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DEACON RECOMMENDED CONSTITUTION CHANGES 5/8/16

ARTICLE II.MEMBERSHIP

Section 3. Voting Rights of Members

1. Every **active** member of the Church (**as defined below**) is entitled to vote at all elections and on all questions submitted to the Church in business session provided the member is present.
2. **Definition of Active Member**
 - a. **Must participate on a regular basis in the services of the church.**
 - b. **Must support the church financially.**
 - c. **Above 18 years of age.**
 - d. **Members whose attendance and participation are hindered due to military service, college involvement, medical reasons, and/or age are honored exceptions.**

ARTICLE III. CHURCH OFFICERS

GENERAL STATEMENT—In addition to the Pastor, the Church Officers shall be as follows: Deacons, Trustees, Clerk Treasurer, Assistant Treasurer, Financial Recording Secretary, Constitution Steward, Librarian, Assistant Librarian, Historian, Nursery Coordinator, and the Chairman of the following committees: Audit, Building and Grounds, Children's Ministry, Church Ordinances, Flower, Hospitality, Nominating, Personnel, Stewardship, Tellers, Youth Ministry, Ushers, **Audio/Visual & Information Technology.**

1. All volunteer officer assignments are for a one-year term (except Deacons, and trustees) unless otherwise indicated.
2. It is the responsibility of each committee chairman to:
 - a. call the first meeting of the committee as soon as possible for the organizational year;
 - b. preside at all meetings of the committee;
 - c. provide request to the Stewardship Chairman for budgetary needs to carry out the work of the committee for the ensuing year by the first week in November;
 - d. keep abreast of all activities and expenditures of the committee; and,
 - e. in the event of inability to attend scheduled meeting(s), have another committee member designated to serve as chairman for that time.

Section 1. The Pastor

1. Election: The Pastor Selection Committee shall seek out a suitable Pastor and shall bring to the consideration of the Church only one minister at a time. His election shall take place at a business meeting called for that purpose, the membership have been duly notified. Election shall by an affirmative vote of three-fourths (3/4) of those **active** members present.

Section 3. Deacons

3. Election: Deacons shall be elected at the annual election of Church officers, except as additional deacons may be needed and elected during the Church year. The following procedure shall be followed to obtain nominations for deacons:

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- a. At least three months prior to the election date, the Nominating Committee shall be responsible for sending a letter to **active** church members requesting nominations for deacons. The following items will be forwarded with the request for nominations:
 - i. A current list of eligible deacon nominees. All active church members are eligible to be nominated for deacon except:
 - persons who are now serving as active deacons.
 - persons having just completed a term of three years as deacon.
 - persons under the age of 18 at time of election date.
 - persons with less than one year of membership at date of election.
- b. Each **active** Church member may nominate one candidate for each deacon vacancy.
- d. The list of deacon nominees will be presented to the Pastor and Chairman of the Deacons who will contact the necessary number of nominees, starting with those persons receiving the largest number of votes, to discuss deacon qualifications and duties and determine if they are willing to serve. **The Pastor and Chairman of Deacons will assess the candidates' active participation in the life of the church before recommending the nominee to the church.** Other persons on the list receiving the next highest number of votes will be contacted until the required number of nominees is secured.

ARTICLE VII. ELECTIONS

1. Unless otherwise herein provided, the election of all officers and committees shall take place the fourth **Wednesday** in **Dec.**

ARTICLE IX. CHURCH MEETINGS

Section 3. Regular Business Meetings

1. Quarterly Business Meetings shall be held on the last **Wednesday** of January, April, July, and October.

Section 5. Quorum

1. a quorum at any business meeting of the Church shall consist of ten (10) percent of the **active** membership of the Church (see Article II Section 3.2). Every **active** member of the Church present at business meetings shall have the right to vote on all questions under consideration.

ARTICLE XI. ADOPTION AND DISTRIBUTION OF BYLAWS

Section 1. Adoption of Bylaws

1. These Bylaws shall require for adoption two-thirds (2/3) of the votes cast by the **active** members (as defined by the GPBC Constitution) present at a regular or special meeting called for this purpose. Any of these Bylaws may be amended, altered, or repealed by two-thirds (2/3) of the **active** members present and voting at any regular or called business meeting of the Church; however such proposed changes must be submitted to the Church in writing at least thirty (30) days before the action on the amendment.

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