

WRIGHTSVILLE BEACH BAPTIST CHURCH

Constitution & By-Laws

CONSTITUTION

PREAMBLE

For the purpose of preserving and making secure the principles of our faith and to the end that this body be governed in an orderly manner, consistent with the accepted tenets of the Baptist Churches affiliated with the Wilmington Baptist Association, the Baptist State Convention of North Carolina and the Southern Baptist Convention, and for the purpose of preserving the liberties inherent in each individual member of the Church, and to set forth the relationship of the body to other bodies of the same faith, we do declare and establish this Constitution.

ARTICLE I. NAME

This body shall be known as the Wrightsville Beach Baptist Church, located at 601 Causeway Drive, Wrightsville Beach, New Hanover County, North Carolina 28480 (Hereinafter referred to as the "Church").

ARTICLE II. MISSION/PURPOSE

The objective of our Church, composed of baptized believers who share a personal commitment to Jesus Christ as Savior and Lord is:

Called to be one in Christ, We...

...worship God.

...love people.

...make disciples.

Proclaiming the gospel as we go!

ARTICLE III. ARTICLES OF FAITH

Believing Scripture to be the Word of God, we maintain it as the first and final authority in all matters of faith and practice. We mutually agree upon the Articles of Faith set forth in the revised tract "1963 BAPTIST FAITH AND MESSAGE" as approved by the members of this Church, and amended as noted in Attachment A approved on August 5, 2009.

ARTICLE IV. COVENANT

The Church is called to live and act differently. In agreeing to a Church covenant, one is agreeing to be held accountable by a body of believers. Likewise, one is agreeing to hold a body of believers accountable. To hold accountable simply means "to take responsibility for." A Church covenant, void of this responsibility, is a worthless document.

Having, as we trust, been brought by Divine Grace to repent and believe in the Lord Jesus Christ and to give up ourselves to Him, having been baptized upon our profession of faith in the name of the Fa-

ther and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, we do now, relying on His gracious aid, solemnly and joyfully renew our covenant with one another.

We will work and pray for the unity of the Spirit in the bond of peace.

We will walk together in brotherly love, as becomes the members of a Christian Church; exercise an affectionate care and watchfulness over each other and faithfully admonish and entreat one another as occasion may require.

We will not forsake the assembling of ourselves together, nor neglect to pray for ourselves and others.

We will endeavor to bring up such as may at any time be under our care, in the nurture and admonition of the Lord, and by a pure and loving example to seek the salvation of our family and friends.

We will rejoice at each other's happiness and endeavor with tenderness and sympathy to bear one another's burdens and sorrows.

We will seek, by Divine Aid, to live carefully in this world, practicing and advocating temperance in all things, denying ungodliness and worldly lust, and remembering that, as we have been voluntarily buried by baptism and raised again from the symbolic grave, so there is on us a special obligation now to lead a new and holy life.

We will work together for the continuance of a faithful evangelical ministry in this Church, as we sustain its worship, ordinances, discipline, and doctrines. We will contribute 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 will, when we move from this place, 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.

May the grace of the Lord Jesus Christ, and the love of God, and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit be with all. Amen.

ARTICLE V. CHARACTER

Section I. **POLITY**- The government of this Church is vested in the body of believers who compose it. It is subject to the control of NO other ecclesiastical body, but it recognizes and sustains the obligations of mutual counsel and cooperation which are common among Baptist churches.

Section II. **DOCTRINE** – The Church receives the Scripture as its authority in matters of faith and practice. Its understanding of Christian truth as contained therein is in essential accord with the belief of Baptist churches as indicated in the ARTICLES OF FAITH (Baptist Faith and Message, see ARTICLE III).

Section III. **INCORPORATION** – The Church has been incorporated under the laws of the State of North Carolina as a non-profit corporation with the name "WRIGHTSVILLE BEACH BAPTIST CHURCH". The provisions of the Charter and By-Laws of the corporation must always be in accord with the Constitution and By-Laws of the Church. The membership of the corporation shall consist of those persons who have been accepted into membership in the Church. The Directors and Officers of the corporation, who shall be given the name "TRUSTEES", shall be elected from the members of the Church in a regularly constituted congregational meeting. The powers and duties of such TRUSTEES must not infringe upon the powers and duties of the Deacons or the congregation. All funds collected for the support and expense of the Church and for benevolent purposes of the Church shall be controlled by the Church in accordance with the Constitution and By-Laws.

