

PROPOSED CONSTITUTION

Doctrinal Statement, Bylaws, and Covenant

Grace Harbor

Sitka, Alaska

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DOCTRINAL STATEMENT

SCRIPTURES

We believe the Bible is God's absolute, objective truth for all people for all times.¹ It is without error in concept or detail in the original writings.² It is breathed out in its entirety by God, divinely preserved, and, therefore, trustworthy.³ We believe the Holy Spirit superintended human authors so that, through their individual personalities and literary styles, they composed and recorded God's Word.⁴ It is God's written revelation complete in the 66 books of the Old and New Testaments.⁵ It is the supreme authority in all matters to which it speaks and is sufficient for life, conduct, and practice – understandable by every believer.⁶ We believe Scripture must be understood through the literal, contextual, grammatical, and historical method of interpretation, and applied under the guidance of the Holy Spirit.⁷

GOD

We believe in the one personal, transcendent, immanent, living God – the creator, sustainer, and sovereign ruler of all things.⁸ He is self-existent, immutable, and works all things according to the counsel of His will in order to bring glory to Himself.⁹ God's foreknowledge is exhaustive and not dependent on human decisions and actions.¹⁰ He eternally exists in three persons: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.¹¹ They execute distinct but harmonious roles in creation, providence, redemption, and consummation.¹² They are equal in nature, attributes, and perfections.¹³ The holy triune God is worthy of our worship, confidence, and obedience.¹⁴

THE FATHER

We believe in God the Father: one in essence with the Son and the Spirit.¹⁵ He is an infinite, personal spirit, perfect in all His attributes.¹⁶ He is the creator, sustainer, and sovereign ruler of all things through His Son Jesus Christ.¹⁷ We believe that He concerns Himself perfectly in the affairs of humanity.¹⁸ His fatherhood involves both His designation within the Trinity and His relationship with the redeemed.¹⁹ Everything He does is in accordance with His perfect will, though His sovereignty does not eliminate or minimize human responsibility.²⁰ The Father adopts as His own, through Jesus Christ, all those He calls to Himself.²¹

THE SON

We believe in God the Son: one in essence with the Father and the Spirit.²² He is the one and only eternal Son of God, the preeminent revelation of God.²³ At the right time He emptied Himself, taking the form of a bond-slave.²⁴ He was conceived by the Holy Spirit and born of the virgin Mary as Jesus, the Christ – fully God and fully man.²⁵ We believe in His sinless life, His voluntary submission to His Father's will that culminated in His substitutionary death on the cross, His burial, and His bodily resurrection.²⁶ He ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of God the Father.²⁷ His death on the cross atoned for our sin and satisfied the righteous demands of the holy God.²⁸ He is the Mediator between God and man.²⁹ He is Prophet, Priest, and King; the Head and Savior of His Church; the Heir of all things; the Judge of all the world; and the exact representation of God the Father.³⁰ We believe in the personal return of Christ for His Church and in the establishment of His Kingdom on earth.³¹

THE HOLY SPIRIT

We believe in God the Holy Spirit: one in essence with the Father and Son.³² He was sent by God the Father and God the Son to convict the world of sin, righteousness, and judgment.³³ The Holy Spirit glorifies Jesus Christ and implements Christ's work of redemption and baptism.³⁴ He regenerates, baptizes, seals, gifts, and indwells all believers at conversion, progressively sanctifying, and securing them in Christ forever.³⁵ The Spirit fills, leads, comforts, and intercedes for believers, empowering them for godly living and service.³⁶ His presence is evident by the fruit of the Spirit and the building up of believers into the body of Christ, the Church.³⁷

HUMANITY

We believe that humanity, male and female, is sacred in God's eyes and was uniquely created by Him, in His image and for His glory, to exercise dominion over the earth and to enjoy a relationship with Him forever.³⁸ These two distinct, complementary genders together reflect the image and nature of God. Rejection of one's biological sex is a rejection of the image of God within that person. Every human being is directly responsible to God in matters of faith and life.³⁹ After sin entered the world, humans still possess the image of God, though tainted by sin.⁴⁰ God's will for humanity is that they love the Lord their God with all their heart, soul, mind, and strength, and love their neighbors as themselves.⁴¹

FAMILY

In God's design for humanity, life begins at fertilization.⁴² We believe that all human life is sacred and created by God in His image. Human life is of inestimable worth in all its dimensions, including pre- born babies, the aged, the physically or mentally challenged, and every other stage or condition from conception through natural death. We are therefore called to defend, protect, and value all human life. He established the institution of family through marriage: the union of one man and one woman in a single exclusive covenant for life.⁴³ His design for the continuance of humanity is through the procreation and discipleship of children within the marriage union.⁴⁴ Marriage is to be an example of the relationship between Jesus Christ and His Church.⁴⁵ We believe that God intends sexual intimacy to occur only between a man and a woman who are married to each other.⁴⁶ We believe that God has commanded that no sexual activity be engaged in outside of a marriage between a man and a woman. We believe that any form of sexual immorality (including adultery, fornication, homosexual behavior, bisexual conduct, bestiality, incest and use of pornography) breaks God's commandments and dishonors God.⁴⁷

