

## V. BY-LAWS

SECTION 1. QUALIFICATION = THE MEMBERS OF THIS CHURCH SHALL BE COMPOSED OF SUCH PERSONS AS CONFESS JESUS CHRIST TO BE THEIR SAVIOUR AND LORD, AND WHO (1) AFTER EXAMINATION BY THE CHURCH AS TO THEIR CHRISTIAN EXPERIENCE, AND, IF COMING FROM OTHER BAPTIST CHURCHES AS TO THEIR LETTER OF RECOMMENDATION, OR SATISFACTORY SUBSTITUTES THERE OF, (2) HAVE BEEN ACCEPTED BY A VOTE OF THE CHURCH, AND HAVING BEEN BAPTIZED BY THE AUTHORITY OF A MISSIONARY BAPTIST CHURCH, (3) INTER INTO ITS COVENANT.

SECTION 2. DUTIES = MEMBERS ARE EXPECTED TO, FIRST OF ALL, BE FAITHFUL IN ALL THE DUTIES ESSENTIAL TO THE CHRISTIAN LIFE; TO ATTEND WITH FAITHFUL REGULARITY THE SERVICES OF THE CHURCH; TO GIVE REGULARLY FOR ITS SUPPORT AND CAUSES, AND TO SHARE IN ITS ORGANIZED WORK.

SECTION 3. RIGHTS = SUCH MEMBERS AS ARE IN FULL AND REGULAR STANDING MAY VOTE IN THE TRANSACTION OF THE CHURCH, WITH THE MAJORITY RULING; ONLY MALE MEMBERS CAN MAKE MOTIONS, SECOND THEM, AND TAKE PART IN THE DISCUSSION.

SECTION 4. TERMINATION = THE CONTINUANCE OF MEMBERSHIP SHALL BE SUBJECT TO THE PRINCIPLES AND USAGE OF SOUTHERN BAPTIST CHURCHES, AND ESPECIALLY AS FOLLOWS;

(1) UNDER NO CIRCUMSTANCES WILL THIS CHURCH GRANT LETTERS OF RECOMMENDATION TO INDIVIDUAL MEMBERS, EXCEPT IN CASES WHERE NEW CHURCHES ARE BEING ORGANIZED. LETTERS OF RECOMMENDATION WILL BE GRANTED UPON REQUEST FROM A CHURCH OF LIKE FAITH AND ORDER ONLY, AND AFTER MEMBER HAS PRESENTED THEMSELVES FOR MEMBERSHIP IN THE CHURCH MAKING SUCH REQUEST.

(2) IF ANY MEMBER OF THIS CHURCH IS NOT PROVIDENTLY HINDERED SHALL FAIL TO ATTEND THE WORSHIP SERVICES OF THE CHURCH FOR A PERIOD OF 3 MONTHS, SHALL BE DROPPED FROM THE CHURCH RECORDS.

(3) SHOULD A MEMBER OF THIS CHURCH BECOME AN OFFENCE TO THE CHURCH, OR ITS GOOD NAME BY REASON OF IMMORAL OR UNCHRISTIAN CONDUCT, OR BY PERSISTENT BREACH OF THEIR COVENANT VOWS. THE CHURCH MAY TERMINATE THEIR MEMBERSHIP, BUT ONLY AFTER THE ERRING MEMBER HAS BEEN GIVEN EVERY REASONABLE CHANCE TO REPENT OF THEIR WRONG OR DEFEND THEMSELVES IN AN OPEN HEARING IF THEY SO DESIRE. THEY ALSO MAY ASK FOR COUNCIL OF BRETHERN FROM SISTER CHURCHES OF LIKE FAITH AND ORDER TO HEAR THEIR CASE, BUT THEY CAN ONLY ACT IN AN ADVISORY CAPACITY ONLY, WITH THE CHURCH MAKING THE FINAL DECISION.

(4) ALL DISCIPLINARY ACTION SHALL BE CARRIED OUT WITHOUT MALICE AND BIBLE STEPS SHALL BE TAKEN.

SECTION 5. RESTORATION = ANY PERSON WHOSE MEMBERSHIP HAS BEEN TERMINATED BY EXCLUSION MAY BE RESTORED TO THE FELLOWSHIP OF THE CHURCH UPON EVIDENCE OF THEIR REPENTANCE AND REFORMATION, AND AFTER A MAJORITY VOTE OF THE CHURCH.

## ARTICLE 2. CHURCH OFFICERS

SECTION 1. OFFICERS OF THE CHURCH: THE ONLY ORDAINED OFFICERS OF THE CHURCH ARE NAMELY PASTORS AND DEACONS, ALTHOUGH THE CHURCH MAY ELECT ANY OTHER OFFICER THAT IT MAY DEEM NECESSARY TO CARRY OUT ITS WORK WITH EFFICIENCY.

