

Agenda  
Regular Monthly Church Conference  
First Baptist Church, Pineville  
June 25, 2023

Meeting called to order by Dr. Stewart Holloway, Pastor.

Review of Minutes of May 2023 Monthly Church Conference. No questions, comments, or corrections. Motion to accept by Mike Canady and seconded by Jack Brossette.

Review of Membership Report - there is one letter to grant to HIS Church on Cristina Gulley.  
No questions, comments, or corrections. Motion to accept by Betty Beard and seconded by Kathy Holloway.

Financial Report given and approved.

What God Is Doing:

Attendance Report / Sunday School Report - Lecompte mid 60's in May. Pineville lower 300's. Total of 464 reached.

Jamey Gilliland's resigned from being a deacon due to moving the family to Arkansas. The Deacon Nomination Committee recommended Fred Beard complete the remainder of Jamey's term (expires in 2024).

Meeting adjourned by Jack Brossette and seconded by Bill Cheek.

Prepared by:  
Angela Mahfouz  
Church Clerk

**PINEVILLE MEMBER INFORMATION**  
**SEPTEMBER 1, 2022 – AUGUST 31, 2023**  
**Church Conference**

**Baptism**

1. Reese Laird – 10/2/2022
2. Macy Johnson - 2/5/2023
3. Colton Waters – 11/20/2022
4. Payton Jaques – 11/20/2022
5. Rayne Doucet – 1/15/2023
6. Nicholas Michiels – 2/5/2023
7. Cooper West – 3/12/2023
8. Jett Arnold – 3/12/2023
9. Juanita Dow – 7/9/2023
10. Ava Beth Laird – 7/2/2023
11. Harper Malone – pending
12. Reese Tullos – pending
13. Jacob Doucet – 8/6/2023
14. Wesley Hebert – 7/23/2023

**Received by Letter**

1. Blake Fuselier – 9/18/2022
2. Amy Fuselier – 9/18/2022
3. Kimberly Rabalais –  
9/18/2022
4. Paul Baum – 3/12/2023
5. Shan Baum – 3/12/2023
6. Derek Jones – 3/19/2023
7. Erin Jones – 3/19/2023
8. Robbie Briggs – 6/18/2023
9. Ellen Briggs – 6/18/2023
10. Will Briggs – 6/18/2023
11. Luke Briggs – 6/18/2023
12. Nate Briggs – 6/18/2023
13. Charles Stepp – 6/25/2023
14. Carol Stepp – 6/25/2023

15. Dennis Maxwell – 6/25/2023
16. Linda Maxwell – 6/25/2023

**Received by Statement**

1. Tomas Michiels – 9/18/2022
2. Katy Michiels – 9/18/2022
3. Kyle Rabalais – 9/18/2022
4. Josie Holt – 11/6/2022

**Deaths**

1. Nell Johnson – 10/03/2022
2. Harold Griffith – 3/13/2023
3. Barbara Smith – 3/19/2023
4. Peggy West – 3/25/2023
5. Dr. Mary Edwards –  
4/20/2023
6. Donnis Voth – 5/22/2023
7. Barry Knapp – 6/2/2023
8. Danny Creel – 7/25/2023

**Letter/Drop Requests**

**Requested**

1. Kevin Boles - 7/17/2023
2. Judy Boles – 7/17/2023
3. Maryann Stewart –  
7/17/2023

**Letter/Drop Requests Granted**

1. Daniel Criswell – 9/12/2022
2. Leona Criswell – 9/12/2022
3. Harold Granger – 9/12/2022
4. Laura Granger – 9/12/2022
5. Brad Sturdivant – 9/21/2022

6. Donna Sturdivant –  
9/21/2022
7. William Sturdivant –  
9/21/2022
8. Will Hilburn – 1/25/2023
9. Mark Dorn – 1/25/2023
10. Nita Dorn – 1/25/2023
11. Linda Vercher – 2/26/2023
12. Ali Vercher – 2/26/2023
13. Brent Johnson – 2/26/2023
14. Hope Johnson – 2/26/2023
15. Madilyn Johnson –  
2/26/2023
16. Linda Bernard – 3/20/2023
17. Ariana Bryant – 3/20/2023
18. Tiffany Weiss – 4/4/2023
19. Cristina Gulley – 6/25/2023

**Watch Care**

**Rededication**

**Removed from FBC  
Membership at Member  
Request or duplicate  
membership**

**Missions/Ministry**

\*Indicates membership through Main Street Baptist Mission

**LECOMPTE MEMBER INFORMATION**  
**SEPTEMBER 1, 2022 – AUGUST 31, 2023**  
**Church Conference**

**Baptism**

1. Jason Hathorn – 9/25/22
2. Michele Chapman – 9/18/22
3. Katelynn Price – 10/23/2022
4. Rebecca Price – 10/23/2022
5. Nataleigh McBride –  
11/20/2022
6. Noah Thomas- 1/8/2023
7. Caitlyn Land – 1/15/2023
8. Chloe Boyer – 5/14/23
9. Samantha Dalke – 5/14/23
10. Callie Land – 5/7/23
11. Aleigha McBride – 5/7/23
12. Wyatt Duncan – 6/18/2023

**Received by Letter**

1. Donna Stokes – 2/5/2023
2. Sophia Cheek – 2/26/2023

**Received by Statement**

1. Edward Christie – 9/25/2022
2. Julie Christie – 9/25/2022
3. Emma Ellis – 1/29/2023
4. Brendon Banks Jr –  
1/29/2023
5. Tommy Whisenant –  
7/2/2023

**Deaths**

1. Michael Mason – 11/21/2022

**Letter/Drop Requests**  
**Requested**

**Letter/Drop Requests Granted**

1. Jerry Matney – 3/22/2023
2. Libby Matney – 3/22/2023

**Watch Care**

**Rededication**

**Removed from FBC**  
**Membership at Member**  
**Request or duplicate**  
**membership**

**Missions/Ministry**

**FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH, Pineville, Louisiana**

Operating Fund Balance May 1, 2023	\$209,559.08
May Receipts Over (Under) Expenses	(\$11,121.73)
Fund Balance May 31, 2023	<u>\$198,437.35</u>

**Summary Budget Receipts and Disbursements:**

	May	Monthly Budget	Five Month	5 Month's Budget
Receipts Pineville	139,109.12	143,485.67	618,828.95	717,428.31
Receipts Lecompte	11,586.35	15,968.17	79,885.31	79,840.81
<b>TOTAL Receipts</b>	<u>150,695.47</u>	<u>159,453.84</u>	<u>698,714.26</u>	<u>797,269.12</u>
100 Missions Ministry	15,815.14	16,881.93	74,328.66	84,409.49
150 Pastoral Ministry	291.98	290.85	683.22	1,454.05
200 Education Ministry	970.46	2,141.69	14,556.23	10,708.17
250 Children's Ministries	1,956.90	1,141.68	5,350.87	5,708.24
300 Student Ministry	3,788.77	916.70	3,977.83	4,583.10
350 Music Ministry	375.80	708.36	1,669.61	3,541.48
400 Admin Ministry	9,196.90	6,108.36	38,066.26	30,541.48
450 Property Ministry	55,098.17	50,000.03	229,467.59	249,999.79
500 Media Ministry	222.94	643.77	1,988.38	3,218.61
700 Personnel Ministerial Staff	30,381.84	30,259.60	151,009.52	151,297.80
750 Personnel Support Staff	19,373.16	19,303.94	82,655.87	96,519.42
800 Benefits & Ancillaries	14,615.10	15,089.04	72,439.29	75,444.72
Total Expenses Pineville	<u>152,087.16</u>	<u>143,485.95</u>	<u>676,193.33</u>	<u>717,426.35</u>
1100 Mission Ministry Lecompte	1,230.55	1,713.51	8,446.80	8,567.43
1150 Pastoral Ministry Lecompte	0.00	20.84	0.00	104.12
1200 Education Ministry Lecompte	115.88	458.34	3,306.48	2,291.62
1250 Children's Ministries Lecompte	322.42	125.01	851.12	624.93
1300 Student Ministry Lecompte	175.00	83.34	175.00	416.62
1350 Music Ministry Lecompte	0.00	83.34	0.00	416.62
1400 Admin Ministry Lecompte	479.95	610.02	4,264.39	3,049.86
1450 Property Ministry Lecompte	1,996.48	5,205.04	16,964.04	26,024.72
1500 Media Ministry Lecompte	109.90	83.34	109.90	416.62
1700 Ministerial Staff Lecompte	1,441.66	3,825.01	5,983.38	19,124.93
1750 Support Staff Lecompte	3,067.20	2,215.17	11,246.40	11,075.81
1800 Benefits & Ancillaries Lecompte	791.00	1,545.36	2,895.89	7,726.48
Total Expenses Lecompte	<u>9,730.04</u>	<u>15,968.32</u>	<u>54,243.40</u>	<u>79,839.76</u>
<b>TOTAL Expenses</b>	<u>161,817.20</u>	<u>159,454.27</u>	<u>730,436.73</u>	<u>797,266.11</u>
<b>PV Receipts Over/Under Exp</b>	(12,978.04)	(0.28)	(57,364.38)	1.96
<b>LEC Receipts Over/Under Exp</b>	1,856.31	(0.15)	25,641.91	1.05
<b>Total Receipts Over/Under Exp</b>	<u>(11,121.73)</u>	<u>(0.43)</u>	<u>(31,722.47)</u>	<u>3.01</u>

**Building Fund Receipts:**

Contributions	\$ 10,074.00
Budget Contributions	\$ 16,400.00
<b>Total Monthly Contributions</b>	<u>\$ 26,474.00</u>

