

**2022 AMENDED BYLAWS
MEADOWBROOK BAPTIST CHURCH
ROBINSON, TEXAS**

These Amended Bylaws (referred to as the “Bylaws”) govern the affairs of Meadowbrook Baptist Church of Robinson, Texas, a nonprofit corporation organized under the Texas Business Organizations Code, Chapter 22 (referred to as the “BOC”).

Article I – OFFICES

1.1. Principal Office. The principal office of Meadowbrook Baptist Church of Robinson, Texas (the “Church”) in the State of Texas shall be located at 1207 North Old Robinson Road, Robinson, Texas 76706. The Church may have such other offices as the Administrative Council may determine. (For an explanation of the Administrative Council, see Article V.)

1.2. Registered Office and Registered Agent. The Church shall comply with the requirements of the BOC and maintain a registered office and registered agent in Texas. The Administrative Council may change the registered office and the registered agent as provided in the BOC.

Article II - NONPROFIT AND SPIRITUAL PURPOSES

2.1. Tax Exemption. This Church is organized exclusively for one or more of the purposes as specified in Section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986, as amended (hereinafter the “Code”), including, for such purposes, the making of distributions to organizations that qualify as exempt organizations under Section 501(c)(3) of the Code. Specifically, the Church shall be organized and operated exclusively: (a) as a church as described in Section 170(b)(1)(A)(i) of the Code; (b) for religious purposes within the meaning of Section 501(c)(3) of the Code; and (c) to support public worship according to the doctrines and customs of Baptist churches.

2.2. Purpose. We believe this church is a spiritual organization and is divinely instituted by Jesus Christ. The purpose of this organization shall be to maintain the public worship of God, to exalt the standard of Christian living among its members, to follow the leadership of Jesus Christ, and to cooperate in spreading the Gospel and extending the Kingdom of God throughout the world. The primary purpose of the church is to glorify God by making disciples of Jesus Christ. To that end, the objectives of this Church are:

2.2.1. Missions and Evangelism. To share the Gospel with all people, to lead them to a saving knowledge of Jesus Christ and into active discipleship and to cooperate with others in sharing the Gospel and making disciples of Jesus Christ everywhere. (Matthew 28:19-20, Acts 1:8)

2.2.2. Worship. To glorify God and make disciples through meaningful worship experiences, giving priority to the proclamation of God's word. (Romans 12:1, Hebrews 10:25, James 4:8)

2.2.3. Discipleship. To teach the Bible, to educate and train disciples of Jesus Christ that they may grow in the grace, knowledge, commitment, and service of our Lord. (Matthew 28:20, Acts 18:11, Colossians 3:16)

2.2.4. Ministry. To mobilize disciples of Jesus Christ to minister unselfishly by creating avenues of healing and recovery for those in spiritual, emotional, physical, material, or relational need in our church and our community. (Matthew 25:34-40, Galatians 6:2 & 10)

2.2.5. Stewardship. To make disciples of Jesus Christ who give themselves to God and who give back to His church a portion of the time, abilities, and financial resources entrusted to them. (I Corinthians 16:1-2, II Corinthians 8:1-5, 9:6-8)

2.2.6. Fellowship. To connect through fellowship with one another.

2.3. Statement of Beliefs. The Church's Statement of Beliefs may be found in Addendum 1 at the end of this document.

2.4. Affiliation. The Church may maintain affiliation and voluntarily cooperate with various Baptist organizations such as the Texas Baptist Convention, Waco Baptist Regional Association and other Christian ministries provided such cooperation does not conflict with the Church's own best interests as determined by the Church body.

2.5. Minister Recognition.

2.5.1. License to Ministry. The Church may license individuals for ministry under the qualifications and requirements adopted by the Administrative Council. License is often considered a precursor to ordination.

2.5.2. Ordination Requirements. The Church may ordain individuals into the ministry under qualifications and requirements adopted by the Administrative Council.

2.5.3. Ordination Process. An individual may be ordained to the Gospel Ministry upon the recommendation of the Administrative Council. Upon such recommendation, the Senior Pastor convenes a council of ordained ministers and deacons to examine the candidate. The examination takes place before an ordination service is scheduled. The primary Biblical reference for a minister's qualifications shall be 1 Timothy 3:1-7. The Ordination Council reports its recommendation to the Administrative Council. Upon approval of the recommendation by the Administrative Council to the membership, a vote will be held at a special called business meeting. A service for ordination is scheduled after an affirmative vote. Those so ordained are given authority to conduct worship and administer the ordinances of the Church.

2.5.4. Discipline or Revocation. The Church reserves the right to discipline or withdraw any ordination it has issued should the life of the ordination candidate cease to bear those qualities required for such recognition under standards and procedures approved by the Administrative Council.

2.6. Ordinances. The Church shall recognize and practice the following Ordinances.

2.6.1. Baptism.

(a) This Church shall receive for baptism all persons who have, by faith, personally received Jesus Christ as their Lord and Savior and who indicate a commitment to follow Christ as Lord through baptism.

(b) Baptism shall be by immersion in water in obedience to the example and command of Jesus Christ, symbolizing His death, burial, and resurrection, except in which case for medical reasons accommodations must be made by pastoral discretion.

(c) Baptism shall be administered by the Pastoral Staff (or designee) as an act of worship.

2.6.2. Lord's Supper.

(a) The Lord's Supper (recorded in Matthew 26:26-30, Mark 14:22-26, and Luke 22:13-20) is a memorial supper instituted by the Lord and Savior Jesus Christ at the Passover Feast on the eve of His crucifixion. The bread symbolizes His broken body; the cup symbolizes His bloodshed as atonement for the sins of all people. Directions and instructions for the observance of this ordinance are found in I Corinthians 11:23-29.

(b) This Church shall observe the Lord's Supper as often as the Pastoral Staff shall determine. Anyone who has, by faith, personally accepted Jesus Christ as Lord and Savior may participate in this ordinance.

Article III – MEMBERSHIP

3.1. Conversion and Discipleship. Membership into the Body of Christ is freely open to anyone who has personally made a faith commitment to Jesus Christ as Lord and Savior and seeks to follow His teachings and leadings as a disciple of Christ. This action secures a person's inclusion into the universal Church known as the Body of Christ. The scripture teaches the first instruction Jesus gives upon confession is to follow with the ordinance of believer's baptism by immersion. Individuals are welcome to be baptized by Meadowbrook Baptist Church as an outward expression of confession and submission to Christ. It is recognized that this is the beginning step of a lifelong journey of discipleship. Such confession and baptism do not equate to membership into the local body of believers known as Meadowbrook Baptist Church.

3.2. Local Church Membership. To implement the principles of accountability and commitment to the local body of Jesus Christ, as defined by the New Testament and practiced in the early churches, Meadowbrook Baptist Church recognizes the need for formal membership.

3.3. Autonomy. This is an autonomous Baptist church under the Lordship of Jesus Christ. The membership of this Church retains the right of exclusive self-governance in all phases of its spiritual and temporal life. The membership reserves the exclusive right to determine who shall be members and the conditions of such membership.

3.4. Means of Membership.

3.4.1. Profession of Faith. By public profession of faith in Jesus Christ as Savior and Lord, followed by believer's baptism.

3.4.2. Transfer from a Baptist church of like faith. Churches of like faith, for purposes of membership, are those who hold similar requirements of profession of faith in Christ as Savior and Lord, and of baptism as to manner and meaning: the manner is immersion and the meaning is that of a symbolic act.

3.4.3. Personal Statement of Faith.

(a) By a personal statement the individual reaffirms faith in Christ as Savior and Lord and has previously been a member of a church of like faith as shared with the Pastor or Pastor's designee.

