(A)** By scriptural baptism (immersion) as a true believer in Christ Jesus as personal Saviour;

**(B)** By letter of transfer from another Bible-believing church of like faith and practice;

**(C)** By statement of faith, when previous church records are unobtainable;

**(D)** By restoration, if having been removed from membership, upon majority vote of the congregation and after confession is made publicly before the church membership of the sin or sins involved, and satisfactorily evidencing repentance to the Church.

***SECTION 2 - DUTIES OF A MEMBER:***

On becoming a member of this Church, in addition to the covenant contained in Article II, Section 4 each one further covenants to love, honor, and esteem the Pastor; to pray for him; and to recognize his authority in spiritual affairs of the Church; to cherish a brotherly love for all members of the Church; to support the church in prayer, tithes, offerings and with other financial support as the Lord enables; and in accordance with Biblical commands to support through a lifestyle walk affirmation of the beliefs and practices of the Church.

***SECTION 3 - PRIVILEGES OF MEMBERSHIP:***

This congregation functions, not as a pure democracy, but as a body under the Headship of the Lord Jesus Christ and the direction of the Pastor as the under shepherd. Membership in this church does not afford those individuals with any property, contract, or civil rights based on principles of democratic government. Determinations of the internal affairs of this church are ecclesiastical matters and shall be determined exclusively by the church's own rules and procedures. The Pastor shall oversee all aspects of this Church.

***SECTION 4 - DISCIPLINE OF A MEMBER:***

(**A***)* Punitive Church Discipline Falls into Two Distinct Categories

1**. Personal Problems between Members** That Will Affect The Testimony and Tranquility of the Church. ***Matthew 18:15-18***

2. And **Public Sin** ***1Cor.5:11; 6:9-10; 2Thess 3:6; Romans 16:17;Titus 3:10-11; Galatians 5:19-21***

(**B**) The Matter of Personal Problems That Will Affect the Testimony and Tranquility of the Church are to be dealt with after the Pattern of **Matthew 18:15-18**

1. Members are expected to demonstrate special loyalty and concern for one another. When a member is wronged by a fellow member of such magnitude that it will effect spiritual growth, and the testimony and tranquility of the church, they are to go alone o the offending party and seek to clear the matter up. Before they go, they should first examine themselves. When they go, they should go with a spirit of humility and have the goal of restoration.

2. If reconciliation is not reached, a second member, or the pastor is to accompany the one seeking to resolve the matter. 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 1 and 2 above have been taken, it shall be recommended 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.

4. If the matter is still unresolved after the steps 1,2, and 3 above have been taken, such members who refuse to repent and be restored are to be removed from the membership of the upon a majority vote of the membership present at a meeting called for the purpose of considering disciplinary action.

**(C)** **Public Sin**

1. Upon learning of Public sin of a member the church shall determine if the accusations are true.

2. Upon verifying that the sinful conduct of said member is true, the church at its next scheduled assembly shall remove such member from its church membership. *1Cor.5:4-5*

3. The erring member shall be notified of the church’s actions in a timely fashion, and urged to repent and be restored to church membership.

**(D)** If an unrepentant offending party is removed from the Church membership all contact with them from that point forward must be for the sake of restoration (except immediate family members).*I Cor. 5; Mat. 18:15-20.*

***SECTION 5 - TRANSFER OF MEMBERSHIP:***

Any member in good standing, who has fulfilled his obligation to the church, shall upon request be granted a letter of recommendation to unite with any other Baptist church of like faith and practice. Such letters shall be sent to the church the member intends to join.

***SECTION 6 - TERMINATION OF MEMBERSHIP***

The surrendering of membership shall be upon the following basis:  
1. It is the duty of every member to be faithful in attendance at all services when it is humanly possible to do so. Should a member, however, fail to be recorded as present by the church attendance records for a period of 3 months, he shall be dropped from the church roll and is by this action, completely severed from this church and shall not be considered a member in any regard. It shall be deemed as routine church business.

2. A member dropped from the church rolls may be notified through the media of the U.S. mail. However, no written notice is essential to the validity of the effectiveness of the above actions.

3. Persons who have forfeited their membership upon repentance and by attending services and contributing to the welfare of the church for 4 consecutive Sundays  
 may be restored to full membership by action of the church upon recommendation of the Pastor.

4. No member of this Church may hold membership in another church. If any member unites in membership with another church, that person is automatically terminated from membership in this Church.

