

CONSTITUTION

OF

STONINGTON BAPTIST CHURCH

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PREAMBLE

We, the members of Stonington Baptist Church (hereafter referred to as “the Church”), do ordain and establish the following articles, to which we voluntarily submit ourselves.

ARTICLE I: THE NAME

The name of this corporation shall be the STONINGTON BAPTIST CHURCH INC (2113 Hosta Road, Paxinos, Pennsylvania 17860).

ARTICLE II: MISSION STATEMENT

The object and purpose of this Church is the edification and spiritual growth of its members through the teaching of God’s Word; the promotion and maintenance of godly worship and Christian fellowship; the salvation of lost souls; the world wide proclamation of God’s saving grace expressed in the shed blood and finished work of the Lord Jesus on the cross and the empty tomb; and the defense of the faith once delivered until He comes again.

ARTICLE III: CHURCH ORDINANCES

The Church Ordinances are two (2): Baptism and the Lord’s Supper.

We believe that Christian baptism is the immersion of a believer in water to show forth in a solemn and beautiful emblem, our faith in the crucified, buried, and risen Savior, with its effect in our death to sin and resurrection to a new life. It is “the answer of a good conscience toward God” (1 Peter 3:21), portraying the believer’s union with Christ in His death, burial, and resurrection (Romans 6:1–6).

We, likewise, believe that Jesus Christ instituted the Lord’s Supper to commemorate His death till He comes, and should be preceded always by self-examination (Luke 22:14–20; 1 Corinthians 11:23–34).

ARTICLE IV: CHURCH COVENANT

Since Jesus Christ, God’s only begotten Son, made atonement for us by the shedding of His blood on the cross as a once for all sacrifice for the sin of the world, thereby reconciling the world to Himself (2 Corinthians 5:19); and since, therein, is found the sinner’s only means of justification with God the Father (Romans 3:22–26), we do confess our faith publicly that Jesus is the Christ of God, in whom is found our only hope of salvation, remission of sins, and resurrection from the dead.

Having, therefore, been born again by faith and the Holy Spirit; and having been baptized in the name of the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit (Matthew 28:18–20); we so endeavor to walk in the newness of life we have now been given by Christ through His Spirit (Romans 6:4; 8:8–11), wherein is found our only consolation and comfort of love (Philippians 2:1). This we do, in the sight of God Almighty and alongside this assembly of likeminded believers, who, in the fellowship of the Spirit (Philippians 2:1), we do now joyfully enter into covenantal relationship as the Body of the Lord Jesus Christ, bound together by His blood and the bond of peace kept by the Holy Spirit (Ephesians 4:2).

We, likewise, endeavor to live lives worthy of the gospel of Christ (Philippians 1:27; Ephesians 4:1), under the authority and auspices of Scripture, and in conjunction with this assembly and its elders, striving not for our own glory but for the glory of God alone (Philippians 2:3–4; Galatians 5:26; Hebrews 10:25); seeking not only the flourishing of this assembly and its constituents (Hebrews 10:24), but also, and most especially, the furtherance of the kingdom of heaven through worship, the observance of the Ordinances, and the upholding of the sound doctrine of God (1 Timothy 4:13, 16; Hebrews 10:23); fleeing those things which are contrary to and unbecoming of God’s saints (Ephesians 5:2–7; Galatians 5:16–21), and following the leading of the Holy Spirit by faithfully studying the Scriptures (2 Timothy 3:16–17), knowing that our lives are to be testimonies of the grace that is in us (Galatians 5:22–25); knowing full well that such endeavors are ever only imperfectly fulfilled and are undertaken by grace through faith alone.

May, therefore, this same boundless grace of the Lord Jesus Christ, in which we now stand together (Romans 5:1–2), establish, enable, and embolden us to strive together for the faith of the gospel of Christ alone (1 Peter 5:10–11; Philippians 1:27), knowing that His is the power and the glory and dominion forever, Amen.

ARTICLE V: ARTICLES OF FAITH

The following articles represent the beliefs of this church:

1. **THE SCRIPTURES:** We believe in the verbal plenary inspiration of the Scriptures, including both Old and New Testaments, which are composed of sixty-six (66) books, by which we understand that the Holy Spirit not only inspired the thoughts of the writers but also formulated the very word structure into which the thoughts were cast in the original documents. God’s Word has God Himself for its author and God’s glory in the redemption of the cosmos for its chief end, without any mixture of error in the original autographs. Therefore, all Scripture is totally true and trustworthy. We believe in the supreme authority of the Bible and accept it as our only rule of faith and practice (Exodus 24:4; Deuteronomy 4:1–2; 17:19; Joshua 8:34; Psalms 19:7–10; 119:11, 89, 105, 140; Isaiah 34:16; 40:8; Jeremiah 15:16; 36:1–32; Matthew 5:17–18; 22:29; Luke 21:33; 24:44–46; John 5:39; 16:13–15; 17:17; Acts 2:16; 17:11; Romans 15:4; 16:25–26; 2 Timothy 3:15–17; Hebrews 1:1–2; 4:12; 1 Peter 1:25; 2 Peter 1:19–21).

