

[Approved July 17, 2013]

**CONSTITUTION
OF
MEMORIAL BAPTIST CHURCH
OF COLUMBIA, MISSOURI**

PREAMBLE

For the more certain preservation, promotion and security of the principles of our faith in Jesus Christ and to the end that this body may be governed in an orderly manner consistent with the accepted tenets of the Southern Baptist Convention as stated in the articles of faith adopted by the Memorial Baptist Church upon its organization, we do declare and establish this constitution as specified in the following articles:

ARTICLE I – NAME

This organization shall be known as the Memorial Baptist Church of Columbia, Missouri, and is so chartered by the State of Missouri.

ARTICLE II – PURPOSE

The purpose of this church shall be to know Christ and to make Christ known. It shall seek to attain this end through the public worship of God, the preaching of the Gospel here and abroad, and the spiritual development of its members leading to consistent Christian living and Kingdom growth.

ARTICLE III – GOVERNMENT

The government of this church shall be vested in the body of its members. Each active member shall have an equal voice in determining its policy. It shall be subject to the control of no other religious body. To this end appropriate bylaws shall be adopted in definitive form to implement the Baptist doctrine of local autonomous church government.

ARTICLE IV – COOPERATION

The church shall maintain cooperation with Baptist and other organizations as the church may determine.

ARTICLE V – DOCTRINE

The church's understanding of Christian truth shall be guided by the Scriptures, which it accepts as its authority in matters of faith and practice. The standard of faith and practice shall be that as set forth in the New Testament and incorporated in the church covenant and articles of faith as outlined in "The Baptist Faith and Message," a statement adopted by the Southern Baptist Convention in 1963. These two documents are human constructs; they are our standards of faith and practice insofar as they accurately explain the scriptures.

ARTICLE VI – COVENANT

The church shall maintain a covenant adopted by its members.

ARTICLE VII – AMENDMENTS

The Constitution and Bylaws may be amended or altered at any regular business meeting of the church attended by a quorum, by a vote of three-fourths (3/4) of the active members present and voting; providing the amendment has been presented to the church at its prior regular business meeting, and made available at least two weeks prior to the church action. Any proposed amendment may be discussed and amended at both meetings without re-notification.

BYLAWS

ARTICLE I – MEMBERSHIP

SECTION I - QUALIFICATIONS AND RECEPTION

A. Qualifications - The membership of this church shall consist of such persons who confess Jesus Christ as their Saviour and Lord, and have been baptized by immersion and are accepted by vote of the active members present and voting, in one of the following ways:

1. By Baptism – Candidates for baptism may be received upon their profession of faith in Jesus Christ as their Saviour and Lord. They shall be baptized by the pastor, a deacon or another Christian designated by the candidate with approval of the pastor.

2. By Letter – Members of Baptist churches of like faith and order may be received by letter of recommendation or promise of such letter.

3. By Statement – Persons may be received by statement of membership and baptism in a Baptist church of like faith and order from which it is no longer possible to get a letter of recommendation, or by statement of baptism in a church of another denomination, in which latter case candidates shall communicate orally to the pastor that they desire to be received by statement. Interview of candidates will be conducted by the pastor and in his discretion, members of the Membership Committee of the Deacons in a special meeting of said committee to determine if the previous mode and understanding of the baptism of the candidate was in accordance with that described in “The Baptist Faith and Message” (Adopted by the Southern Baptist Convention, May 9, 1963; p. 13, Article VII, paragraph I). Favorable decision of the interviewer(s) shall be required for membership by this means.

4. By Restoration – Any person whose membership has been terminated in any way may be restored to full fellowship by vote of the church upon the recommendation of the deacons.

5. By Watchcare – Persons who wish to fellowship with this church while retaining membership elsewhere may be received by Watchcare for the purposes of fellowship, but shall not vote or hold any office.

B. Reception - The applications for membership of those persons presenting themselves by any of the above methods shall be presented to the congregation at the next regular business meeting. Three-fourths (3/4) vote of those present and voting shall be required for acceptance. The person shall become a member at the later of such acceptance or:

1. upon baptism;
2. upon receipt by the church clerk of the letter promised;
3. upon favorable decision of the interviewer(s) as provided by Section I

(A)3 above.

SECTION II - COMMITMENTS

Members shall be expected to be faithful in all practices of the Christian life; attend regularly the services of the church; tithe to its support and causes; share in its organized work; and conduct themselves toward one another in the spirit of the church covenant.

