

PINE BARREN BAPTIST ASSOCIATION CONSTITUTION

Article I - Name

The Name of this body shall be "Pine Barren Baptist Association".

Article II - Purpose

The Purpose of this body shall be to strengthen the band of union among the churches, provoke one another to love and good works, consult together in regard to the interests of all, assist the more feeble ones and cooperate in efforts to promote the glory of our Savior, in the enlargement of His Kingdom and salvation of sinners.

Article III - Membership

The member churches shall be Awin Baptist Church, Beatrice Baptist Church, Bethsaida Baptist Church, Bible Baptist Fellowship Church, Camden Baptist Church, Christian Way Baptist Church, Enon Baptist Church, Friendship Baptist Church, Gulletts Bluff Baptist Church, McWilliams Baptist Church, New Providence Baptist Church, Riverview Baptist Church, Vredenburg Baptist Church, and such others as shall be hereafter received into membership. New churches may be admitted to membership in the Association upon application approved by the Executive Committee provided that a vote upon such application shall be taken at the annual meeting one year from date of application. The organized body, when authoritatively assembled shall be composed of messengers duly elected by the churches and reported by letter from the churches. Such messengers shall be received on the following basis : two messengers for each church having fifty members or less and one additional messenger for each additional twenty-five members.

Article IV-Officers

The Officers shall be : Moderator, Vice-Moderator, Clerk, and Treasurer, who shall be elected at the Annual Meeting and take office at close of meeting in which elected. The Director of Missions shall also be an officer of the association.

Article V - Executive Committee

The Executive Committee of the Pine Barren Baptist Association shall consist of the officers of the association, Program Directors, plus the pastor and one elected member from each church plus one representative from the Bethlehem Baptist Association as a non-voting member of the Executive Committee . The Vice-Moderator of the Association shall serve as Chairman of the Executive Committee. Regular meetings shall be established by the committee. Special meetings may be called by the Chairman of the Executive Committee ; by a majority of the committee by petition, or by the Moderator of the Association. Each member shall be notified of any called meeting at least twenty-four hours before such meeting. The Executive Committee shall be responsible for all business of the association in the interim between annual meetings of the association. It shall establish its own rules of order not inconsistent with this constitution and shall fully report its actions to the association at its annual meeting. Ten members of the committee shall be a quorum. Provided that no person may be counted as present more than once and further provided that no person may be allowed to vote more than once on any motion unless that person represents two churches.

Article VII - Finances

Neither the Association nor the Executive Committee shall create any debt or obligation without funds or reliable means to liquidate such at maturity. Any such debt or obligation shall not be an obligation of any church of the Association. All funds raised for the use of or to be disbursed by the association, whether by churches or individuals shall be at the free will of the contributor and where designated shall be used for the purpose designated. The Executive Committee shall present a proposed budget and recommendations for approval at the annual meeting of the association. It shall review the contributions and pledges regularly and determine the extent to which the budget and recommendations can be fulfilled.

Article VII - Participation

Each church shall send annually to the association a letter containing a statistical account of activities and additional information of recommendations that they deem as important. Any church failing to send delegates or a letter to the annual meeting shall be called upon by the Executive Committee to determine if they wish to remain as a member. Any church may be dropped from membership upon the recommendation of the Executive Committee and approval of the association provided that should such church involved contest such action, the action by the association must lay on the table for one year prior to vote.

Article VIII - Relationship

The Association is an advisory council, disclaiming all right to legislate for or to dictate to the member churches. Each church is recognized as absolutely autonomous and competent to transact its own business. Nevertheless, by the rules of gospel courtesy, each church is bound to give respectful consideration to advice and remonstrance of sister churches and to enter into cooperative efforts for the furtherance of the gospel of Jesus Christ. The Association shall work in cooperation with the Alabama Baptist State Convention and the Southern Baptist Convention.

