

Constitution and Bylaws of Central Baptist Church Athens, Tennessee



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Constitution & Bylaws

Constitution

1.1. Preamble

We declare and establish the constitution to preserve and secure the principles of our faith and to govern the body in an orderly manner. While affiliated with the Southern Baptist convention, this constitution will preserve the liberties of each individual church member and the freedom of action of this body in relation to other churches.

1.2. Church Name

Central Baptist Church is incorporated under the name Central Baptist Church, Inc. as a non-profit religious and charitable organization under the provision of 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code of the United States.

1.3. Objectives

To be a dynamic spiritual congregation empowered by the Holy Spirit to share Christ with as many people as possible in our church, community, and throughout the world. To be a worshipping fellowship, experiencing the Holiness of God, recognizing His person, and responding in obedience to His leadership. To experience an ever-maturing fellowship with God and fellow believers. To help people better define God's will for their lives. To be a church that ministers unselfishly to people in their community and the world in Jesus' name. To be a church with the purpose of being Christ-like in every activity and endeavor we pursue as a body of Christ.

1.4. Statement of Belief

We affirm the Holy Bible as the inspired word of God and the basis for our beliefs. This church subscribes to the doctrinal statement of "The Baptist Faith and Message" as adopted by the Southern Baptist Convention in 2000 and revised by this congregation, entitled the Central Baptist Church Faith and Message, found in Attachment 13.1. We voluntarily band ourselves together as a body of baptized believers in Jesus Christ personally committed to sharing the good news of salvation to lost mankind. The ordinances of the church are believer's baptism and the Lord's Supper.

1.5 Christian Marriage

Central Baptist Church's policy regarding Christian marriage and refusing to accept any proclamation that same sex marriage is acceptable is based on the Bible's clear teaching that homosexuality is against God's law. All sexual relationships other than between a man

and a woman married to each other are condemned in the Bible. *Leviticus 18:22, 26:15-56; Romans 1:24-25; 1 Corinthians 5:9-13, 6:9-12, 15-20.*

We also believe that God has established marriage as a lifelong, exclusive relationship between one man and one woman and that all intimate sexual activity outside the marriage relationship, whether heterosexual, homosexual, or otherwise, is immoral and therefore sin. *Genesis 2:24-25; Exodus 20:14,17, 22:19; Leviticus 18:22-23, 20:13, 15-16; Matthew 19:4-6, 9; Romans 1:18-31; 1 Corinthians 6:9-10, 15-20; 1 Timothy 1:8-11; Jude 7.* We believe that God created the human race male and female and that all conduct with the intent to adopt a gender other than one's birth gender is immoral and therefore sin. *Genesis 1:27; Deuteronomy 22:5.*

2. Church Covenant

We the members of Central Baptist Church, do hereby covenant with each other before God to:

Live in Jesus Christ and take his commands seriously.

Be family; to be committed to each other; to love, accept, and forgive each other until death or God's call causes us to part.

Help one another grow toward Christian maturity by bearing one another's burdens, encouraging one another, exhorting one another, praying for one another, confessing our sins to one another, speaking the truth in love to one another, admonishing one another, building up one another, teaching one another, comforting one another, submitting to one another, serving one another, patiently bearing with one another, being hospitable to one another, greeting one another, living in peace with one another, regarding one another as more important than ourselves, caring for one another, exercising our spiritual gifts to serve one another, being kind and tenderhearted to one another, being devoted to one another, accepting one another, forgiving one another, loving one another.

We invite fellow members to pray for us, teach us, correct us, or rebuke us, if necessary, in a spirit of gentleness and humility should we stray from our Lord's commands, because the thing we desire most in life is to serve Christ. We voluntarily submit ourselves to one another and to the discipline of the church. Such discipline will always be for the loving purpose of restoration—restoration to fellowship with God and with the covenant community—and it will always be in accordance with Matthew 18:15-22.

Bring honor to the body of Christ by maintaining a good testimony.

We enter into this covenant because we have the common purpose of obeying Jesus Christ, and because we believe we need one another's help to do this.

As believers and disciples of Jesus Christ, we have entered into a covenant relationship with the God of Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob; with the God who revealed Himself in Jesus Christ. Since the blessings and promises of the covenant have been freely extended and given to us, out of wonder, love, thanksgiving, and reverence, we hereby accept and take up the covenant responsibilities that go with such a privilege. This is our reasonable service, and we should do nothing less.

God help us all! We rely on His grace and hold fast to his promise that there is now no condemnation for those who are in Christ Jesus.

3. Polity & Church Relationships

The government of this church is vested in the body of believers who compose it. Persons duly received by the members shall constitute the membership. All internal groups created and empowered by the church shall report to and be accountable only to the church, unless otherwise specified by church action.

This church is subject to the control of no other ecclesiastical body, but it recognizes and sustains the obligations of mutual counsel and cooperation common among Baptist churches. Insofar as practical and Biblical, this church will cooperate with and support the association, the state convention, and the Southern Baptist Convention.

Bylaws

4. Church Membership

4.1. General Membership

Membership in this Church shall consist of all persons who have met the requirements of membership as provided in Section 4.2, been approved by the congregation, and are listed on the membership roll.

4.2. Membership Candidacy

Any person wishing to become a member in this Church may offer themselves as a candidate for church membership at any regular service in the following ways:

- (1) By profession of faith in Jesus Christ as Lord and Savior and scriptural baptism,
or
- (2) By promise of a letter of recommendation from another Baptist Church of like faith and practice, or
- (3) By statement of prior conversion experience and scriptural baptism, or
- (4) For scriptural baptism from another denomination, or
- (5) By restoration as provided in Section 4.6 Discipline.

Note: A three-fourths vote of those Church members present and voting shall be required to elect such candidates to membership.

Note: Scriptural baptism defined under Church Ordinances, Baptism

4.3. Responsibility of the Membership

In order to be a responsible member of Central Baptist Church, one should:

- (1) Be in basic agreement with the Church's statement of faith and purpose
- (2) Discover, develop and deploy their spiritual gifts in the ministries of the Church.
- (3) Be diligent to live according to the statements of the Church Covenant.
- (4) Be faithful in attendance to worship services and Bible study.
- (5) Become a student of the Word of God and of prayer.
- (6) Make a commitment to personal evangelism and discipleship.
- (7) Encourage scriptural stewardship of time, talents, and tithes and offerings.