SECTION III - PRIVILEGES

Only members who are on the active roll may vote in the transactions of the church and hold elective positions.

SECTION IV – CHANGES IN STATUS

A. Active vs. Inactive Rolls - The church clerk shall maintain an active and inactive membership roll. An inactive church member is one who, for a period of one year, does not worship with the church or contribute to the support of the church. The deacons will notify the church clerk of changes in status.

B. Termination of Membership – Other than by death, membership in the church may be terminated effective upon a vote of the active members in any one of the following ways:

1. Any member in good standing requesting a letter to another specified Baptist Church of like faith and order is entitled to have it granted.

2. Any member in good standing desiring to unite with a church of some other faith may be granted a statement of membership upon request.

3. Any member who cannot be located for one year despite reasonable effort by the church to do so, will be dropped from the church roll and name kept for record only.

4. Any member who has become an offense to the church and to its good name by reason of immoral or unchristian conduct shall be approached by a

committee of the deacons with a view to seeking repentance and correction on the basis of Matthew 18:15-17. The church may terminate membership only after due notice has been presented, sympathetic hearing has been given, and faithful efforts have been made to bring about reconciliation. Such termination may not take place at the same meeting in which the recommendation is made.

5. Any member who submits a written request to be removed from the rolls will have his or her request honored upon recommendation to the church by the deacons.

ARTICLE II – OFFICERS AND REPRESENTATIVES

(All officers must be members of the church.)

SECTION I – DEACONS – amended 03.11.2015

A. Number of Deacons Although there is no maximum number of deacons, the church shall attempt to have an active deacon for each fifteen resident families.

B. Term of Service There are no term limits for active deacon service. Once elected, ordained deacons may serve continuously. They may interrupt their service by voluntary leaves of absence not to exceed one year on any one occasion. Deacons should notify the pastor and/or deacon servant leader of proposed leaves of absence and of their duration.

C. Duties

1 Deacons are servants of the church. They serve with the pastor and staff in performing pastoral ministry tasks including: proclaiming the gospel to believers and unbelievers; caring for the church members and other persons in the community; leading the church to engage in a fellowship of worship, witness, education and ministry; and, as necessary, addressing larger church problems and general policies.

2 Deacons shall organize and meet regularly. Committees, either standing or ad hoc, may be formed as the deacons deem necessary.

3 Deacons shall maintain in the minutes of their meetings records with names and dates of deacon service and leaves of absence.

4 Deacons shall serve as a general pulpit supply committee, if needed; in case of inability of the pastor to preach or when the church may be without a pastor, they shall be responsible for pulpit supply of a temporary nature.

D. Qualifications Deacons aspire to the biblically-based qualifications listed below. The Nominating Committee and pastor will use them as a guide to evaluate deacons. Also, each deacon shall conduct an ongoing self-evaluation to identify and correct any growing edges.

1 Deacons love the Lord, and their relationship with God, which is sustained by regular prayer, Bible study, worship, and service to others, holds the place of highest priority in their lives.

2 Deacons gladly pursue Christ's invitation to find greatness in the kingdom of God by serving others. They have compassion for those without Christ.

3 Deacons love the church, and they support the pastor and the church's vision and direction. Deacons are advocates of church unity.

4 Deacons participate in the activities and ministries of the church, and they educate themselves about the church's life and pray regularly for its ministries and leaders.

5 Deacons practice good stewardship in all areas of their life, and they give generously of their time, gifts, talents, and treasures. They accept Christ's teaching that giving is more valued than receiving, and they give proportionately of their income for the support of God's work through their church.

6 Deacons seek to exhibit Christ-like character in church, home, and society because they understand church leaders are held to a high standard.

7 Deacons maintain a Christ-centered home, a healthy family life, and they exercise Christian integrity in matters of their sexuality.

E. Eligibility and Changes in Status

1 Deacon nominees must be at least twenty-one years of age; they must have been continuous resident active members of this church for at least twelve months prior to nomination; and they must consent to train for and to assume the duties of this position. This Constitution is gender-inclusive in its entirety, thus "members" includes women and men. Deacons may be married, including divorced and remarried, or single, including never married, divorced, or widowed.

2 Ordained deacons who have been longtime resident active members of this church and previously active as deacons in this church, but inactive as deacons for more than one year, must notify the pastor and/or the deacon servant leader when they wish to serve as active deacons. The change from inactive to active deacon status will take place July 1 of each year.

