

THE **VILLAGE** CHURCH

*First Baptist Church of Highland Village
d/b/a The Village Church
A Texas Nonprofit Corporation*

CONSTITUTION

ARTICLE I.

Name and Affiliation

Section 1.01 Legal Name

The name of this corporation is First Baptist Church of Highland Village. This corporation will be further referred to in this constitution as the "church." The church will do business as "The Village Church" or "The Village."

Section 1.02 Location of Office

The principal office for business transactions of the church is 2101 Justin Road, Flower Mound, Texas 75028; this office is located in Denton County.

The elders of the church shall have full power and authority to change the principal office from one location to another. The secretary will record any change in the location of the principal office.

The elders of the church shall have power and authority to establish other offices at any place or places where the church is qualified under applicable law to conduct its business.

Section 1.03 Affiliations

The church is autonomous and maintains the right to govern its own affairs, independent of denominational control. Recognizing, however, the benefits of cooperation with other churches in the fulfillment of its purposes, the church may voluntarily affiliate with other churches and conventions by a passing vote of the elders. The affiliations of the church will be public knowledge in a forum approved by the elders.

Section 1.04 Non-profit Status

The church is a non-profit corporation under the laws of the state of Texas so long as such ruling remains valid and applicable to the church. The exemption is granted under Internal Revenue Code 501(c)(3).

Section 1.05 Dissolution and Mergers

In the event of a voluntary dissolution of the church, the net assets of the church shall be distributed to one or more non-profit organizations. The distribution will be in accordance with a passing vote of the elders as defined in the church's bylaws. In the event of a merger of the church with another church, then the net assets of the church shall be contributed to the surviving entity.

ARTICLE II.

Articles of Faith

Section 2.01 Mission

The mission of the church is to bring glory to God by making disciples through gospel-centered worship, gospel-centered community, gospel-centered service and gospel-centered multiplication.

Section 2.02 Statement of Basic Belief

The following beliefs represent the core orthodox beliefs from a biblical and historical perspective. While church members are not required to fully understand or articulate all aspects of these beliefs, the explicit rejection of any one of these particular beliefs disqualifies one from membership in The Village Church. Revisions of this statement to more clearly align to the Scriptures remain at the sole discretion of the elders, with the understanding that such changes will be communicated to the members of the church.

We believe...

- the Scriptures are true, authoritative and sufficient (Psalm 19:7-11; 2 Timothy 3:16; 2 Peter 1:20-21).
- there is only one God (Deuteronomy 6:4; Isaiah 45:5-6; Isaiah 46:9-10; John 17:3; 1 Corinthians 8:4-6; 1 Timothy 2:5).
- The Father is God. The Son is God. The Holy Spirit is God. The Father is neither the Son nor the Holy Spirit. The Son is neither the Father nor the Holy Spirit. The Holy Spirit is neither the Father nor the Son (Genesis 1:26; Psalm 45:6-7; Psalm 110:1; Matthew 3:13-17; Matthew 28:17-20; 1 Corinthians 12:4-6).
- I am, along with all humanity (Christ excluded), by birth and action a sinner² (Genesis 6:5; Psalm 51:5; Jeremiah 17:9; Romans 3:23; 5:8, 12-21; 7:18; Ephesians 2:1-3).
- the deserved penalty for sin is death, both physical and spiritual (Genesis 2:15-17; Genesis 3:19; Romans 5:12; 6:23; James 1:14-15).
- Jesus Christ is the eternal Son of God, was born of a virgin and is both fully God and fully human (Matthew 1:20; Luke 2:52; John 1:1-4, 14; Colossians 1:15-20; Hebrews 1:1-3).
- Jesus Christ died as my substitute to pay the

penalty for my sin (John 1:29; 10:1-18; Romans 5:8; 1 Corinthians 15:1-4; 2 Corinthians 5:21; Galatians 1:4; 1 Peter 3:18).

- Jesus Christ physically rose from the dead (Matthew 28:1-20; Mark 16:1-8; Luke 24:1-53; John 1:20-21:25; 1 Corinthians 15:12-34).
- Jesus Christ physically ascended into heaven and will one day physically return (John 14:3; Acts 1:11; 1 Thessalonians 4:16; Hebrews 9:28; 1 John 3:2; Revelation 1:7).
- there will be a future physical resurrection of the dead. Those who trust in Jesus Christ alone will be raised to eternal reward.³ Those who have not trusted in Jesus Christ will be raised to eternal punishment (Matthew 25:31-46; John 5:28-29; Acts 24:15).
- only by trusting in the person and work of Jesus Christ alone can I be reconciled to God and experience true life and joy (John 3:18, 14:6; Acts 4:12; Romans 3:21-26; 1 Timothy 2:5-6).⁴

ARTICLE III *Governance*

Section 3.01 Definition

The overall policy, control, direction and management of the ministry, operations and finances of the church shall be vested in the elder body. The elders are designated as the directors of this corporation as the term is defined and used in the Texas Nonprofit Corporation Act. Subject to the provisions and limitations of the Texas Nonprofit Corporation Act, any limitations in the Articles of Incorporation, this constitution and the church's bylaws, all corporate powers shall be exercised by or under the direction of the elders.

Section 3.02 Public Worship

Meetings for public worship shall be held at such times and places as may be provided for under the direction of the elders.

Section 3.03 Church Business Meetings

The elders shall have the sole authority to call a church business meeting or special meetings as needed.

ARTICLE IV *Amendments to Constitution*

Section 4.01 Notice Required and Voting Procedure

This constitution or any provision contained herein may be altered, amended, repealed or restated, and a new constitution may be adopted by a passing vote, as defined in the church's bylaws, at any special or regular elder meeting duly noticed. Duly noticed is defined as twenty-four (24) hour pre-notification via e-mail or other communication means.