**Loan Sabine Bank:**

Prior Month Balance	\$ 2,875,227.96
Principal Paid this Month	\$ 26,017.31
Current Balance	<u>\$ 2,849,210.65</u>
Interest Current Month	\$ 7,424.39
Note Payment Current Month	\$ 16,400.00
Additional Principal Payment	\$ 17,041.70

**Making Way Receipts/Building Fund to Date:**

Contributions	\$ 2,377,348.09
Budget Contributions	\$ 1,096,278.39
<b>Total Contributions to Date</b>	<u>\$ 3,473,626.48</u>

**Loan Sabine Bank:**

Original Balance 7/1/2018	\$ 3,768,757.92
Addition to Note House 11/22	\$ 108,000.00
Principal Paid To-Date	\$ 1,027,547.27
Current Balance	<u>\$ 2,849,210.65</u>
Interest To-Date	\$ 533,500.06
Note Payments To-Date	\$ 967,600.00
Add'l Principal Pmt to-Date	\$ 593,447.33

<u>Account</u>	<u>YTD</u> <u>Current</u>
<b>ASSETS</b>	
<b>Current Assets</b>	
10300 Petty Cash	\$250.00
10700 LBF/General Operating Fund	\$173,690.92
10750 Lecompte LBF/General Operating Fund	\$105,736.44
10800 Investment Fund - LA Baptist Foundation	\$323,354.45
10850 Lecompte Investment Fund LBF	\$26,233.06
10900 Sabine State Bank Operating Fund	(\$3,729.55)
<b>Total Current Assets</b>	<b>\$625,535.32</b>
<b>Fixed Assets</b>	
18002 Education Building	\$2,000,000.00
18004 Buildings and Improvements	\$7,787,941.37
18005 Making Way Buildings & Improvements	\$5,750,755.64
18006 Furniture, Fixtures and Equipment	\$355,375.50
18008 Land	\$293,000.00
18009 Activities' Building Improvements	\$243,359.75
<b>Total Fixed Assets</b>	<b>\$16,430,432.26</b>
<b>TOTAL ASSETS</b>	<b>\$17,055,967.58</b>
<b>LIABILITIES AND CAPITAL</b>	
<b>LIABILITIES</b>	
<b>Current Liabilities</b>	
<b>Current Payables</b>	
20140 LA Tax W/H	\$1,193.47
<b>Total Current Payables</b>	<b>\$1,193.47</b>
<b>Missions Offerings</b>	
<b>Total Misslons Offerings</b>	<b>\$0.00</b>
<b>Designated Funds Pineville</b>	
23105 Children's Ministries	\$2,480.99
23108 Partner in Education	\$53.38
23115 Youth/Children Scholarship	\$2,021.40
23125 FBC Shirts	\$327.22
23130 Music	\$137.00

Statement of Financial Position for Period 5 - May  
 Company#: 1 Name: First Baptist Church  
 Fiscal Year Beginning 1/1/2023  
 Fund Name: 1 General

<u>Account</u>	<u>YTD</u> <u>Current</u>
23135 Drum Fund	\$102.12
23140 E4 Preaching Conference Receipts	\$1,695.56
23150 Poinsettia suspense fund	\$914.31
23185 Fathers in the Field	\$100.00
23195 Tim Stafford Medical Memorial Fund	\$244.32
23198 Helping Hands	\$680.00
24010 VBS Gifts	\$2,180.83
24020 Miscellaneous Designated Receipts	\$196.57
24025 iCampus	\$316.32
24045 Building Use Fees	\$625.00
24060 Connect Camp	\$8,572.97
24061 R.A. Camp	(\$0.84)
24062 G.A Camp	\$180.00
24064 Youth Camp	\$9,431.40
24067 Hospitality	\$662.55
24069 Kids Connection	\$453.78
24071 Youth Activities	\$1,834.97
24080 Building Fund	\$1,295.00
24082 Doing Life Together	\$806.76
<b>Total Designated Funds Pineville</b>	<b>\$35,311.61</b>

**Designated Funds Lecompte**

24400 Children's Fund Lecompte	\$989.33
24404 Youth Fund Lecompte	\$1,544.17
24406 Seniors in Service Lecompte	\$843.18
24408 Sunday School Lecompte	\$228.00
24410 Benevolence/Love Fund Lecompte	\$3,085.40
24420 Samaritan's Purse Lecompte	\$421.65
24500 Building Repairs/Maintenance Lecompte	\$2,510.94
24506 Kitchen Fund Lecompte	\$250.33
<b>Total Designated Funds Lecompte</b>	<b>\$9,873.00</b>

**Restricted Funds Pineville**

25100 Brakefield Music Fund	\$14,352.59
25110 Vehicle Fund	\$34,258.61
25115 Molly Kate Marcase Preschool Ministry Fund	\$9,814.58
25125 Senior Adult Ministry Fund	\$1,387.81
25130 Church Ministries Fund	\$12,502.79
25140 Deacon Memorial Fund	\$8,141.96
25185 DS Contingency Fund	\$14,115.75
25200 Library Memorial Fund	\$3,106.76
25210 Maintenance Contingency Fund	\$86,213.44
25220 Mission Endowment Fund	\$5,037.98
25250 Server Escrow	\$108.17

Statement of Financial Position for Period 5 - May  
 Company#: 1 Name: First Baptist Church  
 Fiscal Year Beginning 1/1/2023  
 Fund Name: 1 General

<u>Account</u>	<u>YTD Current</u>
25270 Counseling	\$4,986.93
25280 Working Capital Reserve Fund	\$42,906.09
25290 Youth Missions Fund	\$763.90
25310 Missionary Residence Fund	\$3,112.46
25340 Building Fund-Capital Campaign	\$233.59
25360 Grounds Beautification Fund	\$885.02
25390 Legacy Fund	\$30,664.05
25395 Staff Escrow Account	\$38,490.08
25400 Revival Escrow	\$898.80
25405 Upward LBF Fund	\$2,869.56
25407 Golf Cart LBF Fund	\$8,333.53
Total Restricted Funds Pineville	<u>\$323,184.45</u>
<b>Restricted Funds Lecompte</b>	
25500 LBF Lecompte	\$25,229.33
25595 Lecompte Staff Escrow	\$1,003.73
Total Restricted Funds Lecompte	<u>\$26,233.06</u>
Total Current Liabilities	<u>\$395,795.59</u>
<b>Long Term Liabilities</b>	
26030 Note payable - Sabine State Bank	\$2,849,210.65
Total Long Term Liabilities	<u>\$2,849,210.65</u>
TOTAL LIABILITIES	<u>\$3,245,006.24</u>
<b>CAPITAL</b>	
31000 Capital/Equity Balance	\$230,159.82
Capital/Equity Balance-Current Year	(\$31,722.47)
Capital/Equity Balance-Current Year-Total	<u>\$198,437.35</u>
32000 Equity in Fixed Assets	\$13,612,523.99
TOTAL CAPITAL	<u>\$13,810,961.34</u>
TOTAL LIABILITIES AND CAPITAL	<u>\$17,055,967.58</u>

**MEMORIALS/HONORARIUMS/SPECIAL GIFTS**  
**April - June, 2023**

In Honor of:	Given by:	Acknowledged to:	Fund:
<b>In memory of:</b>	<b>Given by:</b>	<b>Acknowledged to:</b>	<b>Fund:</b>
Elizabeth Depass	Betty Pharis	Angela Mahfouz	Making Way
Elizabeth Depass	D/M Tom Kent	Angela Mahfouz	Making Way
Wesley Dodge	Phillip & Gayle Granger	David Dodge & Family	Making Way
Wesley Dodge	Karen Stafford	David Dodge & Family	Making Way
Wesley Dodge	Roy & Becky Prestridge	David Dodge & Family	Making Way
Wesley Dodge	Nick & Susan Nixon	David Dodge & Family	Making Way
Wesley Dodge	Kay & Andy Harville	David Dodge & Family	Making Way
Dr. Mary Edwards	D/M Tom Kent	Ryan Drake D/M Stanley Clark	General Fund
Dr. Mary Edwards	Jimmy & Ann Williamson	Ryan Drake & Family	Making Way
Frank Elliott	D/M Tom Kent		Making Way
Harold Griffith	Les & Renee Chappell	Sue Griffith & Family	Making Way
Harold Griffith	Roy & Becky Prestidge	Tamara Winter & Family	Making Way
Barry Knapp	Frank & Debbie Coe	Marilyn Knapp & Family	Making Way
Barry Knapp	Susan & Nick Nixon	Marilyn Knapp & Family	Making Way
Barry Knapp	Karen Stafford	Marilyn Knapp & Family	Making Way
Falis Holloway	Susan & Nick Nixon	Stewart Holloway & Family	Making Way
Falis Holloway	Roy & Becky Prestridge	Stewart Holloway & Family	Making Way
Falis Holloway	D/M Tom Kent	Stewart Holloway & Family	General Fund
Falis Holloway	Betty Pharis	Stewart Holloway & Family	Making Way
Beth Lofton	Jimmy & Ann Williamson	Dr. Jim Lofton & Family	Making Way
Beth Lofton	D/M Tom Kent	Dr. Jim Lofton & Family	Making Way
James Roberts	D/M Tom Kent	Mrs. Sylvia Ritchie	Making Way
Joyce Sears	Betty Pharis	Thomas Martin & Family	Making Way
Joyce Sears	D/M Tom Kent	Thomas Martin & Family	General Fund
Joyce Sears	Susan & Nick Nixon	Thomas Martin & Family	Making Way
Joyce Sears	Roy & Becky Prestridge	Thomas Martin & Family	Making Way
Joyce Sears	Sunshine SS Class	Thomas Martin & Family	Making Way
Joyce Sears	Jimmy & Ann Williamson	Thomas Martin & Family	Making Way
Joyce Sears	Kay & Any Harville	Thomas Martin & Family	Making Way
Barbara Smith	Roy & Becky Prestridge	T. C. Smith, Jr. & Family	Making Way
Barbara Smith	Phillip & Gayle Granger	T. C. Smith, Jr. & Family	Making Way
Barbara Smith	Brossette SS Class	T. C. Smith, Jr. & Family	Making Way



