

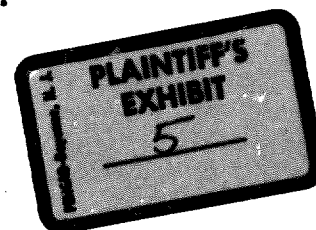
Exposition

COMMUNITY CHAPEL & BIBLE TRAINING CENTER

ARTICLES OF FAITH & BYLAWS

Oct. 18, 1967.

Revised: Sept. 9, 1969



PREAMBLE

We, members of the Spiritual Body of Christ, desiring to unite in fellowship as a visible church, do hereby adopt this constitution and agree to be governed by its precepts.

CONFESSION OF FAITH

ARTICLE I: This congregation confesses Jesus Christ as Lord of the Church and of our lives. We hold that the Bible is to be our rule of faith and our rule of Christian living.

ARTICLE II: The pastor (and the associates and assistants, if any) and the Spiritual Overseers agree that the Bible, as originally penned, is the inspired Word of God and is our sole rule of faith.

We, as overseers, unite in the belief that to keep the unity of the faith and to maintain our purpose, that only those who hold to the following basic beliefs of God's Holy Word, are to be chosen to the hold the office of Spiritual Overseer:

1. All Scripture is given by inspiration of God.
2. All have sinned. Forgiveness of sins is only obtained by genuine repentance of sins to God, and accepting Jesus Christ as personal Saviour and Lord of our Lives.
3. Water baptism is essential, and is only for those who have repented of their sins to God and have accepted Jesus Christ as their personal Saviour, purposing to walk according to God's Word. Water baptism is to be

- administered by immersion in the Name of Jesus (the terms: Father, Son, Holy Spirit, Lord, and Christ, may or may not also be expressed in the baptismal formula).
4. The Baptism of the Holy Spirit is for all Christians and is evidenced by speaking in other tongues as the Spirit gives utterance.
 5. God is one Person, manifesting Himself as the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit.
 6. Healing is part of the Atonement and is a promise by Jesus for the believer.
 7. Communion (The Lord's Table; Sacrament) is a Biblical injunction for Christians to observe.
 8. Jesus will out-translate His Bride before the Great Tribulation.
 9. Heaven and hell are real, although we may not know the exact nature of these abodes. Eternal life awaits the Christian; judgment and eternal separation from God awaits those who do not accept Jesus Christ as their Saviour.
 10. Godly living, according to the tenor of Scripture, should characterize the life of every child of God (the traditions and laws of man are not to be interpreted as the rule of holiness).
 11. God's Word teaches us to support the work of God with our finances and time.
 12. Whomsoever will may accept Jesus. Apostacy, if maintained, results in the loss of Eternal Life with Christ.

BYLAWS

SECTION I: Name and Purpose

ARTICLE I: The name of this establishment (hereinafter known as "the church", but including all educational facilities and ministries) shall be COMMUNITY CHAPEL & BIBLE TRAINING CENTER.

ARTICLE II: The purpose of the church is:

1. To establish and maintain a place of worship.
2. To edify the saints, building them up in the faith of God's Holy Word.
3. To aid souls in being saved, filled with the Spirit, living victorious Christian lives, and in looking and preparing for our hope from heaven, the Lord Jesus Christ.
4. To give spiritual counseling to those in need.
5. To help, train, exhort, and advise God's people in witnessing of Jesus Christ, and of living for Him.
6. To propagate the Word of God.

SECTION II: The Pastor:

ARTICLE I: The First Pastor The first pastor of this church shall be Donald Lee Barnett.

ARTICLE II: Authority:

1. The pastor is recognized as the Spiritual Overseer of the church, an office ordained of God to shepherd and feed God's flock.
2. The pastor shall have authority to appoint a temporary Steering Committee to investigate and take charge of the legal and necessary duties and decisions in order to approve the original Articles of Faith and Bylaws, buy land, and erect buildings, until such a time as the

- first congregational business meeting is held
(not later than 30 days after occupying the sanctuary).
The pastor shall assume the chairmanship of this
committee, and shall appoint a moderator and vice-
chairman of same. Their signatures shall be affixed
to this form to authorize its acceptance by the church.
3. Within thirty (30) days after the election of Deacons
at the first church business meeting, the Pastor shall
appoint at least three (3) Spiritual Overseers, not
less than three (3) of which shall be appointed by the
Pastor to be on the Steering Committee.
 4. The Pastor shall appoint associates or assistants, if
and as he feels need, subject to the approval of the
Steering Committee.
 5. The Pastor shall have the perogative to minister as he
feels the Holy Spirit leads him, and shall be in official
charge of all services of the church, even though he
may not attend all such meetings.
 6. The Pastor shall have authority to appoint, instruct,
oversee, and remove teachers in the Sunday or Weekday
classes.

