

CALVARY BAPTIST CHURCH

1636 E Patriot Avenue
Derby, KS 67037
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- Church Constitution
- Articles of Faith

Church Constitution

Calvary Baptist Church of Derby, KS

ARTICLE I – NAME

The name of this church shall be Calvary Baptist Church of Derby, Kansas.

ARTICLE II – PURPOSE

The purpose of this church shall be the maintenance of the preaching of the gospel; the administration of the ordinances of the New Testament; the spiritual care and nurture of its members; the support, encouragement, and training of Christian workers for the Lord's work, the evangelization of the world, and the discipleship of Christians.

ARTICLE III – MEMBERSHIP

1. The membership shall consist of those who give a clear evidence of faith in Jesus Christ as Lord and Savior by their personal testimony to the Pastor, Associate Pastor(s) and/or Deacons, have been baptized by immersion in obedience to the Lord Jesus Christ, and agree to abide by the Constitution and Articles of Faith of Calvary Baptist Church.
2. Persons may become members of Calvary Baptist Church by the following methods:
 - a. Baptism
 - b. Personal testimony to a Pastor and/or DeaconsEither of these methods must be accompanied by the receiving of the right hand of fellowship.
3. Persons desiring membership in the church shall meet with the Pastor, Associate Pastor(s) and/or Deacons, who shall explain more fully the purpose and nature of the church and receive from such individuals their personal testimony.
4. A member may sever relationship with the church at any time. They may receive a letter of transfer or recommendation, upon the request of another Bible believing church of like faith and practice. The membership of any individual member shall automatically terminate without notice if the member in question has not attended a regular worship service of the church in the preceding six months or the church has exercised discipline

according to Article X. This provision for termination may be waived in the case of any individual member at the discretion of the Pastor(s) and Deacons.

5. Only members who are eighteen years of age or more shall be entitled to vote on any matter or church business at any regular or special meeting.

ARTICLE IV – OFFICIAL SERVANTS

1. The official servants of the church shall be:
 - A. Pastor
 - B. Associate Pastor(s)
 - C. Deacons
 - D. Trustees
 - E. Treasurer
 - F. Financial Secretary
 - G. Clerk
 - H. Sunday School Superintendent

2. DUTIES:

- A. PASTOR

The Pastor shall have responsibilities and duties incumbent upon him as set forth in the New Testament: i.e. the preaching of the gospel, the general oversight of the church in its many functions, and the spiritual leadership and care of the members. The Pastor shall be ex-officio member of all boards and committees of the church. At the discretion of the Pastor an Associate Pastor may serve on any board or committee in his stead.

- B. ASSOCIATE PASTOR(S)

Associate Pastor(s) shall be called by the church for service under the direction of the Pastor and Deacons. Associate Pastor(s) shall be called to serve continuously at the pleasure of the church or until he resigns.

- C. DEACONS

The Deacon Board of Calvary Baptist Church will consist of the Pastor, duly appointed by virtue of title and position, Associate Pastor(s) and as many Deacons as necessary to meet the ministry needs of the church body at the discretion of the Deacon Board. The

Deacons shall be responsible for and shall deal with matters of spiritual and personal concern to the church and its members, with special emphasis on matters pertaining to the reception and continuing fellowship of members. They shall work with the Pastor in the administration of the ordinances and in the expediting of the overall program of the church.

A Deacon who misses three (3) consecutive monthly board meetings will be considered to have resigned his position.

D. TRUSTEES

The Board of Trustees of Calvary Baptist Church will consist of the Pastor, duly appointed by virtue of title and position, and as many Trustees as necessary to meet the ministry needs of the church body at the discretion of the Board of Deacons. The Trustees shall be responsible for the care of the physical properties of the church and its financial affairs as outlined under Article VI, Properties and Assets.

A Trustee who misses three (3) consecutive monthly board meetings will be considered to have resigned his position.

