

CALVARY BAPTIST CHURCH CONSTITUTION

ARTICLE I - NAME

The name of this local church fellowship shall be known as Calvary Baptist Church of Plymouth, Michigan, incorporated under the laws of the State of Michigan January 26, 1940. The church was organized in January of 1933 and shall function as an independent, autonomous, Baptist Body.

ARTICLE II - PURPOSE

The central purpose of this church shall be to glorify and exalt the Lord, preaching the whole counsel of God, and presenting His Son as the only Savior to a lost and dying world. Believers are to be edified and challenged to serve our Lord Jesus Christ the One who died for us. Furthermore, believers are to be equipped, enabled and encouraged to witness to others concerning the good news of the gospel of Christ.

ARTICLE III - STATEMENT OF FAITH

SECTION I - THE HOLY SCRIPTURES

We believe that all Scripture is given by divine inspiration of God and that this divine inspiration extends equally and fully to both the Old and New Testaments. (II Timothy 3:16). They are complete and are of supreme, final authority in faith and life (Mark 12:26, 36).

SECTION II - THE GODHEAD

We believe that God, the Supreme, Eternal, and Unchangeable One has revealed Himself in Three Persons, the Father, the Son, the Holy Spirit and that these three are one God (John 10:30); having the same nature, attributes, perfections and commanding the same worship, confidence, and obedience. (II Corinthians 13:14)

SECTION III - THE LORD JESUS CHRIST

We believe in the deity of Jesus Christ (John 1:1, 2, 14; 10:30) that He was begotten of the Holy Spirit (Matthew 1:20), and born of the Virgin Mary (Matthew 1:21) and is very God and very man (Colossians 1:15). We believe that His death on the cross was substitutionary and representative (Romans 5:6-8), and sufficient payment for the guilt of all men (Romans 6:10, 14, 17, 18). We believe that He was raised from the dead in bodily form (Matthew 28:5-7) and ascended into heaven (Acts 1:9-11) where He lives to make intercession for us (Hebrews 7:22-25). We believe in the personal, bodily and pre-tribulational return of our Lord Jesus Christ for His Church (I Thessalonians 4:13-18; Revelation 3:10), and after the Tribulation, His return with the company of redeemed to judge the nations (II Thessalonians 1:6-10) and establish worldwide kingdom of righteousness and peace (premillennial, Revelation 11:15-19).

SECTION IV - THE HOLY SPIRIT

We believe in the divine personality of the Holy Spirit (John 14:16; 15:26) that He represents the Lord Jesus Christ in His absence (John 16:13, 14), and that His ministry consists of convicting the world of sin, righteousness and judgment (John 16:8-11), that He is the source and power of all acceptable worship and service (John 15:26, 27). We believe that He takes up His residence within the believer at the moment of salvation (I Corinthians 6:19), baptizes the believer into the Body of Christ (I Corinthians 12:13), teaches scriptural truth (John 14:26) and enables the believer to live a godly life (Galatians 5:22, 23).

SECTION V - CHURCH

The Universal Church, which began at the day of Pentecost and will continue to the Rapture, is made up of born again believers. At the Rapture, Christ, who is the Head of His Church, will come to take away His Bride (I Thessalonians 4:16, 17). The Holy Spirit baptizes each believer at conversion into His Church, the Body of Christ (I Corinthians 12:13), and imparts to each believer a certain gift or gifts for His service (I Corinthians 12:11). The Universal Church is instructed to allow the Holy Spirit to produce His fruit both collectively and individually so that the unsaved will see the transformation of their lives as well as hear the claims of our Lord Jesus Christ presented as mankind's only hope of salvation.