(b) By a statement of personal faith and prior believer's baptism as shared with the Pastor or Pastor's designee.

3.5. Steps to Membership.

3.5.1 Personal Interview. Persons desiring membership shall meet with a member of the Pastoral Staff or other appointed church leader to verbalize their

testimony and to determine the integrity of their faith and their desire to be committed to Meadowbrook Baptist Church as a local body of believers.

3.5.2. Participation in Introductory Membership Class. Persons requesting membership must attend (if physically able) an introductory class covering the tenets of the Baptist faith, as well as the structure and practices of Meadowbrook Baptist Church. Class may be contingent upon the available times to meet either in person, online or a hybrid of the two. Junior members wishing to become full members who have not participated in a membership class will be required to do so prior to being received as an adult member.

3.6. Presentation to the Membership. An individual will become a member of the Church after approval by a vote from the Administrative Council. This vote shall be at the next meeting after receipt of the prospective member's letter from his or her former church or after the requirements listed in Sections 3.4 and 3.5 are satisfied. After approval, these individuals may be presented as Members of the Church ("Members") according to the age requirements listed in Section 3.7. below.

3.7. Classification, Rights and Responsibilities of Members.

3.7.1. Classification and Rights of Members.

(a) Adult Members. All adult Members who are eighteen years or older and have met the qualification and approval requirements set forth in these Bylaws are entitled to one vote at all elections and on all questions submitted to the Members at a meeting calling for Members to vote (see Section 4.6.3), provided that Member is present at the time the vote is taken.

(b) Junior Members. Individuals under the age of eighteen who have professed their faith and have followed in believer's baptism shall be considered junior members of the Church. Junior members shall have the same rights and responsibilities as adult Members with the exception for voting on church transactions listed in Section 4.6.3 Junior members shall become adult Members upon reaching the age of eighteen and meeting all qualifications and approval requirements set forth in these Bylaws.

3.7.2. Responsibilities of Members. The Statement of Beliefs in Addendum I defines the responsibilities of all Members.

3.8. Dues or Assessments. No Member shall be required to pay dues or assessments in order to gain or maintain membership. The operating expenses of the church are fully born by the membership and attenders' generosity of giving.

3.9. Resignation. Any Member may resign by delivering a written resignation to any member of the Administrative Council or by submission to the church office.

3.10. End of Membership. The end of an individual's membership shall occur upon:

3.10.1 The death of the Member,

3.10.2 Transfer of the Member to another Baptist church,

3.10.3 Resignation upon request of the Member, or proof of membership in a church of another denomination, or

3.10.4 Should some serious condition(s) exist which would cause a member to become a liability to the general welfare of the Church, every reasonable measure will be taken by the Senior Pastor, Pastoral Staff and by the

Administrative Council to resolve the problem (Matthew 18:15-17) as outlined in the Correction Process (see Section 3.13). Finding that the welfare of the Church will best be served by the exclusion of the member, the Administrative Council may vote to end membership in accordance with Section 5.6.2.

3.11. Addressing Inappropriate Behavior within the Church. The goal of every attender and Member is to be a fully committed follower of Jesus Christ. The Church recognizes the weaknesses in ourselves and others and seeks to create a gracious environment where we help each other toward this goal. However, at times, issues or behaviors can become damaging or divisive to the church body. In those cases, the Church will follow the teachings of God's word. (Matthew 18:15-18, 1 Corinthians 5:1-13, 2 Corinthians 2:5-8, 2 Thessalonians 3:6-15, James 5:19-20).

3.12. Church Correction. The Bible teaches there are three instances in which church correction is to be initiated to bring restoration.

3.12.1. Divisive Behavior. Scripture repeatedly warns Christians about the corrosive influence divisive people have on the church. Actions which seek to stir up agitation against fellow church members and/or the church leadership will not be tolerated. (Titus 3:10-11)

3.12.2. Teaching Against Church Doctrine. When someone persistently teaches doctrine that is contrary to the position statements and values of the Church, and seeks to rally people to adopt such a position, that behavior must be confronted and corrected. (2 Timothy 2:17-18, Titus 1:9, 2:1)

3.12.3. Immoral Behavior. Persistent immoral behavior on the part of an individual must be corrected because it hurts the individual involved in the sin, but also because it creates a lax moral environment within the Church. (1 Corinthians 5:6)

3.13. Correction Process. The correction process is based on Jesus' teaching in Matthew 18:15-17:

3.13.1 Step 1: One on One Admonitions – A Member with firsthand knowledge confronts the person exhibiting these behaviors. If the person confronted acknowledges and repents of his/her behavior, the goal has been achieved and the matter is considered resolved.

3.13.2 Step 2: Multiple Admonitions – In the event the behavior continues after the initial admonition, scripture encourages Christians to escalate the process to involve one or two other Christians. When the person confronted acknowledges and repents of his/her behavior, the matter is considered resolved.

3.13.3 Step 3: Church Staff Admonition – If Step 2 is not successful, a member of the pastoral staff should be notified of the situation. A staff pastor will seek to meet with all involved parties to understand the situation. If deemed necessary, the offending individual will be asked to repent. If the person repents, the goal has been achieved and the matter is resolved. When necessary, he/she may be asked to participate in a restoration process as outlined by the pastoral staff or Administrative Council. If the individual refuses to meet and/or repent, the pastoral staff will proceed to Step 4.

3.13.4 Step 4: Removal from Membership and All Church Participation – Since the individual refused to acknowledge and repent, his/her name will be submitted for removal from the membership roll of Meadowbrook Baptist Church and he/she will be asked to leave the church. He/she will not be allowed to participate again in any church worship service or church-related activity until meeting with the pastoral staff and submitting to a restoration process as outlined by the pastoral staff or Administrative Council, regardless of elapsed time.

3.14. Restoration. A restoration process will vary according to the individual or circumstances and will be determined by the Pastoral Staff or Administrative Council.

3.15. Special Circumstances. The Pastoral Staff in consultation with the Administrative Council may forego Steps 1 and 2 in the event of an extraordinary case of church correction where the facts about the outward, serious, and unrepentant sin of an individual are not in question. In that case, Pastoral Staff may initiate Step 3 above in order to prevent further damage to the reputation of Christ and His church. (see Section 3.12-3.13)

Article IV - BUSINESS MEETINGS

4.1. Annual Meeting. An annual meeting of the Members of the Church shall be held at such place, date, and time as the Administrative Council shall determine. At the Annual Meeting, the Members of the Church shall conduct such other business as may be properly considered under Section 4.6.3. The Church may have additional meetings for updates and conducting business as needed and determined by the Administrative Council.

4.2. Special Meetings. Special meetings of the Members of the Church may be called by the Chair of the Administrative Council, the Senior Pastor, the majority of the Administrative Council, or a petition signed by twenty-five percent (25%) of the voting Members as defined in Article III.

4.3. Quorum. The number of the active Members of the Church in attendance in person constitute a quorum for conducting business at the Annual Meeting, or any other called meeting of the Members not otherwise specified in these Bylaws.

4.4. Number of Votes Necessary for Members Action. No Member action may be approved without the vote of at least a majority of the number of Adult Members present at a meeting at which a quorum is present.

4.5. Notice of meetings. Notice of a meeting of the Members shall be provided as required by Article XII.

4.6. Voting Methods. Members may vote only in person at a properly noticed meeting unless the Administrative Council determines alternative voting methods due to extenuating circumstances.

