

Battleground Community Church, Inc.
By-Laws

Revised 3/28/2018

I. NAME OF ORGANIZATION

The name of the corporation is Battleground Community Church, Inc.

II. CORPORATE PURPOSE

This corporation is organized exclusively for religious purposes, including, for such purposes, the making of distributions to organizations that qualify as exempt organizations under section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code, or the corresponding section of any future federal tax code.

III. CHURCH MEMBERSHIP

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

Section 1. The membership of this Church shall be composed of persons who have given evidence of regeneration by the Spirit of God, who have been baptized by immersion, and who have subscribed to the Church covenant, articles of faith and constitution of this Church, and who have been received into membership by vote of the Church. No person shall be barred because of race, gender, or nationality.

Section 2. A member of another Southern Baptist Church of like faith may be received by a vote of the Church upon promise of letter of transfer from the Church where membership resides. The applying member will be in watch care relationship until letter of transfer is received from the other Church.

Section 3. Anyone who has once been a member of a Southern Baptist Church of like faith, and in consequence of peculiar circumstance has lost that relationship is or is not able otherwise to secure a letter of transfer may be received into the fellowship of this Church upon statement to the membership by a vote of the Church.

Section 4. Application for membership under circumstance other than those described in Section 1, 2, and 3 above will be considered by the Church in a member's meeting and the decision of the Church will be final in each case.

Section 5. A letter of transfer to unite with another Southern Baptist Church of like faith may be issued upon request to the Church which the member is planning to join providing such member is in good standing and is not currently in a Church discipline situation, as outlined in Matthew 18. All such applications may be passed upon by the Church in member's meeting.

Section 6. The Church shall seek in every way possible to help members who move away to fulfill their covenant obligation, to wit, “when we remove from this place, we will, 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.” Any person who affiliates with a Church of another denomination will be automatically removed from the Church roll.

Section 7. The Church, after due notice and opportunity for hearing, and every possible kindly effort to make such action (according to Matthew 18) unnecessary, may upon majority vote, terminate the membership of a person in this body for reasons it consider sufficient to warrant such action in accordance to scripture.

Section 8. Persons who present themselves for membership upon profession of faith, and ask for baptism, shall not be baptized until they have given verbal testimony to a designated pastor.

Section 9. It shall be the duty of the members of Battleground Community Church to honor, esteem, and love their elders, staff, and families, to pray for them constantly, and to manifest a tender regard for their reputation. (Hebrews 13:7, 17)

Section 10. It shall be the duty of the members of this Church to attend its public worship on a regular schedule, (Hebrews 10:25) to cultivate personal holiness through Bible Study and personal and family devotions, to contribute according to the Biblical plan of tithes and offerings, to watch over and counsel one another in prayer, to aid each other in sickness and distress, to strive for the growth of the Church in outreach and discipleship, and to govern their actions, words, and spirits by the precepts of God’s Word.

Section 11. New Member Orientation

New members of this Church are expected to participate in the Church’s new member orientation conducted by the elders or someone appointed by the pastor.

Section 12. Privacy Policy

The privacy of our membership is important to Battleground Community Church, Inc. (referred to in this policy collectively as “the Church, “we,” “us,” and similar terms). This Privacy policy is intended to be a general statement that describes how we collect, use and process personal information you provide to us. We may use the personal information you provide to, allow us to contact you, fulfill requests you make, help fulfill our mission. If you are a member of the Church, your general membership information (for example, name, address, and phone number) and other optional information you may choose to provide (for example, email address, photo, and so forth) may be shared with Church members. We retain collected personal information and submissions for a reasonable period of time to fulfill the collection purpose and then delete it from our records, with the exception of limited historical profile information, general genealogy records, and membership information retained as part of a permanent genealogical or Church historical record.

We regard your personal information as confidential and do not sell it to anyone. We do not share your personal information with other parties except in the following circumstances (or in other instances where we specifically inform you and obtain your prior consent):

- A. *Third-Party Providers.* We may provide personal information to third parties for their use in performing internal functions on our behalf (for example, payment processing, maintenance,

security, data analysis, and so forth). In such instances, the providers will be contractually required to protect personal information from additional use (including for marketing purposes) or transfer in accordance with this Privacy Policy and industry standards.

B. Church Entities. We may transfer personal information to any Church-affiliated entity to accomplish Church purposes.

C. Legal Requirements. We may access and disclose your personal information, personal notes, content, or other submissions if we have a good-faith belief that doing so is required by a subpoena or other judicial or administrative order or otherwise required by law.

Additionally, we may disclose your personal information and other information where we, in good faith, deem it appropriate or necessary to prevent a violation of our other agreements; to take precautions against liability; to protect the rights, property, or safety of the site, of any individual, or of the general public; to maintain and protect the security and integrity of our services or infrastructure; to protect ourselves and our services from fraudulent, abusive, or unlawful uses; to investigate and defend ourselves against third-party claims or allegations; or to assist government law enforcement agencies.