E. TREASURER

The Treasurer shall oversee the funds of the church. To accomplish his duty he shall keep strict account of all monies received and disbursed; he shall pay out money in accordance with the orders of the Trustees; he shall furnish the Board of Trustees with a monthly financial report; and he shall make a financial report each year to the Annual Business Meeting of the church.

F. FINANCIAL SECRETARY

The Financial Secretary shall ensure that two counters are available after each service and that the bookkeeper's weekly deposit to the bank is the same amount as shown on the tapes prepared by the counters for morning, evening and special services. The Financial Secretary shall also oversee the printing and distribution of the annual giving statements.

G. CLERK

The Clerk shall keep a complete record of all official acts of the church, and make a report of the same at each regular business meeting. He/she shall keep a complete and accurate registry of all members and shall issue letters for members requesting transfer. This information shall be verified by the Pastor and/or the chairman of the Deacons. A complete record of all baptisms shall be maintained and certificates issued by the Clerk.

H. SUNDAY SCHOOL SUPERINTENDENT

The Sunday School Superintendent shall have overall supervision of the Sunday school and be responsible to the Pastor. The Superintendent and the Pastor shall select the Assistant Sunday School Superintendent. The teachers for all classes shall be selected by the Pastor and Superintendent.

3. TERM OF SERVICE

The Pastor and Associate Pastor(s) shall serve for an indefinite time. The Deacons and Trustees will have overlapping terms of service for three years. All other official servants shall be elected for a period of one year. Any vacancy (Pastor and Associate Pastor(s) excepted) caused by reason of death, resignation, or for any reason, shall be filled in the following manner: The Nominating Committee shall submit a candidate to be elected by a majority vote of the members present at a business meeting. The vacancy shall be filled as soon as possible.

4. ELECTION OF OFFICIAL SERVANTS

The procedure for the calling of Pastor(s) is outlined under Article V, Pastoral Relations.

All other official servants shall be members in good standing and elected by a majority vote of those present at a business meeting of the church.

Following the annual election, the Trustees and the Deacons shall meet separately and elect one of their number as their chairman to serve for the ensuing year.

ARTICLE V – PASTORAL RELATIONS

The calling of a Pastor shall be done in all cases by a three fourths majority ballot cast by members at a business meeting

or by advance ballot; announcement of which has been given at least two weeks prior to the business meeting. Only one candidate shall be presented to the church at one time.

If any member has a previous engagement on the night that a business meeting is called for the purpose of voting to call a Pastor, he or she may notify a Pastor or the Chairman of the Deacon Board regarding the previous engagement so that arrangements may be made to vote early. Any early votes must be cast in the church office with two witnesses present. The ballot will be kept at the church office in a sealed envelope that has been signed and dated by the voting member and witnesses until the time of the business meeting. At the business meeting appropriate measures shall be taken to ensure that each member only votes once.

The Pastor(s), Deacon Board, and a representative from the Trustee Board shall act as a Pulpit Committee. They shall have authority to contact prospective Pastors for recommendation to the church.

ARTICLE VI – PROPERTIES AND ASSETS

The Trustees shall have charge of the church building and property. They shall have the power to deed, convey, mortgage, pledge, assign or sell the property when authorized by the church membership at a regular or special meeting of the church. They shall sign all contracts and documents which may require the signature of the church. They shall have charge of the finances of the church and shall use the approved budget as a guide in the expenditures of the church, when the donations received are sufficient. They shall keep the building and church property under surveillance for needed repairs and improvements. The men of the church shall be contacted for assistance in the upkeep of the church and property. The church building shall be insured at all times with an appropriate amount of insurance to cover replacement of the building if destroyed.

ARTICLE VII – COMMITTEES

1. NOMINATING COMMITTEE

The Nominating Committee shall consist of three persons. The Pastor shall appoint one Deacon, one Trustee, and one

member of the Sunday school staff to serve on the committee. The Nominating Committee shall be appointed six weeks prior to the annual business meeting and shall serve continuously for one year.

