

**THE CONSTITUTION
OF
DYLLIS BAPTIST CHURCH**

530 Dyllis Road
Harriman, Tennessee

PREAMBLE

In order to conduct and handle the affairs and property of the Dyllis Baptist Church, we the members of said church, in business meeting duly called, held, and assembled, have adopted the following Constitution and By-laws.

ARTICLE I. NAME

This body shall be known as the Dyllis Baptist Church of 530 Dyllis Road, Harriman, Tennessee 37748.

ARTICLE II. PURPOSE

The purpose of this church shall be to conduct Christian worship and to conduct and carry out whatever other actions and ministries may be necessary to meet the requirements of the Holy Scriptures upon us as an organized and functioning New Testament Baptist Church.

ARTICLE III. ARTICLES OF FAITH

This body accepts as its statement of faith the Baptist Faith and Message as adopted by the Southern Baptist Convention on June 14, 2000.

ARTICLE IV. CHURCH COVENANT

Having been led, as we believe by the Spirit of God, to receive the Lord Jesus Christ as our Savior and, on the profession of our faith, having been baptized in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, we do now, in the presence of God, and this assembly, most solemnly and joyfully enter into covenant with one another as one body in Christ.

We engage, therefore, by the aid of the Holy Spirit to walk together in Christian love, to strive for the advancement of this church, in knowledge, holiness and comfort, to promote its prosperity and spirituality; to sustain its worship, ordinances, discipline, and doctrines; to contribute cheerfully and regularly to the support of the ministry, the expenses of the church, the relief of the poor, and spread of the gospel through all nations.

We also engage to maintain family devotions; to religiously educate our children; to seek the salvation of our kindred and acquaintances; to walk circumspectly in the world; to be just in our dealings, faithful in our engagements, and exemplary in our deportment; to avoid all tattling, backbiting, and excessive anger; to abstain from the use of intoxicating drinks as a beverage, to be zealous in our efforts to advance the kingdom of our Savior.

We further engage to watch over one another in brotherly love, to remember one another in prayer; to aid one another in sickness and distress; to cultivate Christian sympathy in feeling and Christian courtesy in speech; to be slow to take offense, but always ready for reconciliation and mindful of the rules of our Savior to secure it without delay.

We moreover engage that when we remove from this place we will, as soon as possible, unite with some other church where we can carry out the spirit of this covenant and the principles of God's Word.

ARTICLE V. CHARACTER

The government of this church is vested in the body of believers who compose its membership. It is subject to the control of no other ecclesiastical body or persons.

ARTICLE VI. DOCTRINE

The Holy Scriptures, the Bible, shall be the authority for faith and practice by this body.

ARTICLE VII. ORDINANCES

1. The Lord's Supper:

The Lord's Supper shall be observed as often as the church shall deem wise and needful.

2. Baptism:

- A.** Baptism shall be administered under authority of the church to persons who have made public professions of faith in Jesus Christ as Savior and Lord.
- B.** Baptism shall be by immersion of the believer, except when the believer is medically compromised. When the believer is medically compromised, a pastor may use his discretion concerning how to proceed with baptism.
- C.** Baptism shall be administered by a pastor or by anyone duly authorized by the church to baptize for the body.

ARTICLE VIII. MARRIAGE

We believe the word "marriage" means only a legal union between one man and one woman as a husband and wife, and the word "spouse" refers only to a person of the opposite sex who is a husband or wife. Marriage ceremonies outside of these parameters will not be performed on church property. Church ministers may decline to perform marriage ceremonies at their own discretion.

ARTICLE IX. RELATIONSHIPS

This church is and shall continue to be a Southern Baptist congregation in faith, practice, doctrine, and mission support. Affiliation shall be maintained with the Southern Baptist Convention, the Tennessee Baptist Convention, and the Big Emory Baptist Association. This body shall endeavor to keep in good standing and fellowship with its sister Southern Baptist churches.

ARTICLE X. PROPERTY

All property of this church is to be held for the use and benefit of the membership. If there is no membership to make adequate use of said property, then the title to the same shall revert to or become vested in the Tennessee Baptist Foundation, as trustee, an agency of the Tennessee Baptist Convention, Brentwood, Tennessee, to hold and use said property or the proceeds there from, to advance and propagate the Baptist cause and denomination in Tennessee.