In memory of:	Given by:	Acknowledged to:	Fund:
Barbara Smith	D/Mrs. Tom Kent	T. C. Smith, Jr., & Family	Making Way
Shirley Vinyard	Les & Renee Chappell	Beverly Price and Family	Making Way
Shirley Vinyard	Beverly's Knitting Group	Beverly Price	Making Way
Shirley Vinyard	Sharon & Tom Zabasky	Beverly Price & Family	Music Ministry
Brenda West	D/M Tom Kent	Stuart West & Family	Making Way
Peggy West	Phillip & Gayle Granger	Family of	Making Way
Peggy West	Barry & Debra Campbell	Family of	General Fund
Peggy West	Roy & Becky Prestridge	Paul & Les West & Family	Making Way
Peggy West	Linda Hendry	Paul & Les West & Family	Making Way
Augi Yi	Missy Yi	N/A	General Budget

## **Summary of Changes to FBC By-Laws**

FBC's Bylaws were last changed in June 2008. With the merger of First Baptist Lecompte, First Baptist Pineville Bylaws had no provisions to include additional campuses and the participation of the members into the Deacon Body or on various committees. We also included the Main Street Mission Pineville since FBC owns the property. With these edits we have recognized the merger and hopefully prepared these revisions as a template so if additional mergers happen, they can be incorporated without an extensive rewrite of the entire document.

The legal entity of FBC, as described in our Charter, is "First Baptist Church of Pineville, Louisiana", which includes First Baptist Church Pineville, First Baptist Church Lecompte and Main Street Baptist Mission.

In the existing Bylaws we had 30 separate Committees the proposed bylaws have a total of 14 core committees. The function of the Committees that were eliminated will be performed by Teams and members can either volunteer or asked to participate by the Pastor or his Ministerial designee. Examples of eliminated are Flower and Decoration Committees, Food Service Committee, Hospitality Committee, and Vehicle Committee Etc....

We clarified some of requirements for serving as Deacon and also how participation from each campus is structured.

On Committee on Committees we also defined how membership from each campus will participate.

Hopefully this brief summary provides some context of what we did but reading through the document will definitely give each person a more detailed understanding.

1  
2  
3  
4  
5  
6  
7  
8  
9  
10  
11  
12  
13  
14  
15  
16  
17  
18  
19  
20  
21  
22  
23  
24  
25  
26

**PREAMBLE**

For the more certain preservation and security of the principles of our Christian faith, and to the end that this Church body may be governed in an orderly manner, and for the purpose of preserving the liberties inherent in each individual member of the First Baptist Church of Pineville, Louisiana (the “Church”) and the freedom of action of this Church body with relation to other churches of like faith and order, we do declare and establish these Bylaws.

*“Let all things be done decently, and in order.” I Corinthians 14:40*

27 **ARTICLE I**

28 **NAME AND PURPOSE**

29

30

31 **Section 1: Name**

32

33 The name of this Church, as reflected in the most recently amended Articles of

34 Incorporation is First Baptist Church of Pineville, Louisiana; which includes First

35 Baptist Church of Pineville, Louisiana, First Baptist Church Lecompte, Louisiana;

36 Main Street Baptist Mission of Pineville, Louisiana (hereafter, the “Church”).

37

38 **Section 2: Statement of Faith**

39

40 No statement of faith can exhaust the extent of our beliefs. The Bible itself, as the

41 Word of God that speaks with final authority concerning truth, morality, and the

42 proper conduct of mankind, is the sole and final source of all that we believe.

43

44 **Section 3: Purpose**

45

46 The Church is formed for the propagation of the Gospel of Jesus Christ, to support

47 public worship and to further proclaim the Gospel of Jesus Christ through such

48 ministries as may be determined by the Church, all in accordance with the stated

49 purposes set forth in the Articles of Incorporation.

50

51 **Section 4: Non-Profit Status**

52

53 This Church is organized as a non-profit corporation pursuant to the laws of the

54 State of Louisiana. It shall be organized on a non-stock basis and shall at all times

55 be and remain a tax-exempt entity. The Church’s constitution, including covenants

56 and confessions of faith as the congregation deems proper is attached to the Bylaws

57 as Exhibit “A.”

58

59 **ARTICLE II**

60 **CHURCH GOVERNMENT / MEMBERSHIP**

61

62

63 **Section 1: Government**

64

65 The Church is sovereign and autonomous under the Lordship of Jesus Christ and

66 retains unto itself the exclusive right to its governance. Its membership reserves

67 the exclusive right to determine who shall be members of this Church and the

68 condition of such membership. The governance of the Church is founded upon

69 principles of democratic and congregational government, its authority vested in its

70 members. Every member has the right to a voice in the Church’s governance, plans,

71 and discipline. This Church is subject to the control of no other ecclesiastical body  
72 but enjoys mutual consent and cooperation with other churches of like faith and  
73 order.  
74

75 **Section 2: Membership – Candidacy**  
76

77 Any person may become a candidate for membership in this Church. All such  
78 candidates for membership shall be presented to the Church at any regular Church  
79 service or any other event set aside for such purpose, for membership in any of the  
80 following ways:

- 81  
82 (1) By profession of faith in Jesus Christ as Lord and Savior and for  
83 baptism according to the policies of this Church.
- 84  
85 (2) By transfer of membership (letter of recommendation) from  
86 another Baptist church where such person in is good standing.  
87
- 88 (3) By restoration upon a statement of prior conversion experience  
89 affirming Jesus Christ as Lord and Savior and trusting in Jesus  
90 Christ for the candidate’s salvation and baptism by immersion in a  
91 Baptist church where no record of membership is obtainable.  
92
- 93 (4) By statement of faith and prior baptism by immersion after review  
94 by the pastor or his designee.  
95
- 96 (5) By statement on merging of Churches, with membership  
97 stipulated as the original date the member was admitted for  
98 membership in the merging Church.  
99

100 **Section 3: Membership – Classes**  
101

102 In keeping with democratic and congregational principles of governance, there  
103 shall be no classifications of membership, unless proposed by the deacons and  
104 following the vote of the congregation at a specially called meeting.  
105

106 This Church may, for purely denominational and other statistical reporting  
107 purposes, use classifications such as “resident” or “non-resident” or other such  
108 classifications as is necessary to provide the statistical information sought by the  
109 denominational or statistical reporting agency or organization. However, such  
110 “statistical reporting classifications” shall have no effect upon rights of membership  
111 as a matter of Church governance.  
112

113 **Section 4: Membership – Rights**  
114

115 Every member of this Church who is on the membership roll is entitled to vote at  
116 all elections and on all questions submitted to the Church at any meeting, provided  
117 the member is present or, if absent, a special provision having been made by the  
118 Church for absentee voting. No person may vote by proxy.

119  
120 Every member of this Church on the membership roll, unless otherwise stated in  
121 these Bylaws, is eligible for consideration by the membership as candidates for  
122 elective offices (and as may be amplified in these Bylaws).

123  
124 Every member of this Church may participate in the ordinances of the Church as  
125 administered by the Church. Further, the Church has traditionally invited members  
126 of like faith and order to participate in the observance of the Lord's Supper.

127  
128

129 **Section 5: Membership - Meetings**

130

131 Regular Business Meetings / Conferences. This Church shall conduct regular  
132 business meetings in accordance with the provisions of Article VII of these  
133 bBylaws. All such regular business meetings, as well as any special business  
134 meetings, shall be open to all members.

135

136 Special Business Meetings / Conferences. Specially called meetings, depending  
137 upon the nature and context of such meeting, may be made pursuant to the  
138 procedure set forth in Article VII of these Bylaws.

139

140 **Section 6: Membership – Termination**

141

142 Membership in this Church shall be terminated in any of the following ways:

143

- 144 (1) Death of the member;
- 145
- 146 (2) Transfer of membership to another Baptist church;
- 147
- 148 (3) Exclusion by action of the Church;
- 149
- 150 (4) Erasure upon request or proof of membership in a church of  
151 another denomination; or
- 152
- 153 (5) Written request by a member to terminate membership.

154

155 Upon a member's termination, any and all rights to assert any interest in any of  
156 the assets of the Church are deemed waived and forfeited. Similarly, no person  
157 whose membership has been terminated, may renounce, rescind or revoke any  
158 prior gift, tithe or offering previously made to the Church.

159  
160  
161  
162  
163  
164  
165  
166  
167  
168  
169  
170  
171  
172  
173  
174  
175  
176  
177  
178  
179  
180  
181  
182  
183  
184  
185  
186  
187  
188  
189  
190  
191  
192  
193  
194  
195  
196  
197  
198  
199  
200  
201  
202

**Section 7: Membership – Exclusion**

Should a member become an offense to this Church by reason of immoral or unchristian conduct or by denying acceptance of fundamental doctrines of the Church, it shall be the responsibility of the deacons to take steps to resolve the offense in accordance with scriptural directives and, including *Matthew 18: 15-20*.

