

# **ARTICLE 1**

## NAME

The name of this church shall be Grace Chapel

# **ARTICLE 2**

## **POLITY**

This church affirms Jesus Christ as its Head and uses the Bible as its sole authority. The government of this church is vested in its members alone. This church will operate under Roberts Rules of Order in the conducting of business.

# **ARTICLE 3**

# **STATEMENT OF FAITH**

### THE BIBLE

We believe the Bible is the inspired, inerrant forever settled Word of God. That it is the Divinely authoritative standard for every age and every life.

#### GOD THE FATHER

We believe in one God that eternally exists and reveals Himself in three Persons. He is absolute and sole Creator and sustainer of the universe.

#### **GOD THE SON**

We believe that Jesus Christ is fully God. That He was born of a virgin in human form. That He revealed the Father in His earthly ministry. That He is perfect theology and the lens through which His written Word is understood. That He died on a cross to bring humanity back into relationship with His Father. That He rose from the dead and ascended into heaven in bodily form. That He will return to earth at the fullness of the times to claim His bride and judge the world.

#### GOD THE HOLY SPIRIT

We believe that Holy Spirit is a person and is fully God. He indwells believers at the moment of their faith conversion. That He fills and ministers to and through saints as they yield to Him in faith and obedience.

#### MAN

We believe that man was created in the image of God. That he fell from his original created glory through sin. That through sin mankind inherited a sinful nature and was separated from God. That mankind is utterly unable to redeem himself back to his Creator through his own effort.



#### **SALVATION**

We believe that salvation is a gift from God and received by man through faith in the finished work of Christ on the cross.

# THE CHURCH

We believe that the true church is composed of all people who are born again by the Spirit of God through saving faith in Jesus Christ. That Christ alone is the Head of the church. That He alone commissions and leads the church in its God ordained mission through all the ages.

## THE SECOND COMING

We believe in the personal, and eminent coming of Jesus Christ back to the earth. We believe that at His return He will judge all of humanity separating people "as a shepherd separates his sheep from the goats". The redeemed will be ushered into eternal glory with Him and those who have rejected His salvation into eternal punishment.

# **ARTICLE 4**

## **MEMBERSHIP**

We receive into membership those who present themselves for membership upon having given testimony of faith in Jesus Christ as their personal Savior.

# **ARTICLE 5**

#### **BUSINESS MEETINGS**

#### 1. ANNUAL MEETING

An annual meeting shall be held every year in December to set a new budget for the coming year and to vote for officers for the coming year.

## 2. SPECIAL MEETINGS

Special meetings to consider business matters may be called by the Elders with a one week notice of said event.

## 3. Rules and regulations pertaining to business

- A. A quorum shall consist of twenty five percent of the active roll.
- B. B. The official year of the church shall begin of January 1
- C. The moderator shall be the Senior Pastor of his designee.
- D. Members must be sixteen years old to vote on business matters.



# **ARTICLE 6**

### **OFFICERS**

#### **SENIOR PASTOR**

- 1. The Senior Pastor shall be called for an indefinite time by a two thirds majority vote of the church.
- 2. The Senior Pastor shall have oversight of all the ministries of the church.
- 3. The Senior Pastor shall be recommended by the Elders. Potential candidates will be introduced to the congregation and after two weeks will be brought to a vote by the church.
- 4. The Elders by unanimous agreement can call for a vote of confidence of the Senior Pastor by the church membership. The Senior Pastor should only be removed by 2/3 vote of the membership.

#### **CHURCH SECRETARY**

The secretary shall keep a faithful record of the proceedings in business meetings and shall be elected by majority vote of the church.

#### **FINANCIAL OFFICERS**

- 1. Treasurer: The treasurer shall receive all offerings to deposit in the bank. Recording all transactions and keeping said records to be reported to the Elders.
- 2. Assistant Treasurer: The assistant treasurer shall assist the treasurer in fulfilling all duties and filling in for the treasurer as needed.

## **OTHER OFFICERS**

Other officers may be elected as need dictates.

# **ARTICLE 7**

## **BOARDS AND COMMITTEES**

#### 1. ELDERS

- A. Elders shall create and present an annual budget for consideration to the church.
- B. Elders shall be recommended by the Senior Pastor and voted on by the church needing a two thirds majority vote to serve.
- C. Elders shall serve three-year rotating terms.
- D. An Elder may be removed from office at the discretion of the Senior Pastor.

## 2. DEACONS

Deacons shall assist the Senior Pastor in caring for the needs of the church family.



# **ARTICLE 8**

### PERSONNEL PRACTICES

- 1. The Senior Pastor shall hire staff as deemed necessary.
- 2. Any staff may be dismissed at the discretion of the Senior Pastor

# **ARTICLE 9**

## **DISSOLUTION OF THE CHURCH**

- 1. The church may be dissolved upon recommendation of the Elders and voted on by a seventy five percent majority of the membership.
- 2. Upon dissolution of the church all church assets must be transferred to a religious organization of like faith and practice to be recommended by the Elders and voted on by the congregation by a seventy five percent majority.

# **ARTICLE 10**

### **AMENDMENTS**

This constitution and by-laws may be altered or amended by a two thirds majority vote of the church. A two week notice of such meeting shall be given before said vote is taken.