

**CONSTITUTION AND BYLAWS
OF
THE CAMP BRANCH BAPTIST CHURCH**

Revised July 19, 2015

INTRODUCTION

A church is a fellowship of people who have accepted Christ as Savior and are united by their common relation to the Holy Spirit. A church, like a community or an individual, is always changing. Fundamental doctrines remain the same, but methods of teaching these doctrines and of moving toward objectives must change if the mission of the church is to be accomplished.

A church constitution and bylaws document help a church preserve a democratic procedure. This instrument serves as the guide for members to follow in carrying out the work of the church.

Basic theology, organizational structures, and church policies are contained in a constitution. Bylaws, on the other hand, state the methods for expediting these principles and policies. Bylaws will usually be changed more often than the constitution. It should be emphasized, however, that both the constitution and bylaws should be reviewed annually by the church council and/or deacons. As the program of a church changes, so must its rules of governmental procedures be brought up to date.

The basic advantages of a constitution and bylaws are:

1. Furnishes members a written statement of their church organization, fundamental guidelines, and theological beliefs.
2. Aids in preserving democracy and harmony since predetermined guidelines have already been established by the members.
3. Provides orderly procedures for guiding the transaction of church business.
4. Serves as a basis for solving problems before problems arise.

CONSTITUTION

PREAMBLE

We declare and establish this constitution for the preservation and security of the principles of our faith, and so that this body may be governed in an orderly manner. This constitution will preserve the liberties of each individual member of this Church and the freedom of action of this body in relation to other churches of the same faith.

ARTICLE I. NAME

This body shall be known as the CAMP BRANCH BAPTIST CHURCH (AKA “Church”) of 18020 W. 32nd Street Road, Sedalia, Pettis County, Missouri, 65301.

ARTICLE II. STATEMENTS OF FAITH AND PRACTICE

Section 1 – Basis of Faith.

The Holy Bible (identified as the Old and New Testament, the Christian Bible) is the inspired and infallible Word of God and is the basis for this Church and its statement of faith (2 Timothy 3:16). This Church subscribes to the doctrinal statement of the *Baptist Faith and Message* as adopted by the Southern Baptist Convention in the year 2000. We band 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 baptism and the Lord's Supper.

Section 2 – Marriage and the Family.

This Church affirms God’s original design to create distinct and complimentary sexes, male and female, to glorify Him (Genesis 1:27; Isaiah 43:7; Matthew 19:4-6; Mark 10:6). Marriage is the first divine institution, essentially rooted in the created order, uniting one man and one woman in an exclusive covenant for their joint lifetime, for their good and for the good of any children conceived and born into this union (Genesis 1:28; 2:19-24; Malachi 2:13-16; Mark 10:11-12).

Marriage is based upon the truth that men and women are complimentary, the biological fact that reproduction depends on a man and a woman, and the lived experience that children need both a father and a mother. Re-defining marriage to fit popular norms rejects these truths. By encouraging the norms of true Marriage: man-woman monogamy, sexual inclusivity, and permanence; the state of marriage strengthens civil society and promotes human flourishing, including the well-being of children.

Christian marriage is God’s unique gift to reveal the union between Christ and His Church, as illustrated by the wedding of a Christian man and woman in this exclusive and permanent covenant relationship. As such, this Church believes that Christian wedding ceremonies on Church property are spiritual observances of worship of God who made this divine institution. As worship services, a wedding on Church property shall be officiated by one or more ordained Ministers of the Gospel approved by Camp Branch Baptist Church.

The facilities of Camp Branch Baptist Church for weddings will be limited to at least one member in good standing with this Church, if it is determined that both parties are biblically qualified to marry. Disqualification to marry may include (but is not limited to) current lifestyle status (i.e. cohabitation, fornication, drug or alcohol abuse) and any previous marriages of the parties. Qualification to marry if these issues exist will be determined on a case by case basis, based upon biblical truth and the willingness of the parties to repent and to commit their relationships to God and His Word, and to be accountable to the Church. Final

determination will be made by the Pastor of Camp Branch Baptist Church subject to the direction of the active Church membership in good standing.