BY-LAWS

ARTICLE I. MEMBERSHIP

1. Qualifications:

Only persons who have made a public profession of faith in Jesus Christ as their personal Savior and Lord shall be eligible for membership in this body.

2. Receiving of Members:

The church shall receive members as follows:

A. New Convert:

- i.** Shall make a public profession of faith in Jesus Christ as Savior and Lord.
- ii.** Shall be baptized by immersion, except when medically compromised. When the new convert is medically compromised, a pastor may use his discretion concerning how to proceed with baptism.
- iii.** Shall meet with the senior pastor or chairman of deacons to review and accept the Constitution and By-Laws of Dyllis Baptist Church.
- iv.** Shall be received by two-thirds majority vote of members present and eligible to vote as candidate for church membership.

B. Persons coming from sister Southern Baptist churches:

- i.** Shall meet with the senior pastor or chairman of deacons to review and accept the Constitution and By-Laws of Dyllis Baptist Church.
- ii.** Shall be received by two-thirds majority vote of members present and eligible to vote as candidate for church membership and subsequent receipt of a letter of commendation from the church of their previous membership. Anyone having been a member of a Baptist church of like faith and order and in consequence of peculiar circumstances who is unable to obtain a letter of recommendation may be received into the fellowship of this church upon statement.

C. Persons coming from other churches that are not Southern Baptist shall be expected to:

- i.** Make a public profession of faith in Jesus Christ as Savior and Lord.

- ii. Give a satisfactory statement of having been scripturally baptized as a believer by immersion under church authority.
- iii. Give a satisfactory statement of the reason for desiring to become a member of this church.
- iii. Meet with the senior pastor or chairman of deacons to review and accept the Constitution and By-Laws of Dyllis Baptist Church.
- iv. Receive a two-thirds majority vote of members present and eligible to vote for acceptance into membership.

D. Persons who have been members of this church, or another Southern Baptist Church, but have been dismissed for whatever reason may be restored to membership upon:

- i. Presenting themselves before the body and making a satisfactory statement of their repentance and desire for full fellowship with this church body.
- ii. Requesting that the church restore them to membership.
- iii. Receiving a two-thirds majority vote of members present and eligible to vote by the body for restoration.

E. Persons may not become members of this church by any other course than those stated above.

3. Termination of Membership:

Membership in this church shall be terminated:

- A. By death of the member.
- B. When a member shall join another church of any kind and be granted a letter of commendation by two-thirds vote of the church of those members present and eligible to vote. A letter of commendation shall be granted only upon receipt of a request from that church. A letter shall not be granted to the individual member.
- C. When a member shall make a request in writing to the church clerk that they be removed from membership.
- D. When a member's lifestyle shall become a disgrace and an offense to the church and its good name because of the member's immoral and/or unchristian conduct, or by their continual breaking of their covenant vows, or by their nonsupport of the church:

- i.** They shall be visited by the pastor and/or at least one deacon and one other member of this church for counsel and prayer according to the guidelines in Matthew, Chapter 18, Verses 12 through 22. A report shall be made to the church after the third visit, if a third visit was necessary.
- ii.** After three visits, if no favorable response is made by the offending member, then that offending member shall be informed by the pastor and/or at least one deacon and one other member of this church who visited the offending member, that at the next business meeting of the church, his/her name will be removed from the membership of the church by two-thirds vote of the church of those members present and eligible to vote. Such vote shall be taken by written ballot according to Article III. If the offending member is removed from membership of the church by church vote, then the offending member shall be so informed in writing by the church clerk.
- iii.** An exception shall be made concerning the nonsupport of church members and concerning visits by the pastor and/or at least one deacon and one other member of this church for counsel and prayer where members may be in military service, or subject to providential hindrance or other circumstances beyond control.

ARTICLE II. CHURCH OFFICERS

The pastor(s) and deacons shall be selected and serve as stipulated further in this constitution.