2. **THE GODHEAD:** We believe in one triune God: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit; eternal in being; identical in nature; equal in power and glory; and having precisely the same attributes and perfections. God as Father reigns with providential care over His universe, His creatures, and the flow of the stream of human history according to the purposes of His grace. He is all-powerful, all-knowing, all-loving, and all-wise. God is Father in truth to those who become children of God through faith in Jesus Christ (Genesis 1:1; 2:7; Exodus 3:14; 6:2–3; 15:11; 20:1; Leviticus 22:2; Deuteronomy 6:4; 32:6; 1 Chronicles 29:10; Psalm 19:1–3; Isaiah 43:3, 15; 64:8; Jeremiah 10:10; 17:13; Matthew 6:9; 7:11; 23:9; 28:19; Mark 1:9–11; John 4:24; 5:26; 14:6–13; 17:1–8; Acts 1:7; Romans 8:14–15; 1 Corinthians 8:6; 2 Corinthians 13:14; Galatians 4:6; Ephesians 4:6; Colossians 1:15; 1 Timothy 1:17; Hebrews 11:6; 12:9; 1 Peter 1:17; 1 John 5:7).
3. **MAN’S CREATION AND FALL:** We believe that man was created in the image and likeness of God, but through Adam’s sin, fell into condemnation, inheriting a sin nature and consequent alienation from God, coming under the judicial sentence of death (Genesis 1:26–30; Romans 1:19–32; 3:10–18, 23; 6:6, 23; Ephesians 2:1–22; Colossians 1:21–22).
4. **THE PERSON AND WORK OF CHRIST:** We believe that the Lord Jesus Christ, the eternal Son of God, became man without ceasing to be God, having been conceived of the Holy Spirit and born of the virgin Mary in order that He might reveal God’s redemptive purposes and deliver sinful man from eternal damnation. We believe that the Lord Jesus Christ accomplished our redemption through His death on the cross as a propitiatory and substitutionary sacrifice, and that our redemption is made sure to us by His resurrection from the dead in the identical, though glorified, body in which He was crucified. We believe that the Lord Jesus Christ is now in heaven exalted at the right hand of God where, as High Priest for His people, He fulfills the ministry of Representative, Intercessor, and Advocate (Genesis 1:26–30; Romans 1:19–32; 3:10–18, 23; 6:6, 23; Ephesians 2:1–22; Colossians 1:21–22).
5. **THE HOLY SPIRIT:** We believe that the Holy Spirit, the Third Person of the Godhead, in the present age indwells all believers in the Lord Jesus Christ, baptizes them into the Body of Christ, and seals them unto the day of redemption. Through illumination, the Spirit enables men to apply God’s truth, exalts Christ alone, and convicts men of sin. His effectual ministry remains calling sinners to the Savior and bringing about the total regeneration of their souls. We believe that every believer is commanded of God to be filled with the Holy Spirit (Genesis 1:2; Judges 14:6; Job 26:13; Psalms 51:11; 139:7; Isaiah 61:1–3; Joel 2:28–32; Matthew 1:18; 3:16; 4:1; 12:28–32; 28:19; Mark 1:10, 12; Luke 1:35; 4:1, 18–19; 11:13; 12:12; 24:49; John 4:24; 14:16–17, 26; 15:26; 16:7–14; Acts 1:8; 2:1–4, 38; 4:31; 5:3; 6:3; 7:55; 8:17, 39; 10:44; 13:2; 15:28; 16:6; 19:1–6; Romans 8:9–11, 14–16, 26–27; 1 Corinthians 2:10–14; 3:16; 12:3–11, 13; Galatians 4:6; Ephesians 1:13–14; 4:30; 5:18; 1 Thessalonians 5:19; 1 Timothy 3:16; 4:1; 2 Timothy 1:14; 3:16; Hebrews 9:8, 14; 2 Peter 1:21; 1 John 4:13; 5:6–7; Revelation 1:10; 22:17).
6. **SALVATION:** We believe that salvation is the free gift of God brought to man by grace and received through personal faith in the Lord Jesus Christ; and that this faith is manifested in works pleasing to God (Ephesians 2:8–10; Titus 2:11–14).

7. ETERNAL SECURITY: We believe that since salvation is a work of God for man, and not a work of man for God, salvation cannot be lost. Once a sinner believes on Jesus as Savior, he is secure in Jesus forever (John 3:16; 5:24; 10:27–28; Romans 8:35–40; 1 Peter 1:5).
8. THE SECOND COMING: We believe that God, in His own time and in His own way, will bring the world to its appropriate end. At a time that only He knows, according to His promise, His Son, the Lord Jesus Christ, will return personally and visibly in the clouds to reclaim His Church before the period of judgment on Israel and the Gentile Nations known as the Tribulation; and that seven years later, He will return to the earth and reign from Jerusalem for one thousand years (Daniel 7—9; Zechariah 14:4–11; 1 Thessalonians 4:13–18; Revelation 20:6).
9. THE CHURCH: We believe that the Church is a spiritual organism composed of born again believers, past and present, who are placed into one body at the time of salvation by the Holy Spirit. The spiritual, universal Church constitutes the Body of Christ, which includes all of the redeemed of all the ages, believers from every tribe, and tongue, and people, and nation. The Church is, furthermore, represented individually in an autonomous local congregation of baptized believers who assemble to rejoice in the covenant of faith and fellowship in the gospel because of the sovereign work of the Lord Jesus Christ, who is the Church's one Head and only Authority. We believe the local church is commanded by God to gather regularly for worship, which includes the observation of the two Ordinances of Christ (Article III) and the proclamation of the Word of God; the exercise of the congregant's spiritual gifts, rights, and privileges invested in them by God's Word; and the collective endeavor to bear a faithful witness to the blessed testimony of the power of God unto salvation for all who would believe. We believe that the local church has the absolute right of self-government, free from the interference of any hierarchy of individuals or organizations; and that the one and only superintendent is the Lord Jesus Christ, through the ministry of the Holy Spirit. It is biblical for local assemblies to cooperate with each other in contending for the faith and furtherance of the gospel, as circumstances allow, and that each local church is the sole judge of the measure and method of its cooperation. On all matters of membership, polity, government, discipline, and benevolence, the will of the local church is final (Matthew 16:15–19; 18:15–20; Acts 2:41–42, 47; 5:11–14, 29; 6:3–6; 13:1–3; 14:23, 27; 15:1–30; 16:5; 20:28; Romans 1:7; 1 Corinthians 1:2; 11:2; 3:16; 5:4–5; 7:17; 9:13–14; Ephesians 1:22–23; 2:11, 19–22; 3:8–11, 21; 5:22–32; Philippians 1:1; Colossians 1:18; 1 Timothy 2:9–14; 3:1–15; 4:14; Hebrews 10:23; 11:30–40; 1 Peter 5:1–4; Revelation 2—3; 21:2–3).
10. SATAN: We believe that Satan, a fallen angel, is the god of this age, the adversary of Christ and His Church, and is the author of all the powers of darkness, and is destined to the judgment of eternal punishment in the lake of fire (Matthew 4:13; 2 Corinthians 4:4; Revelation 20:10).
11. THE FINAL STATE: We believe that the condition and retribution of the lost and also the salvation and blessedness of the saved are conscious and everlasting (Mark 9:43–48; John 10:27–29; Romans 8:38–39; 2 Corinthians 5:6–10; 1 Thessalonians 4:17; Revelation 14:11; 20:3–5, 11).