ARTICLE III: Change of Pastors:

1. A Pastor desiring to leave the church must give the
Steering Committee at least 60 days notice, and shall
inform the congregation of his intentions. By mutual
agreement, the time may be changed.

2. The Pastor, having established the original church, (along with the congregation and, we feel, by God) shall have oversight of same until the pastor agrees to change.
3. Future Pastors may only be removed by both a 2/3 vote of the Steering Committee and of the congregation. In such an event, the Pastor shall be invited to the meeting and shall have an opportunity to address the congregation for at least 15 minutes, prior to the voting.
4. The Pastor(s) shall be included as ex officio Spiritual Overseer(s) and chairman of the Steering Committee.
5. The Steering Committee shall select a new Pastor (to fill a pastoral vacancy) that satisfies 2/3 of the Steering Committee and 2/3 of the voting congregation. No other conditions are imposed.

ARTICLE IV: Duties:

1. The Pastor (s) shall preach, teach, admonish, encourage, and advise as God gives him (them) ability. The Pastor(s) shall live a Godly life, and endeavor to shepherd the flock to their spiritual benefit.
2. Recognizing that the Bible teaches a "body ministry" and that the Pastor does not have time, strength, or desire to run the entire church in its many avenues of service, he shall not be expected to do all (or more than he feels that he should or can handle) of the ministries of the church, including; visiting and praying for the sick and needy, witnessing, counseling.

teaching, preaching, administering, and attending meetings.

SECTION III: STEERING COMMITTEE

ARTICLE I: Appointing others to the Steering Committee:

1. The Steering Committee shall appoint others to this same office, as follows:
 - (a) One or more of the Steering Committee shall bring to the others the names of those that they feel should be ordained to the office, as need arises.
 - (b) The Steering Committee shall discuss the need and qualifications of the office and nominees. If $3/4$ of the Steering Committee agrees, the nominees shall be interviewed and acquainted with the requirements of office.
 - (c) The Steering Committee shall (when the nominees are not present) pray over the names nominated and make a final decision.
 - (d) If $3/4$ of the Steering Committee and the original Pastor (if still officiating) concur, the nominee shall be ordained to office in a Sunday service by the laying on of hands and prayer.
2. The Steering Committee shall be appointed for life, unless removed by a $3/4$ vote of the others of the same office.
3. To be eligible for the office of Steering Committee, the nominee must be male, 21 years old or older, a born-again, Spirit-filled, active Christian, dedicated to God's service, and a good example, agreeing to these Bylaws and Articles of Faith, being able to contribute to God's work by teaching, preaching, counseling, guiding, directing, or praying for the sick and ministering to those in need.

ARTICLE II: Appointing Overseers:

1. The Steering Committee shall appoint Spiritual Overseers in the same way as they appoint others to the Steering Committee.

ARTICLE III: Duties of Spiritual Overseers & the Steering Committee (as noted):

1. The Spiritual Overseers shall, in general, and as agreed upon, mutually, perform one or more of the following ministries, if available, and in addition to other ministries that shall be deemed advisable:
 - (a) Teach mid-week classes
 - (b) Direct mid-week services
 - (c) Preach
 - (d) Lead visitation groups
 - (e) Counsel and guide those who seek help
 - (f) Pray for the sick and needy in church, hospitals, and homes
 - (g) Act as advisors to the Pastor, Steering Committee, and Deacons
 - (h) Lead prayer meetings.
2. The Spiritual Overseers do not act as a policy-making board.
3. All decisions in spiritual matters shall be decided by a 2/3 vote of the Steering Committee and approved by the original Pastor (if still officiating).

