



## **ARTICLE I**

### **NAME**

**Section 1.1** The name of this church shall be Bethany Baptist Church of Salem. It was incorporated as a nonprofit corporation under the laws of the State of Oregon on May 8, 1970.

## **ARTICLE II**

### **PURPOSE**

**Section 2.1** The purpose of this church is to bring glory to God by turning spiritually lost people into mature disciples of Christ (Matt 28:19-20). We will accomplish Christ's disciple making mandate by (1) winning spiritually lost people to new life in Christ, (2) building them to spiritual maturity, and (3) equipping them for a life of service in the church, the community and the world.

## **ARTICLE III**

### **ORGANIZATIONAL STRUCTURE**

#### **Section 3.1** Governmental policy

1. Authority – This church shall be subject only to the Lord Jesus Christ, the Head of the Church. His will regarding matters of faith and practice are known through the inspired, inerrant and authoritative Word of God.
2. Government – Jesus Christ, the head of the church, works through his body. Thus, the government of this church is vested solely in the body of believers who maintain membership in this local assembly.
3. Leadership – The local assembly, recognizing the gifting and calling of certain individuals in the body of Christ, elects them to spiritual and organizational oversight of the local church. These individuals serve on one of two councils:
  - A. Shepherds Council – The presiding leadership body of Bethany Baptist Church shall be called the Shepherds Council, consisting of men elected by the congregation as shepherds in accordance with Section 6.1. These men serve as elders, also referred to as shepherds or pastors.
  - B. Deacons Council – The Deacons Council shall be composed of men and women elected to the office of deacon in accordance with Section 6.3, and shall be under the authority of the Shepherds Council.

### **Section 3.2 Trustees**

The Deacons Council shall act as the legal trustees of the church for external affairs.

### **Section 3.3 Representative officers**

For legal purposes, the senior pastor shall act as chairman of the corporation, the church treasurer shall act as corporate treasurer, and the chairman of the Deacons Council shall act as corporate secretary.

## **ARTICLE IV AUTONOMY**

**Section 4.1** This church is subject to the control of no other ecclesiastical body, but recognizes and sustains the obligation of mutual counsel and cooperation with other churches of like faith. This church reserves the right to join or withdraw from any association or ecclesiastical organization, as it desires by vote of the membership.

## **ARTICLE V MEMBERSHIP**

### **Section 5.1 Qualifications**

Qualifications for membership in this church are the following: (1) acceptance of Jesus Christ as personal Savior as demonstrated in testimony and life, (2) baptism by immersion as a believer in Christ, (3) acceptance of the Word of God as one's rule of faith and practice, (4) subscription to the Core Beliefs in the Articles of Faith of this church as a partial expression of that rule, and (5) agreement to be governed by the church membership covenant and this constitution.

### **Section 5.2 Reception**

Membership shall be granted only upon personal confession of faith in Christ, either through baptism or verbal testimony. For those coming from a like-minded church, communication confirming prior baptism and standing shall be requested. Upon approval by the Shepherds Council, the individual shall be presented to the church and immediately granted full membership rights and privileges.

### **Section 5.3 Rights and Responsibilities**

All members shall have equal rights unless stated otherwise in this constitution. The right to vote shall be vested in members 16 years of age and over. Individual members of this church have no church property rights. Upon termination of membership they are not entitled to any interest in the church assets and shall not be allowed a voice in the disposition of said assets.

Members of this local church covenant to walk, work and worship Christ together. Members will honor, esteem, and pray for their pastors regularly and assist them in carrying out the ministry of the church. They will use their God-given talents, gifts, and resources for the benefit of the church. They will endeavor to preserve the unity of the

church, seeking reconciliation and offering forgiveness when offenses take place. If for any reason they are unable to harmonize with others, they will seek not to disrupt its fellowship but will quietly withdraw from its membership.

#### **Section 5.4 Mutual Care Membership**

Mutual Care Membership is hereby established for college students, armed services personnel, and other people of temporary residence in the Salem area who maintain a legal residence elsewhere and are members of a church of like faith and order. Mutual care members shall meet all the standard requirements for membership. They shall have full membership privileges and responsibilities, including the right to vote and hold office, both elected and appointed. They may not be sent as a messenger of this church, be granted a letter of transfer, or be ordained or licensed by this church. All of these rights remain with the member's home church.

