

Chickee Baptist Church

2910 Josie Billie Ave. Hollywood, FL 33024-2973
Rev. Arlen; Pastor 954.894.5651 pastor@bc.seflin.org

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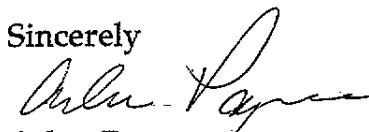
April 22, 1999

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Dear Sirs:

Please find enclosed a copy of our ammended Articles of Incorporation. The articles that were changed are noted on the Articles of Amendemnt to Articles of Incorporaton form. These changes were adopted on April 21 at our Church business meeting. Also find a check enclosed for the appropriate fee.

Sincerely


Arlen Payne
Pastor/President

Amend
S-6-99
vhs

FILED
99 APR 30 PM 4:22
SECRETARY OF STATE
TALLAHASSEE, FLORIDA

ARTICLES OF AMENDMENT
to
ARTICLES OF INCORPORATION
of

Chickee Baptist Church of Hollywood, Inc.
(present name)

Pursuant to the provisions of section 617.1006, Florida Statutes, the undersigned Florida nonprofit corporation adopts the following articles of amendment to its articles of incorporation.

FIRST: Amendment(s) adopted: (INDICATE ARTICLE NUMBER(S) BEING AMENDED, ADDED OR DELETED.)

Article III D

Article IV, A, B, D,

Article V

Article VI

Article X

see attached

SECRETARY OF STATE
TALLAHASSEE, FLORIDA

99 APR 30 PM 4:22

FILED

SECOND: The date of adoption of the amendment(s) was: 4/21/99

THIRD: Adoption of Amendment (CHECK ONE)

☒ The amendment(s) was(were) adopted by the members and the number of votes cast for the amendment was sufficient for approval.

☐ There are no members or members entitled to vote on the amendment. The amendment(s) was(were) adopted by the board of directors.

Chickee Baptist Church of Hollywood
Corporation Name

Arden Payne
Signature of Chairman, Vice Chairman, President or other officer

Arden Payne
Typed or printed name

Pastor/President
Title

4/22/99
Date

AMENDED ARTICLES OF INCORPORATION

PREAMBLE

So that things may be done decently and in order in accordance with the accepted tenets of other Churches of like precious faith, and that we may more readily help each other in our Christian service, we declare and establish this constitution and bylaws to which we voluntarily submit ourselves. This constitution and and bylaws shall supersede and/or replace all previous constitutions and bylaws of this corporation.

ARTICLE I NAME

This congregation of believers shall be known as the Chickee Baptist Church of Hollywood, Inc.

ARTICLE II PURPOSES

The general nature of this Church and its objects and purposes shall be:

- A. To Glorify God in all things. (Psalm 29:2)
- B. To conduct a Baptist Church in accordance with the Word of God, Articles of Faith, Covenant and Articles of Incorporation of this Church. To conduct schools, Bible institutes, pastoriums, and other activities and institutions connected therewith to the end that its own members may be generally instructed and guided concerning those articles of faith which are most surely held among Independent Fundamental Baptist Churches and to advance spiritual growth and moral and personal purity among its own membership and the people of the community in which it is located; to promote home and foreign missions, and to aid in the spread of the Gospel of Jesus Christ to the ends of the earth; also to educate, prepare, license and ordain men for the ministry of the Gospel of Jesus Christ.
- C. To acquire property by grant, gift, purchase, devise or bequest, and hold and dispose of such property as the Church shall require for the benefit of the members and not for monetary profit.
- D. The purposes for which this Church is organized are exclusively religious, charitable, scientific, literary and educational, within the meaning of Section 501 (c) (3) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 or the corresponding provision of any future United States Internal Revenue code.
- E. This Church shall be independent and autonomous, not subject to any ecclesiastical control from any convention, conferences, association, council or group outside the local Church.
- F. The foregoing purposes shall be construed as both objects and powers and the foregoing enumeration of specific purposes shall not be held to limit or restrict in any manner the powers of this corporation.

ARTICLE III MEMBERSHIP

A. QUALIFICATIONS FOR MEMBERSHIP:

Upon a majority vote of the members present at any Church service or meeting, membership shall be extended to all who have had and whose lives evidence a genuine experience of regeneration through faith in and acceptance of the Lord Jesus Christ as personal Saviour; who renounce sin; who endeavor to live a consecrated life wholly unto the Lord; who fully subscribe to the Statement of Faith contained herein; and who enter into the Church covenant contained herein; and upon compliance with any one of the following conditions.

- (1) By baptism (immersion) as a true believer in Christ Jesus as personal Savior.
- (2) By letter of transfer from another Bible-believing Church of like faith and practice, or other written statement of good standing from the prior Church if the applicant has been baptized by immersion subsequent to a profession of faith;
- (3) By testimony of faith, having been baptized by immersion; or
- (4) By restoration, if having been removed from membership, upon majority vote of the congregation after confession is made publicly before the Church membership of the sin or sins involved, and satisfactorily evidencing repentance to the Pastor (or the Church officers, if the office of Pastor is vacant).

