

CONSTITUTION & BY-LAWS  
OF  
GRACE CHURCH  
Alpharetta, Georgia  
*Adopted November 22, 2009*

**ARTICLE I: NAME**

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The name of this church is Grace Church, A Baptist Fellowship.

**ARTICLE II: PURPOSE**

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The purpose of this church is to glorify the God of the Scriptures by maintaining and promoting His worship both individually and corporately, by evangelizing the lost, by edifying His saints, and by celebrating purely and faithfully the Ordinances of the New Covenant.

**ARTICLE III: AFFIRMATIONS OF FAITH**

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- A. Two affirmations of faith, one for members, and one for Elders and teachers, have been adopted to govern this church, The Congregational Affirmation of Faith and The Elder and Teacher Affirmation of Faith. These affirmations serve as the standards for our teaching, assistance in controversy, confirmation in faith, and means of edification in righteousness.
- B. All members must affirm The Congregational Affirmation of Faith. The aim of this affirmation is to make the doctrinal qualifications for membership in the local church similar to those of the universal church. This approach is an effort to be careful to not elevate beliefs and practices that are non-essential to the level of prerequisites for church membership.
- C. Whereas church members would not be required to affirm the details of The Elder and Teacher Affirmation of Faith, the responsibility of the Elders is to lead the congregation toward unity in the fullness of the truth. Out of strong desire to strive for that kind of Biblical unity, the leadership of Grace Church must cooperate in doctrinal agreement.

**ARTICLE IV: MEMBERSHIP**

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**A. Requirements**

Our goal is to be as welcoming as Christ is in receiving sheep while at the same time maintaining a clear conscience in following the principles of church order that we find revealed in Scripture. Therefore, the church will require the following for church membership:

1. A credible profession of both personal faith in our Lord Jesus Christ and repentance toward God (Jer. 31:33, 34; Acts 2:41, 9:26, 27; 2 John 1:9).
2. Baptism following regeneration as a public identification with Christ in accordance with the command of Christ (Matt. 28:19, 20) and the practice of the New Testament church (Acts 2:41).

3. A clear understanding and affirmation of The Congregational Affirmation of Faith, and in addition, to live at peace with a teaching ministry guided by the Biblical convictions expressed in The Elder and Teacher Affirmation of Faith.
4. An understanding of and commitment to undertake the Biblical responsibilities of church membership as expressed in this Constitution and the church covenant.
5. A willingness to promote the unity and well being of the church by understanding and submitting to its form of church government.
6. No unresolved Biblical corrective discipline from a church where membership was previously held.

## **B. Admission to Membership**

Anyone desiring membership must complete the following membership process:

1. Complete a Membership Application
2. Attend a Membership Class that explains the specifics of membership at Grace Church.
3. Participate in an interview with two or more Elders in order for them to hear his or her testimony of repentance and faith (Acts 20:20, 21). This interview also allows a potential member to explore the doctrinal positions, the leadership and church government, the vision and purpose, and other areas of the church without obligation by either party. A prospective member is not required to agree with every doctrinal position expressed by The Elder and Teacher Affirmation of Faith, but must understand that the ministry and teaching will be shaped by the positions expressed in it.
4. Sign the Membership Covenant.
5. Upon a positive assessment from the Elders, the applicant shall be brought before the congregation for public affirmation into membership as a mutual commitment between applicant and the congregation.

## **C. Termination of Membership**

In accepting membership each member acknowledges and agrees that:

1. Termination of membership shall be recognized by the church following death or by transfer to another evangelical church. Termination of membership shall not be granted to any member while under discipline, facing discipline, or with unresolved issues with the church. Membership may be terminated as an act of church discipline in accordance with the process outlined in Article IV, Section E.
2. The Elders may, at their discretion, disclose to the members of this church, to other churches, and to others outside of Christian churches the circumstances under which a person's membership was terminated. They may do this for the sake of the purity, peace, integrity, and testimony of the church as well as the protection of society.
3. Subject to the discretion and approval of the Elders, the names of any members who have not been in regular attendance for a period of six months or longer may be removed from the membership rolls.

