

**CONSTITUTION AND BYLAWS
FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH
ANGELS CAMP**

January, 2025

CONSTITUTION

Preamble

We declare and establish this constitution to preserve and secure the principles of our faith in accordance with Holy Scripture and to govern the body in an orderly manner. This constitution will preserve the liberties of each individual church member and the freedom of action of this body in relation to other churches.

ARTICLE I ~ Name and Objectives

This body shall be known as **First Baptist Church of Angels Camp**, California. It shall be the purpose of this body under the leadership of the Holy Spirit to:

- a) Conduct public worship of Almighty God
- b) Diligently and prayerfully seek to win the lost to Christ through a program of preaching and personal discipleship
- c) Teach individuals in all age groups the fundamentals of the Old and New Testaments
- d) Train its members in the exercise of their various responsibilities to Christ and his Church

ARTICLE II ~ Statement of Basic Beliefs

We affirm the Holy Bible as the inspired word of God and the basis for our beliefs. This church subscribes to the doctrinal statement of the Baptist Faith and Message as adopted by the Southern Baptist Convention in 2000. We voluntarily band ourselves to gather as the body of baptized believers in Jesus Christ personally committed to sharing the good news of salvation to lost mankind. The ordinances of the church are believer's baptism and the Lord's Supper.

ARTICLE III ~ Church Covenant

As those who have experienced the grace of a life changed by the gospel of Jesus Christ, we have the opportunity to reflect the character of Christ through the pursuit of certain attitudes and actions and the rejection of others. The Scriptures refer to this reality as "living by the Spirit" (Rom. 8). The requirements of this membership covenant are in no way intended as an addition to the biblical obligations of a believer. Rather, this document functions primarily as an

accessible yet non-exhaustive explanation of what the Scriptures teach about the obedience that faith produces.

***See **Attachment A** to view Church Membership Covenant

ARTICLE IV ~ Church Government

The government of the Church shall be focused on seeking and maintaining the Lordship and direction of Jesus Christ over His body. The conduct, procedure, power and authority of this church will be governed at all times by the Bible, God's inerrant and infallible Word. In the event that any part of these Bylaws is ever found to be inconsistent with clear scriptural direction, the Bible shall be the final source of authority.

First Baptist Church, Angels Camp will adhere to elder-led congregationalism. The church will be led by a plurality of elders, who are led by the Lead Pastor. However, the congregation shall have a vote in decisions regarding: amendments to the Bylaws, election of officers, calling or dismissal of the Lead Pastor, adoption of the annual budget, buying or selling of real property, erection of buildings, or any large encumbrance of funds.

Section 1. Structure of Church Government

The Board of Elders is the executive body of this church and primarily in charge of spiritual oversight. The Board of Deacons is in charge of meeting the physical needs of the church. Ministry leaders may initiate action by making recommendations to the Board of Elders. However, in the case of routine matters, they may take action themselves. If a doubt arises concerning the authority of an individual or a committee to make a final decision on a given issue, a recommendation on that issue should be made to the next highest authority for a determination.

The congregation, the Elders or one of the ministry leaders may appoint an ad-hoc committee whenever necessary. Ad-hoc committees shall be responsible for and limited to performing only those duties for which they were appointed and shall be considered dismissed when those duties are accomplished.

ARTICLE V ~ Church Affiliations

This church is subject to the control of no other ecclesiastical body, but it recognizes the benefits of mutual counsel and cooperation which are common among New Testament, Bible-believing churches. Insofar as is practical and in accord with the will of the church, this church may cooperate with and support churches and ministries, including, but not limited to, the Motherlode Baptist Association, the California Southern Baptist Convention, and the Southern Baptist Convention.

ARTICLE VI ~ Dissolution Clause

In the event that this church fellowship shall for any reason be dissolved, the total assets shall be assigned to the **California Southern Baptist Convention** for use or disposal as the convention deems best for Kingdom advantage. No assets of this corporation will inure to the benefit of any individual.

BYLAWS

ARTICLE I ~ Church Membership

SECTION 1. ~ General

This is a sovereign and democratic Baptist church under the lordship of Jesus Christ. The membership retains unto itself the exclusive right of self-government in all phases of the spiritual and temporal life of this church.

The membership reserves the exclusive right to determine who shall be members of this church and the conditions of such membership.

