**Name**

This organization shall be known as the Community Bible Church, Inc.

**Purpose**

The Church, the body of Christ, has three basic functions: the function of the church toward the world is evangelism (2 Corinthians 5:20), toward itself is edification (I Thessalonians 5:11), for the glorification of God (I Corinthians 10:31).

**Mission Statement**

Sharing Christ’s love to change our world, one person at a time

ARTICLE I

This church shall be known as a fundamental, evangelical, independent and non-denominational church and recognizes the obligation and the privilege of fellowship with like-faith churches. Spiritual authority for this constitution is taken from the Bible, God’s word.

ARTICLE II

**DOCTRINAL STATEMENTS**

**First The Bible**

We believe the Holy Scriptures of the Old and New Testament consisting of 66 books (39 old and 27 new) to be the verbally inspired Word of God, the final authority for faith and life, inerrant in the original writings, infallible and God-breathed (2 Timothy 3:16, 17; 2 Peter 1:20, 21; Matthew 5:18).

**Second The Godhead**

We believe in the one Triune God, eternally existing in three persons, Father, Son and Holy Spirit, co-eternal in being, co-identical in nature, co-equal in power and glory, and having the same attributes and perfections (Deuteronomy 6:4; 2 Corinthians 13:14).

**Third The Person and Work of the Father**

We believe in God the Father, an infinite, personal, spirit, perfect in holiness, wisdom, power and love. We believe that He infallibly foreknows all that shall come to pass, that He concerns Himself mercifully in the affairs of men, that He hears and answers prayer, and that He saves from sin and death all who come to Him through Jesus Christ (Exodus 33:19, John 4:24, Isaiah 46:9-10, Matthew 23:9).

**Fourth The Person and Work of Christ**

A. We believe that the Lord Jesus Christ, the eternal Son of God, became 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 men (John 1:1, 14; Luke 1:35).

B. 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; I Peter 2:24; Ephesians 1:7; I Peter 1:3-5).

C. 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; Hebrews 4:14-16, 9:24; Romans 8:34; I John 2:1, 2)

D. We believe in the “Blessed Hope,” the personal, imminent, pre-tribulational and premillennial coming of the Lord Jesus for His redeemed ones, and in His subsequent return to earth with His saints to establish His earthly millennial kingdom (Titus 2:13; 1 Thessalonians 4:13-18; Zechariah 14:4-11; Revelation 19:11-16, 20:1- 6; 1 Thessalonians 1:10, 5:9)

**Fifth The Person and Work of the Holy Spirit**

A. We believe that the Holy Spirit is a person who convicts the world of sin, of righteousness, and of judgment; and He is the Supernatural Agent in regeneration, baptizing all believers into the Body of Christ, indwelling, sealing, sanctifying and empowering them unto the day of redemption (John 16:8-11; 2 Corinthians 3:6; I Corinthians 12:12-14; Romans 8:9; Ephesians 1:13, 14; Titus 3:5).

B. We believe that He is the Divine Teacher who guides believers into all truths, and that it is the privilege and duty of all the saved to be filled with the Spirit (John 16:13; I John 2:20; Ephesians 5:18).

C. Ministry and Spiritual Gifts

i. We believe that God is sovereign in the bestowment of spiritual gifts, and that these gifts are sufficient for the maturing of the saints today (I Corinthians 12:4-11, 28; Ephesians 4:7-12).

ii. We believe that God allowed certain temporary gifts for the validation and spread of the Gospel, which have since ceased following the end of the Apostolic era. (1 Corinthians 13:8, Hebrews 2:3-4)

**Sixth Salvation**

A. We believe that man was created in the image and likeness of the Godhead, but that in Adam’s sin the race fell, inherited a sinful nature, incurring physical, spiritual and eternal death and becoming alienated from God; and that man is totally depraved and, of himself, utterly unable to remedy his lost condition (Genesis 1:26, 27; Romans 3:23, 5:12; Ephesians 2:1-3, 12).

B. We believe that salvation is the gift of God brought to man 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 and reconciliation with God (Ephesians 2:8-10; John 1:12; Ephesians 1:7; I Peter 1:18, 19; 2 Corinthians 5:18-19).