12. **SPIRITUAL GIFTS:** We believe that the Holy Spirit bestows special gifts to every believer to do the work of the ministry. These gifts are given for the express purposes of glorifying God and strengthening the Body of Christ, the Church. We believe that the sign gifts, including tongues, prophecies, signs and wonders, and apostleship are not normative in the church today and are not practiced at will or with regularity. We believe that all gifts should be exercised with the spirit, warnings, and guidelines specified in 1 Corinthians 12 through 14, and not for prideful gain (Romans 12:3–8; 1 Corinthians 12—14; Ephesians 4:7–16; James 5:14).
13. **MORAL CONDUCT:** We believe that Christians are to abide by the preeminent Word of God when seeking to judge matters of morality and conduct. As such, we believe that God’s Word prohibits drunkenness and discourages the careless consumption of alcoholic beverages and mind-altering substances. We, furthermore, believe that marriage is and always will be a union between one man and one woman, according to God’s design. We believe that all forms of sexual immorality, including premarital promiscuity, adultery, homosexuality, and pornography are sinful and, therefore, untenable with faithful Christian living. We believe that all forms of gender augmentation are sinful because they are perversions of God’s divine design. We profess that these and other sins of morality, as delineated in God’s Holy Word, are to be resisted in faith and humility through the power of God’s Holy Spirit (Genesis 2:18–24; Leviticus 20:10–21; Deuteronomy 27:20–23; Proverbs 20:1; Matthew 19:4–6; Romans 1:18–32; 1 Corinthians 6:9–10; 1 Timothy 3:3; Hebrews 13:4).
14. **HUMAN LIFE:** We believe that human life is a gift from God that begins at the moment of conception. We believe that all human life is sacred and that every human being’s life, including that belonging to the unborn, the terminally ill, and the aged, is to be protected against any effort to terminate it. We believe both abortion and euthanasia are sinful and ought not to be practiced by those within the Church (Genesis 1—2; Exodus 21:22–25; Leviticus 19:32; Psalms 127; 139; Proverbs 23:22).
15. **CONCLUSION:** We do not only believe that this body of doctrine is merely a sacred trust to be preserved and taught in its purity, but we believe that it teaches a life to be lived and a gospel to be preached.

ARTICLE VI: MEMBERSHIP

1. Application and Eligibility for Membership

- 1.1. Persons wishing to become members of this church shall make an application in person to the Pastors or Elders (Hebrews 13:17).
- 1.2. Any person who has accepted Jesus Christ as their personal Savior; has been baptized by immersion; who expresses their desire to live a consistent Christian life; states their agreement with the Articles of Faith (Article V); and who willingly agrees to abide by the Covenant (Article IV) and Constitution of the Church shall be eligible for membership.

- 1.3. The Pastors, together with the Elders, shall meet with each prospective member and shall, as far as possible, ascertain whether or not their lives and conduct are in accordance with the requirements of Scripture and this Constitution prior to their approval.
- 1.4. New members shall be publicly welcomed at a regular Lord's Day Service by the members of the Church by the reading of the Church Covenant (Article IV) and given the right hand of fellowship by the Pastors.
- 1.5. Any Pastor and his wife shall become members of this Church upon the acceptance of his call to minister and shall be greeted as such at his first Sunday worship service by a representative of the Elders.
- 1.6. The Church Clerk shall issue a certificate of membership to all new members and shall notify their former churches of their new member status within one week of their welcome.

2. Types of Membership

Three Membership Roles shall be maintained by the Church:

- 2.1. **ACTIVE MEMBERSHIP ROLL:** Members who are in good standing, being faithful in church attendance, giving, who pray for the ministry, and are involved in ministry shall be known as active members. These shall be eligible to vote in church business meetings governed by the voting regulations specified in Article VIII (Finances of the Church).
- 2.2. **INACTIVE MEMBERSHIP ROLL:** Members failing to attend church services and financially support the ministry for a period of one (1) year shall be placed on the inactive membership role and lose eligibility to vote in matters of Church business meetings or hold any Church office for any reason. Inactive members who attend twenty (20) regular services in six (6) consecutive months may request an interview with the Pastors and Elders for consideration of reinstatement to Active Membership. Such reinstatement shall be announced to the church on two (2) consecutive Sundays prior to a business meeting to inform the congregation of status change and eligibility for voting.
- 2.3. **ASSOCIATE MEMBERSHIP ROLL:** Members who are in good standing and who leave the community or who are engaged in vocational Christian ministry may request to remain united to the Church as Associate Members. Associate Members shall be entitled to all the privileges of membership with the exceptions of voting in Church business meetings and holding Church offices. After becoming resident in the Church for two (2) full months and having attended at least five (5) regular services, application may be made to the Elders for Active Membership. Reinstatement shall be announced to the Church on two (2) consecutive Sundays prior to a business meeting to inform the congregation of status change and eligibility for voting.

3. Letters of Transfer

- 3.1. Upon receipt of a written request for a Letter of Membership Transfer from members in good standing, the Church Clerk shall issue the same within one (1) week.

4. Dismissal of Members

- 4.1. Should the conduct of any member become unworthy of a Christian and the behavior continues after being confronted by the Elders in patience and Christian love according to the Word of God (Matthew 18:15–17), the member shall be expelled from the membership by the Elders (1 Corinthians 2:10–11).
- 4.2. If a member fails to attend or communicate with the Church for a period of one (1) year, they shall be placed on the Inactive Membership Roll. After a visit, if practical, by an appointed committee and after notification by letter, any member on the inactive roll for one (1) year shall be deemed to have voluntarily surrendered his membership and his name shall be stricken from the rolls.
- 4.3. When a member is called home to be with the Lord, their name shall be removed from the membership rolls.
- 4.4. On the basis of the Articles of Faith (Article V), members found to be engaged in fornication or adultery or other immoral or perverted relationships, such as, but not limited to, homosexuality, lesbianism, and pedophilia, will be asked to end the relationship and cease from their sin. If such activities and relationships are not ended, the church will dismiss them from membership in an act of discipline according to the words of Scripture. The dismissal process shall be determined by the Pastors and Elders on a case by case basis (Exodus 20:14; Leviticus 18; Matthew 19:1–12; 1 Corinthians 5:1–8; 6:9–20; 1 Thessalonians 4:1–4).
- 4.5. Members convicted of a felony or found to be using and/or prosecuted for the illegal use of controlled substances shall be subject to dismissal from church membership. The dismissal process shall be determined by the Pastors and Elders on a case by case basis.
- 4.6. Any member who is at any time found to be in substantial, deliberate disagreement with the Articles of Faith (Article V) shall be dismissed from church membership and ministry opportunities.
- 4.7. Announcement of dismissals shall be made to the congregation by the Elders during the first worship service of the Church after such action is taken.