SECTION 2. ~ Candidacy

Any person may offer himself as a candidate for membership in this church at any regular church service in any of the following ways:

- a. Public profession of faith in the Lord Jesus Christ and baptism by immersion by the authority of this New Testament church;
- b. Transfer of membership from another church of like faith and order by means of a letter of recommendation;
- c. Restoration upon basis of the candidate's statement of prior conversion experience and prior baptism in like-minded, credobaptism, evangelical church, when no church letter or recommendation is available.

Candidates for membership shall be presented for church action at a regular or special business meeting. Should there be any dissent to any candidate, the problem shall be referred to the pastor and the deacons for investigation and recommendation within thirty days. A simple majority of those members present and voting shall be required to elect such candidates to membership.

SECTION 4. ~ Rights of Members

- a. Every member of the church is entitled to vote at all elections and on all questions submitted to the church in conference, provided the member is **present**.
- b. Every member of the church is eligible for consideration by the membership as candidates for elective offices in the church.

- c. Every member of the church may participate in the ordinances of the church as administered by the church.

SECTION 5. ~ Termination of Membership

- a. Death of the member;
- b. By letter of transfer to another Baptist church;
- c. Exclusion by action of this church;
- d. Erasure upon request or proof of membership in a church of another denomination.

SECTION 6. ~ Discipline

It shall be the practice of this church to emphasize to its members that every reasonable measure will be taken to assist any troubled member. The pastor, other members of the church staff, and deacons are available for counsel and guidance. The attitude of members toward one another shall be guided by a concern for redemption rather than punishment.

Should some serious condition exist which would cause a member to become a liability to the general welfare of the church, the pastor and the deacons will take every reasonable measure to resolve the problem in accord with Matthew 18. If it becomes necessary for the church to take action to exclude a member, a two-thirds vote of the members present is required; the church may proceed to declare the person to be no longer in the membership of the church. All such proceedings shall be pervaded by the spirit of Christ kindness and forbearance.

SECTION 7. ~ Restoration

The church may restore to membership any person previously excluded, upon request of the excluded person, and by vote of the church upon evidence of the excluded person's repentance and reformation.

ARTICLE II ~ Church Officers

First Baptist Church, Angels Camp will have the biblical offices of elder (the Lead Pastor being the head elder) and deacon as outlined by 1 Timothy 3 and Titus 1.

First Baptist Church, Angels Camp will also maintain the corporate officers as required by law. The corporate officers are: Chairman, Clerk, and Treasurer.

Section 1. ~ Lead Pastor

a. Qualifications

The Lead Pastor shall be a man who meets the biblical criteria for an Elder (I Timothy 3:1-7; Titus 1:5-9). Since he is a representative of this church, he shall be a person of good report, and shall manage his personal affairs, financial and otherwise, so that no discredit shall come to the cause of Christ through his actions. He shall have an exemplary witness, and walk with God. He shall be responsible for worship, teaching, and preaching of the Word of God. He shall have had formal training in the pastoral ministry, and shall purpose to take advantage of opportunities to improve his skills by attending various seminars, conferences, and other trainings. He may also take advantage of teaching and preaching at other venues as offered and time permits. He shall affirm the Statement of Faith and Constitution and Bylaws of this church without mental reservation.

b. Responsibilities and Powers

Upon the acceptance of this call to this church, he shall be automatically a member of this church. (The wife of the Lead Pastor shall also automatically be a member.) The Lead Pastor shall be the President of the Corporation, its Chief Executive Officer and Chairman of the Elders. The Lead Pastor is an elder in all respects, except that he is chairman of the elders for his entire tenure as Lead Pastor. The Lead Pastor shall supervise all ministries of the church, being shepherd, counselor, and guide to the church on matters of Scripture, church polity, and matters pertinent to the total ministry of the church. The Lead Pastor shall have general supervision, direction, and control of the business and affairs of the corporation. By virtue of his position, the Lead Pastor is a member of all the church organizations and committees with full voting privileges in each. He will lead the church in accordance with Ephesians 4:11-12. The Lead Pastor has the power of veto over any decision of the elder board, the corporate board, the congregation, deacons and ministry leaders.

c. Compensation

In accordance with 1 Timothy 5:17-18, the church shall provide the Lead Pastor, as possible, an adequate salary, housing allowance, health insurance, ministry expense allowance, vacation time, continued education, pension, and other special funds as

needed for his ministry. He shall be reimbursed for professional expenses through an accountable reimbursement plan.

d. Resignation or Termination

The Pastor is called for an indefinite period of time with one (1) month notice required in case of resignation unless mutually waived. The Pastor may receive severance pay deemed appropriate by the Elders depending on the circumstances of his leaving and his length of service.