4.4. Voting Rights of Membership

Only active members of the Church are entitled to vote at all elections and on all questions submitted to the Church in conference. An inactive member is defined as a member whose predominant attendance is at another church, or a member who has not regularly attended the Church in six months. Members must be present to vote. Members who are homebound due to medical reasons or age are honored exceptions.

4.5. Termination of Membership

Membership shall be terminated in the following ways;

- (1) By death
- (2) By dismissal to another Baptist Church.
- (3) By disciplinary action of this Church as in Section 5.6, Member Discipline.
- (4) By joining with a church of another denomination.
- (5) By termination by request

Note: Letters of dismissal shall be granted only to other churches of like faith and order.

4.6. Member Discipline

(1) It shall be the basic purpose of Central Baptist Church to emphasize to its members that every reasonable measure will be taken to assist any troubled member. The pastor, other members of the Church staff and deacons are available for counsel and guidance. Reconciliation rather than punishment should be the guideline, which governs the attitude of one member toward another.

(2) Should some serious condition exist which would cause a member to become a liability to the general welfare of the Church, every reasonable measure will be taken by the pastor and by the deacons to resolve the problem in accordance with Matthew 18: 15-35, I Corinthians 5:1-13, II Corinthians 2:1-11. A spirit of Christian kindness and forbearance shall pervade all such proceedings. If it is determined that the welfare of the church will best be served by the exclusion of the member, the Church may take this action by a three-fourths vote of the members present at a meeting called for this purpose; and the Church may proceed to declare the offender to be no longer in the membership of the Church.

(3) Any person whose membership has been terminated for any condition, which has made it necessary for the Church to exclude him, may upon his request be restored to membership by a vote of three-fourths vote of the members present upon evidence of his repentance and reformation.

5. Church Officers

5.1. Pastor

The pastor is responsible for leading the church to function as a New Testament church. The pastor will lead the congregation, the organizations, and the church staff to perform their tasks. The pastor is leader of pastoral ministries in the church. As such he works with the deacons and church staff to:

- (1) Proclaim the gospel to believers and unbelievers.

(2) Lead the church in the achievement of its mission.

(3) Care for the church's members and other persons in the community.

A pastor shall be chosen and called by the church whenever a vacancy occurs. The election shall take place at a meeting called for that purpose, of which at least one week's public notice has been given.

A Pastor Selection Committee shall be elected by the church to seek out a suitable pastor, and its recommendations will constitute a nomination. Any church member has the privilege of making other nominations according to the policy established by the church. The committee shall bring to the consideration of the church only one name at a time. Election shall be by ballot, an affirmative vote of three-fourths of those present being necessary for a choice. The pastor, thus elected, shall serve until the relationship is terminated by his request or the church's request. He shall preside at meetings of this church, and if so designated may serve as moderator in all business meetings in keeping with the rules of order authorized in these bylaws.

A. Pastor's resignation

The pastor may relinquish the office as pastor by giving at least two weeks notice to the church at the time of resignation.

B. Pastor's termination

The church may declare the office of pastor to be vacant. Such action shall take place at a meeting called for that purpose, of which at least one week's public notice has been given. The meeting may be called upon the recommendation of a majority of all standing committees and the board of deacons or by written petition signed by not less than one-fourth of the resident church members. The moderator for this meeting shall be designated by the members present by majority vote, and he shall be someone other than the pastor. The vote to declare the office vacant shall be by secret ballot; an affirmative vote of three-fourths of the members present being necessary to declare the office vacant.

C. Pastor's compensation

Except in instances of gross misconduct by the pastor so excluded from office, the church will compensate the pastor with not less than one-twelfth of his total annual compensation. The termination shall be immediate and the compensation shall be rendered in not more than 30 days.

5.2. Church Staff

The ministerial staff shall be called and employed as the church determines the need for such offices. A job description shall be written when the need for a staff member is determined. Those staff members of whom the church requires evidence of a personal call of God to minister shall be recommended to the church by a called personnel search committee and called by church action. At the time of resignation, not less than a two-week notice shall be given to the church. The church may vote to vacate such positions upon recommendation of the same procedure used to declare the pastor's position as vacant. Such termination shall be immediate, and the compensation conditions being the same as for the pastor, except that the amount shall relate to the individual's compensation.

Non-ministerial staff members shall be employed as the church determines the need for their services. The pastor shall have the authority to employ and to terminate services of non-ministerial staff members. Such employment and termination of services shall be with

the recommendation through consultation with related committees of the church and the pastor.

5.3. Deacons

The church shall elect deacons by ballot at regular business meetings of the church. There shall be one deacon elected for assigned service for every 20 active church families. There shall be a minimum of four (4) deacons serving at any given time. Deacons shall serve on a rotation basis. Each year the assigned term of office of one deacon shall expire, and an election shall be held to fill the resulting vacancy. In case of death or removal or incapacity to serve, the church may elect a deacon to fill the unexpired term. After serving a three-year term assignment, a deacon shall be eligible for reelection only after the lapse of at least one year. There shall be no obligation to constitute as an assigned deacon one who has been a deacon in another church; but in such instances as one might be chosen by this church for assignment as a deacon, his previous ordination by another church of like faith and order shall suffice for this church. Only men of the church will be considered as eligible for the office of deacon.

In accordance with the meaning of the work and the practice in the New Testament, deacons are to be servants of the church. Their task is to serve with the pastor and staff in performing the pastoral ministry tasks of:

- (1) Leading the church in the achievement of its mission.
- (2) Proclaiming the gospel to believers and unbelievers.
- (3) Caring for church members and other people in the community.

Qualifications for Deacon Service

The qualifications listed below represent a high standard. The men who serve as deacons should be men who understand the high standard for this office and who strive daily to maintain this standard.

Biblical Qualifications

1. Good reputation within and without the church (Acts 6:3, 1 Tim. 3:10)
2. Filled with the Holy Spirit (Acts 6:3)
3. Full of wisdom (Acts 6:3)
4. Men of faith (Acts 6:5, 1 Tim. 3:9)
5. Serious-minded about spiritual things (1 Tim. 3:8)
6. Consistent in words (1 Tim. 3:8)
7. Not given to much wine (1 Tim. 3:8)
8. Right perspective on material goods (1 Tim. 3:8)
9. Proven or tested by actions and attitudes (1 Tim. 3:10)
10. Husband of one wife (1 Tim. 3:12)
11. Good manager of his own family (1 Tim. 3:12)

Evidence of the above qualities can be seen in a number of ways. Some are listed below.

