

CALVARY BAPTIST CHURCH

BY-LAWS

STATEMENT OF FAITH

CHURCH COVENANT

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PREAMBLE

We, the members of Calvary Baptist Church of Sun Prairie, Inc., hereby adopt the following Constitution, which is based on Biblical principles. This Constitution is neither a substitute for nor a supplement to the Word of God. It is simply a systematic statement of what we believe concerning the Word of God and an application of those beliefs to the practical matters of this local Church. It is a guide to aid in the application of Biblical principles to Church polity. The Word of God shall be the first and final authority on all Church matters, and any issue whereon this Constitution is silent shall be governed by the clear statement of the Word of God.

ARTICLE I NAME

Section 1 – Name.

The name of this Church shall be Calvary Baptist Church, legally known as Calvary Baptist Church of Sun Prairie, Inc.

ARTICLE II PURPOSE

Section 1 – Purpose.

This congregation is organized as a church exclusively for charitable, religious, and educational purposes within the meaning of Section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 (or the corresponding provision of any future United States Revenue Law), including, but not limited to, the evangelization of the unsaved by the proclamation of the Gospel of the Lord Jesus Christ, the educating of believers in a manner consistent with the requirements of Holy Scripture, the administration of the church ordinances of baptism and the Lord's Supper, the establishment, practice and maintaining of religious worship, the maintaining of missionary activities in the United States and any foreign country, and the building of such buildings and facilities as would be necessary to carry out these purposes.

ARTICLE III AUTONOMY

Section 1 – Independent.

Calvary Baptist Church is an independent, fundamental, self-supporting, self-governing, self-propagating, Bible-believing and Bible teaching Baptist Church that holds unashamedly and uncompromisingly to the whole counsel of God (Acts 20:27), and is responsible solely to Jesus Christ, who is the head of the Church (Ephesians 5:23).

Section 2 – Separatist.

Holding strongly to ecclesiastical separation (II Corinthians 6:14-18), our affiliation shall be only with such organizations and associations which manifest, both by statement and practice, their commitment to fundamental, Biblical Christianity. Calvary Baptist Church will not enter into cooperation with any ecumenical or charismatic group.

ARTICLE IV ARTICLES OF FAITH

Section 1 – Of The Scriptures.

We believe that the Holy Bible was written by men supernaturally inspired; that it has truth without any admixture of error for its matter; and therefore is, and shall remain to the end of the age, the only complete and final revelation of the will of God to man; the true center of Christian union and the supreme standard by which all human conduct, creeds, and opinions should be tried.

By “The Holy Bible” we mean that collection of sixty-six books, from Genesis to Revelation, which, as originally written does not only contain and convey the Word of God, but IS the very Word of God.

By “inspiration” we mean that the books of the Bible were written by holy men of old, as they were moved by the Holy Spirit, in such a definite way that their writings were supernaturally and verbally inspired and free from error, as no other writings have ever been or ever will be inspired.

Psalms 19:7-11; 119:89,105,130,160; Proverbs 30:5-6; Isaiah 8:20; Luke 16:31; 24:25-27,44-45; John 5:39,45-47; 12:48; 17:17; Acts 1:16; 28:25; Romans 3:4; 15:4; Ephesians 6:17; 2 Timothy 3:16-17; 1 Peter 1:23; 2 Peter 1:19-21; Revelation 22:19

Section 2 – Of The True God.

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

Genesis 17:1; Exodus 20:2-3; 15:11; Psalm 83:18; 90:2; 147:5; Jeremiah 10:10; Matthew 28:19; Mark 12:30; John 4:24; 10:30; 15:26; 17:5; Romans 11:23; 1 Corinthians 2:10-11; 8:6; 12:4-6; 2 Corinthians 13:14; Ephesians 2:18; 4:6; Philippians 2:5-6; 1 Timothy 1:17; 1 John 5:7; Revelation 4:11

Section 3 – Of The Holy Spirit.

We believe that the Holy Spirit is a divine person; equal with God the Father and God the Son and of the same nature; that He was active in the creation; that in His relation to the unbelieving world He restrains the evil one until God’s purpose is fulfilled; that He convicts of sin, of judgment and of righteousness; that He bears witness to the Truth of the Gospel in preaching and testimony; that He is the agent in the New Birth; that He seals, endues, guides, teaches, witnesses, sanctifies and helps the believer.

Genesis 1:1-3; Matthew 3:11; 28:19; Mark 1:8; Luke 1:35; 3:16; 24:49; John 1:33; 3:5-6; 14:16-17, 26; 15:26-27; 16:8-11, 13; Acts 5:30-32; 11:16; Romans 8:14, 16, 26-27; Ephesians 1:13-14; 2 Thessalonians 2:7, 13; Hebrews 9:14; 1 Peter 1:2

Section 4 – Of The Devil, Or Satan.

We believe that Satan was once holy, and enjoyed heavenly honors; but through pride and ambition to be as the Almighty, fell and drew after him a host of angels; that he is now the malignant prince of the power of the air, and the unholy god of this world. We hold him to be man’s great tempter, the enemy of God and His Christ, the accuser of the saints, the author of all false religions, the chief power back of the present apostasy; the lord of the antichrist, and the author of all the powers of darkness – destined however to final defeat at the hands of God’s own Son, and to the judgment of an eternal justice in hell, a place prepared for him and his angels.