Note: We believe that in order to preserve the function and integrity of Grace Harbor Church as the local Body of Christ, and to provide a biblical role model to Grace Harbor Church members and the community, it is imperative that all persons employed by the Grace Harbor Church in any capacity or who serve as volunteers, (including those who teach, counsel, supervise or lead), agree to and abide by and sign this Statement on Marriage, Gender and Sexuality.⁴⁸ We believe that God offers redemption and restoration to all who confess and forsake their sin, seeking His mercy and forgiveness through Jesus Christ.⁴⁹ We believe that every person must be afforded compassion, love, kindness, respect, and dignity.⁵⁰ Hateful and harassing behavior or attitudes directed toward any individual are to be repudiated and are not in accord with Scripture nor the doctrines of Grace Harbor.

SIN

We believe that sin is any action, inaction, or attitude that is contrary to the nature or Word of God, which constitutes a rejection of His authority, resulting in alienation from God.⁵¹ Sin entered the world when Adam, representing humanity, disobeyed God.⁵² As a result of the one sin of Adam, his descendants – the whole human race – are separated from relationship with God, spiritually dead, and therefore in a fallen state. Being sinners by nature and choice and utterly unable to remedy their lost condition, humanity is in need of salvation.⁵³

SALVATION

We believe that salvation is a gift of God, received by grace through faith in the Lord Jesus Christ alone.⁵⁴ Salvation is motivated by the love of God demonstrated through His sovereign election in Christ, purchased by the blood of Jesus Christ on the cross, and received by faith apart from any human merit, works, or ritual.⁵⁵ Regeneration is affected through the work of the Holy Spirit in God's elect.⁵⁶ All who repent and believe in Jesus Christ are forgiven of all their sins, justified in God's sight by the merit of Christ's righteousness, adopted into His family, sealed by the Holy Spirit, and have equal access to God.⁵⁷ As a result, the progressive sanctifying work of salvation leads to a newness of life that is evidenced by righteous living, good works, and biblical social concern, or God's corrective discipline.⁵⁸ The consummation of salvation is that those who have accepted God's gift of salvation through faith in Jesus Christ shall be resurrected and glorified.⁵⁹ They shall receive their inheritance in the Kingdom of their Father, whom they shall see and enjoy throughout the ages.⁶⁰

CHURCH

We believe that the New Testament Church is composed of all persons who have been regenerated by the Holy Spirit since the day of Pentecost following Christ's resurrection.⁶¹ We believe that the Church is the spiritual body of Christ, of which He is the Head.⁶² We believe that this body expresses itself in local assemblies in which believers are in a covenant relationship.⁶³ Biblically that relationship is expressed corporately through hearing the Word of God proclaimed, engaging in worship, practicing the two ordinances of believer's baptism by immersion and the Lord's Supper, building up each other's faith, holding each other accountable through biblical love and discipline, and engaging in local and world evangelization.⁶⁴ Biblically designated officers must meet the biblical qualifications for their office and submit to the headship of Christ, emulating His servant leadership.⁶⁵ We believe the function of eldering is reserved for biblically qualified males.⁶⁶ Each local church is to choose, support, and submit to those who function as elders.⁶⁷

ANGELS

We believe God created angels as spirit-beings possessing power and intellect, to worship and serve Him and to minister to believers.⁶⁸ Satan is a fallen angel who masquerades as an angel of light.⁶⁹ The scope of Satan's power is subject to God's will.⁷⁰ By subjecting Adam and Eve to temptation and sin, Satan has extended his rebellion against God, which he continues by deceit, seduction, and destruction.⁷¹ While Satan and his demons are powerful, they are subject to Christ's authority and judgment.⁷² Satan and his demons have been defeated for eternity by Jesus Christ through His death on the cross and victorious resurrection, sealing their everlasting damnation.⁷³ At the time of final judgment, they will be consigned to eternal separation from God in the Lake of Fire.⁷⁴

LAST THINGS

We believe in the sudden, visible return of the Lord Jesus Christ and in His Millennial Kingdom.⁷⁵ He will return with His saints from heaven with power and great glory, on a day known only to God.⁷⁶ We believe that those who have accepted God's gift of salvation through faith in Jesus Christ, at the point of physical death, enter into God's eternal glory.⁷⁷ They shall be resurrected and transformed to His body of glory, and they shall receive their inheritance of glory in the Kingdom of their Father.⁷⁸ They shall be made fully blessed in the presence and service of God, whom they shall see and enjoy throughout the ages.⁷⁹ We believe that all unsaved persons, at the point of physical death, are destined for eternal damnation.⁸⁰ They will be resurrected, separated from the righteous, judged, and cast into an existence of eternal punishment where they will be tormented day and night forever and ever when death and Hades is cast into the Lake of Fire.⁸¹ We believe it is imperative for the Church to work and wait in sober watchfulness, that it may be found ready at His coming.⁸²

BYLAWS

ARTICLE 1. NAME Previously Article 1

The name of this organization, a corporation, shall be **Grace Harbor** (“this church”).

