

PEACHTREE CITY FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH, INC (PTCFBC)

Constitution and Bylaws
Amended and Restated
January 27, 2025
Proposed for Ratification by MAC
April 13, 2026

This Constitution and Bylaws and its addendums to PTCFBC. It is available upon request to any church member for their review. Policy Addendums may be reviewed in the church office by permission of the Senior Pastor or his designate, but may not be removed from the church premises without consent.

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000 – PREAMBLE

We declare and establish this constitution to preserve and secure the principles of our faith and to govern the church body in an orderly manner. This constitution will establish and preserve the guidelines and liberties of each church member and the freedom of action of this church body as distinguished from other churches, organizations, and affiliations.

001 – NAME

This church body and nonprofit corporation shall be known as Peachtree City First Baptist Church, Incorporated, (PTCFBC) Peachtree City, Georgia, hereafter referred to as the “Church”.

002 – AFFILIATION

PTCFBC is a self-governing, autonomous church and nonprofit corporation. The Church is subject to the control of no other ecclesiastical body and retains the sole and exclusive right to govern its doctrine, membership, discipline, worship, ministries, staffing, property, and internal affairs.

The Church may voluntarily cooperate with, support, or affiliate with other churches, associations, conventions, networks, and ministries that advance the Church’s mission, such as The Southern Baptist Convention, The Georgia Baptist Convention, The Fairburn Association, Operation Mobilization and others. Any such cooperation is voluntary, may be modified or discontinued at any time, and shall not be construed to grant any outside body any authority to direct, control, or review the Church’s governance, ecclesiastical determinations, ministry, personnel, property, or membership decisions.

003 – ARTICLES OF FAITH

The church accepts the Bible as its ultimate authority and has formally adopted a general statement of beliefs and convictions based on Scripture. This statement serves as the foundational authority and is incorporated into these Bylaws, taking precedence in guiding the church’s governance and practices.

Truth is ABSOLUTE and KNOWABLE – We believe the Bible is God’s inspired revelation of truth to humanity – accurate (without error) in the original writings, absolute in revealing God’s redemptive plan, authoritative in its instruction, and applicable for daily living.

Psalms 1:1-6 | Psalms 19:7-11 | 2 Timothy 3:16-17 | 1 Peter 1:3 | Hebrews 4:12

God is PERSONAL and HOLY – We believe God knows us and wants to be known by us. He is holy, merciful, loving, just, and gracious. He is all-powerful, all-knowing, ever-present, and sovereign over all. God has revealed Himself as the One true God who exists in three persons – Father, Son and Holy Spirit – each distinct, yet of one essence.

Genesis 1:1, 26-27 | Psalms 90:2 | Matthew 28:19 | 1 Peter 1:2

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Jesus is our SAVIOR and LORD – We believe Jesus Christ was God incarnate and the promised Messiah. He was conceived through the Holy Spirit and born of the virgin Mary, lived a sinless life, was crucified, arose bodily from the dead, ascended into heaven, and sits at the right hand of God the Father as our High Priest and Advocate.

Isaiah 9:6 | Isaiah 53:4-12 | John 1:1-5, 12-14 | Philippians 2:5-11 | Hebrews 4:14-16

Mankind is FALLEN and in need of being RESCUED – Although man was created for an intimate relationship with God, due to the choice of Adam and Eve, all humanity was plunged into lostness and is now separated from God. As a result, everyone by nature and by choice is a sinner condemned and in need of a Savior for the forgiveness of sin to be reconciled with God.

Genesis 1:27 | Psalms 8:3-6 | Isaiah 53:6a | Romans 3:10-23

People are saved only by GRACE through FAITH – We believe the death of Jesus was the final and complete sacrifice of God to atone for the sins of all humanity – and that salvation is obtained solely by grace through faith in Jesus. All who turn from their sins to Jesus by trusting Him as their Savior and Lord will be born again into eternal life as the children of God.

John 14:6 | Romans 6:23 | Romans 10:9-10 | Ephesians 2:8-9 | Titus 3:5-7

The Gospel is the POWER and HOPE of God – We believe the Gospel is the good news that God saves sinners through the life, death, and resurrection of Jesus. It is the power of God for salvation to everyone who believes and the foundation for both our identity and mission. Through the Gospel, lives are redeemed, relationships are restored, and hope is given to a broken world.

Romans 1:16 | 1 Corinthians 15:1-4 | 2 Corinthians 5:17-21 | Colossians 1:13-14

Christians are to live in the POWER of the Holy Spirit through the ABIDING Life – We believe life is to be lived under the influence of the Holy Spirit, who indwells and fills believers to enable them to live life in the power of Christ and in alignment with God's Word and will.

