

CHURCH COVENANT, BYLAWS, AND POLICY

**FIRST UNION AFRICAN BAPTIST CHURCH
BOX 61
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Revised 2008

**FIRST UNION AFRICAN BAPTIST CHURCH
The Church Covenant, Bylaws, and Policy**

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FIRST UNION AFRICAN BAPTIST CHURCH

The Church Covenant

Introduction

We declare and establish this policy for the preservation and security of the principle of our faith and that this body may be governed in a Godly manner mandated by God. This covenant will preserve the liberties of each individual member of this church and the freedom of this body in its relation to other churches.

I. Name

This body shall be known as the First Union African Baptist Church of Daufuskie Island, South Carolina, meeting at the corner of School and Church Roads.

II. Statement of Faith

The Holy Bible is the inspired word of God and is the basis for any statement of the New Testament Church Message

*Virgin Birth - Luke 1:35

*Sinless Life - 2 Corinthians 5:21

*Death, Burial, and Resurrection of Jesus Christ as a means to our salvation - Romans 10:9

*Baptism by immersion as an outward sign of an inward change - Romans 6:4

*Holy Communion - 1 Corinthians 11:24-26

*Rapture - 1 Thessalonians 5:16-17

*Second Coming - Matthew 16:27 and Acts

as adopted by First Union African Baptist Church. We join together as a body of the baptized believers in Jesus Christ personally committed to sharing the good news of salvation of lost mankind. The ordinances of the church are Baptism and the Lord's Supper.

III. Church Covenant

Having been led, as we believe, by the Spirit of God to receive the Lord Jesus Christ as our Lord and Savior and on the profession of our faith, having been baptized in the name of the Father, the Son, and of the Holy Spirit, we do now in the presence of God and this assembly most solemnly and joyfully enter into a covenant with one another as one body of Christ.

We engage; therefore, by the aid of the Holy Spirit to walk together in Christian love; to strive for the advancement of this church in knowledge, holiness, and comfort; to promote its existence and spirituality; to sustain its worship, ordinances, discipline, and doctrines; to contribute cheerfully and regularly to support the ministry, expenses of the church, and the relief of the poor; and to spread the Gospel through all people.

We engage to maintain family and secret devotions; to religiously educate our children; to seek the salvation of our kindred and acquaintances; to walk circumspectly in the world; to be just in our dealings, faithful in our engagements, and exemplary in our deportment; to abstain all tattling, backbiting, and excessive anger; to abstain from the sale of intoxicating substances, not to be drunk with wine; seek not our own good but that of our neighbor; and to do all to the glory of God.

We further engage to watch over one another in brotherly love; to remember one another in prayer; to aid one another in sickness and distress; to cultivate Christian sympathy in feeling and Christian courtesy in speech; to be slow to take offense, but always ready for reconciliation; to be mindful of the rules of our Savior; and to secure reconciliation without delay.

We moreover engage that when we move from this place, we will as soon as possible, unite with another church where we can carry out the spirit of this covenant and the principles of God's Word.

The Church Bylaws

I. Character

Section I: Congregational Government

Description

1. Authority: Basically, the congregational form of government means that ultimate authority for governing the church rests in the members themselves.
2. Autonomy: Additionally, it also means that each individual church is an autonomous unit with no individual or organization above it, except Christ the Head
3. Responsibility: Congregationalism does not imply that the entire congregation decide on every decision. Responsibility is delegated to officials and leaders. Like other members, they have only one choice.
4. Fellowship: Does not mean that churches are so autonomous that they have no fellowship with each other.