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ARTICLE IV

**OFFICERS**

***SECTION 1 - CHURCH OFFICERS:***

The church officers are PASTOR (see Article V, Section 1),, DEACON (see Article V, Section 2), MINISTER OF RECORDS (see Article V, Section 3) MINISTER OF FINANCE (See Article V Section 4) One person may hold two or more offices, except that of Pastor. The Pastor, from time to time as he deems appropriate, may appoint other church officers, subject to a confirmation vote of the church membership.

***SECTION 2 - ELIGIBILITY FOR CONTINUANCE IN OFFICE:***

**(A)** All church officers shall affirm their agreement with the Statement of Faith (as set forth in Article II).

**(B)** All church officers must be approved initially and thereafter biennially by the church in order for them to commence or continue in their offices.

**(C)** Only church members are eligible for election or appointment to any church office or position.

***SECTION 3 - TERMS OF OFFICE:***

The length of terms of office shall be as follows:

**(A)** The relationship between the Pastor and the church shall be permanent unless dissolved at the option of either party by the giving of a month's notice, or less by mutual consent or by church discipline. The severance of the relationship between the Pastor and the church may be considered at any regular church meeting, provided notice to that effect shall have been given from the pulpit to the church prior to said regular church meeting. A three-fourths majority of the members present and voting shall be required to decide the matter. Disciplinary removal of the Pastor from office automatically terminates his membership. A restoration to membership after disciplinary removal will be subject to the requirements of Article III, Section 1(D).

**(B)** The term of service for all officers and positions in the Church, except the Pastor, shall be two years, at the expiration of which they may be reelected or reappointed.

**(C)** A vacancy occurring in any office or board, except in the case of the Pastor, may be filled at any regular church administration meeting.

**(D)** All elected and appointed officers shall serve in their respective offices until their successors are duly elected or appointed.

***SECTION 4 - ELECTION OF OFFICERS:***

The biennial election of officers by the church membership shall occur during the month of December.

***SECTION 5 - PASTORAL OVERSIGHT OF OFFICERS AND STAFF:***

**(A)** Subject to the approval of the church membership and on the condition that they shall become a member of the church upon assuming their duties, the Pastor may hire an assistant(s), to assist the Pastor in carrying out his God-given responsibilities.

**(B)** All church staff, whether paid or volunteer, shall be under the supervision of the Pastor who has the sole authority to hire, appoint, or dismiss the same.

ARTICLE V

**DUTIES OF OFFICERS**

***SECTION 1 - THE PASTOR:***

The word "pastor" means shepherd. The pastor is to be the shepherd of his sheep. He is the "under shepherd" to the Great Shepherd, the Lord Jesus Christ. He is therefore in charge of the spiritual welfare of the church. He shall hold regular stated services of worship and shall administer the ordinances. He shall have the authority to select other workers such as song leader, pianist, organist, Sunday School workers, ushers, or any other helpers to bring about ease in the function of the church. The true pastor is appointed by God over the congregation Numbers 27:15-17). Therefore, he shall give an account of himself to God for those entrusted in his care (Hebrew 13:7-17).

The pastor of Plack Road Baptist Church will perform weddings according to his discretion. The Pastor of Plack Road Baptist Church will not perform wedding ceremonies for a person who has been divorced.

The pastor of Plack Road Baptist Church will perform funerals according to his discretion.

***SECTION 2 – THE DEACONS***

**Requirements:** I Timothy 3:8-13  
 The term "deacon" means servant, and therefore describes the work of this office. He is servant to the Pastor and church. He shall assist the pastor in the physical watch care of the church members, visit the sick and assist the Pastor in making official calls on members.

***SECTION 3 - THE MINISTER OF RECORDS:***

The minister of records shall keep a record of church proceedings, of the membership roll, of all baptisms, of certificates of ordination, licenses and commissions as directed by the Church, and preserve all documents, papers, and letters coming into his hands during his term of office. He shall keep an account of any special events in the life of the church which are of historical interest and shall give a report at the annual church administration meeting of the status of the church membership roll in the past year.

***SECTION 4 - THE MINISTER OF FINANCE:***

The minister of finances shall account for all funds contributed to the church and shall disburse the same as ordered by the Church. He shall present a written report of itemized disbursements at the regular church administration meetings. All expenditures of the church except miscellaneous petty cash disbursements shall be paid by check or credit card.

***SECTION 5 - THE trustees***

The church trustees shall have charge of all properties and real estate of the church. They shall see that it is cared for, protected, and provide for maintenance of the same. They shall be the official business agents of the church, but shall act only as instructed by the church in the borrowing of money, selling or buying property. A three-fourths majority of the members present and voting shall be required to decide the matter.