B. DUTIES OF A MEMBER:

On becoming a member of this Church, in addition to the Church Covenant, each one further covenants to love, honor, and esteem the Pastor; to pray for him; and to recognize his authority in spiritual affairs of the Church; to cherish a brotherly love for all members of the Church; to support the Church in prayer, tithes, offerings and with other financial support as the Lord enables; and in accordance with biblical commands to support through a lifestyle walk affirmation of the beliefs and practices of the Church.

C. PRIVILEGES OF MEMBERSHIP

This congregation functions, not as a pure democracy, but as a body under the Headship of the Lord Jesus Christ and the direction of the Pastor as the undershepherd with the counsel of the Church membership. Membership in this Church does not afford those individuals with any property, contract, or civil rights based on principles of democratic government. Determination of the internal affairs of this Church are ecclesiastical matter and shall be determined exclusively by the Church's own rules and procedures. The Pastor shall oversee and/or conduct all aspects of this Church. The membership of the Church has certain limited areas of exercising a vote. Members may not vote to initiate any Church action, but rather the vote of a member is to confirm and ratify or disapprove the direction of the Church as determined by the Pastor and Church officers. A vote of the membership is required when the Pastor and Church officers determine that an item to be voted on is a matter of substance.

D. DISCIPLINE OF A MEMBER:

- (1) There shall be a Discipline Committee consisting of the Pastor and Church officers. These men and women shall have sole authority in determining heretical deviations from the Statement of Faith and violations of the Church Covenant. If the Pastor or a Church officer is the subject of a disciplinary matter, he shall not sit as member of the Discipline Committee. He shall be entitled to the same steps as other Church members and be subject to the same discipline.
- (2) Members are expected to demonstrate special loyalty and concern for one another. When a member becomes aware of an offense of such magnitude that it hinders spiritual growth and testimony, he (generic for he or she) is to go alone to the offending party and seek to restore his brother or sister-in-the-Lord. Before he goes, he should first examine himself. When he goes, he should go with a spirit of humility and have the goal of restoration.
- (3) If reconciliation is not reached, a second member, either a Church officer or the Pastor is to accompany the one seeking to resolve the matter. This second step should also be preceded by self-examination, and exercised in a spirit of humility with the goal of restoration.
- (4) If the matter is still unresolved after the steps outlined in subsections (2) and (3) have been taken, the Discipline Committee, as the Church representatives biblically responsible for putting down murmuring, shall hear the matter. If the matter is not resolved during the hearing before the Discipline Committee, the Committee shall recommend to the members of the Church that they, after self-examination, make an effort personally to go to the offending member and seek that member's restoration.
- (5) If the matter is still unresolved after the steps outlined in subsections (2), (3), and (4) have been taken, such members who refuse to repent and be restored are to be removed from the membership of the Church upon a majority vote of the membership present at a meeting called for the purpose of considering disciplinary action.
- (6) No matter may be heard by the Discipline Committee or the Church unless the steps outlined in subsections (2) and (3) have been taken, except in the case of a public offense.
- (7) If an unrepentant offending party is removed from the Church membership, all contact with him from that point forward must be for the sake of restoration (except family members).

E. TRANSFER OF MEMBERSHIP:

Members, not under the disciplining process of section D, may request that letters of transfer be sent to another Church.

F. TERMINATION OF MEMBERSHIP:

- (1) The membership of any individual member shall be automatically terminated without notice if the member in question has not attended a regular worship service of the Church in the preceding six months. Upon good cause being shown to the Pastor, this provision for termination may be waived in the case of any individual member at the discretion of the Pastor.
- (2) No member of this Church may hold membership in another Church. If any member unites in membership with another Church, that person is automatically terminated without notice from membership of this Church. Missionaries who are obligated to maintain membership in

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D. TERMS OF OFFICE:

The length of terms of office shall be as follows:

(1) The relationship between the Pastor and the Church shall be permanent unless dissolved at the option of either party by the giving of a month's notice, or less by mutual consent. A request for severance of relationship between the Pastor and the Church must be made to the Church membership. No such matter may be heard by the Church unless the steps outlined in Article III, D (1) and (2) have been taken, except in the case of a public offense. The severance of the relationship between the Pastor and the Church may be considered at the Church administration meeting, provided notice of that effect shall have been given from the pulpit to the Church two Sundays prior to said Church administration meeting. A three-fourths majority of the Church members present and voting shall be required to decide the matter. Disciplinary removal of the Pastor from office automatically terminates his membership. A restoration to membership after disciplinary removal will be subject to the requirements of Article III A(4).

(2) The term of service for all offices and positions in the Church, except the Pastor, Church Trustees, and Deacons, shall be one year, at the expiration of which they may be reelected. Church Trustees and Deacons shall be elected for a period of three years, with length of terms staggered so as to maintain a requirement that one-third of the Trustees and Deacons shall be replaced each year. Initial implementation may include terms of one and two years.

(3) A vacancy occurring in any office or board, except in the case of the Pastor, may be filled by the Pastor following consultation with the Church members.

(4) All elected and appointed officers shall serve in their respective offices until their successors are duly elected.

E. ELECTION OF OFFICERS:

The annual election of officers by the Church membership shall occur during the month of March at the annual Church administration meeting.