John 15:1-8 | Galatians 2:20-21 | Colossians 3:1-17 | Philippians 4:4-9

The Church is the BODY and MISSION of Jesus – We believe those who have placed their faith in Christ are united together in one body – the Church. The church is called to gather for support and encouragement and to scatter into all the world for the sake of engaging in the Great Commission. We willingly align with other like-minded, Great Commission entities to share the message of Jesus to every tribe and nation of the world.

Acts 2:42-47 | Romans 12:3-9 | Ephesians 2:19-22 | 1 Timothy 3:14-15 | Hebrews 10:24-27

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The Ordinances of BAPTISM and COMMUNION are gifts of remembrance – Once a person has accepted Jesus as Lord and Savior, baptism by immersion serves to publicly declare their new life in Christ in the symbolic act of remembering the death, burial, and resurrection of Jesus. In like manner, communion is the blessing of regularly remembering the broken body and spilled blood of Jesus that was necessary for our salvation.

Matthew 3:16-17, 28:18-20 | Acts 2:41, 8:12 | Romans 6:4 | Colossians 2:12

The Church is to be LED and ORDERED by God – We believe the church is to be led by biblically qualified leaders who shepherd, teach, and guide the body under the authority of Christ. God has established roles within the church to ensure order, care, and spiritual growth, and every member is called to serve and contribute to the health and mission of the body.

Acts 14:23 | Ephesians 4:11-13 | 1 Timothy 3:1-13 | Hebrews 13:17

God has a unique calling on both MEN and WOMEN to serve His church – We believe in a traditional complementarian view that men and women have equal calling, capacity, and significance – yet differing roles within the home and church. Both men and women can serve in leadership roles throughout the church, serve on church staff in a ministerial, non-elder role, and teach God’s truth across genders so long as they serve under the responsibility of the Lead Pastor.

Romans 16:1 | Philippians 4:1-4 | 1 Timothy 3:1-13 | Titus 2:1-5

God created mankind with only two genders – MALE and FEMALE – We believe human sexuality and its expression are part of God’s created order and is sovereignly granted by God and not by human choice. In creation, God revealed His intention for human personhood, sexual identity, and intimacy by distinctively creating humanity in His image as male and female – giving every person value, dignity, and significance. In addition, we affirm that God’s perfect design for all sexual activity is between one man and one woman within the covenant of marriage.

Genesis 1:26-27, 31 | Psalms 139 | Matthew 19:3-6 | 1 Corinthians 6:19-20

MARRIAGE and FAMILY are sacred God-given institutions – We believe marriage is a sacred union and covenant before God between one man and one woman in a lifetime commitment for intimate companionship, procreation, and the healthy functioning of the family. While husbands and wives are of equal worth, sharing mutual responsibilities to serve and love one another, each person has a unique role within the family as they serve each other selflessly, just as Christ serves the church.

Genesis 1:26-27 | Deuteronomy 6:4-9 | Ephesians 5:21-33 | Colossians 3:18-21

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Religious Liberty is a GIFT and RESPONSIBILITY – We believe every person is accountable to God alone in matters of faith and conscience. The church is called to proclaim the Gospel freely without interference, and government should not control or restrict the worship of God. We are to respect governing authorities while remaining faithful to God above all.

Matthew 22:21 | Acts 5:29 | Romans 13:1-7 | Galatians 5:1

Jesus will RETURN and REIGN – We believe in the imminent return of Christ and the responsibility of every believer to live expectantly on mission until His return by sharing with others the loving message of Jesus. God, in His own time and way, will bring the world to its appropriate end. According to His promise, Jesus will return personally and visibly in glory to the earth – the dead will be raised; and God will judge all people according to His righteousness.

Matthew 25:1-46 | Luke 12:13-21, 35-48 | John 3:16-18 | 1 Corinthians 15:1-57

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004 – CHURCH VALUES

PTCFBC affirms six core values and behaviors essential to the church's mission and membership:

- A **Biblical Teaching** – the church values living according to God's never-changing Word in an ever-changing world (1) by reading and listening to God's Word; (2) by meditating on and memorizing God's Word; (3) by studying and discussing God's Word; and (4) by obeying and living God's Word.

Scriptural Basis – Psalms 1:1-6 and 2 Timothy 3:16-17

- B **Relational Community** – We value sharing life in community with people from every nation and generation (1) by standing with and for others; (2) by doing life with others in small groups; (3) by engaging in *Life2Life* relationships; and (4) by inviting and involving new people in the church community.