SECTION IV: DEACONS

ARTICLE I: Election of Deacons:

1. Members of the Board of Deacons shall be chosen by a vote of the congregation (and ratified by the Steering

- Committee) for a period of one year. A Deacon may hold office as many times as he is elected.
2. The Pastor shall tabulate the congregational votes. (If the Pastor feels that a nominee is unqualified for office, he shall refer the matter to the Steering Committee for decision, unless the tally of votes show that the nominee is not among those to be elected by popular vote. In the event that the Steering Committee agrees that the nominee is unqualified, the name shall be expunged from those eligible for office).
 3. A revote of those with the most votes shall be taken if the Pastor determines that the first vote is not decisive.
 4. The Pastor shall determine the number of Deacons required for the church for the first business meeting (the Steering Committee makes this determination, thereafter). There shall never be less than three (3) Deacons on the board at any time.
 5. The Pastor shall appoint one of the Deacons to be Chairman of the board. The Chairman shall call and moderate the board meetings, coordinate all activities and decisions of the board, and shall be responsible for the follow-up of all decisions. The Chairman has no extra power of demand or ^{extra} vote.
 6. The Deacon board shall ask the church Treasurer to sit in on the meetings to take the minutes, or they

- shall appoint one of their own group (or one from the congregation) to be their secretary.
7. The Deacon Board shall appoint others of the Board to offices that they feel necessary (with the Steering Committee's concurrence). The Deacons shall appoint a church treasurer, janitor, ushers, and other such offices over the mundane affairs of the church as they deem necessary. These latter appointees may be selected from the congregation (except as the Steering Committee may disqualify for spiritual reasons).
 8. To be eligible for the office of a Deacon one must be a Spirit-filled male, over 21 years old, who meets the requirements of the Scriptural office.
 9. The Deacon Board may ask knowledgeable persons to sit in on certain board meetings as advisors.

ARTICLE II: Duties:

1. The board shall act as OFFICIAL TRUSTEES of the church, and shall oversee the necessary legal agreements, bank loans and payments, insurance programs, maintenance of the buildings and grounds, janitorial work, future construction, purchasing of equipment, appointment of ushers, and other financial and mundane obligations and duties of the church. They shall insure prompt payment of all obligations, keep neat and accurate books of all expenditures and business, and keep the church advised on all major decisions.

SECTION V: OFFICERS

ARTICLE I: The Sunday Morning Bible School Coordinator:

1. The Sunday Morning Bible School Coordinator shall be appointed by the Pastor for a period of one year.
2. The S.M.B.S. Coordinator shall handle the arrangements for class substitute teachers and class materials and other necessary duties. The Pastor shall oversee the S.M.B.S.

ARTICLE II: The Young People's Leader:

1. The Young People's Leader and other spiritual officers shall be appointed by the Pastor as the need arises.

SECTION VI: CO-RESPONSIBILITIES:

ARTICLE I: Spiritual Overseers and Deacons may hold other offices, or the same office concurrently--as other officers may also do. For example, a person may hold the office of Spiritual Overseer, Deacon, and Sunday Morning Bible School Coordinator.

SECTION VII: VOTING:

ARTICLE I: In order to be eligible to vote in congregational business meetings, one must be: (a) A born-again Christian, (b) in regular attendance in the Sunday services for at least 3 months, (c) 18 years of age or older, (d) unaffiliated with another church (actively). Any question as to voting membership shall be resolved by the Steering Committee, whose decision is final.

ARTICLE II: A majority of the voting members at a meeting shall be necessary to decide any question before the congregation. In case of a tie the Pastor shall cast the deciding vote.

SECTION VIII: BUSINESS MEETINGS

ARTICLE I: Special meetings of the congregation may be called by the Deacons or Steering Committee, or the Pastor. Pastor shall select the date of the meeting within 30 days of request by the Deacons or Steering Committee.

ARTICLE II: Congregational business meetings must be held at least yearly, and shall be announced publically at both of the previous Sunday Services.

ARTICLE III: The Steering Committee may sit in on meetings of the Deacon Board as advisors, but without vote.

SECTION IX: MISCELLANEOUS RULINGS AND ADMENDMENTS

ARTICLE I: A $3/4$ affirmative vote of the Steering Committee and the original Pastor's concurrence, if still presiding, is necessary to change any established bylaw stated herein.