**Seventh The Eternal Security and Assurance of the Believer**

1. We believe that all the redeemed, once saved, are kept in God’s power and are thus secure in Christ forever (John 6:37-40; 10:25-29; Romans 8:1. 29-30 38-39; I Corinthians 1:8; Philippians 41:6; I Peter 1:5).
2. We believe that it is the 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 Christians’ liberty as an occasion to the flesh. True faith will result in lasting works that accompany salvation. (John 15:16; Romans 13:13-14; Galatians 5:13; Ephesians 2:10; Titus 2:11-13; James 2:14-26).

**Eighth Sanctification**

We believe that every saved person is freed from the slavery of sin, and being a new creation in Christ can live in righteousness, and holiness after God, made possible through the work of the Holy Spirit (Romans 6-7; 2 Corinthians 5:17; Colossians 3:10; I Peter 1:14-16; I John 3:5-9).

**Ninth Separation**

We believe Spirit filled Christians will live in such a manner that brings glory to their Savior and Lord, while living in separation from all worldly practices which would bring reproach upon the Lord and be a stumbling block to others (2 Timothy 3:1-5; Romans 12:1-2; I John 2:15-17; II John 9-11; II Corinthians 6:14; 7:1).

**Tenth Missions**

We believe that it is the obligation of the saved to witness by life and by word to the truths of the Holy Scriptures and to seek to proclaim the Gospel to all mankind (Mark 16:15; Acts 1:8; II Corinthians 5:19-20).

**Eleventh The Church**

A. We believe that the Church, which is the Body and the espoused Bride of Christ, is a spiritual organism made up of all born-again persons after Pentecost (Ephesians 1:22-23; 5:25-27; I Corinthians 12:12-14; 2 Corinthians 11:2).

B. We believe that the establishment and continuance of local churches is clearly

taught and defined in the New Testament Scripture (Matthew 16:18; Acts 9:31;

14:27; 20:17, 28-32).

**Twelfth Dispensationalism**

We believe in the dispensational view of Biblical interpretation which main points are as follows (Romans 6, 9, & 11; Ephesians 1:3 & 10, 3:9).

1. Israel and the church are separate
2. The Church is presently experiencing the spiritual benefits of the New Covenant in this age
3. God will fulfill his promises to Israel through the New Covenant

**Thirteenth Satan and Fallen Angels**

A. We believe that Satan is a being, the originator of sin, the cause of the fall, the open and declared enemy of God and man, and that he shall be eternally punished in the Lake of Fire (Job 1:6-7; Isaiah 14:13-17; Matthew 4:2-11; Revelation 20:10).

B. We believe in the existence of demons, (fallen angels) who carry out the work of Satan against God and His elect (Ezekiel 28:17; Ephesians 6:12; 2 Peter 2:4; Jude 6).

**Fourteenth The Eternal State**

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

B. 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 (Luke23:43: Revelation 20:4-8; 2 Corinthians 5:8; Philippians 1:23, 3:21, I Thessalonians4:16,17).

C. We believe that the souls of unbelievers remain after death in conscious misery until

the final resurrection, when the spirit, soul, and body are reunited to 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 16:19-26; Matthew

25:41 & 46; 2 Thessalonians 1:7-9; Mark 9:43-48; Revelation 20:11-15).

**Fifteenth Marriage and Sexuality**

A. We believe God’s design for believers in marriage is that believers should marry only Christians (2 Corinthians 6:14).

B. We believe God’s design for sex is that it be kept for marriage (Hebrews 13:4).

C. We believe marriage is between one man and one woman as set up by God in

Genesis 2:18-25.

D. We believe homosexuality is a sin (Leviticus 18:22; Romans 1:24, 26-27; 1

Corinthians 6:9; 1 Timothy 1:9-10).

ARTICLE III

**MEMBERSHIP**

**First Qualifications for Prospective Members**

A. Persons desiring to join this church must be at least 18 years of age, a believer, and have regularly attended for at least six (6) months. These shall attend a membership class and upon completion, the perspective members shall be examined by representatives from the Board of Elders and the Pastor, in relation to their confession of faith and to their Christian experience, and if found satisfactory, shall be accepted for membership. They may be received into membership by publicly agreeing to the Articles of Faith and Covenant, and if they have not already been, shall be baptized at the next Baptism service.