Scriptural Basis – Acts 2:42-47 and Hebrews 10:23-25

- C **Generous Giving** – We value giving everything to the God who has given everything to us (1) by giving God the first and best of my time; (2) by giving God the first and best of my talents; (3) by giving God the first and best of my treasures; and (4) by giving God the first and best of my touch.

Scriptural Basis – John 3:16 and Matthew 6:19-24

- D **Authentic Worship** – We value honoring God by loving Him with all that we are, have, and hope to become (1) by pursuing God in a daily walk; (2) by gathering with others in public worship; (3) by serving others to experience God; and (4) by sharing God's love in sacrificial service and ministry.

Scriptural Basis – Exodus 20:3 and Romans 12:1-3

- E **Missional Living** – We value living on mission at home and abroad to serve others to experience God's love (1) by praying with and for others; (2) by giving to meet the needs of others; (3) by gently speaking the truth in love; and (4) by going into the world to be Jesus to others.

Scriptural Basis - Acts 1:8 and 2 Corinthians 5:14-21

- F **Spiritual Legacy** – We value investing Jesus in us into others so they too might experience God more fully (1) by introducing others to God's love and grace; (2) by walking alongside others to inspire them; (3) by taking spiritual responsibility for others to help them grow; and (4) by replicating Jesus in me into others.

Scriptural Basis – Matthew 28:16-20 and 2 Timothy 2:2

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100 – CHURCH GOVERNANCE

101 – GOVERNANCE AND RELATIONSHIPS

The Church affirms, as a matter of biblical conviction and ecclesiastical determination, that the congregation may delegate aspects of its governance, administration, and organizational stewardship to qualified leaders for the purpose of faithful leadership, unity, and effective mission. Accordingly, pursuant to these Bylaws, the congregation has delegated authority to the Ministry Leadership Council (MLC) to serve on behalf of the Church as its representative governing body and corporate Board of Directors for matters not expressly reserved to the membership under these Bylaws or required by applicable law.

The MLC is empowered to act as a proxy of the congregation in the exercise of church polity, governance, and administration. The MLC manages and oversees the corporate, legal, financial, and operational affairs of the Church as a fiduciary steward acting on behalf of the congregation, except in those matters specifically assigned by these Bylaws to the membership of the Church.

PTCFBC is led by the Senior Pastor. The Senior Pastor works with and is held accountable to the MLC which is made up of ten (10) people: The Senior Pastor, the chair and vice chair of the Deacons, the chair and vice chair of the Personnel Committee and chair and vice chair of the Stewardship Committee, one member of the Board of Trustees, one pastoral staff designee, and the Church Treasurer (non-voting, except in the absence of the chairman or vice chairman of the Stewardship Committee).

A. Pastor-Led Spiritual Leadership. The Senior Pastor serves as the primary spiritual and operational leader of the Church and works in mutual accountability with the MLC in the oversight of the Church's day-to-day ministry and operations. He serves as overseer and shepherd of the Church and provides overall ministry direction consistent with Scripture and these Bylaws.

B. Board Accountability and Delegated Authority. In accordance with Georgia law and these Bylaws, the Church is governed in its corporate affairs by its Board of Directors, known as the MLC. The MLC acts as a representative body on behalf of the Church, empowered by the Church to manage the business and affairs of the Church except for those matters reserved to the membership in these Bylaws or required by applicable law. The MLC's authority is exercised as a fiduciary stewardship on behalf of the Church, not as a separate constituency.

C. Transparency and Congregational Reporting. The MLC shall keep the Church appropriately informed of material matters affecting the Church's mission, finances, property, staffing structure, and major ministry direction through regular reporting at duly called business meetings and/or published reports, subject to appropriate confidentiality regarding personnel matters, pastoral counseling, individual giving, discipline matters, and other sensitive information.

D. No External Control. The Church is subject to the control of no other ecclesiastical body. The Church may cooperate with other ministries and SBC-related bodies for Great Commission purposes; however, no association, convention, entity, network, or other organization shall have authority to direct or control the Church's governance, doctrine, membership, discipline, staffing, property, or other internal affairs.

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102 – AMENDMENTS

Any proposed amendment to the Constitution and Bylaws must be submitted in writing at a regular, called church business meeting. Proposed amendments shall be referred to the MLC for review.

The MLC shall have the final authority to determine if the proposed amendment is to be presented to the church for vote. The amendment process will follow Article 10 of GA Code 14-3. Amendments so designated shall be published and copies made available to the church membership at least 10-days prior to the next regular or special called business meeting. A two-thirds vote of church members present and voting after a quorum is established is necessary for approval. Proposed amendments not presented for congregational approval shall be mentioned in the committee's report without discussion.