Support

1. Local Autonomy: Though the apostles and their delegates did exercise authority over more than one local church, elders and deacons in the New Testament times did not. Therefore; today, since apostles have passed off the scene, local churches are autonomous.
2. Discipline: The whole church was empowered to exercise discipline (Matthew 18:17, 1 Corinthians 5:4, 2 Corinthians 2:6-7, 2 Thessalonians 3:14-15). Since the important matter of discipline was not committed to the leaders only, but to the whole congregation, this supports the concept of congregational government.
3. Leadership: The whole church was involved in choosing leaders. Scripture clearly supports this (Acts 1:23 and 26, Acts 6:3 and 5, Acts 15:22 and 30, 2 Corinthians 8:19).

An Appraisal of Congregationalism

1. Authority: Ultimate authority resting in the local church under Christ's headship is clearly taught in the New Testament. This does not preclude fellowship with other congregations, but it does not allow for organizational structure above the local church.
2. Choosing Leaders: The whole church being involved in many of the affairs of the congregation also seems clear. But it was not involved in everything. In some instances leaders were clearly appointed and not chosen by everyone. The choosing of the first nonapostolic helpers in Acts 6 exemplifies a gracious harmony between the apostles who asked the congregation to choose and the congregation which placed their choices before the apostles for ratification.

Section 2: Doctrine (Teaching)

This Church recognizes the Bible as its authority in matters of faith and practice (see statement of faith on page one). First Union African Baptist Church's understanding of Christian truth, as contained therein, is in essential accordance with the belief of other Southern Baptist Churches.

II. Membership

Section I: General

This is a sovereign New Testament Church under the Lordship of Jesus Christ. The membership retains unto itself the right of exclusive self-government in all phases of the spiritual and temporal life outside of this Church. The membership reserves the right to let the Bible determine who shall be members of this Church and the conditions of such membership.

Section 2: Candidacy for Membership

When the invitation for membership is extended, candidates may present themselves in the following ways:

Full Membership

1. As a candidate for salvation and baptism by immersion (Romans 10:9, Romans 6:4, Acts 2:38).
2. Transfer of membership from a New Testament church of like doctrine.

3. Transfer of membership from another church (immersion baptism as a second baptism is optional).
4. By profession of faith and for baptism immersion: confessing of their faith.
5. By promise of letter from another church.

Associate Membership

A candidate with an active membership in a church in his/her hometown, acknowledging salvation, and chooses while on Daufuskie Island to affiliate with First Union African Baptist Church may be an associate member with all rights and privileges of membership. The exception being on a final decision on any act presented for approval.

Restoration

Required: Proof of Repentance by restored fellowship with Christ and the Church, thereby ceasing the actions that broke fellowship.

Section 3: Termination of Membership

Membership shall be terminated in the following ways:

- *Death
- *Transferred membership to another church.
- *Exclusion by action of this church based upon the Bible.

Section 4: Discipline

Should a member become offensive to the church and to its good name by reason of immoral or unchristian conduct or by persistent breach of his/her covenant vows, the church may terminate his/her membership in context with the Bible (1 Corinthians 5) by decision of the congregation, but only after due notice and hearing and after faithful efforts have been made to bring such member to repentance and amendment.

1. Should any unhappy difference arise among members the aggrieved member shall follow, in tender spirit, the rules give by the Lord in Matthew 18:15-17.
2. Should any case of gross breach of covenant or of public scandal occur, the deacons should endeavor to recover the offense. If this effort fails, the deacons shall report the case to the church.
3. All such proceedings shall be pervaded by a spirit of Christian kindness and forbearance, but he/she will no longer be in membership with the church.
4. With evidence of his/her repentance and reformation, any person whose membership has been terminated for any offense may be restored by decision of the church.

III. Church Pastor and Deacons

Section 1: Pastor

The pastor is responsible for leading the church in functioning as a New Testament Church. The pastor will lead the congregation, the organization, and the church staff in performing their tasks. A major concern of the pastor is to perform pastoral responsibilities, caring for the sheep (1 Peter 5:2, Acts 20:28). The pastor is the leader of worship, proclamation, education, pastoral ministries, preaching, and teaching. The pastor shall be chosen for his administrative, preaching, and teaching abilities.