If it becomes necessary, due to his immoral or felonious illegal conduct or unbiblical teaching, and after following the procedures described in Matthew 18:15-17, the Elder Team shall recommend to the congregation that the Lead Pastor be removed from office. Such a recommendation must be made by a unanimous vote of the Elder team (not counting the Lead Pastor) and approved by two-thirds of the members of the church who are present and voting at a duly called meeting. If the Lead Pastor is removed because he is scripturally unqualified, he will be given one month's compensation as severance as an act of grace and the relationship will terminate immediately.

e. Pulpit Committee

When a vacancy occurs in the Lead Pastoral position, the Elders shall serve as the Pulpit Committee, with one of the elders of the church chairing this committee (elected to this position by the other elders). If there are less than six (6) elders, the church shall elect four (4) additional members from the congregation. No more than one (1) person from a family may be on this committee. It shall carefully investigate candidates and shall make a recommendation to the congregation as to the person who should be asked to candidate. The church shall not consider more than one (1) candidate at a time, thereby preventing the possibility of a division. The call of a pastor shall come before the congregation for consideration in a business meeting, previous notice of which is to be given by announcement at three (3) consecutive meetings of the church. The vote shall be by secret ballot, and three quarters (3/4) majority vote of the eligible voters present shall be necessary to extend a call to the candidate. The initial compensation package also will be determined by the church and submitted to the candidate in writing with the call.

Section 2. ~ Church Elders

The Elders are chosen by the congregation to serve as their representatives and as the executive body of this church. All Elders will be responsible in assisting the Lead Pastor in shepherding the church family. There shall be a minimum of one elder, the Lead Pastor. Each Elder must meet the qualifications mentioned in this Section. The Elders will be elected by the congregation at the annual meeting and will serve for a three (3)

year term. There will be a required one (1) year sabbatical leave after serving two (2) consecutive terms of three (3) years.

a. Qualifications of an Elder:

He must be a member of this church. He must be a faithful attender, minister and tither, having been at the church at least a year. He must meet the spiritual qualifications of 1 Timothy 3 and Titus 1. No one can serve concurrently as both an Elder and Deacon.

b. Responsibilities and Powers of the Elders:

- i. to assist in the spiritual leadership of the church (John 21:15-17; 1 Peter 5:1-5)
- ii. to share management and direction under the leadership of the Lead Pastor in the ministry of the church in all spiritual and financial matters.
- iii. to meet regularly together for prayer as Elders for mutual edification and growth.
- iv. to guard the church from false doctrine (Titus 1:9) and divisiveness (Acts 20:28-30)
- v. to investigate, oversee and execute matters of church discipline according to the Church Bylaws.
- vi. to guide and counsel the congregation into the will of God in life situations, including moral, doctrinal, and practical matters.
- vii. to establish priorities, policies, plans and courses of action for implementing the stated objectives and voted decisions of the church.
- viii. to consider and act on all reports, programs, and requests submitted by ministry leaders, organizations, and support staff.
- ix. to assist the Lead Pastor in the administration of the ordinances, and the instruction of persons concerning membership.
- x. to examine applicants for membership.
- xi. to evaluate each other as Elders concerning productivity, spirituality, and walk with the Lord, taking any self-discipline necessary according to (Matthew 18:15-20; 2 Thessalonians; I Timothy 5:19-20; Titus 3:10-11).
- xii. to visit and minister to the sick (James 5:14).
- xiii. to oversee the finances of the church in partnership with the church Treasurer
- xiv. to submit to the Lead Pastor in his spiritual oversight over the Elders and the church (Hebrews 13:7, 17). They shall support the pastor (Ex 17:10-13).