4.6.1. Primary Voting Methods. The moderator may use the following methods for in-person voting during a properly noticed meeting unless otherwise directed by the Administrative Council or explicitly stated in these bylaws:

- (a) Voice
- (b) Show of hands
- (c) Standing
- (d) Counted vote
- (e) Written signed ballot

4.6.2. Alternate Voting Methods. The Administrative Council may determine that a vote of the Members of the Church on any matter should be conducted by mail, by electronic message, online or by any combination of those methods.

- (a) This type of voting may only take place following the opportunity for debate and the closing of debate during an annual or special business meeting.

(b) The ballot will set forth each proposed action and will provide an opportunity to vote either for or against each proposed action.

(c) All votes received by the stated deadline and verified by the Administrative Council will be counted toward the matter at hand.

4.6.3. Required Votes by Members of the Church. After approval by the Administrative Council the Adult Members (See Section 3.7.1.a) of the Church must vote on the following items before they become effective:

(a) The annual budget

(b) Election of the members of the Administrative Council as described in Article V

(c) Approval of the nomination of deacons for active service

(d) Changes to the Certificate of Formation

(e) Changes or Amendments to the Bylaws

(f) Calling a Senior Pastor or Executive Pastor

(g) Establishing a Senior Pastor Search Committee, as described in Article IX

(h) Affirming the selection of all other Pastoral Staff members as recommended by search teams and approval of the Administrative Council

(i) Affirming candidates for pastoral ordination as recommended by and approval of the Administrative Council

(j) Dismissal of the Senior Pastor or Executive Pastor as described in Article IX

(k) Capital projects requiring the pledging of any real property (defined as land and structures attached to land) of the Church as collateral for a loan

(l) All long-term debt (defined as obligations that are to come due in a greater than 12-month period) incurred by the Church

(m) Any expenditure over \$100,000

(n) All acquisitions (other than by gift) and dispositions of real property

(o) Merger, dissolution, or disposal of assets of the Church in excess of \$100,000

(p) Any change in classification for federal or state taxation

(q) Any other item the Administrative Council places before the Members for a vote

4.7. Other Matters. All other matters not referenced in Section 4.6 shall be delegated to and become the responsibility of the Administrative Council.

Any church member is entitled to bring questions or concerns to the Administrative Council at any time. The Administrative Council will discuss the question or concern at their next scheduled meeting and provide a response to the inquiry in a timely manner.

4.8. Meeting Rules of Procedure. All Church meetings shall be conducted under parliamentary rules appropriate for the occasion that are adopted by the Administrative Council. Prior to all Member meetings, the Administrative Council shall approve and publish the agenda for all Member meetings.

4.9. Motions made from the floor. The Administrative Council shall publish the agenda for a business meeting no later than the date of the first notice due for such meeting. (see Section XII) Motions to be presented to Members must be presented to the Administrative Council for approval and inclusion on the agenda. Motions to amend a published motion may be made and voted on during the member meeting.

4.10 New topics, which were not included in the published agenda, may be introduced from the floor for consideration by the Administrative Council.

Article V - ADMINISTRATIVE COUNCIL

5.1. Duties. While the management of this church shall be vested with the Members of the Church, the Members shall defer to an elected Administrative Council regarding the affairs of the Church. The Administrative Council shall be fully authorized by the Members to oversee the business affairs of the Church with the exception of the items listed in Article IV Section 4.6.3.

5.2. Number and Tenure of Administrative Council members. Members of Administrative Council

5.2.1 Nine elected lay Members of the Church

5.2.2 Senior Pastor – Ex-officio (nonvoting member)

5.2.3 Executive Pastor – Ex-officio (nonvoting member)

5.3. Leadership. The Chair and Vice-Chair of the Administrative Council shall be selected amongst the Administrative Council. The Chair or the Vice-Chair shall not be the Senior Pastor or the Executive Pastor.

5.4. Recording Secretary. A member of the Administrative Council shall be elected or one appointed for the purpose of recording the minutes of each Administrative Council event and decision.

5.5. Qualifications and Selection. Elected members of the Administrative Council must be at least 25 years old, have been active Members of the Church for at least three years, be consistent and regular in giving and support of the Church budget and possess a record of proven leadership and service.

5.5.1 No member of the Administrative Council will be a staff member, other than the Senior Pastor and Executive Pastor who are ex-officio (non-voting) members, or in the immediate family of any Church employee.

5.5.2 Candidates for Administrative Council shall be provided by the Representative Assembly and the Pastoral Staff. (see Article VI) The Administrative Council shall interview and discuss with the potential candidates the depth and breadth of the commitment and put forth the names to be elected by the affirmative vote of the Members present and voting at the annual meeting of the Members.

5.5.3 In creating a slate of nominees for the elected positions, the Administrative Council will strive for diversity in gender, age groups, length of church membership, and worship service choice.

5.5.4 Initial candidates for the Administrative Council shall be submitted from the pre-existing Church Council to the pre-existing Nominating Committee. The Nominating Committee shall then present to the Church the nine names to be voted

on in a special called business meeting. (See Article XII) The initial members shall serve through the end of the year of their election plus the following year. Thereafter, three will rotate off and three new members be elected as shown above in 5.5.2.

5.6. Quorum and Voting.

5.6.1. Quorum. A quorum of the Administrative Council consists of seven elected members.

5.6.2. Transacting Business. The Administrative Council members present (in person or a hybrid of in person and/or digitally connection) at a duly-called or held meeting at which a quorum is present may continue to transact business even if enough Administrative Council members leave the meeting so that less than a quorum remains. However, no action may be approved without the vote of at least seven of the elected currently filled positions. If a quorum is not present at any time during a meeting, the Administrative Council members present may adjourn and reconvene the meeting at a later time.

5.6.3. Proxy. Voting by proxy is not allowed.

5.6.4. Voting by Electronic Means. Voting by electronic means and meeting via telecommunications for interaction by the Administrative Council members is allowed.

5.7. Conduct of Meetings. At every meeting of the Administrative Council, the Chair shall preside, and if not, the Vice-Chair. If neither is available or unwilling to serve, the Administrative Council shall appoint a chair of the meeting. The Chair or the person presiding must appoint someone to take minutes of the meeting if the secretary of the Administrative Council is not present. All Administrative Council meetings shall be conducted under parliamentary rules adopted by the Administrative Council that are appropriate for the occasion.

5.8. Responsibilities of Administrative Council. In addition to the responsibilities and authorities expressly conferred by these Bylaws upon them, the Administrative Council may exercise all such responsibilities of the Church and do all such lawful acts and things as are directed or required to be exercised or done by the Members, the Act, the Certificate of Formation, or these Bylaw.

5.8.1. Finances.

- (a) To prepare an annual budget for approval by the Members
- (b) To review and approve the Church's internally prepared financial statements
- (c) To provide oversight of the cash flow and adherence to the budget and make adjustments to spending as necessary
- (d) To develop financial policies, including procedures, controls, and non-budget expenditures
- (e) To call for and oversee an annual review by an outside accounting firm. A full audit may be recommended if circumstances warrant.
- (f) To keep the Members informed of the church's financial condition
- (g) To designate up to three full-time church employees, not including the Senior Pastor and/or Executive Pastor, and up to three non-employee church Members as authorized signatories for the purpose of signing checks or other financial payments on behalf of the Church. Two authorized

signatures are required on all checks or other financial payments. Authorized signatories shall be bonded.