The pastor is the recognized leader of the church membership. The Greek word *pastor* includes the preposition *epi* (over) and *skoped* (to look or watch). This has the idea of the pastor as one who has oversight responsibility involving governing policy and other matters of leadership. These terms are used interchangeably in Acts 6:17 and Acts 20:28.

When a pastor is to be called a Pastor Search Ministry shall be formed. Biblical qualifications for a pastor are as follows:

1. He must be above reproach (1 Timothy 3:2, Titus 1:6-7). He must maintain a good reputation.
2. He must be husband to one wife (1 Timothy 3:2, Titus 1:6). He must be faithful to his wife morally.
3. He must be temperate (1 Timothy 3:2, Titus 1:7). He has a clear perspective on life and correct spiritual orientation.
4. He must be prudent (1 Timothy 3:2, Titus 1:8). He must be of sober mind and judgment.
5. He must be respectable (1 Timothy 3:2). He must live a well-ordered life.
6. He must be hospitable (1 Timothy 3:2, Titus 1:8). He must demonstrate Christian love by reaching out to others.
7. He must be able to teach (1 Timothy 3:2-3, Titus 1:9). He must possess the qualities and skills necessary to effectively communicate spiritual truth in a non-threatening manner.

8. He must not be addicted to wine (1 Timothy 3:2-3, Titus 1:7). He is never to be controlled by alcoholic beverages.
9. He must not be self-willed (Titus 1:7). He must not be self-centered.
10. He must be one who manages his own household well (1 Timothy 3:4). He should lead his family in the process of spiritual growth in a well-ordered manner.
11. He must have a good reputation with those outside the church (1 Timothy 3:4). He must have a good reputation with the unsaved world.
12. He must love what is good (Titus 1:8). He must demonstrate a desire to do good and not evil.
13. He must be just (Titus 1:8).
14. He must be devout (Titus 3:6). He must exhibit an attitude of holiness that illustrates itself in his behavior.
15. He must not be a new convert (1 Timothy 3:6). He must have the spiritual experience necessary to function well in the job of pastor.

The Pastor's God Given Authority

1. He is called by God as a minister and appointed by the Church as pastor.
Acts 20:38: Take heed therefore unto yourselves, and to all the flock, over which the Holy Spirit hath made you overseers to feed the church of God, which He hath purchased with His own blood.
2. God gives the gift of the office to the men He wants to be Senior Pastors. Everybody in the church doesn't have this gift nor the office.
Ephesians 4:11-12: And He gave some apostles, and some, prophets; and some, evangelists; and some, pastors and teachers; For the perfecting of the saints, for the work of the ministry, for the edifying of the body of Christ.
3. He is to shepherd the Flock of God, which involves caring, guarding, guiding, and leading the sheep. He is to do this willingly, not of the lust of money. He is to lead by example. The Bible promises a special crown to the God called faithful pastor.
1 Peter 5:2-4: Feed the flock of God which is among you, taking the oversight, thereof, not by constraint, but willingly, not for filthy lucre, but of a ready mind: Neither as being lords over God's heritage, but being ensample to the flock: And when the Chief Shepherd shall appear, ye shall receive a crown of glory that fadeth away.
4. Obey your pastor and submit to his leadership for he watches for your soul and your spiritual well being. He will give an account to God for his shepherding of the flock. Therefore, help him to be able to do his work joyfully, not with grief, for if he has to work with grief this will not be beneficial to you.
Hebrews 13:17: Obey them that have the rule over you and submit yourselves; for they watch for your souls as they must give account, that they may do it with joy and not with grief; for that is unprofitable for you.
1 Timothy 5:17: Let the elders that rule well be counted worthy of double honor, especially they who labor in the Word and Doctrine.

