

THE
CONSTITUTION FOR
WESTVIEW BAPTIST
CHURCH
KINGSTON SPRINGS, TN.

CONSTITUTION

ARTICLE I

The following 25 page instrument is the Constitution of the Westview Baptist Church of Kingston Springs, Tennessee, and is effective on the date indicated on the last page, having been passed by two thirds of the members present after three successive readings in a regular or called business meeting of the Church Membership. Any and all previous constitutions, by-laws, rules or regulations are null and void after the date indicated on the passage of this instrument. This Constitution is in full accord with the Church Charter issued by the State of Tennessee on May nineteenth 1971 and recorded in Book I, Page 303, of the Cheatham County Registrar's office.

ARTICLE II

PROPERTY

All property of said Church is to be held for the use and benefit of those of the membership, even though they be a minority, who adhere to, maintain and propagate the doctrines, faith and practices of missionary minded Baptist churches cooperating with the local Baptist Association, Tennessee Baptist Convention and Southern Baptist Convention. A refusal of the membership, though they be a majority, to adhere to, maintain, and propagate the faith and practices of missionary minded Baptists and to cooperate with the local Baptist Association, Tennessee Baptist Convention and Southern Baptist Convention, shall constitute such a deviation from the accepted usage's, practices, customs and beliefs of missionary

mind ed Baptists, that said majority shall no longer constitute the true congregation of said Church, and the title to the property of the Church shall vest in, and be held for the use and benefit of the minority of the membership, who do adhere to and maintain the doctrines, faith and practices of missionary minded Baptists, and who cooperate with the local Baptist Association, Tennessee Baptist Convention and Southern Baptist Convention.

The above statement of affiliation presupposes the church's expectation that the local Baptist Association, the Tennessee Baptist Convention, and the Southern Baptist Convention shall adhere to the faith and practices of missionary minded Baptists as set forth in the following articles of faith. If at any time this body feels that this faith and practice is not observed, it reserves the right to change the above statement of affiliation; but any change must be made in complete compliance with Article X of this constitution and must have a hearing in at least three regular business meetings in no less than 70 days.

The foregoing shall be considered a part of any and all instruments transferring title to property to said church whether the same be set out in said deeds or not.

ARTICLE III

ARTICLES OF FAITH

1. Of the Scriptures

We believe that the Holy Bible was written by men divinely inspired, and is a perfect treasure of heavenly instruction; that it has God for its author, salvation for its end, and truth without any mixture of error for its matter; that it reveals the

principles by which God will judge us; and therefore, is, and shall remain to the end of the world, the true center of Christian union, and the supreme standard by which all human conduct, creeds and opinions shall be tried.

2. Of the True God

We believe that there is one, and only one living and true God, an infinite, intelligent Spirit, whose name is Jehovah, the Maker and Supreme Ruler of heaven and earth; inexpressibly glorious in holiness, and worthy of all possible honor, confidence and love; that in the unity of the Godhead there are three persons, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Ghost; equal in every divine perfection, and executing distinct but harmonious offices in the great work of redemption.

We believe that Jesus Christ was begotten of the Holy Spirit and born of the Virgin Mary; that He died for our sins and was raised for our justification; that He is the true God and true Man, and is the only and sufficient mediator between God and man, through whom every soul may have direct access to God.

We believe in the personality of the Holy Spirit and that His ministry is to reveal Christ to men in the regeneration and sanctification of their souls, and in the understanding and application of Christian truth.

3. Of the Fall of Man

We believe that man was created in holiness, under the law of his Maker; but by voluntary transgression fell from the holy and happy state; in consequence of which all mankind are now sinners; not by constraint, but by choice; being by nature

utterly void of that holiness required by the Law of God, positively inclined to evil; and therefore under just condemnation to eternal ruin, without defense or excuse.