5.8.2. Personnel.

- (a) Provide accountability and collaboration with the Pastoral Staff
- (b) Study and make recommendations about church staffing needs and update job descriptions and organizational charts
- (c) Negotiate salary schedules and benefit provisions annually
- (d) Develop and recommend policies and procedures relating to the church staff
- (e) Collaborate with Pastor and Executive Pastor on job performance per job description of each staff member at least annually or as needed
- (f) Review and evaluate the job performance of the Pastor and Executive Pastor annually
- (g) Maintain absolute confidentiality in the matters of paid staff positions
- (h) Represents the Church in all personnel matters including hiring and dismissal of staff
- (i) Serves as an audience for employee concerns

5.8.3. Facilities and Property.

- (a) Provide oversight over all the real property, buildings and vehicles owned by the Church
- (b) Work with the Executive Pastor in maintaining, assigning, and evaluating the appropriate upkeep of all properties including budgeting for current and future maintenance needs
- (c) Study and make recommendations about the use of the church facilities
- (d) Develop and recommend policies and procedures related to church property and facility usage (weddings, gatherings, events, etc.)

5.9. Appointing Additional Participants. The Administrative Council may recruit from the active Members additional non-voting participants to assist with particular projects or needs as they arise. The Administrative Council may also appoint ad hoc teams or committees as needed.

5.10. Terms. Members of the Administrative Council are elected for a term of three consecutive years with the exception of the Senior and Executive Pastors. The annual tenure in office shall be January through December. Three members shall rotate off each year. A Member may not serve consecutive terms but may be reelected after a two-year waiting period following the end of his or her term of service.

5.11. Vacancies. Vacancies on the Administrative Council shall exist upon:

5.11.1 The death, resignation, transfer of membership, change of status (such as joining the immediate family of a member of the staff), or removal of any Administrative Council Member

5.11.2 The Administrative Council may declare the seat of an Administrative Council Member vacant if the member is adjudged incompetent by a

court, is convicted of a crime involving moral turpitude, or does not accept the office of Administrative Council Member in writing or by not attending a meeting of the Administrative Council within thirty days' notice of election.

5.11.3 An Administrative Council Member selected (per the process outlined in Section 5.5) to fill a vacancy shall be elected for the unexpired term of his or her predecessor in office. Vacancies reducing the number of elected members of the Administrative Council to less than seven shall be filled before the transaction of any other business by the Administrative Council.

5.12. Resignation. Any Administrative Council member may resign at any time by giving written notice to the Chair of the Administrative Council. Such resignation will take effect at the time specified therein, or, if no time is specified, at the time of acceptance thereof as determined by the Chair of the Administrative Council.

5.13. Removal of Administrative Council Members. Except for the office of Senior Pastor and Executive Pastor, the Members of the Church may vote to remove an Administrative Council Member at any time, with or without good cause, at any meeting of the Members in accordance with these by laws.

5.14. Meetings.

5.14.1. Regular Meeting. The Administrative Council shall meet monthly or more often upon call by the Council's Chair, Vice-Chair, Senior Pastor or Executive Pastor. The Administrative Council may provide for regular meetings by resolution stating the time and place of such meetings. If any or all the Administrative Council members want to participate in a meeting via electronic communications, then the notice shall include instructions on how the member may participate in the meeting. No notice of regular meetings of the Administrative Council is required other than a resolution of the Administrative Council stating the time of the meetings or conference calls.

5.14.2. Special Meetings. Special meetings of the Administrative Council may be called by or at the request of the Administrative Council's Chair, Vice-Chair, Senior Pastor or Executive Pastor by naming the time and place. Notice of any special meeting of the Council shall be delivered to each Administrative Council member not less than seven days before the date of the meeting. The notice shall state the place, date, and time of the meeting, who called the meeting, and the purpose or purposes for which the meeting is called.

5.15. Action by Consent of Council without Meeting. Any action required or permitted to be taken by the Council may be taken without a meeting, and with the same force and effect as any vote of the Council, if minimally seven members of the Council consent in writing (e.g. electronic mail) to the action.

5.16. Duties of Administrative Council members. Administrative Council members shall discharge their duties in good faith, with ordinary care, and in a manner, they reasonably believe to be in the best interest of the Church. (Ordinary care is care that prudent persons in similar positions would exercise under similar circumstances.) In the discharge of any duty imposed or power conferred on Administrative Council members, they may in good faith rely on information, opinions, reports, or statements, including financial statements and other financial data, concerning the Church or another person that were prepared or presented by a variety of persons, including employees of the Church, professional advisors, or experts such as accountants or attorneys. An Administrative Council member is not relying in good faith if the Council member has knowledge concerning a matter in question that renders reliance unwarranted. Administrative Council members are not deemed to have the duties of trustees of a trust with respect to the Church or with respect to any property held or administered by the Church, including property that may be subject to restrictions imposed

by the donor or transferor of the property. Whereas the church once had trustees, business organizations laws have changed which do not require trustees.

5.17. Duties.

5.17.1 Establishing goals for the Church prior to the initiation of the budget planning process each year

5.17.2 Evaluating the progress of Church programs and priority uses of church resources

5.17.3 Communicating with, ministry teams, tasks forces, ad hoc committees, and staff by inviting their recommendations and participation where the Administrative Council considers appropriate

5.17.4 Recommending the establishment, dissolution, and parameters of the scope and purpose of ad hoc committees hearing and entertaining their recommendations for Church action when necessary

5.17.5 Calling and setting the dates, times, and locations of business meetings

5.17.6 Designating authorized signatories for financial payments (see Section 5.8.1)

5.17.7 Reviewing and approving church contractual obligations; the Chair and/or Vice Chair along with the Executive Pastor are the authorized signatories for church contractual obligations

5.17.8 Maintaining the Church's Policies and Procedures Manual

5.18. Compensation. Elected Administrative Council members may not receive compensation for their services as an Administrative Council Member.

Article VI - REPRESENTATIVE ASSEMBLY

6.1. Purpose. The Administrative Council and Pastoral Staff will rely on communication, input and dialogue from a Representative Assembly.

6.2. Make Up and Leadership. The Representative Assembly shall serve the Church and Members by providing representation and communication from the church's Sunday School classes and ministries. This Assembly shall seek to have one representative from each Adult Sunday School class, as well as current ministry teams. A chairperson will be elected by the Representative Assembly to serve for a term of one year.

6.3. Function. The primary functions of the Representative Assembly shall be:

6.3.1 To meet as deemed necessary by the Administrative Council or Pastoral Staff

6.3.2 To recommend to the Administrative Council and Pastoral Staff suggested objectives and church goals

6.3.3 To disseminate information as directed by the Administrative Council and or Pastoral Staff

6.3.4 To help implement and coordinate ministry opportunities

6.3.5 To recommend candidates for the Administrative Council

Article VII – DEACONS

7.1. Reasons for and Responsibilities of Deacons. Deacons, men and women, in accordance with the meaning of the work and the practice in the New Testament are servants of the church. Their task is to serve with the pastor and staff in performing the pastoral ministries as servant leaders to the church in the achievement of its mission as a New Testament Church, proclaiming the Gospel to believers and unbelievers, and caring for the church's members and other persons in the community.

7.2. Deacon Qualifications based on 1 Timothy 3:8-12.

7.2.1 Actively, continually seeking to be a fully committed follower of Jesus Christ.

7.2.2 Faithful to the teachings of scripture

7.2.3 Humble and dedicated to serving others

7.2.4 Free from addictions and behavior that does not glorify God

7.3. Deacon Selection Process.

7.3.1 When the pastor, deacon body, or membership determines the need for new or additional deacons, nominations will be collected, and deacon candidates will be presented before the Members of the church for a vote.

7.3.2 The deacon body with input from the Administrative Council and Pastoral Staff shall establish an approximate number of new deacons to be selected.

7.3.3 The deacon body shall request nominations from the membership, including specifically from the Pastor Staff and Representative Assembly.

