

BY-LAWS OF THE FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH of MAGAZINE ARKANSAS

ARTICLE V BYLAWS

SUBARTICLE I CHARACTER

Section1 - POLITY. Its government is vested in the body of believers who compose it. It is subject to the control of no ecclesiastical body or individual but It recognizes and sustains the obligations of mutual counsel and co-operation which is common among Southern Baptist churches,

Section2 - DOCTRINE. It receives the Scriptures its authority in matters of faith an practice. Its understanding of Christian truth as contained therein is in essential accord with the beliefs of the Baptist churches as indicated in the Articles of Faith therewith.

SUBARTICLE II MEMBERSHIP

Section1 - Membership in this church shall be granted to persons giving evidence acceptable to this church and specifically to those giving satisfactory evidence of salvation from sin and who will submit to baptism at the hands of this church; and to those received into the membership by Letter from another Baptist church of like faith and order; and persons who come by statement of salvation and scriptural baptism.

Section 2 - Application for membership, or request for

Letter, may be considered at any of the meetings of the church.

SUBARTICLE III EXCLUSION OF MEMBERS

Section 1 - No member of this church shall be excluded from the membership of this church except by at least two-thirds vote of all members present in a regular meeting. The member to be excluded shall have a fair and reasonable opportunity to be heard on said matter.

The notice of the church's intention to exclude a member must be given in person to the offending member at his or her last known address at least two weeks prior to the meeting when exclusion shall be considered. If the whereabouts of said person is unknown a notice under Article VIII will be considered sufficient if given by certified mail to said person's last known address at least two weeks prior to the meeting when exclusion will be considered.

Every recommendation for exclusion will be recommended by the Deacons and come from that Body, but only after said Body has followed the New Testament Plan for reconciliation an offending brother or sister without results.

Section 2 - In the event a member does not attend any meetings of this church during any one Church Year, the same shall be considered sufficient reason for an examination in to the cause thereof; and if after examination by the deacons sufficient reason for such absence does not appear and the promise of amendment is not made, the deacons shall present the facts to the church and the recommendations for exclusion.

SUBARTICLE IV MEETINGS

Section 1 - Regular Meetings: The church shall meet regularly every Lord's Day, for public worship of God and the proclamation of the Gospel of our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ. The Lord's Supper shall be observed quarterly, and at such times as the church designates. The deacons are charged with the responsibility of serving the Lord's Supper according to the principles of the New Testament.

Section 2 - Business Meetings: The regular monthly business meeting of this church shall be held on 2nd Sunday of the month after Sunday morning services unless rescheduled in advance with proper notice and announcements on two prior Sunday services. Failure to meet quorum requirements defaults to the rescheduled criteria business meeting, as noted above.

Section 3 - Quorum for regular and rescheduled business meetings: Twenty voting members present shall be considered a quorum and may transact any business of the

church at any of the above meetings.

Section 4 - For “special” business meetings such as for building plans borrowing of funds, calling a pastor, 30 voting members are required for a quorum. Also special notifications advertising the extraordinary meeting via letters of notification, web site, plus advanced timeline as noted above in section 2.

Section 5 - Calling a Pastor: A pastor shall be voted in view of a call on after the 3rd week of Sunday morning services, following the Sunday morning worship service of the 3rd week on which he has been scheduled to preach.

Section 6 - Eligibility to Vote: In all matters, each member of the church older than 18 years shall be entitled to vote.

Section 7 - MODERATOR: The Moderator of all business meetings of the church shall be the Pastor. In his absence or for other reasons he shall select the Chairman of Deacons to preside.

SUBARTICLE V OFFICERS AND COMMITTEES

NOMINATING COMMITTEE: The Nominating Committee shall be elected by the church annually at the June business meeting of the church upon the recommendation of the Pastor. All other committees shall be recommended for election to the church by the Nominating committee.

TIME OF ELECTION AND EFFECTIVE DATE OF OFFICE:

The deacons, trustees, Director of Bible Study, Director of Church Training, Director of Men’s Ministry, Director of Women’s Missionary Ministry, shall be elected at the July meeting of the church. All other officers shall be elected annually at the September—(prior to the end of the church fiscal year) business meeting. (New fiscal year starts in October)

DEACONS: (mandatory members this church): The ordained officers of this church shall be a pastor and deacons. The number of deacons shall be left to the discretion of the church.

Section I - Election of Deacons: Every Deacon of this church must be elected to service by this church after careful and prayerful consideration according to Scripture requirements, and also by the church unless the church is satisfied with a previous ordination. The deacons shall elect their chairman and make such rules as they may consider necessary for efficiently carrying on their work. They shall meet monthly or more frequently on the

call of the Pastor or the Chairman of the deacons. The deacons shall have no executive power but shall recommend and advise the church in accordance with its policies.

Section2- The deacons shall organize themselves into committees if possible; assisting the pastor in seeking to promote fellowship among the members of the church; and assist the pastor in jealously guarding and fostering the spiritual life of the church. They shall provide with the counsel of the pastor, the supply of the pulpit in the absence of the pastor and properly entertain the guest speakers. They shall have general oversight of the spiritual affairs of the church and its affiliated organizations.

Section3— A new member Deacon from a Sister church will not need to be ordained a second time to be accepted as a new Deacon for this church following the guidelines described in above sections 1 and 2.

TRUSTEES: There shall be three trustees. One member of the trustees shall be an active deacon. The trustees shall be elected annually and be re-elected if he otherwise qualifies.

The duties and obligations of the trustees are enumerated below and in performance of said duties and obligations, the trustees shall first obtain approval of their acts by vote of the church on all extraordinary and non-routine matters.

1. They shall meet monthly.
2. The trustees shall have charge of and shall hold all church property, but shall not sell or mortgage or otherwise encumber any church property without the consent of a simple majority of the voting members present and voting at a special business meeting of the church called for purpose specified.
3. The trustees shall have general oversight of all physical property of the church and the use thereof on or off the premises.

PASTOR: A pastor shall be entitled to vote present at a meeting advertised for said purpose. The time of said meeting shall be advertised by giving verbal notice thereof on the two regular meetings of the church prior to the Sunday evening in which the meeting occurs.

Upon the death, dismissal or resignation of a pastor a Pulpit Committee shall be voted on by the church on a subsequent Sunday morning. In such case the committee shall consist of five adult members of the church, and at least one of which will be a deacon. During the time the church is without a pastor the pulpit will be under the supervision of the Pulpit Committee.

CHURCH TREASURER: It shall be the duty of the Treasurer to keep a record of gifts of all members made to the

church and make regular reports to the church as to the number of tithers, contributors, those who pledge and make payments thereon. The treasurer will furnish year end **(confidential/private)**summary tabulation data of annual contributions to each contributing member, **only**. It shall be the duty of the Church Treasurer, if sufficient funds are available, to pay all bills immediately, subject to review by the trustees or at a follow-on business meeting.

SUBARTICLE VI AMENDMENTS

These by-laws may not be changed except by a quorum vote as noted for “special” business meeting of the church which is duly called; the members shall be informed in writing at least two weeks prior to the meeting. Said notice shall contain a copy of the amendment to be submitted to the church.

SUBARTICLE VII FINALITY

The adoption of these (Constitution, Covenant, and By-laws) by the church shall invalidate any and all previous rules of order and a copy of same be recorded in the church minutes and will published each year in the church’s annual report.

These (Constitution, Covenant, and By-laws) were adopted on _____ at _____ church meeting.