Pastor Search Ministry

The Pastor Search Ministry's choice will be reported to the church for their approval. A date for a Sunday trial sermon will be announced. This notice, along with biographical information about the candidate, shall be given to the church at least one week prior to the trial sermon. During the ensuing week, the leadership of the church shall be given the opportunity to meet and talk with the potential pastor.

Immediately following the first sermon, the church will be called into business session for the purpose of deciding on the pastoral candidate. The Chairman of the Deacons will preside or may yield the chair to a moderator according to the "Robert's Rule of Order." The pastor shall be chosen by a decision of those present.

The chosen pastor shall serve until the relationship is terminated by his request or the church's request. He shall preside at meetings of the church. The pastor shall give a thirty (30) day notice, mutually agreed upon by the church, at the time of his resignation. Upon receipt of the pastor's resignation, the church shall seek a suitable interim pastor. The most important guideline in discharging this section is to seek guidance from the Holy Spirit.

Should the pastor become offensive to the church and to its good name by reason of immoral or unchristian conduct or by persistent breach of his covenant vows, the church may terminate his pastoral membership by a decision of the full members and only after due notice and hearing. Faithful efforts will be made to bring the pastor to repentance and amendment according to the rules given by our Lord in Matthew 18:15-17.

The Bible and prayer must be used in determining the pastor/s salary (1 Timothy 5:7, 1 Thessalonians 5:12, 1 Corinthians 9:9-10, Phillipians 4:15-16).

Section 2: Deacon

A. Biblical Profile of the Deacons (1 Timothy 3:8-12)

The office of deacon embodies the concept of serving in the church. The Greek word *diakonos* (servant) is used to refer to the office of deacon. There are several illustrations in the New Testament of men being appointed to specific functions to serve the temporal and physical needs of the church, as illustrated in Acts 6:1-6 and the following Scriptures:

- *Worthy of respect (1 Timothy 3:8). He must maintain a good reputation.
- *He must not be double-tongued (1 Timothy 3:9). He must speak the truth consistently.
- *He must not be addicted to wine (1 Timothy 3:9). He must not be controlled by alcohol.
- *He must not be fond of sordid gain (1 Timothy 3:8). He must not be dishonest or greedy in business.
- *He must be tested (1 Timothy 3:10). He must have a proven record of service and personal integrity.
- *He must be husband to one wife (1 Timothy 3:12). He must be faithful to his wife morally (1 Timothy 3:2, Titus 1:7).

B. Selection

1. The pastor and/or deacons shall solicit from the congregation the names of such men in good standing in the church, as they shall deem qualified, to be nominated for the office of Deaconship.
2. The candidate must meet the Biblical requirements outlined in 1 Timothy 3:8-12 (See Section A).

C. Process of Deacons

Upon successful completion of the Deacon's Walking Ministry (1 Timothy 3:8-12), each nominee will be submitted to the church for approval as a qualified candidate for the office of deacon. After approval of the church's full members present, the qualified candidate shall be presented before the congregation.

D. Approval of Deacons

1. The congregation within five days shall have the prerogative to bring any known allegation toward the candidate, whether unfaithfulness, unfitness, or other cause to the pastor and/or deacons. Further investigation shall determine the accuracy of the allegation. If the allegation is considered not true, the candidate shall be presented to the church membership for approval. If the allegation is found to be true, the candidate will no longer be considered for the office of deacon.
2. A deacon coming from another church must meet all of the requirements according to the Covenant, Bylaws, and Policy of First Union African Baptist Church.

E. Ordination of Deacons

1. Each deacon shall be ordained after successful completion of supervised ministry training under the direction of the pastor and deacons. After it is determined that the deacon in training has met all the spiritual and personal qualifications an Ordination Service shall be conducted.
2. At the Ordination Service, the deacon shall be presented for congregational affirmation. The deacon shall receive the "laying on of hands" by the pastor and deacons to signify their acceptance and approval by the church.

F. Purpose

The purpose of deacon is to assist the pastor in serving the needs of the members of the church. Deacons shall exercise their ministry functions under the authority of the pastor.

