



IDENTITY

NAME AND PRINCIPAL LOCATION

This faith community shall be known as "**THE VINE CHURCH.**"
The corporate name for The Vine Church is New Community Baptist Church, Inc

Physical Address:

1003 South John Young Parkway
Kissimmee, FL 34741-6355

Mailing Address:

P.O. Box 421568
Kissimmee, FL 34742-1568.

MISSION

*Our mission is to equip all people to be planted in faith,
growing in community and producing in service*

AFFILIATION

History

The Vine Church was established in cooperation with the Greater Orlando Baptist Convention, The Florida Baptist Convention, & The Southern Baptist Convention in the year 1995.

Association

The Vine Church recognizes the value of voluntary association with churches of like faith and practices and will, where possible, work in mutual cooperation with such bodies.

Authority

The Vine Church is an autonomous, free, self-governing body of believers subject to the control of no outside authority or power. The Elder Board is the sole authority in determining all church policies and the use of its property(ies).

MEMBERSHIP

QUALIFICATIONS FOR MEMBERSHIP

Persons may qualify for membership into The Vine Church by satisfying all of the following criteria:

- Giving testimony of a personal commitment of faith in Jesus Christ for salvation.
- Completion of church membership class.
- Commitment to abide by the Membership Vow.

Should there be any concern to a person seeking membership, such shall be referred to the Elders for counsel and guidance.

MEMBERSHIP LENGTH & RENEWAL:

Membership at the Vine Church lasts for one calendar year. Members from the previous year will be given the opportunity to renew their membership each Sunday in January.

Members from the previous year who choose not to renew their membership will be moved into inactive membership status.

MEMBERSHIP ROLL:

The Elder Board and those whom they may appoint to aid in this process shall maintain a current membership roll which should be reviewed annually .



MEMBERSHIP CONT.

MEMBERSHIP STATUS

ACTIVE MEMBER:

Those who are abiding by the membership commitments as stated in the Membership Vow. Active members who are at least eighteen (18) years of age have the right and responsibility to vote in church matters

INACTIVE MEMBER:

Those who have not fulfilled their commitment to the Membership Vow. Inactive members forfeit their right to vote

The Elder Board has sole authority to move an individual from active to inactive member status. Efforts, will be made to inform persons of changes in their membership status. Inactive members will be encouraged in the necessary steps to become an active member again.

TERMINATION OF MEMBERSHIP:

Termination of membership shall be enacted by any of the following:

- Death.
- Removal upon their choice to unite with another church body.
- Removal upon personal request by the individual member.
- Removal of an inactive member by decision of the Elder Board as outlined above.
- Expulsion by decision of the Elder Board when the member's life and conduct is not in accordance with the New Testament values in such a way that the member hinders the ministry's influence of the Church in the community.

LEADERSHIP

The Vine Church has a plurality of leadership model based upon the example of church leadership described in the New Testament. The Elder Board is the final authority in all church matters and all church officers answer to the Elder Board. The following are church officers and their duties.

ELDERS

The Elder Board (along with the senior pastor) provides leadership in the fulfillment of the mission of the church, determines staff needs, and evaluates the effectiveness of existing ministries and staff. The Elder Board (along with the senior pastor) shall be responsible for the hiring, supervising, and when necessary terminating of staff.

STAFF

The duties of the church staff will be to work with the Elder Board to carry out the mission of The Vine Church. Individual job descriptions will be developed and overseen by the Elders as part of the hiring process.

TREASURER

The church treasurer will oversee the financial committee and bookkeeper. The church treasurer represents church membership in dealing with all banking and lending institutions. The church treasurer will insure transparency with all church financial records. The treasurer's books shall always be open for inspection by any member.

CHURCH CLERK

The clerk shall attend or be represented at all church business meetings, keep accurate records of all business transactions & preserve a true history of the church. The clerk will also oversee and record all church membership votes.

DEACONS

The deacons will be leaders in service. They will assist church staff overseeing church wide gatherings and special events. They will also oversee the benevolence needs of the church.



MEETINGS

The church business meeting shall be called by the Elder Board. Every active member of the church eighteen (18) years of age or older is entitled to vote on all business matters properly submitted to the moderator at least five days prior to the church meeting. The Elder Board will establish the agenda for the church meetings. The Chairman of the Elders shall serve as moderator. In his absence, a designated Elder will serve as moderator. A QUORUM shall exist when at least 20% of the active members eighteen (18) years of age or older are present and voting. Every active member eighteen (18) years of age or older shall have the right to vote on the following matters: the annual budget; the acquisition of real property and incurring indebtedness; the disposition of all or substantially all of the assets of the church; the merger or dissolution of the church; amendments to the Articles of Incorporation and Constitution of the Church; and actions relating to affiliations.

ANNUAL CHURCH MEETING

An annual church conference shall be held within the first 45 days of the calendar year for the purpose of adopting an annual budget, and conducting any other business deemed necessary.

SPECIAL BUSINESS MEETING

A special business meeting may be called by the Elder Board any time. Notification of members for special business meetings must be given by any one of the following methods: (1) Oral announcement during Sunday Service, (2) Written announcement by email, or (3) notification through church social media accounts.

BUDGET

CHURCH FINANCES

Our fiscal year will begin on January 1st and end on December 31st.

ANNUAL BUDGET

The annual budget shall be prepared with input from the Elders, Staff, Church Treasurer and Finance Team members. The budget will be submitted to the church for final approval. Any expenditure not provided for in this Constitution or the annual budget shall be referred to the treasurer for consideration and action.

OFFERINGS

Special offerings may be taken with the approval of the Senior Pastor and/or the Elder Board.

DISSOLUTION

If this church should ever be dissolved, after the payment of all liabilities against the church, all assets shall be distributed to such organization or organizations selected by the church that are organized and operated exclusively for religious, charitable, or educational purposes as shall qualify as an exempt corporation or organization under Section 501 (c) (3) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1954. as amended, (or by the corresponding section of any future Revenue Code of the United States Internal Revenue Law). Any such assets not so disposed of shall be disposed of by the Court of Common Pleas of the county in which the principal office of the corporation is then located, exclusively for such purposes or to such organization or organizations, as said Court shall determine, which are organized and operated exclusively for such purposes consistent with Section 501 (c) (3) of the Internal Revenue Code. **No part of the property, buildings, monies, or assets of this Church shall ever inure to the benefit of any donor, member, officer of this Church, or any individual.**

AMENDMENTS

These Articles may be amended or repealed and new Articles adopted at any called Church Conference by a 70% majority vote of the active voting members present, provided that the proposed action has been submitted in writing and announced at least two (2) weeks prior to the said meeting.