B. The mode of baptism for those becoming members of this church will be immersion

after the individual’s salvation. Baptism may be waived by the Board of Elders and

Pastor for certain circumstances such as medical restrictions.

**Second Expectations for Active Members**

A. To commit by the aid of the Holy Spirit, to walk 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 ministry, the expenses of the

church, the relief of the poor, and the spread of the Gospel throughout all nations.

B. To commit to maintain family and personal devotions, to educate our children

scripturally, to seek the salvation of our kindred and acquaintances, to be just in our

dealings, faithful in our engagements, and exemplary in our behavior, to avoid all

worldly and sinful practices which might bring reproach upon our Lord and hinder our

testimony among the lost or cause a brother to stumble, and to be zealous in our

efforts to advance the kingdom of our Savior.

C. To further commit 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.

**Third Church Discipline**

A. In all cases of conduct or teaching being contrary to the Word of God and

unbecoming to the profession of a Christian, or when a member no longer adheres

to the Doctrinal basis of the church (life and faith), the discipline procedure shall be

as follows as directed by our Lord in Matthew 18:15-17:

i. The offender shall be visited by a committee of two from the Board of Elders,

who shall endeavor to proceed in all cases with deliberation and according both

the letter and the spirit of the Scriptures and use earnest and prayerful endeavor

to ascertain the truth. Every effort should be made to clear up the difficulty and to

remove the offense before church action is taken. Corrective discipline has for its

aim the glory of God, the welfare and purity of the church and the repentance

and continued spiritual growth of the offending member or adherent.

ii. If such an effort to restore fellowship fails, the facts shall be represented in

writing as they have been ascertained and the offending member or adherent

shall be called before the Board of Elders for examination at some date, not

less than one and not more than two weeks subsequently.

iii. In the case of a church member, if, after a fair and impartial hearing, the

restoration is still impossible the Board of Elders may remove the name of the

offending member from the roll of membership by a unanimous vote. Such

action will be reported to the congregation.

B. In the case of humble confession and repentance, the purpose of discipline having

been accomplished, the Board of Elders shall restore by unanimous vote, the

person to full membership and fellowship. Such action will be reported to the

congregation.

C. The rules of discipline and restoration shall be based on Matthew 18:15-19; 2

Corinthians 2:5-8; I Corinthians 5:4-7.

**Fourth Inactive Members**

A. The name of any person who shall be habitually absent from the services of the

church for a period of six (6) months, without giving a satisfactory explanation to the

Board of Elders for such absence will be issued a letter of actions and shall be

placed on the inactive list, by the Elders, without voting privileges.

B. Such individuals who wish to again become active and to have voting privileges

should become actively involved in the life of the church as stated in Article III

section the second and will be reinstated by the Board of Elders by letter and shall

be in attendance for a period of no less than three (3) months before participating in

a church vote.

**Fifth Removal from Rolls**

A. Any persons who have been habitually inactive for a total of nine (9) months by

choice, will be contacted by the Pastor and/or Elders to be informed of their

removal from membership.

B. Such action will be submitted in writing to the persons involved.

**Sixth Reinstatement of Membership**

Any persons who desire to have their membership reinstated shall be interviewed by

representatives from the Board of Elders as discussed in Article III section the first

and being found satisfactory shall have their membership restored.

ARTICLE IV

**CHURCH OPPERATIONS**

**First** All Business meetings of this church shall be opened and closed in prayer.

**Second** The government of this church is vested in the active members who compose it and whose vote shall be final. A quorum for any congregational meeting shall be 1/3 of the total active members. According to state requirements of the Religious Corporation Law for Independent Churches, such members to be of full age 18 and older who for one year preceding such meeting, have consistently worshiped with such church and been in good standing. A quorum for any congregational meeting shall be 1/3 of the total active members who are of voting age.

**Third** Special meetings may be called for the transaction of any legitimate business by the Board of Trustees, Board of Elders, the Executive Board, or ten (10) percent of the membership. Notice of such meeting must have been given at two Sunday morning

church services proceeding the day appointed.

