

BYLAWS

MISSION STATEMENT

Greene County Baptist Association networks churches for Kingdom Advance.

ARTICLE I - MEMBERSHIP

The Association shall be composed of messengers from such Baptist churches, which agree to the principles of these Articles and Bylaws.

Section 1. Any Baptist church sound in like faith and practice, whose geographical location is such that it is convenient, may petition for membership in this Association by furnishing a copy of its organization and articles of faith to the Church Relations Committee. This Committee shall present the petition at the next Annual Meeting and then following a waiting period of one (1) year shall recommend the acceptance or rejection of said church through the Associational Leadership Council. The one (1) year waiting period shall not apply when applicant shall have during the preceding year been sponsored as a mission of a cooperating Greene County Baptist Church.

Section 2. Any church failing to report to the Association by Annual Church Profile or by messenger and failing to give financial support for the program of the Association for two (2) years in succession shall be dropped from the roll without action of the body. Such churches may be reinstated by vote of the body when sufficient reasons are given.

Section 3. Each church of fifty members or less shall be entitled to three (3) messengers; and for each additional fifty (50) members or major fraction thereof, one (1) additional messenger, providing no church shall have more than seven (7) messengers in addition to the pastor who shall be a messenger by virtue of his relation to the church.

Section 4. This body shall exercise no legislative or judicial authority over any church, nor shall it have any ecclesiastical power over the internal affairs of any church, but this Association reserves the right to reject messengers from any church or dismiss any church from membership in the Association which, in the opinion of the Association, shows itself to be unorthodox in faith or practice, or which willfully and persistently creates discord by refusing to comply with the spirit of this Articles of Incorporation and Bylaws.

A council may be called through the Church Relations Committee to examine the faith and practice of a church and make recommendation to the body for continued fellowship or dismissal from membership in the Association.

ARTICLE II - OFFICERS

Officers of the Association shall be identical with the officers of the Corporation. (See Article VII of Articles of Incorporation.)

ARTICLE III – EXECUTIVE BOARD

Section 1. The Executive Board shall be the Association ‘ad interim and the business of the Association between Annual Sessions shall be their responsibility. This board shall be composed of the Associational Leadership Council, the pastor and one member from each church. A quorum shall consist of not less than fifteen (15) member churches represented.

Section 2. The Board shall meet once each quarter. Special meetings may be called by the Associational Leadership Council with two (2) weeks written notice to each church.

ARTICLE IV – STAFF

Section 1. The Director of Associational Work shall be called by the Executive Board, after recommendation by a Search Committee with the approval of the Associational Leadership Council, on a two-thirds majority vote for an indefinite term. The Search Committee shall be composed of the Personnel Committee, Moderator and Vice Moderator serving at the time of the vacancy with the Personnel Committee Chairman serving as chairman.

The termination of his services shall be by a simple majority vote of the Executive Board with a sixty (60) day notice being given. In case of his resignation, thirty (30) days notice shall be given. He is to guide the work of the Association and is to report regularly to the Associational Leadership Council, Executive Board, and Annual Meetings. He shall be an ex-officio member of all committees.

Section 2. Other staff members may be called by the Board on recommendation of the Personnel Committee in counsel with the Associational Leadership Council. Services may be terminated in the same way. Each staff member shall be responsible to the Director of Associational Work.

Section 3. Clerical, custodial, part-time, temporary, and contract employees shall be employed and terminated by the Director and Personnel Committee according to Associational policies and budget limitations.

Section 4. Staff relationships and responsibilities shall be according to the “Staff Policy Manual.”

ARTICLE V – ASSOCIATIONAL LEADERSHIP COUNCIL

There shall be an Associational Leadership Council composed of the executive officers of the Association, chairpersons of the Administrative Committees and Team Leaders of the Ministry Teams.

This Leadership Council shall meet at least once before each Executive Board Meeting and the Annual Meeting and a majority of the members of the Leadership Council shall be a quorum. The Moderator, or any four (4) members of the Associational Leadership Council may call a meeting as often as needed, providing all members have been notified by mail or telephone.

The duties of this council shall be to implement and administer the policies and work of the Association and its Executive Board. They shall draft a budget for submission and approval of the Association, prepare an annual associational calendar, propose annual and long range

goals, receive reports and/or recommendations from associational leadership and administer the properties of the Association. The Associational Leadership Council shall report and make policy recommendations to the Association.

ARTICLE VI – MINISTRY STRUCTURE

Section 1. The purpose and responsibilities of the committees, teams, coordinators and representatives listed in this article are outlined in the Association's Organizational Manual.

Section 2. Administrative Committees. There shall be three (3) Administrative Committees, which will fulfill certain administrative functions for the Association. These Administrative Committees are: 1. Personnel Committee; 2. Nominating Committee; 3. Church Relations Committee.

Section 3. Ministry Teams. There shall be five (5) Ministry Teams, which will lead the Association in fulfilling its mission and ministry functions. These Ministry Teams are: 1. Missions Team; 2. New Work Team; 3. Evangelism Team; 4. Leadership Development Team; 5. Church Health Team.

Section 4. Ministry/Event Coordinators. There shall be Ministry/Event Coordinators who will lead a specific program or ministry of the Association.

Section 5. Representatives. Representatives to various Baptist bodies may be elected as needed.

ARTICLE VII – AMENDMENTS

These Bylaws may be amended at any Annual Meeting by a two-thirds majority, provided the proposed amendment(s) shall have been sent in writing to member churches not less than fifteen days prior to the Annual Meeting.

The clerk may make corrections in grammar, spelling, and may update organizational names at each new printing without action of the body.

ARTICLE VIII – GENERAL

Robert's RULES OF ORDER, Revised edition, shall be the standard for conduct and decorum for this body in all matters not covered herein by this Articles of Incorporation and Bylaws of this Association.

Revised October 6, 2016