5. Reinstatement of Members

- 5.1. Former members who are in agreement with the Articles of Faith (Article V) and Church Covenant (Article IV) may be reconsidered for membership as specified in Article VI, Section 1.
- 5.2. Members who have been dismissed resultant from inappropriate conduct shall be reconsidered following the procedure described in Article VI, Section 1, after they make genuine confession of their sin and repentance is evident and they have completed counseling with the Pastors or counselor approved by the Elders (1 Corinthians 5:1–13; 2 Corinthians 2:1–11).

6. Duties of Members

- 6.1. TO THEMSELVES: The duties of members to themselves are secret prayer, study, and search of the Scriptures; constant spiritual growth; careful and consistent maintenance of exemplary Christian conduct; and private and family devotions.
- 6.2. TO THEIR FAMILIES: Each member shall endeavor to pray for and seek the salvation of their children, loved ones, and acquaintances, and encourage their attendance at the regular services and ministries of the Church.
- 6.3. TO THEIR PASTOR AND CHURCH LEADERS: It is the duty of members to honor, esteem, and love their spiritual leaders; to pray for them, submit to them in the spiritual exercise of their Scriptural authority; and shall contribute towards the Pastors' financial support (Hebrews 13:17; Galatians 6:6; 1 Corinthians 9:1–18).
- 6.4. TO OTHER MEMBERS: It is the duty of each member to cultivate and cherish brotherly love for all other members and friends of the Church; remembering each other in prayer, visiting the sick, and helping each other in times of distress (Galatians 6:1–5).
- 6.5. TO NON-MEMBERS: It is the duty of members to live in an honorable lifestyle before those who are not connected with this church, both saved and unsaved, by bearing a prudent testimony against evil practices, living in a most peaceable and neighborly manner, to set an example of honesty, industry, and generosity, and, as opportunity and ability may enable, to tell them of the loving Savior who died to save them from their sins (Matthew 28:18–20; Galatians 6:10).

ARTICLE VII: CHURCH GOVERNMENT

The government of this Church is vested in its membership and facilitated through the Official Board.

1. The Official Board

- 1.1. The Board shall include any and all called Pastoral Staff and the elected Elders and Deacons. The Pastoral Staff shall not vote, unless in matters of a tie, in which case the Chairman of the Board shall have the ability to break the tie. The Board shall have supervision over the business transactions and general work of the Church, its organizations, and branch works.
- 1.2. The Board shall meet monthly during the first week of the month at an agreed upon day and time, and as necessary, to conduct Church business. [9]
- 1.3. The Board shall formally elect its Secretary at its first January meeting who shall keep an orderly record of all the proceedings of the Board.
- 1.4. The Senior Pastor shall be Chairman of the Corporation and Chairman of the Board. In his absence, he may designate another Pastor or Elder to serve as Temporary Chairman. If the Church is without a Senior Pastor, the Elders shall appoint another Temporary Chairman at their discretion.

- 1.5. The Board will not meet in any session without notifying the Senior Pastor, but may, at times they deem appropriate, ask the Senior Pastor to vacate the chair. At such a time, the Elder who is serving the last year of his current term shall serve as Temporary Chairman.
- 1.6. Minutes of all meetings shall be kept and approved as a matter of regular business at each Board meeting. A copy shall be given to each Board member and one filed as part of the Board records.
- 1.7. A quorum shall be one more than half of its voting members.
- 1.8. The Board shall have authority to call congregational meetings for the purpose of recommending actions which require congregational approval and for the purpose of receiving advice from the congregation.
- 1.9. The Board shall handle and consider suggestions, recommendations, and grievances upon the part of any member or organization affiliated with the Church.

2. Rules Governing Election of Officers and Boards of the Church

- 2.1. A Nominating Committee shall be appointed by the Pastoral Staff during the third quarter business meeting. It shall consist of the non-retiring members of the Board, the Pastoral Staff, two members from the Congregation, and, if possible, shall nominate more than one person to fulfill vacated offices.
- 2.2. The Nominating Committee shall thoroughly investigate the qualifications and capabilities of every person considered for office as to their loyalty to the Church, their Christian life, and their willingness to live and work in accordance with the standards maintained by the Church.
- 2.3. It shall be the privilege of any member to suggest nominees to the Nominating Committee for consideration.
- 2.4. The names of all nominees shall be posted two (2) Sundays prior to the election. Unless warranted objections prevail, this list shall constitute as the official ballot.
- 2.5. Any person nominated and elected to any Church office must meet the following qualifications:
 - a. They shall give testimony of salvation through faith in Jesus Christ.
 - b. They shall be active members of this church.
 - c. They shall agree with the Articles of Faith (Article V) and Constitution of the Church.
 - d. They shall agree to support the Pastoral Staff in their ministry while at the same time using their convictions and spiritual gifts to promote the ministry of the Church.
 - e. They shall be willing to serve and able to perform the duties incumbent upon the office.
- 2.6. Any Officer shall be eligible for re-election.
- 2.7. Election of Officers shall be held in a meeting specifically for that purpose to be held the second Sunday morning of December. [7]
- 2.8. The Officers elected shall assume office on January 1.
- 2.9. Other Officers and Committees shall be formed when needed or as the work demands.
- 2.10. No absentee or proxy voting shall be permitted.