## **D. Associate Membership**

1. Members of other churches who come to live in our area for a limited period of time (e.g., retirees, students, military personnel, persons on special work assignments) may

- be received into or removed from the membership of the church on the same basis and in the same manner as persons who have permanent residence in our geographical area. Such persons need not be released from the membership of their "home church" but will be regarded as associate members while in our midst. They will enjoy all the privileges and fulfill all the responsibilities of regular membership, except that they will not be eligible to stand for any office or vote.
2. Children of adult members, who are under age 18, are eligible for associate membership if they:
    - a. Give a credible profession of both personal faith in our Lord Jesus Christ and repentance toward God.
    - b. Are baptized following regeneration as a public identification with Christ in accordance with the command of Christ and the practice of the New Testament church.
    - c. The children accepted for associate membership will enjoy all the privileges and fulfill all the responsibilities of regular membership except that they will not be eligible to stand for any office or vote. If these children fulfill all membership requirements for adult membership by their 18th birthday, then they may become full members, otherwise they will remain associate members.
  3. Mentally handicapped persons are eligible for associate membership if they:
    - a. Give a credible profession of both personal faith in our Lord Jesus Christ and repentance toward God.
    - b. Are baptized following regeneration as a public identification with Christ in accordance with the command of Christ and the practice of the New Testament church.
    - c. The mentally handicapped persons accepted for associate membership will enjoy all the privileges and fulfill all the responsibilities of regular membership except that they will not be eligible to stand for any office or vote.

#### **D. Membership Covenant**

1. Having received Christ as my Lord and Savior and been Biblically baptized, and being in agreement with this church's statements, strategy and structure, I am now ready to unite with the Grace Church family. In doing so, I commit myself to God and to the other members to do the following:
  - a. **I WILL PROTECT THE UNITY OF MY CHURCH**
    - i. ...By acting in love toward other members
    - ii. ...By refusing to gossip
    - iii. ...By putting Biblical priorities ahead of personal preferences
  - b. **I WILL SHARE THE VISION OF MY CHURCH**
    - i. ...By praying for its growth
    - ii. ...By inviting the unchurched to attend
    - iii. ...By faithfully upholding and declaring God's truth
  - c. **I WILL SERVE THE MINISTRY OF MY CHURCH**
    - i. ...By discovering my spiritual gifts and talents
    - ii. ...By developing the heart of a servant
    - iii. ...By being equipped to serve by the Elders

- d. I WILL PROTECT THE TESTIMONY OF MY CHURCH
  - i. ...By attending faithfully
  - ii. ...By living a godly life
  - iii. ...By giving of my resources regularly
- e. I WILL SUBMIT TO THE LOVING ACCOUNTABILITY OF MY CHURCH
  - i. ...By submitting to the leadership of the Elders and governance of the By Laws
  - ii. ...By being willing to deal Biblically with sin and with relationships, including the process of church discipline
  - iii. ...By committing to the mutual care of the other members.

## **E. Church Discipline**

1. The church of Jesus Christ is not a body of sinless people, but it is a body of repenting people who are progressively growing into Christ-likeness. Ordinarily, the preaching of the Word, prayer, fellowship, the Lord's Supper, and other nurturing means of grace are sufficient to keep God's people repenting in a timely manner and growing in their faith. However, at times this growth process is interrupted by obstinate sin. Our loving heavenly Father has ordained means of corrective church discipline through the Word to rescue and restore His children who resist repentance or engage in willful, public sin. The purpose of such discipline is to reclaim offenders from spiritual peril through repentance, reconciliation, and spiritual growth of the individual disciplined, as well as to maintain the purity and testimony of the church, and to deter others from sin.
2. Members of this church and all other professing Christians who regularly attend or fellowship with this church who err in doctrine, or who engage in conduct that violates Scripture as determined by the Elders, shall be subject to church discipline, including dismissal according to Matthew 18:15-18.
3. Corrective discipline should ordinarily begin with a private rebuke from a fellow believer who is aware of an unrepented offense, although this stage may be irrelevant for more public sins. Only in the case of continued unwillingness to repent is further action required. In such a case, two or three believers must lovingly confront the erring brother or sister. If he or she still refuses to repent, the Elders should be contacted so that they can determine whether public discipline is necessary and how to apply it. The Elders shall administrate any discipline that necessitates public disclosure of an unrepentant brother or sister if:

The Elders determine — after investigation in accord with the procedures prescribed by pertinent Scripture, including Matthew 18:15-18 and 1 Timothy 5:19 — that there is corroborating evidence that the erring individual has sinned or is continuing to sin, that he or she has been appropriately confronted, and that he or she has refused to repent, then the Elders shall inform the church and the congregation thereof at a regularly scheduled worship service in order that the church may call the erring individual to repentance. If the erring individual demonstrates repentance, then notice to that effect may be given at a regularly scheduled worship service. If, however, the erring individual does not repent in response to the church in its collective call to repentance, then he or she shall be

publicly dismissed from the fellowship and/or membership of the church and the congregation thereof at a regularly scheduled worship service. If the erring individual, after such dismissal, heeds the warning, demonstrates repentance, and requests reinstatement through the Elders, then he or she shall be publicly restored to all the rights, duties, privileges, and responsibilities of fellowship and/or membership.