Isaiah 14:12-15; Ezekiel 28:14-17; Matthew 4:1-3; 13:39; 25:41; Mark 13:21-22; Luke 22:3-4; John 14:30; Ephesians 2:2; 2 Corinthians 11:13-15; 1 Thessalonians 3:5; 2 Thessalonians 2:8-11; 1 Peter 5:8; 2 Peter 2:4; 1 John 2:22; 3:8; 4:3; 2 John 7; Jude 6; Revelation 12:7-10; 13:13-14; 19:11, 16, 20; 20:1-3,10

Section 5 – Of The Creation.

We believe in the Genesis account of creation and that it is to be accepted literally, and not allegorically or figuratively; that man was created directly in God's own image and after His own likeness; that man's creation was not a matter of evolution or evolutionary change of species, or development through interminable periods of time from lower to higher forms; that all animal and vegetable life was made directly and God's established law was that they should bring forth only "after their kind."

We believe that children are a heritage from the Lord, and that human life begins at conception and ends in death; that all life should be protected; that the unborn child is a living human being; and that abortion, infanticide, and euthanasia constitute unjustified and unexcused taking of human life.

We believe God created mankind into genders distinctly male and female; that the only legitimate marriage is between a man and a woman; that God has commanded that no intimate sexual activity be engaged in outside of marriage; that any form of homosexuality, lesbianism, bisexuality, bestiality, incest, fornication, adultery and pornography is a sinful perversion of God's gift of sex.

Genesis 1:1, 11, 24, 26-27; 2:21-24; Exodus 20:11; 21:22-23; Nehemiah 9:6; Psalm 127:3; 139:14-16; Isaiah 44:24; 49:1, 5; Jeremiah 1:5; 10:12; Luke 1:44; John 1:3; Acts 4:24; 17:23-26; Romans 1:20-28; Galatians 5:19-21; Colossians 1:16-17; Hebrews 11:3; Revelation 10:6

Section 6 – Of The Fall Of Man.

We believe that man was created in innocence under the law of his Maker, but by voluntary transgression fell from his sinless and happy state, in consequence of which all mankind are now sinners, not by constraint, but of choice; and therefore under just condemnation without defense or excuse.

Genesis 3:1-6, 24; Ezekiel 18:19-20; Romans 1:18, 20, 28, 32; 3:10-19; 5:12, 19; Galatians 3:22; Ephesians 2:1, 3

Section 7 – Of The Virgin Birth.

We believe that Jesus Christ was begotten of the Holy Spirit in a miraculous manner; born of Mary, a virgin, as no other man was ever born or can ever be born of woman, and that He is both the Son of God, and God, the Son.

Genesis 3:15; Psalm 2:7; Isaiah 7:14; Matthews 1:18-25; Mark 1:1; Luke 1:35; John 1:14; Galatians 4:4; 1 Corinthians 15:47; 1 John 5:20

Section 8 – Of The Atonement For Sin.

We believe that the salvation of sinners is wholly of grace; through the mediatorial offices of the Son of God, Who by appointment of the Father, freely took upon Himself our nature, yet without sin, honored the divine law by His personal obedience, and by His death made a full and vicarious atonement for our sins; that His atonement consisted not in setting us an example by His death as a martyr, but was the voluntary substitution of Himself in the sinner's place, the Just dying for the unjust, Christ, the Lord, bearing our sins in His own body on the tree; that, having risen from the dead, He is now enthroned in heaven and uniting in His wonderful person the tenderest sympathies with divine perfection, He is in every way qualified to be a suitable, a compassionate and an all

sufficient Savior.

Isaiah 53:4-7, 11-12; Matthew 18:11; John 3:16; 10:18; Acts 15:11; Romans 3:24-25; 1 Corinthians 15:3, 20; 2 Corinthians 5:21; Galatians 1:4; Ephesians 2:8; Philippians 2:7-8; Hebrews 2:14; 7:25; 9:12-15; 12:2; 1 Peter 2:24; 3:18; 1 John 2:2; 4:10

Section 9 – Of The Grace In The New Creation.

We believe that in order to be saved, sinners must be born again; that the new birth is a new creation in Christ Jesus; that it is instantaneous and not a process; that in the new birth the one dead in trespasses and in sins is made a partaker of the divine nature and receives eternal life, the free gift of God; that the new creation is brought about in a manner above our comprehension, not by culture, not by character, nor by the will of man, but wholly and solely by the power of the Holy Spirit in connection with divine truth, so as to secure our voluntary obedience to the Gospel; that its proper evidence appears in the holy fruits of repentance and faith and newness of life.

Luke 5:27; John 1:12-13; 3:3, 6-7; Acts 2:41; Romans 6:23; 2 Corinthians 5:17, 19; Galatians 5:22; Ephesians 2:1; 5:9; Colossians 2:13; 2 Peter 1:4; 1 John 5:1

Section 10 – Of The Freeness Of Salvation.

We believe in God's electing grace; 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 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.