At any meeting(s) with the deacons, at which the pastor may also attend, the member shall have the right to present witnesses and evidence. Should the deacons determine that grounds exist for expulsion and that there also exists a lack of contrition on the part of the member so as to allow reconciliation and restoration, the member shall be given personal notice of the deacons’ decision and a written statement of reasons and basis for the deacons’ recommendation to the congregation that the member be expelled. Such notice shall also include the date and time of the next regular business meeting, provided that at least ten (10) days’ prior notice is provided. Notice shall also be posted at least once in an official Church notification. The member shall have the right at such business meeting to representation by a member of the congregation or legal counsel and may further present such witnesses and evidence as the member deems proper. Upon the vote of two-thirds (2/3) of the members present at such special business meeting, the member shall be excluded, and all rights of membership shall immediately cease.

Ever mindful of man’s sinful nature, his imperfection, and the very purpose of the Church to support and uphold members who have fallen short of the mark set by our Savior, such action should be considered only in the most grievous and necessitous of circumstances. It is and must be the practice of this Church to take any and all reasonable actions and efforts to assist any troubled member. The attitude of the Church shall be a concern for redemption rather than punishment.

This Church may restore to membership any person previously excluded, upon the written request of the excluded person. Reconciliation conference(s) with the deacons and the pastor shall be conducted. Upon a showing of clear and convincing evidence of such person’s repentance, contrition, and need for a reconciliation and restoration of fellowship with the Church, the deacons shall recommend restoration at the next regularly scheduled business meeting. The Church, following an affirmative vote of a majority of the members present, shall restore all privileges of membership to such person.

203  
204  
205  
206  
207  
208  
209  
210  
211  
212  
213  
214  
215  
216  
217  
218  
219  
220  
221  
222  
223  
224  
225  
226  
227  
228  
229  
230  
231  
232  
233  
234  
235  
236  
237  
238  
239  
240  
241  
242  
243  
244  
245  
246

**ARTICLE III**  
**CHURCH OFFICERS - STAFF**

**Section 1: Church Officers**

All persons who serve as officers or staff of this Church shall be members of this Church. The officers and staff of this Church shall be:

- (1) Pastor
- (2) Ministerial Staff
- (3) Active Deacons
- (4) Church Clerk
- (5) Church Treasurer

The responsibilities of these officers are as follows:

**Pastor**

The pastor is responsible for leading the Church to function as a New Testament Church. The pastor will lead the congregation, the organization, and the Church staff to perform their tasks.

The pastor is the primary leader of pastoral ministries in the Church. As such he works with the deacons and Church staff to:

- (a) Lead the Church in the achievement of its missions.
- (b) Proclaim the Gospel to believers and unbelievers.
- (c) Care for the Church's members and other persons in the community.

A vacancy in the office of the pastor shall only occur upon the pastor's death, resignation, or termination by the affirmative vote of the Church membership, following notice and voting provisions as set forth in Article VII, Section 4 of these Bylaws.



247  
248  
249  
250  
251  
252  
253  
254  
255  
256  
257  
258  
259  
260  
261  
262  
263  
264  
265  
266  
267  
268  
269  
270  
271  
272  
273  
274  
275  
276  
277  
278  
279  
280  
281  
282  
283  
284  
285  
286  
287  
288  
289  
290

In the event of a vacancy in the office of the pastor, a pastor Search Committee (selected, formed and constituted in accordance with Article IV, Section 17) shall seek out a suitable pastor, and its nomination will constitute a nomination to the congregation. The procedure for calling, hiring and employing a pastor shall be the same as that for termination of a pastor.

**Ministerial Staff**

The ministerial staff shall be called and employed as the Church determines the need for such offices. All ministerial positions shall be approved by the Personnel Committee, and costs associated for each position shall go through approvals in the yearly budget processes.

A Search Committee for such ministerial staff shall be selected, formed and constituted in accordance with Article IV, Section 17. A job description shall be written when the need for a staff member is determined.

Each employed staff member shall serve until the relationship is terminated by death, resignation, or termination.

**Church Moderator**

The pastor shall serve as Church moderator at all regular business meetings or any other called special meetings (with the exception of a meeting for the specific purpose of voting on a motion to terminate the pastor from his office). In the event of the pastor’s absence or ineligibility, the chairman of the deacons or designee shall serve as moderator.

In guarding and maintaining the fellowship of the Church, the aim of the Church must be to bring about unity with people of different views, ideas, and convictions. The objectives of the Church moderator are to maintain the spirit of christian love while presiding, to be fair and courteous with all members, and to help members understand parliamentary procedures without embarrassment to them. Should the Church moderator so require or think necessary, he or she may request an active member knowledgeable in parliamentary procedure to serve as a parliamentarian. The Church moderator shall maintain a neutral position while presiding. If he or she wishes to debate a question under consideration, he or she should ask an assistant to preside.

At all regular business meetings or specially called meetings of the congregation, parliamentary procedure shall be followed pursuant to *Robert’s Rules of Order*, as per its most recent revision.

291  
292  
293  
294  
295  
296  
297  
298  
299  
300  
301  
302  
303  
304  
305  
306  
307  
308  
309  
310  
311  
312  
313  
314  
315  
316  
317  
318  
319  
320  
321  
322  
323  
324  
325  
326  
327  
328  
329  
330  
331  
332  
333  
334

**The Church Clerk**

The Church clerk (“clerk”) shall be elected annually as the Church’s clerical officer and shall serve until a successor has been elected. The clerk shall be responsible for keeping a suitable record of all official actions of the Church and recording minutes of the Church business meetings except as otherwise herein provided. The clerk or an assistant clerk must be present in all regular and special Church business meetings to record the results of all matters voted upon. In regular meetings, the clerk shall record information on applicants for Church membership and other decisions. In business meetings, the clerk shall record all actions voted on by the Church and follow through on all necessary correspondence related to the actions.

All Church records are deemed to be Church property and shall be kept in the Church office.

**Church Treasurer**

This Church shall elect annually a Church treasurer as its financial officer who shall serve until a successor has been elected. It shall be the duty of the treasurer to assist the Finance Committee in the preparation and presentation at each regular business meeting of the Church an itemized report of the receipts and disbursements of the preceding month. The treasurer’s report and records may be audited annually by an auditing committee or public accountant.

The treasurer shall serve as an *ex officio* member of the Finance Committee and shall work closely with such committee to develop and recommend to the Church adequate policies and procedures related to receiving, accounting, disbursing, and reporting Church monies; to maintain members’ records of contributions; and to provide quarterly and annually reports of same. The Finance Committee, as well as appropriate Church staff, shall assist the treasurer.

Personal financial records are deemed strictly confidential and may not be disclosed to any person unless specifically authorized in writing by the member to view, inspect or photocopy such records. If requested by the chair of Committee on Committees or the chair of deacon nomination committee, the treasurer shall confirm that nominee is a regular giver.

**Section 2: Non-ministerial Staff**

The non-ministerial staff members shall be employed as the Church determines the need for their services.

335 This Church Personnel Committee shall have the authority to employ and to  
336 terminate services of non-ministerial staff members. Such employment and  
337 termination of services shall occur after consultation with the supervising staff  
338 member and, as appropriate, with the consultation of related committees of the  
339 Church.

340

### 341 **Section 3: Active Deacons**

342

343 (a) Duties and Responsibilities. Each member of the body of deacons  
344 of the Church shall be ordained to provide spiritual leadership for, and service to,  
345 the fellowship of the Church. A deacon's leadership should be seen in the life of  
346 the family, Church, and community, exhibiting a responsible level of morality and  
347 concern for others. A deacon should fulfill the guidelines provided in *Acts 6:1-6*  
348 and I *Timothy 3:8-13*. The New Testament word for deacon, *diakonos*, translates  
349 into "minister" or "servant." The same word is generally used to describe  
350 Christians as servants and also a particular office set aside for service.

351

352

353 Deacons shall guard the unity of spirit within the Church and shall recommend  
354 establishment of policies deemed to be in the best interest and manifest advantage  
355 of the Church and in furtherance of its ministries. Deacons shall further show a  
356 positive witness by:

357

- 358 (1) Supporting the entire program of the Church in mission outreach,  
359 evangelism, education, and ministry.
- 360 (2) Contributing to the financial support of the Church with tithes and  
361 offerings.
- 362 (3) Refusing to use or participate in the sale of alcoholic beverages.
- 363 (4) Honoring the institution of traditional marriage and family. The  
364 biblical ideal encourages a lifetime marriage to the same spouse for  
365 those who choose to marry. However, for some, death of a spouse  
366 or divorce has caused a break in the family structure. Having been  
367 previously married does not preclude a person from being elected  
368 by the Church membership when the candidate has demonstrated a  
369 dedication to family and the Church.
- 370 (5) Any concerns regarding the moral fitness of a deacon shall be  
371 addressed by the deacon chair and the pastor in accordance with  
372 scriptural directives, including *Matthew 18: 15-20*. Any  
373 recommendation for dismissal from the deacon body shall be  
374  
375  
376  
377

378 brought before the entire deacon body membership for  
379 consideration.

380

381 (6) Each deacon is expected to seek out and occupy a chosen place of  
382 service in the Church program in addition to performing services as a  
383 deacon. All deacons shall actively support, with time and finances,  
384 the work of the Lord through the various ministries of the Church.  
385 All deacons are expected to attend all meetings of the deacon body,  
386 as well as all Church business meetings as a matter of example and  
387 service in supplying their voice to these deliberations. All deacons  
388 are expected to attend Church worship services and perform assigned  
389 duties incident to the conduct of the Sunday services.

390

391 The body of deacons shall constitute the corporate power on behalf of the Church.  
392 They shall be empowered to do and perform all acts and duties incumbent upon  
393 them as fiduciaries of the Church, as set forth in the Articles of Incorporation,  
394 subject to the approval of the congregation. The congregation shall have the  
395 authority to adopt or initiate any corporate action.