This Church may decline to participate in or recognize in any manner any marriage, so called marriage, civil union, commitment ceremony, or other activity which may directly or in-directly affirm, approve, or communicate behavior or beliefs which are contrary to the Church's beliefs about biblical morality. Such actions would violate the religious conscience of this Church and its membership. We must obey God, who is the Lord of our conscience.

No employee, called servant of this Church, or member of the Church shall officiate at any marriage or similar ceremony unless such event or ceremony is consistent with this Constitution and By-Laws. No employee, called servant of this church, or member of this Church shall officiate at any civil union or commitment ceremony that is not approved by this Church as being consistent with this Constitution and By-Laws.

Section 3 – Human Sexuality and Gender.

We believe that any form of sexual immorality (including but not limited to adultery, cohabitation, fornication (which is sexual intercourse or other sexual activity between people not married to one another), homosexual behavior, bisexual conduct, bestiality, incest, transgenderism, and the use of pornography) is sinful and offensive to God (Matt 15:18-20; 1 Cor 6:9-10.) Any active or inactive member found in violation of these beliefs will be lovingly and strongly encouraged to repent and reconcile to God, His Word, and the Church membership. Unrepentant members will no longer be considered "members in good standing" and will be subject to Church discipline and dismissal from membership as found in the Bylaws of this Constitution, Article I, Sections 4 and 5. No person who presents themselves as candidates for membership found in any unrepentant lifestyle named above will be accepted into the active membership of Camp Branch Baptist Church. No former member or inactive member under church discipline will be reinstated into active membership unless the proofs of repentance and accountability to God's Word are shown and are found acceptable by the active membership (See Bylaws, Article I, Section 4 and 5).

The assignment of biological sex at birth is a gift from God and part of God's glory and creation. The Fall of Man into sin and God's subsequent curse have introduced brokenness and futility into God's good creation (Genesis 3:1-24; Romans 8:20). We extend love and compassion to those whose experience of this brokenness includes a perceived conflict between their biological sex and their gender identity as well as those with same-sex attraction (Romans 8:22-23). We affirm God's good design that gender identity should be determined by biological sex and not by one's perception – a perception which is often influenced by fallen human nature in ways contrary to God's design (Ephesians 4:17-18). We affirm distinctions in masculine and feminine roles as ordained by God as part of the created order, and that those distinctions should find an echo in every human heart (Genesis 2:18; 21-24; 1 Corinthians 11:7-9; Ephesians 5:22-23; 1 Timothy 2:12-14).

We believe that efforts to live contrary to birth sex, whether by behavior, attire, cosmetics, or even medical or surgical therapy, are resisting and rebelling against the gift of God and a central dimension of His will for that person, and therefore such behavior is sinful. We also believe that acting on same-sex attraction is sinful and contrary to God's order of sexual identity and the created order of God designing Man and Woman who are then complimentary for one another and designed exclusively to fulfill the God created sexual desire found inside a marriage covenant.

We condemn efforts to alter one's bodily identity (e.g., cross-sex hormone therapy, gender reassignment surgery) to bring it into line with one's perceived gender identity.

We love our transgender and homosexual neighbors, seek their good always, welcome them into attending our services, and into our congregation as they repent and believe in Christ, and will spur them on to love and good deeds in the name of Christ (2 Corinthians 5:18-20; Galatians 5:14; Hebrews 10:24).

Section 4. Sanctity of Human Life.

We believe that all human life is sacred and created by God in His image. Human life is of inestimable worth in all its dimensions, including pre-born babies, the aged, the physically or mentally challenged, and every other stage or condition from conception through natural death. We are therefore called to defend, protect, and value all human life. (Ps 139.)

Section 5. A Further Statement of Faith and Practice.