Faithful participant in the church.

Growing in his relationship to Christ.

Committed to the doctrines of the Faith as revealed in our statement of belief.

Committed to harmony and unity in the church.

Abstaining from the use of alcoholic beverages.

Financial supporter of the work of Christ through tithing to the church.

Committed to the pastor as the primary leader of the church.

Devoted to his wife

Willing to humbly serve Christ and the church.

Active member of Central Baptist Church for the 12 months immediately preceding election.

5.4. Clerk

The church shall elect annually a clerk as its clerical officer. The clerk shall be responsible for keeping a suitable record of all official actions of the church, except as otherwise herein provided.

The clerk shall be responsible for keeping a register of names of members, with dates of admission, dismissal, death, or erasure, together with a record of baptisms. The clerk shall issue letters of dismissal as voted by the church, preserve on file all communications and written official reports, and give required notice of all meetings where notice is necessary, as indicated in these bylaws. The clerk shall be responsible for preparing the annual letter of the church to the association. The clerk shall serve as the secretary for the church board of directors.

5.5. Treasurer

The church shall elect annually a church treasurer, and an assistant treasurer. The treasurer and assistant treasurer shall serve as members of the Finance committee. It shall be the duty of the treasurer to:

Receive funds: All funds received through tithes and offerings, as well as gifts and other means of income shall be received by the church treasurer.

Documentation: It shall be the duty of the church treasurer to maintain an itemized account of all funds received including but not limited to individual tithe records and gifts of any value from other entities.

Deposits: All funds received shall be deposited by the treasurer into the designated bank or financial institution, receiving appropriate receipts as required and providing those to the appointed Certified Public Accounting Firm (CPA).

Liaison: The church treasurer serves as the primary contact and source of information exchange with the church appointed CPA firm. As such the church treasurer provides

income receipts, vouchers and bills for payment, tithe records, and other financial records as needed to provide for a sound church financial system to the church- approved CPA. In addition the treasurer will be the primary point of contact for the CPA to the church in regard to monthly and annual financial reports and statements. The treasurer works with the CPA to provide any required information for potential audits, as well as any internal or external reporting as deemed necessary.

5.6. Corporate Officers

The Corporate Officers shall consist of:

- 1) The Pastor which shall serve as the President/ Chairman of the board.
- 2) The church clerk shall serve as the corporate secretary for the corporation, maintaining a record of actions performed by the board and corporation.

5.7. Board Members (formerly recognized as Trustees)

Three members of the Board of the Directors will be elected by the church body from a recommendation by the Pastor and shall serve until they either resign or until removed from church roles through death/ dismissal, or possibly through infirmities. New Board members would then be elected as needed by the church to remove/ replace existing Board members. They shall hold in trust the church property. Upon a specific vote of the church authorizing each action, they shall have the power to buy, sell, mortgage, lease, or transfer any church property. When the signatures of the Board members are required, they shall sign legal documents involving the sale, mortgage, purchase, or rental of property, or other legal documents related to church-approved matters. Actions conducted by the Board shall be reported to the congregation at the next regularly scheduled business meeting.

6. Church Committees

6.1. Nominating

This committee shall consist of at least 3 members. Members of the nominating committee are recommended by the moderator at the beginning of the new church year and are elected by the church in conjunction with the election of new church officers.

The Nominating Committee coordinates the staffing of all church leadership positions as well as standing committee memberships filled with volunteer workers, unless otherwise specified herein. Individuals considered for any such positions shall first be approved by the Nominating Committee before they are approached for recruitment. The Nominating Committee shall verify the required qualifications as stated in the church operations manual for volunteer service and shall present to the church for election all who are qualified and accept the invitation to serve.

6.2. Finance

The finance committee shall consist of the church treasurer, an assistant church treasurer, four members at- large, the chairman of the Facilities, Use and Security committee, and one deacon who shall serve as the chairman. The four at-large members shall rotate, one

member going off and a new one being elected each year. The duties of this financial committee shall be:

- 1) Oversight: Responsible for the financial oversight regarding the receiving and distribution of funds; this also includes the preparation of the annual church budget.
- 2) Contracting: No contract for supplies, materials, or services shall be made except upon approval of the finance committee, unless authorized by direct vote of the church.
- 3) Expenditures: All expenditures shall be made only upon authorization of the finance committee upon authority of the church, save that the church may give general authorization to the committee for normal and operating supplies as well as approved budget line items.
- 4) Payments: All payments for such supplies, materials, and services shall be made by an appointed CPA firm upon direct and written approval of the Finance committee; and also as such as may be authorized any time by direct vote of the church in which case the voucher is to be signed by the finance committee.
- 5) Income: All funds brought into the church by tithes and offerings shall be placed in the general funds (undesignated); special and designated offerings shall go into the designated funds and shall be duly recorded by the church treasurer or in case of special expenditures be reported to the finance committee.

Specific financial procedures shall be detailed and made a part of the Church Operations Manual.

6.3. Music

This committee will consist of at least 3 members. It shall be the duty of this committee to have general charge of all matters in connection with the music of the church. It shall recommend suitable persons such as pianist(s), praise leader, and other such positions as may be authorized.

6.4. Facilities, Use, and Security

This committee shall consist of at least 3 members. The Facilities, Use & Security Committee assists the church in matters related to properties administration. Its work includes such areas as maintaining all church properties for ready use, recommending policies regarding use of properties, consulting with the Pastor and the church staff regarding the needs for, and the employment of, maintenance personnel, maintenance and improvement contracts and equipment purchases, etc. The committee performs or provides for maintenance to facilities as appropriate. Addresses required improvements as identified in Fire inspections, as well as internally developed lists of maintenance issues. Approves emergency maintenance issues, in concert with the finance committee, and reports those tasks at the next regularly scheduled business meeting,

Updates, and implements as appropriate, the CBC Security Plan for the safe use of all facilities. The CBC Security Plan is found in the Church Operations Manual.

Recommends any needed changes to the CBC Facilities Use Plan and addresses issues not specifically identified in the Plan. The CBC facilities Use Plan is found in the Church Operations Manual.

6.5. Special Committees (as needed)

Special committees can be established as needed to address specific issues not covered by standing committees. Committees will be established during church business meetings with the pastor recommending membership and approved by the church body.