**Fourth** The annual business meeting of the church shall be held in the month of January on a date set by the Executive Board at the 3rd Quarter meeting. The church financial year

is to include the twelve months beginning January first. At this meeting shall occur

review of the Treasurer’s report, the annual reports of Pastors, Elders, Trustees,

Christian Education Director, Director of Missions, standing committees, and any other

groups. These reports shall be followed by the elections of officers and necessary

business. Such reports should be given at the annual business meeting and should be

submitted in writing or typed form to be filed by the church clerk. The clerk shall keep

the minutes and the meeting shall be governed by the Religious Corporation Law

wherever this constitution is vague.

**Fifth** The church shall elect all officers by written ballots.

**Sixth** Proposed amendments to this constitution shall be ratified at a church business meeting by a two-thirds vote of the active members, present and voting, and presented to the congregation during at least two Sunday services prior to the meeting. The congregation shall be allowed a time of questions concerning the proposed amendments at an informational meeting held prior to the day of voting.

**Seventh** The Board of Elders shall compose the pulpit committee of this

church. The names of any ministers who should be regarded as candidates shall be

presented to the committee for their prayerful consideration. All candidates for pastor

shall be considered and examined by the pulpit committee. If a candidate meets the

approval of the pulpit committee, he shall then be presented to the members of the

Executive Board after which he shall be recommended to the members of this church

who shall vote upon him.

**Eighth Nominating Committee/Board Nominees**

A. Nominating Committee shall be appointed at the second quarter meeting of the Executive Board and shall be comprised of the Pastor(s) and three or more church members who have been active members for at least one year.

B. This committee shall prepare a report of nominees for the church officers and submit the same by the November meeting of the Elder Board.

C. Nominees shall have been members for at least one year and during that year have met the expectations set forth for members in Article III Section the Second. Any suggested nominations must be submitted to the Nominating Committee at least one week prior the final meeting of the Nominating Committee.

**Ninth Appointment of Positions & Committees**

The Elder Board shall appoint and provide oversight for standing, non-elected, committees and positions.

A. The Missions Committee shall consist of the elected Director of Missions and three or more appointed members who will oversee mission fund expenditures and mission fund proposals, including the budget for the following year.

B. Director of Music shall provide oversight to the music ministry of the church.

C. The Head Usher shall be responsible for the church being in order for all services, directing the seating of people, the supply of ushers for taking offerings, distributing bulletins, and taking a head count

D. Outreach Director shall be responsible for coordinating the work of the Outreach Team.

ARTICLE V

**CHURCH LEADERSHIP & ORGANIZATION**

**First Officers**

A. The officers of this church shall be: Pastor(s), two or more Elders,

three or more Trustees, Church Clerk, Treasurer, Director of

Missions, Director of Christian Education, and Financial Secretary.

B. All elected offices shall be served in three (3) year terms

i. All officers running unopposed must receive a majority vote, i.e. more than half of the voting members present.

ii. A vacancy, when the term of office is unexpired, shall be filled by an appointment of the Elder Board until the next annual meeting of the church at which time the church would elect someone to fulfill the remaining term of the vacant position. In the case of a board having multiple vacant positions open for election, the person receiving the least amount of winning votes shall fill the partial term left vacant.

iii. When a set number of vacancies shall be filled by multiple individuals, and an

additional vacancy is made available, the next runner up shall fill the remaining

term of the vacancy.

iv. Absentee ballots shall be made available at least two weeks prior to a voting

meeting. Absentee ballots must be signed and received prior to the vote. Any

ballot received after the said vote will be considered invalid.

v. A Chairman and recording secretary shall be elected by majority vote by

individual boards and standing committees at their first meeting following the

annual meeting of the church.

C. Expectations for Church Officers

i. All elected officers shall be expected to attend planned meetings pertaining to

their position and to perform all duties and responsibilities listed in the following

sections.

ii. The Executive Board will declare the position vacant of any officer who is absent from two consecutive quarterly executive board meetings or three consecutive elected board meetings without satisfactory excuse, or otherwise does not properly discharge the duties of his position.

iii. Any officer who has a habitual pattern of absence from the services of the church or is absent for a period of four (4) weeks without satisfactory excuse shall have their elected position declared vacant.

iv. In the case of an elected officials conduct or teaching being contrary to the Word of God and unbecoming to the profession of a Christian, or when they no longer adhere to the Doctrinal basis of the church (life and faith), the executive board shall declare their position vacant.