#### **Section 5.5 Inactive Membership**

It shall be the responsibility of the Shepherds Council to endeavor to make personal contact with members who are not demonstrating an active interest in the life of the church. Any member who attends worship services fewer than two times in three months will automatically be considered inactive and shall lose the right of vote without any further process.

At the discretion of the Shepherds Council, individuals who are in some way limited from meeting this requirement (i.e. physical limitations, missionary service, military service, vocational assignment) may be exempted. Communication shall be sent to the member. If their response is a desire to resume active participation in the church, the Shepherds Council may, upon satisfactory interview with the member, restore their membership rights. Any member absent from church services for one year without justifiable explanation for their extended absence will be automatically dropped from membership. Membership can be restored through active participation in the church and the approval of the Shepherds Council.

#### **Section 5.6 Discipline and Restoration**

In order to promote purity and maintain peace, a local church has the scriptural responsibility to prayerfully and lovingly restore errant members who are not living out their membership commitment. The threefold purpose of church discipline and restoration is to glorify God by maintaining purity in the local church (1 Cor. 5:6), to edify believers by deterring sin and promoting purity (1 Tim. 5:20), and to promote the spiritual welfare of the sinning believer by calling him or her to return to a biblical standard of doctrine and conduct (Gal. 6:1).

##### **I. Composition of the Restoration Committee**

The Restoration Committee shall consist of the Shepherds Council and its designees. In cases where the accused is a shepherd, or related by marriage or birth to a shepherd, that shepherd shall not serve on the committee.

## 2. The Restoration Process

The Bible gives the following pattern for restoring believers who have sinned:

- A. Not all sin requires confrontation. We are to overlook minor sins, offering acceptance and forgiveness to your brother (Prov. 19:11).
- B. If the sin demands confrontation, then go and show your brother his fault in private, seeking reconciliation (Matt. 18:15).
- C. If the matter cannot be resolved in private, involve one or two other trusted, mature Christians, including a shepherd if possible (Matt. 18:16).
- D. If the matter still cannot be resolved, the entire Restoration Committee will intervene, admonishing known sins and offering counsel and instruction on resolving the problem (Matt. 18:17).
- E. If a Christian refuses to listen to the counsel of the Restoration Committee, the committee will inform and instruct the church at a business meeting to reach out to the individual to draw them back. The meeting will not be a forum for communicating additional and/or derogatory statements.
- F. If the Christian refuses to listen to the counsel of the church body, the church body will withdraw fellowship from them, including loss of membership rights.

Offenses are inevitable and it is important that they be settled privately according to the biblical pattern. Members are to seek reconciliation in a spirit of love when offenses occur, whether noticed by the offender or the offended person.

### **Section 5.7 Removal**

A member in good standing in this church, upon written request to the Shepherds Council, will be released to the fellowship of another church of like faith. A member will be released from their membership covenant: upon joining another church, upon their death, after one year of inactivity, or as the result of church discipline.

## **ARTICLE VI CHURCH OFFICERS**

### **Section 6.1 Shepherds**

#### **I. Their Qualifications**

##### **A. Basic**

He must have been a member of Bethany Baptist Church for sufficient time to be recognized by the leadership as a shepherd; and he must be in support of the Articles of Faith of the church and directional goals of the pastoral staff.

##### **B. Scriptural**

- (1) He must have moral integrity as outlined in 1 Timothy 3:1-7 and Titus 1:6-9.

- (2) He must be, if married, faithful to his wife, with his household under proper scriptural management and with a wife who is supportive of his service (1 Tim. 3:4-5, Eph. 5:22-6:4, 1 Pet. 3:1-7).
- (3) He must have a properly motivated desire to serve as a shepherd (1 Tim. 3:1).
- (4) He must have demonstrated leadership in that he has proven himself in ministry.
- (5) He must have attained a knowledge of the Bible to the extent that he can encourage others by sound doctrine and refute those who oppose it (Titus 1:9), as measured by those currently serving on the Shepherds Council.
- (6) He must have demonstrated an ability to teach, disciple, and counsel others to the satisfaction of those currently serving on the Shepherds Council.

## 2. Their Number

Any number of shepherds may be elected as is considered necessary to meet the needs of the church. If there are not men both qualified and willing to serve as shepherds, the available positions on the Shepherds Council shall be left vacant.