7. Church Program / Organizations

7.1. Sunday School

The Sunday School shall be the basic organization for the Bible teaching program. Its tasks shall be to teach the biblical revelation and reach people for Christ and church membership. The Sunday School shall be organized by departments and/or classes, as appropriate for all ages, and shall be conducted under the direction of the Sunday School director elected by the church.

7.2. Discipleship Training

Discipleship training trains members for life actions, service, and leadership. Discipleship training also teaches Christian ethics, Christian theology, Christian history and provides new member orientation. Church training shall be organized by departments for all ages.

7.3. Women Missionary Union

Woman's Missionary Union shall be the mission education, mission action, and mission support organization of the church for women, young women, girls, preschool children, and Youth On Mission. The tasks of the WMU shall be to teach missions, engage in mission action, support world missions through prayer and giving, and provide and interpret information regarding the work of the church and denomination. Woman's Missionary Union shall have such officers and organizations as the program requires.

7.4. Brotherhood

The Brotherhood shall be the church's organization for mission education, mission action, and mission support for men, young men, and boys. Its tasks shall be to teach missions, engage in mission action, support world missions through praying and giving, and provide and interpret information regarding the work of the church and denomination. The Brotherhood shall have such officers and organization as the program requires.

7.5. Church Music

The music program shall provide for music in the church that is in concert with the overall mission of the church and pastor. The music program will provide and interpret the Gospel through inspirational song, music, and other media, and will supplement and compliment the messages of the pastor and the church. The Church Music program shall have such personnel and organization as the program requires.

8. Church Ordinances

8.1. Baptism

This church shall receive for baptism any person who has received Jesus Christ as Savior by personal faith, who professes Him publicly at any worship service, and who indicates a commitment to follow Christ as Lord.

- (1) Baptism shall be by immersion in water.
- (2) The pastor or his designee shall administer baptism. The deacons shall assist in the preparation for, and the observance of, baptism.
- (3) Baptism shall be administered as an act of worship during any worship service of the church.
- (4) A person who professes Christ and is not baptized after a reasonable length of time shall be counseled by the pastor and/or staff or deacons. If negative interest is ascertained on the part of the candidate, he or she shall be deleted from those awaiting baptism.

8.2. The Lord's Supper

The pastor and deacons shall administer the Lord's Supper, the deacons being responsible for the physical preparations.

9. Church Meetings

9.1. Worship Services

The church shall meet regularly each Sunday morning, Sunday evening, and Wednesday evening for the worship of Almighty God. Prayer, praise, preaching, instruction, and evangelism shall be among the ingredients of these services. The pastor shall direct the services for all the church members and for all others who may choose to attend.

9.2. Special Services

Revival services and any other church meetings essential to the advancement of the church's objectives shall be held as determined by the Pastor and congregation.

9.3. Regular Business Meetings

The church shall hold regular business meetings monthly on a designated Sunday night.

9.4. Special Business Meetings

The church may conduct called business meetings to consider matters of special nature and significance. A one-week notice must be given for the specially called business meeting unless extreme urgency renders such notice impractical. The notice shall include the subject, date, time, and place; and it must be given in such a manner that all resident members have an opportunity to know of the meeting.

9.5. Quorum

The quorum consists of those members who attend the business meeting, provided it is a stated meeting or one that has been properly called.

9.6. Parliamentary Rules

Robert's Rules of Order, Revised, is the authority for parliamentary rules of procedure for all business meetings of the church.

10. Church Finances

10.1. Budget

The annual budget shall be prepared by the Finance committee and the church treasurer and presented prior to the beginning of the church year.

10.2. Accounting Procedures

Finances are brought into the church by tithes and offerings that go into the general funds and by designated and special offerings. Monies are counted by the church treasurer and one member from the finance committee. Deposits are made after each service, placed in a sealed deposit bag and dropped in the night deposit at the appropriate financial institution. The bank opens the bag and makes the deposit. Monies are recorded on the tithe records and submitted along with weekly deposit slips to the church's chosen Certified Public Accountant (CPA) for recording and reconciling monies given and monies deposited. Invoices are reviewed every two weeks, or as needed, by the finance committee and placed in an envelope and sent to the CPA on the following week for payment of said expenses. Each invoice will be initialed by two finance committee members showing approval of said expenses. No invoice will be paid without this approval. The CPA will provide the church with a financial statement monthly for the regular business meeting.

10.3. Fiscal Year

The church fiscal year shall run concurrently with the church year which begins on October 1 and ends on September 30.

11. Church Operations Manual

Special called committees of the church have developed a church operations manual that includes church policies and procedures regarding a CBC Facility Use Plan as well as a CBC Security Plan. The manual shall be kept in the church office and made available for use by any member of the church. The Facility, Use & Security Committee shall maintain the manual and review the manual at least annually, with authority to recommend changes for the church to consider. Any church member or church organization may initiate suggested changes in the manual.

11.1 Organization Chart

The church organization chart can be found in attachments 13.2

12. Amendments

Changes in the constitution and bylaws may be made at any regular business meeting of the church provided each amendment shall have been presented in writing at a previous business meeting and copies of the proposed amendment shall have been furnished to each member present at the earlier meeting. Amendments to the constitution shall be by two-thirds vote of church members present. Amendments to the bylaws shall have a concurrence of a majority of the members present and voting.

12.1. Constitution

12.2. Bylaws

13. Attachments

13.1. Central Baptist Church Faith and Message

13.2. Church Organization Chart

Attachments:

13.1

Central Baptist Church Faith & Message

I. The Scriptures

The Holy Bible was written by men divinely inspired and is God's revelation of Himself to man. It is a perfect treasure of divine instruction. It has God for its author, salvation for its end, and truth, without any mixture of error, for its matter. Therefore, all Scripture is totally true and trustworthy. It reveals the principles by which God judges us, and therefore is, and will remain to the end of the world, the true center of Christian union, and the supreme standard by which all human conduct, creeds, and religious opinions should be tried. All Scripture is a testimony to Christ, who is Himself the focus of divine revelation.

Exodus 24:4; Deuteronomy 4:1-2; 17:19; Joshua 8:34; Psalms 19:7-10; 119:11,89,105,140; Isaiah 34:16; 40:8; Jeremiah 15:16; 36:1-32; Matthew 5:17-18; 22:29; Luke 21:33; 24:44-46; John 5:39; 16:13-15; 17:17; Acts 2:16ff.; 17:11; Romans 15:4; 16:25-26; 2 Timothy 3:15-17; Hebrews 1:1-2; 4:12; 1 Peter 1:25; 2 Peter 1:19-21.