**Second Pastor(s)**

A. Call of the Pastor(s)

i. A Pastor shall be elected by a two-thirds majority of all ballots cast at a meeting

called for that purpose according to the Religious Corporation Law, Article 10,

section 195 (page 165).

ii. According to the teaching of Scripture a Pastor shall be a male, as spiritual

shepherd of the flock. (2 Timothy 2:9-3:7)

iii. The Pastor must subscribe to the Doctrinal statement of faith contained in Article II and the Church Covenant in Article III.

iv. Upon being called to this church, the Pastor and his wife shall automatically be considered members of this church.

B. Duties

i. The tenure of the Pastor(s) shall be for an indefinite period to be ended only by

His resignation or by a two-thirds vote of the active members..

ii. The Pastor(s) shall be a member ex-officio of all boards and committees, and

shall be consulted by the Board of Trustees or the Board of Elders prior to any

business decision.

C. Termination

i. Written Resignation – A Pastor may submit a written resignation at any time he

so desires, and must give the church two months notice to find another pastor

before leaving. Any meeting called for the dismissal of a Pastor must be called

two weeks in advance and announced from the pulpit. For the protection of the

pastor, no meeting for his dismissal can be called at any time when he cannot be

present.

ii. Grievance – In the event that a Pastor is dismissed, he shall be given sixty days from the time of his notification of termination of office to vacate the parsonage. A Pastor is not to be dismissed or discharged from his office for anything that is consistent with his charge as is stated in the by-laws concerning the Pastor.

**Third Executive Board**

A. The officers of this church shall make up the Executive Board. They are the

Pastor(s), Elders, Trustees, Clerk, Treasurer, Assistant Treasurer, Director of Missions, Director of Christian Education, and Financial Secretary.

B. The Executive Board shall elect from within a Chairman, excluding the Pastors, who

shall preside at all business meetings of the church. In the absence of this

Chairman, the Chairman of the Trustee Board shall preside. In the absence of either

of the above Chairman, the Chairman of the Elder Board shall preside.

C. The regular quarterly meeting of the Executive Board of this church shall be held

during the first week of each quarter or at the convenience of the majority of the

people and of the Pastor.

D. A quorum of the Executive Board shall be a majority of the members of that board.

E. Authorization to spend $3000 - $4000 can be made by the Executive Board.

Authorization to spend more than $4000 must be obtained at a corporate meeting (except in the case of an emergency as determined by the Board of Trustees).

**Fourth Elders**

A. The chairman of the Elder Board shall be elected from within the board at the first

meeting following the annual meeting.

B. Elders and nominees for Elder shall be males who are qualified for the office as specified in the Bible. (1 Timothy 3:1.7; Titus 1:6-9)

C. Responsibilities

i. The Elders shall be assistants to the Pastors in having charge of the spiritual

interest of the church and administration of the ordinances.

ii. The Board of Elders shall meet at least once a month or as needed.

iii. The Elders are responsible for the review of all Pastors. They shall review

semi-annually pastors who have been employed for less then two years after

which they shall review them yearly.

iv. At least two (2) Elders shall interview prospective members after which they

shall submit their recommendation to the Elder Board.

v. In the absence of a Pastor, or Pastors, the Chairman of the Elder Board shall conduct the business affairs of the church and the Board of Elders shall have charge of the pulpit and prayer meetings.

**Fifth Trustees**

A. They are to be governed by the Religious Corporation Law of the State of New York.

B. A third of the trustees shall be elected annually.

C. The Board of Trustees shall meet monthly.

D. The chairman of the Trustee Board shall be elected from within the board at the first

meeting following the annual meeting.