396

397 (b) Qualifications. In addition to the member's agreement to do and  
398 perform those duties and responsibilities set forth above in sub-paragraph (a),  
399 deacons shall possess the following additional qualifications:

400

401 (1) At least twenty-one (21) years of age;

402

403 (2) A member of the Church for at least twelve uninterrupted months  
404 prior to their election; and

405

406 (3) A member of a Southern Baptist affiliated church for an aggregate  
407 of three (3) years.

408

409 (c) Number. Deacon elections will be held annually. The minimum  
410 aggregate number of deacons serving at any one time shall be (30) thirty. The  
411 number of deacons elected annually may vary based on the needs and will of the  
412 congregation. The aggregate number may be increased by a vote of the Active Deacons  
413 when ministry needs require a larger membership as recommended by the pastor and  
414 current deacon officers working together to determine the additional positions required.  
415 Thereafter, the proposed recommendation for an increase will be presented to the  
416 Church for a vote at a special business meeting. At least 75% of the deacon body  
417 selected to serve shall be from the membership of the FBC-Pineville campus.

418

419 (d) Nomination / Election. The membership of the Church shall elect  
420 the deacons, which shall be a minimum of thirty (30) persons. Nominations for  
421 deacon shall be made by any member of the Church, in writing, on a form approved

422 for such use by the deacon nomination committee. The form shall list those  
423 members of the Church who are not eligible for nomination due to such member's  
424 expired term as a deacon. Nominations shall be turned in to the Church office no  
425 later than August 31<sup>st</sup>. There shall be no limit placed on the number of nominees  
426 a member may submit. No nominations may be made from the floor.

427  
428 It shall be the task of the deacon nominating committee during the deacon  
429 nomination process to ensure that all First Baptist Church Pineville Louisiana  
430 campuses are represented. The deacon nomination committee shall have the  
431 authority to exclude any nominee from consideration for election solely on the  
432 following grounds:

- 433  
434 (1) The committee is of the considered view that the nominee  
435 clearly does not meet the qualifications set forth herein or  
436 cannot subscribe and perform the duties and responsibilities  
437 of a deacon.  
438  
439 (2) The committee, following personal contact with the  
440 nominee, as well as prayerful consideration of all relevant  
441 factors concerning the nominee's candidacy, is of the  
442 considered view that the nominee's life does not demonstrate  
443 a positive witness under the expectations outlined pursuant  
444 to the above sub-paragraph (3)(a) ("Duties and  
445 Responsibilities").  
446  
447

448 If the committee excludes any nominee from consideration for election, such action  
449 shall be immediately communicated to the pastor. Otherwise, the action taken by  
450 the committee shall remain private and confidential.

451  
452 The committee shall then develop a ballot listing the ten (10) qualified nominees  
453 having the highest number of nominations and who have expressed a willingness  
454 to serve. If a tie occurs in the number of nominations such that the tenth most  
455 nominated person cannot be determined, then the number of candidates listed shall  
456 include those nominees who are tied for the 10<sup>th</sup> highest number of nominations.

457  
458 A list of nominees who have agreed to serve as deacons will be prepared and  
459 submitted to the Church no later than September 30<sup>th</sup>. On the last Sunday in  
460 October, following the morning worship service, the Church shall meet in a called

461 business meeting to approve the list of nominees submitted by the deacon  
462 nominating committee.

463  
464 (e) Ordination. All deacons who have not been previously ordained  
465 shall attend and participate in a deacon ordination council and ordination service.  
466 Ordination shall be within 90 days after the first of the year. An elected deacon will  
467 not be considered Active until ordination is completed.

468  
469 (f) Term. Once elected and ordained, the deacon shall serve a term of  
470 three (3) years, beginning on the first day of January following their election, unless  
471 the deacon was elected to fill a shorter term. A deacon may be re-elected for an  
472 additional three-year term, following the expiration of their first term. At the end  
473 of two (2) successive terms, which in no event shall exceed six (6) consecutive  
474 years, the deacon is ineligible to be re-elected to the Board of deacons until at least  
475 a one-year hiatus has elapsed since the expiration of their term. The terms of elected  
476 deacons shall be fixed so that one-third (1/3) of the deacons' terms shall expire each  
477 year. In the event of a deacon's death, resignation, or removal from office where  
478 one or more years remain in said deacon's term, the deacon nominating committee  
479 shall return to the nominated deacon list from the respective calendar year and, at a  
480 regular business meeting, present the next eligible individual nominated to fill the  
481 remainder of the exiting deacon's term.

482  
483 (g) Officers. The following officers shall be elected by the deacons  
484 annually: Chair; Vice-Chair; and Secretary.

485  
486 (h) Meetings. The deacons shall meet at least monthly, with the  
487 regularly scheduled deacon meetings being held on the first Monday evening  
488 following the third (3<sup>rd</sup>) Sunday of the month, unless modified by the deacon  
489 officers.

490  
491

## 492 **ARTICLE IV**

493  
494

### 494 **COMMITTEES**

495  
496

#### 496 **Section 1: General Information regarding Committees**

497  
498

498 (1) All committee members shall be members of the Church.  
499 Participation on each committee will strive to include members from  
500 all Church campuses. Members of the Committee on Committees,  
501 Deacon Nomination Committee, Nominating Committee, Pastor  
502 Search Committee, and Personnel Committee shall have been  
503 members of the Church for at least an aggregate of three (3) years  
504 prior to their election. Members of other ministerial staff Search

505 Committees shall have been members of the Church for at least an  
506 aggregate of two (2) years prior to their election. Members of the  
507 Finance Committee and Safety and Security Committee shall have  
508 been members of the Church for at least twelve (12) continuous  
509 months prior to their election.

510  
511 (2) Committee members (excluding the pastor and the ministerial staff)  
512 shall be elected by the Church membership for a three (3) year term.  
513 Membership terms on all committees shall be staggered, with one-  
514 third (1/3) of the members rotating off and being replaced each year,  
515 unless otherwise stated herein.

516  
517 Only in the event an exceptional need exists or prudence dictates  
518 that it is in furtherance of the Church's best interest for such  
519 committee member to immediately succeed himself, should that  
520 committee member do so.

521  
522 (3) Unless otherwise specifically set forth in these Bylaws, no  
523 committee shall consist of more than six (6) voting members.

524  
525 (4) Unless otherwise specifically set forth in these Bylaws, all  
526 committees shall be considered standing and permanent committees.

527  
528 (5) All committees shall be assigned to a member of the ministerial staff  
529 for purposes of administrative oversight. However, the assigned  
530 ministerial staff shall serve in an *ex officio* capacity only. Should a  
531 vacancy exist with regard to the assigned ministerial staff, the  
532 committee shall be assigned to the pastor, or his designee.

533  
534 (6) For purposes herein, the term "*ex officio*" member shall refer to a  
535 person who may participate in all committee discussions, but who  
536 may not make, amend, or second any motion, nor may they vote on  
537 any such motion.

538  
539 **Section 2: General Responsibilities of all Church Committees**

540  
541  
542 (1) Choose a committee chair for each committee.  
543  
544 a. The chair shall be responsible for informing members of the  
545 committee and the staff member who is assigned to the  
546 committee about meeting time and place.  
547

548                    b. The chair's presence at any meeting shall be counted for  
549                    purposes of obtaining a quorum. However, the chair shall not  
550                    vote unless it is to break a tie vote.

551

552            (2)    Begin duties on January 1<sup>st</sup>.

553

554            (3)    Hold an initial meeting to organize and hold other meetings as  
555            necessary to carry out the specific duties of the committee.

556

557            (4)    Work in cooperation with an assigned staff member of the Church.  
558            This staff member should be informed of each committee meeting  
559            and shall only serve in an *ex officio* capacity. If the meeting is at  
560            the Church, a room should be reserved. Fifty percent (50%) of the  
561            committee constitutes a quorum.

562

563            (5)    Develop, review, and revise appropriate policy statements to be  
564            approved by the Church and included in the Church policies.

565

566            (6)    Keep and file minutes of each meeting and report to the Church  
567            during regular or special business meetings when necessary.

568

569            (7)    If budgetary resources are needed, recommend such financial need  
570            to the assigned staff member and/or Finance Committee and assist  
571            in procuring same when needed.

572

573            (8)    Report any vacancies that may occur during the Church year to the  
574            Church office and/or to the chair of the Committee on Committees.

575

576            (9)    Make any recommendations about the revision of committee duties  
577            to the Committee on Committees for Church action.

578

579    **Section 3: Building and Grounds Committee**

580

581

582            This committee shall be assigned to the pastor or his ministerial designee. Its duties  
583            shall include:

584

585            (1)    Maintain an inventory of all properties and equipment.

586

587            (2)    Regularly inspect and consult with the pastor, ministerial  
588            staff, and/or non-ministerial staff concerning needed  
589            building or mechanical repairs.

590



- 591 (3) Report needed repairs beyond the scope of the budget to the  
592 Finance Committee.  
593  
594 (4) Consult and plan with appropriate program leaders  
595 concerning the optimum use of space in Church properties.  
596  
597 (5) Formulate, revise as needed, and publicize Church-approved  
598 policies regarding the use of the Church properties.  
599  
600 (6) Assist the ministerial staff in evaluating budgetary needs  
601 and, if necessary, in presenting requests to the Finance  
602 Committee.  
603  
604 (7) Formulate policies for expenditures for maintenance and/or  
605 repairs.  
606  
607 (8) Arrange for repairs and other work that does not require  
608 contract labor, as deemed advisable by the ministerial staff  
609 and the committee.  
610  
611  
612

613 **Section 4:**  
614

615 This committee shall be assigned to the pastor and shall serve, as needed, by making  
616 recommendations to the pastor or the Church, by coordinating and evaluating  
617 activities and programs, as requested, for the Church and its organizations.  
618

619 Any recommendation coming from the Church Council shall first be brought before  
620 the deacons for such action as deemed appropriate and prudent.  
621

622 Members of the Church Council shall be:  
623

- 624 1. Pastor
- 625 2. Ministerial Staff and Campus Pastor as designated by Pastor
- 626 3. Chairman of the deacons
- 627 4. Each Chairman of designated committees  
628

629 In the event there is no pastor, the Church Council will be led by the chairman of  
630 the deacons or ministerial designee.  
631  
632  
633  
634

635 **Section 5: Church Benevolence Committee**

636

637 This committee shall be assigned to the pastor or his designee. Its duties shall  
638 include:

639

640

641

642

643

644

645

1. Serving as coordinating group for benevolent actions and projects which may take place outside the normal parameters of other care groups within the Church (such as Sunday School classes, Women's Missionary Union, Family Ministry, or other Church programs).