II. God

There is one and only one living and true God. He is an intelligent, spiritual, and personal Being, the Creator, Redeemer, Preserver, and Ruler of the universe. God is infinite in holiness and all other perfections. God is all powerful and all knowing; and His perfect knowledge extends to all things, past, present, and future, including the future decisions of His free creatures. To Him we owe the highest love, reverence, and obedience. The eternal triune God reveals Himself to us as Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, with distinct personal attributes, but without division of nature, essence, or being.

A. God the Father

God as Father reigns with providential care over His universe, His creatures, and the flow of the stream of human history according to the purposes of His grace. He is all powerful, all knowing, all loving, and all wise. God is Father in truth to those who become children of God through faith in Jesus Christ. He is fatherly in His attitude toward all men.

Genesis 1:1; 2:7; Exodus 3:14; 6:2-3; 15:11ff.; 20:1ff.; Leviticus 22:2; Deuteronomy 6:4; 32:6; 1 Chronicles 29:10; Psalm 19:1-3; Isaiah 43:3,15; 64:8; Jeremiah 10:10; 17:13; Matthew 6:9ff.; 7:11; 23:9; 28:19; Mark 1:9-11; John 4:24; 5:26; 14:6-13; 17:1-8; Acts 1:7; Romans 8:14-15; 1 Corinthians 8:6; Galatians 4:6; Ephesians 4:6; Colossians 1:15; 1 Timothy 1:17; Hebrews 11:6; 12:9; 1 Peter 1:17; 1 John 5:7.

B. God the Son

Christ is the eternal Son of God. In His incarnation as Jesus Christ He was conceived of the Holy Spirit and born of the virgin Mary. Jesus perfectly revealed and did the will of God, taking upon Himself human nature with its demands and necessities and identifying Himself completely with mankind yet without sin. He honored the divine law by His personal obedience, and in His substitutionary death on the cross He made provision for the redemption of men from sin. He was raised from the dead with a glorified body and appeared to His disciples as the person who was with them before His crucifixion. He ascended into heaven and is now exalted at the right hand of God where He is the One Mediator, fully God, fully man, in whose Person is effected the reconciliation between God and man. He will return in power and glory to judge the world and to consummate

His redemptive mission. He now dwells in all believers as the living and ever-present Lord.

Genesis 18:1ff.; Psalms 2:7ff.; 110:1ff.; Isaiah 7:14; Isaiah 53:1-12; Matthew 1:18-23; 3:17; 8:29; 11:27; 14:33; 16:16,27; 17:5; 27; 28:1-6,19; Mark 1:1; 3:11; Luke 1:35; 4:41; 22:70; 24:46; John 1:1-18,29; 10:30,38; 11:25-27; 12:44-50; 14:7-11; 16:15-16,28; 17:1-5, 21-22; 20:1-20,28; Acts 1:9; 2:22-24; 7:55-56; 9:4-5,20; Romans 1:3-4; 3:23-26; 5:6-21; 8:1-3,34; 10:4; 1 Corinthians 1:30; 2:2; 8:6; 15:1-8,24-28; 2 Corinthians 5:19-21; 8:9; Galatians 4:4-5; Ephesians 1:20; 3:11; 4:7-10; Philippians 2:5-11; Colossians 1:13-22; 2:9; 1 Thessalonians 4:14-18; 1 Timothy 2:5-6; 3:16; Titus 2:13-14; Hebrews 1:1-3; 4:14-15; 7:14-28; 9:12-15,24-28; 12:2; 13:8; 1 Peter 2:21-25; 3:22; 1 John 1:7-9; 3:2; 4:14-15; 5:9; 2 John 7-9; Revelation 1:13-16; 5:9-14; 12:10-11; 13:8; 19:16.

C. God the Holy Spirit

The Holy Spirit is the Spirit of God, fully divine. He inspired holy men of old to write the Scriptures. Through illumination He enables men to understand truth. He exalts Christ. He convicts men of sin, of righteousness, and of judgment. He calls men to the Savior, and effects regeneration. At the moment of regeneration He baptizes every believer into the Body of Christ. He cultivates Christian character, comforts believers, and bestows the spiritual gifts by which they serve God through His church. He seals the believer unto the day of final redemption. His presence in the Christian is the guarantee that God will bring the believer into the fullness of the stature of Christ. He enlightens and empowers the believer and the church in worship, evangelism, and service.

Genesis 1:2; Judges 14:6; Job 26:13; Psalms 51:11; 139:7ff.; Isaiah 61:1-3; Joel 2:28-32; Matthew 1:18; 3:16; 4:1; 12:28-32; 28:19; Mark 1:10,12; Luke 1:35; 4:1,18-19; 11:13; 12:12; 24:49; John 4:24; 14:16-17,26; 15:26; 16:7-14; Acts 1:8; 2:1-4,38; 4:31; 5:3; 6:3; 7:55; 8:17,39; 10:44; 13:2; 15:28; 16:6; 19:1-6; Romans 8:9-11,14-16,26-27; 1 Corinthians 2:10-14; 3:16; 12:3-11,13; Galatians 4:6; Ephesians 1:13-14; 4:30; 5:18; 1 Thessalonians 5:19; 1 Timothy 3:16; 4:1; 2 Timothy 1:14; 3:16; Hebrews 9:8,14; 2 Peter 1:21; 1 John 4:13; 5:6-7; Revelation 1:10; 22:17.

III. Man

Man is the special creation of God, made in His own image. He created them male and female as the crowning work of His creation. The gift of gender is thus part of the goodness of God's creation. In the beginning man was innocent of sin and was endowed by his Creator with freedom of choice. By his free choice man sinned against God and brought sin into the human race. Through the temptation of Satan man transgressed the command of God, and fell from his original innocence whereby his posterity inherit a nature and an environment inclined toward sin. Therefore, as soon as they are capable of moral action, they become transgressors and are under condemnation. Only the grace of God can bring man into His holy fellowship and enable man to fulfill the creative purpose of God. The sacredness of human personality is evident in that God created man in His own image, and in that Christ died for man; therefore, every person of every race possesses full dignity and is worthy of respect and Christian love.