ARTICLE II: In case of any disagreement of interpretation of these rules (in the event that an agreement cannot be reached) the decision of the Steering Committee takes precedence over the Deacon Board. If the disagreement cannot be reconciled by $2/3$ of the Steering Committee, the Pastor shall decide the issue.

ARTICLE III: The Pastor's salary shall be determined by the Steering Committee, who shall re-evaluate the salary rate yearly. Once set and accepted, a Pastor's salary shall not be decreased, unless there is a general recession or depression--and then, only to the same ratio as the published Price Index decline for the local area.

Jack A. Hilde
Steering Committee Member

William E. F. [unclear]
Steering Committee Member

E. J. [unclear]
Steering Committee Member

Wm. L. [unclear]
Pastor

August 29, 1970

BY-LAWS: AMMENDMENTS

1. Community Chapel and Bible Training Center implemented Community Chapel Bible College September 29, 1969, as its college. This college shall have power to award a Th.B. degree to those completing its four-year courses with proper grades and prerequisites.
2. Donald Lee Barnett has been appointed by the Steering Committee of Community Chapel and Bible Training Center to be the sole Administrator of the college.
3. Fees collected by the college shall be collected by the officers designated by the Administrator and shall be given to the Treasurer who shall keep an accurate account of the college income and outgo, separate from the church.
4. The college shall not use church-collected funds for college equipment or supplies without approval of the Steering Committee and Deacon Board.
5. The Administrator may appoint other officers and teachers, and use the tuition and library fees to purchase college equipment and books, and to pay salaries of the teachers and officers, as he deems satisfactory.
6. In as much as the college does not use church offerings for equipment and supplies, the Deacon Board of the church has no authority to pass judgment on the use of the moneys collected by the college.
7. In the event that the Administrator is guilty of gross mismanagement, the Steering Committee may remove him from office.

Steering Committee:

Donald Lee Barnett
Carl D. Vicks
Robert Stettin
Calvin H. Fadden

SUPPLEMENT TO BY-LAWS

In order to verify that Community Chapel and Bible Training Center stands behind our young men who request non-combatant or conscientious objector status by the armed services, we formerly adopt this statement of faith. In as much as this stand results from our interpretation of how the general tenor of scripture relates to the present military actions (rather than direct scriptural doctrines) it is not a requirement of faith in order to hold the office of Spiritual Overseer. We allow latitude, according to conscience and understanding of each member, regarding this issue.

Statement of Faith regarding military action:

1. It is our belief that we are a body of believers, called by God to serve Him according to His Word and revelation.
2. God has called us to be in the world and not of the world, and to put Him first in all things.
3. We are commanded by God to be obedient to civil authority except where contrary to God's word and our conscience. We stand opposed to anarchy and all violence.
4. We recognize Communism to be anti-God and anti-democratic, and a threat to peace.
5. We recognize the right of those who are of the world to use such force as is necessary to subdue crime, anarchy, and aggression.
6. We believe Christians to be citizens of heaven, pilgrims and strangers sojourning among unregenerated peoples on earth.
7. It is our belief that the unregenerated are responsible for the current problems and therefore have to deal with same in their own way. We believe that refusal to be born-again and filled with the Holy Spirit as commanded by scripture has led to strife of every sort in our society and among nations.

We further believe that the soft-stand taken against evil, crime, and aggression by our government has put this country in its present, precarious position.

8. We are convinced that the present actions and inactions are part of a universal scheme to bring in world government as foretold by the Bible. Christians who take part in such matters only help to bring to pass a world government and a world church which will ultimately wrest away our freedom to worship God according to the dictates of our hearts and our understanding of God's Holy Word.

9. We are opposed to taking part in any form of violence, or of any action to aid the establishment of world government or of a national or world church by man's efforts.

We trust God to be our defense, not man.

10. We believe in doing good to all men, evil to none.

11. We are appreciative of our constitution that is based on Godliness, and of the Christian attitudes that accrue from our Godly forebears. We are thankful for the freedom that we do enjoy in this great nation of ours and pray that its leaders will lead us in the paths of righteousness, Godliness, peace, and justice.

Keith E. Dunn

Catherine E. Frederick

Jack A. Hicks

E. S. Suttley Jr.

Donald Lee Barnett