ARTICLE 2. PURPOSE Previously Article 2

1. The goal of this church shall be to make disciples of the Lord Jesus Christ and encourage their service to Him by:
 - a. Offering regular worship to the Triune God;
 - b. Promoting the preaching and teaching of the Word of God for the maturing of the saints;
 - c. Seeking the spiritual growth and wellbeing of its members by providing true Christian fellowship, by developing the gifts of its members, by providing opportunity for meaningful service to Christ, and by encouraging compassion for one another;
 - d. Seeking the salvation of the lost by equipping members to share the gospel and participate in local and world-wide biblical missions; and
 - e. Seeking to multiply leaders by identifying potential leaders, by assisting in the training of aspiring leaders, and by providing opportunities for emerging leaders to lead.
2. The goal is expressed through our vision, mission, and values.

ARTICLE 3. AUTHORITY AND GOVERNMENT Previously Article 3 Affiliations

Section 1. Authority and Government

1. This church is a self-governing body, autonomous from all other church bodies.
2. The form of government for this church shall be elder led, congregationally affirmed.
3. The congregationally-affirmed elders have biblically granted authority, responsibility, and accountability.
4. The congregation, as the temple of the Holy Spirit, affirms the leadership of the elders.
5. There are decisions in which the congregants contribute in helping the elders find/discern the mind of Christ; according to the Privileges of the Members and according to the policies and procedures of this church.

Section 2. Policies and Procedures

1. Policies and Procedures shall be developed for the purpose of implementing these Bylaws.
2. No policy or procedure may contradict or exceed the authority of these Bylaws.
3. The Elders are responsible to approve and oversee the policies and procedures.

Section 3. Affiliations

1. This church shall maintain affiliation, through a covenant relationship, with the organization currently known as Northwest Conservative Baptist Association. In addition, it will seek to cooperate with other churches of like faith and practice for the purposes of helping people come to Jesus Christ, follow Jesus Christ and serve Jesus Christ.

ARTICLE 4. MEMBERSHIP Previously Article 5

Section 1. Qualification of Members Previously Section 2

Members of this church shall be those who:

1. have made a profession of faith in the Lord Jesus Christ;
2. have been baptized as Believers;
3. agree with and sign the Doctrinal Statement and Church Covenant;

Section 2. Reception of Members

1. Requests for membership shall be made to the Elders. Upon satisfaction that the individual meets the qualification for membership, the Elders shall receive them as a member.

Section 3. Responsibilities of Members Previously Section 3

1. *To God:* Each member should grow in love and worship of God through prayer and a personal study of God's Word. Each member should desire to know Him better, trust Him more, and obey Him more fully.
2. *To Family:* Each member should lovingly encourage, support, and spiritually strengthen family members (spouse, children, and parents) as their most precious earthly responsibility.
3. *To the Church:* Each member should pursue their God given role in the body of Christ by biblically investing their energy, gifting and income in His church, by caring for the physical and spiritual needs of one another in the body of Christ by respecting those in leadership and in accordance with the Church Covenant.
4. *To the World:* Sharing in Christ's concern for extending the Gospel to the world, each member should live in such a way that by their character and conduct, those around them may be able to see Jesus in their life.

Section 4. Privileges of the Members Previously Section 3

1. Active members are responsible to participate in affirming God's direction for the church and may hold an office with the following exceptions:
2. Members under eighteen years of age are ineligible to vote on corporate matters
3. Members under eighteen years of age are ineligible to hold an elective office.

Section 5. Classification of Members

1. Active Members
2. Nonresident Members (i.e. those unable to attend worship because their current residence is too distant from the church)
3. Inactive Members (i.e. those unable to attend worship because their current health condition prohibits them from attending)
4. Terminated Members (according to the procedures of this church)

Section 6. Conflict Resolution

1. Interpersonal conflicts shall be resolved according to the guidelines of Matthew 18:15-17.
2. Any member who is dissatisfied with the general operation of any element of the church or finds himself or herself in disagreement with the Doctrinal Statement shall make his or her concern known to the Elders. Such dissatisfaction shall not be voiced among the membership, but every effort shall be made to strive for peace (Romans 14:19).
3. Management of allegations shall be dealt with by the Pastor(s) and/or Elder(s). Allegations of a sexual and/or an assaultive nature shall be documented with the Pastor(s) and/or Elder(s). A thorough investigation in observance of Alaska State and Federal Law will be conducted and documented regarding said allegation(s). Grace Harbor will consult with an attorney at any time if deemed necessary.

Section 7. Discipline of Members [Previously Article 5 Section 4](#)

1. Members whose conduct or beliefs are contrary to (Doctrinal Statement of Faith) or conduct inconsistent with the Church Covenant as defined by biblical principles or disruptive to true fellowship shall be dealt with according to the scriptural procedures of discipline for this church for the sake of restoration as outlined in Matthew 18:15-18 and 1 Corinthians 5.
2. A member may be restored to full fellowship at any time by an expression of repentance and a request for forgiveness in the presence of the largest group concerned with their offense.