### SECTION 2. ELECTION OF OFFICERS.

(1) PASTORS = A PASTOR SHALL BE CHOSEN AND CALLED BY THE CHURCH WHENEVER A VACANCY OCCURS. HIS ELECTION SHALL TAKE PLACE AT A BUSINESS MEETING WHICH HAS BEEN CALLED FOR THAT PURPOSE OF WHICH AT LEAST ONE MONTH'S NOTICE SHALL BE GIVEN FROM THE PULPIT. A PULPIT COMMITTEE SHALL BE APPOINTED BY THE CHURCH TO SEEK OUT A SUITABLE PASTOR, AND THEIR RECOMMENDATION SHALL CONSTITUTE A NOMINATION. THE CHURCH SHALL CONSIDER ONE MAN AT A TIME. ELECTION SHALL BE BY BALLOT WITH A MAJORITY OF THOSE VOTING BEING NECESSARY FOR ELECTION. (CLAUSE) THE PASTOR THUS ELECTED SHALL SERVE ON AN INDEFINITE BASIS, ANUALLY, OR UNTIL SUCH TIME THAT HE FEELS HE SHOULD MOVE ON TO ANOTHER FIELD OF SERVICE, OR THE CHURCH SHOULD FEEL THAT, FOR THE GOOD OF THE CHURCH, THEY SHOULD CHANGE LEADERSHIP, SIXTY DAYS NOTICE IS TO BE GIVEN WITH THE EXCEPTION BEING WHEN A PASTOR IS ELECTED ON THE ANNUAL BASIS.

(2) MODERATOR = THE MODERATOR SHALL BE THE PASTOR. IN THE ABSENCE OF THE PASTOR, THE CHAIRMAN OF THE DEACONS SHALL PRESIDE, OR IN THE ABSENCE OF BOTH, THE CHURCH CLERK SHALL CALL THE CHURCH TO ORDER AND A MODERATOR PRO- TEM SHALL BE ELECTED.

(3) DEACONS = THE DEACONS SHALL BE CHOSEN IN THE FOLLOWING MANNER BY THE CHURCH AND ORDAINED BY THE CHURCH EXCEPT WHEN ALREADY ORDAINED BY A CHURCH OF LIKE FAITH AND ORDER:

(A) THE DUTIES OF THE DEACONS ARE AS PRESCRIBED IN THE SCRIPTURES.

(B) BEFORE DEACONS IS ORDAINED, HE IS TO BE A MAN THAT HAS PROVED HIMSELF ACCORDING TO THE SCRIPTURES.

(C) THE NUMBER OF DEACONS IS TO BE DETERMINED BY THE NEEDS OF THE CHURCH.

(4) TRUSTEES = THE TRUSTEES SHALL BE ELECTED AT A REGULAR BUSINESS MEETING OF THE CHURCH FOR A PERIOD OF TIME THE CHURCH MAY CHOOSE. THEY SHALL, UPON THE AUTHORITY GIVEN BY THE CHURCH ACT FOR THE CHURCH IN ALL BUSINESS TRANSACTIONS. CHAIRMAN OF THE TRUSTEES COMMITTEE SHALL BE LEFT TO THE

DISCRETION OF THE COMMITTEE.

(5) OFFICERS OF CHURCH ORGANIZING = ALL OFFICERS EXCEPT TRUSTEES, DEACONS, AND PASTORS IF NOT ELECTED INDEFINITELY SHALL BE ELECTED AT A REGULAR BUSINESS MEETING FOR A PERIOD OF TIME NOT TO EXCEED TWELVE MONTHS. THIS ELECTION SHALL BE ANNOUNCED AT THE BUSINESS MEETING AT LEAST ONE MONTH PRIOR TO THE ELECTION.

(6) GENERAL CHURCH OFFICERS = THE CLERK SHALL KEEP A RECORD OF ALL BUSINESS TRANSACTED BY THE CHURCH, HE SHALL KEEP AN ACCURATE RECORD OF THE MEMBERSHIP. HE SHALL READ THE RECORD OF THE BUSINESS AT THE NEXT REGULAR BUSINESS MEETING.

(7) TREASURER = THE TREASURER SHALL KEEP A RECORD OF ALL MONEY TAKEN BY THE CHURCH AND PAY ALL BILLS OF THE CHURCH. BY ORDER OF THE CHURCH. HE SHALL GIVE A FINANCIAL REPORT AT EACH MONTHLY BUSINESS MEETING. HIS RECORDS SHALL BE OPEN TO EXAMINATION BY ANY MEMBER OF THE CHURCH AT ANY TIME SUCH MEMBER MAY THINK NECESSARY THE BOOKS SHALL BE AUDITED AT THE END OF EACH YEAR OR IN THE EVENT THAT A NEW TREASURER IS ELECTED.

### ARTICLE 3. MEETINGS

#### SECTION 1. WORSHIP

(1) PUBLIC WORSHIP SERVICES SHALL BE HELD ON THE LORD'S DAY AND ON THE SAME REGULAR EVENING OF EACH WEEK.