4. Of the Way of Salvation

We believe that the salvation of sinners is wholly of grace; through the mediatorial offices of the Son of God; who by the appointment of the Father, freely took upon him our nature, yet without sin; honored the divine law by his personal obedience, and by His death made a full atonement for our sins; that having risen from the dead, He is now enthroned in Heaven; and uniting in His wonderful person the tender sympathies with divine perfections, He is every way qualified to be a suitable a compassionate, and an all-sufficient Savior.

5. Justification

We believe that the great gospel blessing which Christ secures to such as believe in Him is justification; that justification included the pardon of sin, and the promise of eternal life on principles of righteousness; that it is bestowed, not in consideration of any works of righteousness which we have done, but solely through faith in the Redeemer's blood; by virtue of which faith his perfect righteousness is freely imputed to us of God; that it brings us into a state of most blessed peace and favor with God, and secures every other blessing needful for time and eternity.

6. Of the Freeness of Salvation

We believe that the blessings of salvation are made free to all by the gospel; that it is the immediate duty of all to accept them by a cordial, penitent and obedient faith, and that nothing prevents the salvation of the greatest sinner on earth, but his

own inherent depravity and voluntary rejection of the gospel, which rejection involves him in an aggravated condemnation.

7. Of Grace in Regeneration

We believe that in order to be saved, sinners must be regenerated, or born again; that regeneration consists in giving a holy disposition to the mind; that it is affected in a manner above our comprehension by the power of the Holy Spirit, in connection with divine truth, so as to secure our voluntary obedience to the gospel; and that its proper evidence appears in the holy fruits of repentance, and faith, and newness of life.

8. Of Repentance and Faith

We believe that repentance and faith are sacred duties, and also inseparable graces, wrought in our souls by the regenerating Spirit of God; whereby being deeply convinced of our guilt, danger and helplessness, and of the way of salvation by Christ, we turn to God with unfeigned contrition, confession and supplication for mercy; at the same time heartily receiving the Lord Jesus Christ as our Prophet, Priest and King, and relying upon Him alone as the Only and all-sufficient Savior.

9. Of God's Purpose and Grace

We believe that election is the eternal purpose of God, according to which He graciously regenerates, sanctifies, and saves sinners; that being perfectly consistent with the free agency of man, it comprehends all the means in connection with the end; that it is a most glorious display of God's sovereign goodness, being infinitely free, wise, holy and unchangeable; that it utterly excludes boasting and promotes

humility, love, prayer, praise, trust in God, and active initiation of His free mercy; that it encourages the use of means in the highest degree; that it may be ascertained by its effect in all who truly believe the gospel; that it is the foundation of Christian assurance; and to ascertain it with regard to ourselves demands the utmost diligence.

10. Of Sanctification

We believe that sanctification is the process by which, according to the will of God, we are made partakers of His holiness; that it is a progressive work; that it is begun in regeneration; and that it is carried on in the hearts of believers by the presence and power of the Holy Spirit, the Sealer and Comforter, in the continual use of the appointed means-especially the Word of God, self examination, self denial, watchfulness, prayer, unselfish service and giving.

We believe that God, the Creator and owner of all things and persons, has entrusted to the Christian his life, time, talents, influence, money, goods and all things whatsoever he possesses; that as steward of these possessions he is to administer them under the will of God for the purposes of Jesus Christ; that in definite expression of this stewardship he is to contribute systematically and proportionately of his means to the support of his church and of the missionary and benevolent enterprises of Christ's Kingdom.

11. Of the Perseverance of Saints

We believe that such only are real believers as endure unto the end; that their persevering attachment to Christ is the grand mark which distinguishes them from

superficial professors; that a special providence watches over their welfare, and that they are kept by the power of God through faith unto salvation.

12. Of the Harmony of the Law and the Gospel

We believe that the Law of God is the eternal and unchangeable rule of moral government; that it is holy, just and good; and that the inability which the Scriptures ascribe to fallen men to fulfill its precepts, arise entirely from their love of sin; to deliver them from which, and to restore them through a Mediator to unfeigned obedience to the holy law, is one great end of the gospel, and of means of grace connected with the establishment of the visible church.