7.3.4 The approximate number of new deacons to be selected and the examination procedure shall be explained fully to the Members when the deacon body requests nominations.

7.3.5 Nominations shall be submitted by confidential correspondence addressed to the deacon body and shall be signed by the individual submitting. Details of why the nominee is being put forth is not required but certainly helpful in the process. The deacon body shall establish a timeline of not less than two weeks for the submission of nominations.

7.3.6 The deacon body shall establish a final number of nominees to be interviewed. The deacon body shall approve by a three-fourths affirmative, secret vote the nominees to be interviewed.

7.3.7 Each candidate and spouse (if applicable) shall be interviewed by a minimum of two active deacons. The interview will address the structure of the deacon body, the function(s) of the deacon body, as well as individual deacons, and the expectations of the deacons. Any questions the candidate may have should be answered by the visiting deacons at this time.

7.3.8 The various deacon interview teams shall report their findings to the deacon body during a regularly scheduled deacons' meeting. After appropriate discussion, the deacon body shall select by three-fourths affirmative, secret vote the candidates to present to the congregation as nominees for the Deacon Watch Care Program (See Section 7.4).

7.3.9 The deacon body shall submit the selected candidates to the membership at a regularly scheduled or special called church business meeting with proper notice (see Section XII) as nominees for the Deacon Watch Care

Program. The church shall receive the candidates into the Deacon Watch Care Program with a three-fourths affirmative, secret vote of those present at the business meeting.

7.3.10 The deacon body is not obligated to add previously ordained deacons to the deacon body. Previously ordained deacons may be added to the deacon body through the deacon selection process. If the deacon body desires to add a previously ordained deacon to the deacon body apart from taking nominations, the selection process shall be followed beginning with the candidate interview.

7.4. Deacon Watch Care Program. All deacon candidates, regardless of prior service and ordination, selected by the church will enter into one year of a Watch Care Program for training, mentoring, and evaluation by the deacon body prior to ordination.

7.5. Election and Ordination. Upon completion of the Deacon Watch Care Program, the deacon body shall determine by three-fourths affirmative, secret vote the candidates to be recommended to the church congregation for election to the deacon body and ordination (if not previously ordained).

7.5.1 The deacon body shall submit the candidates' names to the congregation at a regular scheduled or special called church business meeting as a nominee for the deacon body and ordination (if not previously ordained). The church shall receive the candidates to the deacon body and ordination with a three-fourths affirmative, secret vote of those present at the business meeting.

7.5.2 The deacon body shall hold an ordination service to ordain all elected deacon candidates who have not been previously ordained as a deacon. A candidate's previous ordination by another church of like faith and order shall suffice for this church; however, a prayer of affirmation shall be offered over previously ordained deacons during the ordination service.

7.6. Deacon Leadership. Each year the deacon body shall elect its own officers for the purpose of organizing and structuring deacon duties and activities.

7.7. Temporary Leave of Absence. A deacon may take a temporary leave of absence at any time. This may be used as a time of rest, to take care of personal matters, medical/family leave, etc.

7.8. Inactive Deacons. Any deacon may choose to place himself/herself on the inactive deacon list at any time. Any deacon that has been absent from church for six months (unless on an approved leave of absence) shall automatically be placed on the inactive deacon list; however, extensive efforts shall be made by the deacon body to contact and restore the deacon prior to their inactivation. The inactive deacon will need to submit in writing their request to the deacon body to return to active status.

7.9. Removal of a Deacon. An individual's service as a deacon may be discontinued at any time by his/her own decision. It is the responsibility of the deacon body to regularly and consistently assess the conduct of the deacons. In the event of gross misconduct, failure to adhere to the qualifications of a deacon and/or failure to adhere to the general requirements of any church officer. A deacon may be recommended for removal by the deacon body following a three-fourths affirmative, confidential vote. The recommendation will be confirmed by the Church through a three-fourths affirmative, confidential vote of the members present at a regular or specially called business meeting. Every effort should be made for repentance and reconciliation of the deacon in question.

Article VIII - CHURCH ADMINISTRATIVE ROLES AND RESPONSIBILITIES

8.1. General Duties. All administrative role holders and agents of the Church, as between themselves and the Church, shall have such authority, perform such duties, and manage the Church as may be provided in these Bylaws or as may be determined by resolution of the Administrative Council not inconsistent with these Bylaws.

8.2. Administrative Roles. The administrative roles of the Church will be Secretary, Treasurer and Moderator, all of which shall be nominated by the Administrative Council and presented for election during the Church's annual business meeting.

8.2.1 Secretary. The administrative role of the Secretary shall include:

- (a) Give all notices as provided in the Bylaws or as required by law
- (b) Take minutes of the meetings of the Members and keep the minutes as part of the corporate records
- (c) Maintain custody of the corporate records of the Church
- (d) Keep a register of the mailing address of each Administrative Council member, officer, Member, and employee of the Church
- (e) Perform all duties incident to the role of Secretary

8.2.2. Treasurer. The role of Treasurer will be held by a member of the Administrative Council.

- (a) The Church Treasurer shall be bonded.
- (b) The Treasurer may delegate these duties to staff; however, the Treasurer remains responsible for oversight. The Treasurer or designee shall:
 1. Have charge and custody of and be responsible for all funds and securities of the Church
 2. Receive and give receipts for funds due and payable to the Church from any source
 3. Deposit all funds in the name of the Church in banks, trust companies, or other depositories as provided in the Bylaws or as directed by the Administrative Council
 4. Write checks and disburse funds to discharge obligations of the Church
 5. Maintain the financial books and records of the Church
 6. Prepare financial quarterly and annual reports
 7. Perform other financial duties as assigned by the Administrative Council
 8. Perform all the duties incident to the role of Treasurer

8.2.3. Moderator. The Church Moderator shall preside over the business meetings of this Church.

- (a) The Moderator must be a person of good report, above reproach, well-respected, have a pleasant spirit and calm demeanor, be conversant with this Church's Bylaws, and suppress personal opinions, preferences, and advocacies while serving in this position

(b) In the absence of the duly elected Moderator, the following may preside at business meetings of this Church: the Chair of the Administrative Council, the Vice-Chair of the Administrative Council, the Senior Pastor or Executive Pastor

(c) If the Moderator is unable to continue serving, those in the prescribed line of succession will fill the position until such time as a new Moderator is elected by the Members

8.3. Disallowed Payments. Any payments made to a person holding an administrative role of the Church such as a salary, commission, bonus, interest or rent, or expense reimbursement incurred by him or her, which is disallowed in whole or in part as an acceptable expense by the Internal Revenue Service, shall be reimbursed by such officer to the Church to the full extent of such disallowance. It shall be the duty of the Administrative Council members, as a board, to enforce payment of each such amount disallowed.

8.4. Election and Term of Administrative Role. The Members shall elect the Administrative roles of the Church, except for the Senior Pastor and Executive Pastor, at the annual meeting of the Church. If the election of needed Administrative roles is not held at this meeting, the election shall be held as soon thereafter as conveniently possible. Administrative roles shall have a term of one year and may be elected to succeed himself or herself in the same role unless stated otherwise in these Bylaws. The annual service period shall be January through December.

8.5. Removal. Except for the Senior Pastor and Executive Pastor, an individual holding an Administrative role may be removed under the procedures contained in Section 5.09. Such removal shall be without prejudice to the contract rights, if any, of the Church.

8.6. Resignation. Any individual serving in an Administrative role may resign at any time by giving written notice to the Administrative Council, the Senior Pastor or Executive Pastor. Such resignation shall take effect at the time specified in the notice, and, unless otherwise specified in the notice, the acceptance of such resignation shall not be necessary to make it effective. Such resignation shall be without prejudice to the contract rights, if any, of the Church.