Isaiah 55:1, 6-7; Matthew 11:28; John 3:15-16, 18, 36; 5:40; 6:37; Acts 2:38; Romans 8:29-30; 10:13; 1 Corinthians 15:10; Ephesians 2:4-5; Colossians 3:12; 1 Thessalonians 1:4; 1 Timothy 1:15; Titus 1:1; 1 Peter 1:2; Revelation 22:17

Section 11 – Of Justification.

We believe that the great gospel blessing which Christ secures to such as believe in Him is Justification; that justification includes the pardon of sin, the gift of eternal life on principles of righteousness, and adoption by which we become heirs of God and joint-heirs with Jesus Christ; that justification is bestowed not in consideration of any works of righteousness which we have done; but solely through faith in the Redeemer's blood, His righteousness is imputed unto us.

Isaiah 53:11; Habakkuk 2:4; Zechariah 13:1; Acts 13:39; Romans 1:17; 4:1-8; 5:1, 9; 8:1, 17; Galatians 3:11; Titus 3:5-7; Hebrews 10:38

Section 12 – Of Repentance And Faith.

We believe that Repentance and Faith are solemn obligations, and also inseparable graces, wrought in our souls by the quickening Spirit of God; thereby, being deeply convicted 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 and openly confessing Him as our only and all-sufficient Savior.

Psalm 51:1-4, 7; Isaiah 55:6-7; Mark 1:15; Luke 12:8; 18:13; Acts 2:37-38; 20:21; Romans 10:9-11, 13

Section 13 – Of The Church.

We believe that a Baptist church is a congregation of baptized believers associated by a covenant of faith and fellowship of the Gospel, said church being understood to be the citadel and propagator of the divine and eternal grace; observing the ordinances of Christ; governed by His laws; exercising the gifts, rights, and privileges invested in them by His Word; that its officers of ordination are pastors or elders whose qualifications, claims, and duties are clearly defined in the scriptures.

We believe that men and women are spiritually equal in position before God but that God has ordained distinct and separate spiritual functions of men and women in the home and in the church. The husband is to be the leader of the home and men are to hold the leadership positions (pastors and deacons) in the church. Accordingly, only men are eligible of licensure and ordination for pastor by the church.

We believe the true mission of the church is found in the Great Commission: first, to make individual disciples; second, to build up the church; third, to teach and instruct as He has commanded. We do not believe in the reversal of this order. We hold that the local church has the absolute right of self government, free from the interference of any hierarchy of individuals or organizations; and that the one and only superintendent is Christ through the Holy Spirit; that it is scriptural for true churches to cooperate with each other in contending for the faith and for the furtherance of the Gospel; that every church is the sole and only judge of the measure and method of its cooperation; on all matters of membership, of policy, of government, of discipline, of benevolence, the will of the local church is final.

Matthew 28:19-20; Acts 2:41-42; 6:5-6; 14:23; 15:22-23; 20:17-28; Romans 3:22; 1 Corinthians 5:11-13; 6:1-3; 11:2; 12:4, 8-11; 16:1-3; 2 Corinthians 8:23-24; Ephesians 1:22-23; 4:11; 5:23-24, 33; Colossians 1:18; 1 Timothy 2:9-14; 3:1-13; Hebrews 13:7; 1 Peter 5:1-4; Jude 3-4

Section 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, of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit, with the authority of the local church, 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 the fruit of the vine are to commemorate together the dying love of Christ; preceded always by solemn self-examination.

Matthew 3:6; 3:16; 28:19-20; John 3:23; Acts 2:41-42; 8:36-39; Romans 6:3-5; 1 Corinthians 11:23-28; Colossians 2:12

Section 15 – Of The Perseverance Of The 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 eternal salvation.

Psalms 121:3; Matthew 13:19-21; John 8:31-32; 10:28-29; 16:8; Romans 8:28, 35-39; Philippians 1:6; Colossians 1:21-23; Hebrews 1:14; 1 Peter 1:5; 1 John 2:19

Section 16 – 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 men both in and after death, in the everlasting felicity of the saved and the everlasting conscious suffering of the lost.

Genesis 18:23; Proverbs 11:31; 14:32; Malachi 3:18; Matthew 7:13-14; 25:34, 41; Luke 9:26; 16:25; John 8:21; 12:25; Acts 10:34-35; Romans 1:17; 6:16-18, 23; 7:6; 1 Corinthians 15:22; Galatians 3:10; 1 Peter 4:18; 1 John 2:29; 5:19

Section 17 – Of Civil Government.

We believe that civil government is of Divine appointment, for the interests and good order of human society; 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 coming Prince of the kings of the earth.

Exodus 18:21-22; 2 Samuel 23:3; Psalm 72:11; Daniel 3:17-18; Matthew 10:28; 22:21; 23:10; Acts 4:19-20; 23:5; Romans 13:7; Philippians 2:10-11; Titus 3:1; 1 Peter 2:13-14, 17

Section 18 – Of The Resurrection And Return Of Christ And Related Events.