Section 3. ~ Church Deacons

The Deacons are chosen by the congregation to serve the physical needs of the church. The Deacon board may consist of men and women. There will be a minimum of two (2) deacons, with each meeting the qualifications mentioned in this section. The Deacons shall be elected by the congregation at the annual meeting and they shall serve for a three (3) year term. There shall be a required one (1) year sabbatical leave after serving two (2) consecutive terms of three (3) years. The Board of Deacons will be responsible to the

board of Elders. All decisions and actions of the Deacon Board may be subject to review by the Elder Board.

a. Qualifications of a Deacon:

A deacon must be a member of the church. He or she shall also be a faithful attender, minister and tither and have been at the church at least a year. Deacons must meet the spiritual requirements as set forth in I Timothy 3.

b. Responsibilities and Powers of the Deacons:

- i. To oversee the care and maintenance of the church building, equipment, and furnishings, including the regular cleaning thereof.
- ii. To oversee the nursery ministry of the church.
- iii. To take care of benevolence toward the poor, sick, and injured within the church and then, secondarily, to those outside the church. The deacons will have and administer the church benevolence fund.
- iv. To oversee the hospitality and social ministries of the church. They will maintain, stock, and control the church kitchen. They will provide personnel for banquets and receptions of the church.
- v. To provide and supervise the church greeters for each Sunday's worship service.
- vi. To oversee the preparation of the church ordinances.

The Elders will have the authority to add or remove from these duties of the Deacons as is necessary.

Section 4. ~ Church Corporate Officers

a. Chairman:

The Lead Pastor shall be the Chairman of the Corporation. He shall preside at all official business sessions of the congregation. He shall be actively interested in the welfare of the church and of its organizations. The Chairman shall have power of address and vote in all organizations and committees of the church.

b. Clerk:

The church shall elect annually the clerk as its clerical officer. The clerk shall keep an accurate record of the proceedings of all business meetings of the congregation and of the Board of Elders, attend to all official correspondence, and preserve all records of church business. The church may delegate some of the clerical responsibilities to a church secretary who will assist the elected clerk. All church records are church property and shall be kept in the church office when an office is maintained.

c. Treasurer:

The church shall elect annually a church treasurer and assistant treasurer as its financial officers. It shall be the duty of the treasurer to receive, preserve, and pay out, upon receipt of vouchers approved and signed by authorized personnel, 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 an itemized report of the receipts and disbursements since the preceding regular business meeting. The treasurer's report and records may be audited annually by an auditing committee or public accountant. The treasurer may be bonded, the church paying for the bond.

Upon rendering the annual account at the end of each fiscal year and its acceptance and approval by the church, the records 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.

Section 5. ~ Other Provisions

a. Compensation

Corporate Officers, Elders and Deacons shall serve without compensation. All officers serve voluntarily as Elders, deacons or as corporate officers of the church.

b. Liability

Persons participating in the corporation, including Corporate officers, pastors, staff members, elders, and deacons shall not be liable for debts or obligations of the corporation. No officer, elder, staff member or any member of any committee appointed by this church shall be personally or individually liable for any error or mistake, act or omission for, or on behalf of this church, occurring within the scope of his or her duty as such elder, officer, staff member or committee member, excepting for his or her own willful misconduct or violation of the law.

c. Personal Loans

The church shall not lend money or use its credit to assist its elders, deacons, or officers, or any employees.

ARTICLE III ~ Church Ordinances

SECTION 1. ~ Baptism

This church shall receive for baptism any person who has received Jesus Christ as Savior by personal faith, who professes him publicly at any worship service, and who indicates a commitment to follow Christ as Lord.

- 1) Baptism shall be by immersion in water.
- 2) The pastor, or whomever the church shall authorize, shall administer baptism. The deacons shall assist in preparation for, and the observance of, baptism.
- 3) Baptism shall be administered as an act of worship during any worship service of the church.
- 4) A person who professes Christ and is not baptized after a reasonable length of time shall be counseled by the pastor and/or staff or deacons. If negative interest is ascertained on the part of the candidate, he/she shall be deleted from those awaiting baptism.

SECTION 2. ~ The Lord's Supper

The Lord's Supper shall be observed regularly as scheduled by the church. The pastor and the deacons shall administer the Lord's Supper, the deacons being responsible for the physical preparations.