8.7. Vacancies. The Administrative Council may fill a vacant Administrative Role if a vacancy occurs during an unexpired term.

Article IX - CHURCH PASTORAL LEADERSHIP

9.1. Senior Pastor.

9.1.1. Duties.

(a) The Senior Pastor shall be chief spiritual leader of the Church. The Senior Pastor shall oversee all of the spiritual affairs of the Church. The Senior Pastor shall perform other duties prescribed by the Administrative Council and all duties incident to the role of Senior Pastor.

(b) The Senior Pastor is also the shepherd of the flock that comprises the membership of this Church. He provides leadership for this Church, this Church's organizations, and the Pastoral Staff in functioning as a New Testament church to achieve its mission. The Senior Pastor's position also makes him accountable for day-to-day operations and general oversight of this Church's activities, on-site and off-site. He (or his designee) is an ex-officio member of any created committee of this Church and of its deacon body.

Moreover, the Senior Pastor is accountable to Jesus Christ and to the Members of this Church for the supervision of the Pastoral and Support Staffs in ministries of worship, proclamation, discipleship, missions, evangelism, and pastoral care. The Executive Pastor, in conjunction with the Administrative Council will assist the Senior Pastor in this supervisory role. The Senior Pastor, by virtue of his key role in so many capacities in this Church, will define a clear "line of authority" for leadership of this Church in his absence due to circumstances such as vacation, sabbatical, mission trips, ministry trips, or minor illness.

9.1.2. Qualifications and Term of Office. The qualifications for the Senior Pastor are set forth in the Scriptures. (I Timothy 3: 1-7 and Titus 1:5-9) The Senior Pastor shall be an ordained minister. The Senior Pastor shall serve at the pleasure of the membership.

9.1.3. Pastor Search Committee. A Senior Pastor shall be chosen and called by the Church whenever a vacancy occurs. The membership may recommend candidates to the Administrative Council to serve on the Pastor Search Committee. The Administrative Council with input from the Representative Assembly shall recommend a Pastor Search Committee of seven to twelve members to be affirmed by a majority of the Members present and voting at a meeting called for the purpose of establishing a Pastor Search Committee. In creating the recommendations for the Pastor Search Committee, the Administrative Council will strive for diversity in gender, age groups, length of church membership, and worship service choice. No more than one member of an immediate family shall serve on the Pastor Search Committee.

9.1.4. Election of Senior Pastor. The Pastor Search Committee shall present one candidate to the Members in accordance with Section 4.6.3(f). The Members shall be notified in accordance with Article XII of these Bylaws that the Pastor Search Committee is ready to present a candidate. To be elected as Senior Pastor, the candidate must receive the vote of at least three-fourths of the Members present and voting at the meeting called for the purpose of electing the Senior Pastor. The vote shall be conducted by written ballot (requiring members' signatures to verify membership). If the candidate fails to receive the required number of votes, the Pastor Search Committee shall repeat the process until a candidate is elected.

9.1.5. Compensation. In connection with the recommendation to call a Senior Pastor, the Pastor Search Committee and the Administrative Council shall together determine the appropriate salary and benefits (or acceptable ranges for same).

9.1.6. Removal of Senior Pastor. For this Church to terminate the service of the Senior Pastor, the Administrative Council must first consider the matter. The Senior Pastor must be notified of any and all allegations; those allegations must be thoroughly investigated by the Administrative Council, and the Senior Pastor must be afforded the opportunity to respond.

(a) After these conditions have been met, if merited, the Administrative Council may bring a recommendation for dismissal. To bring such a recommendation, the affirmative vote of minimally seven of the elected members of the Administrative Council will be required. After this affirmative vote for removal, the Senior Pastor will be placed on paid administrative leave of absence and absent from the pulpit until the issue is resolved unless the Administrative Council finds that the Senior Pastor has committed an act of moral turpitude (defined as inherent baseness, depravity, vileness, or gross violation of moral standards). If the Administrative Council, by the affirmative vote of seven of the elected members, agrees that dismissal of the Senior Pastor is warranted, then the Administrative Council will communicate that

recommendation to the Members unless the Administrative Council finds that the Senior Pastor has committed an act of moral turpitude.

(b) If the Administrative Council finds that the Senior Pastor has committed an act of moral turpitude by an affirmative vote of seven of the elected members, the Senior Pastor is automatically and immediately terminated.

(c) Absent a finding that the Senior Pastor committed an act of moral turpitude, the Members may terminate employment of the Senior Pastor by declaring the position of Senior Pastor to be vacant. Such action shall take place at a special meeting of the Members called for that purpose. The vote to remove the Senior Pastor shall be by written ballot and shall require the affirmative vote of three-fourths of the Members present and voting at the meeting.

9.1.7. Resignation of Senior Pastor. The Senior Pastor may resign at any time by giving written notice to the Administrative Council. Such resignation shall take effect at the time specified in the notice, and, unless otherwise specified in the notice, the acceptance of such resignation shall not be necessary to make it effective. Such resignation shall be without prejudice to the contractual rights, if any, of the Church.

9.2. Executive Pastor. All above procedural provisions apply equally to the office of Executive Pastor. The Executive Pastor shall oversee the day-to-day operations and ministries of the Church. He or she shall work jointly with the Senior Pastor and the Administrative Council or their designees to determine his or her exact duties and responsibilities.

9.3. Additional Pastoral Staff. The Church may call and employ additional Staff Pastors to carry out the church's mission as set forth and determined by the Administrative Council.

Article X - TRANSACTIONS OF THE CHURCH

10.1. Contracts. The Administrative Council may authorize any agent of the Church to enter into a contract or execute and deliver any instrument in the name of and on behalf of the Church with an impact of \$100,000 or less. This authority may be limited to a specific contract or instrument, or it may extend to any number and type of possible contracts and instruments.

10.2. Deposits and Investments. All funds of the Church shall be deposited to the credit of the Church in banks, trust companies, or other depositories that the Administrative Council selects.

Article XI - INDEMNIFICATION

11.1. When Indemnification is Required, Permitted, and Prohibited.

11.1.1 The Church may indemnify an Administrative Council Member, Deacon, Administrative Role Holder, Committee Member, Employee, or Agent of the Church who was, is, or may be named defendant or respondent in any proceeding as a result of his or her actions or omissions within the scope of his or her official capacity in the Church. For the purposes of this article, an agent includes one who is or was serving at the request of the Church as an Administrative Council Member, officer, partner, venturer, or proprietor of a partnership, joint venture, sole proprietorship,

trust, employee benefit plan, or other enterprise. However, the Church shall indemnify a person only if he or she acted in good faith and reasonably believed that the conduct was in the Church's best interests. In a case of a criminal proceeding, the person may be indemnified only if he or she had no reasonable cause to believe that the conduct was unlawful. The Church shall not indemnify a person who is found liable to the Church or is found liable to another on the basis of improperly receiving a personal benefit. A person is conclusively considered to have been found liable in relation to any claim, issue, or matter if a court of competent jurisdiction has adjudged the person liable and all appeals have been exhausted.

11.1.2 Before the final disposition of a proceeding, the Church may pay indemnification expenses permitted by the Bylaws and authorized by the Church. However, the Church shall not pay indemnification expenses to a person before the final disposition of a proceeding if the person is a named defendant or respondent in a proceeding brought by the Church or the person is alleged to have improperly received a personal benefit or committed other willful or intentional misconduct.