13. Of a Gospel Church

We believe that a church of Christ is a congregation of baptized believers, associated by covenant in the faith and fellowship of the gospel, observing the ordinances of Christ; governed by His laws; and exercising the gifts, rights and privileges invested in them by His Word, that its only Scriptural officers are pastors, (sometimes called Bishops and Elders), and Deacons, whose qualifications are defined in the Epistles of Timothy and Titus, together with such other leaders, teachers and workers as the church may select and as are needful in carrying out the true functions of a gospel church.

We believe that every church is independent and self - governing, but that it is under moral obligation to associate itself with other churches of like faith and order in approved common enterprises and seek the promotion of Christ's Kingdom, particularly such as missions, Christian education and benevolences.

14. Of Baptism and the Lord's Supper

We believe that Christian baptism is the immersion in water of a believer, in the name of the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit; to show forth in a solemn and beautiful emblem, our faith in the crucified, buried and risen Savior, with its effect, in our death to sin and resurrection to a new life; that it is a prerequisite to the privileges of a church relation; and to the Lord's Supper, in which the members of the church by the sacred use of bread and wine are to commemorate together the sacrificial love of Christ, preceded always by solemn self-examination.

15. Of the Christian Sabbath

We believe that the first day of the week is the Lord's Day, or Christian Sabbath; and is to be kept sacred to religious purposes, by abstaining from all secular labor and sinful recreation, by the devout observance of all the means of Grace both private and public; and by preparation for that rest that remaineth for the people of God.

16. Of Civil Government

We believe that civil government is of divine appointment, for the interest and good order of human society; and that magistrates are to be prayed for, conscientiously honored and obeyed, except only in things opposed to the will of our Lord Jesus Christ, who is the only Lord of the conscience and the Prince of the Kings on the earth. We believe in separation of Church and State.

17. Of the Righteous and the Wicked

We believe that there is a radical and essential difference between the righteous and the wicked; that such only as through faith are justified in the name

of the Lord Jesus, and sanctified by the Spirit of our God, are truly righteous in His esteem; while all such as continue in impenitence and unbelief are in His sight wicked, and under the curse; and this distinction holds among people both in and after death.

18. Of the World to Come

We believe that the end of the world is approaching; that in the last day Christ will descend from Heaven and raise the dead from the grave to final retribution; that a solemn separation will then take place; that the wicked will be adjudged to endless punishment, and the righteous to endless joy; and that the judgment will fix forever the final state of people in Heaven or Hell, on principles of righteousness.

ARTICLE IV

CHURCH COVENANT

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

We engage, therefore, by the aid of the Holy Spirit, to walk together in Christian love; to strive for the advancement of this church, in knowledge, holiness and comfort; to promote its prosperity and spirituality; to sustain its worship, ordinances, discipline and doctrines; to contribute cheerfully and regularly to the

support of the ministry, the expenses of the church, the relief of the poor, and the spread of the Gospel through all nations.

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

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

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

ARTICLE V

MEMBERSHIP

Section 1. Receiving Members. After due examination the Church shall receive members as follows:

- (1.) By Statement of Faith in Jesus Christ and believers baptism.

(2.) By Letter of Commendation from other Baptist churches of like faith.

(3.) By Statement of Christian experience and previous baptism by the New Testament mode of immersion at the hands of a Baptist Church of like faith and order whose teachings concerning the New Testament ordinance of baptism corresponds with the statement found in Article III, Section 14 of this Constitution.

Section 2. Termination. The Church shall dismiss members as follows:

(1.) By letter of recommendation. Only members in good standing shall be entitled to a letter of dismissal. Members shall be considered in good standing until charges are brought and sustained by the Church. Upon their request, letters shall be granted to churches with which this church is in fellowship, and not to individuals. It shall be the duty of all members, moving to another community to request letters as soon as practicable.

(2.) By notification that they have united with a Church of another faith.