2.11. Election of Officers will be done via secret ballot prepared ahead of time under the supervision of the Board.

2.12. The voting members present at any business meeting shall be considered a quorum for the transaction of business.

3. Officers and Boards of the Church

3.1. The Pastor & Pastoral Staff

- a. **CALL:** The Pastor and Pastoral Staff shall, upon the recommendation of the Elders, be called by a three-fourth (75%) vote of the members of the Church at a meeting called for that purpose. Notice of that meeting shall be read by an Elder during the morning and evening services immediately preceding the voting.
- b. **QUALIFICATIONS:**
 - (i) They shall be men who are saved through faith in Jesus Christ and able to fulfill the qualifications of the office as described in 1 Timothy 3:1–7.
 - (ii) Every Pastoral candidate considered by the Elders shall give written testimony of salvation by faith, a written agreement with the Articles of Faith (Article V) and Constitution of the Church, and whole-heartedly accept and promote the ministry programs of the Church.
 - (iii) He shall show credentials appropriate to his calling, including education the Elders deem appropriate to the fulfillment of his duties.
 - (iv) He shall furnish sufficient character references and, if asked, submit appropriate clearances and credit history report.
 - (v) He shall preach no less than four (4) trial sermons for the congregation.
 - (vi) He shall not be presented as a Pastoral Candidate without at least a majority approval of the Elders.
- c. **ORDINATION:**
 - (i) If the Pastoral Candidate is not properly ordained to gospel ministry when he is called, he shall, with the Elders and pursuant to Article X (Ordination) of this Constitution, seek ordination within eighteen (18) months after being resident in this ministry.
 - (ii) At no time or for any reason shall the Elders present a woman as a Pastoral Candidate to the congregation (1 Timothy 3:1).
 - (iii) At no time or for any reason shall the Elders present a candidate who is not in complete agreement with the Articles of Faith (Article V).
- d. **SENIOR PASTOR DUTIES:**
 - (i) The Senior Pastor shall have general oversight of the spiritual life, regular service, and administration of the Ordinances of the Church. He shall be Chairman of the Corporation, Chairman of the Official Board, and ex-officio member of all boards and committees connected with the Church and its organizations.
 - (ii) He shall act as moderator in the meetings of the Church and shall conscientiously perform the various duties incumbent upon his office.

- (iii) He shall be accountable to the Elders. He shall give a “State of the Church” report at the annual meeting of the Church.
 - (iv) He shall be able to set up task forces and work groups to assist him in performing his duties.
 - (v) The Senior Pastor shall not be empowered to sign checks from any Church funds at any time or for any reason. He shall not be responsible to count Church funds or make deposits of Church funds for any reason at any time.
- e. PASTORAL STAFF DUTIES:
- (i) Whenever the Elders and Pastors think additional Pastoral Staff is needed, they may request permission from the Church to form a Search Committee. The Search Committee will, with the Board’s oversight and approval, perform all tasks necessary to find candidates for the position. After an interview by the Search Committee, a qualified candidate will be presented to the Congregation having received a majority vote of the Board.
 - (ii) The duties of each Pastoral Staff member shall be as assigned according to the needs of the Church and as given in the agreed upon job description by the Elders.
- f. TENURE AND TERMINATION:
- (i) The Senior Pastor and each member of the Pastoral Staff shall be called for an indefinite term.
 - (ii) In the event of resignation, the Senior Pastor or Pastoral Staff member shall provide the Elders with a termination notice of not less than ninety (90) days or of a time by mutual agreement with the Elders.
 - (iii) If termination is on the part of the Church, it shall be by a three-fourths (75%) vote of the members of the Church who are present at a meeting called for that express purpose. Unless other terms are stated in writing, the Senior Pastor or Pastoral Staff member shall fulfill his ministry obligations during the ninety (90) days. The Church shall fulfill its financial obligations to the Senior Pastor or Pastoral Staff member for the ninety (90) days, provided his termination is not in conjunction with a breach of his qualifications for ministry (1 Timothy 3:1–7). He shall surrender any and all Church property in his possession by the termination date.

3.2. The Elders

- a. CALLING: If possible, there shall be a Board of Elders consisting of at least three (3) men chosen from the Church membership. They shall be elected for a term of three (3) years. One Elder shall leave the Board each year.
- b. QUALIFICATIONS: They shall be men who are saved through faith in Jesus Christ and able to fulfill the qualifications of the office as described in 1 Timothy 3:1–7.
- c. DUTIES: The Elders shall be responsible, along with the Pastoral Staff, for the spiritual welfare of the Church. They shall assist in ministering the Ordinances of the Church. They shall visit the members of the Church who are sick and sorrowing. They shall investigate delinquents and shall admonish members who may become

negligent of their obligations to the Church. They shall act as a liaison between the congregation and the Pastoral Staff. They shall, in the absence of a Senior Pastor, be responsible to schedule visiting speakers to fill the pulpit, and shall lead the Pastoral Search Committee. They shall be free to set up task forces and work groups to assist them in performing their duties.

3.3. The Deacons

- a. **CALLING:** If possible, there shall be a Board of Deacons consisting of three (3) men chosen from the members of the Church to serve a term of three (3) years. One Deacon shall leave office each year.
- b. **QUALIFICATIONS:** They shall be men who are saved through faith in Jesus Christ and able to fulfill the qualifications of the office as described in 1 Timothy 3:8–13.
- c. **DUTIES:** They shall have the oversight of the physical properties and finances of the Church. They shall hold in trust all property belonging to the Church and shall take all necessary measures for its protection, management, and maintenance. They shall be the primary signees for all official documents of the Church. They shall not be permitted to incur any expense exceeding \$5,000.00, except for routine maintenance and repair to the Church facility and the grounds, without congregational approval. They shall be free to set up task forces and work groups to assist them in caring for their duties.

3.4. The Deaconesses

- a. **CALLING:** If possible, there shall be five (5) Deaconesses, each serving for a term of two (2) years. [3]
- b. **QUALIFICATIONS:** They shall be women who are saved through faith in Jesus Christ, who are members of the Church, and who demonstrate the character becoming of a godly woman as set forth in Titus 3:3–5 and 1 Timothy 2:9–10. [4]
- c. **DUTIES:** The Deaconesses shall purchase the elements and set up the Lord’s Table for its observance, be responsible to organize the social events of the Church, and assist the Pastoral Staff in the caring ministry of the church. They shall be free to set up task forces and work groups to assist them in performing their duties.
- d. **ELECTION:** Three (3) Deaconesses shall be elected in odd-numbered years; two (2) Deaconesses shall be elected in even numbered years. [5]

3.5. The Church Clerk

- a. **QUALIFICATIONS:** The Church Clerk shall be one who is saved through faith in Jesus Christ, who is a member of the Church, who possesses the godly character of a leader set forth in Titus 2:7–8, and is able to do the work incumbent upon the office.
- b. **CALLING:** The Church Clerk shall be elected to a two (2) year term.
- c. **DUTIES:** The Church Clerk shall keep accurate records of the following: congregational business meetings, membership rolls, deaths, dedications, baptisms and ordinations, and correspondence pertinent to this office. They shall have custody of the Church seal, and sign official documents for the Church as necessary.