These previous statements of faith and practice do not exhaust the extent of our beliefs or practices. The Bible itself, as the inspired and infallible Word of God is that which speaks with final authority concerning truth, morality, and the proper conduct of mankind, and thus is the sole and final source of all that we believe. For purposes of our Church in the work of our faith, doctrine, practice, policy, and discipline, our Pastor and Deacons, with both the consent and approval of active members in good standing of Camp Branch Baptist Church are the final interpretive authority for this Church on the Bible's meaning and application.

ARTICLE III. CHURCH MISSION

The Camp Branch Baptist Church is a body of believers worshipping in a common fellowship and mission for Christ; Providing resources, information, and awareness to the body of Christ; Enabling each other to reach out and share the good news of the gospel through evangelism and personal ministry.

ARTICLE IV. CHURCH COVENANT

Having been led, as we believe, 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 Spirit, we do now in the presence of God 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 promote its prosperity and spirituality; To sustain its worship, ordinances, discipline, and doctrines.

To contribute cheerfully and regularly to the ministry, the expenses of the church, the relief of the poor, and the spreading of the gospel throughout all nations.

We also engage to maintain family and secret devotions; To educate our children religiously; To seek the salvation of our kindred 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 intoxicating drinks as a beverage; To use our influence to combat the abuse of drugs and the spread of pornography; And to be zealous in our efforts to advance the kingdom of our Savior.

We further engage to watch over one another in brotherly love; To remember one another in prayer; To aid one another 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 the rules of our Savior, to secure it without delay.

We moreover engage that when we remove from this place, we will, as soon as possible, unite with some other church, where we can carry out the spirit of this covenant and the principles of God's Word.

ARTICLE V. CHARACTER

Section 1. Polity.

The government of this Church is vested in the body of believers who compose it. It is subject to the control of no other ecclesiastical body, but it recognizes and sustains the obligations of mutual counsel and cooperation which are common among Baptist churches. Whenever practical, this Church will cooperate with and support the association and the state convention affiliated with the Southern Baptist Convention.

Section 2. Doctrine.

This Church receives the Holy Scriptures as its sole authority in matters of faith and practice as interpreted by its members in good standing. Its understanding of Christian truth as contained therein is in essential accord with the belief of the Southern Baptist Convention.

Section 3. Dissolution Clause.

Should the Camp Branch Baptist Church cease cooperating with and supporting the aforesaid ministry within the aforesaid Articles I-V, the entire property, now presented, shall immediately revert to the Harmony Baptist Association, with any and all buildings that have been added thereto.

BYLAWS

ARTICLE 1. CHURCH MEMBERSHIP

Section 1. General.

This is a sovereign and democratic Baptist church under the Lordship of Jesus Christ. The active membership retains unto itself the right of exclusive self-government in all phases of the spiritual and temporal life of this Church.

The active membership reserves the exclusive right to determine who shall be members of this Church and the conditions of such membership (See the Constitution, Article II, and Section 3 for examples of de-limiting qualifications for membership).

Section 2. Candidacy.

Any person may offer himself as a candidate for membership in this Church. All such candidates shall be presented to the Church at any business meeting in any of the following ways:

- (1) By public profession of faith in the Lord Jesus Christ as personal Savior and following baptism into the full fellowship of the Church.
- (2) By promise of a letter from another Baptist church of like faith and order.
- (3) By statement of prior salvation experience and baptism in a Baptist church when no letter is obtainable.
- (4) By testimony of believer's baptism: having been immersed as a believer by a Christian evangelical church; And fully subscribing to the doctrine and principles of the Baptist Faith and Message of 2000.

Section 3. New Member Orientation.

New members of this Church are expected to participate in the Church's new member orientation.

Section 4. Discipline.

It shall be the practice of this 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. The attitude of members toward one another shall be guided by a concern for restoration rather than punishment.