## 3. Their Appointment

Members of the church will have the opportunity annually to nominate from the membership men to serve as shepherds. The Shepherds Council will evaluate nominees and recommend qualified candidates to the congregation. Appointment to the Shepherds Council will be affirmed by a three-fourths vote of the membership present and voting.

## 4. Their Term of Service

Shepherds shall serve in three-year terms. The membership, after each three-year term of service, may reappoint shepherds who are qualified and willing to serve another term.

## 5. Their Removal from Office

Shepherds may be removed from office either by resignation or by the vote of the Shepherds Council for failure either to live up to the biblical qualifications of a shepherd or by failure to continue to serve the needs of the congregation.

## 6. Their Responsibilities

The scriptural responsibilities of shepherds fall under three general categories: those of feeding, leading, and protecting the flock.

### A. Feeding the Flock

Shepherds are to preach and teach God's Word (1 Tim. 5:17, Heb. 13:7), to exhort and admonish believers (Tit. 1:9, 1 Thess. 5:12), and to model a godly life (Heb. 13:7, 1 Pet. 5:2-3).

## B. Leading the Flock

Shepherds are to lead and guide the church (1 Thess. 5:12, 1 Tim. 3:5), rule and direct the church (1 Tim. 5:17), decide important doctrinal issues (Acts 15:28), establish the scriptural priorities for the church (Acts 20:27), oversee the church (Acts 20:28, 1 Thess. 5:12), and have authority in the church (Heb. 13:17).

## C. Protecting the Flock

Shepherds are to guard against false teaching (Acts 20:28-31), refute false teachers and scoffers (Titus 1:9), preserve the unity of the church (Eph. 4:3, 11-13), and pray for the needs of the church (Jam. 5:14, Acts 6: 4).

## 7. Their Internal Organization

The Shepherds Council shall elect annually from its own number a vice-chairman to provide leadership in their ministry in the absence of the senior pastor. They shall also elect a secretary to keep permanent written minutes of their meetings. Two-thirds of the shepherds must be present for a quorum. A majority vote is required unless otherwise specified in this constitution.

## 8. Bringing Business to the Shepherds Council

Any member desiring to present an item of business to the Shepherds Council may do so by contacting the chairman or vice-chairman two weeks prior to a regular meeting, stating the subject to be presented and requesting that it be placed on the agenda.

## **Section 6.2** Pastoral and Ministry Staff

Note: It is recognized that “pastors” and “shepherds” are equivalent terms biblically. For the purpose of church structure, it should be recognized that “pastor” refers to a shepherd who is remunerated for his shepherding, and therefore is free to give greater time and energy to his ministry.

### I. Senior Pastor

#### A. His Qualifications

The senior pastor shall meet the qualifications of an elder found in 1 Tim. 3:1-7 & Titus 1:6-9. He shall be licensed or ordained into the ministry by a church of like faith and order, and shall be in agreement with the doctrinal positions and associations held by this church.

#### B. His Call

When it is necessary to call a senior pastor, the Shepherds Council shall appoint one of their members to act as chairman of a pulpit committee. The pulpit committee shall consist of the chairman, as well as four additional members of the church. The remaining pastors, if any, shall serve in an advisory capacity to the pulpit committee. The pulpit committee shall develop its own operating

procedures. Only one candidate at a time shall be recommended to the church at a special business meeting announced two weeks in advance. The vote shall be taken by written ballot and a call extended if the candidate receives at least a three-fourths vote.

#### C. His Responsibilities

- (1) The senior pastor serves as the spiritual, administrative, and educational head of the church. He shall serve as the leader of the church in all its activities and shall be the moderator. In this capacity, he occupies the chairman position of the Shepherds Council. He shall carry out the decisions of the Shepherds Council and shall have power, as delegated on their behalf, to execute all actions so deemed by the Shepherds Council and the membership.
- (2) The senior pastor will be the administrative head over the pastoral and ministry staff of the church. He shall have the authority, with the concurrence of a majority of the Shepherds Council, to dismiss other pastoral and ministry staff.
- (3) The senior pastor shall regularly preach, administer the ordinances, and tenderly watch over and promote the spiritual strength of the congregation. He will seek through creative leadership to direct the church in establishing and attaining goals for the honor and glory of God.
- (4) He shall, by virtue of his office, be welcome as a voting member of any board or committee meeting that he attends.