2. BUDGET COMMITTEE

The Budget Committee shall consist of the following: two Deacons, two Trustees, and two budget stewards. The Pastor shall appoint the two Deacons and the two Trustees for the committee during the month of January. In case of the Pastor's absence, the chairman of the Deacon Board shall make all appointments. The Deacon Board shall choose one of the budget stewards and the Trustee Board shall choose the other budget steward. The budget stewards chosen cannot be a Pastor, Deacon, or a Trustee. The Pastors must approve the budget stewards who are chosen. No members that make up the budget committee shall be related in any way.

3. SOCIAL COMMITTEE

The Social Committee is responsible for social functions of the church. The chairman shall be elected at the annual business meeting and shall serve for one year. As many committee members as are necessary to meet the needs of this ministry will be appointed by the chairman with the approval of the Pastors and Deacons.

4. USHERING COMMITTEE

The ushers shall be available to serve, maintain order, and provide a safe environment for worship during the worship services of the church. The chairman shall be elected at the annual business meeting and shall serve for one year. As many committee members as are necessary to meet the needs of this ministry will be appointed by the chairman with the approval of the Pastors and Deacons.

5. MUSIC COMMITTEE

The Calvary Baptist Church Music Committee shall be composed of the Pastor, the Music Pastor or Director, and qualified* church musicians appointed by the Music Pastor/Director and approved by the Deacons. This committee will be responsible for assisting and advising the

Music Pastor/Director in the operations and direction of the Music Ministry.

*Reference the Music Ministry Policy and Procedure statement.

6. DEACONESSES

The Deaconesses shall have the responsibility of preparing the Lord's Table, helping with baptismal services, ministering to the sick, and providing funeral dinners. The chairman shall be elected at the annual business meeting and shall serve for one year. As many committee members as are necessary to meet the needs of this ministry will be appointed by the chairman with the approval of the Pastors and Deacons.

7. COMMITTEES

The Pastor, Board of Deacons, and Board of Trustees shall appoint other committees necessary to carry out the work of the church. They shall serve until the completion of their work.

ARTICLE VIII – BUSINESS MEETING

1. The Annual Meeting shall be held during the month of March. The precise time shall be decided by the Board of Deacons.
2. Special business meetings of the church may be called by the Pastor, or shall be called by him at the request of either the chairman of the Trustees, or the chairman of the Deacons.
3. Notice of regular or special meetings of the church shall be given to the congregation by public announcement of the time, place, and purpose thereof from the pulpit at the regular Sunday church services on at least two consecutive Sundays prior to the date of any such meeting.
4. The members qualified to vote who shall be present at any regular or special meeting of the church shall constitute a quorum and any matter of business shall require for adoption a majority of affirmative votes of those cast upon the question, with the exception of calling a Pastor. The calling of a Pastor shall require a 3/4 majority of votes.
5. In all matters not covered in this Constitution, the business shall be conducted according to rules laid down in Robert's Rules of Order Revised.

ARTICLE IX – ORDINATION

It shall be within the power of this church to ordain into the gospel ministry godly men whom God has called and equipped. It shall have, through the Deacons, the authority to call ordination councils and issue proper credentials.

ARTICLE X – DISCIPLINE

When a member or members engage in conduct that is not in accord with the Scriptures and harmony of the church body, the church may exercise discipline of these members according to the Scriptures and under the leadership of the Pastors and Deacons.

ARTICLE XI – TERMINATION OF PASTOR

When the termination of a Pastor is voluntary, a written request should be given to the Deacons thirty (30) days before termination becomes effective. The Deacons shall inform the membership at a business meeting of the action taken.

ARTICLE XII – AMENDMENTS

Amendments to this Constitution may be made at the annual or called business meeting by a majority vote of the members present. The amendments shall be distributed in written form to the membership at least two weeks prior to the meeting.