Should some serious condition exist which would cause a member to become a liability to the general welfare of the Church, the pastor and deacons will take every reasonable measure to resolve the problem in accord with Matthew 18. If it becomes necessary for the Church to exclude a member, a two thirds vote of the members present is required, and the Church may proceed to declare the person to be no longer in the membership of the Church (Dismissal). All such proceedings shall be pervaded by a spirit of Christian kindness and forbearance.

The Church may restore to membership any person previously excluded, upon request of the excluded person, and by vote of the Church upon evidence of the excluded person's repentance and reformation.

Section 5. Termination of Membership.

Membership shall be terminated in any of the following ways:

- (1) Death.
- (2) Transfer of membership to another Baptist church of like faith and order.
- (3) Dismissal by action of this Church.
- (4) Erasure by request in person at any business meeting or erasure of notification by letter to church clerk.

- (5) Dismissal by becoming affiliated with a church of another faith or denomination.

Section 6. Inactive Membership.

A Church member will be considered "inactive" when they have not attended a worship service for at least a six month period. An exception would be granted for a member who as a result of long term illness/hospitalization and/or home/institutional care who cannot attend; To an active duty member of the armed services who as a result of a duty assignment is unable to attend; Or a member who as a student is going to school in another community. The following will occur after six months of absence from worship attendance of a member at Camp Branch:

- (1) The name of the member will be placed on an "inactive membership" list by Church approval at a business meeting;

- (2) Upon moving the members name to the inactive list, all voting rights at business meetings and other membership privileges including (but not limited to) service on Church ministries/committees will be suspended until active worship attendance is demonstrated by the inactive member. After the member demonstrates active participation at worship services and upon the member's request, they will then be reinstated as an "active member" by Church approval at a business meeting;

- (3) The "inactive membership" list will not be counted as members and will not be reported as members to the various agencies of the Southern Baptist Convention, and/or other associations/conventions of which the Church is associated.

ARTICLE II. CHURCH OFFICERS

All Church officers must be members of the Church. The officers of this Church shall be as follows:

Section 1. Pastor.

The pastor is responsible for leading the Church in functioning as a New Testament church. The pastor will lead the congregation, the organizations, and the Church staff in performing their tasks. A major concern of the pastor is to perform pastoral responsibilities. The pastor is the leader of worship, proclamation, education, and pastoral ministry. He is the chief corporate officer in charge of day to day administrative duties for and on behalf of the congregation outside of regular business meetings.

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

A pulpit committee shall be appointed by the Church to seek out a suitable pastor, and their recommendations will constitute a nomination, though any 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 man at a time. Election shall be by ballot, with 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 the Church. The pastor shall give at least two weeks' notice at the time of resignation before terminating his responsibilities as pastor.

Section 2. Church Staff.

This Church shall call or employ such staff members as the Church shall need. A job description shall be written when the need for staff members is determined. Vocational staff members other than the pastor shall be recommended to the Church by the appropriate committee and employed by Church approval.

The secretaries and custodians shall likewise be recommended to the Church by the appropriate committee and employed by church approval.

Section 3. Deacons.

The church shall elect deacons by ballot at business meetings of the Church. Candidates shall be nominated by the deacon council. The deacon council shall consist of one deacon, if possible, for every 12 to 15 church families. Six months membership is required for deacon candidacy.

In accordance with the meaning of the work and the practice of the New Testament, deacons are to be servants of the Church. The task of the deacon is to assist the pastor in performing pastoral responsibilities.

The deacons shall elect their officers and shall be organized to assist the pastor and for the consideration of problems related to their work. They shall serve the Church in the specific areas of baptism and the Lord's Supper. The deacons shall elect annually during the last quarter to start effective January the next year a Chairman, Vice Chairman, and Clerk.

The deacons shall organize and serve on the following committees:

A. Baptism Committee:

This committee shall consist of deacons and wives. The Baptism Committee is elected to assist the pastor in preparing for the ordinance of baptism. The committee is responsible for preparing the candidates and the baptistery for the ordinance.