We believe in and accept the sacred Scriptures upon these subjects at their face and full value. Of the Resurrection, we believe that Christ rose bodily “the third day according to the Scriptures”; that He ascended “to the right hand of the throne of God”; that He alone is our “merciful and faithful high priest in things pertaining to God”; “that this same Jesus which is taken up from you into heaven shall so come in like manner as ye have seen Him go into heaven,” bodily, personally, and visibly; that the “dead in Christ shall rise first”; that the living saints “shall all be changed in a moment, in the twinkling of an eye, at the last trump” “that the Lord God shall give unto Him the throne of His father David”; and that “Christ shall reign a thousand years in righteousness until He hath put all enemies under His feet.”

We, therefore, believe in the personal, visible, Pre-Tribulation Rapture of the Church and the Pre-Millennial Return of Christ to the earth to reign in power and glory for one thousand years.

Psalm 72:8; Isaiah 11:4-5; 32:1; Zechariah 14:4-9; Matthew 24:27, 42; Matthew 28:6-7; Mark 16:6, 19; Luke 1:32; Luke 24:2-7, 39, 51; John 14:3; John 20:27; Acts 1:9, 11; 1 Corinthians 15:4, 25, 42-44, 51-53; Philippians 4:20-21; 1 Thessalonians 4:13-17; 1 Timothy 2:5; Hebrews 2:17; 5:9-10; 8:1, 6; 9:28; 12:2; 1 John 2:5; Revelation 3:21; 19:11-20; 20:1-4, 6

Section 19 – Of Missions.

We believe the command to give the gospel to the world is clear and unmistakable and that this Commission was given to the churches; and that the true mission of the church is not a program of mere social reform, but rather a program of proclaiming the Gospel to every creature, of baptizing them in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Ghost, and of organizing them into a local church where they can be taught to observe all things that Christ has commanded.

Matthew 28:18-20; Mark 16:15; John 20:21; Acts 1:8; Romans 10:13-15

Section 20 – Of The Grace Of Giving.

We believe that giving is one of the fundamentals of the faith; that we are commanded to bring our tithes and offerings to the common treasury of the church upon the first day of the week; that as good stewards we recognize God’s ownership over all; that the first essential is the giving of one’s self to the Lord; that the area of God’s ownership includes our time, talents and treasures; that though stewardship is not restricted to just giving of money, our giving ought not to be by coercion, compulsion, nor manipulation, but willingly, cheerfully and sacrificially.

Leviticus 27:30; Malachi 3:10; Psalm 31:15; Matthew 23:23; 25:14-30; Acts 4:34-35; 1 Corinthians 12:27; 16:2; 2 Corinthians 8:3, 5, 7, 11-12, 19; 9:6-8

We understand that the above articles do not by any means exhaust the content of our creed which is the whole Word of God, but we do believe that in so far as these Articles extend they are a true presentation of the sound doctrine taught in the Scriptures.

ARTICLE V

CHURCH COVENANT

Having been led 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 Ghost, we do now in the presence of God, angels, and this assembly, most solemnly and joyfully enter into covenant with one another, as one body in Christ.

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 elevate its priority by faithful attendance at its public gatherings; to promote its prosperity and spirituality; to sustain its worship, ordinances, discipline, and doctrines; to contribute cheerfully and regularly to its local and missionary program.

We also engage to maintain family and private devotions; to seek the salvation of our loved ones 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 intoxicants and controlling substances, and to be zealous to advance the cause of the Lord Jesus Christ.

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, and, mindful of our Savior, to secure it without delay.

And we moreover engage that when we remove from this place we will, as soon as possible, unite with some other Church of like precious faith, where we can continue to carry out the spirit of this covenant and the principles of God's Word.

ARTICLE VI MEMBERSHIP

Section 1 – Right Hand Of Fellowship.

By a majority vote of those members present at any regular Church service, a person may be received into membership by a "Right Hand of Fellowship."

Section 2 – Reception Of Full Members.

Sub-Section (A) – By Baptism.

Any person who confesses faith in the Lord Jesus Christ as their Lord and Savior, gives satisfactory evidence of a change of heart, and indicates acceptance of the views of the faith and practice by this Church, may be received into membership following scriptural baptism by immersion.

Sub-Section (B) – By Letter.

Any person to whom the ordinance of scriptural baptism by immersion has been administered to, and upon a satisfactory interview by the Pastor and/or Deacons* as to their acceptance of the faith and practice of this Church, may be received into membership by letter from another Church of like faith and practice, showing such person to have been in good standing in said

Church at that time. (*The phrase “Pastor and/or Deacons,” as used here and subsequently, permits the Deacons to act alone in the absence of the Pastor.)

Sub-Section (C) – By Statement Of Faith.

Any person to whom the ordinance of scriptural baptism by immersion has been administered to, currently without Church membership, upon a satisfactory statement of faith in Jesus Christ as Lord and Savior and interview by the Pastor and/or Deacons as to their acceptance of the faith and practice of this Church, may be received into membership.

Sub-Section (D) – By Restoration.

Any person who has forfeited their membership with this Church by discipline may be restored by a confession of error(s), giving satisfactory evidence of repentance to the Pastor and/or Deacons, and by expressing their desire to reunite with the Church fellowship.

Sub-Section (E) – By Reinstatement.

Any inactive member may be restored to full membership privileges by recommendation of the Pastor and/or Deacons to the church, after consultation with the Pastor and/or Deacons. (See Article VIII, Section 6)

Section 3 – Associate Members.