1. In accordance with the meaning of the word and the practice of the New Testament, Deacons are to assist the pastor and are to be servants of the church.
2. Deacons are to zealously guard the unity within the church in the bonds of peace.
3. Deacons are to assist the pastor in overseeing the smooth operation of the church ministries by serving in leadership capacities on boards, councils, and ministries appointed and commissioned by the pastor.

G. Personal Qualifications of the Deacon

1. He must fulfill the Biblical qualifications (as previously outlined) in 1 Timothy 3:8-12 and comply with Acts 6:3-5.
2. He must participate in active service to the church for at least one year prior to appointment.
3. He must show reasonable progress toward the church discipleship process.
4. He must have a teachable spirit.
5. He must show an attitude of humility while serving.
6. He must be able to submit to the minister he is assigned to.
7. He must have time to perform the required duties.
8. He must manage his home and children well.
9. He must be full of the Holy Spirit.
10. He must subscribe to, contend for, and adhere to the Statement of Belief as contained in this covenant.

11. He must live a consecrated Christian life. He must be a praying man, a student of the Bible, a financial supporter of the church, a soul winner, and live a separated life. He must be loyal to God, the pastor, and the church.

H. Duties and Responsibilities of Deacons

The duties of deacon are to assist the pastor (Acts 6:1-7) in meeting the spiritual, physical, and temporal needs of the members; to encourage and develop individual moral and spiritual character; to serve as an advisor and support group to the pastor; to guard the unity of the spirit within the church; and to perform other duties and responsibilities as prescribed by the Covenant, Bylaws, and Policy of First Union African Baptist Church.

1. Be prepared to participate in different functions of worship, such as Scripture reading, prayer, counseling, and other related functions.

2. Be prepared to serve in communion and baptism services.

3. To examine prospective candidates for baptism and membership into the fellowship of the church.

4. To assist the pastor in ensuring that each member of the church body is accountable and accounted for.

5. To assist in implementing the discipleship process of the church.

6. To assist the pastor in providing protection for the church against negative influences.

7. To assist the pastor in the identification of errant doctrine in the church.

8. To assist the pastor in the discipline and restoration of errant believers.

9. To provide personal and moral leadership in some of the critical issues facing the church.

10. To see that the sick and needy are cared for.

11. To show hospitality to visitors and strangers (Hebrews 13:1-3).

12. To maintain time of special prayer for the church daily.

13. 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.

14. 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. Their administration is to be guided by the principles set forth in Scripture (Matthew 18:15-17, 1 Corinthians 5:9-13, and 1 Thessalonians 5:12-14).

15. The deacons shall serve as Pulpit Ministry in the event that the pastor is incapacitated. It shall be the duty of the deacons to provide temporary ministers for the pulpit unless the pastor has otherwise provided for the same.

16. Additional deacon duties include:

*Ministry responsibility

*Attending church services

*Prayer service

*Be present for communion

*Teach as needed

*Attend all required meetings

*Attend individualized time with the assigned leaders

*Regular peer interaction and discipleship with other members of the Church Leadership.

*Attend regular Leadership Bible Study with the pastor.

*Spend regular individualized time with the temporary minister.

I. Termination

Dismissal of a deacon shall be in accordance with the rules set forth and in compliance with the covenant of the church as follows:

1. A deacon may be terminated by resignation.

*He shall give thirty (30) days written notice.

*The church membership shall be notified of the resignation.

2. A deacon may be terminated for cause. This includes:

* Immoral conduct

* Failure to attend the spiritual activities of the church.

* Failure to attend three consecutive Deacon meetings without proper notification of unavailability.

* Insubordination

* Violation of the Church Covenant, Bylaws, and Policy of First Union African Baptist Church

* A family life contrary to acceptable spiritual standards (1 Timothy 3:8).

