

CONSTITUTION
Central New York Baptist Association
Page 1 of 3

Article I: Name

This body shall be called the Central New York Baptist Association.

Article II: Corporation

The Central New York Baptist Association is a non-profit organization in accordance with the laws of New York State. The corporation may hold, purchase, acquire, sell, convey, mortgage, and dispose of properties both real and personal, and may enter into any legal agreements or contracts in keeping with its purpose to further the kingdom of Christ. It is further understood that the association may use, sell, give, or loan any of its possessions or assets, as it deems wise. The trustees of the association shall be composed of the officers of the association. Such trustees do not have the authority to make any transactions or commitments unless approved by the association.

Article III: Purpose and Core Values

The purpose of the Central New York Baptist Association, hereafter referred to as CNYBA, shall be to glorify God by encouraging and assisting the churches and missions in accomplishing their God-given purpose.

The Core Values of CNYBA are:

Autonomy

... as an association, we will respect the autonomy of the local church in all decision-making and in the implementation of our purpose.

Divine Guidance

... as an association, we will seek the presence of Christ and the leadership of the Holy Spirit in all decision-making and in the implementation of our purpose.

Gift-Based Service

... as an association, we will value the giftedness of all persons led of the Holy Spirit to serve in the implementation of our purpose.

Integrity

... as an association, we will be open, honest and true to our values in all relationships, decision making, and in the implementation of our purpose.

Teamwork

... as an association, we will value group decision-making in the implementation of our purpose.

CONSTITUTION
Central New York Baptist Association
Page 2 of 3

Article IV: Articles of Faith

The articles of faith for the CNYBA shall be *The Baptist Faith and Message* adopted by the Southern Baptist Convention on June 10, 2000.

Article V: Relationships

The CNYBA shall be wholly advisory and shall never assume ecclesiastical jurisdiction over its member churches and missions. The CNYBA shall have the right to withdraw fellowship from any church or mission that departs from the doctrine and teachings of the Scriptures as set forth in the Articles of Faith of this association.

The CNYBA shall remain in friendly cooperation with the Baptist Convention of New York, the Southern Baptist Convention, and other entities of like faith and purpose.

Article VI: Membership

Section 1: The CNYBA shall be composed of cooperating churches and missions who are sympathetic to the purpose of the association, and who contribute to the work of the association. A member church that does not submit an associational report, financial report, or send representation to an associational meeting for a period of three consecutive years shall be removed from the association membership.

Section 2: Each church and mission of fifty (50) resident members or less shall be allowed five (5) voting messengers to the annual and mid-year meetings. Those churches and missions of more than fifty (50) resident members shall be allowed one additional messenger for each twenty-five (25) members or fraction thereof beyond the initial fifty (50). Mission membership shall not be counted in the sponsoring churches' figures. No church or mission shall have more than ten (10) messengers. The names and addresses of the elected messengers shall be submitted to the association in writing.

Section 3: Churches developed through the mission program of the CNYBA desiring membership in the association shall automatically be considered members. Churches not developed through the mission program of the churches of the CNYBA desiring membership must petition the association.

Article VII: Officers, Executive Board, and Teams

Section 1: Officers

The association shall elect, at the annual meeting, the following officers: Moderator, Assistant Moderator, Clerk, Assistant Clerk, Treasurer, and Assistant Treasurer. The term of office for these officers shall be one (1) year. The officers, as a group, shall be responsible for personnel, property, and administrative matters as outlined in the CNYBA Operations Manual. The officers shall be installed at the close of the Annual Meeting, and they shall serve until their successors are duly elected and installed. The Moderator shall not serve more than two (2) terms in succession.

CONSTITUTION
Central New York Baptist Association
Page 3 of 3

Section 2: Executive Board

The Executive Board exists for the purpose of transacting all business between sessions of the association. The Pastor and one elected layperson from each member church and mission shall constitute the Executive Board. When a church or mission is without a Pastor, the church or mission may elect a second layperson to serve in his place. The names and addresses of the elected representatives from each church and mission shall be submitted in writing to the association. The officers of the association shall serve as officers of the Executive Board.

The Executive Board shall meet at least twice per year at a time and place of its own determination. A special meeting may be called by any three (3) officers by notification to all board members that states the time, place, and purpose of said meeting. In special called meetings, Executive Board members representing a majority of the churches and missions shall constitute a quorum.

Section 3: Teams

The association shall approve teams at the Annual Meeting, as well as any other such leaders deemed necessary to carry out the purpose of the association. The size, organization, duties and term of these teams shall be such as is outlined in the CNYBA Operations Manual. In the event there is no mid-year meeting, the Executive Board, shall approve the teams. The teams shall take office at the close of the Annual Meeting of the association. They shall serve until their term of office expires.

Article VIII: By-laws

The CNYBA Operations Manual shall serve as the by-laws for the association.

Article IX: Amendments

The constitution of the CNYBA may be amended at any annual or mid-year meeting of the association by a two-thirds (2/3) majority vote of the messengers present and voting, given that notice of such change is provided in writing thirty (30) days prior to the meeting where the change is considered. Each church and mission shall have received a copy of the change, and a majority of the churches and missions affiliated with the association shall be represented at the meeting.

The CNYBA Operations Manual may be amended at Annual, Mid-year, or Executive Board meetings by a two-thirds (2/3) majority of the messengers or representatives present.