(3.) The Church may terminate membership of persons who become an offense to the church and to its good name by reason of immoral or unchristian conduct, or by persistent breaks of their covenant vows, or non-support of the church, but only after due notice and hearing, and after faithful efforts have been made to bring such members to repentance and amendment.

(Matthew 18:15-17)

Section 3. Church Roll. The church shall have an active and inactive membership roll. Members shall be inactive if they have failed to attend any church service for 12 months unless in military service or physically handicapped.

ARTICLE VI

MEETINGS

Organization and Meetings

Section 1. For worship and work of the Church meetings and organization shall be as follows:

(1) For worship, preaching, instruction and evangelism regular meetings for the entire body and for all people each Lord's Day morning and evening and each Wednesday evening; those meetings to be particularly under the direction of the pastor.

(2) A Sunday School to be conducted each Lord's Day morning for all people; to be under the direction of a Superintendent, who shall be a regular officer of the church.

(3) The members and recent converts shall be organized into the Baptist Training Union for training, experience and growth; with meetings on each Lord's Day evening, before or after the evening service, and supervised by a Director, who shall be a regular officer of the church.

(4) The regular morning and evening periods for worship each Lord's Day above provided for shall not be dispensed with nor said periods be used by any person or organization for any other purpose than the regular and customary service for worship, unless permission has been obtained by a majority vote at a regular

service prior thereto, or by the sanction of majority of Deacons.

Section 2. The Lord's Supper shall be duly observed on the first Lord's Day of each quarter unless otherwise ordered by vote of the church.

Section 3. The first Wednesday evening after the first Sunday in each month shall be the regular time for business meetings of the Church. The majority vote shall prevail in all matters of business except in calling or releasing a Pastor, Music Director or Educational Director, receiving or excluding members, at which time a 3/4 vote will be required.

Section 4. A called meeting of the Church for any specified purpose may be held at any time provided such meeting has been properly announced to the congregation at least one Sunday prior to that meeting. Extreme precaution is to be taken to avoid any business meeting on Sunday. Special called meetings can be called by the moderator, or the Chairman of the Deacons, after he and at least 3 deacons have agreed upon such a meeting.

Section 5. The annual meeting of the Church shall be held on the Wednesday Evening following the last Sunday in September.

Section 6. The revivals, study courses, and organizational meetings may be scheduled by action of the Church in business session.

ARTICLE VII

OFFICERS

Section 1. Pastor.

(1) Whenever a vacancy occurs, the Church shall elect a Pulpit Committee, consisting of five (5) or more persons at a business meeting regularly called,

held and assembled, and said Committee shall seek out a suitable pastor, and their recommendation shall constitute a nomination. The Committee shall bring to the consideration of the Church only one (1) person at a time.

(2) After the Pulpit Committee has agreed on a nomination and before a meeting of the Church is held for the purpose of considering the nominee, the Committee shall contact the prospective pastor for the purpose of reaching tentative terms of agreement. This agreement shall be in writing and shall be read at the time the nomination is placed before the church. This agreement shall stipulate the amount of salary, vacation, sick leave, number of revival meetings to be held annually in other churches, arrangements and agreements for those who supply the pulpit in the absence of the pastor, and any other duties and obligations of the contracting parties.

(3) An affirmative vote of three-fourths (3/4) of those present and voting, shall be necessary to approve the calling of a pastor. An announcement shall be made to the congregation at least one Sunday prior to the business meeting of the intended purpose for the meeting to consider calling a pastor.

(4) It shall be the pastor's duty to conduct the worship services of the church, preside at all meetings of the Church, except where a Moderator or other person is elected to serve, visit regularly the membership of the church and particularly the sick and distressed; visit prospective members to extend to them an invitation to join the Church; to cooperate fully with the Deacons, Trustees, Finance Committee, Sunday School Superintendent, Baptist Training Union Director and all other church officers and committees.

The pastor shall be ex-officio member of all committee and organizations of the Church, and his counsel and leadership is to be recognized in all of them, but he shall not be entitled to vote.