#### D. His Term of Service

The senior pastor shall serve an indefinite term of service. He may resign at any time, giving thirty days notification in writing to the Shepherds Council, unless otherwise mutually agreed upon. The resignation shall be accepted without being voted on by the church.

#### E. His Removal from Office

Severance of the pastoral relationship may be initiated by the Shepherds Council due to unsatisfactory service and requires a two-thirds majority vote of the shepherds. Their recommendation must be approved at a special business meeting announced two weeks in advance and communicated to the entire membership in writing. The vote shall be taken by written ballot, and a two-thirds majority of the members present and voting is necessary for dismissal. In the case of a serious moral or doctrinal deviation, the Shepherds Council shall immediately remove the pastor from office.

### 2. Other Pastoral and Ministry Staff

The senior pastor, along with the Shepherds Council and other pastors, will determine the needs for additional pastoral and ministry staff in the church.

#### A. Pastoral Staff

The senior pastor shall recommend qualified men to work with him on the pastoral staff. His recommendations must be confirmed by a three-fourths vote of the Shepherds Council. Their qualifications, call by the church, term of service, and removal from office are the same as that of the senior pastor. Their responsibilities will be clearly stated in writing as part of their call to the church. Associate pastors, as fellow shepherds, will be included in the Shepherds Council and have the right of vote. They will also, by virtue of their office, be welcome as a voting member of any board or committee meeting that they attend.

#### B. Ministry Staff

Part-time and full-time ministry staff serve under the authority and direction of the pastoral staff and Shepherds Council. Such positions are approved by the church budgeting process and selected by the pastoral staff, in coordination with the shepherds and deacons. The authority of these positions is non-pastoral and is given by and accountable to the Shepherds Council.

### **Section 6.3 Deacons**

#### I. Their Qualifications

The deacons shall consist of church members who have been members for sufficient time to be recognized by leadership as a deacon. They shall be men and women who meet the scriptural qualifications found in I Timothy 3:8-13 and who concur with the doctrinal positions of the church and directional goals of the pastoral staff.

#### 2. Their Number

Any number of deacons (both men and women) may be elected as is considered necessary to meet the needs of the church. If there are not individuals both qualified and willing to serve as deacons, the available positions on the Deacons Council shall be left vacant.

#### 3. Their Appointment

Members of the church will have the opportunity annually to nominate from the membership both men and women to serve as deacons. The Shepherds Council will evaluate nominees and, in conjunction with the Deacons Council, recommend qualified candidates to the membership. Appointment to the Deacons Council will be affirmed by a two-thirds vote of the members present and voting.

#### 4. Their Term of Service

The term of office shall be three years. The membership, after each three-year term of service, may reappoint deacons who are qualified and willing to serve another term. As much as possible, one third of the deacons shall be elected annually. If vacancies occur, the Shepherds Council may call for a special election



or leave the position vacant until the next annual meeting.

#### 5. Their Removal from Office

Deacons may be removed from office either by resignation or by the vote of the Shepherds Council for failure either to live up to the biblical qualifications of a deacon or by failure to continue to serve the needs of the congregation.

#### 6. Their Responsibilities

- A. To free the shepherds so that they may more effectively shepherd the flock.
- B. To serve the practical needs of the congregation as ministers of mercy.
- C. To exercise servant leadership in the congregation.
- D. To receive and distribute funds for the relief of the physical and material needs of the membership and others in whom the church has interest.
- E. To provide oversight of the property and buildings of the church, as well as working with the shepherds in planning and carrying out future building needs.
- F. To oversee church finances and assist the shepherds in the development of an annual budget to present to the membership.
- G. To assist in the administration of the ordinances of the church.
- H. To provide special assistance in the care of the congregation, especially those who are sick and widows.
- I. To support the shepherds in the spiritual care of the body as requested.
- J. To oversee the usher and greeter ministries during worship services.
- K. To serve under the direction and authority of the shepherds and undertake ministry assignments given by the shepherds.

#### 7. Their Internal Organization

The deacons shall elect annually from their own number a chairman and vice chairman to provide leadership in their ministry. They shall also elect a secretary to keep permanent written minutes of their meetings. Two-thirds of the deacons must be present for a quorum. A majority vote is required unless otherwise specified in this constitution. They shall elect committees from their own number as is necessary to carry out their responsibilities.

#### 8. Bringing Business to the Deacons Council

Any member desiring to present an item of business to the Deacons Council may do so by contacting the chairman or vice-chairman two weeks prior to a regular meeting stating the subject to be presented and requesting that it be placed on the agenda.