1. Pastor(s):

- A.** The pastor(s) shall be a cooperating Southern Baptist. He must meet the requirements of the New Testament as stated in 1 Timothy 3:1-7, in Titus 1:5-9, and in the 2000 Baptist Faith and Message. He shall have been ordained, or, upon his election as pastor by this church, shall be ordained in the manner practiced by and acceptable to most cooperating Southern Baptist churches.

B. The calling of a pastor:

- i.** The Pastor Search Committee will be formed according to Article IV, Section 7 of these By-Laws.
- ii.** The Pastor Search Committee shall seek a suitable person for the office of a pastor and shall arrange to bring him before the church for the consideration and vote of the church.

- iii.** The Pastor Search Committee shall provide the church with a reasonable amount of information concerning the person they are prepared to recommend for consideration for election to the office a pastor and shall seek to answer any reasonable questions from the congregation.
- iv.** The Pastor Search Committee shall provide such information to the church at least three announcements prior to the date of election.
- v.** No vote on the pastor search committee's recommendation of a person to fill the office of a pastor shall be taken until the church has been given at least three announced notices of such recommendation.
- vi.** The Pastor Search Committee's recommendation shall be presented in writing to the congregation and the prospective pastor and shall include:
 - a.** The compensation package as determined by the Budget and Stewardship Committee and the Pastor Search Committee.
 - b.** The amount of time allowed annually for vacation: one week after six months, two weeks from years one to four, three weeks from years five to nine, and four weeks from year ten.
 - c.** The amount of time allowed for sick leave: accrue $\frac{1}{2}$ day every two months.
 - d.** The amount of time allowed for revivals or mission work outside the church.
 - e.** The agreement concerning regular "days off"/"time off" for the pastor.
 - f.** The amount of time allowed for attending events such as the Southern Baptist Convention, Tennessee Baptist Convention, the State Evangelism Conference, the State Pastors' Retreat, conferences at Ridgecrest, or the Baptist Sunday School Board.
 - g.** The amount of time and funds allowed for the pastor to take advantage of continuing education experiences.
 - h.** The number of Sundays and Wednesdays during the year for which the church will pay for the pulpit supply in the pastor's absence, including vacation, sickness, revivals, conventions, and conferences. It shall be understood that the senior pastor is responsible for arranging pulpit supply. In the senior pastor's absence, the chairman of deacons is responsible for ordering the worship services in conjunction with the visiting preacher and music minister. If the senior pastor is unable to

arrange pulpit supply, it shall be the responsibility of the chairman of deacons to do so.

- i. A written ministry description, approved by the church, shall be provided the prospective pastor and shall become a part of the Pastor Search Committee's recommendation to the church and a part of the total contract with the pastor when he is extended and accepts the call of the church.
- j. It shall be considered that a call by the church has been extended to the prospective pastor when the recommendation of the Pastor Search Committee shall have been approved by not less than 80% (eighty percent) of those members present and eligible to vote. Voting shall be by written ballot according to Article III.
- k. A pastor shall be called for an indefinite period of time subject to the will of the body and the leadership of the Holy Spirit.

C. The termination of a pastor.

The office of pastor shall be considered vacant:

- i. Upon the death of the pastor.
- ii. When the pastor shall present to the church clerk a written statement of his resignation to become effective on a specific date. Upon receipt of such written resignation, the clerk shall read the statement to the church at the time of receipt or at the first regularly scheduled service following. The pastor and Budget and Stewardship Committee will negotiate the terms of resignation including salary, benefits, and time to vacate the parsonage.
- iii. In circumstances not involving immoral or illegal conduct, the pastor may be terminated by vote of the church as follows:
 - a. The church shall have been notified on three regular meetings of the church in advance that such action is to be considered and a specific date and time designated.
 - b. A motion to terminate the services of a pastor shall require the approval of two-thirds majority vote of members present and eligible to vote. The vote shall be by written ballot according to Article III.
 1. When two-thirds of those members present and eligible to vote shall vote for the motion to terminate the services of a pastor, the motion shall have been passed and such termination shall become effective immediately.