The Church shall elect three members to serve as TRUSTEES of the corporation in accordance with Article II of the Church By-Laws. Their term of office shall be for three (3) years with one-third (1/3) of the number elected each year. The Officers of the corporation shall be as follows:

- a. Trustee with one (1) YEAR or less to servePresident
- b. Trustee with two (2) years or less but more than one (1) year to serve.....Vice President
- c. Trustee with more than two (2) years to serveSecretary

BY-LAWS

ARTICLE I. MEMBERSHIP

Section 1. **QUALIFICATIONS:** Believing that membership in this Church is of such a serious spiritual nature, we hereby agree that persons requesting membership in this Church shall be presented as candidates for membership and a vote taken at services in which they request membership. They shall remain candidates until the following prerequisites have been met:

1. Have a past personal, saving experience with Jesus.
2. Be baptized by immersion. If a person is physically unable to be baptized, the ordinance of baptism may be waived on the recommendation of the Pastor and Deacons until such a time as he is able to be baptized.
3. If coming from another Southern Baptist church, provide information for securing their letter.
4. If one has been a member of a Southern Baptist church and has no regular church letter, he may request membership on his statement of his previous experience with Christ and baptism by immersion.
5. One coming from a church other than a Southern Baptist church may request membership on his statement of a previous experience with Christ and by fulfilling the requirements in 1 and 2 of this section.

Section 2. **DUTIES:** Members are expected to be faithful in all the duties essential to the Christian life, subscribe to the Covenant, the Articles of Faith, the Constitution and By-Laws, to attend regularly the services of this Church, to give for its support and its causes and to share in its organized work. All new members are expected to attend a New Members Orientation.

Section 3. **ACTIVE & INACTIVE:** For purposes of conducting business and quorums the membership rolls shall be divided into an active list and inactive list. The inactive list will be made up of members who have been inactive as defined in Section 6, Paragraphs 2 & 4.

Section 4. **RIGHTS:** Such members as are in full and regular standing and such only, may act and vote in the transactions of the Church.

Section 5. **QUORUM:** A quorum shall be constituted of the members present at the regularly scheduled business meeting. For a special called conference a quorum shall be fifteen (15) percent of active members and for the call or dismissal of a Pastor, fifty (50) percent of the active members shall be necessary.

Section 6. **TERMINATION OF MEMBERSHIP:** The continuance of membership shall be subject to the principles and usage of Southern Baptist churches, and especially as follows:

1. Any member in good and regular standing who desires a letter of dismissal and recommendation to any other Southern Baptist church is entitled to receive it upon his request, preferably through the church into which he plans to place his membership. In case of removal to another community he should promptly present himself to the church there on the promise of his letter. When letters are granted, membership in this Church shall terminate.
2. Members who become inactive in support of the Church shall be encouraged by personal visits if possible, or by letter from the Pastor and Deacons to become active again in this Church or another church of their choice. The Church may, after due effort, place members on the inactive roll following one year of absence.
3. Should a member become an offense to the Church and to its good name by reason of immoral or un-Christian conduct, or by persistent breach of his covenant vow, the Church may terminate his membership, but only after due notice and hearing, and after faithful efforts have been made to bring such members to repentance and amendment.
4. Members moving away from this area shall be placed on the inactive roll as soon as the fact is known. Efforts shall be made to encourage them to unite with a Church near them in accordance with the Church covenant, Article IV.
5. The inactive rolls are not intended to detract from a member's fellowship with God. The Church holds its members in great value wherever they may be. The Church pledges to all members, active and inactive, as Brothers and Sisters in Christ, the support of Christian love wherever they are.

Section 7. **RESTORATION:** Any person whose membership has been terminated for any offense may be restored by a vote of the Church, upon evidence of his repentance and reformation or if on account of continued absence, upon satisfactory explanation.

Section 8. **WATCHCARE MEMBERS:** Temporary residents of Wrightsville Beach and the surrounding areas, whose intended stay is twelve (12) months or less, may be received as special members under the "watchcare" of Wrightsville Beach Baptist Church. These special members who shall be born again Christians have all the rights and responsibilities of regular Church members with the exception of voting privileges and the holding of office as described in Articles II and III of the By-Laws.