F. PASTORAL OVERSIGHT OF OFFICERS AND STAFF:

(1) The establishment of new positions shall be subject to consultation and the approval of the Church membership and on the condition that the staff member shall become a member of the Church upon assuming their duties. The Pastor may hire associates and assistants for existing positions to assist the pastor in carrying out his God-given responsibilities. Salaries for paid staff (inclusive of office employees) shall be set by the Pastor with the approval of the Church members.

(2) All Church staff, whether paid or volunteer, shall be under the supervision of the Pastor who has the sole authority to hire, appoint, or dismiss the same. Staff members shall not be officers of the Church without special approval by the Church membership.

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C. BOARD OF DEACONS:

(1) The board of Deacons shall assist the pastor, in such manner as he shall request, in the ministry of service to the Church. They shall annually elect from their own number a chairman, vice-chairman and Secretary. They shall make provisions for the observance of the ordinances of the Church. They shall assist the Pastor in visitation and all other evangelistic efforts of the Church. They shall visit the sick, the sorrowing and the needy and to personally strive to win the lost to Christ. They shall attend to the necessities of the poor, the widowed and the fatherless.

(2) The number of Deacons needed for the ministries of the Church shall be determined by the pastor following consultation with the Church membership.

D. SECRETARY:

The Secretary shall keep a record of Church proceedings, of the membership roll, of all baptisms, of certificates of ordination, licenses and commissions as directed by the Church, and preserve all documents, papers, and letters coming into his hands during his term of office. All records are to be delivered to any successor upon leaving office. He shall keep an account of any special events in the life of the Church which are of historical interest and shall give a report at the annual Church administration meeting of the status of the Church membership roll in the past year. The Secretary shall also serve as the Secretary of the corporation.

E. TREASURER:

The Treasurer shall account for all funds contributed to the Church and shall disburse the same as ordered by the Church. He shall with the guidance of the Pastor and Church officers prepare a budget for all aspects of the ministry. He shall present a written report of itemized disbursements and budget status at the annual Church administration meeting. All expenditures of the Church except miscellaneous petty cash disbursements shall be paid by check at the discretion of the Pastor. The Treasurer shall also serve as the Treasurer of the corporation.

F. ASSOCIATE PASTORS:

Under the direction and guidance of the Pastor, the associate pastors of the Church shall assist the Pastor in carrying out the ministries of the Church.

G. DUTIES OF ALL OFFICERS:

(1) All officers shall prepare a written report of their work for the annual Church administration meeting and shall surrender any records in their possession to the Secretary at the the close of their term of office to be filed as a permanent record of the work of the Church. All records are the property of the Church.

(2) Any officer who neglects his duties as outlined in the constitution for a period of three months may be removed from his office at the discretion of the Pastor and another may be appointed by the Pastor following consultation with the Church membership to serve the unexpired term.

H. INSTALLATION OF OFFICERS:

A public installation service in which all newly-elected officers of the Church are to be dedicated to their respective offices and the ordination of newly-elected Deacons which shall be in accordance with Acts 6: 1-7, shall be held at a public Church service following their election at the annual Church administration meeting.

ARTICLE VI MEETINGS

A. MEETINGS FOR WORSHIP:

Unless otherwise determined by the Pastor, the Church shall meet each Sunday for public worship and at least once during the week for Bible study and prayer. Except when circumstances forbid it, the ordinance of the Lord's Supper shall be observed once a quarter or as often as the Pastor feels led to schedule said ordinance.

B. MEETINGS FOR Church ADMINISTRATION:

An annual Church administration meeting of the Church shall be held in the month of March, at which time the regular Church administration shall be considered. Additional Church administration meetings may be scheduled as deemed necessary by the Pastor following consultation with the Church officers. A quorum shall consist of the members present. The names of all who make motions and who second motions shall be included in the Church minutes.

C. SPECIAL MEETINGS:

(1) The Pastor (or Church officers if the office of Pastor is vacant or the Pastor is the subject of possible disciplinary action) may call a special meeting by giving notice of such a meeting for the purpose for which it is called to the Church from the pulpit at least one Sunday and not less than one week prior to said meeting. A meeting for election of a pastor may be called by the pulpit committee at any regular Church meeting of the Church at least one week in advance.

(2) Bible conferences, missionary conferences, special events, and revivals may be held as the Pastor deems beneficial.

D. FISCAL YEAR:

The fiscal year of the Church shall begin January 1st and end December 31st.

ARTICLE VII MINISTRY OF EDUCATION

The Church believes that it is to provide the member's children with an education which is based upon and consistent with Biblical teachings. The Church believes that the home and Church shall engage in ministries in education in keeping the following dictates:

A. Church PARTICIPATION:

All educational programs or courses of instruction formulated and offered by the Church shall be primarily for the benefit of the members of the Church; however, the Pastor may permit non-Church members to participate in Church educational programs or courses of instruction if he deems it in the best interest of the Church.

B. STAFF MEMBERSHIP:

All instructors, teachers, and administrators shall be members of this Church. Non-members may be allowed to teach at the discretion of the Pastor. This provision shall not apply to visiting missionaries, evangelists, or preachers, engaged for the purpose of delivering sermons, conducting revivals, or other special meetings on a temporary basis.