Any local college student, or other person temporarily residing in our community, may apply for associate membership. Associate members, while maintaining their full membership in a Home Church, must meet all other criteria of Article VI, Section 2. Associate members are ineligible to serve as a Church Officer or vote on business matters of the church. Associate membership must be renewed annually.

Section 4 – Privileges And Responsibilities Of Membership.

Sub-Section (A) – Functions Of Members.

Upon becoming a member of this Church, in addition to the Church Covenant, each member further covenants to love, honor, and esteem the Pastor, to pray for him, to recognize his authority in spiritual affairs of the Church; to cherish a brotherly love for all members of the Church; to support the Church in prayer, tithes, offerings and with other financial support as the Lord enables; and in accordance with Biblical commands, to support through a lifestyle that affirms the beliefs and practices of this Church.

Sub-Section (B) – Voting Rights.

Any member who has reached their 18th birthday shall be eligible to vote.

Sub-Section (C) – Inspection Of Records.

Any member may inspect or copy the prepared financial statements of the Church, the minutes of the proceedings of Church meetings, and/or the minutes of the proceedings of Deacons’ meetings, provided that a written request has been received by the Church no less than ten business days before the requested date.

Sub-Section (D) – Personal Records.

Except as would be necessary to create or maintain such records, no member shall be able to inspect or copy any record relating to individual contributions to the Church, nor the portion of any minutes of a meeting deemed confidential in nature by the Pastor and/or Chairman of the Deacons.

Section 5 – Discipline Of Members.

The procedure of discipline shall be in accordance with Matthew 18:15-17; Romans 16:17-18; I Corinthians 5:1-13; II Corinthians 2:1-11; Galatians 6:1; I Thessalonians 5:14; II Thessalonians 3:6, 10-15; I Timothy 5:19-20; and Titus 3:10-11.

Sub-Section (A) – Discipline Committee.

There shall be a Discipline Committee consisting of the Pastor and the Deacons. These men shall have sole authority in determining heretical deviations from the Statement of Faith and violations of the Church Covenant. Three members of the Discipline Committee shall constitute a quorum. If the Pastor or a Deacon is the subject of a disciplinary matter, he shall not sit as a member of the Discipline Committee. The Pastor and Deacons shall be entitled to the same procedures of discipline as other church members.

Sub-Section (B) – Private Confrontation.

When a member becomes aware of an offense of such magnitude that it hinders spiritual growth and testimony, he is to go alone, to the offending party and seek to restore such a member. When he goes, he should go with a spirit of humility and have the goal of restoration.

Sub-Section (C) – Before Other Witnesses.

If reconciliation is not reached by private confrontation, one or two members of the Discipline Committee are to accompany the one seeking to resolve the matter. This step should be preceded by self-examination and exercised in a spirit of humility with the goal of restoration.

Sub-Section (D) – Before The Discipline Committee.

If the matter is still not resolved, the Discipline Committee, as representatives of the Church, shall thoroughly investigate the matter. They shall notify the offending member in writing as to the specific charges against him and of a place and time for the examination of the charges so that a ready defense may be heard.

Sub-Section (E) – Before The Church.

If the matter is not resolved during the hearing before the Discipline Committee, the Committee shall report such conclusions and recommendations to the Church as they deem best.

Sub-Section (F) – Charges In Writing.

Charges against members shall not be brought before the Church except by the Discipline Committee after careful investigation, and no charge shall be investigated by the Discipline Committee unless said charges are in writing and signed by the accuser(s). No individual shall have the right to accuse any member at any public meeting of the Church.

Section 6 – Termination Of Membership.

Sub-Section (A) – Letter Of Transfer.

Any member in good standing may be granted a letter of transfer to another Church of like faith and practice.

Sub-Section (B) – Uniting With Another Church.

Any member who unites in membership with another Church, shall automatically be removed from the membership of this Church, except for associate members, where a member may be temporarily away for college, job assignment, or such like. (See Article VI, Section 2)

Sub-Section (C) – Withdrawal.

Any member may withdraw from membership by request of said member to the Pastor and/or Deacons.

Sub-Section (D) – Lapse Of Membership.

Unless providentially hindered, should a member not attend a regular worship service of the Church for a period of six months, the Pastor and/or Deacons, after attempting to make contact with said member, may recommend to the Church, at any regular meeting, that they be removed from membership or be placed on an Inactive List. (See Article VIII, Section 6).

Sub-Section (E) – By Discipline.

See Article VI, Section 5, Sub-Section E.

Sub-Section (F) – By Death.

Any member who has died shall be removed from membership immediately.

ARTICLE VII OFFICERS

Section 1 – Officers.

The officers of the Church shall be Pastor, Deacons, Financial Secretary, Church Treasurer, and Church Clerk. With the exception of the Pastor, by virtue of his calling, every officer shall be a member in good standing in the Church for a minimum of one year. The Church shall not install or retain any officer who fails to adhere to or expresses disagreement with the Articles of Faith. Any Church Officer choosing to resign may do so by submitting a letter of resignation to the Pastor and/or Chairman of the Deacons.

Section 2 – Pastor.

The highest office of the New Testament Baptist Church is that of the Pastor (I Peter 5:2-4). The Biblical synonyms for this office are Bishop, Overseer, and Elder.