4. The members of this church, and all other professing Christians who regularly attend or fellowship with this church, agree that there shall be no appeal to any court because of the dismissal or because of public statements to the congregation during the process of church discipline.
5. Although all corrective discipline is unpleasant, church members will commit to love one another enough and to love the honor of Christ's church enough to take the steps required by Scripture to reclaim the erring brother or sister and maintain the purity of the church.

## **ARTICLE V: CHURCH MEETINGS**

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### **A. For Worship**

Worship services shall be held each Lord's Day, and may be held throughout the week as the church determines.

### **B. For Business**

1. The annual meeting shall be held during the last month of the fiscal year of the Church for the purpose of reviewing proposed budgets and other business. The Elders shall give a financial report for the previous year. The proposed budget for the coming year shall be presented to the church prior to a meeting to discuss it, and subsequently approved in a church vote. Amendments may be made to the budget by a vote of members at any properly called and held meeting of the church.
2. Special meetings may be called by the Elders or when one-fourth (1/4) of the voting members make a written, signed request for such a meeting along with the stated reason. This request must be presented to the Elders, who shall in turn make the proper announcement of the meeting. The date, time, and purpose of any meeting shall be announced at least one week in advance. In the event of a written request from the members, the Elders shall call a Special meeting to be held within 90 days of their receipt of the request.
3. An Elder designated by the Elders shall preside as moderator at all business meetings of the church. The Elders shall see that the stated meetings of the church are regularly held and that required reports are submitted to the church by the responsible members.
4. Those members who are present at a meeting for which proper notice has been given shall constitute a quorum. Unless specifically delineated in another part of these By-Laws, a majority of those voting in favor will constitute an affirmative decision. All votes shall be tallied based on the number of votes cast by voting members.

## **ARTICLE VI: GOVERNMENT**

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### **A. General Statement**

Jesus Christ alone is the Head of His Church (Col. 1:18). He has ordained that individual churches be governed directly by Him through members and officers exercising responsible choices together according to the Biblical pattern. Christ has ordained that local churches are to be administered by those holding the offices of Elder and Deacon (Phil. 1:1; 1 Tim. 3:1-13).

### **B. Church Officers**

1. Any individual set apart to church office must affirm and be governed by the Elder and Teacher Affirmation of Faith of this church as set out in Article III as containing the system of doctrine taught in the Holy Scripture and affirm this Constitution as a faithful implementation of Biblical principles of church order (1 Tim. 3:9; Tit. 1:9). If one should at any time move from this position, they are under spiritual and moral obligation to notify the Elders immediately.
2. Church officers must be members of Grace Church for at least one year unless delineated elsewhere in this Constitution.

### **C. Appointment of Elders and Deacons**

1. The appointment of Elders and Deacons is the prerogative of the Lord Jesus Christ alone. However, He has ordained that each local church exercise the responsibility of recognizing those whom He has qualified and called to be Elders and Deacons in that particular church.
2. The recognition of those whom the Lord has appointed to bear office in this church is executed in three steps: nomination, affirmation, and ordination.
  - a. Nomination:
    - i. The Board of Elders shall provide opportunity for voting members of the Church either to nominate candidates or to present themselves to the Board as candidates for office, and for the Board's further investigation.
    - ii. The Board of Elders shall recognize, investigate, and prepare candidates for Elder.
    - iii. In no instances shall any individual be considered a nominee for the office without the nominee's consent.
    - iv. In those cases where the Board of Elders concludes that a nominee is not qualified for office they shall so inform the nominee stating the reasons for this conclusion.
  - b. Affirmation:
    - i. The Elders shall submit an initial list of qualified candidates to the congregation for consideration and prayer.
    - ii. After prayerful consideration and within 2 weeks of the Elders submittal of the initial Elder qualified list, any voting member may submit to the Board of Elders a signed statement as to why a candidate, that has been submitted for consideration and prayer, does not meet the Biblical qualifications of an Elder.
    - iii. All communication will be dealt with in strict confidence. As it applies, to

be consistent with Matt. 18:15 and Matt. 5:24, members may need to speak with the candidate prior to submitting their signed statement.