3. Disciplinary Procedure/Action

Allegation/s

*If an allegation in violation of any of the above causes is brought to the pastor and deacons, they shall consider the allegation and decide whether the matter merits further investigation.

*If the deacons decide that the allegation merits further investigation, they shall investigate.

Findings

*Upon the findings of the Investigation Committee, a report shall be submitted to the pastor and the deacons, which shall evaluate the findings of the investigation.

*The pastor and deacons shall then discuss the findings to determine whether the deacon should be confronted with the allegation.

Decision

*If the pastor and deacons conclude that the allegation has a proper foundation, they shall allow the deacon in question to appear before them and speak on his behalf.

*The appropriate disciplinary action shall be decided by the congregation.

The Church Policies

Church Officers' Duties and Responsibilities

All church officers must be members of the church. The officers of the church shall be as follows:

Section 1: Assistant Pastor

The assistant pastor shall be a salaried ordained minister meeting all the Biblical qualifications of a pastor. The assistant pastor will serve at the discretion of the senior pastor.

Section 2: Associate Pastor

The associate pastor shall be a minister who has been called by God to the ministry. The associate pastor will serve at the discretion of the senior pastor.

Section 3: Trustees

Trustees should meet the same Biblical and personal qualifications as deacons (1 Timothy 3:8-13), if the church membership will sustain this requirement. The trustees are appointed by the pastor with the number of trustees based on the size of the congregation. The term of their service shall be determined by the pastor.

Duties of the trustees include:

- *Holding in trust the church's property.
- *Having no power to buy, sell, mortgage, lease, or transfer property without a special dispensation of church full members authorizing each action.
- *Affixing signatures to legal documents where the signatures of trustees is required.
- *Overseeing and deciding on any physical properties donated to the church.
- *Overseeing all maintenance and custodial personnel of church owned property.
- *Agreeing among the trustees, the expenditure of a maximum of \$500.00 without church full member approval.
- *Meeting on a regular basis to review the financial status of the church including salaries, which are based upon performance and capital expenditures.

Section 2: Secretary

Duties of the secretary include:

- *Keeping in a suitable venue a record of all the actions of the church as otherwise herein provided.
- *Being responsible for keeping a register of members with the date of their admission.
- *Preserving on file all communications and written official reports.
- *Giving legal notice of all meetings where such notice is necessary.
- *Delegating secretarial responsibilities if needed.
- *Assuring that all church records are church property and that they should be filed in the church.
- *Documenting all events, motions, and discussions at all church meetings and producing minutes accordingly.
- *Assisting with the preparation of the financial reports.
- *Preparing all church correspondence as requested by the pastor and church officers.

Section 3: Treasurer

The treasurer shall be appointed by the pastor for a tenure of three years, if the membership is of such that can sustain it.

Duties of the treasurer include:

- *Overseeing the receipts of all monies and the payment of all bills in a diligent manner.
- *Presenting to the pastor, trustees, and deacons the account balances at the end of the month preceding a conference.
- *Preparing and presenting the financial report at the conferences in January and July.
- *Assisting the pastor in preparing the annual church budget.
- *Notifying the pastor, trustees, and deacons of any financial concerns.
- *Being responsible for any other financial duties that may occur due to growth.

II. Ministries

Section 1: General

All members assigned to church ministries must be under the control of the Holy Spirit in that they are:

- *Spiritual
- *Free will givers
- *Regular attendees of worship service and Bible study

Section 2: Baptism

The Baptism Ministry is to assist in preparing for the ordinance of baptism. The ministry is responsible for preparing the candidates for the ordinance.