646

647

648

649

650

651

652

2. Maintain a listing of various agencies in the community that may be able to assist families in need.

653

654

655

656

657

658

659

3. Assess the needs of families in the Church who may require assistance and determine the best means by which assistance may be provided.

4. Keep a record of all ministry actions undertaken by the committee.

5. Create and maintain links throughout the community with other cooperating churches and organizations so as to achieve a network of benevolence for those in need.

660

661

662

663

664

**Section 6: Committee on Committees**

665

666

667

668

669

670

671

672

673

674

675

676

677

678

This committee shall be assigned to the pastor or his ministerial designee.

Nomination forms shall be made available to the Church membership at least four (4) weeks in advance of the Sunday morning worship service selected as the time to elect members of this committee. Current deacon officers shall be excluded from being nominated. Nomination forms shall also be made available during Sunday School. All nomination forms must be turned in to the Church office no later than the Sunday before the Sunday selected for the election of the members of this committee. No nominations shall be received from the floor. Voting will be by written ballot. The highest two (2) nominees shall be elected, regardless of age or gender. The deacon Officers shall count the votes and advise the pastor of the election of the members to this committee.

679 At least 2/3 thirds of the committee membership shall be from the membership of  
680 the FBC-Pineville campus.

681

682

683 Primary responsibilities include:

684

685 1. Recommend members for all Church committees during the  
686 4<sup>th</sup> Quarter in order to start their work on January 1<sup>st</sup>.

687

688 2. Receive reports on any committee vacancies occurring  
689 throughout the Church year and recommend immediate  
690 replacements to the Church.

691

692 3. Periodically review the committee descriptions and revise as  
693 necessary. This includes deletion of obsolete committees  
694 and the recommendation of new committees as needed.

695

696 4. Furnish the committee descriptions to each committee chair,  
697 providing clarification of specific committee tasks.

698

699 5. Create an efficient representation and rotation system which  
700 places members from each campus on Church committees.

701

702 6. Nominate members to form special or *ad hoc* committees on  
703 an *as needed* basis.

704

705 In addition to the general qualifications for committee service set forth above,  
706 members of the Committee on Committees shall also have special qualifications as  
707 set forth below:

708

709 (a) Age: Each member of this committee shall be at least twenty-one  
710 (21) years of age.

711

712 (b) Each member of this committee shall have been a member of this  
713 Church for at least an aggregate of three (3) years;

714

715 (c) Other Qualifications: Each member should possess a good  
716 knowledge of the Church membership, and their respective skills,  
717 vocations and expertise, along with the programs and ministries of  
718 the Church.

719

720

721

722

723 **Section 7: Day School and Pre-School Committee**

724

725

726

727

728

729

730

731

732

733

734

This committee shall be assigned to the minister of education and preschool / children's minister and/or as may be similarly titled. The day school and preschool Director shall be an *ex officio* member. In the composition of this committee, the Committee on Committees should, whenever possible, include persons with preschool or kindergarten teaching or administrative experience, public school educators, college educators with experience in early childhood education or related areas, social workers, or such other persons who possess expertise and vocational skills referable to prudent oversight of day school operations. Its duties shall include:

735

736

737

738

739

740

1. Assisting the ministerial staff in formulating and publicizing Church-accepted policies and procedures for the operation and administration of the day school. These guidelines will reflect the purpose and design of the program, as well as outline the practical aspects of management.

741

742

743

744

745

746

2. Developing programs for the day school and preschool as an outreach ministry of this Church.

747

748

749

750

3. Coordinating activities between the day school and preschool.

751

752

753

754

755

756

757

758

4. Working with the ministerial staff and director of the day school to select, train, and supervise employed preschool teachers.

759

760

761

5. Reviewing with the day school director such matters as salaries, benefits, and personnel policies.

762

763

764

765

6. Working with the ministerial staff and day school director regarding all licensure and regulatory entities to ensure compliance with all applicable laws, codes, regulations, and ordinances.

7. Evaluating and updating the program, using such reputable sources as are available.

8. Involving members of the Church and parents of children enrolled in the day school in needed work projects and program activities.

- 766  
767  
768  
769  
770  
771  
772  
773  
774  
775  
776  
777  
778  
779  
780  
781  
782
9. Informing and educating the Church membership about activities of the program.
  10. Coordinating the work of the program with other Church activities involving young children.
  11. Reviewing monthly financial reports and other records pertinent to the operation of the day school as presented by the director.
  12. Making regular reports and bringing recommendations to the Church concerning the work of the program.
  13. Reviewing budget preparation and providing analysis and input to all interested committees, the ministerial staff, and the deacons.

783 **Section 8: Deacon Nomination Committee**

784  
785 This committee shall be assigned to the pastor or his ministerial designee.  
786 This committee shall be comprised of six (6) members, all of whom are  
787 active or inactive deacons at the Church. Its duties shall include:

- 788  
789  
790  
791  
792  
793  
794  
795  
796  
797  
798  
799  
800  
801  
802  
803  
804  
805  
806  
807  
808  
809
1. Requesting and securing nominations for deacons in accordance with the procedure set forth in Article III, Section 3.
  2. Reviewing the qualifications of each nominee in accordance with the provisions of Article III, Section 3.
  3. Provide the list in the monthly deacons meeting for review by the Active Deacons and approval by the pastor.
  4. Meeting with each nominee to determine such nominee's willingness to serve, as well as discussing the qualifications of such office and the duties incumbent upon a deacon.
  5. Ensuring that the nominee recognizes and acknowledges the requirements of a deacon.
  6. Providing the Church with a list of nominees on a ballot for approval.
  7. Assisting in the election process for deacons in accordance with the procedure set forth in Article III, Section 3.

810  
811  
812  
813  
814  
815  
816  
817  
818  
819  
820  
821  
822  
823  
824  
825  
826  
827  
828  
829  
830  
831  
832  
833  
834  
835  
836  
837  
838  
839  
840  
841  
842  
843  
844  
845  
846  
847  
848  
849  
850  
851  
852  
853

8. Providing the list of elected deacons to the pastor and the chair of the deacons for publication as deemed appropriate.

**Section 9: Finance Committee**

This committee shall be assigned to the pastor or his ministerial designee.

Its duties shall include:

1. Studying the financial condition of this Church; comparing income and expenditures with previous months and years.
2. Establishing a policy of purchasing and a system of authorizing payment.
3. Seeing that the expenditures of this Church reflect sound business management and are in keeping with the appropriations in the budget.
4. Preparing and recommending the Church budget in cooperation with the pastor, campus pastor and ministerial staff, Church committee chairs and other organization heads.
5. Recommending to the Church membership the basic stewardship program for the year.
6. Studying and interpreting the budget, making decisions when necessary as to the availability of funds, and considering requests for unbudgeted expenditures.
7. Establishing and directing any temporary committees as needed to carry out programs of finance adopted by the Church.
8. Reporting, with the assistance of the Church treasurer, the financial condition of the Church at each regular meeting of the deacons and at each regular business meeting. Preparing printed reports of receipts, disbursements, and bank balance for distribution at least quarterly.
9. Recommending to the Church membership other stewardship programs deemed appropriate.

854 10. Recommending appropriate stewardship education for the  
855 Church membership.

856  
857 11. Reviewing liability insurance for all facilities.

858  
859

#### 860 **Section 10: Main Street Mission Committee**

861

862 This committee shall be assigned to the pastor or his ministerial designee. The  
863 pastor of the Main Street Mission (“MSM”) shall serve as an *ex officio* member of  
864 this committee. Up to 2 members may come from the Main Street Mission. Its  
865 duties shall include:

866

867 1. Defining and periodically updating the mission of the MSM.

868

869 2. Developing and coordinating programs and activities to be  
870 held at the MSM in conjunction with the MSM pastor or his  
871 designee.

872

873 3. Working with the MSM Pastor to coordinate scheduling of  
874 programs and activities to be held at the MSM, to include all  
875 Sunday worship services and Wednesday night services and  
876 activities.

877

878 4. Working in conjunction with the MSM pastor in evaluating  
879 programs and activities at the MSM.

880

881 5. Making requests to the Finance Committee for funding  
882 needs which exceed the annual budgetary allocation .

883

884 6. Working with the MSM pastor to develop an annual budget  
885 for all programs, activities, and necessary expenses to be  
886 presented to and approved by the deacons and the Church.

887

888 7. Conducting a search for a new MSM pastor in event of a  
889 vacancy in such position and presenting such report to the  
890 deacons and Church members.

891

892 8. Making regular reports and bringing recommendations to the  
893 Church concerning the work of the program. A financial  
894 report should be presented at regular business meetings.