IV. CHURCH OFFICERS

The New Testament requires in Acts 6:3 that the leadership of the church be of good reputation, full of the Holy Spirit and wisdom. Any person elected by this church to hold office shall be a member of this church, shall attend regularly the services of this church, and shall systematically support the financial program of this church to the best of his or her ability. All church officers should display evidence of a personal call of God to minister. All officers must be active members of Battleground Community Church, Inc.

Section 1. Church Officers

The officers of this church shall be the Lead Pastor, the Elders, a Treasurer, and the church staff (as deemed necessary by the Lead Pastor and/or the Elders.)

V. DUTIES OF CHURCH OFFICERS

Section 1. Pastor The pastor's duties are four-fold- as a preacher, to proclaim the whole Gospel; to superintend the work of the church; as pastor, to be shepherd of the flock; and as minister, to serve the people for Jesus' sake. He shall have general oversight of the church in all departments of its work, be moderator for church meetings under the guidelines set forth in the article on church government, be the ex officio member of all church committees. He may call a special meeting of the elders or any committee according to procedures which are set forth in the By-Laws; he shall conduct religious services on stated and on special occasions, and administer the ordinances; be responsible for doctrinal instruction of all who come on profession of faith; minister to the spiritual needs of the members of the church and the community; he shall perform other duties that usually pertain to the office; he shall have special charge of the pulpit ministry of the church, and shall provide for pulpit supply when he is absent, and shall arrange for minister to assist in revival meetings, and workers to assist in other special services required by the

church. It shall be his special duty by equipping the congregation for training in witnessing to those who are unsaved in the community, and to train members in how to minister to one another in meeting the needs of the entire congregation. (Ephesians 4:11-13) The pastor shall be in charge of and oversee the duties of all staff members.

Section 2. Elders The Elders shall execute all contracts, deeds, mortgages, and/or other instruments when authorized to do so by the church in conference. Upon death, resignation, or inability to serve of any of the Elders a successor shall be elected by the church in conference called for this purpose. Elders shall serve for a term of three years, with one Elder elected each year; having served as an Elder during a previous term will not disqualify a member for re-election.

Section 3. Deacons They shall assist the elders in the observance of the ordinances; have general oversight for the upkeep, repair and use of property (with proper respect for the responsibilities of the church elders and the maintenances team) and supervise the benevolence ministry of the church. They shall arrange for regular meetings and such committees as are necessary to the discharge of their duties. The elders, or the chairman of the deacons, may call the deacons into special session whenever need for such arises.

Section 4. Treasurer The duties of the treasurer are as follows:

- a. Verify monthly all monies received by the church are deposited in and credited in and credited by the depository.
- b. Approve invoices and other items for payment,
- c. Sign checks, counter-signed by another person(s), who is (are) designated by the Finance Committee.
- d. Maintain books and records- recording receipts and disbursements and other accounting transaction.
- e. Review monthly all checks written.
- f. Render a monthly financial report to the church.
- g. Review the financial report with the Finance Committee.

The treasurer may delegate some of his/her duties but remain responsible and accountable for the proper execution of such duties so delegated. All books and record are property of the church and are subject to an annual audit at the discretion of the Finance Committee. The treasurer shall, upon invitation, meet with the elders, and shall be ex-officio member of the Budget and Finance Committee.

VI. CHURCH COMMITTEES

Section 1. Standing Committees The church shall elect such standing committees as may be deemed necessary to carry out the various phases of the church efficiently and effectively, and any additional committees deemed necessary for the proper function of the church.

VII. CHURCH COMMITTEE POLICIES

Section 1. Size of Committees: Standing Committees shall be made up of three or more as desired.

Section 2. Rotation of Committee Members: Standing Committee members shall be elected for a term of

three years or portions thereof as replacements are needed. One-Third of each committee shall retire each year and be replaced by new members elected to a term of three years. Members of the Budget/Finance Committee are not eligible to succeed themselves.

Section 3. Constituency of Committees: A person may serve on one regular standing Church Committee. Each Standing Committee shall have one elder who will serve as liaison with the other elders. The Lead Pastor or his designated staff member shall serve ex-officio on all committees. The Church Treasurer shall serve on the Budget and Finance Committee.

Section 4. Chairmanship of Committees: The chairman of each committee shall be selected by the Committee.

Section 5. Meetings of Committees: Each committee should meet at least once each quarter to review past actions and make future plans. The chairman of the committee and/or Lead Pastor may call a committee meeting at any time. The first meeting in each year shall be an organizational meeting including the explanation of duties to the new members.

Section 6. Operational Funds: Committees shall make requests for budgetary needs to the Budget & Finance Committee by June 30 of each year.