3.6. Church Treasurer and Assistant

- a. **QUALIFICATIONS:** The Church Treasurer shall be one who is saved through faith in Jesus Christ, who is a member of the Church, who possesses the godly character of a leader set forth in Titus 2:7–8, and is able to do the work incumbent upon the office.
- b. **CALLING:** The Church Treasurer and Assistant shall be elected to a two (2) year term.
- c. **DUTIES:** The Church Treasurer shall keep accurate records of all financial transactions of the General Fund; arrange for the receiving, counting, and accounting of all offerings and moneys received by the Church, and shall be responsible for the banking of such funds each week; shall prepare written monthly financial statements for the Board and written quarterly and annual statements for the congregation showing the true status of church funds. The Church Treasurer shall have general oversight over all Church accounts and other Church Treasurers, and be accountable to the Board for them. The Church Treasurer shall be a legal co-signer on each Church account. The Church Treasurer shall have custody of the legal papers pertaining to the property and finances of the Church, such as deeds, abstracts, insurance policies, bonds, notes, etc., which shall be kept in a safe-deposit box in a local bank. The Church Treasurer shall, along with the Deacons, arrange for an audit of all church financial records each year to be presented in written form to the congregation at the annual meeting. The Church Treasurer shall, along with the Board, prepare and present a written fiscal year budget to the Church for approval at a congregational meeting the second Sunday of December. [12] The Treasurer shall maintain the keys to the church safety deposit box and shall provide access to it for members of the Board properly credentialed to enter the safety deposit box.

3.7. Sunday School Secretary and Assistant

- a. **QUALIFICATIONS:** The Sunday School Secretary shall be one who is saved through faith in Jesus Christ, who is a member of the Church, who possesses the godly character of a leader set forth in Titus 2:7–8, and is be able to do the work incumbent upon the office.
- b. **CALLING:** The Sunday School Secretary and Assistant shall be elected to a two (2) year term.
- c. **DUTIES:** The Sunday School Secretary shall keep a record of the activities of each session with class reports of attendance and offering; shall present a report of Sunday School attendance to the church at the annual meeting; and all other duties that may be ascribed.

3.8. Missionary Treasurer and Assistant

- a. **QUALIFICATIONS:** The Missionary Treasurer shall be one who is saved through faith in Jesus Christ, who is a member of the Church, who possesses the godly character of a leader set forth in Titus 2:7–8, and is able to do the work incumbent upon the office.
- b. **CALLING:** The Missionary Treasurer and Assistant shall be elected to a two (2) year term.

- c. DUTIES: The Missionary Treasurer shall receive and keep a faithful account of all contributions and disbursements of missionary moneys; shall disburse support funds to Missionaries approved by the Church; prepare an itemized report to be given at the quarterly and annual congregational business meetings; and other miscellaneous duties necessary to the on-going missions ministry of the Church.

3.9. Building Fund Treasurer and Assistant

- a. QUALIFICATIONS: The Building Fund Treasurer shall be one who is saved through faith in Jesus Christ, who is a member of the Church, who possesses the godly character of a leader set forth in Titus 2:7–8, and is able to do the work incumbent upon the office.
- b. CALLING: The Building Fund Treasurer and Assistant shall be elected to a two (2) year term.
- c. DUTIES: The Building Fund Treasurer shall arrange for receiving, accounting, banking, and disbursing funds received for the Building Fund Account; shall be responsible to pay debts incurred for projects applicable to this account; shall prepare an itemized report to be given at the monthly Board meetings, and quarterly and annual business meetings of the Church.

3.10. Youth Treasurer [10] and Assistant

- a. QUALIFICATIONS: The Youth Treasurer shall be one who is saved through faith in Jesus Christ, who is a member of the Church, who possesses the godly character of a leader set forth in Titus 2:7–8, and is able to do the work incumbent upon the office.
- b. CALLING: The Youth Treasurer and Assistant shall be elected to serve a term of two (2) years.
- c. DUTIES: The Youth Treasurer shall receive and keep a faithful account of all contributions and disbursements of the funds used to conduct the business of the youth ministry, and prepare an itemized report to be given at the quarterly and annual congregational business meetings. The Youth Treasurer shall present the records for audit at the end of each fiscal year.

4. Other Boards and Organizations

- 4.1. Other organizations and groups of the Church shall elect their own officers. They shall be accountable to the Church through the Board.

5. Pastoral Appointments

The following positions shall be by Pastoral Appointment, in conjunction with the Elders, and subject to approval by the Board:

- 5.1. Church Musicians and Directors: They shall be appointed as the need arises. These ministries shall be accountable to the Pastoral Staff.
- 5.2. Head Usher: He shall, under accountability to the Pastoral Staff, appoint additional Ushers who shall be responsible to seat the congregation, receive the offerings, count the

attendance during the worship services, and handle any emergencies that may arise during any service they are on duty.

5.3. Other Ministries: The Pastoral Staff shall appoint leadership to operate children, youth, and adult ministries, other than the Sunday School and Church Services, as need and opportunity present themselves.

6. Cemetery Committee

6.1. Election of Cemetery Committee Directors:

- a. The Cemetery Committee shall consist of three (3) persons elected from the membership of the Church. Each person shall serve for a term of three (3) years. One member shall be elected each year.
- b. Each member shall be a member in good standing with the Church.
- c. Each member shall conscientiously perform the duties of the office as a representative of the Church.
- d. In the event that a member shall withdraw their membership from the Church or begin to regularly attend another church, they will voluntarily agree to vacate their position on the Cemetery Committee. The Senior Pastor is ex-officio member of the Cemetery Committee.

6.2. Officers of the Cemetery Committee:

- a. The Cemetery Committee shall elect its own officers annually in their meeting of the calendar year. Officers shall be as follows:
 - (i) The Chairman shall oversee the activities of the Cemetery Committee, call additional meetings as they see fit, and direct the affairs of the cemetery according to these rules. They shall never act alone but in consultation with the other Cemetery Directors.
 - (ii) The Secretary/Treasurer shall keep minutes of all Cemetery Committee meetings; do all correspondence for the Cemetery Committee; record and issue deeds for cemetery lots/plots as need arises; file all burial permits received from funeral directors; shall handle all finances that pertain to the cemetery; and file financial reports to the Church on time for the quarterly congregational business meetings (April, July, October) and for the Annual congregational business meeting in January or February, dependent upon when the meeting is scheduled.
 - (iii) One officer shall be elected to mark graves and oversee grave openings.