895

896

#### 897 **Section 11: Missions Committee**

898  
899  
900  
901  
902  
903  
904  
905  
906  
907  
908  
909  
910  
911  
912  
913  
914  
915  
916  
917  
918  
919  
920  
921  
922  
923  
924  
925  
926  
927  
928  
929  
930  
931  
932  
933  
934  
935  
936  
937  
938  
939  
940

This committee shall be assigned to the pastor or his ministerial designee. The director of Women on Mission shall be an *ex officio* member. Its duties shall include:

1. Coordinating the local mission programs in conjunction with the mission organization and appropriate committees.
2. Working in conjunction with the pastor in planning, carrying out, and evaluating direct mission projects, both home and international.
3. Establishing and maintaining the necessary communications with the Associational Mission Committee in order to cooperate on community-wide efforts.
4. Advising the pastor regarding the Church's financial participation in missions through the budget.
5. Following the approved Church policy in requesting and obtaining financial and other resources to be used in specific mission projects.

**Section 12: Nominating Committee**

This committee shall be assigned to the pastor or his ministerial designee.

All persons nominated shall be members of the Church.

This committee shall bring to the Church nominations for the following offices or positions as the below stated times as vacancies occur.

Position or Office

- (1) Sunday School and general officers and teachers.
- (2) Mission organization general officers and workers
- (3) Church Treasurer
- (4) Graded choirs' leadership (nominated by the Minister of Music)



941 **Section 13: Personnel Committee**

942

943

944

945

946

947

948

949

950

951

952

953

954

955

956

957

958

959

960

961

962

963

964

965

966

967

968

969

970

971

972

973

974

975

976

977

978

979

980

981

982

983

984

This committee shall be assigned to the pastor or his ministerial designee. Each member shall agree to adhere to the confidentiality policy provided to each member at the beginning of his or her term of service. The committee duties shall include:

As to Non-Ministerial Staff:

1. Receiving from the pastor (or assigned supervising minister) the recommended job description and supporting information regarding the position, including salary and benefits.
2. Approving the job description and salary and benefits (with supporting data) or suggestions as to modifications. Financial matters will be decided in cooperation with the Finance Committee.
3. Advertising for qualified and competent candidates (if the committee feels it is prudent to do so).
4. Following the interview of the applicant(s) or candidate(s), and after evaluating their responses, the Pastor, or assigned supervising minister, will consult with the Personnel Committee prior to extending the candidate a formal invitation to join the Church non-ministerial staff. Final financial arrangements will be approved by the Personnel Committee in consultation with the Finance Committee. In all instances, the committee shall report any and all action to the deacons at their next scheduled meeting.
5. Annually reviewing the performance appraisals from the managing Staff member of the Non-Ministerial employee.
6. Working with the managing staff member on discipline issues and confirming the need for termination, by a majority vote of the committee, in the event those situations are presented.

As to Ministerial Staff:

1. In the event of a ministerial staff vacancy work with the Pastor to secure interim leadership.

985  
986  
987  
988  
989  
990  
991  
992  
993  
994  
995  
996  
997  
998  
999  
1000  
1001  
1002  
1003  
1004  
1005  
1006  
1007  
1008  
1009  
1010  
1011  
1012  
1013  
1014  
1015  
1016  
1017  
1018  
1019  
1020  
1021  
1022  
1023  
1024  
1025  
1026  
1027  
1028

2. Working in conjunction with the applicable Search Committee regarding the job description and supporting information regarding the position, including salary and benefits for such minister.
3. Working in conjunction with the Finance Committee regarding salary and benefit packages for the ministerial staff.
4. Reporting any action taken regarding ministerial staff to the deacons at their next scheduled meeting.
5. Reviewing the pastor’s annual performance appraisals of the ministerial staff.
6. Will work with the pastor on discipline issues. If the situation warrants termination, will confirm by a majority vote of the committee and agreement with the chair of the deacons.

The committee is responsible for adopting and approving an Employee Handbook containing appropriate and prudent policies and procedures affecting the Church staff.

Information regarding compensation, disciplinary issues, and termination are considered confidential and should not be discussed outside the Personnel Committee members.

**Section 14: Property Acquisition Committee**

This Committee shall be assigned to the pastor or his ministerial designee.

The property acquisition committee is created with the mission of guiding the long-term property needs of the Church. In doing so, this committee will seek to remain abreast of opportunities to purchase properties that are contiguous or in close proximity to the current campuses that might benefit the Church in expanding its holdings for future ministry needs. In addition, the group will work with the staff and other committees in the Church to determine if the ministry outreach of the Church may require investments in other property apart from the main campus. This committee will also make recommendations on the disposition or use of any property owned or donated to the Church.

1029 The property acquisition committee shall be composed of the following members:  
1030 deacon chair, Finance Committee chair, a Church member at large (preferably with  
1031 a real estate background), and one staff member as appointed by the pastor. Any  
1032 prospective acquisitions shall be reviewed and researched by Church legal counsel.  
1033

1034 The property acquisition committee will meet on an as needed basis, but at least on  
1035 a semi-annual basis and report to the Church on any purchase recommendations as  
1036 they arise.  
1037

1038

### 1039 **Section 15: Safety and Security Committee**

1040

1041 This committee shall be assigned to the pastor or his ministerial designee.  
1042

1043 This committee shall be nominated by the Committee on Committees.  
1044

1045 This committee shall be responsible for implementation and oversight of safety and  
1046 security procedures for people attending all programs (educational and worship  
1047 services, day school, and other activities) held in or on the grounds of the Church.  
1048 It shall be their responsibility to create and maintain a current safety and security  
1049 policy and procedure Manual.  
1050

1051 1. The Committee on Committees will give preference to individuals  
1052 in related fields (such as law enforcement, military, EMT, Legal,  
1053 insurance etc).  
1054

1055 2. This committee will be responsible to recruit and maintain an  
1056 appropriate number of individuals for the courtesy team for each  
1057 campus.  
1058

1059 3. The policy and procedure manual will be subject to approval of the  
1060 Safety and Security Committee, the pastor and/or his designee, and  
1061 the chair of the deacons.  
1062

1063 4. The policy and procedure manual will be reviewed by the Church's  
1064 legal team to ensure it is not in conflict with the Church's insurance  
1065 policy.  
1066

1067 5. Members of the courtesy team will be approved by the Safety and  
1068 Security Committee, the pastor (and/or his designee), and the chair  
1069 of the deacons.  
1070

1071

1072 **Section 16: Search Committee(s)**

1073

1074

1075

1076

1077

1078

In the event of a vacancy in the office of pastor (whether interim or permanent) or other ministerial staff members (permanent) and the Church desires to fill such position, a Search Committee shall be nominated by the Committee on Committees consisting of six (6) active members.

1079

1080

1081

1082

1083

The pastor Search Committee shall be both nominated and elected by the Church membership. Search committees for other ministerial staff shall be nominated by the Committee on Committees and elected by the Church membership. The composition of such *ad hoc* committee shall be as follows:

1084

1085

1086

1087

1088

1089

1090

1091

1092

1093

1094

1095

1096

1097

1. One (1) male member under forty (40) years of age;
2. One (1) female member under forty (40) years of age;
3. One (1) male member between the ages of forty (40) and sixty (60);
4. One (1) female member between the ages of forty (40) and sixty (60);
5. One (1) male member over the age over sixty (60); and
6. One (1) female member over the age over sixty (60).

1098

1099

1100

1101

1102

Such *ad hoc* Search Committees shall work in conjunction with the pastor, ministerial staff, Finance Committee and Personnel Committee and deacons in the interview stages prior to making any recommendations to the Church.

1103

1104

1105

**Section 17: Other Ad Hoc Committees**

1106

1107

1108

1109

1110

The deacons can form other *ad hoc* committees from time to time to address issues or concerns relating to Church governance and operation. Such other *ad hoc* committees shall report directly to the deacons.

1111

1112

**Section 18: Teams**

1113

1114

The pastor, ministerial staff or committees may form team(s) from time to time in order to address particular issues or concerns related to Church needs. Teams will

1115 be approved by the Committee on Committees and shall report to the pastor or his  
1116 designee.

1117  
1118  
1119

## 1120 **ARTICLE V**

1121  
1122  
1123

### **CHURCH PROGRAM ORGANIZATIONS**

#### 1124 **Section 1: General Overview**

1125

1126 The Church shall maintain programs of Bible teaching (Sunday school),  
1127 discipleship development and training, Church leader training, new member  
1128 orientation; mission education, action and support; and Church music education,  
1129 training and performance at each campus. All organizations related to the Church  
1130 programs shall be under Church control, all officers being selected by the Church  
1131 and report regularly to the Church, and all program activities subject to Church  
1132 coordination and approval. The Church shall provide the human, physical and  
1133 financial resources for the appropriate advancement of these programs, to-wit:

1134

#### 1135 **Section 2: Sunday School**

1136

1137 The basic responsibility of Sunday school is Bible teaching and biblical revelation  
1138 in a way that will reach people for Christ, increase Church membership, and aid in  
1139 the interpretation of information pertaining to the Church and denomination.

1140

1141 The Sunday school shall be divided into departments and/or classes depending upon  
1142 its size to meet the needs of all ages and shall be under the direction of a campus  
1143 Sunday school director nominated by the nominating committee and elected  
1144 annually by the Church.

1145

#### 1146 **Section 3: Discipleship Development and Training**

1147

1148 The Church shall maintain programs of discipleship development and training at  
1149 each campus to train Church members to perform the functions of the Church; train  
1150 Church leaders; orient new Church members; teach Christian theology, ethics,  
1151 history, and Church polity and organization; and provide and interpret information  
1152 regarding the work of the Church and denomination.