ARTICLE II. CHURCH ORGANIZATIONAL STRUCTURE

THE PASTOR

The Church shall call a Pastor whenever a vacancy occurs. The calling of a pastor shall be by the recommendation of a Pastor Search Committee, representative of the congregation, (children, youth, adult, senior adults) elected by the Church to seek out and recommend as Pastor, a Minister of the Gospel whose Christian character and qualifications fit him for the office of Pastor of this Church.

His call shall take place at a special meeting called for that purpose, for which at least one week's written notice has been given to the membership of the Church. The vote shall be by secret ballot with an affirmative vote of two-thirds majority of those present and voting necessary for a call.

The Pastor serves for an indefinite period of time until the relationship is dissolved by resignation or by vote of the congregation. Whether it is by resignation or by vote of the congregation, at least thirty (30) days notice shall be given for termination, unless otherwise agreed upon.

- a. In the event of forced termination, the Church shall compensate the Pastor with one (1) month of his total compensation package.
- b. In the event of a disabling illness or accident, the Pastor shall be entitled to three (3) months of the compensation package.

The Pastor shall be the administrative officer of the Church having in charge the welfare and oversight of the Church. He shall be an ex-officio member of all organizations and committees. It shall be his duty to preach the Word of God, conduct religious services on stated and special occasions, administer the ordinances, minister to the needs of the members and of the community, usually pertaining to his office.

- a. The Pastor is responsible for leading the Church to function as a New Testament church. The Pastor will lead the staff to perform their tasks in carrying out the mission of the Church.
- b. The Pastor shall have general supervision of all activities of the Church and supervision of all administrative and ministry personnel both paid and volunteer.

He shall have special charge of the pulpit ministry of the Church and shall, in cooperation with the Deacons, provide for pulpit supply when he is absent. He shall arrange for workers to assist in revival and other special services.

MINISTERIAL STAFF

The Ministerial Staff (Pastor, Ministers of Music, Education, Youth, Children, etc.) shall be called and employed as the Church determines need. A search committee elected by the Church, in consultation with the pastor and personnel committee, shall recommend a candidate for the congregation's approval. The criteria for selection of said committee shall be the same as for the pastor search committee.

CHURCH SUPPORT STAFF

The Support Staff (Administrative Assistant, Custodian, etc.) shall be called and employed as the Church determines need. A job description and letter of employment describing the terms and benefits of such employment will be provided to all parties.

TRUSTEES

In accordance with Articles of Incorporation as filed October 29, 1985, there shall be three (3) Trustees. They shall serve on a rotating basis for three (3) years. One (1) name shall be presented each year for a

three (3) year term, except when a vacancy occurs necessitating the nomination for filling out the term. No trustee shall be eligible for re-election until the lapse of one year. They shall meet at least annually when necessary at the call of the Pastor, Chairman of Trustees, or Chairman of the Deacons. See Article 5 of the Constitution, Section 3, Paragraph 2.

The corporation shall, as provided by law and the action of the Church, hold in trust the title to all property of the Church and shall represent the Church in all legal matters regarding the purchase, mortgage, improvement and selling of Church property. The officers of the corporation shall execute all documents relating to the Church and to the community as the Church may direct. The officers of the corporation shall have no power to buy, sell, mortgage, lease or transfer any property of the Church without a specific vote of the Church in a duly constituted congregational meeting authorizing such action.

THE DEACONS

Section I. NUMBER, ELECTION, TERMS OF OFFICE.

1. There shall be a minimum of one deacon for every twelve (12) active families in the Church membership. While the method of deciding upon the number of deacons is based upon the active membership, this shall not diminish or alter any deacon's responsibility toward inactive members.
2. The election of deacons shall be as follows:
 - a. On the last Sunday in July each year, the election of deacons shall be announced in the Worship Service and/or in the Church publications. Nominees for deacons shall be received from the congregation on the first and second Sunday in August. All who have been active members for one year are eligible for nomination. All nominees shall be questioned as to their willingness to serve. Upon scriptural counsel by the Pastor and the active deacons, the names of those meeting the scriptural qualifications (1 Tim 3:8-13, Acts 6:1-6) shall be placed on a ballot.
 - b. Voting shall take place at the regular or a specially called Church conference in August, with the nominees receiving the highest number of votes being elected to fill the existing vacancies.
 - c. Those elected shall take office on the first day of September, and shall serve for a period of three years, except those elected to fill any un-expired term. Those who were next in line on the voting ballot but were not elected shall remain ready to serve as alternates, in the event that a vacancy occurs in the deacon body.
 - d. Upon a vacancy in a deacon's term of service, the first alternate deacon will be installed. If there is no alternate available, a special election will be held by the congregation to fill the unexpired term as soon as possible. The procedure for the vacancy election shall be the same as the annual election of deacons. The deacon filling the unexpired term, if the term is twelve (12) months or less, may be eligible for re-election to a full term. A vacancy within three (3) months of the annual election will be filled at the annual election.
 - e. After serving a full three year term, no deacon shall be eligible for re-election until the lapse of one year. Approximately one-third of the deacon body shall be elected each year.