## **ARTICLE VII**

### **OFFICERS AND COMMITTEES**

#### **Section 7.1 Elected officers**

## I. Nomination and election

At least six weeks before the annual meeting nominating forms shall be sent to each active member with the following information:

- A. a list of incumbent and retiring church officers;
- B. qualifications for offices;
- C. a list of positions to be filled.

Nominations are to be returned at least four weeks before the annual meeting. The Shepherds Council shall consider the scriptural qualifications of the nominees, their example of Christian character and participation in the life of the church, and the relative frequency of their nomination. Consent to serve must be given by the nominees. The final slate of one or more nominees for each position shall be posted at least two weeks prior to the annual meeting. No nominations from the floor shall be made at the time of election. A majority vote of members present and voting is required for election unless specified otherwise in this constitution. If there is only one nominee for a position, two-thirds of the members present and voting must approve of his or her election.

## 2. Shepherds and deacons

Information on the qualifications, election and responsibilities of shepherds and deacons is in Section 6.

## 3. Financial secretary

The financial secretary shall maintain an accurate record of and deposit all receipts. He or she shall keep a confidential record of individual giving and issue periodic updates and annual receipts to donors.

## 4. Church treasurer

The church treasurer shall keep an accurate record of all expenditures and shall disburse only when authorized. He or she shall present a monthly financial report to the shepherds and deacons and an annual report to the church.

## **Section 7.2** Appointed officers and ministry teams

The Shepherds Council shall appoint any officers and ministry teams considered beneficial to the church's ministry and communicate such appointments to the membership.

## **Section 7.3** Organization and duties

Unless otherwise specified in this constitution, the organization and duties of ministry teams will be left to the officers and leadership of those ministries. Ministry leaders are, in turn, accountable to the Shepherds Council.

#### **Section 7.4 Vacancies**

Vacancies occurring during the year in elected or appointed positions (other than shepherds and deacons) shall be filled by appointment by the Shepherds Council for the remainder of the term.

### **ARTICLE VIII MEETING**

#### **Section 8.1 Congregational services**

The church shall meet regularly on the first day of the week, and at other times by the call of the pastoral staff or Shepherds Council for the purposes of worship, evangelism, instruction, edification, and fellowship.

#### **Section 8.2 Annual business meeting**

An annual business meeting shall be held prior to the start of the fiscal year. Among the matters of business shall be the election of shepherds and deacons, communication of appointed officers and ministry teams, and approval of the annual budget. The pastors, shepherds and deacons shall present written reports of the prior year's ministries.

A preliminary estimate of total receipts and expenditures shall be given at the annual meeting. Following the close of the fiscal year, a complete financial report shall be presented to the church..

#### **Section 8.3 Special business meetings**

Special business meetings may be called by the Shepherds or Deacons Councils, or by a quorum of the church. Public notice shall be given for two weeks prior to the meeting, stating the business to be conducted. No other business may be conducted at the special business meeting.

Members may be received at any congregational service of the church without prior notice.

#### **Section 8.4 Quorum**

The annual meeting and all special business meetings require one-fifth of the active membership for a quorum. When voting on the calling or dismissing of a pastor, one-third of the active voting membership shall constitute a quorum. A majority vote of the members present and voting is necessary unless specified otherwise in the constitution.

#### **Section 8.5 Rules of order**

The latest edition of Robert's Rules of Order will be used as a general guide when conducting business meetings. All business is to be handled in accordance with the Word of God and the guidelines of this constitution.

## **ARTICLE IX**

### **CHURCH YEAR**

**Section 9.1** The church fiscal year shall be from July 1 to June 30.

## **ARTICLE X**

### **LICENSURE,ORDINATION AND COMMISSIONING**

#### **Section 10.1** Guidelines

No one may be licensed or ordained by this church to the gospel ministry unless they have demonstrated their ability in ministry to the satisfaction of the shepherds and meet the qualifications of an elder set forth in 1 Tim. 3:1-7 and Titus 1:6-9. The church has the authority to revoke the license or ordination credential of any member of this church with sufficient reason. A recommendation to revoke a license or ordination shall be presented to the church in a business meeting called for such a purpose, and, upon majority vote of the members present and voting, shall immediately take effect.