ARTICLE VI

**MEETINGS**

***SECTION 1 - MEETINGS FOR WORSHIP:***

Unless otherwise determined by the Pastor, the church shall meet each Sunday for public worship both morning and evening and at least once during the week for Bible study and prayer.

***SECTION 2 - MEETINGS FOR CHURCH ADMINISTRATION:***

A monthly church administration meeting shall be held on the first Wednesday following the first Sunday, at which time the regular church administration shall be considered. A quorum shall consist of the members present.

***SECTION 3 - SPECIAL MEETINGS:***

**(A)** The pastor may call a special meeting by giving notice of such a meeting and the purpose for which it is called to the church from the pulpit at least one Sunday and not less than one week prior to said meeting.

**(B)** Bible conferences, missionary conferences, and revivals may be held as the Pastor deems beneficial.

***SECTION 4 - FISCAL YEAR:***

The fiscal year of the church shall begin January 1st and end December 31st.

ARTICLE VII

**UNAUTHORIZED EXPENDITURES**

Any expenditures in excess of $200 must be authorized by the Church.

ARTICLE VIII

**ORDINATION**

***SECTION 1 - ORDINATION QUALIFICATION:***

Any member of this church or its mission churches, who gives evidence of a genuine call of God into the work of the ministry and possesses the qualifications stated in 1 Timothy 3:1-7 and Titus 1:6-9, may be ordained as a minister of the Gospel.

ARTICLE IX

**TAX-EXEMPT PROVISIONS**

***SECTION 1 - PRIVATE INUREMENT***:

No part of the net earnings of the church shall inure to the benefit of or be distributable to its members, trustees, officers, or other private persons, except that the church shall be authorized and empowered to pay reasonable compensation for the services rendered and to make payments and distributions in furtherance of the purposes set forth in Article I, Section 2

***SECTION 2 - POLITICAL INVOLVEMENT:***

No substantial part of the activities of the church shall be the carrying on of propaganda or otherwise attempting to influence legislation. The church shall not participate in, or intervene in(including the publishing or distribution of statements) any political campaign on behalf of any candidate for public office.

***SECTION 3 - DISSOLUTION:***

Upon the dissolution of the Church, the Trustees shall, after paying or making provision for payment of all the liabilities of the Church, dispose of all of the assets of the church to such organization or organizations organized and operated exclusively for religious purposes as shall at the time qualify as an exempt organization or organizations under Section 501(c)(3) or the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 (or the corresponding provision of any future United States Internal Revenue Law), as the Trustees shall determine. Assets may be distributed only to organizations which agree with the Church's Statement of Faith.

***SECTION 4 - RACIAL NONDISCRIMINATION:***

The church shall have a racially nondiscriminatory policy and therefore shall not discriminate against members, applicants, students, and others on the basis of race, color, or national or ethnic origin.

ARTICLE X

**DESIGNATED CONTRIBUTIONS**

From time to time the Church, in the exercise of its religious, educational, and charitable purposes, may establish various funds to accomplish specific goals. Contributors may suggest uses for their contributions but all suggestions shall be deemed advisory rather than mandatory in nature. All contributions made to specific funds or otherwise designated shall remain subject to the exclusive control and discretion of the Church. No fiduciary obligation shall be created by any designated contribution made to the church other than to use the contribution for the general furtherance of any of the purposes stated in Article I, Section 2.

ARTICLE XI

**AMENDMENTS**

This Constitution may be revised or amended by a majority vote of the members present and voting, at any regular church administration meeting, provided that said revision or amendment has been submitted in writing and announced from the pulpit fourteen (14) days before the vote is taken.

**Church By Laws**

**Number 1** Each member of the church must be present to vote on any matter

**Number 2** All church administration meetings shall be opened and closed with prayer for divine guidance and blessing

**Number 3** All appointments for public worship and Bible study and the arrangements thereof including time and place and the use of property belonging to the church for purposes other than the stated appointment shall be under the control of the Pastor,

**Number 4** All literature used in the church shall be in complete agreement with the Statement of Faith.

**Number 5** These by-laws may be altered, suspended, or amended at a regular church administration meeting by a majority vote of the members present and voting.

ADOPTION

This Constitution was adopted by a majority vote of the members.

This Constitution and By-Laws supersedes any other constitutions and by-laws of

**Plack Road Baptist Church.**

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