Section II. DUTIES: IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE MEANING AND PRACTICE OF THE NEW TESTAMENT,
DEACONS ARE TO BE SERVANT LEADERS OF THE CHURCH.

1. They are to be zealous to guard the unity of the spirit within the Church in the bonds of peace.
2. They shall serve as council of advice and confer with the Pastor in all matters pertaining to the welfare and work of the Church. With the Pastor they are to consider and formulate plans for the constant effort and progress of the Church in all things pertaining to the saving of souls, the development of Christians, and the extension and growth of the Kingdom of God.
3. By proper organization and method among themselves, they are to maintain personal fraternal relations with, and inspiring oversight of, all members of the Church. Especially are they to seek to know the physical needs and the moral and spiritual struggles of our members, and to serve the whole Church in supporting, encouraging and developing all who are in need.
4. In counsel with the pastor, and by such methods as the Holy Spirit may direct in accordance with the New Testament teachings, they are to have oversight of the discipline of the Church. In administering, they are to be guided always by the principles set forth in Matthew 18:15-17; I Corinthians 5:9-13; I Thessalonians 5:12-14.
5. The deacons shall serve as a general pulpit committee in case of absence or inability of the Pastor; subject to advice from and conference with him. In any period when the Church is without a Pastor, unless the Church shall otherwise provide, the deacons will arrange for a temporary minister and provide counsel with reference to securing a pastor. It is not intended in any manner to prejudice herein the method by which the Church shall proceed in securing a pastor. (See Article II, The Pastor).

Section III. METHOD OF PROCEDURE.

1. The whole body of deacons shall be organized as a unit for the consideration of all larger problems and general policies, and shall meet monthly at a time established by the deacons. They shall organize themselves into such committees as their wisdom may direct for efficiency in service.
2. They shall apportion the membership among themselves, or make plans whereby the entire membership may have the benefit of the oversight in Christ of their brethren.
3. Each deacon shall freely confer with the pastor about all matters and cases of discipline which in his judgment would be most wisely and spiritually handled in private.

THE CHURCH COUNCIL

The church looks to the Church Council to supply certain staff services, of an advisory and informative nature, on which the congregation can make its decisions. The Church Council is a correlating agency through which all organizations and committees may coordinate their activities into harmonious programs of work and worship. The tasks of the council are:

1. Formulate and recommend to the Church suggested Church goals.
2. Develop and recommend to the Church plans for reaching Church goals.
3. Review and report to the Church the use of resources in achieving the goals of the Church.
4. Evaluate program results in terms of Church objectives and goals, and report the evaluations to the Church. Those who compose the Church Council are: Pastor, Church Staff, Sunday School Director, Church Moderator, Church Treasurer, Chairman of Deacons, Church Clerk, Chairman of Ushers, and the Chairmen of all Standing Committees. The council will elect from its membership a chairman who will serve a term of one year.

5. The Church Council shall act as the **NOMINATING COMMITTEE** and shall appoint a subcommittee of at least five of its members to bring the initial nominations to the larger committee for approval. The Church Council shall then nominate all Church officers, and committee members, and present same at Church conferences. It shall be the duty of the committee to enlist and nominate persons to fill any vacancy that occurs unless otherwise provided for in the Constitution and By-Laws. The work of the committee shall not prevent other nominations from the floor for any of the above officers by any member of the Church. It shall be the goal of this committee to have all positions filled by the first Sunday of September.
6. The Church Council shall meet monthly at a time established by the council.

MODERATOR

The Moderator shall be elected by the Church to serve a one-year term and shall preside at all Church conferences. In the absence of the Moderator, the Chairman of Deacons shall preside; In the chairman's absence, the vice-chairman shall preside. In the absence of all of the above the clerk shall call the Church to order and a moderator pro tem shall be elected for such meeting.