11.1.3 If the Church may indemnify a person under the Bylaws, the person may be indemnified against judgments, penalties (including excise and similar taxes), fines, settlements, and reasonable expenses (including attorney's fees) actually incurred in connection with the proceeding. However, if the proceeding was brought by or on behalf of the Church, the indemnification is limited to reasonable expenses actually incurred by the person in connection with the proceeding.

11.2. Procedures Relating to Indemnification Payments.

11.2.1. Determination. Before the Church may pay any indemnification expenses (including attorney's fees), the Church shall specifically determine that indemnification is permissible, authorize indemnification, and determine that expenses to be reimbursed are reasonable, except as provided in paragraph 11.2.3, below. The Church may make these determinations and decisions by any one of the following procedures:

(a) An affirmative vote of the Administrative Council members who, at the time of the vote, are not named defendants or respondents in the proceeding.

(b) Determination by special legal counsel selected by the Administrative Council by vote as provided in paragraph 11.2.1(a) or if all Administrative Council members are named as defendants or respondents in the proceeding then by a majority vote of the Administrative Council.

11.2.2 The Church shall authorize indemnification and determine that expenses to be reimbursed are reasonable in the same manner that it determines whether indemnification is permissible.

11.2.3 The Church shall pay indemnification expenses before final disposition of a proceeding only after the Church determines that the facts then known would not preclude indemnification and the Church receives a written affirmation and undertaking from the person to be indemnified. The determination that the facts then known to those making the determination would not preclude indemnification and authorization of payment shall be made in the same manner as a determination that indemnification is permissible under paragraph 11.2.1, above. The person's written affirmation shall state that he or she has met the standard of conduct necessary for indemnification under the Bylaws. The written undertaking shall provide for repayment of the amount paid or reimbursed by the Church if it is ultimately determined that the person has not met the requirements for indemnification. The undertaking shall be an

unlimited general obligation of the person, but it need not be secured, and it may be accepted without reference to financial ability to make repayment.

Article XII – NOTICES

12.1. Notice. Any notice required or permitted by the Bylaws to be given to an Administrative Council member, Deacon, Administrative Role Holder or Member of the Church may be given in any manner allowed by the BOC or these by laws.

12.2. Notices of Member meetings shall be made. By means available to reach the membership not less than two weeks before the date of the meeting.

12.3. Signed Waiver of Notice. Whenever any notice is required to be given under the provisions of the Act or under the provisions of the Certificate of Formation or the Bylaws, a waiver in writing signed by a person entitled to receive a notice shall be deemed equivalent to the giving of the notice. A waiver of notice shall be effective whether signed before or after the time stated in the notice being waived.

12.4. Waiver of Notice by Attendance. The attendance of a person at a meeting shall constitute a waiver of notice of the meeting unless the person attends for the express purpose of objecting to the transaction of any business because the meeting is not lawfully called or convened.

Article XIII - SPECIAL PROCEDURES CONCERNING MEETINGS

13.1. Meeting by Electronic Means. The Administrative Council, Representative Assembly, Deacons, and any committee of the Church may hold a meeting by telephone conference call or other electronic means in which all persons participating in the meeting can communicate with each other. The notice for such a meeting must state the fact that the meeting will be held by electronic means as well as all other matters required to be included in the notice. Participation of a person in a meeting by conference call or other electronic means constitutes presence of that person at the meeting. The church at large may hold its annual meeting for the purpose of electing officers and Administrative Council members by the same means.

13.2. Voting by Proxy. No proxy voting is allowed unless allowed by specific action of the Administrative Council in rare circumstances.

Article XIV - AMENDMENTS TO BYLAWS

14.1. Amendments. The Members, by the affirmative vote of two-thirds of the Members present and voting at a meeting, may alter, amend, or repeal, or enact new Bylaws. The notice of any meeting at which the Bylaws are altered, amended, or repealed, or at which new Bylaws are adopted shall include the text of the proposed Bylaw provisions as well as the text of any existing provisions proposed to be altered, amended, or repealed as referenced in Section XII. Alternatively, the notice may include a fair summary of those provisions.

Article XV - MISCELLANEOUS PROVISIONS

15.1. Legal Authorities Governing Construction of Bylaws. The Bylaws shall be construed in accordance with the laws of the State of Texas. All references in the Bylaws to statutes, regulations, or other sources of legal authority shall refer to the authorities cited, or their successors, as they may be amended from time to time.

15.2. Legal Construction. If any Bylaw provision is held to be invalid, illegal, or unenforceable in any respect, the invalidity, illegality, or unenforceability shall not affect any other provision and the Bylaws shall be construed as if the invalid, illegal, or unenforceable provision had not been included in the Bylaws.

15.3. Headings. The headings used in the Bylaws are used for convenience and shall not be considered in construing the terms of the Bylaws.

15.4. Terminology. Wherever the context requires, all singular words in the Bylaws shall include the plural, and all plural words shall include the singular.

15.5. Parties Bound. The Bylaws shall be binding upon and inure to the benefit of the Members, Administrative Council Members, Committee Members, Employees, and Agents of the Church and their respective heirs, executors, administrators, legal representatives, successors, and assigns except as otherwise provided in the Bylaws.

15.6. Fiscal Year. The Fiscal Year shall run from January 1 through December 31.

15.7. Dissolution Clause. Upon discontinuance of this Church by dissolution or otherwise, any assets lawfully available for distribution are to be transferred to one or more organizations qualifying as an exempt organization under Section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code, as amended, by a majority of Members attending at a duly called business meeting.

CERTIFICATION

The foregoing Bylaws, comprised of twenty-five pages, constitute the Bylaws of said Church as duly adopted by the members replacing any previous Bylaws at a meeting held on April 24, 2022.

Addendum 1

Statement of Beliefs

Meadowbrook Baptist Church is a community of believers intentionally engaging our community, our nation, & our world with the love of Jesus Christ.

We Believe the Bible is the Word of God

We accept fully the writings of the entire Old and New Testament as the inspired, complete and perfect Word of God. We believe the Bible is the final authority in all matters of doctrine, duty, and decisions as individuals and as a New Testament Church. Psalm 119:89 * II Timothy 3:15-17 * I Thessalonians 2:13

We believe in the Trinity

We believe in the only one true God, the Creator, who is eternal, loving, just, merciful, holy, and unchanging. We believe that God is one and exists in three persons: Father, Son and Holy Spirit, equal in every divine attribute and fulfilling distinct but complimentary roles in the work of redemption. John 3:16 * Colossians 2:9 * Matthew 28:19 * Matthew 3:14-17

We believe in God, the Father

God as Father reigns with loving care over all His creation. God is Father in truth to those who become Christ Followers through faith in Jesus Christ. He is all powerful, all loving, and all wise toward all people. Genesis 1:1: 2:7 * Psalm 19:1-3 * Matthew 6:9; 7:11; 23:9; 28:19 * Romans 8:14-15 * Ephesians 1:5-6, 11; 4:6 * 1 Timothy 1:17 * Hebrews 11:6; 12:9 * 1 Peter 1:17 * 1 John 5:7

We believe in Jesus Christ, God's Only Begotten Son

Jesus preexisted with God the Father before His birth in Bethlehem. He was divinely conceived by the Holy Spirit in the body of the Virgin Mary. He lived a totally sinless and perfect life. His death on the cross provided the redemption of humanity from sin. He was raised from the dead with a glorified body and appeared to His disciples as the person who was with them before His crucifixion. He ascended into heaven and is now exalted at the right hand of God where He is the One Mediator reconciling God and humanity. He will return in power and glory to judge the world and to finalize His redemptive mission. He now dwells in all Christ Followers as the living and ever-present Lord. Colossians 1:17 * Isaiah 7:14 * Luke 2:26-38 * I Peter 2:22, 24 * Romans 1:1-4 * Hebrews 7:25 * I Thessalonians 4:13-18