SECTION VI - ORDINANCES

We believe that the Lord Jesus Christ has committed two ordinances to the local church: Baptism and the Lord's Table (Communion). We believe the obedient believer publicly identifies with the Lord's death, burial and resurrection (Romans 6:3-11) by immersion in the water in the name of the triune God (Matthew 28:19, 20). We believe that the Lord's Table was instituted by Christ (Matthew 26:26-29) for commemoration of His death. We believe that these two ordinances should be observed and administered until the return of our Lord Jesus Christ. (I Corinthians 11:23-26)

SECTION VII - SALVATION

We believe that our salvation is solely by the grace of God, through personal faith in our Lord Jesus Christ. It was not accomplished by anything we have done (Ephesians 2:8, 9). We believe that Jesus Christ paid the complete penalty for all the sins of mankind through the shedding of His blood on the cross of Calvary. (I Peter 1:18-20; 2:24). We also believe that the salvation of all believers is sealed by the Holy Spirit (Ephesians 4:30), and is so secure that nothing can separate the believer from the love of God. (Romans 8:35-39)

SECTION VIII - MAN

We believe that man was created in the image of God by a direct act of creation (Genesis 1:26, 27); that he sinned (Genesis 3:6) and thereby incurred not only physical death, but also spiritual death, which is separation from God (Romans 6:23). As a consequence of this disobedience, all mankind is declared by God to be totally depraved, having inherited a sinful nature and having become sinners in thought, word and deed. (Romans 3:10-23) We believe that there is the absolute necessity of the new birth for an individual's salvation. (John 3:3, Galatians 3:22)

ARTICLE IV - CHURCH COVENANT

As a church family, we purpose in our hearts and lives, through the power of the Holy Spirit, to walk together in Christian love; to promote the advancement of this church in the knowledge of Scripture, in the fellowship of believers, and in the development of holiness in our daily living; to provide and promote avenues of service in the various ministries of our church; to sustain our loyalty in attending the worship services and supporting the Statement of Faith of our church; to contribute cheerfully, regularly, and proportionately to the support of this ministry; to promote the spiritual growth of each and every member. We covenant together to maintain family and personal devotions for the spiritual edification and education of the family members; to seek the salvation of our loved ones, friends and acquaintances; to walk circumspectly in the world as ambassadors of our Lord; to be just in our dealings, faithful in our commitments, and exemplary in our Godly conversations and conduct; to care for our bodies and minds and not abuse them since they are the Temples of the Holy Spirit; we further engage to concern ourselves with each other's needs 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 teaching 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 - POWERS

SECTION I

Recognizing that God and His Word are the Supreme Authority with respect to the local church, the voting membership constitutes the local authority in this church; it is the source of policy, government, and practice necessary to the total ministry of the church. This authority includes the power to delegate such specific authority and functions as the membership may deem appropriate.

SECTION II

The powers of this church are vested in its corporate body and are not subject to any outside ecclesiastical authority. The powers of this church body include, but are not limited to the following:

1. to receive and administer funds therefore and to that end to take and hold by bequest, devise, gift, purchase, or lease, either absolutely or in trust, for such objects or purposes or property, real, personal, or mixed, without limitations, if any, as may be imposed by law;
2. to sell, convey and dispose of any such property, and to reinvest the principal thereof and to deal with and expend the income thereof, only for Christian purposes;
3. to receive any property, real, personal, or mixed, in trust under the terms of any will, deed of trust, or other trust instrument for the foregoing purpose, but for no other purpose, and in administering the same to carry out the directions and exercise the powers contained in the trust instrument under which the property is received, including the expenditure of the principal as well as the income.
4. to receive, take title to, hold and use the proceeds and income of stocks, bonds, obligations, domestic or foreign, but only for the foregoing purpose.

No property shall be received or administered on terms in any way inconsistent with or conflicting with the organization's nature as a Christian institution operated for the benefit of the public, or in any other way inconsistent with or in conflict with this purpose, or in any manner contravening any provision of state or federal law placing limitations upon activities of tax-exempt church institutions.

ARTICLE VI - DISSOLUTION

In the event of dissolution of the Calvary Baptist Church of Plymouth, Michigan, all holdings will be liquidated and the proceeds shall be dispensed by the Elders Board to Christian non-profit enterprises whose doctrine and purpose are similar in nature as the church. Said proceeds shall not be distributed to the individuals who are serving on the Elders Board dispensing those assets. Furthermore, if those individuals liquidating and distributing assets are serving as officers of another organization, that organization shall be prohibited from receiving the proceeds of dissolution.

ARTICLE VII - MEMBERSHIP

SECTION I - QUALIFICATIONS

Any person professing saving faith in our Lord Jesus Christ as a born again believer, who has been baptized by immersion, who is at least 16 years of age and has completed a membership class, and who willingly subscribes to the Constitution may be received into church membership.