[Section 6](#)

Section 8. Removal of Members [Previously Article 5 Section 5](#)

1. Members may only be removed from this body, according to the procedures of this church, under these conditions:
 - a. By their own request.
 - b. By letter of transfer to a church of like faith and practice.
 - c. By death.
 - d. By excommunication, an unwillingness to repent of sin and submit to church discipline.
2. In the case of a member who has moved away and with whom the church has lost contact and no transfer request has been received, the member may be dropped from the roll.
3. In the case of a member who has not participated in the life of the church after a period of one year.

ARTICLE 5. ELDERS [Previously Article 7 Duties of Officers](#)

Section 1. Number of Elders

1. The number of Elders may vary between a minimum of three and a maximum of as many as are qualified and willing to serve.
2. The elders shall designate 3 of their number to serve as the directors of the corporation.

Section 2. Qualifications of Elders [Previously Article 6 Section 2 - 3.](#)

1. Elders must be men who meet the biblical qualifications described in 1 Timothy 3:1-7, Titus 1:6-9, and 1 Peter 5:1-6.
2. Elders must be active members of this church.
3. The Elders will set additional qualifications for vocational elders.

Section 3. Election, Terms, and Succession of Elders Previously Article 9 Section 1

1. Anyone currently active within the church may nominate an individual for consideration for eldership.
2. The Elder board would then interview any potential candidate and assess biblical qualifications necessary for this position.
3. Those candidates that are approved by the Elder Board would then be presented at the next church member business meeting which can be scheduled at any time.
4. Elders shall be elected for a five-year term and may serve successive terms. A quorum of one fourth of the active, voting membership is required and a three-fourths majority of members present and voting shall be necessary to make such action valid.
5. When a vacancy occurs during the year, the Elder position may be filled at any church business meeting by a three-fourths majority of the voting members present. The nominee shall be presented to the congregation by the Elders.
6. Vocational Elders (Pastors) shall serve for an indefinite period, based on the terms of employment.

Section 4. Removal of Elders Previously Article 9 Section 4

1. Elders may only be removed, according to the procedures of this church, under these conditions:
 - a. By resignation.
 - b. When he no longer meets the qualifications of an elder.
 - c. In the process of church discipline.
 - d. For gross moral, civil, or criminal misconduct.
2. Removal of elders for good and sufficient cause shall be by action of the Elders and reported to the congregation. No elder shall be removed from office until positive effort has been made to assist that elder in correcting the problem, except in the case of gross moral, civil or criminal misconduct, in which case removal will be immediate.
3. The Board of Elders and a 75% majority vote of the members present at a business meeting may remove any elder from office with or without cause upon recommendation.
4. Resignations of elders shall be in writing to the chairman of the Elders, effective on the date determined by the Board of Elders.

Section 5. Elders Meetings

1. The Elders shall hold regular meetings.
2. Special meetings may be called by a Pastor, the chairman of the Elders, or by a majority of the Elders.
3. Any elder failing to attend two consecutive meetings without sufficient cause may be removed from office and his position declared vacant.
4. A quorum shall consist of a majority of the Elders, with a minimum of 2.

Section 6. Roles and Responsibilities of Elders Previously Article 7 Section 3

1. Intercessory Role
 - a. Prayer for the overall ministry of the church and the spiritual growth of the people of the church.
 - b. Prayer with the people of church.
2. Doctrinal Role
 - a. Declaring the whole counsel of God
 - b. Guarding against falsehood
 - c. Modeling biblical truth by serving as examples of godliness to the people of the church and the community at large.
3. Shepherding Role
 - a. Overseeing the spiritual life and development of the congregation.
 - b. Providing for the pastoral care of the church.
 - c. Supervising the church membership, which includes the admission of new members and the discipline or removal of existing members.
 - d. Steward the church finances using generally accepted accounting practices.
4. Development Role
 - a. Equipping the saints for the work of the ministry.
 - b. Entrust to faithful men the work of eldership.
5. Missional Role
 - a. Great Confession
 - b. Great Commandment
 - c. Great Commission
6. Responsibilities
 - a. The Elders shall designate one of their number to serve as a registered agent of the corporation.
 - b. Additional responsibilities may include, but are not limited to, the following:
 - c. Reviewing, evaluating and encouraging the ministry of the vocational elders and other staff.
 - d. Developing strategies, training, and deploying ministry teams to assist the church to fulfill its purpose.
 - e. Reviewing, evaluation, developing and approving policies as needed.
 - f. Reviewing periodically the church's bylaws for any needed improvements and changes.
 - g. The Elders may designate additional roles and responsibilities for vocational elders.

ARTICLE 6. DEACONS Previously Article 7 Section 4

Section 1. Roles and Responsibilities

1. The Biblical designation of Deacon means "servant" and can refer to both male and female genders. A female deacon will be referred to as a deaconess. Deacons have the responsibility to:
 - a. Pray for the spiritual growth of the people and for the overall ministry of the church.
 - b. Oversee a care ministry with concern for the welfare, and assistance of needy and suffering people;
 - c. Administer the benevolence fund in the church's responsibility to meet people's practical, material needs;
 - d. Serve in such a way as to relieve the Pastor and Elders to the ministry of the Word and prayer.
2. The Elders shall appoint deacons and deaconesses for a term of one year. There is no limit on their succession.