ARTICLE XIII – SEAL

The seal of the Corporation shall be in the form of two concentric circles with the words, "Calvary Baptist Church of Derby, Kansas" and "Corporate Seal" inscribed therein.

ARTICLES OF FAITH

Calvary Baptist Church

Derby, KS

Articles of Faith
Calvary Baptist Church of Derby, KS

ARTICLE I – THE SCRIPTURES

We believe the Holy Scriptures of the Old and the New Testaments to be the verbally inspired Word of God, the final authority for faith and practice, inerrant in the original writings, infallible and God-breathed. (2 Timothy 3:16, 17; 2 Peter 1:19-21)

ARTICLE II – THE GODHEAD

We believe there is one and only one living and true God, an infinite Spirit, the Creator and Supreme Ruler of heaven and earth; inexpressibly glorious in holiness, and worthy of all possible honor, confidence, and love; that in the unity of the Godhead there are three persons, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, equal in every divine perfection, and executing distinct but harmonious offices in the great work of redemption.

(Ex. 20:2-3; Deut. 6:4; 1 Cor. 8:6; 2 Cor. 13:14; Rev. 4:11)

ARTICLE III – THE PERSON AND WORK OF CHRIST

We believe that the Lord Jesus Christ, the eternal Son of God, became a man, without ceasing to be God, having been conceived by the Holy Spirit and born of the virgin Mary, in order that He might reveal God and redeem sinful mankind.

(John 1:1, 2, 14; Luke 1:35; Matt. 1:21-23)

We believe that the Lord Jesus Christ accomplished our redemption through His death on the cross as a representative, vicarious, substitutionary sacrifice; and, that our justification is made sure by His literal, physical resurrection from the dead.

(Romans 3:24, 25; 1 Peter 2:24; Eph. 1:7; 1 Peter 1:3-5)

We believe that the Lord Jesus Christ ascended to heaven, and is now exalted at the right hand of God, where, as our High Priest, He fulfills the ministry of representative, intercessor, and advocate.

(Acts 1:9-10; Heb. 7:25; 9:24; Rom. 8:34; 1 John 2:1-2)

ARTICLE IV – THE PERSON AND WORK OF THE HOLY SPIRIT

We believe that the Holy Spirit is a divine person, with God the Father and God the Son and of the same nature; that He was active in the creation; that He convicts the world of sin, of righteousness, and of judgment; that He bears witness to the truth of the gospel in preaching and testimony; that He is the supernatural agent in regeneration, baptizing all believers into the body of Christ, indwelling and sealing them unto that day of redemption.

(John 16:8-11; 2 Cor. 3:6; 1 Cor. 12:12-14; Rom. 8:9; Eph. 1:13-14)

We believe that He is the divine teacher who guides believers into all truth; and, that it is the privilege and duty of all the saved to be filled with the Spirit.

(John 16:13; 1 John 2:20, 27; Eph. 5:18)

We believe that God gives spiritual gifts to all believers. Some gifts of the Holy Spirit are permanent and are to be used throughout the Church Age. Other gifts were temporary and were given in the Apostolic Age for the purpose of founding the church. Having fulfilled their purpose, they are not necessary and are not given today. We believe the temporary gifts include the gifts of apostleship, prophecy, miracles, healings, tongues, and the interpretation of tongues. (Rom. 12:3-8; 1 Cor. 12:13, 14; 2 Cor. 12:12; Heb. 1:1-2; 2:3-4)

We believe that God does hear and answer the prayer of faith, according to His own will, for the sick and afflicted. (1 Cor. 12:7-11, Eph. 4:7-12; 2 Cor. 12:12; James 5:15)

ARTICLE V – THE PERSONALITY OF SATAN

We believe that Satan is a person, the author of sin and the cause of the fall of mankind; that he is the open and declared enemy of God and mankind; and, that he shall be eternally punished in the lake of fire. (Job 1:6, 7; Isaiah 14:12-17; Matt. 4:2-11; 25:41; Rev. 20:10)