2. Deacons:

A. On the duties of deacons:

- i.** The deacons shall understand their role to be that of servants of the church. They shall not exercise authority nor seek to rule over the church. They shall not presume to have any position, or authority, except that specifically given to them by the church.
- ii.** The deacons shall be expected to assist the pastor in developing, promoting, and conducting a spiritual and benevolent ministry responsive to the needs of the church and the community as approved by the church.
- iii.** The deacons shall be expected to help plan and assume the responsibility for a family ministry plan as approved by the church. This is understood to mean that each deacon will assume spiritual watch care over and ministry to specific families that shall be assigned to them.
- iv.** The deacons shall be expected to assist the pastor and guide the church in a program of evangelism by participating in an ongoing program of outreach, visitation, and witnessing.
- v.** The deacons are expected to be examples of good Christian stewardship of possessions by faithfully giving at least the tithe of their income unto the Lord through their church and to encourage every member to do likewise.
- vi.** The deacon shall be expected to attend scheduled worship services of the church unless providentially hindered.
- vii.** The deacon shall be expected to be an example to the church as one whose life is being guided by the indwelling presence and power of the Holy Spirit. He shall strive to maintain an unspotted reputation within the church and in the community at large so as to be an influence for good to the well being of his church and to the glory of the Lord Jesus Christ.
- viii.** He shall be a man of prayer, Bible study, and shall attempt to live his life according to the Scripture. The deacon shall seek to uphold and abide by the Constitution and covenant of this church.

B. On the selection of deacons:

- i.** To be chosen by this church one must be an active member in good standing, meet the requirements of the New Testament as stated in 1 Timothy 3:8-13 and Acts 6:3, and be authorized by two-thirds majority vote of members present and eligible to vote.

- ii.** No person shall be considered for selection to the office of deacon who is not an active member, a man of prayer, follower and example of Christ in both word and deed, active in the total program of the church, supporting the church with their finances, of good reputation in the church and the community, and in good fellowship with the church.
- iii.** Those to be considered for selection to the office of deacon should be a member of the church for at least two years.
- iv.** The Nominating Committee, deacons, pastors, and church clerk shall arrange for the selection of deacons:
 - a.** The Nominating Committee shall prepare a form requesting recommendations from church members of men who meet the above constitutional requirements and would be good candidates to serve in the office of deacon. The forms shall be made available to all active members of the church. A specific date shall be set by the Nominating Committee for church members to submit their forms of recommendations to the Nominating Committee.
 - b.** The Nominating Committee shall review the submitted forms of recommendations and approve a list of names of men from those forms that they consider to be good candidates for the office of deacon. The Nominating Committee reserves the right to not list any man that they do not consider to be a good candidate for the office of deacon.
 - c.** The Nominating Committee shall present their approved list of names of men they consider to be good candidates for the office of deacon to the deacons and pastor(s). The deacons and pastor(s) shall review the list of names. The deacons and pastor(s) reserve the right to not approve any man on the list that they do not consider to be a good candidate for the office of deacon.
 - d.** The pastor shall notify the potential candidate(s) approved for the office of deacon to make sure he/they are willing to serve.
 - e.** The pastor shall present the approved list of names of potential candidates who are willing to serve in the office of deacon to the church clerk.
 - f.** The church clerk shall provide to the church in written form the approved list of names of potential candidates who are willing to serve in the office of deacon as well as when the vote shall be taken for the selection of deacon(s). An announcement shall be made during at least three separate regular worship services before the vote can be taken for the selection of deacon(s).

- g.** Each man for the office of deacon shall be presented by the church clerk and voted on individually by written ballot given by the church clerk according to Article III.
- h.** The selection of a deacon shall be by two-thirds majority vote of members present and eligible to vote.

C. On the ordination of men for the office of deacon:

- i.** For those men selected by the church to the office of deacon who have not been ordained, the pastor(s) shall arrange for their ordination at the earliest appropriate time. They shall begin their service in the office of deacon upon their ordination.
- ii.** For those men selected by the church to the office of deacon who have previously been ordained by this church or by another Southern Baptist church, they shall begin their service in the office of deacon upon their selection by church vote.
- iii.** For those men selected by the church to the office of deacon who have previously been ordained by a church other than this church or another Southern Baptist church, the pastor(s) and deacons shall determine if their previous ordination is acceptable to this body based upon this Constitution and Articles of Faith. If the pastor(s) and deacons deem their previous ordination acceptable to this body, then they shall begin their service in the office of deacon upon notification by the pastor(s) and deacons. If the pastor(s) and deacons deem their previous ordination unacceptable to this body, then the pastor(s) shall arrange for their ordination according to this body's Articles of Faith at the earliest appropriate time. They shall begin their service in the office of deacon upon their ordination.