3 Ordained deacons whose membership in this church has lapsed into inactive status must again satisfy the twelve-month active membership residency requirement and must participate in the election process if they wish to serve as active deacons.

4 Ordained deacons who have united with another church and later returned to this church must again satisfy the twelve-month active membership

residency requirement and must participate in the election process if they wish to serve as active deacons.

5 Deacons ordained elsewhere who have never served as active deacons in this church must satisfy the twelve-month active membership residency requirement and must participate in the election process if they wish to serve as active deacons.

6 Unordained deacons who served acceptably for a minimum of six months following election and declined ordination are not eligible to serve as active deacons.

7 Active deacons may resign by letter to the pastor or deacon servant leader, causing a change from active to inactive status on the termination date specified in the letter. In the absence of a letter of resignation, deacons who have not participated in regular deacon activities (e.g., meetings, committees, ministries) for longer than six months will have their status changed to inactive.

8 Inactive ordained deacons, who are active church members and who have previously served in this church as active deacons, may be asked to assist temporarily with the work that is ordinarily performed by the active deacons.

F. Redemptive Reviews If, in the opinion of the pastor, a deacon nominee, an ordained deacon transferring from inactive to active status, or an ordained active deacon manifests a behavior(s) inconsistent with the qualifications of the office of deacon, the pastor and/or deacon servant leader may choose to meet with the deacon nominee or ordained deacon. This meeting is private and redemptive, and the active service of the deacon may be postponed until the inappropriate behavior is corrected.

G. Nomination During the months of January and February of each year, the Nominating Committee will receive deacon nominations from active church members. Nominations should be written, signed, and sent to the church office or to the Nominating Committee Chairperson. Anonymous nominations will not be considered, as it will not be possible to determine if the nominator is an active member of this church. The Nominating Committee also may make nominations.

In the month of March, the Nominating Committee shall

- 1 Determine if nominees meet aforementioned eligibility requirements
- 2 Determine if nominees appear to meet aforementioned qualifications
- 3 Prepare a list of nominees that meet eligibility requirements and that appear to meet qualifications, and submit the list to the pastor

In the month of April, the pastor and deacon servant leader shall

- 1 Perform the final evaluation regarding qualifications of the nominees
- 2 Send letters of invitation to nominees deemed eligible and qualified
- 3 Provide the Nominating Committee with the list of nominees that responded affirmatively

H. Election From the list of nominees that responded affirmatively to the pastor's letter of invitation, the Nominating Committee shall prepare ballots for the June business meeting.

1 At least two weeks prior to the June election, all nominees shall share with the congregation their testimony and understanding of their call to deacon ministry. Time and mode of sharing will be determined by the pastor.

2 At the June business meeting, each active church member present will be given a ballot with names of nominees. Ballots will be marked in secret. Absentee ballots will not be accepted.

3 The Nominating Committee shall tally the ballots as soon as practicable and shall notify the pastor of the names of those who were elected. A simple majority favorable vote for a nominee shall constitute election. For each nominee, the total number of votes is the sum of the affirmative and negative votes; abstentions shall not be counted. Nominations from the floor will not be accepted, as nominees will not have been properly evaluated for eligibility and qualifications.

4 Elected deacons will begin their active service by attending the July organizational meeting of the deacons.

SECTION II – TRUSTEES

A. Terms - The Trustees shall consist of six (6) members nominated by the Nominating Committee and approved by the church. They shall choose their own chair and secretary. The members will be elected for a term of three (3) years with one-third (1/3) of the total being elected each year. A quorum shall be four (4). A majority vote of the Trustees shall be a vote of at least four (4) members.

B. Duties - The Trustees shall be the legal representatives of the church. They shall have the power to buy, sell, mortgage, lease, or transfer property. An express vote of the church is required in the case of real estate transactions or to incur debt. The signatures of the chair and secretary only shall be sufficient on any legal document. They shall perform such other duties as are imposed upon them by the church and state. All legal papers and records shall be kept in a safe-deposit box in the name of the church. The Trustees shall, as they deem necessary, have an annual audit made of the church's financial records, and shall report its findings to the church.