ARTICLE 7. OFFICERS Previously Article 6

Section 1. Listing of Officers Previously Article 6 Section 1

1. State-required officers - new
 - a. The elders shall select a Chairman from their number who will serve as the President of the corporation.
 - b. The elders shall select a Vice Chairman from their number one will serve as the Vice President of the corporation.
 - c. The elders shall select the Secretary of the corporation from the active church membership.
 - d. The elders shall select the Treasurer of the corporation from the active church membership.

Section 2. Qualifications of Officers Previously Article 6 Section 2 & 7

1. The chairman and vice chairman shall be elders.
2. The secretary and treasurer shall be active church members.
3. The chairman and secretary offices cannot be held by the same person.

Section 3. Appointment, Terms, and Succession of Office

1. The Elders shall appoint officers for a term of one year. There is no limit on their succession.
2. Officers shall immediately deliver to their successor all books and records in their possession.

Section 4. Removal of Officers Previously Article 8 Section 7

1. Removal of officers for good and sufficient cause shall be by action of the Elders, and reported to the congregation. No officer shall be removed from office until positive effort has been made to assist that officer in correcting the problem, except in the case of gross moral, civil or criminal misconduct, in which case removal will be immediate.
2. Resignations of officers shall be in writing to the chairman of the Elders, effective on the date specified in the resignation or as determined by the Board of Elders.

Section 5. Roles of Officers Previously Article 7 Sections 4-8

1. The Chairman shall preside at member meetings and gives an annual report on the activities of the church.
2. The Vice Chairman shall, in the absence of the chairman, fulfill the duties of the chairman.
3. The Secretary shall record minutes for the member business meetings and present minutes from the previous meeting for approval.
4. The Treasurer shall give an annual report of the financial state of the church to the membership and present the upcoming budget for approval.

ARTICLE 8. MEMBER MEETINGS Previously Article 8- Conduct of Business

Section 1. For Worship

1. This church shall meet regularly for the purpose of worship.
2. Communion shall be observed on a regular basis.
3. The receiving of tithes, offerings, and gifts of benevolence will be a regular part of worship.

Section 2. For Business Previously Sections 1-3

1. The annual meeting of the church shall be held in December. An annual report shall be published and made available to the members of the church in January.
2. Special meetings may be called at any time at the request of the Elders, or upon written request

of a simple majority of the active voting members of the church.

3. Notice of all business meetings must include the place, date and time. Notice of special meetings must include the purpose or purposes of the meeting. Notice must be by tangible means, either by personal delivery or first-class mail. Notice must be delivered to all voting members no less than 10 days and not more than 50 days before the date of the meeting.
4. The agenda for business meetings shall be set by the Elders. Members who desire to introduce business to be considered at a meeting shall make a request to the Elders, no less than 10 days prior to the meeting.
5. Hiring of church staff: Upon recommendation by the Board of Elders, the members at a special business meeting shall call a candidate for lead Pastor of the church. He must receive a 75% majority vote of the members present.
6. All other staff hires will be proposed by the lead Pastor and approved for hire by the board of Elders. A simple majority vote will be required by the board of Elders for the hire in question.
7. Dismissal of Church Staff: The lead Pastor may only be removed, with or without cause, by the members at a regular or special business meeting. Subject to the rights, if any, under contract of employment, all other pastors and staff shall be removed by the lead Pastor with approval from the Board of Elders with or without cause.

Section 3. Quorum and Voting Previously Section 4-5

1. A quorum for the transaction of business shall be a minimum of 10 active members. An affirmative vote by simple majority shall be sufficient to accept any motion to amend the Doctrinal Statement and Bylaws.
2. A quorum of 10 members of the active voting membership is required for the conduct of all other business.
3. Unless otherwise specified, a majority of those present and voting shall be necessary to enact business and elect or terminate officers.
4. Members must be present at a business meeting to vote, proxy voting and absentee ballots will not be allowed.

Section 4. Rules of Order Previously Section 10

1. The elders shall endeavor to lead the church in unity by being of the same mind, maintaining the same love, united in spirit and intent on one purpose.
2. The business items of the church which require a recognized congregational vote shall be conducted in a manner of decency and order (1Cor 14:40).

ARTICLE 9. BOOKS AND RECORDS New

Section 1. Records to Keep

1. Articles of Incorporation
2. Bylaws
3. Annual reports for the state
4. A list of members including names, and address and status of members.
5. A list of elders and officers including names and addresses.
6. Correct and complete financial books and records of account.
7. Minutes of:
 - a. Member meetings
 - b. Elder meetings
 - c. Committee meetings under, or having the authority of, the elders.

Section 2. Location of Records

1. Records shall be kept at the church's principal office.
2. A backup set of records may be kept at another site as designated by the Elders.