#### **Section 10.2** Licensure

When a man in this membership is called to the pastoral ministry and desires to be licensed, he shall make his desire known to the Shepherds Council. The shepherds will interview and examine the man concerning his desires for ministry, his qualifications for ministry, his understanding of the Word of God, and his training and experience in ministry. If satisfied, the shepherds may recommend the candidate to the church for licensure, and upon a three-fourths majority vote, a certificate of license shall be granted. The duration of the license shall be for one year and becomes invalid once the licensee removes his membership from the church. A license may be renewed at the annual business meeting of the church, at which time the licensee must submit a written report which shall include: (1) a statement as to the exercise of his ministry; (2) a statement as to progress made spiritually, academically, and practically in experience; (3) plans for the coming year; and (4) a request for continued licensure. The shepherds will recommend renewal or non-renewal of each license, with a three-fourths majority vote of the members present and voting required for continued approval.

When a male member feels called to Christian ministry and seeks licensure, he shall inform the Shepherds Council. The shepherds will examine his calling, qualifications, biblical understanding, and ministry experience. If satisfied, they may recommend him to the church for licensure. Upon a three-fourths majority vote, a one-year license will be granted, which becomes invalid if he leaves church membership.

Licenses may be renewed at the annual business meeting. The licensee must submit a written report outlining: (1) ministry activity, (2) spiritual, academic, and practical growth, (3) plans for the coming year, and (4) a request for renewal. The shepherds will recommend renewal or nonrenewal, with a three-fourths majority vote required for approval.

### **Section 10.3 Ordination**

A licensee desiring ordination shall make his desire known to the Shepherds Council, who, with the approval of the church, will call for an ordination council. An examination council of invited messengers from churches of like faith and practice shall thoroughly examine the candidate for ordination as to his call to ministry, education, Christian experience, reputation, character, doctrine, and demonstrated ability in ministry. The council shall make a recommendation concerning the candidate to the church, and upon a three-fourths majority vote, the church shall proceed with ordination at a future date as agreed upon by both the church and the candidate.

### **Section 10.4 Commissioning**

When a man or woman in this membership senses a calling to serve in missionary work—whether domestic or international—and seeks to be commissioned by the church, he or she shall make that desire known to the Shepherds Council. The shepherds will interview and examine the candidate concerning his or her sense of calling, doctrinal alignment, character, spiritual maturity, and the nature and scope of the proposed mission work. They will also evaluate the candidate's readiness, training, and partnership with any mission organization or sending agency.

If the Shepherds Council is satisfied with the candidate's preparation and calling, they may recommend the candidate to the church for commissioning. Upon a three-fourths majority vote of the members present and voting, the church shall proceed with a public commissioning service, affirming the candidate as a representative of this church for the purposes of gospel ministry.

The commissioning shall remain in effect so long as the missionary maintains active membership in good standing, continues in approved mission work, and submits an annual report to the Shepherds Council. This report shall include: (1) a summary of ministry activity; (2) updates on spiritual and personal health; (3) any significant changes to location, role, or sending partnerships; and (4) continued affirmation of alignment with the church's mission and doctrine.

Should the missionary's membership change, the nature of their work shift substantially, or concerns arise regarding faith, conduct, or doctrine, the Shepherds Council reserves the right to review and, if necessary, recommend the withdrawal of the church's commissioning, subject to a three-fourths majority vote of the members present and voting.

## **ARTICLE XI**

### **DISPOSITION OF CHURCH PROPERTY**

#### **Section 11.1 Division**

In case of division within the church membership, the church property shall belong to those members who abide by this constitution and subscribe to the church's Articles of Faith. If both sides meet these requirements, those members in the majority shall retain the property.

### **Section 11.2 Dissolution**

Should a condition arise where, for any reason, the work of this church cannot continue, after all its debts have been satisfied, remaining church property and assets shall be transferred to Northwest Baptist Home Mission, or to such nonprofit organizations that are in agreement with the principles and doctrinal beliefs of this church. This action will be determined by majority vote of the remaining active members. None of the assets shall be given to any individual member.

## **ARTICLE XII AMENDMENTS**

**Section 12.1** This constitution may be amended at a special business meeting by a two-thirds vote by ballot of active members present and voting. The Articles of Faith of the church may be amended at a special business meeting by a three-fourths vote by ballot of active members present and voting. Proposed amendments must be announced and posted two weeks prior to the meeting.