B. Lord's Supper Committee:

The Lord's Supper Committee prepares the elements and the equipment for the observance of the Lord's Supper. The committee does the preparatory and maintenance work needed to observe the memorial service. The committee will prepare the elements on a schedule approved by the Church.

C. Benevolence Committee:

The Benevolence Committee shall be responsible for alleviating the needs of persons either within or without the Church membership. In any case, funds or other property available to it for such purposes may be used or disbursed by the Benevolence Committee within its sole discretion to the extent designated or allocated in the unified Church budget.

Section 4. Moderator.

The moderator shall be the pastor. In the absence of the pastor, the chairman of 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.

Section 5. Clerk.

The Church elected clerk of the Church shall keep in a suitable book a record of all the actions of the Church, except as otherwise herein provided. The clerk is responsible for keeping a register of names of members, with dates of admission, dismissal, or death, together with a record of baptisms. The clerk shall issue letters of dismissal voted by the Church, preserve on file all communications and written official reports, and give legal notice of all meetings where such notice is necessary as indicated by these laws. All Church records are Church property and should be filed in the Church office when one is maintained.

Section 6. Treasurer.

The Church shall elect annually a Church treasurer. It shall be the duty of the treasurer to receive, preserve, and pay out upon receipt of vouchers approved and signed by authorized personnel, all money or things of value paid or given to the Church, keeping at all times an itemized account of all receipts and disbursements.

It shall be the duty of the treasurer to render to the Church at each business meeting an itemized report of the receipts and disbursements for the preceding

month. The treasurer's report shall be reviewed annually by the Budget/Finance/Stewardship Committee or certified public accountant.

Upon rendering the annual account at the end of each fiscal year, and its acceptance and approval by the Church, the records shall be delivered by the treasurer to the Church clerk, who shall keep and preserve the account as part of the permanent records of the Church.

Section 7. Financial Secretary.

The financial secretary shall receive the empty collection envelopes after the money has been removed and counted by the proper persons selected by the Church and from these give donors individual credit. The envelopes shall be kept for reference for a period of two years. Records will be kept for the monthly balance, which will indicate receipts from envelopes, offering plates, and miscellaneous or special offerings. The secretary will also be responsible for preparing and mailing records of contributions to all contributing members.

Section 8. Church Historian and Reporter.

The historian is to preserve and use the historical records of the Church. The historian is especially concerned with gathering and preserving available Church records, recording full and accurate records, and using the records to help members understand and appreciate their heritage and mission. The historian will also serve as Church reporter.

ARTICLE III. CHURCH COMMITTEES

Section 1. General.

All Church committee members must be active members of the Church. All Church committee members shall be selected by the nominating committee and

elected by the Church. The committee members shall serve on a three-year rotation system with one third to be elected each year. All Church committees are accountable to the congregation for proper functioning and efficient operation and shall give a report of activities planned and services rendered at regular business meetings. The following committees shall be elected:

Section 2. Standing Committees.

A. Budget/Finance/Stewardship Committee:

The Budget/Finance/Stewardship Committee develops and recommends an overall stewardship development plan, a unified Church budget, and budget subscription plans. It advises and recommends in the administration of the gifts of Church members and others, using sound principles of financial management. It works with the treasurer in the preparation and presentation to the Church of required reports regarding the financial affairs of the church.

B. Fellowship Committee:

The Fellowship Committee shall plan and present ways to promote fellowship among Church members. They are responsible for preparing and recommending to the Church policies for the kitchen and for communicating these policies to Church members.

C. Flower Committee:

The Flower Committee is responsible for securing, arranging and disposing of floral arrangements for Church services, and for providing flowers for sick and bereaved members.

D. Missions and Evangelism Committee:

The Missions and Evangelism Committee seeks to discover possibilities for local missions' projects, shares findings with Church program organizations, and serves the Church in establishing and conducting such missions' projects as may be assigned to it.