C. STATEMENT OF FAITH ACCORD:

All educational programs or courses of instruction shall be taught and presented in full accord with the Statement of Faith of the Church.

D. UNITY:

All educational programs or courses of instruction shall be conducted as an integral and inseparable ministry of the Church.

E. TEACHING:

All educational programs or courses of instruction shall be conducted consistent with the teaching of the inerrant Word of God. Any assertion or belief which conflicts with or questions a Bible truth is a pagan deception and distortion of the truth which will be disclaimed as false. It is the responsibility of every instructor or teacher to present the inerrant Word of God as the sole infallible source of knowledge and wisdom.

F. CHRISTIAN WALK:

All administrators, instructors, and teachers shall continue or adopt a lifestyle consistent with the precepts which they teach, whether in or out of the classroom. They shall also conduct themselves in accordance to the Church Covenant.

ARTICLE VIII
UNAUTHORIZED EXPENDITURES

Any expenditures in excess of \$500 but less than \$1000 and not authorized in the regular annual budget must be authorized in writing by the Pastor (or Church officers if the office of Pastor is vacant). Any expenditures in excess of \$1000 and not authorized in the regular annual budget must be authorized by the Pastor after consultation with the Church membership (or the Church officers if the office of Pastor is vacant).

ARTICLE IX ORDINATION

A. ORDINATION QUALIFICATIONS:

Any member of this Church or its mission Churches, who gives evidence of a genuine call of God into the work of the ministry and possesses the qualifications stated in 1 Timothy 3:1-7 and Titus 1:6-9, may be ordained as a minister of the Gospel.

B. ORDINATION PROCEDURE:

(1) Upon a conference with the Pastor and after the Pastor has approved the candidate for ordination, the Pastor shall call a council to examine and pass on the qualification of the candidate. The ordination council shall consist of ordained ministers of like faith invited to participate in the examination of the candidate.

(2) If the candidate is found worthy of the ordination by the council, the ordination council may ordain the candidate on behalf of the Church.

(3) The Pastor and the chairman of the Deacons shall arrange for the ordination service.

ARTICLE X TAX-EXEMPT PROVISIONS

A. PRIVATE INUREMENT:

No part of the net earnings of the Church shall inure to the benefit of or be distributable to its members, Trustees, officers, or other private person, except that the Church shall be authorized and empowered to pay a reasonable compensation for the services rendered and to make payments and distributions in furtherance of the purposes set forth in Article II, B, hereof.

B. POLITICAL INVOLVEMENT:

No substantial part of the activities of the Church shall be the carrying on of propaganda or otherwise attempting to influence legislation nationally or tribal. The Church shall not participate in, or intervene in (including the publishing or distribution of statements) any political campaign on behalf of any candidate for public office. It shall be the policy of this Church to refrain from requesting funds from the Seminole Tribe of Florida or other governmental agencies.

C. DISSOLUTION:

Upon dissolution of the Church, the Trustees shall, after paying or making provision for payment of all the liabilities of the Church, dispose of all the assets of the Church to such organization or organizations organized and operated exclusively for religious purposes as shall at the time qualify as an exempt organization or organizations under Section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 (or the corresponding provision of any future United States Internal Revenue Law), as the Trustees shall determine. Assets may be distributed only to organizations which agree with the Church's Statement of Faith.

D. RACIAL NONDISCRIMINATION:

The Church shall have a racially nondiscriminatory policy and therefore shall not discriminate against members, applicants, students, and others on the basis of race, color, or national or ethnic origin.

ARTICLE XI DESIGNATED CONTRIBUTIONS

From time to time the Church, in the exercise of its religious, educational, and charitable purposes, may establish various funds to accomplish specific goals. Contributors may suggest uses for their contributions but all suggestions shall be deemed advisory rather than mandatory in nature. All contributions made to specific funds or otherwise designated shall remain the subject to the exclusive control and discretion of the Pastor and Church officers. No fiduciary obligation shall be created by any designated contribution made to the Church other than to use the contribution for the general furtherance of any of the purposes of stated in Article II(B).

ARTICLE XII STATEMENT OF FAITH

As Bible Baptist's we believe in a supernatural Bible, which tells of a supernatural Christ, Who had a supernatural birth, Who spoke supernatural words, Who performed supernatural miracles, Who lived a supernatural life, Who died a supernatural death, Who rose in supernatural splendor, Who intercedes as a supernatural priest and Who will one day return in supernatural glory to establish a supernatural kingdom on the earth.

A. OF THE SCRIPTURES

We believe that the Holy Bible was written by men supernaturally inspired; that it has truth without any admixture of error for its matter; and therefore is, and shall remain to the end of the age, the only complete and final revelation of the will of God to man; and true center of Christian union and the supreme standard by which all human conduct, creed, and opinions should be tried.

(1) By "the Holy Bible" we mean that collection of sixty-six books, from Genesis to Revelation, which as originally written does not only contain and convey the word of God, but IS the very Word of God.

(2) By "inspiration" we mean that the books of the Bible were written by "holy men of old, as they were moved by the Holy Spirit", in such a definite way that their writings were supernaturally and verbally inspired and free from error, as no other writings have ever been or ever will be inspired.