ARTICLE VI – CREATION

We believe the Biblical account of the creation of the physical universe. The Biblical account is neither allegory nor myth, but a literal, historical account of the direct, immediate creative acts of God. God created the physical universe in 6 literal, 24 hour days without any evolutionary process. Mankind was created by a direct work of God and not from previously existing forms of life and all people are descended from the historical Adam and Eve, first parents of the entire human race. (Gen. 1, 2; Colossians 1:16-17; John 1:3)

ARTICLE VII – MARRIAGE

In light of God's creative design, we believe that the Bible teaches that marriage is the joining of one man (physically male gender/sex at birth) and one woman (physically female gender/sex at birth) and that sexual intimacy is to be expressed only within the bond of a Biblically defined marriage. Any other form of marriage or sexual intimacy (e.g. homosexuality, lesbianism, bisexuality, bestiality, incest, pedophilia, fornication, adultery, pre-marital sex, and pornography) is immoral and a perversion of God's gift of sex.

(Gen. 2:18, 21-25; Matt. 19:4-6; Romans 1:24-29; 1 Cor. 6:9-20; 7:1-5; Eph. 5:22-33; 1 Thess. 4:1-8; Heb. 13:4)

ARTICLE VIII – TOTAL DEPRAVITY

We believe that mankind was created in the image and likeness of God, but that in Adam's sin the race fell, inherited a sinful nature, and

became alienated from God; and, that every person is totally depraved, and, of themselves, utterly unable to remedy their lost condition. (Genesis 1:26-27; Romans 3:22-23; 5:12-14; Eph. 2:1-3, 12)

ARTICLE IX – SALVATION

We believe that salvation is the gift of God brought to all people by grace and received by personal faith in the Lord Jesus Christ, whose precious blood was shed on Calvary for the forgiveness of our sins. (Eph. 2:8-10; John 1:12; Eph. 1:7; 1 Peter 1:18, 19)

ARTICLE X – THE ETERNAL SECURITY AND ASSURANCE OF BELIEVERS

We believe that all the redeemed, once saved, are kept by God's power and are thus secure in Christ forever. (John 6:37-40; 10:27-30; Romans 8:1, 38, 39; 1 Cor. 1:4-8; 1 Peter 1:5)

We believe that it is a privilege of believers to rejoice in the assurance of their salvation through the testimony of God's Word, which however, clearly forbids the use of Christian liberty as an occasion to the flesh. (Romans 13:13, 14; Gal. 5:13; Titus 2:11-15)

ARTICLE XI – SEPARATION OF THE BELIEVER

We believe that all the saved should live in such a manner as not to bring reproach upon their Savior and Lord; and, that separation from all religious apostasy, all worldly and sinful pleasures, practices and associations is commanded of God. (2 Timothy 3:1-5; Romans 12:1, 2; 14:13; 1 John 2:15-17; 2 John 9-11; 2 Cor. 6:14; 7:1)

ARTICLE XII – THE CHURCH

We believe that the church, which is the body and the espoused bride of Christ, is a spiritual organism made up of all saved persons of this present age. (Eph. 1:22, 23; 3:1-11; 1 Cor. 12:12-14)

We believe that a local church is a congregation of immersed believers, associated by covenant of faith and fellowship of the gospel; observing the ordinances of Christ; governed by His laws; and exercising the gifts, rights, and privileges invested in them by His Word; that its officers are pastors, and deacons, godly men whose qualifications, claims, and duties, are clearly defined in the scriptures. We believe the true mission of the church is the faithful witnessing of Christ to all people as we have opportunity. We hold 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 Christ through the Holy Spirit; that it is scriptural for true churches to cooperate with each other in

contending for the faith and for the furtherance of the gospel; that each local church is the sole judge of the measure and method of its co-operation; on all matters of membership, of policy, of government, of discipline, of benevolence, the will of the local church is final. (Acts 2:41, 42; Eph. 1:22, 23; 4:11, 12; 5:23, 24; Acts 20:17-28; 1Tim. 3:15; Col. 1:18)