E. Nominating Committee:

The Nominating Committee of three members coordinates the staffing of all Church leadership positions that are filled by volunteers. The Nominating Committee recommends persons for all volunteer positions to be elected by the Church.

F. Nursery Committee:

The Nursery Committee shall be responsible for the arrangement and care of rooms, safety of babies, and care of nursery equipment, materials and supplies; Shall promote good will between parents and nursery personnel; And shall be responsible for drafting any desired policies, rules and regulations for the effective and efficient operation of the nursery.

G. Personnel Committee

The Personnel Committee shall be responsible to establish and maintain appropriate personnel policies and procedures to ensure that position descriptions are prepared for all paid staff of the Church; Review annually the efficiency and effectiveness of paid personnel, and make salary recommendations to the Budget/Finance/Stewardship committee; Recruit and hire necessary support personnel to effectively and efficiently administer the ministries of the Church.

H. Recreation Committee

The Recreation Committee shall be responsible for promoting recreational activities among Church members. They shall plan activities; Organize and supervise all organized sports teams that represent Camp Branch Baptist Church; And recommend policies to the church concerning participation in organized activities.

I. Trustees:

Three trustees will hold in trust the property of the Church. Its work includes such areas as maintaining all Church properties for ready use and recommending policies regarding use of properties. No expenditure of more than two thousand five hundred dollars (\$2500) shall be made without Church approval. They shall have no power to buy, sell, mortgage, lease, or transfer any

property without a specific vote of the Church authorizing each action. It shall be the function of the trustees to affix their signatures to legal documents involving the sale, mortgaging, purchase, rental of property, or other legal documents where the signatures of trustees are required.

Section 3. Special Committees.

The pastor shall appoint such special committees and the members thereof with Church approval. Special committees shall not supersede the duties of any standing committee as outlined in Section 2.

Section 4. Child and Youth protection polices.

Child and youth protection polices/procedures will be reviewed annually by a group comprised of members of the Children's Ministry, Youth Ministry, Nursery Committee and the Sunday School Director. Changes in polices/procedures will be subject to church approval.

ARTICLE IV. CHURCH ORGANIZATIONS

Section 1. General.

The Church shall maintain programs of Bible teaching; Church member training; Church leader training; New member orientation; Mission education, action, and support with music education, training, and performance. All organizations related to the Church programs shall be under Church control, all officers being elected by the Church and reporting regularly to the Church, all program activities subject to Church coordination and approval. The Church shall provide the human resources, the physical resources, and the financial resources for the appropriate advancement of these programs.

Section 2. Sunday School.

The Sunday School shall be the basic organization for the Bible teaching program. Its tasks shall be to teach the biblical revelation, reach persons for Christ and church membership, perform the functions of the Church within its constituency, and provide and interpret information regarding the work of the church and denomination.

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.

Section 3. Discipleship Training.

The Discipleship Training organization shall serve as the training unit of the Church. Its tasks shall be to train Church members to perform the functions of the Church; Train Church leaders; Orient new Church members; Teach Christian theology, Christian ethics, Christian history, and Church polity and organization; And provide and interpret information regarding the work of the Church denomination.

Section 4. Women on Mission.

Women on Mission shall be the mission education, mission action, and mission support organization of the church for women, young women, girls, and preschool children. 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.

Women on Mission shall have such officers and organizations, as the program requires.

Section 5. 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 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.

Section 6. Church Music Organization.

The Church Music Organization, under the direction of the Church elected music director, shall be the music education, training, and performance organization of the church. Its tasks shall be to teach music; Train persons to lead, sing, and play music; Provide music in the church and community; And provide and interpret information regarding the work of the church and denomination.

The Church music program shall have such officers and organization, as the program requires.

Section 7. Youth Ministry.

The Youth Ministry shall plan all programs and ministries for the youth grades 7 through 12 of the church, supervise and provide chaperones for youth functions, promote and publicize the youth activities of the Church.