SECTION II - APPLICATION PROCEDURE

Specific steps for application and termination of membership shall be contained within the Policy and Procedures Manual. An applicant becomes a member after the Elders Board has recommended membership to the congregation and they in turn, take affirmative action.

SECTION III - TERMINATION OF MEMBERSHIP

The Elders Board may submit a recommendation to the church body to remove from membership any person who has:

1. Requested that his or her membership be terminated.
2. Requested a transfer of membership letter sent to another church of like faith.
3. Joined another church.
4. No longer subscribes to the Church Constitution or holds doctrinal viewpoints that are deemed detrimental to the unity of this local assembly.
5. Is guilty of conduct contrary to the Church Covenant in the judgment of the Board of Elders. Church discipline shall be carried out as outlined in the Policy and Procedures Manual. The Board

of Elders shall communicate in writing to the recipient of the disciplinary action with a scheduled opportunity to be heard by the Elders Board prior to any action by the congregation.

6. Not attended the services of the church for a period of six consecutive months unless physically unable. They shall be notified in writing according to the established policy by the Board of Elders concerning the absence prior to notifying the congregation.

These terminations are effective when the church has concurred with the recommendation of the Elders Board at a business meeting.

Names of deceased members shall be automatically removed from the church membership roll.

SECTION IV - SPECIAL MEMBERSHIP

The status of Honorary Member may be extended to any member of long standing who has served the church faithfully during the term of his or her membership. When a member moves from the area, or resigns his or her position of service due to age and/or infirmity, the decision to bestow such membership shall rest with the congregation upon the recommendation of the Board of Elders. The purpose of this honorary membership is to maintain a strong identity with the Calvary Baptist Church and its ministries.

A person wishing to fellowship with this church for a certain period of time, but desiring to maintain his or her church membership in another area (such as students away from home or a temporary work transfer) is eligible to become an Associate Member of this church. This action will be taken upon the recommendation of the Board of Elders and by the approval of the church congregation.

An Associate or Honorary member of Calvary Baptist may enjoy the privileges of an active regular member except that of holding any elected or appointed church office, and is ineligible to vote at any church business meeting. The status of all special members shall be reviewed annually as directed in the Policy and Procedures Manual.

ARTICLE VIII - GOVERNANCE

Section I - FOUNDATIONAL TENETS OF GOVERNANCE

Consistent with Scripture the foundational tenants of Calvary Baptist Church (CBC) governance are:

- 1) Congregational Rule (Matt 18:15-17, Acts 6:1-5)- Therefore the church membership shall be responsible for the following;
 - a) The calling of all officers and boards. By calling Officers and Board members the church is empowering these members to use their God given gifts to lead the church as its Officers and Board members. Through prayer and searching the scriptures these Officers and Board members shall lead toward the vision and purpose they believe God is calling Calvary Baptist Church. (The only exception to this procedure for calling a board member is the calling of Regents from other Churches as defined in Article IX section VI.)
 - b) If required, termination of Vocational Elders as defined in Article X, section VI
 - c) If required, ratification of all changes to the constitution as defined in Article XII
- 2) Interchangeability / Commonality of the Title of Pastor and Elder throughout Scripture (Titus 1, Acts 20, 1 Peter 5)- Therefore ordained Pastors called by Calvary Baptist Church in accordance with Article VIII Section II shall meet the requirements of an Elder and serve under the title of Vocational Elder on the Board of Elders, upon calling by the church.
- 3) Leadership by a Plurality of Elders (Titus 1, James 5, Acts 14, 20, 1 Tim 5, Proverbs 15:22)- Therefore the Board of Elders, made up of Lay and Vocational Elders, shall lead Calvary Baptist Church as a team with equality of input and authority with a single vote per Elder. To further assure

this equality of representation and authority in the leadership of the church, the following criteria shall be adhered to;

- a) No Vocational Elder shall have more than two other Vocational Elders reporting organizationally to him
- b) The Pastor who is the primary, predominant teacher during Sunday services, shall not have direct authority over other ministries of the church, Vocational Elders, or ministry leaders, thus providing separation of responsibilities between the Pulpit and other ministries of the church. This further allows this pastor to focus on his primary ministry of searching the scriptures, teaching the Word, and shepherding the congregation in the Word of God. (this does not preclude this pastor from being involved in the mentoring of other CBC personnel or providing input to other ministries based on his gifts, experiences or abilities)