Sub-Section (A) – Qualifications.

The Pastor shall fulfill the qualifications for his office in conformity to I Timothy 3:1-7.

Sub-Section (B) – Duties.

It shall be the duty of the Pastor to preach the Gospel as he would have opportunity, administer the ordinances of the Gospel, oversee the teaching ministries of the Church, oversee all the affairs of the Church, watch over the spiritual interests of the membership, and perform all such other duties incidental to his office.

Sub-Section (C) – Relationship To Committees.

The Pastor shall be an ex-officio member of all Boards and Committees of the Church and serve as Moderator at all Church Meetings for the transaction of Church Matters, except those meetings that pertain to him.

Section 3 – Deacons.

The term “Deacon” means “Servant.” (Acts 6:2-4)

Sub-Section (A) – Qualifications.

A man eligible to hold the office of Deacon shall be at least 21 years old and capable of spiritual leadership as set forth in I Timothy 3:8-13.

Sub-Section (B) – Term of Office.

Deacons shall be elected for a term of three years. Deacons may be elected for terms of one or two years so that, as nearly as possible, one-third of the Deacons shall rotate off each year. Deacons may be elected to the office for two consecutive terms, but then only after an expiration of one year.

Sub-Section (C) – Duties.

The Deacons shall assist the Pastor with the ordinances of the Lord’s Supper and Baptism, visit the sick, encourage the downtrodden, witness to the lost, attend to the necessities of the poor, give care to the facilities of the Church, along with the Pastor act as the Discipline Committee, serve as an Advisory Committee to the Pastor in planning the work of the Church, and with the Pastor make such recommendations to the Church as they deem wise.

Sub-Section (D) – Number of Deacons.

One Deacon shall be elected for every twenty members of the Church, or fraction thereof, up to one hundred members; thereafter, one for each fifty members, or fraction thereof.

Sub-Section (E) – Deacon Officers.

The Deacons shall annually elect, from among their number, a Chairman of Deacons who shall also serve as the first Vice-Moderator of the Church, moderating in the absence of the Pastor, or in any meeting pertaining to the Pastor, a Vice-Chairman of Deacons, who shall assume role of Chairman in his absence, and a Clerk who shall keep accurate minutes of all meetings of the Deacons.

Sub-Section (F) – Vacancies.

If the Church lacks a sufficient number of qualified men to fill the necessary offices of

Deacon, the office shall be declared vacant.

Sub-Section (G) – Quorum.

A quorum for the transaction of business at a meeting of the Deacons shall consist of one-half of the Deacons.

Section 4 – Financial Secretary.

A member eligible to hold the office of Financial Secretary shall have attained the age of 21 years, manifest spirituality in life and conduct, indicate an ability to fulfill the requirements of the office and be in full fellowship with the Church.

Sub-Section (A) – Term Of Office.

The Financial Secretary shall be elected for a term of one year without limitations of repeating the office.

Sub-Section (B) – Duties.

The Financial Secretary shall be responsible for the reception of all monies received through the Church; the counting of such monies by at least two approved individuals and the depositing of them in the name of the Church to the proper accounts; and shall supervise the distribution of offerings envelopes, the accurate recording of all contributions, and the distribution of year end giving records.

Section 5 – Church Treasurer.

A member eligible to hold the office of Church Treasurer shall have attained the age of 21 years, manifest spirituality in life and conduct, indicate an ability to fulfill the requirements of the office and be in full fellowship with the Church.

Sub-Section (A) – Term Of Office.

The Church Treasurer shall be elected for a term of one year without limitations of repeating the office.

Sub-Section (B) – Duties.

The Church Treasurer shall be responsible for and supervise the bookkeeping and bill paying operations of the Church; shall submit a monthly financial report to the Pastor and Deacons for their review; and shall prepare a general financial report for presentation at the annual and semi-annual business meetings.

Section 6 – Church Clerk.

A member eligible to hold the office of Church Clerk shall have attained the age of 21 years, manifest spirituality in life and conduct, indicate an ability to fulfill the requirements of the office and be in full fellowship with the Church.

Sub-Section (A) – Term Of Office.

The Church Clerk shall be elected for a term of one year without limitations of repeating the

office.

Sub-Section (B) – Duties.

The Church Clerk shall be responsible for keeping all legal records of transacted congregational business as well as supervising the keeping of spiritual records at the altar during public worship services. This would include keeping the weekly records of such spiritual decisions, the keeping of Church membership records, and the transaction of business with other Churches.

Section 7 – Commencement of Offices.

The term of office for each officer elected shall begin immediately following said election.

Section 8 – Vacancies.

Should an elected office become vacant, the Pastor and/or Deacons may appoint an individual to fill such vacancy until the next annual business meeting.

Section 9 – Corporate Officers.

As an accommodation to the legal relationships outside the Church, the Pastor shall serve as President of the corporation, the Chairman of the Deacons shall serve as Vice-President of the corporation, the remaining Deacons shall serve as Trustees of the corporation, the Church Treasurer shall serve as Treasurer of the corporation, and the Church Clerk shall serve as Secretary of the corporation.

Section 10 – Corporate Responsibilities.