Genesis 1:26-30; 2:5,7,18-22; 3; 9:6; Psalms 1; 8:3-6; 32:1-5; 51:5; Isaiah 6:5; Jeremiah 17:5; Matthew 16:26; Acts 17:26-31; Romans 1:19-32; 3:10-18,23; 5:6,12,19; 6:6; 7:14-25; 8:14-18,29; 1 Corinthians 1:21-31; 15:19,21-22; Ephesians 2:1-22;

Colossians 1:21-22; 3:9-11.

IV. Salvation

Salvation involves the redemption of the whole man, and is offered freely to all who accept Jesus Christ as Lord and Savior, who by His own blood and suffering on the cross, obtained eternal redemption for the believer. In its broadest sense salvation includes regeneration, justification, sanctification, and glorification. There is no salvation apart from personal faith in Jesus Christ as Lord.

A. Regeneration, or the new birth, is a work of God's grace whereby believers become new creatures in Christ Jesus. It is a change of heart wrought by the Holy Spirit through conviction of sin, to which the sinner responds in repentance toward God and faith in the Lord Jesus Christ. Repentance and faith are inseparable experiences of grace.

Repentance is a genuine turning from sin toward God. Faith is the acceptance of Jesus Christ and commitment of the entire personality to Him as Lord and Savior.

B. Justification is God's gracious and full acquittal upon principles of His righteousness of all sinners who repent and believe in Christ. Justification brings the believer unto a relationship of peace and favor with God.

C. Sanctification – We believe the Scriptures teach 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; 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, and prayer, and in the practice of all Godly exercise and duties.

D. Glorification is the culmination of salvation and is the final blessed and abiding state of the redeemed.

Genesis 3:15; Exodus 3:14-17; 6:2-8; Matthew 1:21; 4:17; 16:21-26; 27:22-28:6; Luke 1:68-69; 2:28-32; John 1:11-14,29; 3:3-21,36; 5:24; 10:9,28-29; 15:1-16; 17:17; Acts 2:21; 4:12; 15:11; 16:30-31; 17:30-31; 20:32; Romans 1:16-18; 2:4; 3:23-25; 4:3ff.; 5:8-10; 6:1-23; 8:1-18,29-39; 10:9-10,13; 13:11-14; 1 Corinthians 1:18,30; 6:19-20; 15:10; 2 Corinthians 5:17-20; Galatians 2:20; 3:13; 5:22-25; 6:15; Ephesians 1:7; 2:8-22; 4:11-16; Philippians 2:12-13; Colossians 1:9-22; 3:1ff.; 1 Thessalonians 5:23-24; 2 Timothy 1:12; Titus 2:11-14; Hebrews 2:1-3; 5:8-9; 9:24-28; 11:1-12:8,14; James 2:14-26; 1 Peter 1:2-23; 1 Peter 3:18; 1 John 1:6-2:11; Revelation 3:20; 21:1-22:5.

V. God's Purpose of Grace

Election is the gracious purpose of God, according to which He regenerates, justifies, sanctifies, and glorifies sinners. It is consistent with the free agency of man, and comprehends all the means in connection with the end. It is the glorious display of God's sovereign goodness, and is infinitely wise, holy, and unchangeable. It excludes boasting and promotes humility.

All true believers endure to the end. Those whom God has accepted in Christ, and sanctified by His Spirit, will never fall away from the state of grace, but shall persevere to the end. Believers may fall into sin through neglect and temptation, whereby they grieve the Spirit, impair their graces and comforts, and bring reproach on the cause of Christ and

temporal judgments on themselves; yet they shall be kept by the power of God through faith unto salvation.

Genesis 12:1-3; Exodus 19:5-8; 1 Samuel 8:4-7,19-22; Isaiah 5:1-7; Jeremiah 31:31ff.; Matthew 16:18-19; 21:28-45; 24:22,31; 25:34; Luke 1:68-79; 2:29-32; 19:41-44; 24:44-48; John 1:12-14; 3:16; 5:24; 6:44-45,65; 10:27-29; 15:16; 17:6,12,17-18; Acts 20:32; Romans 5:9-10; 8:28-39; 10:12-15; 11:5-7,26-36; 1 Corinthians 1:1-2; 15:24-28; Ephesians 1:4-23; 2:1-10; 3:1-11; Colossians 1:12-14; 2 Thessalonians 2:13-14; 2 Timothy 1:12; 2:10,19; Hebrews 11:39-12:2; James 1:12; 1 Peter 1:2-5, 13; 2:4-10; 1 John 1:7-9; 2:19; 3:3.

VI. THE CHURCH.

A New Testament church of the Lord Jesus Christ is an autonomous local congregation of baptized believers, associated by covenant in the faith and fellowship of the gospel; observing the two ordinances of Christ, governed by His laws, exercising the gifts, rights, and privileges invested in them by His Word, and seeking to extend the gospel to the ends of the earth. Each congregation operates under the Lordship of Christ through democratic processes. In such a congregation each member is responsible and accountable to Christ as Lord. Its scriptural officers are pastors and deacons. While both men and women are gifted for service in the church, the offices of pastor and deacons are limited to men as qualified by Scripture.

The New Testament speaks also of the church as the Body of Christ which includes all of the redeemed of all the ages, believers from every tribe, and tongue, and people, and nation.

Matthew 16:15-19; 18:15-20; Acts 2:41-42,47; 5:11-14; 6:3-6; 13:1-3; 14:23,27; 15:1-30; 16:5; 20:28; Romans 1:7; 1 Corinthians 1:2; 3:16; 5:4-5; 7:17; 9:13-14; 12; Ephesians 1:22-23; 2:19-22; 3:8-11,21; 5:22-32; Philippians 1:1; Colossians 1:18; 1 Timothy 2:9-14; 3:1-15; 4:14; Hebrews 11:39-40; 1 Peter 5:1-4; Revelation 2-3; 21:2-3. ns 1:1-2; 15:24-28; Ephesians 1:4-23; 2:1-10; 3:1-11; Colossians 1:12-14; 2 Thessalonians 2:13-14; 2 Timothy 1:12; 2:10,19; Hebrews 11:39-12:2; James 1:12; 1 Peter 1:2-5,13; 2:4-10; 1 John 1:7-9; 2:19; 3:2.