Section 3. Length of Retention

1. Articles of Incorporation, Bylaws, lists of members, elders, and officers shall be kept current.
2. All minutes shall be kept for a minimum of 3 years.
3. Written Communication to members shall be kept for a minimum of 3 years.
4. Financial Statements shall be kept for a minimum of 3 years.
5. Annual Reports for the state shall be kept for a minimum of 1 year.

Section 4. Rights of Inspection

1. All records shall be available to be inspected at the church's principal office by any member for any proper purpose at any reasonable time.
2. Requests to inspect the records shall be submitted to the Elders in writing in a member's records request form. Fees for copy and administrative time will apply.

ARTICLE 10. COMMITTEES

Section 1. General Controls

1. Committees may be established by the Elders as required.
2. Each committee shall have Elder representation
3. Each committee shall hold meetings as required for the discharge of its duties. Special meetings may be called by the Elders.
4. The establishment, functions, and termination of any committee shall be designated in the procedures of this church.

ARTICLE 11. AUXILIARY ORGANIZATIONS

Section 1. Authority

The elders have authority over all auxiliary organizations and the officers of those organizations.

Section 2. Approval

All auxiliary organizations of the church must be approved by the Elders.

Section 3. Officers

All officers of auxiliary organizations shall be active members of this church and shall be appointed by their respective organizations.

Section 4. Bylaws

The bylaws of any auxiliary organizations shall be consistent with these bylaws.

Section 5. Meetings

Meetings of auxiliary organization shall not conflict with meetings of the church and shall be under the guidance of the Elders.

ARTICLE 12. LICENSURE AND ORDINATION

Section 1. Licensure

Any male member, who in the judgment of the elders, by fulfilling the requirements of an elder and being called of God to the work of gospel ministry may be granted permission for licensing according to the terms of the county of The City and Borough of Sitka. The Elders, following the CB Northwest Licensing Guidelines, shall present a candidate for licensing to the congregation at any business meeting.

Section 2. Ordination

If the elders of the church decide that a male member possesses the calling, scriptural qualifications, and training necessary for ordination to the Gospel ministry, they shall institute the process leading to ordination following the CB Northwest Ordination Guidelines.

ARTICLE 13. FINANCES Previously Article 7 Sections 6-8

Finances are under the authority of the elders, using generally accepted accounting practices.

ARTICLE 14. AMENDMENTS Previously Article 10

This doctrinal statement and bylaws may be amended by a three-fourths vote of members present and voting at any business meeting provided:

1. The proposed amendment has been submitted in writing at a previous business meeting and posted for two weeks preceding the meeting;
2. A quorum of two thirds of the active membership is present.

ARTICLE 15. DISSOLUTION Previously Article 11

It is confidently expected that the ministry of the church will continue until the return of Christ. However, in the unlikely event of liquidation, dissolution or abandonment of the organization, all assets shall be distributed to Northwest Conservative Baptist Association, also known as CB Northwest. In the event that CB Northwest is unable or unwilling to accept these assets, the assets will not inure to the benefit of any private person, but instead will be passed on to a fund, foundation, or corporation organized and operated for evangelical, religious purposes within the limits of those specified in Section 501 (c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code.

CHURCH COVENANT

Having been led, as we believe, by the Spirit of God to receive the Lord Jesus Christ as our Savior and upon the profession of our faith, having been baptized in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit, we do now in the presence of God, angels, and this assembly, most solemnly and joyfully enter into covenant with one another, as one body in Christ.

We engage, therefore, by the aid of the Holy Spirit to walk together in Christian love; to strive for the advancement of this church in knowledge, holiness, and comfort; to promote its prosperity and spirituality; to sustain its worship, ordinances, discipline, and doctrines; to contribute cheerfully and regularly to the support of the ministry, the expenses of the church, the relief of the poor and the spread of the gospel through all nations.

We also engage to maintain family and personal devotions; to religiously educate our children; to seek the salvation of our kindred and acquaintances; to walk circumspectly in the world; to be just in our dealings, faithful in our engagements, and exemplary in our conduct; to avoid all tattling, backbiting, and excessive anger; to abstain from such practices that would be a detriment to our personal testimony or a stumbling block to our brethren in Christ; and to be zealous in our efforts to promote the glory of God.

We further engage to watch over one another in brotherly love; to remember each other in prayer; to aid each other in sickness and distress; to cultivate Christian sympathy in feeling and courtesy in speech; to be slow to take offense, but always ready for reconciliation, and mindful of the admonitions of our Savior, to secure it without delay.

We moreover engage that, 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.

