

2021 Detail Proposed Changes to CFBC Constitution & Bylaws

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 New text is red with underline

Motion 1 - Amend Constitution Article III: Statement of Faith

Amend the Cartersville First Baptist Church Constitution, Article III: Statement of Faith to mirror the doctrinal statement of “The Baptist Faith and Message” as adopted by the Southern Baptist Convention, June 14, 2000, as stated in our Constitution under Article VI: Affiliations.

<u>Remove current text</u>	<u>Replace with SBC 2000 text</u>
<p>Article III: Statement of Faith</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • GOD THE FATHER • JESUS CHRIST THE SON • HOLY SPIRIT • BIBLE • MANKIND • SIN • SALVATION • ETERNAL SECURITY OF THE BELIEVER • PRIESTHOOD OF THE BELIEVER • ETERNITY • THE CHURCH • CHURCH LEADERSHIP • FAMILY • BAPTISM AND THE LORD'S SUPPER • MARRIAGE AND HUMAN SEXUALITY 	<p>Article III: Statement of Faith</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <u>THE SCRIPTURES</u> • <u>GOD</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ <u>GOD THE FATHER</u> ○ <u>GOD THE SON</u> ○ <u>GOD THE HOLY SPIRIT</u> • <u>MAN</u> • <u>SALVATION</u> • <u>GOD'S PURPOSE OF GRACE</u> • <u>THE CHURCH</u> • <u>BAPTISM AND THE LORD'S SUPPER</u> • <u>THE LORD'S DAY</u> • <u>THE KINGDOM</u> • <u>LAST THINGS</u> • <u>EVANGELISM AND MISSIONS</u> • <u>EDUCATION</u> • <u>STEWARDSHIP</u> • <u>COOPERATION</u> • <u>THE CHRISTIAN AND THE SOCIAL ORDER</u> • <u>PEACE AND WAR</u> • <u>RELIGIOUS LIBERTY</u> • <u>THE FAMILY</u> • <u>STATEMENT ON THE SANCTITY OF HUMAN LIFE</u> • <u>STATEMENT OF FINAL AUTHORITY</u>

Motion 2 - Amend Bylaws Article IV: Governance

---- Section D: Governing Documents

Establish the requirement for active Elders, Deacons, Chairpersons and Vice Chairpersons on Committees and Ministry Teams acknowledging by signature that they adhere to our Statement of Faith. The requirement defined by adding a new paragraph under Article 4, Subsection D (page 11).

The Statement of Faith shall be the guiding principles for all governing documents including but not limited to Bylaws, Constitution, Policies, Procedures, Manuals, and Handbooks. It is essential that church leaders and staff understand and follow the Statement of Faith; failure to do so would be basis for disciplinary action. Elders, Deacons, Staff, Chairpersons, Vice-Chairpersons shall be given a copy of the Statement of Faith on acceptance of their position. They shall acknowledge receipt of our Statement of Faith and agree to be governed by all the provisions herein.

D. Governing Documents

The documents listed below, and any amendments made hereto shall be the governing documents of Cartersville First Baptist Church. They shall always be written, interpreted and applied in conformity with the Bible.

The Statement of Faith shall be the guiding principles for all governing documents including but not limited to Bylaws, Constitution, Policies, Procedures, Manuals, and Handbooks. It is essential that church leaders and staff understand and follow the Statement of Faith; failure to do so would be basis for disciplinary action. Elders, Deacons, Staff, Chairpersons, Vice-Chairpersons shall be given a copy of the Statement of Faith on acceptance of their position. They shall acknowledge receipt of our Statement of Faith and agree to be governed by all the provisions herein

The church has four levels of governing documents:

I. The Bible

A. Constitution

1. Bylaws

- a. Policies & Procedures (individual policies of Standing Committees, Ministry Teams, Programs and Organizations)

Motion 3 - Amend Bylaws Article X: Ministry Teams

---- Section D: Membership

Add the following item to the Cartersville First Baptist Church Bylaws, Article X: Ministry Teams, Section D to include

Item 4. The Chairperson(s) and Vice-Chairperson(s) of a Ministry Team shall be a Member in good standing of Cartersville First Baptist Church. (This rule may not be waived.)

D. Membership

The staff advisor and team officers shall work cooperatively to identify new members for the upcoming year and nominate a chairperson for the coming year. According to the schedule established by the Elders, each team will notify the Nominating Committee of its potential new members and chairperson.

