

CONSTITUTION

Area Bible Fellowship Church

I.

A. Members Qualifications

Persons desiring to become members of this church must be born-again believers in the Lord Jesus Christ. They will meet with the elders and receive instruction on the Statement of Faith, Doctrinal Statement, and the Constitution of the Church.

Persons will be in agreement with these positions of the church. After the instruction period and unanimous approval by the elders, the person will then be recommended to the members for membership approval. Prospective members will give assurance of having been baptized or a willingness to receive baptism.

Baptism shall be by immersion. No person can be a member of this church who is a member of any secret society or lodge (II Cor. 6:14–18). Members must be 18 years old to participate in any votes brought before the membership.

B. Discipline Of Members

The matter of discipline of the membership shall be the responsibility of the elders. All discipline will be handled according to scriptural guidelines (Matt. 18:15–17, I Cor. 5:11–13, Gal. 1:8–9, I Thess. 3:6). Termination of membership will not be used until every effort has been made by the elders to restore the person's relationship with Christ and the Church.

II. Meetings Of Members

A. Annual Meeting

The annual meeting of the members will be held within six weeks of each Jan. 1st, the exact date set by the elders, for the transaction of business as it comes before the meeting. Any business to come before the membership meeting must be presented to the elders at their regular meeting prior to the membership meeting.

B. Special Meetings

Special meetings of the members may be called by the elders when they deem it necessary after consulting the members.

III. Board Of Directors

A. Management

The Board of Directors will be made up of the elders of the Church. The affairs of the Church shall be managed by the elders.

B. Number and Tenure

The number of elders shall be no less than three and as many as the elders shall determine from time to time. The duration of service of the elders shall be for life.

While there are no term limits for an elder, an elder can resign at any time, but must go through the selection process in order to become an active elder again.

Recognition of elders will be every year at the Annual meeting of the members.

C. Appointment and Qualification

Appointment as an elder shall be done by the existing elders recommending to the members for unanimous approval of the person appointed. Qualifications for

appointment as an elder will be according to scriptural guidelines in I Tim. 3 and Titus 1.

D. Removal

The removal of an elder may be done by the witness of two or three members who bring a just accusation against the elder (I Tim. 5:19) and the best interest of the Church would be served thereby. Just accusations will be thoroughly reviewed by the remaining elders on a scriptural basis.

E. Manner Of Acting

The elders shall decide all issues presented at a regular or special meeting by unanimous decision. The elders at their discretion shall take necessary measures to consult the members on any issue they deem necessary. Any decision made will be communicated to the members. Final decisions on any issue shall be made by the elders by unanimous approval, except where this constitution gives final authority to the members.

F. Meetings

Regular meetings will be held on the first Tuesday of each month, or at a time set by the elders every month. Special meetings may be called by an elder, at which time, the place and time will be specified.

IV. Deacons

A. Number and Tenure

The number of deacons shall be determined by the elders. A deacon will serve as long as the identified need exists, and the deacon remains biblically qualified and

consents to serve. Recognition will be every year at the Annual Meeting of the members.

B. Appointment and Qualifications

Appointment as a deacon shall be done by the elders' unanimous approval to recommend to the members for their unanimous approval of the person appointed.

Qualifications for appointment as a deacon will be according to scriptural guidelines in I Tim. 3:8–13.

C. Removal

The removal of a deacon may be done by the elders when the best interest of the church would be served thereby.

V. Amendment Of Constitution

A. Manner Done

This Constitution may be altered, amended, or repealed and a new constitution may be adopted by a unanimous decision of the elders.

VI. Amendment Of Articles of Incorporation

A. Manner Done

The Articles of Incorporation of the Church may be altered, amended, or repealed and new articles may be adopted by a unanimous decision of the members.

Membership

Persons whose names are on the membership roll of the Church will approve the leadership of the Church, be responsible for the removal of elders, approve new members, termination of members, and changing the Articles of Incorporation for the Church. To be an elder or deacon, you have to be a member of the Church.

Non-Members

If for any reason a person chooses not to place his name on the membership roll, he is still considered a part of the Church and will be allowed to use his gifts and talents to build up the Church. There will be no distinctions or limitations between members and non-members except those listed in the membership section above.

Elders

Will be spiritually responsible for the Church. They will have the final say on all decisions, except those that are listed as the responsibility of the members. Communication and consultation with the members will be utilized in decisions made by the elders.

Deacons

Will be responsible for any of the physical needs of the Church and assist the elders in the leadership of the Church.

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