The Pastor and the Deacons shall be authorized by the Church to buy or sell real estate, to procure loans whenever necessary for the purchase and financing of property, the erection of buildings, additions, or major improvements. They shall be empowered to make, execute and deliver notes of the corporation evidencing such indebtedness, and to secure the payment thereof by executing on the behalf of the corporation mortgages, or deeds of trust, on any property, real or personal, owned by Calvary Baptist Church, or pledge the same as collateral security for any such loans. They shall execute in behalf of the corporation extension agreements with reference thereto or renewals thereof, and all other instruments affecting the use of the property of the Church. (See Article VIII, Section 8)

**ARTICLE VIII
MEETINGS**

Section 1 – Fiscal Year.

The fiscal year of the Church shall begin the first day of January of each year and end on the last day of December of the same year.

Section 2 – Annual Business Meeting.

The Church shall hold an annual business meeting on or before the fourth Sunday of January each year for the election of officers, the presentation of reports, and to transact other such business

that should properly come before the Church. Notice of the annual meeting shall be given from the pulpit at not less than two regular Sunday morning services, of which at least one announcement must be made no less than one week preceding such meeting.

Section 3 – Semi-Annual Business Meeting.

The Church shall hold a semi-annual business meeting on or before the fourth Sunday of July for the presentation of reports and to transact other such business that should properly come before the Church. Notice of such business meeting shall be given from the pulpit at not less than two regular Sunday morning services, of which at least one announcement must be made no less than one week preceding such meeting.

Section 4 – Special Business Meetings.

Special business meetings may be called by the Pastor and/or Chairman of the Deacons. Notice of such a meeting, and the nature of the meeting, shall be given from the pulpit at not less than two regular Sunday morning services, of which at least one announcement must be made no less than one week preceding such meeting.

Section 5 – Quorum.

A quorum at any business meeting shall consist of those Church members present.

Section 6 – Inactive Members.

Inactive members forfeit all rights to participate in the business matters of the church, including holding office and voting, until such a time as said member is reinstated to full membership by action of the Pastor and/or Deacons. (See Article VI, Section 2, Sub-Section E)

Section 7 – Absentee Ballots.

For those providentially hindered, absentee ballots may be allowed in any matter previously declared, including, but not limited to, the calling of a pastor or the purchase, sale or mortgage of real property.

Section 8 – Matters.

All business matters, the conduct of which has not been duly delegated or assigned, shall be brought before the Church. A majority vote shall decide all matters, unless otherwise directed by these articles, except the purchase, sale, or mortgage of Church real property, which shall require a three-fourths majority vote.

Section 9 – Procedures.

The Moderator shall determine the rules of procedure according to his sense of fairness and common sense, giving all members a reasonable opportunity to be heard on a matter. The Moderator is the final authority on questions of procedure.

Section 10 – Pastoral Knowledge.

No meeting of a committee of the Church shall be called without the knowledge of the Pastor. No business or committee meeting shall be held in his absence without his consent, except for such

a meeting called by the Chairman of the Deacons as would pertain unto the Pastor. (See Article VII, Section 3, Sub-Section E)

Section 11 – License and Ordination.

Any male member of this Church who gives evidence of a genuine call of God into the work of the ministry and possesses the qualifications stated in I Timothy 3:1-7 and Titus 1:6-9 may be licensed or ordained as a minister of the Gospel. (See Article IV, Section 13)

**ARTICLE IX
COMMITTEES**

Section 1 – Pulpit Committee

Should the Church be without a Pastor, a Pulpit Committee shall be formed consisting of the Deacons and of up to three members appointed by the Church. The Chairman of the Deacons shall act as Chairman of the Pulpit Committee. The Committee shall secure pastoral candidates and provide pulpit supply during the time the Church is without a Pastor. The Pulpit Committee shall be dissolved from their duties when the new Pastor assumes his role.

Sub-Section (A) – Calling A Pastor.

Should the office of Pastor become vacant, all recommendations for potential pastoral candidates shall be made in writing to the Pulpit Committee. Being led by the Holy Spirit, the Pulpit Committee shall thoroughly investigate and prayerfully consider the qualifications and attainments of all potential candidates and make a report to the Church at least once a month.

When appropriate, the Pulpit Committee shall recommend the name of one candidate at a time for approval of the Church at a special meeting called for that purpose. Before the name of a candidate is presented to the Church for a vote, the Pulpit Committee must meet with the candidate, secure his permission to be presented as a candidate, and receive a signed statement by the proposed candidate signifying his unreserved acceptance of the Church’s Articles of Faith (Article IV) and Church Covenant (Article V).

A three-fourths majority of the voting members present shall be required to call a Pastor. The call shall be extended by the Church through the Pulpit Committee. Should the candidate fail to receive the three-fourths majority vote, or refuse the call, the Pulpit Committee shall seek out another acceptable candidate.

Sub-Section (B) – Deacons Responsibilities.

Upon accepting a call by the Pulpit Committee, the Deacons shall enter into an agreement, approved by the Church, with the new Pastor, which shall include moving expenses, salary package, benefits, vacation, and other allowances incumbent upon the office of Pastor. There shall be, at a minimum, an annual review of the Pastor’s total compensation package.