SECTION II - THE CALLING AND TERMINATION OF VOCATIONAL ELDERS

The calling of a Vocational Elder shall be accomplished at a meeting called especially for that purpose. The meeting shall be announced at the Sunday services for at least two (2) Sundays prior to said meeting. The Vocational Elder shall be elected by ballot of the church upon recommendation of the Elders Board. A confirmation vote of seventy-five percent (75%) of the members present and voting shall be required to secure the calling of a Vocational Elder. Vocational Elders shall serve in their office until terminated by resignation or by a vote of the congregation at a special business meeting called for that purpose. When either party desires a change, a sixty (60) day written notice shall be given by the party desiring the change.

ARTICLE IX - OFFICERS AND THEIR DUTIES

SECTION I - CORPORATE OFFICERS

The Corporate Officers as defined in the Michigan Annual Report for Non-Profit Corporations consist of a President, Vice-President, Secretary, and a Treasurer, and have the authority to enter into all legal transactions on behalf of Calvary Baptist Church and all its ministries. The Corporate Officers of President, Vice President, Secretary, and Treasurer shall be filled by the Elder Co-Chairing the Board of Deacons, a Vocational Elder appointed by the Board of Elders, the Chairman of the Board of Elders and the Church Business Manager respectively.

SECTION II – VOCATIONAL ELDERS

Vocational Elders are pastors, who have been ordained consistent with Calvary Baptist Church Statement of Faith, and in response to God's call have devoted their vocational lives to the ministry of Calvary Baptist Church as their primary vocation. Vocational Elders shall be members of the Board of Elders and shall meet all the Biblical qualifications of an Elder.

Not all pastors are Vocational Elders. Pastors may also serve in Ministry Director positions or other various positions defined in church policy, including lay positions.

The Elders may recommend to the congregation the calling of a Pastor to the position of Vocational Elder upon his hiring or at any other time during their ministry to Calvary Baptist Church.

All Elders, Vocational and Lay, shall receive an annual performance review from the overall Board during the tenth month of the fiscal year. Each Elder, Vocational and Lay, shall have a designated accountability partner, who is also an Elder, and is responsible for review of their partners spiritual life and compliance to CBC constitution and policy

SECTION III - LEADERSHIP COUNCIL

The Leadership Council shall consist of the Chairman of the Elder Board, the Elder responsible for Co-Chairing the Regent Board, the Elder responsible for Co-Chairing the Deacon board, and two Vocational Elders. The purpose of the Leadership Council is to develop recommendations, and propose direction regarding strategic matters of Calvary Baptist Church including but not limited to vision, objectives, financial issues, personnel issues, administer Calvary Baptist Church "whistleblower" policy and the overall health of Calvary Baptist Church's ministries. Additionally, the Leadership Council shall interact closely with Vocational Elders, Ministry Directors and Pastors to gain their input related to these strategic matters defined above and to gain an understanding of specific ministry needs. The Leadership Council shall have no specific powers of approval or authority of its own but rather acts as a sub-committee to the Elder Board to address focused strategic issues.

SECTION IV - BOARD OF ELDERS

The Board of Elders shall consist of a minimum of three (3) Vocational Elders identified in Section II and a minimum of twelve (12) male Lay members. At no time shall the number of Vocational Elders exceed 25% of the overall Elder Board membership. Two of the twelve (12) shall serve as the Regent Co-Chairman and Deacon Co-Chairman. The term of office for the Lay Elders shall begin on the first day of the fiscal year. The nominating committee will present names for consideration at the annual election for vote by the church membership. The Elder's tenure shall be arranged so that one-third (1/3) of the terms shall expire annually with a three (3) year term of office for each member. The Board may appoint qualified members from the congregation to fill vacancies mid-term. The appointment shall last until the end of the church year when the annual church election of officers provides a permanent replacement. No member elected to a two (2) or three (3) year term may succeed himself. After a term in office a one year period must elapse before such a person shall be eligible to serve on the Board of Elders again.