Article IX - Meetings

An annual meeting shall be held at such place and at such time as approved in advance by the Association in session. The majority of the members present at annual meetings shall constitute a quorum. The Association may not adjourn an annual session until all business is disposed of. A motion to adjourn to a certain time shall be in order.

Article X-Articles of Faith

The Articles of Faith of the Association shall be The Baptist Faith and Message adopted by the Southern Baptist Convention in 2000. These articles shall govern the admission of new churches to the association and shall govern the examination of ministers and deacons when called upon by any church for assistance in ordination.

Article XI - Rules of Order

The Association may ordain rules of order or by-laws for transaction of business provided that they may not contravene any provision of the constitution. In any matter not covered by the constitution or bylaws, the rules of ROBERT'S RULES OF ORDER shall prevail.

Article XII - Amendment

A proposed amendment to this constitution must be presented to the annual meeting of the association in writing. Such proposal if approved by a majority of messengers present will be sent to each member church. A vote shall be taken at the next annual meeting and if it is approved by two-thirds of the messengers present it shall become an amendment to this constitution.

BY-LAWS

1. Membership

Should any church disqualify itself by practices, conduct, or preaching of doctrines contrary to The Statement of Faith of this association, the Executive Committee may, after failing to reconcile such church, recommend in an annual meeting such action as seems suitable.

Duties of Officers

- (1) The Moderator shall preside at the annual meeting and shall appoint all standing committees for the ensuing year at least one month prior to the annual meeting and present them to the annual meeting for approval. He appoints members of special committees and other committees as instructed. He chairs the program committee.
- (2) The Vice-Moderator shall preside in the absence of the Moderator and serve as Chairman of the Executive Committee.
- (3) The Clerk shall record the proceedings of the annual meeting and the Executive Committee meetings, keep files and records, handle correspondence, and edit, print, and distribute the minutes of the association.
- (4) The Treasurer shall receive, keep and distribute under orders of the Executive Committee, all funds and at the Executive Committee meetings and at the annual meeting shall give a written current financial report.
- (5) The Director of Missions shall be called by the Association upon recommendation of a search committee appointed by moderator and approved by the Executive Board. One member of the Search Committee shall be the Missions Development Director. The Director of Missions shall provide responsible leadership in the work of the association through performing such basic functions as the planning, correlation, and implementation of programs, program services, and ministries of the association; counsel to churches; interpretation of information; and good public relations with churches and community; offer leadership and have a good relationship with pastors and staff. The Director of Missions shall not accept a call to serve in any interim capacity unless approved by a two thirds vote of the Executive Committee.

3. Mission Performance Program

(1) Director of Sunday School Program

- a. Duties - To assist and challenge churches to improve and enlarge all areas of their Sunday School through planning, training, administrative activities, consultation, program interpretation and cooperative projects.
- b. Leaders - Sunday School Director and an ASSIST team composed of age group workers enlisted by the director.

(2) Director of Discipleship Training/Family Ministry Program

- (a) Duties - To assist churches in starting, improving, and expanding Christian discipleship through equipping church leaders, teaching Baptist Doctrine and policy, and interpreting the Discipleship Training Program.
- (b) Leaders - Discipleship Training Director; and a team of workers responsible for new member training, leader training; and age group workers enlisted by the director.

(3) Director of Men's Ministry/Disaster Relief

- (a) Duties - To help churches involve men and boys in missions education through training events, consultations, and in mission/ministry activities in cooperation with the Missions Development Program.
- (b) Leaders - Men's Ministry/Disaster Relief Director and assisted by Directors for Baptist Men and Royal Ambassador work enlisted by the Director.

(4) Director of Woman's Missionary Union Program

- (a) Duties - To assist churches in promoting missions, encouraging mission education, strengthening WMU work, and engaging in mission/ministry action in cooperation with the Missions Development Program.
- (b) Leaders - The WMU Director and a team composed of Directors for Baptist Women/Baptist Young Women, Acteens, Girls-In-Action, Mission Friends, Mission Study, Mission Action, Mission Support, and Enlistment/Enlargement enlisted by the director.