We believe in the Holy Spirit

We believe that the Holy Spirit is divine, equal with God the Father and Jesus Christ - God the Son. Prior to salvation, we believe the Holy Spirit convicts and calls people to Christ. Upon salvation, we believe the Holy Spirit regenerates, indwells and seals the believer until the day of final redemption. Under the direction of the Holy Spirit, we believe the believer is filled and empowered to live a holy and fruitful life. We believe the Holy Spirit bestows the spiritual gifts by which Christ Followers serve God through His church and not as evidence of the superiority of one gift over another. We believe that the baptism of the Holy Spirit is an experience that takes place at the time of salvation and is not separate from salvation. John 14:16, 26 * John 15:26-27 * John 16:7-11 * Romans 8:1-14 * I Corinthians 12:13 * Ephesians 4:30, 5:18

We believe that Every Person is a Sinner

We believe that Adam and Eve were created equally in the image of God. They were without sin and God dwelled with them. However, by their voluntary transgression against God, they fell into sin and incurred not only physical death, but spiritual death, which is separation from God. Consequently, all human beings are born with a sinful nature and are in need of redemption. Psalm 51:5 * Isaiah 53:6 * Romans 3:23 * Ephesians 2:1-3

We believe in Salvation by Grace through Faith

We believe that salvation is by grace alone through faith alone, that salvation is the free gift of God. We believe that a person is saved by faith through the shed blood of the Lord Jesus Christ. We believe a person must repent of his/her sin and faithfully trust in Jesus Christ as Lord in order to be saved. We also believe that all who have been truly saved are saved forever and cannot lose their salvation. We believe that making the decision to accept Christ is the most important choice in every individual's life. Ephesians 2:8-9 * Romans 10:9, 10, 13 * Hebrews 9:22 * Matthew 16:26

We believe in Heaven

We believe that Heaven is a real place. We believe it is the place where believers will dwell for eternity in the presence of the Lord Himself. The righteous in their resurrected and glorified bodies will receive their reward and will dwell forever in Heaven with the Lord. John 14:1-6 * Hebrews 12:22-24 * Revelation 21:10 – 22:5

We believe in a literal Hell

We believe that hell is a real place, that it was prepared for the devil and his fallen angels, and that all of those who die and have not made the decision to accept Jesus Christ as Lord will spend eternity in hell. We believe that hell is a literal place of complete separation from God filled with physical, mental, spiritual, and eternal suffering. We believe that every person will spend eternity either in heaven or in hell. Luke 16:19-31 * Revelation 20:11-15 * Matthew 13:42 * Matthew 25:41 * Mark 9:43-46

We believe there is an Adversary called Satan

We believe that Satan is a real being who was created and originally lived in heaven but was cast out of heaven when he rebelled against God. He is totally sinful, deceptive, and powerful. He is the leader of a vast host of evil spirits who seek to keep unsaved people lost and to divide and deceive humanity. We believe that Christ defeated Satan at the cross; therefore, all Christ Followers have authority and power over him through the Lord Jesus Christ. Genesis 3:11 * Ezekiel 28:11-19 * 2 Corinthians 11:14 * Ephesians 6:12 * Revelation 12:11

We believe in Community

The life of a Christ Follower is a journey with Jesus learning, serving, worshipping and fellowshiping with others in community. It is a life of fruitfulness where the fruit of the spirit is exhibited in our lives in the way we live and in the witness of our lives as we lead other people to saving faith in Jesus Christ. Acts 1:8 * Galatians 2:20, 3:11, 5:16-17, 22-23 * Romans 8:11 * Ephesians 5:18 * Titus 2:11-13

We believe in the Local Church

We believe that the local church is God's instrument in this present age and the hope of the world. We believe that all Christ Followers should both belong to and be an active part of a local New Testament church. We believe the church is a body of baptized believers in whom Jesus Christ lives and over whom He is Lord. We believe the church is to function under the direction and discipline of the Bible – the Holy Word of God. Believers are united together in the Holy Spirit for the purpose of evangelizing the lost, encouraging Christ Followers, and glorifying the Lord. Matthew 16:18 * Acts 2:41-47 * Ephesians 1:7, 14, 3:21

We believe in the Church Ordinances of Baptism and the Lord's Supper.

We believe that baptism by immersion is the only scriptural mode (except in rare occasions where immersion is not medically warranted). We believe that baptism does not save, rather it is an act of obedience to the command of Christ and a testimony to the world of your faith in the Lord Jesus Christ. We believe that the Lord's Supper also known as Communion is a symbol of Christ's body broken for our sins and His blood shed for our redemption; it is not a saving ordinance. We believe that every Christ Follower should participate in the Lord's Supper as an act of worship, praise, remembrance, and gratitude to Jesus Christ for what He has done for us. Matthew 28:19-20 * I Corinthians 11:23-30 * Romans 6:1-5

We believe in Evangelism

We believe that it is the responsibility and privilege of every Christ Follower to share the gospel of Jesus Christ with as many people as possible to fulfill the Great Commission. Matthew 28:18-20 * Mark 16:15-16 * Luke 24:44-49 * John 20:21-23 * Acts 1:8

We believe in Direct Access to God

We believe that every Christ Follower has direct access to God the Father without going through an intermediary. A Christ Follower is free to pray and interpret God's Word as led by God's Spirit. This is known as the Priesthood of the Believer. Exodus 19:6 * I Peter 2:5 * Hebrews 3:1; 6:20

We believe in Giving

We believe that God is the creator and owner of all things. God is the first giver. We believe the Christ Follower's time, spiritual ability, and money should be given back to God as an act of dedication and love. God is not interested in our money - God is interested in our hearts. Our money follows our hearts. The Bible teaches that giving of our financial resources is not only an obligation we have to God but is also an instrument of blessing to be returned to us. It is important every member and attendee understand their God-given role in supporting the financial needs of the church through systematic giving because our greatest desire is changed lives. Giving to God is both a privilege and a responsibility reflecting our hearts. The Bible teaches all Christ Followers should practice the biblical principle of tithing (giving at least one-tenth of one's income) to support the work of the church. When giving beyond the tithe, giving is to be out of your abundance revealing a lifestyle of generosity that recognizes God's ownership of everything. Matthew 6:19-21; 23:23 * Luke 6:38 * 1 Corinthians 4:2 * 1 Peter 4:10 * Leviticus 27:30 * Malachi 3:8-12

We believe in Biblical marriage and family.

We believe that God has ordained the family as the foundational institution of human society. It is composed of persons related to one another by marriage, blood, or adoption. Marriage is the uniting of one man (born biologically) and one woman (born biologically) in covenant commitment for a lifetime. It is God's unique gift to reveal the union between Christ and His church and to provide for the man and the woman in marriage the framework for intimate companionship, the channel of sexual expression according to biblical standards, and the means for procreation of humanity. Children from the moment of conception are a blessing and heritage from the Lord. Parents are to demonstrate to their children God's pattern for marriage. Parents are to teach their children spiritual and moral values and to lead them, through consistent lifestyle example and loving discipline, to make choices based on biblical truth. Children are to honor and obey their parents. Genesis 1:26-28; 2:24 * Exodus 20:12 * Deuteronomy 6:4-9 * 1 Samuel 1:26-28 * Matthew 19:4-6 * Ephesians 5:21-33 * Col. 3:18-21 * 1 Timothy 5:8 * Hebrews 13:4