There are three basic rules about membership:

1. A member may serve as chairperson of a Ministry Team for no more than three consecutive years.
 2. No member shall serve as chairperson of more than one Ministry Team at any given time.
 3. The chairperson of a Ministry Team shall not be a church staff member (This rule may not be waived).
 4. The Chairperson(s) and Vice-Chairperson(s) of a Ministry Team shall be a Member in good standing of Cartersville First Baptist Church. (This rule may not be waived.)
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Motion 4 - Amend Bylaws Article V: Church Elders

---- Section C: Qualification of Church Elders

Amend the wording in the Cartersville First Baptist Church Bylaws, Article V: Church Elders, Section C, Item 4 to remove "Have waited at least one year since completing a full three-year term as Elder". Item 4 is redundant and covered by the wording found in Article V: Church Elders, Section A, Item 1.

C. Qualifications of Church Elders

Men who are eligible to be considered to serve as Elders shall:

1. Be an active member of CFBC.
 2. Meet the biblical qualifications of an Elder (I Timothy 3:1-7 and Titus 1:5-9).
 3. Have served faithfully for at least one full term as a deacon at CFBC.
 4. ~~Have waited at least one year since completing a full three-year term as Elder.~~
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Motion 5 - Amend Bylaws Article V: Church Elders

---- Section E: Review Process Team

Remove the Review Process Team from the Cartersville First Baptist Church Bylaws,

- Striking Section E from Article V: Church Elders and
 - Re-letter Sections F, G, H, I, and J.
 - Replace ~~team~~ with review process in Section F. Review Process Criteria, paragraph 3, 2nd sentence.
 - Strike ~~from the Review Team~~ in Section G. Final Nominee List, bullet point #2 sentence.
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D. Nomination Process

1. The Church Elders shall establish the schedule and logistics each year such that the new Elders will be installed by January 1.
2. Every church member may nominate up to three (3) men to serve as Church Elder.
3. The open period for nominations shall last a minimum of three (3) weeks.
4. In order to be accepted, each nomination shall:
 - a. Include a written statement including reason(s) for nomination.
 - b. Include name and signature of the member making the nomination.

~~E. Review Process Team~~

- ~~1. The Church Elders shall create a team to review the nominations and produce a final list of nominees to present to the Church Elders.~~
- ~~2. This team shall include at least two active deacons and shall be made up of godly men and women who:~~
 - ~~a. have a proven track record of faithfulness;~~
 - ~~b. are trustworthy to keep all information and discussions confidential;~~
 - ~~c. and represent a cross-section of the church body.~~
- ~~3. No active Elder nor active Elder's wife or immediate relative may serve on this team. Any man wishing to be considered for Elder, or his wife, or his immediate family member who is on this team shall recuse himself or herself from any review or consideration of such man, and the remaining members of the team shall make the team decision.~~
- ~~4. The Church Elders may provide counsel and guidance to the team, and may recommend a specific method for the team to follow, but they shall not be present during the team's actual discussion, deliberations, or decisions.~~
- ~~5. After the review process is complete, the review team shall submit their list of candidates to the Church Elders.~~

F. Review Process Criteria

Criteria for the review process:

1. Any man who receives at least three (3) acceptable nominations shall be considered during the review process
2. Primary consideration of nominees to be placed on the final nominee list should be the biblical qualifications, not the number of nominations received by each man.
3. During the review process it is almost certain that there will be many men who meet the biblical qualifications for an Elder. The ~~team~~ **review process** should focus on the following differentiating qualities of the nominees:
 - a. Men who have a long history of proven faithfulness to Christ and to His Church.
 - b. Men who have a long history of integrity within the community.
 - c. Men who understand the Scriptures and the Gospel and effectively communicate them to others.
 - d. Men who have a long history of wisdom in a wide variety of life experiences and challenges.
 - e. Men who are humble and demonstrate servant-leadership.
 - f. Men who role model generous giving through CFBC, both of their financial resources and their time.

G Final Nominee List

1. The Church Elders shall determine the specific number to be on the final nominee list. The number shall contain more than the minimum number of men needed to serve.
2. The list of candidates ~~from the Review Team~~ shall not be prioritized or ranked.
3. The Church Elders shall choose from this final nominee list the men that they will recommend to the Church Body as new active Church Elders. The Elders may use any method they deem proper to deliberate and to make this decision.