CLERK

The Church shall, upon nomination by the Nominating Committee, elect a Church Clerk. The Clerk shall keep a suitable record of all actions of the Church, including a register of the names of members, with dates of admission, dismissal or death, together with a record of baptisms. The Clerk shall keep and preserve a true history of the Church. The Clerk shall notify all officers, members of committees and delegates of their election or appointment, issue letters of dismissal voted on by the Church, preserve on file all communications and written official reports, and give legal notice of all meetings where such notice is necessary as indicated in these By-Laws. All records, books, etc. shall be considered property of the Church and kept in a secure place within the Church files. Clerical support shall be provided by the Church secretary as requested by the Clerk.

USHERS AND GREETERS

The Church shall, upon nomination by the Nominating Committee, elect annually a Chairman of Ushers and Greeters. It shall be his responsibility to prepare a schedule and secure ushers and greeters for all regular and special services when ushers are required. The ushers shall care for the seating and comfort of the congregation, the greeting and introduction of visitors, the prevention of interruptions and distractions, and perform other similar duties. They shall receive the offerings. Greeters will assist the ushers in meeting and welcoming those in attendance.

TREASURER

The Church shall, upon nomination by the Nominating Committee, elect annually a Church Treasurer who shall be responsible for counting all offerings and making deposits. The Treasurer shall keep an itemized account of all designated offerings and expenses, records of members' financial giving, quarterly tax reports, sales tax reports, monthly financial reports, and shall write checks as required. The Church may opt to secure the services of an outside accountant to provide support services as deemed appropriate and approved by the church. Should an outside accounting service be utilized the Treasurer must sign all checks. In the absence of the Treas-

urer, the Chairman of Finance shall sign checks; in the chairman's absence, the Chairman of Trustees shall sign checks. The Treasurer shall be an ex-officio member of the Finance Committee.

ARTICLE III. COMMITTEES

STANDING COMMITTEES. The following Standing Committees shall be elected to serve indicated terms upon nomination by the Nominating Committee. Where practical, approximately one third of the committee membership shall be elected each year, so as to promote maximum Church participation. Each committee shall organize itself annually and select its own officers.

BAPTIST MEN COMMITTEE: The WBBC Baptist Men's Committee shall consist of at least 3 members and shall encourage participation of WBBC men through their gifts, talents and interests in the men's ministry including spiritual growth, missions, out-reach and evangelism. This committee shall be a liaison between the Church, the Wilmington Baptist Association, and the North Carolina Baptist Men.

BENEVOLENCE COMMITTEE: The committee shall consist of at least 3 members: Two Deacons, one of whom shall be the Chairman, and one congregation member. The Senior Pastor, Chairman of Finance, and Chairman of Hospitality shall be ex-officio members with voting privileges. The committee shall be responsible for responding to the practical daily needs of those experiencing hardship and assist them with a guiding hand and loving counsel as well as practical necessities such as food and shelter. The committee shall develop plans and make arrangements for responding to these needs in an organized manner.

BUDGET AND FINANCE COMMITTEE: The committee shall be composed of at least 5 members one of whom shall be a deacon, in addition to the treasurer who is an ex-officio member. This committee shall meet monthly at regular intervals agreed upon by the Church and the committee. It shall be the duty of the committee to:

1. Consider the financial condition of the Church and report to the Church in the regular business meetings.
2. Recommend a stewardship program annually.
3. Prepare and submit an annual budget to the Church in consultation with the heads of all organizations and the chairmen of committees.
4. Conduct audits as deemed prudent.
5. Appoint two tellers who shall be responsible for counting the weekly offering and submitting a weekly report. The Treasurer will help to count if one teller is absent. If both tellers are absent, the Chairman of Finance will assist the Treasurer in counting.

BUILDING GROUNDS AND EQUIPMENT COMMITTEE: The committee shall have at least 5 members. It shall be the duty of the committee to keep the Church in good repair and appearance, making such repairs and improvements as are needed within the budget. It shall be its duty to keep the grounds around the Church and to plan for improvements. The chairman or someone appointed by him shall be responsible for supervising the custodian's activities.

CHILDREN'S COMMITTEE: The Committee shall consist of at least 3 members. It shall be the duty of this committee to provide Christ-Centered, hands on learning experiences for all children ages newborn through 5th grade. It is the committee's responsibility to help children grow spiritually and know Jesus as their Savior.