SECTION III – OTHER OFFICERS

The following officers shall be nominated by the nominating committee with nominations from the floor permitted. The term of office shall be one (1) year commencing January 1:

A. Moderator – There shall be a moderator and an assistant moderator, who shall preside over business meetings. In the absence of both, the church clerk or

treasurer shall call the church to order and a moderator pro-tem be elected. Professional staff shall not serve as moderator.

B. Church Clerk – The Church Clerk will record the minutes of all business meetings and will work with the church office to see that copies of the minutes are properly stored and maintained. The Church Clerk will also work with the church office staff to conduct official correspondence of the church; to prepare, preserve, and properly file all letters, reports, and other documents; and to maintain a complete roll of church members, including contact information.

C. Church Treasurer – The Church Treasurer shall see that all money is properly received, counted, and deposited as directed by the church. Assistance in carrying out these duties shall be provided by the Tellers, who shall be appointed by the Church Treasurer.

D. Church Archivist/Historian – The church archivist/historian shall collect, organize, preserve, store, and provide access to all media, including photographs, letters, documents, newspaper articles, video and audio recordings, and other electronic records, determined to have enduring value to the church. These historical records shall be stored in a secure archives and records room.

SECTION IV – ELECTED REPRESENTATIVES

When a Baptist or other organization with which the church cooperates requires a specific number of messengers or representatives, these shall be elected by the church.

ARTICLE III – EMPLOYEES

SECTION I – PROFESSIONAL STAFF

A. Pastor

1. Nomination – When a vacancy in the office of pastor occurs, the church shall elect a pastor search committee consisting of seven (7) members from a list of fifteen (15) nominees selected from the active church roll by the deacons. There may also be open nominations from the floor at the time of the election. The church shall underwrite the committee's expenses in carrying out its responsibilities. The committee shall present to the church only one candidate at a time. Prior to the trial sermon the committee shall present to the congregation in a business meeting the qualifications of the candidate, the proposed financial and other benefits for the candidate, and a statement of general duties, allowances for time off for various reasons, and the nature and extent of other permitted activities provisionally agreed to between the candidate and committee. The result of the church's action shall become effective if and when the candidate assumes the pastorate.

2. Election – The election of the pastor shall take place at a Sunday business meeting called for that purpose, of which at least one week's public notice

shall be given, this notice to consist of no less than one public announcement at all worship services held the Sunday prior to the election. The church shall vote by secret ballot, an affirmative vote of three-fourths (3/4) of the active members present and voting being necessary for extending a call.

3. Tenure – The pastor thus elected shall serve for an indefinite period of time.

4. Separation – The relationship between church and pastor may be dissolved by either party.

a) In the event of resignation, the pastor is expected to give at least one month written notice.

b) A motion to release the pastor shall be considered by the church at a subsequent meeting called for that purpose, of which at least one week's public notice shall be given, this notice to consist of no less than one public announcement at all worship services held the Sunday prior to the meeting. Financial terms of separation in either event shall be established by the Personnel Committee in consultation with the Finance Committee.

5. Duties – The pastor shall have general supervision and oversight of all spiritual and administrative matters of the church; preach the Gospel, administer the ordinances, watch over the membership, and organize and develop the strength of the church for its best possible service; be a member ex-officio of all committees of the church; secure the pulpit supply while the pastor is gone; be responsible for such other duties as are enumerated in these Bylaws or voted by the church.

B. Other Professional Staff - The church may have such other full time or part time professional staff as it may from time to time desire.

1. With the concurrence of the pastor, the Personnel Committee may nominate a candidate for an existing or new staff position. Prior to the election, the nominating body shall present to the congregation in a business meeting the qualifications of the candidate, the proposed financial and other benefits for the candidate and a statement of general duties, allowances for time off for various reasons, and the nature and extent of other permitted activities provisionally agreed to between the candidate and committee. The result of the church action shall become effective if and when the candidate assumes the position.

2. Election, tenure, and separation shall be the same as that of the pastor.

SECTION II – OTHER EMPLOYEES

Other staff members, such as church secretary, financial secretary, church custodian, cook, nursery workers, etc., may be employed by the Personnel Committee upon approval of the pastor or the pastor's designee, after authorization has been granted by the church for the position and appropriations made in the current budget. They shall serve at the pleasure of the church under the general supervision of a professional staff member but duties, compensation within the budgeted amounts, discipline and termination shall be determined by the Personnel Committee.

SECTION III – PERSONNEL POLICIES

A. All personnel policies shall be developed by the Personnel Committee, approved by the church in business meeting, and maintained in an Employee Handbook.