- iv. The Board of Elders will review all signed statements with the candidates and render a determination as to whether they believe such statements to be valid.
- v. After the Board of Elders has determined all final qualified candidates, the final list will be submitted to the church for affirmation.
- vi. Officer affirmations shall be held at any church meeting providing an announcement is made on four consecutive Lord's Days previous to its being held.
- vii. Candidates receiving affirmation from two-thirds of the voting members present and voting will be considered affirmed. Those reaffirmed shall assume office immediately. Those newly affirmed shall assume office upon ordination.

c. Ordination:

Ordination will follow affirmation to office. A portion of a regular worship service will be set aside during which the officer shall be ordained by the laying on of the hands of the Elders.

#### **D. Elders**

1. Those who have been called of God to rule and teach in the church are called Elders, Pastors, or Overseers (Bishops). These are three interchangeable names designating one and the same office in a New Testament church (Acts 20:17, 28; Eph. 4:11, 12; Tit. 1:5, 7). The ordinary pattern is for churches to have multiple Elders (a plurality) as God provides (Jam. 5:14; 1 Pet. 5:5).
2. Any male member desiring the office of an Elder must evidence to God's people the personal, domestic, and ministerial qualifications that are set forth in the Scriptures (1 Tim. 3:1-7; Tit. 1:5-9).
3. The Elders shall be comprised of not less than three men who satisfy the qualifications for the office of Elder set forth in (1 Tim. 3:1-7 and Tit. 1:6-9), with the number of additional Elders at any time determined by the needs of the ministry and by the call and qualification of men in the church. A majority of the active Eldership shall be composed of church members not in the regular pay of the church, and no Elder shall hold the office of Deacon during his tenure.
4. After an Elder, other than the Senior or Associate Pastor(s), has served two consecutive three-year terms, he may only be reaffirmed to active Eldership after at least one year of inactive service. For purposes of this provision a term during which an Elder or Deacon serves not more than one year, shall not be considered a term in office.
5. The fundamental responsibility of the Elders is to devote themselves to prayer and the ministry of the Word. In keeping with the principles set forth in Acts 6:1-6 and 1 Peter 5:1-4, the Elders are primarily responsible for governing the Church, devoting themselves to teaching the Word (by teaching and encouraging sound doctrine), and tending to the souls of the flock of God in this Church. Specifically, the responsibilities of the Elders shall include:
  - a. Teaching the whole counsel of God both formally and informally in order to encourage sound doctrine and practice, and to correct sin and error

- b. Examining prospective members for church membership
  - c. Equipping the membership of the Church for the work of the ministry
  - d. Overseeing the process of Church discipline
  - e. Examining prospective candidates for church offices, both paid and volunteer.
  - f. Overseeing the work of the Deacons and appointed church agents and committees
  - g. Overseeing the conducting of worship services
  - h. Overseeing the administering of the Ordinances of Baptism and the Lord's Supper
  - i. Overseeing, coordinating and promoting the ministries, leadership structures, and financial concerns of the Church
  - j. Mobilizing the Church for world mission.
  - k. Scheduling and providing a moderator for business meetings
  - l. Providing for reporting and recording of official Church business
6. The Elders may establish ministry positions or committees to assist them in fulfilling their responsibilities. The Elders may also propose funding for new paid staff positions. The membership shall approve all candidates to fill the positions of Senior and Associate Pastor. The scope and approval of job descriptions for any staff position shall reside in the hands of those with hiring authority for that position.
7. The Elders shall have primary responsibility for the employment, supervision, and evaluation of staff members. This responsibility may, on a case-by-case basis, be delegated to another staff member.
8. Organization of Elders
- The Board of Elders shall organize itself however it determines to be best to achieve the mission of the Church. The Elders shall be equal in authority but may be specialized in function. The Elders must meet at least once per month. Meetings of the Elders may be held at any location and may be conducted by means of electronic communication through which the Elders may simultaneously hear each other. Unless the Board provides otherwise, meetings of the Board may be held immediately upon notice.
9. Removal
- a. Resignation.
 