HOSPITALITY COMMITTEE: The Hospitality Committee shall consist of at least 3 members and shall be responsible for hosting events related to births, funerals, and weddings within the church family. It is also responsible for having a committee member present for all wedding functions and for hosting

the church-wide community services (every 4-5 years rotation) such as Easter Sunrise and Thanksgiving. The Hospitality Committee shall appoint a Homecoming Committee for this annual event.

INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY COMMITTEE: The IT Committee shall consist of at least 4 members and shall be responsible for worship support and other ministry functions through the use of audio, video and lighting enhancement. Additionally they shall support the day to day operations of the Church computer systems. The chairman will coordinate all activities.

INTERIOR DECORATING COMMITTEE: The committee shall consist of at least 3 members. It shall oversee the interior décor of the Church, for seasonal events and special events.

LIBRARY/MEDIA COMMITTEE: The Library Committee shall consist of at least 3 members and shall be responsible for setting up and maintaining a library of suitable material for education, study, and recreation for members and people of the community. The Chairperson shall be the librarian.

MISSIONS COMMITTEE: The Missions Committee shall consist of at least 3 members and exists to help discover and promote missions opportunities within our membership, locally and around the world. The committee will promote all denominational missions offerings such as the Lottie Moon Christmas Offering, Annie Armstrong Easter Offerings, Baptist Children's Offering, etc. as well as approved special offerings such as the Operation Christmas Child (Franklin Graham), Thanksgiving Baskets and Christmas Angel Tree.

MUSIC COMMITTEE: The Music Committee shall consist of at least 3 members who have been active in the music ministry of the Church for at least one year and shall be representative of the different music groups. The committee shall serve as a support group for the music minister.

ORDINANCES COMMITTEE:

A. The Baptism Committee is composed of at least 3 members who will make all arrangements for the acts of Baptism, and render assistance to the pastor and to the candidates as may be deemed necessary.

B. The Lord's Supper Committee is composed of at least 3 members who prepare the Elements of the Lord's Supper for services.

PERSONNEL COMMITTEE: The committee shall consist of at least 5 members. It shall be the responsibility of this committee to recommend the addition or deletion of staff positions with the exception of the Ministerial Staff in the Church. It shall be their duty to write or revise position guides; recruit and interview prospective employees and recommend them to the Church; also to recommend termination of employees of the Church and together with the Finance Committee develop and recommend salaries and benefits of staff members to the Church. The Personnel Committee shall work with the Pastor and all affected committees to arrive at the mutually acceptable fulfillment of the above. The Personnel Committee is not responsible for overseeing the work of the staff. This is the responsibility of the pastor in conjunction with the designated committee, as needed.

PRAYER MINISTRY COMMITTEE: The committee shall consist of at least 3 members. The work of this committee shall be to promote organized prayer within the Church body.

PUBLICITY COMMITTEE: The committee shall consist of at least 5 members. It shall be their duty, in coordination with the Church staff and appropriate committees, to plan all publicity of the Church.

SUNDAY SCHOOL COMMITTEE: The Committee shall have at least 3 members. The Sunday School Committee and Ministerial Staff shall have general oversight of the Sunday School programs which are the basic organization for the Bible programs of the Church. It shall administer the affairs of Sunday School according to the best methods of religious education and classes as appropriate for all ages. The Sunday School Director will be Chairperson.

VISITATION COMMITTEE: The Visitation Committee shall consist of at least 3 members who by their prayerful and spiritual example will encourage, equip and lead WBBC members to go out into our community in representation of our congregation and Lord.

WOMEN IN TOUCH COMMITTEE: The Women in Touch Committee shall consist of at least 3 members and shall have oversight of, and shall promote the work of Women's Ministry at WBBC. It shall seek to enlist and lead women toward a closer walk with God, with each other and with other women who need to develop a relationship with him.

YOUTH PARENT COMMITTEE: The Youth Parent Committee shall be composed of at least three adults. The committee shall advise and guide the youth staff, and assist in the planning and promoting of youth related activities.

ARTICLE IV. MEETINGS

SECTION 1. The Church shall hold regular meetings for worship, teaching, training and fellowship. The regular worship services shall be held on Sunday mornings and on Wednesday evenings, unless otherwise agreed upon by the congregation. The Lord's Supper shall be observed at least once each quarter.