(5) When the pastor expects to be absent from the pulpit he shall notify the Deacons, and if necessary, assist in securing a suitable pulpit supply. In the event of absence of the pastor by reason of serious illness or other emergencies, or in event of a vacancy in the office of pastor, the Deacons shall secure a pulpit supply.

Section 2. Deacons. (1) Number. There shall be one (1) active Deacon for at least every fifteen (15) active church families and preferably one (1) active Deacon for every ten (10) active church families. It shall be pertinent for the church to promote to honorary membership any Deacon who by reason of age or infirmities shall, after honorable service, be no longer able to render active service. Any such honorary member will not effect the number of active Deacons.

(2) Term of Office and Election. The term of office shall be three years. As near as possible, one third of the total Deacon Body shall be elected each year. They will be elected during the last month of each church year, and begin serving the first month of the following church year. Each Deacon shall be eligible for re-election after he has been in-active for at least one year. A list of eligible men shall be

compiled by the Nominating Committee as outlined in Section 5, Part 2. They will present this list to the Chairman of the Deacons at least forty-five (45) days before the end of the church year. The Chairman of the Deacons will appoint a Deacons Committee to contact all prospective Deacons who will be questioned as to their qualifications and their willingness to serve. Any name may be removed from this list by three fourths (3/4) vote of the existing Deacon Board.

The screened prospective Deacon nominees will be presented to the Church and a secret ballot will be taken when the church is in business session. Ordination services will be as soon as practical after election.

(3) Duties. In accordance with the meaning of the word and the practice of the New Testament, Deacons are to be servants of the church.

(a) They must be zealous to guard the unity of the Spirit within the Church in the bonds of peace.

(b) They are to serve as a council of advice and conference with the pastor in all matters pertaining to the spiritual and material welfare and work of the church.

(c) They are to maintain personal oversight of all the membership of the Church. They are to seek to know the physical needs and the moral and spiritual struggles of the brethren and sisters; and to serve the whole Church in relieving, encouraging and developing all who are in any such needs.

(d) The Deacons shall at their first meeting of the church year elect a Chairman and Vice-Chairman and a Clerk, and appoint such committees of its own number as are necessary.

(e) In counsel with the pastor they are to have oversight of the discipline of the Church. They are to be guided by principles set forth in Matthew 18:15-17; I Corinthians 5:9-13; I Thessalonians 5:12-14.

(f) Each Deacon shall freely confer with the pastor about all matters and cases of discipline which in his judgment would be most wisely and spiritually handled in private.

(g) Generally, the function of the Deacons shall be twofold: First, to consider all matters pertaining to the welfare of the Church, its individual members, and make recommendations to the Church; Second, to execute instructions given them by the Church.

(h) Any Deacon who has reached the age of sixty-five (65) and who has served five (5) or more years as a Deacon in this Church, who requests retirement from the active group, may, upon recommendation of the Deacons and approval of the Church, receive the designation of Deacon emeritus in recognition of loyal service; or any Deacon who has served five (5) or more years and becomes incapacitated by reason of ill health or other causes, may upon recommendation of the Deacons and approval of the Church, receive the same title. The members holding such title shall have the right to actively participate in all ordination services; upon assignment may serve during the observance of the Lord's Supper, and shall have all other privileges of a Deacon, except that of voting in the deliberations of the Deacons.

Section 3. Church Clerk. The Clerk shall keep a faithful record of all business transacted by the Church. He (or she) shall receive all reports and place them on file, keep an up-to-date alphabetical list of members with necessary

information concerning them, attend to all correspondence with other churches concerning request for membership letters, issue letters of dismissal, and consider it a part of his responsibility to promote loyalty and efficiency in Church life.