ARTICLE IV ~ Church Meetings

SECTION 1. ~ Worship Services

The church shall meet regularly each Sunday morning, Sunday evening, and Wednesday evening for the worship of Almighty God. The pastor shall direct the services and may use prayer, praise, preaching, instruction, and evangelism to promote worship by the church members and all others who may choose to attend.

SECTION 2. ~ Special Services

Revival services and any other church meetings essential to the advancement of the church's objectives shall be placed on the church calendar.

SECTION 3. ~ Regular Business Meetings

The church shall hold one annual meeting, taking place in the month of January, for the purposes of electing elders and deacons (as necessary), for the approval of the annual budget, and to discuss any other business relating to the church for that year.

SECTION 4. ~ Special Business Meetings

A special business meeting may be called at any time by the Lead Pastor. A special business meeting must be called when a petition representing 30% of the active membership has requested a business meeting on a specific issue. It is required that any special business meeting be announced at a minimum of two (2) Sundays prior to said meeting. Any new business to be brought up at a special business meeting must be submitted in writing to the board of elders no less than seven (7) days before the meeting, and the board of elders may choose to address it at that meeting or table it until the following meeting.

Business of the church may not be conducted at any regular or special business meeting unless the Lead Pastor is present, or unless he has given written proxy to one of the elders to act on his behalf. Elders convening or attending a meeting of the Board of Elders without the knowledge of the Lead Pastor will be subject to immediate dismissal from their position.

SECTION 5. ~ Election of Elders and Deacons

In November, the congregation will have opportunity to nominate those men for the position of Elder and those men and women for the position of Deacon, whom the congregation look up to as leaders and examples. The elder board will establish nominating procedures based on the size of the church and the number of worship services.

The Elders will then examine those nominated as to whether they meet the church and biblical standards for the position. The Lead Pastor shall have the power to veto any person who is not suitable for the ballot. They will then be given a ministry description and asked if they would be willing to serve. Those who are willing to serve will then be placed on the ballot at the annual meeting for congregational affirmation. A copy shall be made available to each member of the congregation at least two (2) weeks prior to the Annual Meeting.

Election of officers shall take place at the Annual Business Meeting of the church. A majority of votes cast is required to decide elections, unless otherwise specified in the Bylaws. The newly elected officers are to assume their responsibilities immediately following the Annual Meeting.

SECTION 6. ~ Quorum

Ten percent of the members of this church shall constitute a quorum for the purpose of conducting business at regular or special business meetings.

SECTION 7. ~ Parliamentary Rule

Robert's Rules of Order, Revised, is the authority for parliamentary rules of procedure for all business meetings of the church.

ARTICLE V ~ Church Finances

SECTION 1. ~ Budget

The stewardship committee, in consultation with the church council, shall prepare and submit to the church for approval an inclusive budget, indicating by terms the amount needed and sought for all local and other expenses. Offering envelopes will be provided for members' use.

It is understood that membership in this church involves a financial obligation to support the church and its causes with regular, proportionate gifts. Annually there shall be opportunity provided to secure worthy commitments of financial support from the church members.

SECTION 2. ~ Accounting Procedures

All funds received for any and all purposes shall pass through the hands of the church treasurer, or financial secretary, and be properly recorded on the books of the church unless otherwise specified by church policy. Those who have responsibility that involves actually handling of funds may be bonded, the church paying for the bond (See Article II, Section 1.f regarding the church treasurer.)

A system of accounting that will adequately provide for the handling of all funds shall be the responsibility of the stewardship committee.

SECTION 3. ~ Fiscal Year

The fiscal year, the operational year, and educational year shall be determined by the church and need not run concurrently.

ARTICLE VI ~ Amendments

This constitution and bylaws may be amended by a two-thirds majority vote of all members present and voting at any regular business meeting of the church or at a meeting specially called for that purpose. The church shall be notified two Sundays in advance through the regular church publication of any meeting at which an amendment is to be voted upon. A copy of the proposed amendment shall be posted on the regular church bulletin board for the same period of time.

ATTACHMENT A ~ Church Membership Covenant

As those who have experienced the grace of a life changed by the gospel of Jesus Christ, we have the opportunity to reflect the character of Christ through the pursuit of certain attitudes and actions and the rejection of others. The Scriptures refer to this reality as “living by the Spirit” (Rom. 8). The requirements of this membership covenant are in no way intended as an addition to the biblical obligations of a believer. Rather, this document functions primarily as an accessible yet non-exhaustive explanation of what the Scriptures teach about the obedience that faith produces.