SECTION 2. The Church shall hold regular quarterly business meetings on the first Wednesday of each calendar quarter at which time the material and spiritual condition of the Church shall be discussed and plans projected for the coming of the Kingdom. The Moderator or Chairman of Deacons shall call special business meetings at such time as they may be needed.

SECTION 3. Other meetings of the Church as a whole or of authorized groups within the Church shall be set according to the needs of the congregation.

ARTICLE V. GENERAL

SECTION 1. MINISTERIAL LICENSE: When a member announces to the Church that he feels the call to the Gospel ministry, the Church, by majority vote, may license him as an acknowledgement of his call to the ministry and encouragement to make preparation for it. The Clerk of the Church may furnish the member with a copy of the minutes or a certificate of license or both, as he may desire as his credentials. It is understood that the State Law shall govern the performance of civil duties by the member.

SECTION 2. ORDINATION: In the event that the Church has been requested to ordain a member, (this is usually at the request of the church that has called him as pastor) the following procedure shall be followed: the Church will express its approval by a vote of three-fourths of the members present at any regular business meeting of the Church. Then the Church shall invite the Associational Ordination Advisory Council of the Wilmington Baptist Association to examine the candidate concerning his fitness for the ministry. In the event the Association has not such a council, the Church shall invite the representatives of neighboring churches to examine the candidate and report to the Church. Other individuals, at the request of our Church, may be invited to participate in the ordination examination. Then, in event the report is favorable, the Church shall proceed with the ordination.

SECTION 3. AFFILIATION WITH ASSOCIATION AND CONVENTIONS: We recognize that there is mutual helpfulness in the association of churches who are in such agreement in faith and practice as to encourage the spirit of fellowship and good will. We also recognize that there has been devised through volunteer cooperation of the churches of like faith and order, organizations whose purpose it is to implement the missionary, educational and benevolent interests and obligations of the individual Christian and his family. Believing that the Wilmington Baptist Association, the N.C. Baptist State Convention and the Southern Baptist Convention are organizations which have as their sole purpose the promotion and support of missions, education and benevolence and in keeping with the spirit of the Constitution, and the Articles of Faith of this Church, we therefore agree to participate in these organizations through our duly elected messengers and our support of the causes which these organizations represent.

SECTION 4. JOINING ANOTHER ASSOCIATION: The Church may withdraw from affiliation with the Wilmington Baptist Association in order to join another association (Baptist) of like faith and order by a majority vote of the active members present at any regular business meeting of the Church.

SECTION 5. WITHDRAWING FROM THE ASSOCIATION AND CONVENTIONS: This Church may withdraw from affiliation with the Association and Conventions by a vote of two-thirds of the active Church membership. In the event such a vote is less than unanimous, the property of the Church shall remain vested in the group in the Church desiring to retain its affiliation with the Association and the Conventions provided further that in all matters relating to its internal affairs the Church remains and shall be an autonomous body.

SECTION 6. IN EVENT OF DISSOLUTION: In the event that this Church should ever encounter circumstances which would require its dissolution, all assets shall pass to the Wilmington Baptist Association, 610 South College Road., Wilmington, North Carolina. The "SAID" assets are to be used at the discretion of the Wilmington Baptist Association, with preference to mission activity.

ARTICLE VI. MISSIONS

The Church shall encourage the establishment of missions in the needed areas. All new missions, whether Sunday Schools or church plants, shall be approved by a vote of the Church in regular business meetings and the personnel to operate them shall be elected by the Church in regular business meetings

ARTICLE VII. ADOPTIONS AND AMENDMENTS

SECTION 1. The Constitution and By-Laws shall be considered adopted and in immediate effect if and when two-thirds of the active members present at the business meeting at which the vote is taken shall vote in favor of same. This vote shall be taken not less than twenty-eight days after formal presentation of the Constitution and By-Laws to the Church.

SECTION 2. The Constitution and By-Laws may be amended, altered or repealed by two-thirds vote of the active members present at the business meeting at which the vote is taken, provided, however that such amendments, alterations or repeals are given to the Clerk in writing and this proposed change shall be presented to the Church at least two weeks prior to the time the vote is taken.

SECTION 3. ROBERTS RULES OF ORDER is hereby our guide for parliamentary practice.

PRESENTED ___ March 3, 2010 ___

APPROVED _____