D. On the release of duties for deacons:

- i.** A deacon may at any time temporarily release himself from his duties as a deacon for any reason. The deacon shall inform the pastor(s) and other deacons of his reason(s) for temporarily releasing himself from his duties and of his expected return to his duties.

E. On the termination of deacons:

- i.** Death shall terminate the service and office of a deacon.
- ii.** When a deacon shall join another church of any kind for whatever reason or become an inactive member, his office and term of service shall be considered terminated.

- iii.** When the deacon shall become unable for an extended period of time to fulfill his prescribed role and service, he shall report such to the church and ask that he be removed from this office.
- iv.** When the deacon shall become unwilling to carry out his assigned duties and responsibilities, he shall report such to the church and request that he be removed from this office.
- v.** When his lifestyle shall become such that he becomes a reproach upon the good name of his church and the Lord Jesus Christ, the deacon shall be expected to report such to the church and request that he be removed from this office.
- vi.** When the deacon shall no longer in honesty and good faith be able or willing to accept the faith, doctrines, and practices of his church, he shall report such to the church and request that he be removed from this office.
- vii.** When any of the above shall occur and the deacon shall not have taken the initiative to report such to the church, it shall be the duty of the remaining deacons to report such in writing to the church clerk; and the clerk shall make the report to the church, and the church shall consider the facts presented. If it shall be determined that any of the above circumstances shall in fact prevail, then a motion shall be made to remove the deacon in question from this office for the reason or reasons stated.

ARTICLE III. CHURCH GOVERNMENT

- 1.** This church acknowledges Jesus Christ as its Spiritual Head and the Holy Scriptures, the Bible, as its guide and authority.
- 2.** The government of this church shall and does reside in and with the membership.
- 3.** The membership in business meeting is the final voice of authority and any and all actions pertaining to this church, its membership, officers, programs, and policies of any kind and nature.
- 4.** All decisions of this church shall be decided by two-thirds majority vote of those members present and eligible to vote, except for the calling of a pastor, in which case a not less than 80% (eighty percent) is necessary for approval according to Article II, Section 1. A member is eligible to vote if such member has attended, in person or via multimedia, four regular worship services within the past 30 days and is 16 years of age or older.
- 5.** For all written ballot votes, the Moderator must ask all members present and eligible to vote to stand to receive their ballot, which will be administered and received by the church clerk.

6. All written ballot votes shall be counted by at least three active members, one of whom must be an active deacon.

ARTICLE IV. CHURCH ORGANIZATIONS

1. Moderator

The moderator shall be the pastor, except during a written ballot vote to terminate the services of the pastor as described in Article II., Sec. C. In the absence of the moderator or at his request, the chairman of deacons shall preside, or in the absence of both, the clerk shall call the church to order and an acting moderator shall be elected.

2. Clerk

A clerk of the church shall be elected each year. The duty of the clerk shall be to keep a record of all the actions of the church, except as otherwise herein provided. The clerk is responsible for keeping a register of the names of members, with dates of omission, removal, or death, together with a record of baptisms. The clerk shall issue letters of removal from member roll voted by the church, preserve on file all communications and written official reports, and give legal notice of all meetings where such notice is necessary, as indicated in these By-laws. The church may delegate some of the clerical responsibilities to a church secretary. All church records are church property and should be filed in the church office.

3. Treasurer

The church shall elect a treasurer each year. The duty of the treasurer shall be to receive, preserve, and payout, as instructed by the church, all money, or things of value, paid or given to the church, keeping at all times an itemized account of all receipts and disbursements. It shall be the duty of the treasurer to render to the church at each regular business meeting a written, report of the weekly receipts and monthly disbursements during the preceding month. The Budget and Stewardship Committee may call for an audit of the church's accounts by an independent organization external to the church membership at any time. The money, when collected, will be counted by at least three people before leaving the church, and its deposit shall be made by the end of the current week. The duties of the treasurer must be completed according to Article V. In the absence of the treasurer, the assistant treasurer will assume responsibility of the duties of treasurer. The treasurer and assistant treasurer shall be ex-officio members of the Budget and Stewardship Committee.