(II Tim. 3:16-17; II Pet. 1:19-21; Acts 1:16; Acts 28:25; Pea. 119:160; Pea. 119:105; Pea. 119:130; Luke 24:25-27; John 17:17; Luke 24:44-45; Pea. 119:89; Prov. 30:5-6; Rom. 3:4; I Pet. 1:23; Rev. 22:19; John 12:48; Isa. 8:20; Eph. 6:17; Rom. 15:4; Luke 16:31; Pea. 19:7-11; John 5:45-47; John 5:39)

B. OF THE TRUE GOD

We believe that there is one one only one, living and true God, an infinite, intelligent Spirit, and Maker and Supreme Ruler of heaven and earth; inexpressibly glorious in holiness and worthy of all possible honor, confidence and love; that in the unity of the Godhead there are three

persons, the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit, equal in every divine perfection, and executing distinct but harmonious offices in the great work of redemption.

(Ex. 20:2-3; Gen. 17:1; I Cor. 8:6; Eph. 4:6; John 4:24; Ps. 147:5; Ps. 83:18; Ps. 90:2; Jer. 10:10; Ex. 15:11; Rev. 4:11; I Tim. 1:17; Rom. 11:33; Mark 12:30; Matt. 28:19; John 15:26; I Cor. 12:4-6; I John 5:7; John 10:30; John 17:5; I Cor. 2:10-11; Phil. 2:5-6; Eph. 2:18; II Cor. 13:14.)

C. OF THE HOLY SPIRIT

That the Holy Spirit is a divine person; equal with God the Father and God the Son and of the same in nature; that He was active in the creation; that in His relation to the unbelieving world He restrains the Evil one until God's purpose is fulfilled; that He convicts of sin, of judgment and of righteousness; that He bears witness to the Truth of the Gospel in preaching and testimony; that He is the agent in the New Birth; that He seals, endues, guides, teaches, witnesses, sanctifies and helps the believer.

(John 14:16-17; Matt. 28:19; Heb. 9:14; John 14:26; Luke 1:35; Gen. 1:1-3; II Thess. 2:7; John 16:8-11; John 15:26-27; Acts 5:30-32; John 3:5-6; Eph. 1:13-14; Matt. 3:11; Mark 1:8; Luke 3:16; John 1:33; Acts 11:16; Luke 24:49; John 16:13; Rom. 8:14; Rom. 8:16; II Thess. 2:13; I Pet. 1:2; Rom. 8:26-27.)

D. OF THE DEVIL, OR SATAN

We believe that Satan was once holy, and enjoyed heavenly honors; but through pride and ambition to be as the Almighty, fell and drew after him a host of angels; that he is now the malignant prince of the power of the air, and the unholy god of this world. We hold him to be man's great tempter, the enemy of God and His Christ, the accuser of the saints, the author of all false religions, the chief power back of the present apostasy; the lord of the antichrist, and the author of all the powers of darkness - destined however to final defeat at the hands of God's own Son, and to the judgment of an eternal justice in hell, a place prepared for him and his angels.

(Isa. 14:12-15; Ezek. 28:14-17; Rev. 12:9; Jude 6; II Pet. 2:4; Eph. 2:2; John 14:30; I Thess. 3:5; Matt. 4:1-3; I Pet. 5:8; I John 3:8; Matt. 13:39; Luke 22:3-4; Rev. 12:10; II Cor. 11:13-15; Mark 13:21-22; John 4:3; II John 7; I John 2:22; Rev. 13:13-14; II Thess. 2:8-11; Rev. 19:11, 16, 20; Rev. 12:7-9; Rev. 20:1-3; Rev. 20:10; Matt. 25:41.)

E. OF CREATION

We believe in the Genesis account of creation, and that it is to be accepted literally, and not allegorically or figuratively; that man was created directly in God's own image and after His own likeness; that man's creation was not a matter of evolution or evolutionary change of species, or development through interminable periods of time from lower to higher forms; that all animal and vegetable life was made directly and God's established law was that they should bring forth only "after their kind."

(Gen. 1:1; Ex. 20:11; Acts 4:24; Coy. 1:16-17; Heb. 11:3; John 1:3; Rev. 10:6; Rom. 1:20; Acts 17:23-26; Jer. 10:12; Neh. 9:6; Gen. 1:26-27; Gen. 2:21-23; Gen. 1:11; Gen. 1:24.)

F. OF THE FALL OF MAN

We believe that man was created in innocence under the law of his Maker, but by voluntary transgression fell from his sinless and happy state, in consequence of which all mankind are now sinners, not by constraint, but of choice; and therefore under just condemnation without defense or excuse.

(Gen. 3:1-6; 24; Rom. 5:12; Rom 5:19; Rom 3:10-19; Eph. 2:1,3; Rom. 1:18; Ezek. 18:19-20; Rom. 1:32; Rom. 1:20; Rom. 1:28; Gal. 3:22.)

G. OF THE VIRGIN BIRTH

We believe that Jesus Christ was begotten of the Holy Spirit, in a miraculous manner; born of Mary, a virgin, as no other man was ever born or can ever be born of woman, and that He is both the Son of God and God, the Son.

