

Parker County Baptist Association Constitution

Approved October 18, 2009

Preamble

Recognizing our unity under the Lordship of Jesus Christ and the common mission which He has given us, we, Baptist churches in the general area of Parker County, Texas, have established and will maintain an Association to enable member churches to more effectively respond to our Lord's purpose for us, utilizing the following plan.

Article I – Name

The name of this Association shall be Parker County Baptist Association, Inc., **doing business as Parker Baptist Association.**

Article II – Purpose

The Association shall be composed of autonomous Baptist churches cooperating together for the following purpose.

Parker Baptist Association exists through the cooperation of its member churches to glorify God by resourcing churches in their efforts to introduce people to Jesus, to help people have a life-changing experience with Jesus, and to meet people's needs in Jesus' name.

Article III – Authority

The Association shall be autonomous under the Lordship of Christ and shall have no authority over any other body, including its member churches. The Association shall never have nor assume to possess the least ecclesiastical power, but is for counsel and cooperation only, and the complete independence of the churches shall always be recognized.

Article IV – Membership

Section 1 Membership in the Parker Baptist Association shall be open to any Baptist church that can work in fellowship with churches in accordance with the purpose expressed in this constitution and whose best expression of theological unity

is any edition of *The Baptist Faith and Message* adopted by the Southern Baptist Convention at any time in its history.

Section 2 Cooperation in the Association involves participation in the ministry of the Association, involvement in the work of the Executive Board, submission of an annual statistical and leadership report, and the giving of regular financial contributions to the work of the Association.

Section 3 Application for membership is to be made in accordance with the procedure outlined in the Bylaws.

Section 4 The Association reserves to itself the right to withdraw cooperation from any church in accordance with the procedure outlined in the Bylaws.

Article V – Annual Meeting

Section 1 The Association shall meet in Annual Meeting for the purpose of celebrating the ministry of member churches, approving a budget, setting a calendar for the Association, electing officers, and any other items proposed by the Executive Board or outlined in the Bylaws. **This meeting shall take place no later than the last week of October.**

Section 2 The Annual Meeting shall be composed of elected messengers from member churches. **Registered messengers duly elected by their churches present at the Annual Meeting shall constitute a quorum.**

Section 3 Each member church shall be entitled to send the pastor (or other designated staff member) plus 2 messengers for the first 50 members of the church. One additional messenger shall be granted for each additional 50 members or major faction thereof, up to a maximum of 10 messengers for each church.

Article VI – Executive Board

- Section 1** The business of the Association shall be carried on during the year between Annual Meetings by an Executive Board representing member churches.
- Section 2** The Executive Board shall be composed of Association Officers, Team Leaders, the WMU president, board members selected from and by the member churches, and five members at-large elected at the Annual Meeting.
- Section 3** Churches will receive an allotted number of members on the Executive Board as outlined in the Bylaws. The number of members required to conduct a meeting of the Executive Board will be outlined in the Bylaws.
- Section 4** Regular meetings of the Executive Board shall be placed on the Association calendar at the Annual Meeting. **Called meetings of the Executive Board shall be scheduled and announced according to the procedures outlined in the Bylaws.**
- Section 5** **An agenda for Executive Board meetings shall be placed on the Association website no later than 48 hours before the meeting. Items placed on the agenda can be discussed and voted on at that meeting. Items not on the agenda can be discussed but must be scheduled for a vote at a subsequent meeting. This requirement can be waived by unanimous consent of the Executive Board members present.**

Article VII – Elected Leadership

- Section 1** **The officers of the Association shall be the Moderator, Vice-Moderator, Secretary, and Treasurer.**
- Section 2** Officers and any other leadership positions outlined in the Bylaws shall be elected at the Annual Meeting. Vacancies occurring between such meetings may be filled by the Executive Board.

Section 3 The responsibilities of officers and other leaders and the procedures for selecting these persons are set forth in the Bylaws.

Article VIII - Staff

The Association may employ staff to assist in carrying out its purpose. The procedures for doing so are set forth in the Bylaws.

Article IX – Amending the Constitution

This Constitution may be amended in the following manner:

- **The proposed change is read and approved by a vote of two-thirds of the members present at a regularly scheduled Executive Board meeting prior to the Annual Meeting, and**
- **The proposed change is read and approved by a vote of two-thirds of the messengers present at the Annual Meeting that follows the Executive Board meeting in which the proposed amendment was approved.**

Article X – Parliamentary Rules

In all questions covering the proceedings of the Association, *Robert's Rules of Order* (latest revised edition) shall be the authority of the presiding officer and the Association, unless such questions are covered by this Constitution or the Bylaws.

Article XI – Operation and Dissolution

The Association is organized and operated primarily for the purposes set forth under Articles II and III of these Bylaws. The Association is to be operated in such a way that it does not result in the accrual of distributable profits, realization of private gain resulting from payment of compensation in excess of a reasonable allowance for salary or other compensation for services rendered, or realization of any other form of private gain. The Association pledges its assets for use in performing the Association's religious and charitable functions.

The Association directs that on discontinuance of the Association by dissolution or otherwise, the assets are to be transferred to another religious, charitable, or similar organization that qualifies under Section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986, as amended,

or the corresponding provisions of any subsequent United States Internal Revenue law or laws.