The Elder Board shall be chaired by a Lay Elder elected by the Elder Board annually.

The Board of Elders will hold regularly scheduled meetings, organizing themselves in whatever manner they feel will be most effective. The entire Boards of Elders, Regents and Deacons shall meet normally once per quarter in a joint meeting discussing areas of mutual interests and concerns to coordinate the total church program.

The Board of Elders is responsible to insure the teachings of God's Word as set forth in the Statement of Faith of this constitution and to promote spiritual living according to God's Word among the church membership. They shall provide leadership in all areas of the church life and ministry including Plymouth Christian Academy (PCA). They are responsible for the administration of the church ordinances, church membership and care of the sick and needy. They are further expected to uphold continually the various areas of the church in prayer. They shall also organize a pulpit committee as outlined in the Policy and Procedures Manual whenever the pulpit is vacant. The Elders shall annually appoint a Head Usher, Missions Committee Chairman, Moderator, Church Clerk, and Church School Superintendent from the church membership with terms of office and duties as outlined in the Policy and Procedures Manual. Additionally the Board of Elders shall annually appoint from among themselves the Elder Deacon Co-Chair and the Elder Regent Co-Chair.

The qualifications of the office as set forth in the New Testament must be constantly in the view of each member with the thought in mind that even though one sometimes fails and falls short in some areas of life one continues to strive towards the goal of fulfillment of these qualifications set forth in Acts 14:23, Acts 20:28-35; Titus 1:5, 6; and I Timothy 3:1-7. The Board of Elders shall establish and maintain a Policy and Procedures Manual. A current copy of the manual is to be kept in the Church Library.

This manual will establish:

1. Rules and procedures governing all church business; including legal and financial policies;
2. Membership procedures, duties and discipline;
3. Task analysis (job description) for all officers;
4. Operating procedures for all standing committees;
5. Policies governing all auxiliary bodies of the church;
6. Other policies and procedures deemed necessary by the Elders Board.

This manual and its contents shall be reviewed annually by the Board of Elders.

Aside from congregational rule the Board of Elders will act as final authority in all spiritual matters of the church including Plymouth Christian Academy (PCA).

All proposals for new Calvary Baptist Church paid positions must be pre-approved by the Elder Board before seeking candidates. Similarly positions that are vacated must also be re-approved prior to seeking candidates. Actual candidate selection shall be the responsibility of the respective overseeing board or in cases where the position reports directly to a Vocational Elder (VE) and is not a Vocational Elder position, that VE shall be responsible for candidate selection.

SECTION V - BOARD OF DEACONS

The Board of Deacons shall consist of a minimum of twelve (12) male members. Neither the Business Manager nor the Elder Deacon Co-Chair shall be counted as part of the (12) member minimum. The term of office shall begin on the first day of the fiscal year. The nominating committee will present names for consideration as required for vote by the church membership. The Deacon's tenure shall be arranged so that one-third (1/3) of the terms shall expire annually meaning a three (3) year term of office for each member. The Board may appoint qualified members from the congregation to fill mid-term vacancies. The appointment shall last until the end of the church year when the next annual church election of officers provides a permanent replacement. No member elected to a two (2) or three (3) year term may succeed himself. After a term in office a one (1) year period must elapse before such a person shall be eligible to serve on the Board of Deacons again.

The Business Manager, while not a Deacon, is a non voting member of the Deacon Board. The Deacon Board has the authority for hiring and terminating the Business Manager.

For operating purposes, the Deacons shall act as the trustees of the Church and shall have the authority to disburse the funds the amount designated by the membership at the annual business meeting on non-recurring items, without vote of the church. Furthermore, the Board of Deacons has the authority to disburse funds up to three percent (3%) in excess of the overall budget when surplus monies are available. For legal transactions of business the signatures of any two of the Corporate Officers are required. In the absence of any of the above members, the Board may designate additional signatures.

The duties of the Board of Deacons include the establishment of policies governing the temporal affairs of the church, such as physical plant, budget planning and control, and related affairs. They shall also assist the Board of Elders as called upon in any way to glorify our Lord and Savior.

The Board of Deacons shall annually appoint a Financial Secretary.