Upon rendering the annual account at the end of each fiscal year, and its acceptance and approval by the church, the record shall be delivered by the treasurer to the church clerk, who shall keep and preserve the account as a part of the permanent records of the church.

4. Board of Directors

The Board of Directors will hold in trust the church property. They shall have power to buy, sell, mortgage, lease, or transfer any real property only with a specific vote of the church authorizing each action. It shall be the function of the Board of Directors to affix their signatures to legal documents involving the sale, mortgage, purchase, or rental of real property or other legal documents where the signatures of Board of Directors are required.

See By-Laws for the New Corporation of Dyllis Baptist Church, Inc.

5. Church Council

The primary functions of the Church Council shall be to recommend to the congregation suggested objectives and church goals; to review and coordinate program plans recommended by church officers, organizations and committees; to recommend the use of other resources according to program priorities; and to evaluate program achievements in terms of church goals and objectives. All matters agreed upon by the Church Council, calling for action not already authorized, shall be referred to the church for approval or disapproval.

The Church Council shall have as regular members the pastor, all church professional staff members, directors of the church organizations, church clerk, church treasurer, and chairman of the deacons and all others deemed necessary by the pastor.

6. Membership Council

The Membership Council shall consist of the church clerk, chairman of deacons, Sunday school director, and the chairperson of the Nominating Committee. The Membership Council shall assist the clerk in making an annual report to the church at the January Business Meeting concerning the number and status of the church membership. The Membership Council shall provide necessary information for the church to act under Article I. of this Constitution.

7. Nominating Committee

At each January Business Meeting, the Nominating Committee shall recommend to the church a person to serve as chairperson of the Nominating Committee for the new year (January through December). The Nominating Committee shall be elected by the church body, with nominations being taken from the floor during the business meeting.

The chairperson's term of office shall begin immediately upon a two-thirds majority vote of members present and eligible to vote and shall continue throughout the year.

The Nominating Committee shall be a standing committee and shall function throughout the year until that same time the following year.

The Nominating Committee shall recommend to the church persons to serve in all offices and positions to which persons are elected by the church unless otherwise stated in this Constitution. The names of these persons shall be made available to the church at the December business meeting each year, to be voted on in January the following year. These persons shall assume responsibilities immediately upon a two-thirds majority vote of members present and eligible to vote.

Upon the resignation or termination of a pastor, the Nominating Committee shall be responsible for bringing to the church for their consideration the names of five persons who have agreed to serve on a Pastor Search Committee. The Pastor Search Committee shall consist of three men, one being a Deacon, and two women. Such recommendation shall be made to the church at the business meeting following the receipt of the resignation or the date of the act of termination of the pastor.

8. A Pastor Search Committee

- A.** The Pastor Search Committee shall be elected by the church in accord with the duties and responsibilities of the Nominating Committee.
- B.** After election, the Pastor Search Committee shall serve at the pleasure of and under the instructions of the church. They shall select from among themselves one to serve as chairperson and shall report directly to the church.
- C.** It shall be the duty of the Pastor Search Committee to seek out a person they believe will make a suitable pastor for the church and at the appropriate time make to the church a recommendation for the church to call that person as pastor.
- D.** This committee shall follow the guidelines set forth in this Constitution under Article II. A. with regards to the selecting and recommending of a prospective pastor.
- E.** This committee shall make no obligations or commitments to the prospective pastor without approval by the church.
- F.** This committee shall be released upon the pastor's assumption of his expected duties.

9. Budget and Stewardship Committee

The Budget and Stewardship Committee shall prepare and submit to the church for its approval a budget which indicates by items the amount needed and sought for all expenses. The budget for the following year shall be presented to the church during a regular business meeting each December. The treasurer and/or assistant treasurer shall be ex-officio members of the Budget and Stewardship Committee.

10. Committee Membership

Committee members shall serve on a rotation of three consecutive years with at least one year between recurring membership on the same committee, unless otherwise specified in this Constitution and By-laws.