Section 8. Children's Ministry.

The Children's Ministry shall plan all programs and ministries for the children from preschool to 6th grade of the church; Supervise and provide chaperones for children's functions; Promote and publicize children's activities of the Church.

Section 9. Media Equipment/Relations Ministry.

The Media Equipment/Relations Ministry shall be responsible for maintaining and operating all audio/visual equipment of the Church, which would include sound and visual operations during worship services, maintaining the church's computer equipment, and promoting Church media information services including (but not limited to) the church website and community newsletter. This committee, in cooperation with the pastor and other ministry/committees, is also responsible for maintaining the Church calendar and its publication within the Church body.

ARTICLE V. CHURCH MEETINGS

Section 1. Worship Services.

The Church shall meet regularly each Sunday morning, Sunday evening and Wednesday evening for preaching, instruction, evangelism, and prayer for the worship of Almighty God. These meetings will be open for the entire membership of the Church and for all people and shall be conducted under the direction of the pastor.

Section 2. Special Services.

Revival services and any other Church meetings, which will be essential in the promotion of the objectives of the Church, shall be placed on the Church calendar.

Section 3. Regular Business Meetings.

Regular business meetings shall be held on the second Sunday of the month after morning worship service in the months of January, April, July, and October (unless Easter falls on the second Sunday of April, in which case the business meeting will be on the third Sunday in April). Should there be any unusual

business or matter of unusual interest to be brought before such regular business meeting, notice shall be given to the membership at the previous business meeting. Voting will be permitted only by active members in good standing present. An agenda shall be presented to and voted upon by the Church previous to each business meeting as the first item of business.

Section 4. Special Business Meetings.

A specially called business meeting may be called by the Pastor, the Deacons, or any standing committee to consider special matters of a significant nature. A one week written notice of the subject, date, time and location must be given for the specially called business meeting. An announcement written in the weekly bulletin qualifies as a written notice.

Section 5. Quorum.

A quorum consists of 10 active members of the Church who attend the business meeting, provided it is a stated meeting or one that has been properly called.

Section 6. Parliamentary Rules.

Robert's Rules of Order Revised is adopted as the authority for parliamentary rules of procedure for all business meetings of this Church, the deacons, and the committees.

ARTICLE VI. CHURCH FINANCES

Section 1. Budget.

The Budget/Finance/Stewardship Committee shall prepare and submit to the church for approval an inclusive budget, indicating by items the amount needed and sought for all local and other expenses. Offering envelopes will be provided for members' use.

It is understood that membership in this Church involves financial obligation to support the Church. Regular, spirit lead giving shall be encouraged.

Section 2. Accounting.

All funds, for any and all purposes, shall pass through the hands of the Church treasurer and be properly recorded in the financial records of the Church.

Section 3. Tithes and Offerings.

All gifts, moneys, designated gifts, donations of property, and decorations donated to the church will become Church property and will be so used by Church approval. No plaques or memorial markings will be permitted.

Section 4. Fiscal Year.

The fiscal year of the Church shall run concurrently with the calendar year, which begins on January 1 and ends on December 31.

ARTICLE VII. AMENDMENTS

Changes in this constitution and bylaws may be made at any business meeting of the Church, provided written copies of the basic idea of such amendments shall have been made available to each member present during a morning service at least one week in advance. Amendments to the constitution

and bylaws shall be by two thirds vote of all members of the Church present entitled to vote.

ARTICLE VIII. DIRECTIVES ON USE OF FACILITIES.