(Gen. 3:15; Isa. 7:14; Matt. 1:18-25; Luke 1:35; Mark 1:1; John 1:14; Pea 2:7; Gal 4:4; I John 5:20; I Cor. 15:47.)

H. OF THE ATONEMENT FOR SIN

We believe that the salvation of sinners is wholly of grace; through the mediatorial offices of the Son of God, who by appointment of the Father, freely took upon Him our nature, yet without sin, honored the divine law by His personal obedience, and by His death made a full and vicarious atonement for our sins; that His atonement consisted not in setting us an example by His death as a martyr, but was the voluntary substitution of Himself in the sinner's place, the Just dying for the unjust, Christ, the Lord, bearing our sins in His own body on the tree; that having risen from the dead, he is now enthroned in heaven and uniting in His wonderful person the tenderest sympathies with divine perfection, he is every way qualified to be a suitable, a compassionate and an all-sufficient Savior.

(Eph. 2:8; Acts 15:11; Rom. 3:24; John 3:16; Matt. 18:11; Phil. 2:7; Heb. 2:14; Isa. 53:4-7; Rom. 3:25; I John 4:10; I Cor. 15:3; II Cor. 5:21; John 10:18; Gal. 1:4; I pet. 2:24; I Pet. 3:18; Isa. 53:11; Heb. 12:2; I Cor. 15:20; Isa. 53:12; Heb. 9:12-15; Heb. 7:25; I John 2:2.)

I. OF GRACE IN THE NEW CREATION

We believe that in order to be saved, sinners must be born again; that the new birth is a new creation in Christ Jesus; that it is instantaneous and not a process; that in the new birth the one dead in trespasses and in sins is made a partaker of the divine nature and receives eternal life, the free gift of God; that the new creation is brought about in a manner above our comprehension, not by culture, not by character, nor by the will of man, but wholly and solely by the power of the Holy Spirit in connection with divine truth, so as to secure our voluntary obedience to the gospel; that its proper evidence appears in the holy fruits of repentance and faith and newness of life.

(John 3:3; II Cor. 5:17; Luke 5:27; I John 5:1; John 3:6-7; Acts 2:41; II Pet. 1:4; Rom. 6:23; Eph. 2:1; II Cor. 5:19; Col. 2:13; John 1:12-13; Gal. 5:22; Eph. 5:9.)

J. OF THE FREENESS OF SALVATION

We believe in God's electing grace; that the blessings of salvation are made free to all by the gospel; that it is the immediate duty of all to accept them by a cordial, penitent and an obedient faith; and nothing prevents the salvation of the greatest sinner on earth but his own inherent depravity and voluntary rejection of the gospel; which rejection involves him in an aggravated condemnation.

(I Thess. 1:4; Col. 3:12; I Pet. 1:2; Titus 1:1; Rom. 8:29-30; Matt. 11:28; Isa. 55:1; Rev. 22:17; Rom. 10:13; John 6:37; Isa. 55:6; Acts 2:38; Isa. 55:7; John 3:15-16; I Tim. 1:15; I Cor. 15:10; Eph. 2:4-5; John 5:40; John 3:18; John 3:36.)

K. OF JUSTIFICATION

We believe that the great gospel blessing which Christ secures to such as believe in Him is Justification; that Justification includes the pardon of sin, and gift of eternal life on principles of righteousness; that it is bestowed not in consideration of any works of righteousness which we have done; but wholly through faith in the Redeemer's blood, His righteousness is imputed unto us.

(Acts 13:39; Isa. 53:11; Zech. 13:1; Rom. 8:1; Rom 5:9; Rom. 5:1; Titus 3:5-7; Rom. 1:17; Hab. 2:4; Gal. 3:11; Rom. 4:1-8; Heb. 10:38.)

L. OF REPENTANCE OF AND FAITH

We believe that Repentance and Faith are solemn obligations, and also inseparable graces, wrought in our souls by the Spirit of God; thereby, being deeply convicted of our guilt, danger and helplessness, and of the way of salvation by Christ, we turn to God with unfeigned contrition, confession and supplication for mercy; at the same time heartily receiving the Lord Jesus Christ and openly confessing Him as our only and all-sufficient Savior.

(Acts 20:21; Mark 1:15; Acts 2:37-38; Luke 18:13; Rom. 10:13; Pea. 51:1-4,7; Isa. 55:6-7; Luke 12:8; Rom. 10:9-11.)

M. OF THE Church

We believe that a Baptist Church is a congregation of baptized believers associated by a covenant of faith and fellowship of the gospel, said Church being understood to be the citadel and propagator of the Divines and Eternal grace; observing the ordinances of Christ; governed by His laws; exercising the gifts, rights and privileges invested in them by His Word; that its officers of ordination are pastors or elders whose qualifications, claims and duties are clearly defined in the Scriptures; we believe the true mission of the Church is found in the Great Commission: First, to make individual disciples; second, to build up the Church; Third, to teach and instruct as He has commanded. We do not believe in the reversal of this order, we hold that the local Church has the absolute right of self government, free from the interference of any hierarchy of individuals or organization; and that the one and only superintendent is Christ through the Holy Spirit; that it is Scriptural for true Churches to cooperate with each other in contending for the faith and for the furtherance of the Gospel; that every Church is the sole and only judge of the measure and method of its cooperation; on all matters of membership, of policy, of government, of discipline, of benevolence, the will of the local Church is final.