The Board of Deacons shall organize themselves, hold regularly scheduled meetings, and appoint all committees except as specified elsewhere. The Co-Chairman of the Board of Deacons shall be an elected Lay Elder. The second Co-Chairman shall be an elected Deacon chosen by the Board of Deacons.

Deacons have ultimate responsibility for all Calvary Baptist Church finances including Plymouth Christian Academy. The responsibility for financial matters related to Plymouth Christian Academy shall be delegated to the PCA Finance Committee with the following exceptions:

- Approval of the final budget
- Approval of use of fundraising for operating expenses
- Approval of the use of reserves
- Approval of all capital projects not included in the annual budget
- All financial matters which are common to or impact both PCA and CBC, including but not limited to, employee benefits or facilities maintenance and updates
- Matters or decisions related to PCA debt, debt recovery, sale or purchase of real estate

The qualifications of the office of Deacon as set forth in the New Testament in Acts 6:1-7 and I Timothy 3:8-13 shall be the standard toward which each Deacon shall strive.

SECTION VI - BOARD OF REGENTS

The Board of Regents as an arm of the church has the responsibility and authority for the establishment, function, and maintenance of Plymouth Christian Academy's programs and fiscal matters empowered under the auspices of the Deacon Board including approval of the annual budget, and facilities that are offered from pre-school through adult ages.

The management of PCA Finances is delegated from the Deacon Board to the PCA Finance Committee. The PCA Finance Committee shall consist of two Deacons, one of which is the Deacon representative to the Regents, two Regents, the Business Manager and the Head of School. There is flexibility to add one member at-large from either the CBC congregation or the PCA family. The committee shall select a chairman from these members except the member at large is not eligible.

The Board of Regents has the authority to enter into contractual agreements with the certified teaching faculty, in consultation with the Board of Deacons. They shall establish formal policies, as necessary, to carry out that purpose. The membership of the Board of Regents shall consist of a minimum of eight (8) mature Christians who are members of Calvary Baptist Church including one (1) Regent from the Deacon Board appointed annually by the Co-Chairs of the Board of Deacons. Neither the Head of School nor the Elder Regent Co-Chair positions shall be counted as part of the (8) member minimum. The Nominating Committee will present names for Regents from CBC membership for consideration at the annual election for vote by the church membership. The Board of Elders may additionally appoint up to four (4) mature Christians representing the constituency of Plymouth Christian Academy to serve on the Board of Regents. At all times, a minimum of two-thirds (2/3) of the membership of the Board of Regents shall be members of Calvary Baptist Church.

Potential Board members from other churches must:

- Be born again believers in Christ who are in agreement with the CBC Statement of Faith as defined in Article III, Sections I through VIII. Differences shall be permitted in baptismal practices, communion doctrine and in eschatology (a person must affirm the second coming of Christ while differences in rapture, tribulation and millennial convictions shall be permitted). The magnitude of differences will be determined by the Board of Elders and outlined in the Policy and

Procedure Manual including a formal application and interview process for Non CBC candidates conducted by the Elders.

- Be a member in good standing within a "like minded" church who's Church's Statement of Faith is aligned to CBC's Statement of Faith consistent with qualifications described in the preceding paragraph above.
- Agree to support CBC's Statement of Faith on board decisions related to doctrine and theology during their term of service.

The Board of Regents shall choose their officers in accordance with the Regent Board Policy. A Co-Chairman of the Board of Regents, shall at all times, be an elected Lay Elder. The second Co-Chairman shall be an elected Regent and selected by the Regent Board. The non Elder Regent Board Co-Chairman shall be a member of Calvary Baptist Church.

The Head of School and Principals of Plymouth Christian Academy shall be members of Calvary Baptist Church. The Head of School shall be a non voting member of the Board of Regents. The Regent Board has the authority for hiring and terminating the Head of School.

The Regent's tenure shall be arranged so that one-third (1/3) of the terms shall expire annually with a three (3) year term of office for each member. The Elder Board may appoint qualified members from the congregation to fill vacancies. The appointment shall last until the next annual church election of officers. After a term in office a Regent (CBC member or Non CBC member) may be reappointed by the Board of Elders for a second term after which a one (1) year period must elapse before such a person shall be eligible to serve on the Board of Regents again.