All real property facilities of Camp Branch Baptist Church, including without limitation its sanctuary, educational room(s), office space(s), unattached garage, and parsonage, and all Church property which includes the grounds where the facilities of the Church are located as well as loose property found therein (including but not limited to tables, chairs, electronic equipment, pianos, furniture, appliances), wherever located at 18020 W. 32nd Street, Sedalia, Pettis County Missouri;

- 1) When used by the Church, its minister(s), staff, or membership, and
- 2) If used by other persons or groups with the permission of the Church,

Shall be used solely for purposes consistent or compatible with the Mission Statement, Statement of Faith and Practices, Doctrinal Beliefs, Church Covenant, and Church Character, as identified in this Constitution and By-Laws (See the Constitution, Article II, III, IV, and V) it being acknowledged and understood that the facilities and property of Camp Branch Baptist Church are not to be facilities and property of “public accommodation” as defined by law, but are facilities and property owned by Camp Branch Baptist Church, a Missouri Non-Profit Corporation, dedicated solely for such permitted uses.

The Church’s facilities and property were provided by God’s benevolence and by the sacrificial generosity of God’s people, the membership of Camp Branch Baptist Church. The Church desires that its facilities be used for the fellowship of the Church and always to God’s glory. Although the facilities and property are not generally open public use, we do on occasion make our facilities available to non-members, both individuals and groups, after approval by the Church consistent with this by-law.

Facility or property use will not be permitted to persons or groups holding, advancing, or advocating beliefs, or advancing, advocating, or engaging in

practices that conflict with the Church's faith or moral teachings, which are summarized in Article II, III, IV, and V of this Constitution adopted by this Church. Nor may facilities or property be used for purposes that contradict, or are deemed by the Pastor and Deacons to be inconsistent or incompatible with the Church's faith or moral teaching. The Church designates the Pastor, in consultation with the Deacons of Camp Branch Baptist Church, as its final decision-maker on whether a person or a group is allowed to use Church facilities or Church property for particular activities.

This restricted facility use policy is necessary for two important reasons. First, this Church may not in good conscience materially cooperate or participate in activities or beliefs that are contrary to our faith. Allowing our facilities to be used for purposes that contradict our beliefs would be viewed by some as material cooperation with that activity and complicity in that viewpoint, and would be a grave violation of the faith and religious practice of Camp Branch Baptist Church (see 2 Corinthians 6:14; 1 Thessalonians 5:22).

Second, it is important to this Church that we present a consistent message to the community, which the membership of Camp Branch Baptist Church attempts with God's grace to conscientiously maintain as part of our witness to the Gospel of Jesus Christ. To allow facilities to be used by groups or persons who express beliefs or engage in practices contrary to this Church's faith would have a severe negative impact on the message that we strive to promote. It could also be a source of confusion and scandal to this Church because those who would use the facilities may reasonably perceive that by allowing use of Church facilities, this Church is in agreement with the beliefs and practices of the person or groups using our facilities.

Therefore, in no event shall persons or groups who hold, advance, or advocate beliefs, or advance, advocate, or engage in practices that contradict this Church's faith may use in any way this Church's facility or the use of its property. Nor may the facilities or property be used that contradicts this Church's faith (See Col 3:17).

The foregoing policy shall apply to any ceremony, whether or not recognized by law, involving persons of the same birth gender or transsexual persons, including a civil union, commitment ceremony, or so called same-sex marriage.

RULES

Kitchen:

All groups and organizations will maintain good housekeeping principles and leave the kitchen area in proper order.

Arrangement for use of kitchen must be arranged with the Pastor or Trustees. Parties using the facilities will be responsible for equipment damage or breakage or loss.

Classrooms:

To remove tables and chairs from premises must be cleared by the Pastor or Trustees.

Office:

No office equipment is to leave the building unless for Church related needs.

Fellowship Hall:

Parties using equipment will be responsible.

Weddings:

Prior arrangements for the building will be made with the pastor or trustees and cleaned by the party using it. See the Constitution, Section 2, and the Bylaws, Article VIII, for policies and restrictions as pertaining to Weddings at Camp Branch Baptist Church.

Funerals:

Use of facilities of the Church for funerals must have prior approval of the Pastor and/ or trustees.

Cemetery:

Maintenance and care of the cemetery is under the jurisdiction of the trustees and use of the cemetery is limited to Church members and their families.