B. Salaries are to be recommended by the Personnel Committee, reviewed by the Finance Committee, and approved by the church. Initial ministerial salaries are to be approved by the church at the time of calling. Initial non-ministerial salaries are to be approved by the church unless already provided for in the budget process.

ARTICLE IV – COMMITTEES AND MINISTRY TEAMS

SECTION I – COMMITTEES

A. Standing Committees – Each Standing Committee shall have nine (9) members and shall elect its own chair unless the Nominating Committee specifically nominates someone to serve. Members of these committees shall be elected to three (3) year terms with one-third (1/3) of the committee members to be elected each year, except where otherwise specified by these bylaws or by recommendation of the Nominating Committee. After serving two (2) terms of three (3) years no person shall be eligible for re-election to the same committee until at least one year has elapsed. The following are the standing committees:

1. Facilities Committee – This committee shall be responsible for:

a) Maintaining, repairing, and caring for all church property on the main campus (that is, buildings and grounds used for worship and on-going ministry) including equipment, parking areas, playgrounds, walks, landscaping and signs. They shall purchase needed equipment and maintain perpetual inventory of all church equipment, including necessary depreciation schedules. This committee is not responsible for real estate and other property acquired for future use until that property is actually being used for worship or on-going ministry.

b) Working with the Trustees and keeping them informed of all transactions pertaining to repairs, replacements and inventory schedules.

c) Working with the Finance Committee in all matters pertaining to expenditures of church money in carrying out their duties.

2. Finance Committee – This committee shall be responsible for:

- a) Promoting Christian stewardship, including disciplined proportionate giving, emphasizing tithing.
- b) Preparing and presenting an annual budget. The budget process shall include an opportunity for each committee and ministry team to submit a budget request.
- c) Monitoring expenditures each month and reporting on the finances of the church at the regular church business meetings. This will include making a monthly study of the financial report as related to the budget, noting any budget variations, notifying any committee or organization of any over or unauthorized expenditures, comparing contributions and expenditures to previous years for comparable periods, and recommending to the church any budget revisions they feel are necessary.
- d) Monitoring the balance of various cash accounts to insure adequate funds are available.
- e) Researching and advising the church concerning investment of cash balances. This will be done in cooperation with the church treasurer.
- f) Conducting an annual internal audit and recommending to the Trustees if they feel an external audit is warranted.

3. Personnel Committee – This committee shall be responsible for:

- a) Establishing personnel policies and practices in an Employee Handbook.
- b) Working with the Finance Committee to establish staff salaries.
- c) Handling employment matters, including hiring and separation of staff (except as otherwise specified in this document). The chair and one other committee member selected by the chair shall address any personnel matters which in the judgment of the chair should be handled in a private manner for the benefit of the church. After resolving the specific matter, the chair shall inform the balance of the committee if the chair deems it is in the best interests of the church to do so.
- d) Hearing and resolving staff grievances.

4. Nominating Committee – This committee, nominated by the Church Council, shall be responsible for nominating members to fill any vacancies in church officers, committees, or ministry teams.

B. Ad Hoc Committees – Ad Hoc committees may be established by the church for specific purposes to achieve specific goals. The members and the chair of any ad hoc committees shall be appointed by the Moderator unless the motion to establish the committee states another method of appointment.

SECTION II – MINISTRY TEAMS

A. The church may have one or more ministry teams. Examples of ministry teams include but are not limited to: Baptismal, Ushers, Greeters, Media-Library, Long Range Planning, Missions, Preschool, Recreation, Security, SAGES, Adult Education, Technology, Transportation, Kitchen, Hospitality, Women's, and Wedding.

B. The Church Council will recommend to the church when new ministry teams are to be formed and when old ones are to be dissolved. The Church Council may approve ministry teams to function temporarily until approved by the church.

SECTION III – CHURCH COUNCIL

A. The Church Council shall be responsible for:

1. Setting objectives for church consideration.
2. Coordinating church activities and reviewing church programs and ministry teams for effectiveness, need, cost, and relevance.
3. Recommending members for the Nominating Committee subject to approval at business meetings.
4. Recommending to the church when new ministry teams are to be formed and old ones are to be dissolved. The Council may form ministry teams to function temporarily until approved by the church.
5. Acting in an advisory capacity, making its recommendations to the staff, to any groups involved, or the church as a whole.