(Acts 2:41; Acts 2:42; I Cor. 11:2; Eph. 1:22-23; Eph. 4:11 I Cor. 12:4, 8-11; Acts 14:23; Acts 6:5-6; Acts 15:23; Acts 20:17-28; I Tim. 3:17-13; Matt. 28:19-20; Col. 1:18; Eph 5:23-24; I Pet. 5:1-4; Acts 15:22; Jude 3,4; II Cor. 8:23-24; I Cor. 16:1; Mal. 3:10; Lev. 27:32; I Cor. 16:2; I Cor. 6:1-3; I Cor. 5:11-13.)

N. OF BAPTISM AND THE LORD'S SUPPER

We believe that Christian baptism is the immersion in water of a believer; in the name of the Father, of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit, with the authority of the local Church, to show forth in a solemn and beautiful emblem our faith in the crucified, buried and risen Savior, with its effect in our death to sin and resurrection to a new life; that it is prerequisite to the privileges of a Church relation and to the Lord's supper; in which believers of like faith, by sacred use of bread and the fruit of the vine are to commemorate together the dying love of Christ; preceded always by solemn self-examination. (Acts 8:36-39; Matt. 3:6; John 3:23; Rom 6:4-5; Matt. 3:16; Matt 28:19-20; Rom. 6:3-5; Col. 2:12; Acts 2:41-42; I Cor. 11:23-28.)

O. OF THE PERSEVERANCE OF THE SAINTS

We believe that such only are real believers as endure unto the end; that their persevering attachment to Christ is the grand mark which distinguishes them from superficial professors; that a special Providence watches over their welfare; and that they are kept by the power of God through faith unto eternal salvation.

(John 8:31-32; Col. 1:21-23; I John 2:19; Matt. 13:19-21; Rom. 8:28; Pea. 121:3; Heb. 1:14; I Pet. 1:5; Phil. 1:6; John 10:18-29; Rom. 8:35-39.)

P. OF THE RIGHTEOUS AND THE WICKED

We believe that there is a radical and essential difference between the righteous and the wicked; that such only as through faith are justified in the name of the Lord Jesus, and sanctified by the Spirit of our God, are truly righteous in His esteem; while all such as continue in impenitence and unbelief are in His sight wicked and under the curse, and this distinction holds among men both in and after death, in the everlasting joy of the saved and the everlasting conscious suffering of the lost.

(Mal. 3:18; Gen 18:23; Rom 6:17-18; Prov. 11:31; I Pet. 1:18; Rom. 1:17; I Cor. 15:22; Acts 10:34-35; I John 2:29; Rom. 6:16; I John 5:19; Gal. 3:10; Rom 7:6; Rom. 6:23; Prov. 14:32; Luke 16:25; Matt 25:34,41; John 8:21; Luke 9:26; John 12:25; Matt. 7:13-14.)

Q. OF CIVIL GOVERNMENT

We believe that civil government is of divine appointment, for the interests and good order of human society; that magistrates are to be prayed for, conscientiously honored and obeyed; except only in things opposed to the will of our Lord Jesus Christ; Who is the only Lord of the conscience, and the coming Prince of the kings of the earth.

(Rom. 13:7; II Sam. 23:3; Ex. 18:21-22; Acts 23:5; Matt. 22:21; Titus 3:1; I Pet. 2:13-14; I Pet. 2:17; Acts 4:19-20; Dan. 3:17-18; Matt. 10:28; Matt. 23:10; Phil. 2:10-11; Pea. 72:11.)

R. OF THE RESURRECTION AND RETURN OF CHRIST AND RELATED EVENTS

We believe in and accept the sacred Scriptures upon these subjects at their face and full value. Of the Resurrection, we believe that Christ rose bodily "The third day according to the Scriptures," that He alone is our "merciful and faithful high priest in things pertaining to God," "that this same Jesus which is taken up from you into heaven shall so come in like manner as ye have seen Him go into heaven" - bodily, personally and visible; that the "dead in Christ shall rise first," that the living saints "shall all be changed in a moment, in the twinkling of an eye, at the last trump," "that the Lord God shall give unto Him the throne of His Father David;" and that "Christ shall reign a thousand years in righteousness until He hath put all enemies under His feet."

(Matt. 28:6-7; Luke 24:39; John 20:27; I Cor. 15:4; Mark 16:6; Luke 24:2-7; Acts 1:9,11; Luke 24:51; Mark 16:19; Rev. 3:21; Heb 8:8; Heb. 12:2; Heb. 8:6; I Tim. 2:5; I John 2:1; Heb. 2:17; Heb. 9:28; John 14:3; I Thess. 4:16; Matt 24:27; Matt. 24:42; Heb. 9:28; I Cor. 15:42-44, 51-53; I Thess. 4:17; Phil. 3:20-21; Luke 1:32; I Cor. 15:25; Isa. 11:4-5; Pea. 72:8; Rev. 20:1-4; Rev. 20:6.)