1153

#### 1154 **Section 4: Women's Missionary Union**

1155

1156 The Women's Missionary Union ("WMU") shall be the mission education, mission  
1157 action, and mission support organization of the Church. Its tasks shall be to teach  
1158 missions; engage in mission action; support world missions through prayer and

1159 stewardship; and provide and interpret information regarding the work of the  
1160 Church and denomination. The WMU shall have such other officers and  
1161 organizations as the program requires.  
1162  
1163

1164 **Section 5: Church Music Ministry**  
1165

1166 Church music, under the direction of the minister of music, shall be the music  
1167 education, training, and music in worship organization of the Church. Its tasks shall  
1168 be to teach music, train persons to lead, sing, and play music; provide music in  
1169 worship in the Church and community; and provide and interpret information  
1170 regarding the work of the Church and denomination. The Church music ministry  
1171 shall have such ministers, officers and organization as the program requires.  
1172  
1173

1174 **ARTICLE VI**

1175 **CHURCH ORDINANCES**  
1176  
1177

1178 **Section 1: Baptism**  
1179

1180 The Church may receive for baptism all persons who have received Jesus Christ as  
1181 their Savior by personal faith, who profess Him publicly at any worship service,  
1182 and who indicate a commitment to follow Christ as Lord. Baptism shall be by  
1183 immersion in water. The pastor, or his designee, shall administer baptism. The  
1184 baptism team shall assist in the preparation for and the observance of baptism.  
1185 baptism shall be administered as an act of worship during any worship service of  
1186 the Church. Persons approved by the Church for baptism are not added to the  
1187 Church membership until baptized.  
1188

1189 **Section 2. Lord's Supper**  
1190

1191 The Church shall observe the Lord's Supper at least once each quarter. The pastor  
1192 (or his designee) and deacons shall administer the Lord's Supper. The lord's supper  
1193 team is responsible for the preparations at each campus.  
1194  
1195

1196 **ARTICLE VII**

1197 **CHURCH MEETINGS**  
1198  
1199

1200 **Section 1: Worship Services**  
1201

1202 The Church campuses shall meet regularly each Sunday morning and Wednesday  
1203 evening for the worship of Almighty God. Prayer, praise, preaching, instruction  
1204 and evangelism shall be among the ingredients of these services. The pastor or his  
1205 designee shall direct the services for all Church members and for all others who  
1206 may choose to attend.

1207

1208 **Section 2: Special Services**

1209

1210 Revival services and any other Church meetings for the advancement of the  
1211 Church's mission shall be held as recommended by the pastor and approved by the  
1212 Church.

1213

1214

1215 **Section 3: Regular Business Meetings**

1216

1217 The Church shall hold quarterly business meetings and notification of scheduled  
1218 meetings shall be made through email and announced at two (2) worship services  
1219 and included in regular print or digital communication in the same time period.

1220

1221 Any business of the Church may be conducted by the membership at a regularly  
1222 scheduled meeting of the membership without prior notice or announcement,  
1223 except for items stipulated in Section 4.

1224

1225

1226 **Section 4: Called Business Meetings**

1227

1228 The Church may conduct called business meetings to consider matters of special  
1229 nature and significance. The notice of a called business meeting shall be made by  
1230 the deacons and shall give notice of the subject, the date, the time, and the place of  
1231 the meeting; and it must be given by announcement in the Sunday worship service  
1232 and the one week prior to the meeting. No business other than that for which the  
1233 meeting was called may be transacted.

1234

1235 **Section 5: Special Business Meetings**

1236

1237 A special business meeting may be called by the deacons or by a written petition  
1238 signed by not less than one-fourth of the Church members on active membership  
1239 roll, or as otherwise provided specifically in these Bylaws.

1240

1241 The following Church actions require a specially called business meeting:

1242

1243 1. Purchase or sale of Church owned immovable property;

1244

- 1245  
1246  
1247  
1248  
1249  
1250  
1251  
1252  
1253  
1254  
1255  
1256  
1257  
1258  
1259  
1260  
1261  
1262  
1263  
1264  
1265  
1266
2. Authorization for architectural or other professional designs, plans and specifications involving the renovation or construction of Church buildings.
  3. Erection or construction of Church buildings;
  4. Borrowing money where Church real estate or other asset(s) is/are encumbered or secured by a mortgage or other security interest;
  5. Amendment of the Church Articles of Incorporation or Bylaws;
  6. Calling, hiring, and employing a Pastor;
  7. Discharging or terminating a Pastor;
  8. Altering the number of members of the deacons or prescribing their qualifications; or
  9. Withdrawal, expulsion or dismissal of a Church member.

1267  
1268  
1269  
1270  
1271  
1272  
1273  
1274  
1275  
1276  
1277

Any action contemplated in paragraphs (1) through (9) above must be considered only at a regular Sunday service, or a regular Wednesday evening service of the Church following (1) an announcement from the pulpit of the Church at a regular Church service on Sunday or Wednesday within ten (10) days prior to the meeting at which such action shall be considered and authorized; and (2) notice of the time, place and purpose of the meeting having been published in two consecutive weekly worship guides. Additional notification shall be made by electronic notification. No business other than that for which the meeting was called may be transacted.

1278 **Section 6: Quorum**

1279  
1280  
1281  
1282

The quorum consists of those members in attendance at any regular or special business meeting.

1283 **Section 7: Parliamentary Procedure**

1284  
1285  
1286  
1287  
1288

The most recently revised version of *Robert's Rules of Order* is the authority for parliamentary rules of procedure for all business meetings of the Church.



1289 **ARTICLE VIII**

1290 **CHURCH FINANCES**

1291

1292

1293 **Section 1: Budget**

1294

1295 The Finance Committee, in consultation with the deacons, shall prepare and submit

1296 to the Church for approval an inclusive budget, indicating by items the amount

1297 needed and sought for all expenses.

1298

1299 It is understood that membership in this Church involves financial obligation to

1300 support the Church and its mission with regular, proportionate gifts. Consistent

1301 with the Finance Committee's obligations pursuant to Article IV, Section 9, such

1302 committee shall provide, promote, and emphasize financial support through tithes

1303 and offerings from the Church members.

1304

1305 **Section 2: Accounting Procedures**

1306

1307 All funds received for any and all purposes shall pass through the hands of the

1308 financial secretary and be properly recorded on the books of the Church.

1309

1310 A system of accounting that will adequately provide for the handling of all funds

1311 shall be the responsibility of the Finance Committee.

1312

1313 The deacons shall be authorized to select and designate such depository or

1314 depositories for the funds and securities of the Church as they shall deem proper,

1315 upon recommendation of the Finance Committee. All checks, notes, and contracts

1316 of the Church, and all orders for deposit or withdrawal of securities from the

1317 designated depository or depositories shall be signed by the Church treasurer or

1318 such other persons as are authorized by the Church.

1319

1320 **Section 3: Fiscal Year**

1321

1322 The Church fiscal year shall be on a calendar year basis (January 1<sup>st</sup> - December

1323 31<sup>st</sup>).

1324

1325

1326 **ARTICLE IX**

1327 **AMENDMENTS**

1328

1329

1330 Pursuant to Article VII, Section 5, changes in the Bylaws may be made only at a

1331 special business meeting, provided each amendment shall have been presented in

1332 writing at a previous business meeting and copies of the proposed amendment shall

1333 have been furnished to each member present at the earlier meeting or upon request.  
1334 Amendments to the Bylaws shall be adopted by two-thirds (2/3) vote of Church  
1335 members present.  
1336

1337  
1338 **ARTICLE X**

1339  
1340 **OPERATION AND DISSOLUTION**

1341  
1342 This Church is organized and operated primarily for the purpose of engaging the  
1343 religious worship or promoting the spiritual development or well-being of  
1344 individuals. It is to be operated in a way that does not result in accrual of  
1345 distributable profits, realization of private gain resulting from payment of  
1346 compensation in excess of a reasonable allowance for salary or other compensation  
1347 for services rendered, or realization of any other form of private gain.  
1348

1349 The Church pledges its assets for use in performing the organization's religious  
1350 functions. It directs that on discontinuance of the Church by dissolution or  
1351 otherwise the assets are to be transferred to a charitable, educational, religious, or  
1352 other similar organization that is qualified as a charitable organization under  
1353 Section 501(c)(3), Internal Revenue Code of 1986, as amended.  
1354

1355  
1356  
1357 **ARTICLE XI**

1358  
1359 **MISCELLANEOUS**

1360  
1361 **Section 1 - Governing Law.**

1362 These Bylaws shall be governed by and construed in accordance with the laws of  
1363 the United States of America and the State of Louisiana, in general, and the  
1364 Louisiana Non-Profit Corporations Act in specific.  
1365

1366 **Section 2 - Table of Contents and Headings; Exhibits and Schedules.**

1367 The table of contents and section headings of these Bylaws are for reference  
1368 purposes only and are to be given no effect in the construction or interpretation of  
1369 these Bylaws.  
1370

1371 **Section 3- Severability.**

1372 If any part or provision of these Bylaws shall be declared invalid or unenforceable  
1373 under the applicable law by a court of competent jurisdiction, said provision or part  
1374 shall be ineffective to the extent of such invalidity or unenforceability only, without  
1375 in any way affecting the remaining parts or provisions of these Bylaws.  
1376

1377  
1378  
1379  
1380  
1381  
1382  
1383  
1384  
1385  
1386  
1387  
1388  
1389  
1390  
1391  
1392  
1393  
1394  
1395  
1396  
1397  
1398  
1399  
1400

**Section 4 – Ratification.**

Except as specifically modified by this Amendment, all of the other terms and provisions of the previous Bylaws shall remain in full force and effect, are hereby ratified and confirmed. Notwithstanding the foregoing, in the event there is any conflict between the terms and provisions of the previous Bylaws and this amendment, the terms and provisions of this amendment shall control.

Approved and Adopted:

\_\_\_\_\_  
Secretary, Deacons

Attest:

\_\_\_\_\_  
Chairman, Deacons