END NOTES

- ¹ 2 Samuel 7:28; Psalm 25:10; 33:4; 119:160; John 17:17; Titus 1:2-3
- ² John 10:35; 2 Timothy 3:16
- ³ Matthew 5:18; John 10:35; 2 Timothy 3:16; 2 Peter 1:21
- ⁴ 1 Corinthians 2:12-13; 2 Peter 1:20-21
- ⁵ Deuteronomy 4:2; 12:32; 1 Corinthians 14:37; Galatians 1:11-12; Revelation 22:18-19
- ⁶ Isaiah 8:20; Matthew 5:17-19; Acts 17:11; 1 Corinthians 14:17, 37; 2 Timothy 3:15-17
- ⁷ 1 Corinthians 2:10-16; 2 Corinthians 3:14-16; 2 Peter 1:20
- ⁸ Deuteronomy 6:4; Psalm 83:18; 139:1, 7-10; Isaiah 6:1; 33:10; 40:22; Jeremiah 10:10; Matthew 28:18-20; Hebrews 3:4; James 2:19
- ⁹ Genesis 1:1; Exodus 3:14; Numbers 23:19; Psalm 19:1; 33:9-10; 102:26-27; Psalm 104; Isaiah 14:24; Malachi 3:6; Romans 8:28; Ephesians 1:11; James 1:17
- ¹⁰ Romans 8:29-30; Psalm 139:1-6, 13-17; 147:5; John 6:64; Isaiah 40:13
- ¹¹ Matthew 28:19; John 15:26; 1 Corinthians 3:16; 8:6; 2 Corinthians 13:14; Philippians 2:5-6
- ¹² Genesis 1:1-2; Job 26:13; Psalm 104; Matthew 28:19; Luke 3:22; John 1:3; 5:17; 1 Corinthians 12:4-6; Ephesians 2:18; Colossians 1:16-17
- ¹³ John 10:30; 14:23; 17:5, 10; Acts 5:3-4; 1 Corinthians 2:10-11; Phil. 2:5-6
- ¹⁴ Isaiah 6:3; Jeremiah 2:12-13; Mark 12:30; Revelation 4:11
- ¹⁵ Matthew 28:19; John 15:26; 1 Corinthians 3:16, 8:6
- ¹⁶ Exodus 3:14; John 4:24; 14:7
- ¹⁷ Genesis 1:1; Psalm 19:1; Psalm 104; Acts 17:28; Colossians 1:17
- ¹⁸ Psalm 8:4-6; Matthew 5:45; 6:26-32; 10:29-31
- ¹⁹ Matthew 6:1, 4; 10:20; John 20:17, 21; 17:1; Ephesians 1:2-3; Colossians 1:2-3
- ²⁰ Romans 1:18-20; 8:29; Colossians 1:10
- ²¹ John 6:44; Romans 8:23; Ephesians 1:5
- ²² Matthew 28:19; John 15:26; 1 Corinthians 8:6; 2 Corinthians 13:14
- ²³ John 1:1; 8:58; Philippians 2:5-6; Revelation 1:8
- ²⁴ Matthew 1:23; Philippians 2:6-7
- ²⁵ Matthew 1:20; 9:2; 12:8; Luke 1:35; John 1:1, 14; 8:58; 10:30; 14:7; Romans 9:5; 2 Corinthians 5:19; Philippians 2:5-8; Colossians 1:15-16; Hebrews 1:3
- ²⁶ Luke 19:10; Hebrews 4:15
- ²⁷ Acts 1:9; Colossians 3:1; Hebrews 1:3; 8:1
- ²⁸ Isaiah 53:4-12; Matthew 20:28; Romans 4:25; 1 Corinthians 15:1-3; Hebrews 9:13-15; 1 John 2:2; 4:10
- ²⁹ John 1:1-14; Hebrews 4:14; 12:24, 1 Timothy 2:5
- ³⁰ Psalm 2:6; Acts 3:22-23; Romans 10:9-11; Hebrews 1:3, 8; 4:14; 8:2-5
- ³¹ Psalm 2:6; Zechariah 14:4, 16; 1 Thessalonians 4:14-17; Revelation 11:15; 20:4
- ³² John 15:26; Acts 5:3-4; 1 Corinthians 3:16-17
- ³³ John 16:8-11
- ³⁴ John 3:5; 16:14; Acts 1:5; Romans 8:2-16; 1 Corinthians 12:13
- ³⁵ John 3:5; 14:17; Acts 19:5-6; Romans 11:29; 1 Corinthians 3:16; 6:19; 12:4-31; Ephesians 1:13; 4:30; Philippians 1:6; 2:12-13; Hebrews 13:5; Jude 24-25
- ³⁶ Exodus 31:3; 1 Samuel 16:13; Joel 2:28-29; John 14:26; 16:13; Acts 2:17-18; 4:31; 6:5; 9:31; Romans 8:26; Ephesians 5:18
- ³⁷ Romans 5:5; 2 Corinthians 3:18; Galatians 5:22-25; Ephesians 2:22; 3:14-21; 1 John 5:4
- ³⁸ Genesis 1:26-31; 2:7, 22; 5:1-2; 9:6; Psalm 100:3; 119:73; Isaiah 43:7; 45:12; Acts 17:26; 1 Corinthians 11:7; James 3:9
- ³⁹ Ecclesiastes 3:17; 12:14; Jeremiah 17:10; Romans 1:20; 3:19; Hebrews 4:13; 9:27; Revelation 20:11-13
- ⁴⁰ Genesis 5:1; 9:6; Ecclesiastes 7:20; Romans 3:10-18, 23; 1 Corinthians 11:7; James 3:9
- ⁴¹ Deuteronomy 6:5; Leviticus 19:18; Mark 12:30-31; Romans 13:8-10
- ⁴² Psalm 51:5; 139:13-16; Jeremiah 1:5; Matthew 1:18; Luke 1:31, 34-36, 41, 44