VII. Baptism and the Lord's Supper

Baptism

Christian baptism is the immersion of a believer in water in the name of the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit. It is an act of obedience symbolizing the believer's faith in a crucified, buried, and risen Savior, the believer's death to sin, the burial of the old life, and the resurrection to walk in newness of life in Christ Jesus. It is a testimony to his faith in the final resurrection of the dead. Being a church ordinance, it is prerequisite to the privileges of church membership and to the Lord's Supper.

The Lord's Supper

We believe the Scriptures teach that the Lord's Supper is a provision of bread and wine, representing Christ's body and blood, partaken of by the members of the church assembled for that purpose, in commemoration of the death of our Lord, showing our faith and participation in the merits of His sacrifice, our dependence on Him for spiritual life and nourishment, and their hope of life eternal through His resurrection from the dead; its observance to be preceded by faithful self-examination.

Matthew 3:13-17; 26:26-30; 28:19-20; Mark 1:9-11; 14:22-26; Luke 3:21-22; 22:19-20; John 3:23; Acts 2:41-42; 8:35-39; 16:30-33; 20:7; Romans 6:3-5; 1 Corinthians 10:16,21; 11:23-29; Colossians 2:12.

VIII. The Lord's Day

We believe the Scriptures teach the first day of the week is the Lord's day, and is to be kept sacred to religious purposes by abstaining from all secular labor, except works of mercy and necessity; by the devout observance of all the means of grace, both private and public; and by preparation for that rest that remains for the people of God.

Exodus 20:8-11; Matthew 12:1-12; 28:1ff.; Mark 2:27-28; 16:1-7; Luke 24:1-3,33-36; John 4:21-24; 20:1,19-28; Acts 20:7; Romans 14:5-10; 1 Corinthians 16:1-2; Colossians 2:16; 3:16; Revelation 1:10.

IX. The Kingdom

The Kingdom of God includes both His general sovereignty over the universe and His particular kingship over men who willfully acknowledge Him as King. Particularly the Kingdom is the realm of salvation into which men enter by trustful, childlike commitment to Jesus Christ. Christians ought to pray and to labor that the Kingdom may come and God's will be done on earth. The full consummation of the Kingdom awaits the return of Jesus Christ and the end of this age.

Genesis 1:1; Isaiah 9:6-7; Jeremiah 23:5-6; Matthew 3:2; 4:8-10,23; 12:25-28; 13:1-52; 25:31-46; 26:29; Mark 1:14-15; 9:1; Luke 4:43; 8:1; 9:2; 12:31-32; 17:20-21; 23:42; John 3:3; 18:36; Acts 1:6-7; 17:22-31; Romans 5:17; 8:19; 1 Corinthians 15:24-28; Colossians 1:13; Hebrews 11:10,16; 12:28; 1 Peter 2:4-10; 4:13; Revelation 1:6,9; 5:10; 11:15; 21-22.

X. Last Things

God, in His own time and in His own way, will bring the world to its appropriate end. According to His promise, Jesus Christ will return personally and visibly in glory to the earth; the dead will be raised; and Christ will judge all men in righteousness. The unrighteous will be consigned to Hell, the place of everlasting punishment. The righteous in their resurrected and glorified bodies will receive their reward and will dwell forever in Heaven with the Lord.

Isaiah 2:4; 11:9; Matthew 16:27; 18:8-9; 19:28; 24:27,30,36,44; 25:31-46; 26:64; Mark 8:38; 9:43-48; Luke 12:40,48; 16:19-26; 17:22-37; 21:27-28; John 14:1-3; Acts 1:11; 17:31; Romans 14:10; 1 Corinthians 4:5; 15:24-28,35-58; 2 Corinthians 5:10; Philippians 3:20-21; Colossians 1:5; 3:4; 1 Thessalonians 4:14-18; 5:1ff.; 2 Thessalonians 1:7ff.; 2; 1 Timothy 6:14; 2 Timothy 4:1,8; Titus 2:13; Hebrews 9:27-28; James 5:8; 2 Peter 3:7ff.; 1 John 2:28; 3:2; Jude 14; Revelation 1:18; 3:11; 20:1-22:13.

XI. Evangelism and Missions

It is the duty and privilege of every follower of Christ and of every church of the Lord Jesus Christ to endeavor to make disciples of all nations. The new birth of man's spirit by

God's Holy Spirit means the birth of love for others. Missionary effort on the part of all rests thus upon a spiritual necessity of the regenerate life, and is expressly and repeatedly commanded in the teachings of Christ. The Lord Jesus Christ has commanded the preaching of the gospel to all nations. It is the duty of every child of God to seek constantly to win the lost to Christ by verbal witness undergirded by a Christian lifestyle, and by other methods in harmony with the gospel of Christ.

Genesis 12:1-3; Exodus 19:5-6; Isaiah 6:1-8; Matthew 9:37-38; 10:5-15; 13:18-30, 37-43; 16:19; 22:9-10; 24:14; 28:18-20; Luke 10:1-18; 24:46-53; John 14:11-12; 15:7-8,16; 17:15; 20:21; Acts 1:8; 2; 8:26-40; 10:42-48; 13:2-3; Romans 10:13-15; Ephesians 3:1-11; 1 Thessalonians 1:8; 2 Timothy 4:5; Hebrews 2:1-3; 11:39-12:2; 1 Peter 2:4-10; Revelation 22:17.

XII. Stewardship

God is the source of all blessings, temporal and spiritual; all that we have and are we owe to Him. Christians have a spiritual debtorship to the whole world, a holy trusteeship in the gospel, and a binding stewardship in their possessions. They are therefore under obligation to serve Him with their time, talents, and material possessions; and should recognize all these as entrusted to them to use for the glory of God and for helping others. According to the Scriptures, Christians should contribute of their means cheerfully, regularly, systematically, proportionately, and liberally for the advancement of the Redeemer's cause on earth.

Genesis 14:20; Leviticus 27:30-32; Deuteronomy 8:18; Malachi 3:8-12; Matthew 6:1-4,19-21; 19:21; 23:23; 25:14-29; Luke 12:16-21,42; 16:1-13; Acts 2:44-47; 5:1-11; 17:24-25; 20:35; Romans 6:6-22; 12:1-2; 1 Corinthians 4:1-2; 6:19-20; 12; 16:1-4; 2 Corinthians 8-9; 12:15; Philippians 4:10-19; 1 Peter 1:18-19.