Section 7. Committee Reports: Each committee shall make a report at the quarterly church meeting, and shall file an annual report with the church by the end of the fiscal year. This report shall refer to all matters considered by the committee during the year, actions taken, and other matters of interest. All recommendations which involve expenditure of funds or action not within the normal jurisdiction of a particular committee shall be brought to the appropriate committee for review, recommendation to the church, if necessary.

Section 8. Special Committees: The Church, Elders, and/or Pastoral staff may recommend to the church any special committees deemed proper, determine the size of the committee, set the term of service and define its assignments.

VIII. CHURCH ORDINANCES

Section 1. Baptism This church shall receive for baptism any person who has received Jesus Christ as Savior by personal faith, who professes him publicly at any worship service, and who indicates a commitment to follow Christ as Lord.

1. Baptism shall be by immersion in water.
2. The pastor, or whomever the church shall authorize, shall administer baptism. The Deacons shall assist in the preparation for, and the observance of baptism.
3. Baptism shall be administered as an act of worship during any worship service of the church.
4. A person who professes Christ and is not baptized after a reasonable length of time shall be counseled by an elder.

Section 2. The Lord's Supper The church shall observe the Lord's Supper at least once per quarter, unless otherwise scheduled by the church. The elders, pastors, and the deacons shall administer the Lord's Supper.

Section 3. Weddings The pastor shall be the one authorized to perform weddings at Battleground Community Church, Inc. On the occasion that the lead pastor is not able to perform the wedding, with the approval of the lead pastor and the elders the associate pastor may solemnize a wedding within our church. The lead pastor and the elders must approve anyone other than the pastor wanting to solemnize a wedding within our church. A wedding can only be solemnized according to the laws of the State of North Carolina, AND must be between a biological man and a biological woman.

Man and woman are created by God in His image and likeness. (Gen 1:27.) This means that “man and woman have been created, which is to say, willed by God: on the one hand, in perfect equality as human persons; on the other, in their respective beings as man and woman. ‘Being man’ or ‘being woman’ is a reality which is good and willed by God: man and woman possess an inalienable dignity, which comes to them immediately from God their Creator. Man and woman are both with one and the same dignity ‘in the image of God.’ In their ‘being-man’ and ‘being-woman,’ they reflect the Creator’s wisdom and goodness.” Therefore, to reject one’s biological gender is to reject the work of the Creator and imply that God made a mistake. God does not make mistakes.

IX. CHURCH MEETINGS

Section 1. Worship Services The church shall meet regularly each Sunday morning for the worship of almighty God. Prayer, praise, preaching, instruction, and evangelism shall be among the ingredients of these services. The lead pastor shall direct the services for all church members and for all others who may choose to attend.

Section 2. Special Services Other church meetings essential to the advancement of the church’s objectives shall be placed on the church calendar (revivals, mission conferences, special emphasis days, etc.).

Section 3. Member Meetings The church shall hold regular member meetings scheduled by the church throughout the year as needed.

Section 4. Special Member Meetings A special members meeting may be called to consider special matters of significant nature, like budget approval and staffing. A one week notice must be given in a regular worship service for any special members meeting, unless the church considers such notice impractical.

Section 5. Quorum The quorum consists of those active members who attend the business meeting.

Section 6. Parliamentary Rules Robert’s Rules of Order, Revised, is the authority for parliamentary rules of procedure for all business meetings of the church, including pastors executive council, organizational, and committee meetings.

Section 7. Fiscal Year The church fiscal year shall run concurrently with the church year which begins on October 1st and shall conclude September 30th.

X. CHURCH FINANCES

We believe the Bible plan for support of our Church is “tithes and offerings”, and we adopt this as our financial plan. We further believe that the Bible teaches that all our tithes are to be brought into one treasury and that all disbursements are to be made out of this treasury. We, therefore, adopt the One Treasury System for use in this church.

Section 1. Budget The pastor, elders, and staff shall prepare and submit to the church for approval an inclusive budget indicating by items the amount needed and sought for all local and other expenses. Offering envelopes will be provided for member use as requested.

Section 2. Accounting Procedures All funds received for any and all purposes shall pass through the hands of the church treasurer and be properly recorded on the books of the church. A system of accounting that will adequately provide for the handling of all funds shall be the responsibility of the finance committee and the elders.

XI. AMENDMENTS

Changes in the Constitution and By-Laws may be made at any regular business meeting of the church, provided each amendment shall have been presented in writing at a previous business meeting and copies of the proposed amendment shall have been furnished to each member present at the earlier meeting. Amendments to the Constitution and/or By-Laws shall be by two-thirds vote of active church members present.

Certification

I, the undersigned, do hereby certify:

THAT, I am duly elected and acting Secretary of Battleground Community Church, Inc., a North Carolina Nonprofit Corporation, and

THAT, the foregoing Bylaws constitute the original Bylaws of said Corporation, as duly adopted at a meeting of the initial Board of Directors thereof, held on the _____ day of _____, 2017.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto subscribed my name this _____ day of _____, 2017.

Secretary
Battleground Community Church, Inc