Sub-Section (C) – Pastoral Relationship.

The Pastor shall be elected for an indefinite term of office. In case either the Pastor or the Church shall desire to dissolve the pastoral relationship, thirty days notice shall be given in writing by either party so desiring. This period of time may be extended or shortened to meet

the needs of the Pastor or the Church by mutual agreement.

Should the Pastor be voted out of office by a majority vote, he shall be dismissed immediately from his pulpit, pastoral and administrative duties with one month of his full compensation package. Should the Pastor die while in office, his wife and/or dependent children shall continue to receive an equivalent of at least two full months of his compensation package.

Section 2 – Nominating Committee.

The Nominating Committee shall consist of the Pastor, those Deacons whose terms are not about to expire, and of up to three members appointed by the Church. Any member can recommend a candidate for Deacon, Financial Secretary, Church Treasurer, and Church Clerk for consideration. It shall be the Nominating Committee's responsibility to thoroughly investigate the proposed candidates as to their qualifications as set forth in Scripture, their ability to fulfill the duties of their respective offices, and their willingness to serve. No nominations will be taken from the floor during a business meeting. The Committee shall form with sufficient time in order to be able to prepare a slate of candidates for presentation to the Church at least one week prior to the annual business meeting.

Section 3 – General Committees.

Special committees may be formed with the approval of the Pastor and/or Deacons to accomplish a given task. All committee chairpersons shall be members of the Church. Each committee shall be dissolved when the stated purpose has been accomplished.

ARTICLE X STAFF MEMBERS

Section 1 – Staff.

As may be necessary and able, the Church may provide other salaried personnel to assist in this ministry. This may include, but should not be limited to, Associates, Minister of Music, Minister of Youth, Christian Education Director, Custodian, and Secretary.

Section 2 – Pastoral Staff.

Subject to the approval of the Church, the Pastor may hire additional Pastoral Staff personnel. A call by the Church shall be extended by the Pastor. Upon accepting the call, the Pastor shall enter into an agreement with the new staff member, approved by the Church, which may include moving expenses, salary package, benefits, vacation, and other allowances incumbent upon the office. There shall be, at a minimum, an annual review of the total compensation package.

Section 3 – Non-Pastoral Staff.

Non-Pastoral personnel who receive all or part of their financial support from the Church shall be approved by the Pastor and/or Deacons. In consultation with the Deacons, the Pastor shall enter into an agreement with the new staff member as to a salary package, benefits, vacation, and other allowances incumbent upon the office. There shall be, at a minimum, an annual review of the total compensation package.

Section 4 – Responsibilities.

All staff members shall be responsible to and under the direction of the Pastor. Should the Church be without a Pastor, these individuals shall be responsible to and under the direction of the Chairman of the Deacons.

Section 5 – Staff Relationship.

In case either a staff member or the Church shall desire to dissolve their staff relationship, thirty days notice shall be given in writing by either party so desiring to do so. This period of time may be extended or shortened to meet the needs of the individual or the Church by mutual agreement. Due to his office, the Pastor retains the right to dismiss a staff person, after consultation with the Deacons. Should any dismissal be the result of Church Discipline, the individual will be immediately relieved of all duties with no further compensation.

**ARTICLE XI
CORPORATE ASSETS**

Section 1 – Private Inurement.

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

Section 2 – Contributions.

All donations, gifts or contributions, regardless of their nature, financial or material, shall become the exclusive property of the Church and shall not be subject to reclamation or withdrawal by the donor(s) thereof. No fiduciary obligation shall be created by any designated contribution made to the Church other than to use the contribution for the general furtherance of any of the purposes stated in Article II. Contributors may suggest uses for their contributions, but all suggestions shall be deemed advisory rather than mandatory in nature. The administration and disbursements of all Church funds is subject to the exclusive control and discretion of the Pastor and/or Deacons.

Section 3 – Property Usage.

Giving primary consideration to the regular and normal ministries of the Church, the Pastor and/or Deacons may consider requests for the use of Church property and equipment, including appropriate reasonable compensation for such use. No smoking, use of alcoholic beverages or drugs, dancing, gambling, or any other irreverent behavior unbecoming a place dedicated to the worship of God will be permitted anywhere on the Church premises.

Section 4 – Dissolution.

Upon dissolution, the Trustees, after paying, or making provision for payment of all the liabilities of the Church, shall dispose of all the assets of the Church to one or more organizations formed and operated exclusively for religious purposes, and recognized by the Internal Revenue Service as an exempt organization under Section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 (or the

corresponding provision of any future United States Internal Revenue Law).

**ARTICLE XII
AMENDMENTS**

Section 1 – Amendments.

These by-laws may be amended, repealed, or altered in whole or in part by a two-thirds majority vote of the Church at any properly called business meeting.

Section 2 – Revoking.

These by-laws shall supersede all by-laws, rules or motions for the organization and government of the Church that are now standing upon the Church records.

Section 3 – Adoption.

These by-laws were adopted by a two-thirds majority vote of the members present at a duly called meeting of the Church, on January 27th, 2013, in which a quorum was present.

Laura Hartman (Signed)
Church Clerk

Kipp Hartman (Signed)
Deacon Chairman