SECTION VII - NOMINATING COMMITTEE

A nominating committee shall be annually elected for a term of one (1) year consisting of at least five (5) mature Christians who are members of Calvary Baptist Church. The Board of Elders shall appoint one of their members to act as Chairman of the committee.

The duty of the nominating committee shall be to present a slate of candidates for the annual election. The candidates shall be approved by the Board of Elders prior to election. The nominating committee shall start holding initial meetings at least ninety (90) days prior to the annual election. No nominations will be accepted from the floor.

ARTICLE X - CHURCH MEETINGS

SECTION I - WORSHIP SERVICES

Since worship is a core value of this church, the church shall normally meet every Lord's Day for public worship.

SECTION II - MIDWEEK FAMILY NIGHT

The church shall provide ministries to meet the needs of the membership. Included in these ministries shall always be an opportunity for group Bible study and prayer.

SECTION III - BIBLE SCHOOL

Bible School shall normally meet each Sunday morning.

SECTION IV - ORDINANCES

The Lord's Table shall normally be observed on the first Sunday of each month and/or such other times that may be determined by the Board of Elders. Baptismal services shall be set by the Board of Elders.

SECTION V - BUSINESS MEETINGS

During the regular midweek meeting as the situation dictates, routine business items such as membership approval and termination may be conducted.

The annual business meetings of the Church shall be held during the second and fourth quarter, normally in April and October. The second quarter meeting will include election of church officers and the presentation and approval of the church budget for the new fiscal year which begins on July 1 and ends on June 30. The fourth quarter meeting shall be comprised of a financial performance report relative to budget for the operations of the previous year.

Special business meetings of the church may be called by the chairman of either the Elders or Deacons Board. The date, time, place and the purpose of any special business meeting of the church shall be announced at least two Sundays prior to the meeting both in the church bulletin and from the pulpit.

If there is any question of order or procedure, Roberts Rules of Order shall prevail. However, scriptural principles of love, harmony and order shall supersede parliamentary procedures. If strife or dis-unity becomes evident in the meeting, the Chairman of the Elder Board shall have the authority to terminate the meeting until proper harmony is restored.

SECTION VI - ELECTION AND VOTING

Board Members and Corporate Officers shall be elected by ballot during the 4th Quarter of the fiscal year from the membership of the church for the following offices:

1. Board of Elders
2. Board of Deacons
3. Board of Regents
4. Nominating Committee

Their term of office is specified under their respective headings.

Church members (excluding special membership) in attendance who are in good standing and have attained the age of sixteen (16) years are eligible to vote.

The call or dismissal of a Vocational Elder shall require a three fourths (3/4) affirmative vote of those present and voting.

The election of Lay Board Members shall be determined by highest popular vote count by those present and voting. All candidates for these positions must be approved by the Elder Board as meeting the requirements for the designated position for which they have been nominated.

All other matters require a two thirds (2/3) affirmative vote of those present and voting.

All matters may be decided by voice vote, except election of officers and Board members and the call or termination of Vocational Elders, which shall be by written ballot.

ARTICLE XI - LICENSING AND ORDAINING

SECTION I - LICENSING

Any member who upon recommendation of the Board of Elders, and who in the judgment of the church gives evidence, by his piety, zeal and aptness to teach that he is called of God to the work of the ministry; may be licensed to preach the Gospel of Jesus Christ with the affirmative vote of the members at a business meeting.

SECTION II - ORDAINING

If the church desires to ordain a man to the full time work of the ministry, upon recommendation by the Board of Elders, pastors and brethren from churches of like faith shall be invited to sit in council with them, to advise regarding Ordination. This council, shall be selected by Board of Elders. The council, after due examination of the candidate and consultation, may advise the church to ordain or refrain from doing so, but the final decision shall rest with the congregation whose decision will be rendered by affirmative vote.

ARTICLE XII - AMENDMENTS

Any article or section of this constitution may be amended by a vote of two-thirds of the members present and voting at any properly called business meeting. Written notice of such proposed amendments must be available to all active members at least two weeks prior to said meeting.

This Constitution adopted by Calvary Baptist Church on March 15, 2009 and supersedes the prior Constitution dated December 9, 2007.