Section 4. Church Treasurer. The Church shall elect annually one (1) Treasurer and one (1) Assistant. It shall be their duty to receive all money received in the usual collections and to deposit same in a local bank designated by the Church. Payment of all local bills shall be made promptly, and by check only, except for small incidentals which can be paid out of a petty-cash fund. All funds received for denominational or other causes shall be remitted at least monthly. Funds collected for specific purposes must go as designated, unless the Church authorizes otherwise.

All the books, records and accounts kept by the Treasurer shall be considered property of the Church. The books shall be open to inspection at all times, by any member of the Church.

It shall be the duty of the Treasurer to render to the Church at each regular monthly business meeting a report of receipts and disbursements for the preceding month. At the close of each fiscal year, the Treasurer shall render to the Church an annual report showing the total amount of receipts and an itemized statement of all disbursements. Prior to the rendition of this annual report, upon its completion by the Treasurer, the report shall be audited by the Trustees, or their designees, and the signature of the Trustees placed at the end of the report before it shall be accepted by the Church. It shall also be the duty of the Treasurer, upon the personal request of individual members, to keep an accurate record of their financial contributions to the Church.

The Treasurer shall consider it a part of his duty to promote in every proper way scriptural giving on the part of the entire church membership.

Section 5. Officers of Church Organizations. All organizations of the Church shall be under Church control, all officers being approved by the Church and reporting regularly to the Church. It is understood that the pastor is ex-officio head of all the organizations named, and his leadership is to be recognized in them all.

(1) Organizational Officers. At least three months before the close of the church year, a committee of three (3) or more shall be elected by the Church. Thus elected they shall, along with the Sunday School Director, Training Union Director, W.M.U. Director and the Brotherhood Director, constitute the Nominating Committee.

(2) General Officers. The organizational officers named above shall combine with the Chairman of the Deacons and the Pastor to compose a committee to nominate the other officers, Deacons and teachers needed to carry out the functions of the Church. This committee shall remain active until replaced as outlined above. After these seven (7) or more are elected by the Church, they shall serve as the permanent Nominating Committee until replaced as stated in the above item.

Section 6. Trustees. The Board of Trustees shall be composed of five (5) persons, two of whom should be elected during the last calendar month of each year for a three-year term beginning the first of the following year.

The Trustees shall have supervision of the actual care, regular repair and beautification of the church property, but shall have no power to buy, sell, mortgage, lease or transfer any property without vote of the church authorizing such action.

The Trustees shall also serve as a personnel committee whose responsibilities will be described in Article VIII. Any person desiring use of any of the church property for special or unusual occasions shall secure permission from the Trustees.

Section 7. Moderator. (Normally the Pastor). It shall be the duty of the Moderator to preside at all business meetings, keep order, state and explain all motions, and by his vote decide questions upon which there is a tie vote. In his absence, The Chairman of Deacons shall serve as Moderator for the meeting.

The Moderator shall familiarize himself with the rules and procedure of parliamentary authority in the provisions of these by-laws, and in all matters of parliamentary law governing deliberation of the assembly, the rules of the procedure set forth in Robert's Rules of Order, Revised, shall govern.

Section 8. The Church may elect or appoint such other officers as may be necessary to effectively promote the work of the Church.

ARTICLE VIII COMMITTEES

The Church may elect or have appointed, any committee it deems necessary at any time. The following standing committees shall be maintained continuously and elected annually with other officers:

Section 1. The Church Council. The Church Council shall be composed of the Pastor, Clerk, Treasurer, Minister of Education, Minister of Music, Chairman of the Deacons, Sunday School Superintendent, Training Union Director, W.M.C. President, Brotherhood President, Recreational Director, and Chairman of Trustees.

This committee shall seek to correlate and co-ordinate the activities and organizations of the Church and bring whatever recommendations to the Church it feels will be for the accomplishment of this objective.

This committee shall be responsible for the preparation of a calendar of activities for the Church which will be effective only after approval of the Church in business session.

Section 2. Nominating Committee. Membership and responsibility of this committee is set forth in Section 5 (1) and (2) of Article VII.