E. Responsibilities

i. The trustees shall have the general care of the finances, direction of the

treasurer and Financial Secretary and maintenance of the property belonging to

the church.

ii. The trustees shall be responsible for counting the weekly offering.

iii. Annual Budget

a. Staff salaries shall be proposed yearly by the Board of Trustees with the

recommendation by the Board of Elders and the consideration of the

Executive Board, prior to the annual meeting.

b. There shall be a congregational meeting to discuss the proposed annual budget at least a month prior to the annual meeting, at such time any suggested amendments to the proposed budget can be made.

c. The Board of Trustees shall submit the annual budget for the following

year at the annual meeting. The annual budget must pass by a majority

vote of written ballots. The proposed annual budget will be presented as

an up or down (yes or no) vote.

d. If the proposed annual budget is voted down, the prior years working

budget shall be used until such time as a new budget is passed.

iv. Trustees are authorized to make expenditures up to $3000. Authorization to

spend $3000 - $4000 can be made by the Executive Board. Authorization to

spend more than $4000 must be obtained at a corporate meeting (except in the

case of an emergency as determined by the board of trustees).

v. The trustees are responsible for providing a yearly financial audit of the financial records of the church

vi. The trustees will cooperate with the Elder Board in providing evaluations of all pastoral staff

**Sixth Clerk**

The Church Clerk shall keep the minutes for the Executive Board, all congregational

meetings and maintain a record of members in attendance.

**Seventh Treasurer**

The Treasurer shall keep the financial record, pay all church bills at the direction of the

Board of Trustees and shall have a financial statement ready for all Executive Board

and Trustee meetings.

**Eighth Assistant Treasurer**

The Assistant Treasurer shall assist the Treasurer in the work of keeping the financial record, paying all church bills at the direction of the Board of Trustees and having a financial statement ready for all Executive Board and Trustee meetings.

 **Ninth Financial Secretary**

The Financial Secretary shall distribute church envelopes, keep records of

contributions, and issue annual receipts of all gifts. It shall be the responsibility of the

Financial Secretary to follow the written procedure of the Trustee Board concerning the

weekly offering as approved by the Executive Board.

**Tenth Director of Missions**

The Director of Missions shall be responsible for overseeing the distribution of

missionary monies as authorized at the annual meeting both specified and budgeted,

and submit a financial report at each executive and annual meeting.

**Eleventh Director of Christian Education**

The Director of Christian Education shall coordinate the work of the Youth Ministry,

Sunday School, AWANA, Jr. Church, Children’s Church and Nursery and chair the

Christian Education Board meetings.

A. The Director of Christian Education shall be responsible for the supplying of

directors for these ministries.

i. These directors shall make up the Christian Education Board and fill ministry

positions and purchase appropriate materials.

ii.  Ministry positions, within the church, such as SS teachers, Jr./Children's Church teachers and the like, shall be filled by active members and non-members who are in agreement with the doctrinal statement and Constitution of CBC as approved by the Elder Board.

B. The Christian Education Board shall meet quarterly or as needed.

C. This position shall report to or be held by the Assistant Pastor.

ARTICLE VI

**SPIRITUAL RESPONSIBILITIES**

**The Pastor(s)**

A. The Senior Pastor shall have control of the pulpit and the exercise of the public worship, shall preach the Word (2 Timothy 4:1-5), shall take the scriptural oversight of the flock, shall administer the ordinances of communion and baptism and shall have administrative oversight of church staff (I Timothy 3:1-7; 2 Timothy 3:16, 17).

B. It shall be the duty of the Pastor(s) to give himself to prayer, meditation, and the study of the Word of God (2 Timothy 3:15), and other sources of spiritual and mental edification, not only for his own sake, but also for the sake of the flock.

C. The Pastor(s) is to seek in public and private, the salvation of the lost and the building up of Christians in their most holy faith, promoting in every way the spiritual welfare of the members by pastoral counsel and visitation.

**The Congregation**

A. Each member of this church commits to honor, esteem, and love their Pastor(s) as well as all church leaders, to pray for them, to recognize their authority in all spiritual affairs of the church, to cherish a brotherly love for all members of the church, and to support the church in prayer, presence, and tithes and offerings as the Lord enables.

B. Each member is to familiarize himself with this constitution and its by-laws: subscribe to the Doctrinal Statement and Covenant of this church, and exercise private meditation in God’s Word and prayer.

ARTICLE VII

This constitution stands as amended by the Community Bible congregations on Sunday,

November 16, 2014.