S. OF MISSIONS

The command to give the gospel to the world is clear and unmistakable and this Commission was given to the Churches.

Matt. 28:19-20, "And Jesus came and spake unto them saying, All power is given unto me in heaven and in earth. Go ye therefore, and teach all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son, and of the Holy Ghost; Teaching them to observe all things whatsoever I have commanded you and, lo I am with you alway, even unto the end of the world. Amen."

Mark 16:15, "and he said unto them, Go ye into all the world, and preach the gospel to every creature."

John 20:21. "Then said Jesus to them again, Peace be unto you: as my Father hath sent me, even so send I you."

Rom. 10:13-15, "For whosoever shall call upon the name of the Lord shall be saved. How then shall they call on him in whom they have not believed? and how shall they believe in him of whom they have not heard? and how shall they hear without a preacher? and how shall they preach except they be sent? as it is written, How beautiful are the feet of them that preach the gospel of peace, and bring glad tidings of good things!"

T. OF THE GRACE OF GIVING

Scriptural giving is one of the fundamentals of the faith.

II Cor. 8:7, "Therefore as ye abound in everything in faith, and utterance, and knowledge, and in all diligence, and in your love to us, see that ye abound in this grace also."

We are commanded to bring our gifts into the storehouse (common treasury of the Church) upon the first day of the week.

I Cor. 16:2. "Upon the first day of the week let every one of you lay by him in store, as God has prospered him, that there be no gatherings when I come."

Under Grace we give, and do not pay, the tithe -- "Abraham GAVE the tenth of the spoils" - *Hebrews 7:2,4* - and this was for hundred years before the law, and is confirmed in the New Testament; Jesus said concerning the tithe, "These ye ought to have done" - *Matt 23:23*. We are commanded to bring the tithe into the common treasury of the Church.

Lev. 27:30, "The tithe is the Lord's."

Mal. 3:10, "Bring ye all the tithes into the storehouse, that there may be meat in mine house, and prove me now herewith, saith the Lord of host, if I will not open you the windows of heaven, and pour you out a blessing, that there shall not be room enough to receive it."

In the New Testament the "storehouse" was the common treasury of the Church.

Acts 4:34,35,37, "And brought the prices of the things that were sold and laid them down at the apostles' feet...Having land, sold it, and brought the money, and laid it AT THE APOSTLES' FEET."

ARTICLE XIII 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 the Holy Spirit, we do now in the presence of God, angels, and this assembly, most joyfully enter into covenant (agreement) with one another, as one body in Christ.

We agree therefore, by the aid of the Holy Spirit, to walk together in Christian love, To work together to advance this Church, in knowledge, holiness and comfort; to promote its prosperity and spirituality; to sustain its worship, ordinances, discipline and doctrines; to make it the most important and holy of all institutions of human origin; to give cheerfully and regularly to the support of the ministry, the expenses of the Church, the relief of the poor, and the spread of the Gospel through all nations.

We also agree to keep family and private devotions; to educate our children in the things of God; to seek the salvation of our family and friends; to walk blameless in our conduct; to avoid all tattling, backbiting, and excessive anger, to abstain from the sale and use of illegal drugs and alcoholic drinks as a beverage and to be zealous in our efforts to advance the kingdom of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ.

We further agree to watch over one another in brotherly love; to remember each other in prayer; to aid each other in sickness and distress; to bring about Christian sympathy in feeling and courtesy in speech; to be slow to take offense, but always ready for reconciliation, and mindful of the rule of our Savior to seek it without delay.

We also agree 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 principle of God's Word.

ARTICLE IV AMENDMENTS

This constitution may be revised or amended by a majority vote of the members present and voting, at any regular Church business meeting, provided that said revision or amendment has been submitted in writing to the Church membership and announced from the pulpit seven (7) days before the vote is taken.

CHURCH BY-LAWS

NUMBER 1:

Each member of the Church shall be entitled to vote on all matters except those pertaining to the disciplining of members, the purchase or sale of real property, and the dismissal or calling of a Pastor, in which matters, only members at least eighteen years of age shall be entitled to vote.

NUMBER 2:

All Church administration meetings shall be opened and closed with prayer for divine guidance and blessing.

NUMBER 3:

All appointments for public worship and Bible study and the arrangements thereof including time and place and the use of the property belonging to the Church for purposes other than the stated appointment shall be under the control of the Pastor.

NUMBER 4:

The date of the annual Church administration meeting shall be determined at any regular Church council meeting prior to March of each year.

NUMBER 5:

All literature used in the Church shall be in complete agreement with the Statement of Faith.

NUMBER 6:

The following order shall be observed at the regular Church administration meetings:

- (a) Devotion and Prayers
- (b) Reading of minutes
- (c) Reception of members
- (d) Dismissal of members
- (e) Report of officers
- (f) Reports of Standing Committees
- (g) Reports of Special Committees
- (h) Unfinished matters
- (i) Election of Officers
- (j) New Matters
- (k) Adjournment
- (l) Benediction

NUMBER 7:

These by-laws may be altered, suspended, or amended at a regular Church administration meeting by a majority vote of the members present and voting.