6.3. The Functions of the Cemetery Committee:

- a. The Cemetery Committee shall be responsible for the overseeing of the following matters:
 - (i) General maintenance of the cemetery property
 - (ii) Opening and closing of graves
 - (iii) Repurchasing of unused grave lots from owners
 - (iv) Sale of existing available grave lots
 - (v) Suggesting to the Church any ideas that would improve the conditions of the cemetery

- (vi) Shall function in accountability to the Deacons of the Church, which is legally responsible for all matters of the business of the Church
- (vii) Shall handle all complaints regarding cemetery matters and bring them to an agreeable solution. The Cemetery Committee may consult the Board or congregation in any matter that it deems necessary or does not wish to handle alone

6.4. Meetings of the Cemetery Committee:

- a. The Cemetery Committee shall meet at least two (2) times each year. These meetings shall be on the first Tuesday of February and the first Tuesday in September.
- b. Meetings may be called anytime the Chairman deems necessary. Each member shall be notified at least 48 hours in advance unless an emergency arises which will make the notification time shorter.
- c. Two out of three (2/3) members shall be considered a quorum for business.
- d. A written record shall be maintained of all business by the Secretary and made available for inspection by any officer or member of the Church.
- e. All rule changes for the cemetery shall be communicated in writing for the benefit of the owners of cemetery lots and shall be mailed to all whose addresses are on file with the Cemetery Committee.

7. Christian Education Committee [15]

The Christian Education Committee (a.k.a., “Sunday School Oversight Committee”) shall administer the Sunday School.

- 7.1. Officers: The Chairman will be the Senior Pastor of the Church. Committee members will include an Elder appointed by the Elders; a representative from each Sunday School department; the Director of the Children’s Church; and Youth Pastor. If there is no Senior Pastor, the Committee shall choose its own Chairman, by approval of the Board, to serve until a Senior Pastor is called. If there is no Youth Pastor, the Chairman shall appoint a temporary substitute.
- 7.2. Meetings shall be held quarterly on a given day as agreed upon by the Committee.
- 7.3. Term of service for each Committee member, with the exception of the Senior Pastor and Youth Pastor, shall be two (2) years.
- 7.4. The Senior Pastor shall appoint committee members to be announced at the congregational business meeting in October of each year that a new Committee is formed. Committee members may be appointed to consecutive terms.
- 7.5. Duties:
 - a. Appoint Sunday School teachers and substitutes and replacements for each year. Non-member teachers shall sign an Articles of Faith (Article V) agreement and be approved by the Board before being assigned to a class.
 - b. Select and approve Sunday School curriculum for all classes. Curriculum shall be approved by the Board.

- c. The Committee shall have oversight of the teachers, making certain the curriculum is being followed. All teachers and department heads shall be accountable to the Committee.
- d. Formulate the Sunday School budget to submit to the Budget Committee.
- e. Plan special Sunday School events.
- f. Make arrangements for programs and speakers for the special events.
- g. Plan and implement follow-up contacts for visitors and absentees.
- h. Suggest equipment needs and improvement of classroom facilities as needs arise.
- i. Promote and encourage teachers to attend conferences for information about ways to improve the Sunday School.
- j. Appoint sub-committees and task forces as needed.

8. Vacancies

- 8.1. Vacancies that occur in an office shall be filled by ballot upon notice given to the Church two (2) weeks prior to the election. In this case only, the Board shall serve as the Nominating Committee.

9. Termination of the Tenure of Officers

- 9.1. The tenure of any officer shall be terminated immediately whenever an officer is unable to fulfill the duties incumbent upon the office; or no longer agrees with the Articles of Faith (Article V) of the Church; or ceases to attend the Church faithfully; or is placed on the inactive membership roll; or voluntarily surrenders Church membership; or is placed under Church discipline. Upon resignation, the officer shall surrender any and all Church property in possession to the Deacons.
- 9.2. Illegal or immoral conduct by any officer of the Church, or conduct that intentionally sows discord among the brethren, shall be grounds for dismissal from the office upon vote of the membership on recommendation of the Elders.

ARTICLE VIII: FINANCES OF THE CHURCH

1. Fiscal Year

- 1.1. The fiscal year of the Church shall begin January 1 and end on the 31st day of December in each year. [11]

2. Financial Budget

- 2.1. The Pastoral Staff shall appoint a Budget Committee at the third quarter Business Meeting comprised of the Board and at least three (3) members from the congregation. They shall prepare a financial budget which shall be reviewed by the Church during the business meeting to be held on the second Sunday of December after the morning worship service. [12]
- 2.2. The approved budget will go into effect January 1.

2.3. The Elders shall review the financial support of the Pastoral Staff each year and present their findings to the Budget Committee which shall use that information in formulating the Pastor(s)'s financial package. [13] [14]

3. Age Restrictions

3.1. On matters pertaining to borrowing of money, purchase, sale, or mortgaging property, only those members who have attained the age of 18 shall be entitled to vote.

ARTICLE IX: MEETINGS OF THE CHURCH

1. The voting members present at any business meeting of the Church shall be considered a quorum for the transaction of business.
2. Voting in all membership meetings, with the exception of the election of officers and call of the Pastor(s), may be by voice or show of hands. On the request of one member, ballot voting shall be mandatory.
3. The rules contained in Robert's Rules of Order shall govern this assembly in all cases to which they are applicable and when they are not inconsistent with biblical principles, the by-laws, or the special rules of order of this assembly.
4. Sunday School, Sunday morning worship, Sunday evening services, and Wednesday prayer meeting shall be considered the regular meetings of the Church.
5. The Lord's Supper shall be commemorated the first Sunday of each month and at special designated times set by the Senior Pastor (1 Corinthians 11:23–26).
6. Quarterly business meetings shall be held the second Sunday of April, July, and October following the morning worship service. [1] [6]
7. The election of officers and approval of the financial budget shall be on the second Sunday of December following the morning worship service. [7]
8. The annual business meeting shall be held on a Sunday following the morning worship service of January or February as called by the Board after the auditing of the financial records is completed, for the hearing of reports from the Pastor(s), Board, Sunday School Officers, Committees, and Organizations. [2] [8]
9. Special meetings for worship, instruction, missions, or Church business may be called by the Senior Pastor in conjunction with the Board. In the absence of a Senior Pastor, special meetings for business may be called by the Elders in conjunction with the Board.