(5) Director of Evangelism Program

- (a) Duties - To lead the Association and its churches to address the priority of evangelism in its geographical area through promoting and training church evangelism strategy, holding mass evangelism events, and offering training in personal evangelism.
- (b) Leader-Evangelism Director.

(6) Director of Missions Development Program

- (a) Duties - To lead churches and the Association to engage in mission/ministry needs, to promote and train church missions development leaders, to coordinate associational missions at home and abroad, to oversee the associational summer-missions program, and to become involved as needed in such areas as church extension, language missions, Christian social ministries, chaplaincy ministries, interfaith witness, black- church relations, and resort missions.
- (b) Leaders - Mission Development Director, assisted by WMU and Men's Ministry Director to form council.

(7) Director of Music Ministry Program

- (a) Duties -To enhance the music program of churches through establishing, conducting, enlarging, and improving their music ministry through conferences, workshops, mass choirs and consultations.
- (b) Leaders - Music Ministry Director and assistants as needed, enlisted by the director.

(8) Director of Stewardship Development Program

- (a) Duties - To assist churches in the development of individual, church, and associational stewardship through promoting Bible concepts, teaching personal responsibilities, advising on church budgeting and finances, and promoting the Association's program of work.
- (b)Leaders - Stewardship Development Director.

(9) Director of Family Ministry Program

- (a) Duties - To assist churches in the development of Family Ministries, to conduct Associational wide programs for smaller churches, to promote and train church recreation leaders, to coordinate association wide recreation programs and to promote distinctive church programs to the needs of youth, single adults, and senior adults.
- (b)Leaders - Family Ministry Director.

(10) Director of Christian Life Program

- (a) Duties-to make Christians aware of critical moral and social issues, to lead in Christian action and to rally the churches to combat moral and social concerns.
- (b) Leaders - Christian Life Director.

4. Committees

- (1) Standing - The Standing committees are : (1) Nominating, (2) Budget, (3) Time, Place and Preacher, (4) Memorials and (5) Resolutions. These are appointed by the Moderator at least one month before the annual meeting and voted on by the

association.

(a) The membership shall consist of least two persons per committee. No two members shall be from any one church.

(b) Duties:

1. Nominating:

This committee shall enlist and nominate for election at the annual meeting all officers, program directors and three trustees. It shall nominate persons to fill any vacancies occurring during the year and present to Executive Committee for election.

2. Budget:

This committee shall confer with all officers and program directors and prepare the annual budget, based on needs, to present to the executive Committee for approval and to the association for adoption at the annual meeting. It shall make any suggested revisions in the budget during the year as necessity demands and with the approval of the Executive Committee.

3. Time, Place and Preacher:

This committee shall recommend to the association the dates, times and place of meeting of the next annual meeting, along with the preacher of the annual sermon.

4. Memorials:

This committee shall prepare and present to the association a proper expression of honor to the saints from each church who have gone on to meet the Lord in the past year.

5. Resolutions:

This committee shall prepare and present to the association expressions of courtesy and appreciation to host churches. It shall also formulate resolutions that are deemed necessary or requested by the association.

(2) TRUSTEES

This committee shall act as legal agents, as required by law, for the association in handling legal matters duly approved by the messengers in session or the Executive Committee. The Committee shall consist of three members serving for a term of three years each: one third (1/3) to be elected each year. When a trustee has completed a term of service he shall be eligible for re-election after an interim of one year.

(3) Other

a. Other committees may be appointed by the Moderator or elected by the Executive Committee as needed to perform specific tasks.

5. Amendments

These By-Laws may be amended or altered at any annual meeting provided such amendment or alteration has been proposed in writing and read to the association at the first annual session and voted on at the last session. A two-thirds vote shall be required to amend or alter these By-Laws.