43 Genesis 2:23-24; Matthew 19:4-6; 1 Timothy 3:2
44 Genesis 1:27-28; 9:1
45 Ephesians 5:22-32
46 1Cor 6:18, 7:2-5; Heb 13:4
47 Matt 15:18-20; 1 Cor 6: 9-10
48 Matt5:16; Phil 2:14-16; 1Thess 5:22
49 Acts 3:19-21; Rom 10:9-10; 1 Cor 6:9-11
50 Mark 12:28-31; Luke 6:31
51 Leviticus 4:27; Matthew 5:28; James 4:17
52 Romans 5:12, 17-19; 1 Corinthians 15:21-22
53 Psalm 51:5; Romans 3:23; 5:12-21; 6:23; 1 Corinthians 15:22
54 Acts 15:11; Romans 3:24, 28; 1 Corinthians 3:5-7; Galatians 2:16; Ephesians 2:5, 8
55 John 6:44; Acts 13:48; Romans 4:4-5; 6:23; 8:29-30; 11:5-6; Galatians 1:15; Ephesians 1:3-6; 2:8-9; Philippians 3:7-9; 2 Timothy 1:8-9; James 1:18; 1 Peter 1:1-2; 1 John 4:10
56 John 1:13; 3:3, 5-8; Acts 11:18; Romans 5:5; 1 Corinthians 1:30; 2 Corinthians 5:17; 7:10-11; Ephesians 2:8; Philippians 2:13; Titus 3:5-7; James 1:18; 1 Peter 1:1-2; 1 John 4:7
57 Acts 10:43; 13:39; Romans 1:15-17; 3:24-26; 4:23-25; 5:1-2, 9, 11, 17, 19, 21; 8:1; 10:9; 1 Corinthians 1:30-31; Ephesians 4:32; Colossians 2:13-14; Titus 3:5-7
58 Acts 11:29; 2 Corinthians 3:18; 5:21; 7:1; Galatians 2:20; Ephesians 5:26-27; Philippians 2:12-13; 3:12-16; Colossians 1:28-29; 3:5-17; 1 Thessalonians 5:23; 2 Thessalonians 1:3; Hebrews 12:7-11, 14; 2 Peter 1:3, 5-8; 3:18
59 John 5:25-29; Acts 24:14-15; Romans 8:17; 1 Corinthians 6:14; Ephesians 1:13; 4:30; Philippians 3:20-21; Colossians 3:4; 1 Thessalonians 4:13-17; 1 John 2:25; Revelation 20:5-6
60 1 Thessalonians 4:17; Revelation 21:6-7; 22:3-5
61 Acts 2; 1 Corinthians 12:27; 2 Corinthians 6:16
62 1 Corinthians 12:27; Colossians 1:18
63 1 Corinthians 12:27
64 Matthew 18:15-17; 28:19-20; Mark 16:16; John 3:22; 4:1-2; Acts 2:38, 41-42, 47; 8:12, 36-39; 16:32-34; 18:8; 1 Corinthians 11:23-25; Ephesians 4:11-13
65 Matthew 20:25-28; 1 Timothy 3:1-13; Titus 1:7-9
66 Titus 1:5-6; 1 Peter 5:1-3
67 Acts 6:3-6; 15:22; Hebrews 13:17
68 Deuteronomy 6:13; 10:20; Matthew 4:10
69 Ezekiel 28:13-16; Luke 10:18; 2 Corinthians 11:14; Revelation 12:7-9
70 Job 1:6-7, 12; John 14:30; 16:11
71 Genesis 3:1-7; Matthew 4:1-11; 2 Corinthians 12:7; 1 Thessalonians 2:18
72 Philippians 2:10; James 4:7; 1 Peter 3:22; 2 Peter 2:4; 1 John 2:12-14; 5:18; Revelation 20:10
73 John 12:31; 14:30; 16:11; Romans 16:20
74 Revelation 20:10
75 Mark 13:32-37; Titus 2:13; Revelation 20:2-6
76 Matthew 24:30, 36; 25:31; Mark 13:32-37; John 14:3; Titus 2:13
77 John 10:28; Romans 8:38-39; 2 Corinthians 5:8; Hebrews 9:27
78 Isaiah 26:19; Daniel 12:2; John 5:25-29; Acts 24:14-15; 1 Corinthians 6:14; Philippians 3:21; 1 Thessalonians 4:13-17; Revelation 20:5-6; 21:6-7
79 1 Thessalonians 4:17; Hebrews 12:22-24; Revelation 22:3-5
80 Hebrews 9:27
81 Daniel 12:2; Matthew 25:31-46; John 5:25-29; Acts 24:14-15; Revelation 14:10-11; 20:10; 21:8
82 Matthew 24:42-44; 25:13; Mark 13:33-37; Hebrews 10:25