

BYLAWS
OF
THE FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH OF HUNTSVILLE, ALABAMA, INC.
HUNTSVILLE, MADISON COUNTY, ALABAMA

PREAMBLE

The First Baptist Church of Huntsville, Alabama, Inc. is affiliated with the Southern Baptist Convention and Alabama Baptist State Convention and accepts the statement of "The Baptist Faith and Message" as adopted by the Southern Baptist Convention in 1963. God's Word as revealed in the Holy Bible is the sole authority in matters of faith and practice. The two ordinances observed by the church are Baptism and the Lord's Supper. The government of this church is vested in the body of believers who compose it. It is subject to the control of no other ecclesiastical body, but recognizes the stewardship of mutual counsel and cooperation with the Southern Baptist Convention, Alabama Baptist State Convention, Madison Baptist Association and other churches of the Christian faith. The First Baptist Church of Huntsville, Alabama, Inc. exists as a spiritual body and adoption of the following bylaws is in no way intended to govern spiritual, ecclesiastical or moral matters or issues, but instead are adopted as a guideline purely for the secular and civil functions of the corporate entity. Through the adoption of such bylaws, The First Baptist Church of Huntsville, Alabama, Inc. does not in any way grant power to any court or assign jurisdiction over any controversy pertaining to the ecclesiastical or spiritual matters of the church, but instead recognizes that the resolution of such matters is vested solely within the body of believers who compose the church.

ARTICLE I
MEMBERSHIP

The church may provide qualifications, procedures and classifications of membership as it deems appropriate from time to time.

ARTICLE II
TRUSTEES

The First Baptist Church of Huntsville, Alabama, Inc. shall have trustees whose number, qualifications, nomination, election, terms and duties shall be decided upon by a majority vote of the church membership present at a regular business meeting or special called business meeting.

ARTICLE III
DEACONS

The First Baptist Church of Huntsville, Alabama, Inc. shall have deacons whose number, qualifications, nomination, election, terms and duties shall be decided upon by majority vote of the church membership present at a regular business meeting or special called business meeting.

ARTICLE IV
CHURCH OFFICERS

The First Baptist Church of Huntsville, Alabama, Inc. shall have such officers as shall be decided upon by a majority vote of the church membership and whose number, qualifications, nomination, election, terms and duties shall be decided upon by a majority vote of the church membership present at a regular business meeting or special called business meeting.

ARTICLE V
COMMITTEES

The First Baptist Church of Huntsville, Alabama, Inc. shall have such committees as shall be decided upon by a majority vote of the church membership and whose number, qualifications, nomination, election, terms and duties shall be decided upon by a majority vote of the church membership present at a regular business meeting or special called business meeting.

ARTICLE VI
CHURCH STAFF

A. COMPOSITION

The church staff of First Baptist Church of Huntsville, Alabama, Inc. shall be composed of the pastorate, professional staff, administrative staff, support staff and such other staff personnel as shall be employed from time to time by the church.

B. PURPOSE AND RESPONSIBILITY

The church staff collectively is charged with implementing and leading the programs of The First Baptist Church of Huntsville, Alabama, Inc. in accordance with the policies established by the church from time to time and within the financial limitations prescribed

by the church budget. Each member of the staff is ultimately responsible to the church for all of his or her actions.

ARTICLE VII CHURCH PROGRAM ORGANIZATIONS

The program organizations of the church shall consist of such program organizations as may be established from time to time by a majority vote of the church membership present at a regular business meeting or special called business meeting. All church program organizations shall be under the control of the church and all program activities subject to church coordination and approval.

ARTICLE VIII BUSINESS MEETINGS

A. REGULAR MEETINGS

Regular church conferences for transacting church business shall be held monthly, normally on the first Wednesday after the first Sunday of each calendar month. When the regularly scheduled date falls on a holiday or interferes with another church program or activity, the meeting may be changed to another Wednesday by consent of the membership.

B. SPECIAL CALELD MEETINGS

Special business meetings may be called by the pastor on his initiative or when requested by a majority of the active deacons or a majority of the trustees provided that notice of the time, place and purpose of such special called conference is published in the "Messenger" or by letter mailed to all church members at least seven (7) days prior to the date of such special called conference and that the notice of the time, place and purpose of such special called conference is announced in at least one (1) regular worship service prior to such conference.

C. MAJORITY VOTE

Majority vote is defined as a majority of the members present at a regular church conference or a special called business meeting.

ARTICLE IX
AMENDMENTS

These bylaws may be amended, altered or revoked, in whole or in part by a 2/3 majority vote of the church membership at any regular meeting or special called meeting provided that any such proposed amendment, revision or revocation shall be read at one regular meeting or one special called meeting prior to a vote being taken and provided further that such proposed amendment, revision or revocation shall be published in the "Messenger" or by letter mailed to all church members at least seven (7) days prior to the conference at which such amendment, revision or revocation is to be voted upon by the church membership present at a regular business meeting or special called business meeting.

The adoption of the foregoing bylaws is in no way intended to and shall not be construed to effect any change or alteration in the present policies of the church.

Dated this _____ day of _____, 1989.

Church Moderator

ATTEST:

I, the undersigned, as the Church Clerk of First Baptist Church of Huntsville, Alabama, Inc. hereby certify that the foregoing Bylaws were duly adopted by a majority vote of the church membership present during the church conference held on the date set forth hereinabove and dully signed by the Church Moderator.

Church Clerk

Proposed Amendment to FBC Bylaws
Establishing Quarterly Business Meetings

Proposed Amendment, Article VIII, Section A, "REGULAR MEETINGS"

Regular church conferences for transacting church business shall be held quarterly, in connection with either a Sunday or Wednesday evening service. Meetings will be scheduled on the church calendar by consultation of the Pastor and ministerial staff and the Leadership Team. The scheduled date and time will be published in "The Messenger" at least one (1) month prior to each meeting, and announced in at least two (2) regular worship services prior to the meeting. Nominations for church-elected positions may be brought by the Members in Ministry Committee, and voted on by the church, at any regularly scheduled worship service. Brief informational reports may be made in connection with regularly scheduled worship services by other groups, in consultation with the Pastor and ministerial staff.

Existing Section VIII (Business Meetings)

(The proposed amendment would replace Section A, below.)

A. REGULAR MEETINGS

Regular church conferences for transacting church business shall be held monthly, normally on the second Wednesday of each calendar month. When the regularly scheduled date falls on a holiday or interferes with another church program or activity, the meeting may be changed to another Wednesday by consent of the membership.
[Amended April 10, 2002]

B. SPECIAL CALLED MEETINGS

Special business meetings may be called by the pastor on his initiative or when requested by a majority of the active deacons or a majority of the trustees provided that notice of the time, place and purpose of such special-called conference is published in "The Messenger" or by letter mailed to all church members at least seven (7) days prior to the date of such special-called conference and that the notice of the time, place and purpose of such special-called conference is announced in at least one (1) regular worship service prior to such conference.