I covenant...

to submit to the authority of the Scriptures as the final arbiter on all issues (Ps. 119; 2 Tim. 3:14–17; 2 Pet. 1:19–21).

to pursue the Lord Jesus Christ through regular Bible reading, prayer, fellowship and practice of spiritual disciplines (Luke 18:1; Acts 17:11; 1 Cor. 9:24–27; Eph. 5:1–21; 1 Thess. 5:12–22).

to follow the command and example of Jesus by participating in the ordinances prescribed to His Church:

- **by being baptized after my conversion.**
- **by regularly remembering and celebrating the person and work of Christ through communion.**
- **to regularly participate in the life of First Baptist Church, Angels Camp by attending weekly services, engaging in gospel-centered community and serving those within and outside of this church** (Acts 2:42–47; Heb. 10:23–25; Titus 3:14).

to steward the resources God has given me, including time, talents, spiritual gifts and finances. This includes regular financial giving, service and participation in community that is sacrificial, cheerful and voluntary (Matt. 25:14–30; Rom. 12:1–2; 2 Cor. 8–9; 1 Pet. 4:10–11).

by God’s grace through the power of the Holy Spirit, to walk in holiness in all areas of life as an act of worship to Jesus Christ (1 Pet. 1:13–16, 4:1–3). Believers should strive to put certain attitudes and actions to death while stirring and stimulating love and good deeds through the Spirit. **to refrain from such activities that the Scriptures would deem foolish** (Rom. 14:14–23).

to take seriously the responsibility of Christian freedom, especially actions or situations that could present a stumbling block to another (1 Cor. 8:1–13).

to submit to the discipline of God through His Holy Spirit by:

- **following the biblical procedures for church discipline where sin is evident in another—the hope of such discipline being repentance and restoration.** (Matthew 18: 15-20)
- **receiving righteous and loving discipline when approached biblically by fellow believers** (Ps. 141:5; Matt. 18:15–20; 1 Cor. 5:9–13; Heb. 12:5–11).

to do the following when I sin:

- **confess my sin to God and to fellow believers.**
- **repent and seek help to put my sin to death** (Rom. 8:13; Col. 3:5; James 5:16; 1 John 1:6–10)

to submit to the elders and other appointed leaders of the church and diligently strive for unity and peace within the church (Eph. 4:1–3; Heb. 13:17; 1 Pet. 5:5)

- **to do the following should I leave the church for righteous reasons:**
 - to notify the pastor and/or deacon/s.
 - to seek another church with which I can carry out my biblical responsibilities as a believer.

Name _____

Date _____

Signature _____

FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH, ANGELS CAMP
1555 DEPOT ROAD
ANGELS CAMP, CA

CONSTITUTION and BYLAWS

Record of Changes:

1. First Constitution & Bylaws established July 26, 1966.
2. Rewritten in April, 1985.
3. Amended in July, 1996.
4. Rewritten in July, 1997 to correct typographical errors. Did not change contents.
5. Amended April, 1998. Removed Section 3, Article 1 of Bylaws – New Membership Orientation, leaving such classes at pastor discretion.
6. Amended August 10, 2005. Page 10, Section 9 – Regular Business meetings changed to 1st Sunday following 1st Wednesday of each church fiscal quarter.
7. Amended August, 2021. Article III of Constitution – Church Covenant. Removed old section and now includes Church Membership Covenant (see Attachment A). Article I, Section 2.c of Bylaws – removed prior requirement of baptism in a Baptist church to now include like-minded, credobaptism, evangelical churches.
8. Amended January, 2025. Article IV of Constitution – Church Government. Article V – Church – Church Affiliations. Article VI – Dissolution Clause. Bylaws Article II – Church Officers. Removal of Article III – Church Organizations. Removal of Article IV – Church Council. Article VI, Section 3 – Regular business meetings changed to a single annual meeting. Article VI, Section 4 – Special Business Meetings. Added Article VI, Section 5 – Election of Elders and Deacons. Removal of Article IX – Licensing and Ordaining. All Article and Section numbers adjusted and updated as needed.