An Elder may resign his office at any time if he finds he is no longer able to discharge the duties of the office. A person's leaving the Board of Elders would not preclude his service as a future Elder, but would be again subject to the regular Elder affirmation process.
  - b. Grievance.
    - i. Any Elder may be removed from office at any regular or special meeting of the Board of Elders if either:
      - A. Any two members with reason to believe that an Elder should be removed shall express in writing such concern to the Elders. Any such action shall be done according to pertinent Scripture, including Matthew 18:15-18 and 1 Timothy 5:19 and after thorough corroborating investigation by the Elders (or a duly appointed Committee of the Board of Elders, formed at the sole discretion of the Board)
      - B. He is found to be physically or mentally incapacitated or spiritually unqualified (according to pertinent Scripture, including 1 Timothy

3:1-7 and Titus 1:5-9)

- C. When an Elder is removed because of sin that is deemed sufficient to disqualify him from shepherding, and if he refuses to repent from that sin, the removal shall be accompanied by a public rebuke, and notice shall be made before the church and the congregation thereof at a regularly scheduled worship service as prescribed in 1 Timothy 5:20.
- ii. Lack of reaffirmation.
  - A. If an Elder stands for reaffirmation and fails to be reaffirmed, the Elder shall be removed from active service.
  - B. Removal from office by this means shall not be considered disciplinary action.

## **E. Deacons**

### 1. Composition:

The church shall recognize the office of Deacon to be comprised of men and women who are giving of themselves in service to the church, and who possess particular gifts of service as described in 1 Timothy 3:8-13 and Acts 6:1-7. They shall be received as gifts of Christ to His church and set apart as Deacons.

### 2. Qualifications:

Deacons must give evidence to God's people of the personal, domestic, and ministerial qualifications that are set forth in the Scriptures (1 Tim. 3:8-13; Acts 6:1-7).

### 3. Responsibilities (Duties):

The Deacons shall advise and be ready to assist the Elders in any service that shall support and promote the ministry of the Word, new and existing ministries of the Church, and the care for the members of the congregation. They must fulfill the duties of their office in cooperation with, and in subjection to, the Elders. Their responsibilities may include:

- a. Receiving, holding, and disbursing a fund for benevolence to assist the poor and needy and otherwise providing aid in times of crisis or distress; reporting on its use to the Elders at their request, and reporting to the church its total receipts and total disbursements only.
- b. The greeting and welcoming ministries of the church;
- c. Assisting in administering the Ordinances of the Gospel;
- d. Assisting at fellowship gatherings of the church;
- e. Caring for and maintaining the Church properties.

### 4. Organization:

- a. The Deacons shall organize themselves however they determine to be best to achieve the mission of the church. The Elders or the Deacons may designate any specific Deacon or group of Deacons to specialize in some particular Diaconal function. Meetings of the Deacons, or subcommittees thereof shall be held as needed to best fulfill the responsibilities of the Deacons.
- b. Term  
Deacons shall be affirmed to a term of three years at which time they may be reaffirmed. There is no limit to the number of consecutive terms that a Deacon may serve.

c. Removal:

i. Resignation:

- A. A Deacon may resign his office at any time if he finds he is no longer able to discharge the duties of the office.
- B. A person's leaving the Diaconate for reason A, would not preclude his service as a future Deacon, but would be again subject to the regular Deacon affirmation process.

ii. Grievance:

- A. A Deacon may be removed from office at any regular or special meeting of the Elders if (either):
  - a. Any two members with reason to believe that a Deacon should be removed shall express in writing such concern to the Elders. Any such action shall be done according to pertinent Scripture, including Matthew 18:15-18 and 1 Timothy 5:19 and after thorough corroborating investigation by the Elders (or a duly appointed Committee of the Board of Elders, formed at the sole discretion of the Board).
  - b. He is found to be physically or mentally incapacitated or spiritually unqualified (according to pertinent Scripture, including 1 Timothy 3:1-7 and Titus 1:5-9)
- B. When a Deacon is removed because of sin that is deemed sufficient to disqualify him from serving, and if he refuses to repent from that sin, the removal shall be accompanied by church discipline as described in Matthew (18:15-18).

iii. Lack of reaffirmation:

- A. If a Deacon stands for reaffirmation and fails to be reaffirmed, the Deacon shall be removed from office.
- B. Removal from office by this means shall not be considered disciplinary action.

**F. Treasurer**

The treasurer, who shall not be an active Elder or paid church staff member, shall be appointed by the Elders, and ensure that all funds and securities of the church are properly secured in such banks, financial institutions, or depositories as appropriate. The treasurer shall also be responsible for presenting regular reports of the account balances, revenues and expenses of the church at each annual members' meeting. This responsibility may be delegated with the approval of the Elders. The treasurer shall also guarantee that full and accurate accounts of receipts and disbursements are kept on assets belonging to the church, and that adequate controls are implemented to ensure that all funds belonging to the church are appropriately handled by any officer, employee, or agent of the church. The treasurer shall render to the Elders annually, or whenever they may require it, an account of all transactions as treasurer and of the financial condition of the church.