B. The Church Council shall be composed of the following: the pastor (who shall serve as chair) and all other ministerial staff, chairs of standing committees, ministry team leaders, chair of the trustees, and deacon servant leader.

ARTICLE V – CHURCH FINANCE

SECTION I – FISCAL YEAR

The fiscal year of the church shall begin on January 1 and end on December 31.

SECTION II – OBLIGATION OF MEMBERSHIP

It is understood that membership involves financial obligation to the support of the church and its causes with regular, proportionate gifts. Each new member shall, therefore, be approached with information concerning the church's financial program.

SECTION III – OFFICIAL RECORD OF CONTRIBUTIONS & EXPENDITURES

A. The office staff will maintain the official record of tithes and offerings received by the church for its operation and ministry. To make possible accurate records and reporting, all officers and employees, classes, and church-sanctioned organizations shall report to the office staff the expenditure of any and all church funds used in support of operations and ministry. To this end, no separate bank account may be established or maintained by an officer, employee, class, or church-sanctioned organization for the operation or ministry of the church without approval of the church. Such accounts, when approved, are the property of the church and will require appropriate and regular oversight by the office staff.

B. The church shall authorize four (4) people to sign checks. All checks must have two (2) authorized signatures to be valid.

SECTION IV – SPECIAL OFFERINGS

As a matter of policy, priorities for ministry and operations are set forth in the church's annual budget and are supported by the faithful, proportionate tithes and offerings of the congregation. Special "designated campaign" offerings may be sought only with approval of the church. Prior approval is not required for love offerings or for similar periodic, directed offerings collected during scheduled services or special events.

SECTION V – DONATION OF NON-CASH CONTRIBUTIONS

The Trustees will determine when non-cash contributions such as gifts of personal property or real estate are in the best interest of the church. Once accepted, they will advise the financial secretary of the value to be recorded in the church's official contribution records.

ARTICLE VI – MEETINGS

SECTION I – FOR WORSHIP

A. Public services for worship shall be held regularly on Sunday, and on such week days and at such hours as shall be determined by vote of the church.

B. The Lord's Supper shall be observed at least quarterly at such times as the pastor shall determine.

C. Occasional meetings may be scheduled at the discretion of the pastor or by vote of the church.

D. The pastor, or in his absence, a designated professional staff member, may cancel a particular service for good cause.

SECTION II – FOR BUSINESS

A. The regular business meetings of the church shall be held on the Wednesday following the second Sunday of March, June, September and December.

B. Special business meetings may be called at any time by the pastor, moderator, or upon written request signed by at least five (5) members of the church, provided notice of such meeting and the purpose for which it is called shall be given during Sunday worship services at least one week prior to the day fixed for such meeting.

SECTION III – NOTICES, QUORUM AND VOTING

A. If there is more than one Sunday morning worship service, notice given or business session held at any one morning service must be likewise given or held at all others.

B. Forty (40) active members shall constitute a quorum at all business meetings.

C. Neither absentee voting nor voting by proxy is permitted.

SECTION IV – RULES OF ORDER

The parliamentary procedure of all business meetings shall be regulated by Robert's Rules of Order in all cases to which they are applicable, and consistent with this Constitution and Bylaws. The rules of order may be suspended at any meeting by a vote of two-thirds (2/3) of the members present and voting.

ARTICLE VII – LICENSING AND ORDAINING

SECTION I - LICENSING

Any member who, in the judgment of the church, gives evidence by piety, zeal, and "aptness to teach" of a call of God to the work of the ministry, after having preached in the hearing of the church, may be licensed to preach the Gospel. This license shall be for one year and may be renewed at the discretion of the church.

SECTION II – ORDINATION OF PREACHERS

If the church by a three-fourth (3/4) vote, decides that one of its licensed preachers possesses scriptural qualifications for full ordination it shall call a council of ministers and deacons to examine the qualifications of the candidate and to assist in such ordination if so voted by the church.

SECTION III – ORDINATION OF DEACONS

Unordained persons who are elected as active deacons shall be eligible for ordination as deacons after having served acceptably as active deacons (with all the rights and privileges of ordained deacons) for a minimum period of six (6) months. Ordained active deacons will bring appropriate recommendations concerning this matter to the church for action.

ARTICLE VIII – USE OF PROPERTY

The use of church property and parking areas shall be subject to policies and procedures developed by the Facilities Committee.