11. Ex officio Membership

The pastor, by virtue of his office, shall be an ex officio member of all councils and committees, including the deacons, having the right to be present and to participate in all discussion.

12. Greeting and Ushering Teams

It shall be the duty of this team to welcome and assist guests and church members before, during, and after the worship services and to designate such members as needed to carry out these duties.

13. Other Councils, Committees, and Teams

The church may elect any other council, committees, or teams to serve for any length of time as may be deemed necessary for the carrying out of the church program or business. Such council, committees, and teams shall function as instructed by and under the authority of the church.

14. Dyllis Baptist Church Cemetery

The Dyllis Cemetery has its own organization, with By-laws and three trustees. The trustees report to the church twice yearly the financial condition and other pertinent information. The perpetual funding is in an irrevocable account. The Dyllis Cemetery is deeded as "The Dyllis Cemetery in care of Dyllis Baptist Church." See Cemetery By-laws.

ARTICLE V. EXPENDITURE OF CHURCH FUNDS

- 1.** All purchases and expenditures of the church not provided by the church budget must be voted on at a business meeting.
- 2.** All payments for goods and services shall be authorized by the church treasurer according to the church budget.
- 3.** Authorization for purchases or expenditures made in response to a direct vote of the church shall be made in accordance with the action of the church as recorded in the official church minutes.

4. Unless otherwise noted by the church in Business Meeting, all the money collected during all worship services and through any church organization, and all special offerings and gifts, shall be duly recorded by the treasurer and deposited in the official church bank account.
5. An accurate and up-to-date record of deposited funds shall be maintained by the treasurer, and notification of each deposit shall be made to the church through the regular printed treasurer's report at the regular church business meeting.
6. Expenditures for emergency situations requiring action within one week may be approved by the Board of Directors without a church vote.
7. Special offerings may be sought and received by the church or by any of its organizations only upon approval by the church. However, this does not prohibit any individual from giving to any cause they choose at any time they may desire. Those individual gifts should not be considered as part or all of their tithe.

ARTICLE VI. CHURCH BUSINESS MEETINGS

1. This church shall conduct regular business meetings as approved by the church.
2. Special business meetings may be conducted when the congregation is given one week's notice and three announced notices and the time and purpose of the special business meeting is clearly stated when the notice is given and the announcements are made. Any such notice and announcements must be made during regularly scheduled worship services: Sunday morning, Sunday night, or Wednesday night.
3. The current edition of Robert's Rules of Order shall be the guide for proper procedure in any case or circumstance where questions may arise concerning the proper conduct of church business.

ARTICLE VII. STATEMENT OF EFFECTIVE DATE OF THIS DOCUMENT

This document shall become the official Constitution and By-laws of the Dyllis Baptist Church, 530 Dyllis Road, Harriman, Tennessee 37748, upon a favorable and affirmative written ballot vote by two-thirds majority vote of members present and eligible to vote on August 5, 2015. It shall become effective at the time of such approval.¹

¹ This Constitution and By-Laws in its first writing was properly approved and adopted by the members of Dyllis Baptist Church, 530 Dyllis Road, Harriman, TN in regular business meeting on Wednesday, May 9, 2003. The Constitution Committee was Jeanette C. Brannon (Co-chairman), Charles B. Dean (ex officio), Bobbie W. Hammons, Vernon Eddie Jones, Thomas H. Purdy, and Peggy C. Whitehouse (Co-chairman). The Constitution Committee upon this approval is Jimmy Adkins, James Griffith (ex officio), Mark Hayes, Kevin Jones, Pam Purdy, and Tom Tilley.

ARTICLE VIII. AMENDMENTS

Subsequent to approval this Constitution and By-Laws may be changed or amended by the church only in the following manner:

The proposed change shall be presented in writing to the Constitution Committee by the person desiring the change or amendment. If the change or amendment is approved by the Constitution Committee, the Chair of the Constitution Committee shall read the proposed change or amendment to the church in Business Meeting and distribute to all the members present the proposed change or amendment. It shall be announced that at the next regular business meeting of the church, the proposed change or amendment will be discussed and voted on.

Such change or amendment shall be adopted upon the favorable and affirmative vote of two-thirds of those members present and eligible to vote at the scheduled time for action by written ballot.