**G. Pastoral Staff**

## **1. Senior Pastor**

- a. The Senior Pastor shall be an Elder. He shall perform the duties of an Elder described in Article VI, Section D, Number 5 above, and shall be recognized by the church as particularly gifted and worthy of full financial support for preaching and teaching (Gal. 6:6, 1 Tim. 5:17, 1 Cor. 9:1-14). In the absence or incapacity of the Senior Pastor the Elders shall assume responsibility for his duties, any of which can be delegated
- b. Calling of a Senior Pastor
  - i. In the calling of any man to this position, the same basic process of calling an Elder must be followed. In addition, however, the church must be given adequate opportunity to assess the preaching gifts of any potential Senior Pastor and, before being asked to express its judgment, must receive assurance from the Elders that, having interviewed the man concerned, they are in no doubt as to his wholehearted assent to the Elder and Teacher Affirmation of Faith and Membership Covenant.
  - ii. Notice of the nomination of a man to be elected to membership and called as Senior Pastor (which shall include, if necessary, election to membership of his wife if he is married) must be given at two Sunday morning services following the nomination, prior to the vote at a members' meeting.
  - iii. His call shall not be subject to the triennial reaffirmation or to the term limitation set out in Article VI, Section D, Number 4 for Elders.
- c. Removal

In order to remove the Senior Pastor, the same basic process of removing an Elder must be followed
- d. Duties

He shall preach on the Lord's Day, administer the Ordinances of Baptism and Communion, and perform such other duties as usually pertain to that office, or as set forth in the By-Laws.

## **2. Associate Pastor**

- a. The Associate Pastor shall be an Elder. He shall perform the duties of an Elder described in Article VI, Section D, Number 5 above, and shall be recognized by the church as particularly gifted and worthy of full financial support for preaching and teaching (Gal. 6:6, 1 Tim 5:17, 1 Cor. 9:1-14).
- b. Calling of Associate Pastor
  - i. In the calling of any man to this position, the same basic process of calling an Elder must be followed. In addition, however, the church must be given adequate opportunity to assess the preaching gifts of any potential Associate Pastor and, before being asked to express its judgment, must receive assurance from the Elders that, having interviewed the man concerned, they are in no doubt as to his wholehearted assent to the Elder and Teacher Affirmation of Faith and Membership Covenant.
  - ii. Notice of the nomination of a man to be elected to membership and called as Associate Pastor (which shall include, if necessary, election

to membership of his wife if he is married) must be given at two Sunday morning services following the nomination, prior to the vote at a members' meeting.

- iii. His call shall not be subject to the triennial reaffirmation or to the term limitation set out in Article VI, Section D, Number 4 for Elders.

c. Removal

In order to remove the Associate Pastor, the same basic process of removing an Elder must be followed

d. Duties

- i. He shall assist the Senior Pastor in the performance of his regular duties and shall perform any other duties as usually pertain to the office of Pastor, or as set forth in the By-Laws.
- ii. In the absence or incapacity of the Senior Pastor for defined periods of time (such as sabbatical or illness), the Associate Pastor(s) shall assume the responsibility for his duties under the oversight of the Elders.

## **ARTICLE VII. CORPORATE OFFICERS**

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The Elders will appoint willing men to act as President, Vice-President, and Secretary of the corporation as prescribed by the State of Georgia. Elders may serve in this capacity. Their duties are two-fold:

- 1. To fulfill requirements stipulated by the State of Georgia as a non-profit corporation
- 2. To work with the church officers as needed in legal and financial matters.

## **ARTICLE VIII – AMENDMENTS**

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- A. The Affirmations of Faith (both Congregational and Elder & Teacher) may be amended by a three-quarters vote of the members present and voting at a members' meeting, provided the amendment shall have been offered in writing at the previous members' meeting. The meeting for a vote shall have been announced from the pulpit at church services two successive Sundays prior to such vote.
- B. These By-Laws may be amended by a two-thirds vote of the members present and voting at a members' meeting, provided the amendment shall have been offered in writing at the previous members' meeting. The meeting for a vote shall have been announced from the pulpit at church services two successive Sundays prior to such vote.

## **ARTICLE IX. LIMITATIONS**

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This document is not to be treated as exhaustive or infallible. Issues not covered in the constitution will be handled by the Elders as the occasion demands.