Section 3. Budget and Finance Committee. Shall be elected annually by the Church and shall be composed of no less than three (3) members in addition to the Pastor, Treasurer, Assistant Treasurer and Purchasing Agent.

This committee in consultation with the leadership of the Church shall prepare and submit to the Church for approval at a monthly business meeting (or at such other time as may be deemed best by the Church) an inclusive budget,

indicating by items the amount needed and sought for all local expenses and purposes and in like manner for all denominational or other approved non-local causes.

Once the Church has adopted a budget it shall then become the duty of this committee to promote this budget and enlist the membership of the Church in the support of the budget.

Any request for additional funds beyond those approved within the budget must be referred to this committee for consideration and a resultant recommendation to the Church for action. This committee and the Trustees can be the same persons.

Section 4. Personnel Committee. It shall be a part of the responsibilities of the elected Trustees of the Church to serve as the Personnel Committee. This committee shall be responsible for the employment and release of the regularly paid workers of the Church except for the Pastor, Minister of Music, who will be under the direct jurisdiction of the Church.

The supervision of all staff members and personnel employed by the Church shall be considered a part of the authority and the responsibility of the Pastor while they are under the employ of the Church.

However, it will be the responsibility of this committee to consult with the Pastor about the functioning of the personnel of the Church and refer any complaint to him made by the membership to the committee.

Any complaint any member of the congregation has relative to an employee of the Church should be referred to this committee rather than to the employee or to the Church in business session.

Section 5. Recreation Committee. The Church may elect a recreation committee annually, composed of at least three (3) members in addition to the Recreation Director. It shall be the responsibility of this committee to work with the Recreation Director in:

- (1) Determining what recreational activities the Church will sponsor with determined efforts to provide a program for all ages of the Church.
- (2) Enforcing league requirements for players who participate in competitive sports.
- (3) Properly distributing the funds budgeted by the Church for recreation so that all ages will receive proportionate benefits.

ARTICLE IX

CHURCH FINANCE POLICY

Section 1. The Finance Committee, in consultation with the leadership of the Church, shall prepare and submit to the Church for approval at a monthly business meeting (or at such other time as may be deemed best by the Church) an inclusive budget, indicating by items the amount needed and sought for all local expenses and purposes, and in like manner for all denominational or other approved non-local causes.

Section 2. Tellers, duly elected by the Church, shall receive the Sunday School offering from the Superintendent, the Worship Service offerings from the ushers, and any other offerings from whoever might have received such.

The Tellers shall count such offerings with at least two present, prepare a report to the Treasurer of these receipts and prepare the deposit ticket prior to turning it over to the Treasurer. Tellers shall be elected only after growth of congregation reaches 300 active members or more.

Section 3. A Purchasing Agent shall be elected by the Church annually. It shall be his duty and responsibility to make all properly requisitioned purchases for the Church. He is authorized to approve all purchase requisitions set forth in the adopted budget so long as it does not jeopardize the cash position of the Church at the time. Purchasing Agent shall be elected only when Church congregation reaches 300 active members or more.

Section 4. Special Offerings may be taken once each year for Foreign Missions, Tennessee Baptist Children's Home, Home Missions, and State Missions. Any other special offerings must be approved by the Deacon Body.

ARTICLE X

AMENDMENTS

Amendments or addition to this constitution will be valid only after the following has been followed:

(1) Motion for amendment or addition to the constitution has been stated before the Church in a business session and presented to the Clerk in writing.

(2) This motion for amendment or addition has been restated in a second business session no less than twenty (20) or more than forty (40) days following the session of the first statement of the motion.

(3) The vote on the motion may then be called for in a third business session no less than fifty (50) or more than seventy (70) days following the original motion. For passage the motion must carry a two-thirds vote of all members present and voting.

We certify this constitution was read and accepted by the Church Membership as outlined above on this date.

Date 1st Reading

Church Clerk

Trustee

Date 2nd Reading

Church Moderator

Trustee

Date 3rd Reading
and Accepted

Chairman of Trustees

Trustee