ARTICLE XIII – 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; that it is pre-requisite to the privileges of a church relation. We believe that the Lord's Supper is the commemoration of His death until He comes, and should be preceded always by solemn self-examination. (Matthew 3:16; 28:19; Acts 8:12, 26-39; Rom. 6:3-5; 1 Cor. 11:23-34; Col. 2:12)

ARTICLE XIV – THE SECOND COMING OF CHRIST

We believe in that "blessed hope," the personal, imminent, pre-tribulation and premillennial coming of the Lord Jesus Christ for His redeemed ones; and in His subsequent return to earth, with His saints, to establish His millennial kingdom. (1 Thess. 4:13-18; Titus 2:13; Rev. 19:11-16; 20:1-6; Zech. 14:4-11)

ARTICLE XV – THE ETERNAL STATE

We believe in the bodily resurrection of all: the saved to eternal life, and the unsaved to judgment and everlasting punishment. (Matt. 25:46; John 5:28, 29; 11:25, 26; Rev. 20:5, 6, 12, 13)

We believe that the souls of the redeemed are, at death, absent from the body and present with the Lord, where in conscious bliss they await the first resurrection, when spirit, soul, and body are reunited to be glorified forever with the Lord. (Luke 23:43; 2 Cor. 5:1-8; Phil. 1:23; 3:21; 1 Thess. 4:16, 17)

We believe that the souls of unbelievers remain after death in conscious misery until the second resurrection, when with soul and body reunited they shall appear at the Great White Throne Judgment, and shall be cast into the Lake of Fire, not to be annihilated, but to suffer everlasting conscious punishment. (Luke 16:19-31; Matt. 25:41-46; 2 Thess. 1:6-9; Jude 6, 7; Mark 9:43-48; Rev. 20:11-15)

ARTICLE XVI – OUR DOCTRINE AMPLIFIED

Because there are a number of theological movements in our day which we believe are not biblical, we desire to clarify our stand regarding these theological movements, in the light of our stated doctrinal position.

ECUMENISM is a popular religious movement designed to catch the unwary. Its philosophy of Christian unity has been largely promulgated by the world and National Councils of Churches, the Roman Catholic hierarchy in the world at large, and tragically by some elements of neo-evangelicalism. The ecumenical movement seeks the eventual union of all religions into one superchurch. This means that every church, religion, or religious body participating in the merger must compromise its beliefs in areas of faith and practice to conform to the will of the whole body. We unalterably oppose any "dialogue" or overture whatsoever which has as its ultimate purpose the breaking down of the determination of Christian faith as outlined in the New Testament. (2 Cor. 6:11-18; Rev. 2:9, 14, 15)

NEO-ORTHODOXY is a reaction to liberalism using words, phrases, and language familiar to Christians everywhere, and in this manner projecting an "evangelical" image. The adherents of this movement claim to accept the authority of the Bible yet reject its verbal, plenary inspiration. We therefore oppose this movement.

NEO-EVANGELICALISM is a more subtle movement, paradoxically promoted by professed Christians who consider the "fundamentalist" view of Christian theology as being too negative, and by "fair words" seeks to diffuse the fine line of demarcation between fundamentalism and liberalism. We maintain that those truths considered fundamental to Christian theology and the vagaries of Christ-denying liberalism cannot be made to "walk together." To attempt this unscriptural union is to compromise pure Christian doctrine by subjecting it to an unscriptural and therefore "unequal yoke." Calvary Baptist Church adheres to firm fundamentalism as opposed to the neo-evangelical movement. (2 Cor. 6:11-18; Col. 2:8)

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