Section 3: Benevolence

The Benevolence Ministry consisting of the deacons and trustees is to perform acts of benevolence to persons in need in the name of Christ. These needs may be physical, social, or mental. Due to the confidential nature of these tasks, needs should be brought to the attention of a deacon. Situations for which funds will be disbursed are:

- *Death in the immediate family - parents, children, brother, sister
- *Hospitalized illness
- *Utility emergence - one month only in a calendar year for church members 60 years and older
- *Catastrophic loss

In order to receive benevolence funds one must submit to a deacon some type of proof of what is needed. The deacon will then present the proof to the trustees, and then to the church full members for a decision on the matter. First preference will be to church members. All requests will remain as confidential as possible

Section 4: Lord's Supper or Holy Communion

The Lord's Supper Ministry prepares the elements and the equipment of the observance of the Lord's Supper. The ministry does the preparatory and maintenance work needed to observe the memorial service. The ministry will prepare the elements on schedule according to the way the church observes the ordinance.

Section 5: Weddings

The Wedding Ministry shall assist couples that are planning a wedding ceremony at the church. This ministry shall develop and maintain a wedding procedure for the church. The procedure consists of an amount of \$300.00 rental fee with a \$100.00 deposit, which is refunded if the church is left in an orderly fashion.

Section 6: Funerals

The church will funeralize anyone in the community including members and nonmembers.

Section 7: Historian

The Historical Ministry is to preserve and use the historical records of the church. The Ministry and/or trustees are especially concerned with gathering and preserving available church records, recording full and accurate records, and using the records to help members understand and appreciate their heritage and mission. Many of the documents are kept in a safe deposit box at Wachovia Bank, Hilton Head Island.

Section 8: Outreach

The purpose of the Outreach Ministry is to reach out to the local community and the world at large by ministering, edifying, and exhorting.

III. Ministry Organization

Section 1: General

All ministries of the church shall be under church and pastor control with all officers receiving a pastoral appointment being chosen by full members of the church and reporting to the church. It is understood that the pastor is an official member of all the ministries named. His leadership is to be recognized in the ministries.

Section 2: Sunday School Ministry

There will be Sunday School for the purpose of Bible study, outreach, and fellowship. It shall be organized by departments and classes for all ages. It shall be reviewed annually for needed changes in organizational structure. The Sunday School shall be under the direction of the Sunday School Director, other necessary officers, and staff.

Section 3: Discipleship Ministry

There shall be a Discipleship Ministry conducted under the direction of the pastor, other necessary officers, and staff. The function of this ministry is to teach new members on Christian doctrine and leadership.

Section 4: Music Ministry

There shall be a Music Ministry.

IV. Church Meetings

Section 1: Worship Service

The church shall meet regularly each Sunday for worship of God to include, but not be limited to, preaching, teaching, music, evangelism, and fellowship. Services, under the direction of the pastor, will be open for the entire membership of the church and for all people who wish to worship.

Section 2: Regular Business Meetings

A biannual business meeting shall be held in January and July to discuss all business matters relating to the church.

Section 3: Special Business Meetings

A specially called business meeting shall be held to consider matters of a significant nature.

Section 4: Quorum

A quorum consists of six (6) church members who attend the business meeting, provided it is a stated meeting, or one that has been properly called.

Section 5: Parliamentary Rules

"Robert's Rule of Order" Revised is the authority for parliamentary rules of procedure for all church business meetings.

Section 6: Financial Year

The financial year will begin on January 1 and end December 31.

V. Church Finances

It is understood that membership in this church involves financial free will giving to support the church and its ministries.

VI. Amendments

Changes in the church covenant may be made at any regular or special business meeting of the church, provided such proposed amendments have been presented in writing at the previous regular or special business meeting. Copies of the proposed amendment will be furnished to each member present. Amendments to the church covenant shall be made by two-thirds decision of full members of the church present.

VII. Revisiting the Church Policy

The church policies should be revisited by the pastor and officers no sooner than one year and no longer than five years.

Council of the Church Covenant, Bylaws, and Policy

Pastor Clarence Edmondson
Deacon Aaron Crosby
Deacon John Montgomery
Trustee and Treasurer Cathy Dyer