(2) THE LORD'S SUPPER SHALL BE TAKEN THE 2<sup>nd</sup> SUNDAY NIGHT OF AUGUST, NOVEMBER, FEBRUARY AND MAY.

#### SECTION 2. BUSINESS MEETINGS

(1) THE CHURCH SHALL SET A DATE FOR THE QUARTERLY BUSINESS MEETING. THIS DATE SHALL BE THE FIRST SUNDAY NIGHT OF JANUARY, APRIL, JULY, AND OCTOBER AFTER WORSHIP SERVICE.

(2) THE PASTOR MAY, AND SHOULD WHEN REQUESTED BY THE DEACONS OR STANDING COMMITTEES. CALL AN EMERGENCY BUSINESS MEETING WHEN IT IS CLEAR THAT THE BUSINESS TO BE CONSIDERED CANNOT BE POSTPONED UNTIL THE REGULAR BUSINESS MEETING DATE.

(3) THE CHURCH AT ITS OWN DISCRETION MAY AT ANY OF THE REGULAR MEETINGS FOR WORSHIP ACT UPON THE RECEPTION OF MEMBERS, OR UPON THE DISMISSAL OF MEMBERS TO OTHER CHURCHES BY LETTER.

(4) ELECTION TO ANY OFFICE OF THE CHURCH OR ITS ORGANIZATION MUST BE ANNOUNCED FROM THE PULPIT AT LEAST ONE MONTH IN ADVANCE OF ELECTION.

(5) EVERY BUSINESS TRANSACTION THAT IS DONE WITH ANYONE OUTSIDE OUR CHURCH MUST BE BASED UPON THE BAPTIST PRINCIPLE OF TOTAL INDEPENDENCE OF THE CHURCH AND SEPARATION OF CHURCH AND STATE.

(6) MAJORITY OF THOSE PRESENT AT ANY REGULAR BUSINESS MEETING SHALL CONSTITUTE QUORUM FOR THE TRANSACTION OF REGULAR BUSINESS.

(7) THERE SHALL NOT BE A RUMMAGE SALE HELD ON CHURCH PROPERTY, THE CHURCH. SHALL HAVE BENEFIT SINGINGS FOR THE NEEDY OF THE CHURCH. AND THERE SHALL NOT A GAME OF CHANCE BE HELD ON CHURCH PROPERTY.

(8) ALL RECORDS OF THE CHURCH MAY BE INSPECTED BY ANY MEMBER OF THE CHURCH AT ANY TIME.

(9) THE PASTOR SHALL SECURE EVANGULIST FOR ALL REVIVAL MEETINGS, ( TO BE APPROVED BY THE CHURCH).

(10) THE PASTOR SHALL BE RESPONSIBLE FOR HIS PULPIT SUPPLIES EXCEPT WHEN; (A) ON VACATION; (B) ILLNESS; (C) ON BUSINESS FOR THE CHURCH.

(11) THE CHURCH MAY SEND THE PASTOR TO YHE STATE CONVENTION EACH YEAR.

(12) THE PASTOR MAY HAVE AN TWO WEEK'S VACATION WITH PAY OR OTHER ARRANGMENTS AGREEABLE WITH PASTOR AND CHURCH.

#### ARTICLE IV. FINANCE

(1) THE SUPPORT OF THE CHURCH SHALL BE BY TITHES AND OFFERINGS.

(2) THE CHURCH SHALL SPONSER SUCH ORGANIZATIONS AS CONTRIBUTE TO THE UPBUILDING OF THE CHURCH.

#### ARTICLE V. AFFILIATION

THE CHURCH SHALL AFFILATE ITSELF WITH THE FOLLOWING:

(A) THE SOUTHERN HILLS ASSOCIATION OF BAPTISTS.

(B) THE STATE CONVENTION OF BAPTIST IN OHIO.

(C) THE SOUTHERN BAPTIST CONVENTION.

THE CHURCH SHALL TAKE FOR ITS CONSIDERATION ALL SUGGESTIONS GIVEN BY SAID AFFILATES, AND IF ADOPTED, SHALL STRICTLY ADHERED TO.

#### ARTICLE VI. AMENDMENTS

THE CONSTITUTION MAY BE AMENDED BY A VOTE OF TWO-THIRDS OF THE MEMBERS PRESENT AT A STATED MEETING, PROVIDED THE AMENDMENT HAS BEEN OFFERED IN WRITING AT A PREVIOUS REGULAR BUSINESS MEETING.

(A) THE ARTICLES OF FAITH, POLITY, COVENTANT, AND DOCTRINE SHALL NOT BE AMENDED.

(B) OTHER QUESTIONS OF PROCEDURE NOT INCLUDED IN THIS ARTICLE SHALL BE DETERMINED ACCORDING TO THE CHURCH MANUAL DESIGNED FOR THE USE OF BAPTIST CHURCHES.

J.M. PENDLETON

ADOPTED THIS 15 DAY OF JUNE IN THE YEAR OF OUR LORD NINETEEN HUNDRED AND 68 AT EPWORTH HEIGHTS, OHIO.