XIII. Cooperation

Christ's people should, as occasion requires, organize such associations and conventions as may best secure cooperation for the great objects of the Kingdom of God. Such organizations have no authority over one another or over the churches. They are voluntary and advisory bodies designed to elicit, combine, and direct the energies of our people in the most effective manner. Members of New Testament churches should cooperate with one another in carrying forward the missionary, educational, and benevolent ministries for the extension of Christ's Kingdom. Christian unity in the New Testament sense is spiritual harmony and voluntary cooperation for common ends by various groups of Christ's people. Cooperation is desirable between the various Christian denominations, when the end to be attained is itself justified, and when such cooperation involves no violation of conscience or compromise of loyalty to Christ and His Word as revealed in the New Testament.

Exodus 17:12; 18:17ff.; Judges 7:21; Ezra 1:3-4; 2:68-69; 5:14-15; Nehemiah 4; 8:1-5; Matthew 10:5-15; 20:1-16; 22:1-10; 28:19-20; Mark 2:3; Luke 10:1ff.; Acts 1:13-14; 2:1ff.; 4:31-37; 13:2-3; 15:1-35; 1 Corinthians 1:10-17; 3:5-15; 12; 2 Corinthians 8-9; Galatians 1:6-10; Ephesians 4:1-16; Philippians 1:15-18.

XIV. The Christian and the Social Order

All Christians are under obligation to seek to make the will of Christ supreme in our own lives and in human society. Means and methods used for the improvement of society and the establishment of righteousness among men can be truly and permanently helpful only when they are rooted in the regeneration of the individual by the saving grace of God in Jesus Christ. In the spirit of Christ, Christians should oppose racism, every form of greed, selfishness, and vice, and all forms of sexual immorality, including adultery, homosexuality, and pornography. We should work to provide for the orphaned, the needy, the abused, the aged, the helpless, and the sick. We should speak on behalf of the unborn and contend for the sanctity of all human life from conception to natural death. Every Christian should seek to bring industry, government, and society as a whole under the sway of the principles of righteousness, truth, and brotherly love. In order to promote these ends Christians should be ready to work with all men of good will in any good cause, always being careful to act in the spirit of love without compromising their loyalty to Christ and His truth.

Exodus 20:3-17; Leviticus 6:2-5; Deuteronomy 10:12; 27:17; Psalm 101:5; Micah 6:8; Zechariah 8:16; Matthew 5:13-16,43-48; 22:36-40; 25:35; Mark 1:29-34; 2:3ff.; 10:21; Luke 4:18-21; 10:27-37; 20:25; John 15:12; 17:15; Romans 12-14; 1 Corinthians 5:9-10; 6:1-7; 7:20-24; 10:23-11:1; Galatians 3:26-28; Ephesians 6:5-9; Colossians 3:12-17; 1 Thessalonians 3:12; Philemon; James 1:27; 2:8.

XV. Peace and War

It is the duty of Christians to seek peace with all men on principles of righteousness. The supreme need of the world is the acceptance of His teachings in all the affairs of men and nations, and the practical application of His law of love. Christian people throughout the world should pray for the reign of the Prince of Peace.

Isaiah 2:4; Matthew 5:9,38-48; 6:33; 26:52; Luke 22:36,38; Romans 12:18-19; 13:1-7; 14:19; Hebrews 12:14; James 4:1-2.

XVI. Religious Liberty

God alone is Lord of the conscience, and He has left it free from the doctrines and commandments of men which are contrary to His Word or not contained in it. Church and state should be separate. The state owes to every church protection and full freedom in the pursuit of its spiritual ends. In providing for such freedom no ecclesiastical group or denomination should be favored by the state more than others. Civil government being ordained of God, it is the duty of Christians to render loyal obedience thereto in all things not contrary to the revealed will of God. The church should not resort to the civil power to carry on its work. The gospel of Christ contemplates spiritual means alone for the pursuit of its ends. The state has no right to impose penalties for religious opinions of any kind. The state has no right to impose taxes for the support of any form of religion. A free church in a free state is the Christian ideal, and this implies the right of free and unhindered access to God on the part of all men, and the right to form and propagate opinions in the sphere of religion without interference by the civil power.

Genesis 1:27; 2:7; Matthew 6:6-7,24; 16:26; 22:21; John 8:36; Acts 4:19-20; Romans 6:1-2; 13:1-7; Galatians 5:1,13; Philippians 3:20; 1 Timothy 2:1-2; James 4:12; 1 Peter

2:12-17; 3:11-17; 4:12-19.

XVII. The Family

God has ordained the family as the foundational institution of human society. It is composed of persons related to one another by marriage, blood, or adoption.

Marriage is the uniting of one man and one woman in covenant commitment for a lifetime. It is God's unique gift to reveal the union between Christ and His church and to provide for the man and the woman in marriage the framework for intimate companionship, the channel of sexual expression according to biblical standards, and the means for procreation of the human race.

The husband and wife are of equal worth before God, since both are created in God's image. The marriage relationship models the way God relates to His people. A husband is to love his wife as Christ loved the church. He has the God-given responsibility to provide for, to protect, and to lead his family. A wife is to submit herself graciously to the servant leadership of her husband even as the church willingly submits to the headship of Christ. She, being in the image of God as is her husband and thus equal to him, has the God-given responsibility to respect her husband and to serve as his helper in managing the household and nurturing the next generation.

Children, from the moment of conception, are a blessing and heritage from the Lord. Parents are to demonstrate to their children God's pattern for marriage. Parents are to teach their children spiritual and moral values and to lead them, through consistent lifestyle example and loving discipline, to make choices based on biblical truth. Children are to honor and obey their parents.

Genesis 1:26-28; 2:15-25; 3:1-20; Exodus 20:12; Deuteronomy 6:4-9; Joshua 24:15; 1 Samuel 1:26-28; Psalms 51:5; 78:1-8; 127; 128; 139:13-16; Proverbs 1:8; 5:15-20; 6:20-22; 12:4; 13:24; 14:1; 17:6; 18:22; 22:6,15; 23:13-14; 24:3; 29:15,17; 31:10-31; Ecclesiastes 4:9-12; 9:9; Malachi 2:14-16; Matthew 5:31-32; 18:2-5; 19:3-9; Mark 10:6-12; Romans 1:18-32; 1 Corinthians 7:1-16; Ephesians 5:21-33; 6:1-4; Colossians 3:18-21; 1 Timothy 5:8,14; 2 Timothy 1:3-5; Titus 2:3-5; Hebrews 13:4; 1 Peter 3:1-7.

13.2 Church Organization Chart

