

## Second Baptist Church, Russellville, Arkansas

## CONSTITUTION

## Preamble

We, the members of Second Baptist Church of Russellville, Arkansas, in accordance with the Apostle Paul's instruction that all things be done decently and in order do hereby establish this constitution and bylaws to provide direction in our efforts to seek and follow the will of God. This constitution will preserve the liberties of each individual church member and the freedom of action of this body in its relation to other churches.

## Article I - Name

This body shall be known as the Second Baptist Church. With facilities located at 1100 N. Frankfort Ave., and East "K" Place, Russellville, Arkansas.

## Article II - Objectives

To be a dynamic spiritual church empowered by the Holy Spirit to share Christ with as many people as possible following the commission of our Lord.

To be a worshipping body, experiencing an awareness of God, recognizing His presence, and responding in obedience to His leadership.

To experience a more meaningful and growing fellowship with God and fellow believers.

To be a church that ministers to people in the community and world in Jesus' name.

To be Christlike in our daily living, emphasizing total commitment of life, personality, and possessions to the Lordship of Christ.

## Article III - Statement of Faith

The Holy Bible is the inspired Word of God and is the sole basis for any statement of faith. The doctrinal statements of *The Baptist Faith and Message* as adopted by the Southern Baptist Convention in 2000 expresses the church's commonly held beliefs.

## Article IV – Polity and Relationships

The government of this church is vested in the body of believers who compose it. Persons duly received by the members shall constitute the membership. (See Article 1 of the Bylaws). All internal groups created and empowered by the church shall report to and be accountable only to the church, unless otherwise specified by church action.

The church is subject to the control of no other ecclesiastical body, but it recognizes and sustains the obligation of mutual counsel and cooperation common among Baptist churches. This church, a Southern Baptist Church, will cooperate with and support the Arkansas River Valley Baptist Association, the Arkansas Baptist State Convention and the Southern Baptist Convention.

## Article V – Authority

Second Baptist Church relies on the Bible for instruction on all matters concerning ordinances, ministries, activities, membership and employment. The church, its ordinances, its ministers, its activities, its members, its employees, and its properties exist only to serve and be used for biblical principles. Second Baptist Church reserves unto itself the right and responsibility to

interpret the scripture, as led by the Holy Spirit, in determining what constitutes biblical principles in all such matters.

Such interpretation will be exercised by Second Baptist Church through its normal voting processes as described in the Constitution and Bylaws.

#### Article VI – Amendments

Changes in the constitution may be made at any regular business meeting of the church provided each amendment shall have been presented in writing at a previous business meeting and copies of the proposed amendment shall have been available to each member present at the earlier business meeting. Amendments to the constitution shall have the concurrence of two thirds of the members present and voting.

A revision of the constitution is considered to be the same as an amendment and shall be treated as such.