ARTICLE X: ORDINATION

When, in the judgment of the Elders, a man in this membership is called to the Christian ministry, the Elders shall request the Church to call and conduct a Council for Ordination.

1. The Candidate

- 1.1. The Candidate shall be a man who has served six (6) months in pastoral ministry, or in definite Christian work, in such manner as to convey reasonable evidence of God's call to the ministry.
- 1.2. The Candidate shall prepare a doctrinal position paper in a typed format in which he shall set forth his testimony of salvation; call to the ministry; doctrinal beliefs; ministry practices; and statements on current social issues he will confront in his ministry. This brief shall be mailed to the Council members no less than two (2) weeks before the Council shall convene.

2. Qualifications

He shall be a man who is saved through faith in Jesus Christ and is able to fulfill the qualifications of the office as described in 1 Timothy 3:1–7.

3. The Council

- 3.1. The Council shall consist of ordained men who agree with the Articles of Faith (Article V) of this church. Invitations shall be approved and sent under the direction of the Elders. The Candidate shall be free to suggest men to invite.
- 3.2. The Council shall be convened and commissioned to thoroughly examine the Candidate for ordination in the following areas (but not limited to) the call to the Christian ministry; education; Christian experience; reputation; character; doctrinal belief; and demonstrated efficiency in Christian service.
- 3.3. The Candidate shall submit to the directives of the Council and fulfill any assignments they may make to him to receive their commendation.

4. The Church

- 4.1. Both the Church and the Candidate shall submit to the recommendations of the Council as to the Candidate's qualifications to be ordained. When the Candidate is approved, a service of ordination shall be planned for the laying on of hands.
- 4.2. If the Candidate is not recommended, the Elders shall seek to learn why, and if the Council will convene at a later date for another examination of the Candidate.

5. Revoking Ordination

- 5.1. It shall be within the purview of the Elders to discipline and even to revoke the ordination credentials of any minister ordained under this constitution if said minister is found guilty of transgressing any of the qualifications listed in 1 Timothy 3:1–7, after an impartial investigation is conducted in the spirit of 1 Corinthians 13. The minister under trial shall have the privilege of appealing his case to the congregation within sixty (60) days after the decision of the Elders.

ARTICLE XI: AMENDMENTS

This Constitution may be amended, altered, or revised by a two-thirds (2/3) vote of the voting members present and voting at any properly called business meeting of the Church membership. The proposed changes shall be submitted in writing at least two (2) weeks in advance of said meeting.

ARTICLE XII: DISSOLUTION CLAUSE

1. Said corporation/organization is organized exclusively for charitable, religious, educational, and scientific purposes, including, for such purposes, the making of distributions to organizations under section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code (or corresponding section of any future Federal tax code).
2. No part of the net earnings of the corporation/organization shall inure to the benefit of, or be distributed to its members, trustees, directors, officers or other private persons, except that the corporation/organization shall be authorized and empowered to pay reasonable compensation for services rendered and to make payments and distributions in furtherance of Section 501(c)(3) purposes. No substantial part of the activities of the corporation/organization shall be the carrying on of propaganda, or otherwise attempting to influence legislation, and the corporation/organization shall not participate in, or intervene in (including the publishing or distribution of statements) any political campaign on behalf of any candidate for public office.
3. Notwithstanding any other provision of these Articles, the corporation/organization shall not carry on any other activities not permitted to be carried on:
 - 3.1. By a corporation/organization exempt from Federal Income tax under section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code (or corresponding section of any future Federal tax code), or,
 - 3.2. By a corporation/organization, contributions to which are deductible under Section 170(c)(2) of the Internal Revenue Code (or corresponding section of any future Federal tax code).
4. Upon dissolution of this corporation/organization, assets shall be distributed for one or more exempt purposes within the meaning of Section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code, i.e., charitable, educational, religious or scientific, or corresponding section of any future Federal tax code, or shall be distributed to the Federal government, or to a state or local government for a public purpose. However, if the named recipient is not then in existence or no longer a qualified distributor, or unwilling or unable to accept the distribution, then the assets of this corporation/organization shall be distributed to a fund, foundation or corporation organized and operated exclusively for the purpose specified in Section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code (or corresponding section of any future Federal tax code).
5. Upon dissolution, the assets of Stonington Baptist Church Inc. shall be distributed in the following ways according to the following options:

- 5.1. The members shall appropriate a reasonable share of the assets to be placed in trust for the perpetual care of the cemetery and placed under the supervision of an appointed cemetery committee, and,
- 5.2. Upon decision of the members, the assets shall be turned over to a church-planting organization of identical doctrinal beliefs for the purpose of re-establishing another Baptist Church.
- 5.3. Or the remaining assets shall be divided equally between not less than two Bible Colleges or Seminaries of doctrinal beliefs identical to that of the Church, or,
- 5.4. The remaining assets shall be divided equally between not less than two Mission Boards of doctrinal beliefs identical to that of the Church.

END NOTES

All Scriptures quoted are taken from the King James Version of the Bible.

January 25, 1995: Pastor Hallman suggested revising the Constitution. This is to be checked into.

April 12, 1995: Deacons to start revising Constitution.

January 31, 1996: Constitution revision is in process and would like to have finished by the April meeting.

April 10, 1996: Constitution revision is not complete.

July 10, 1996: New Constitution ratified.

[1] Changed March 5, 2000

[2] Changed March 5, 2000

[3] Added November 11, 2001

[4] Changed November 11, 2001

[5] Added November 11, 2001

[6] Changed April 14, 2002

[7] Changed April 14, 2002

[8] Changed April 14, 2002

[9] Changed April 14, 2002

[10] Added April 14, 2002

February 8, 2004: A motion was passed allowing a temporary change to Article IX, Section 1.3, allowing them to meet the first Tuesday of each month during 2004 instead of the first Monday.

[11] Changed July 11, 2004

[12] Changed July 11, 2004

[13] Changed July 11, 2004

[14] Changed July 11, 2004 to delete Article X, Section 2.4 to allow flexibility to budget

[15] Changed February 20, 2005

[16] Changed August 6, 2006

[17] Added August 6, 2006

August 2021: Formatting, grammar, and punctuation updates were made.

August 2021: The Senior Pastor began reviewing the Constitution for potential revisions.

February 2023: The Senior Pastor and Elders presented a series of proposed amendments to the Constitution to the Church in a town hall meeting.

This is the final page of the constitution of the Stonington
Baptist Church.