When enacted amendments change article or section numbers, all subsequent numbers shall automatically be changed without the need for further church action and shall become effective immediately upon adoption, and shall make all previous editions null and void.

103 – ADDENDUMS

A. Operations Manual. The MLC shall maintain a Church Operations Manual ("Manual") containing policies and procedures adopted to implement these Bylaws, including Personnel, Stewardship, Nominating, Deacons, and other operational matters.

B. Policy Authority and Limits. The MLC may adopt, amend, or repeal policies in the Manual as needed to administer the Church's affairs, provided (i) no policy may conflict with Scripture, the Articles of Faith, these Bylaws, or applicable law, and (ii) no policy may materially alter matters reserved to the membership under these Bylaws without the required membership vote.

C. Member Access and Summary Reporting. The Manual shall be available for member review in the church office under reasonable procedures established by the MLC. The MLC shall provide the membership with written summaries of material policy changes on at least an annual basis, and more frequently when a change materially affects church-wide practices, governance processes, or member expectations, subject to appropriate confidentiality for personnel and discipline matters.

D. Committee Role. Committees may propose policy changes to the MLC. The MLC retains final approval authority for policies within its delegated authority. Committees shall operate under the oversight of the Senior Pastor or his designee and consistent with the Manual.

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104 – OFFICIAL COPY MAINTENANCE

The Official Copy of the Constitution and Bylaws of Peachtree City First Baptist Church Inc., shall be maintained in the church office and a copy made available to any church member upon request.

Printed or electronic copies of the Constitution and Bylaws may be shared with other churches and religious organizations upon request and approval by either the Senior Pastor or his designate.

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200 – CHURCH MEMBERSHIP

The membership of PTCFBC shall consist of persons who confess faith in Jesus Christ as personal Savior and who commit themselves to faithful followship to Christ as Lord, who agree with the purposes and beliefs of the church as described in its Constitution, and who are received into membership according to the procedures set forth in these Bylaws.

201 – CANDIDACY FOR MEMBERSHIP

Any person who has (i) professed Jesus Christ as Lord, (ii) has been baptized or is willing to be baptized, (iii) has completed the required designated church membership class agreeing with the beliefs, practices, and mission of the church, and (iv) who has received a membership approval from the Senior Pastor (or his designee), or if the Senior Pastorate is vacant, from the MLC, may be welcomed into the membership of the church either during the class or by presentation to the church in a regular church service.

No candidate for membership may be admitted to membership of the church without completing all 4 of the above steps. Membership approval, may be granted or withheld by the Senior Pastor (or his designee), and if this role is vacant, the MLC is responsible for approval. It is the Senior Pastor's responsibility to give final determination whether the first three steps have been fulfilled before approving membership in this Church.

Profession of Jesus Christ as Lord (for the purpose of membership) may be evidenced by one of the following:

- Public profession of faith in the Lord Jesus Christ and baptism by immersion according to the beliefs and practices of this church
- By promise of letter of recommendation from any church of like faith and order, and previous participation in baptism after their salvation experience
- By statement of prior conversion experience and prior baptism after their salvation experience according to the beliefs and practices of this church, when no letter is obtainable

Should any dissent arise as to a candidate for membership, such dissent shall be referred to the Senior Pastor and MLC for review.

202 – RIGHTS AND PRIVILEGES OF MEMBERSHIP

Every member, age 18 and older, is entitled to vote on questions and matters submitted to the church by the MLC in business meetings. Members have the right to vote on the following list of decisions and only the following list of decisions:

- Calling of a lead Pastor (80% majority vote minimum)
- Changes in the church Constitution and Bylaws (two-thirds majority required)
- Dissolution of the Church (two-thirds majority required)

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- Purchase or acquire property or buildings where the total non-budgeted expenditure of Church funds exceeds five percent (5%) of the Church's annual budget and such costs are not previously approved in the annual budget process (majority required).
- Calling of deacons, committee leaders and legal trustees (simple majority vote required)
- Annual overall church budget (simple majority vote required)
- Undertake debt in excess of ten percent (10%) of the Church's annual budget not previously approved in the annual budget process (two thirds majority).

If the Senior Pastor and MLC so determine, other items may be submitted to church membership vote, but the above items are the only issues that require a vote of the church membership. Otherwise, the management and affairs of the Church are governed by the Board/MLC.

Members of the church, age 25 years and older, are eligible for consideration as candidates for elective offices in the Church unless otherwise stated.

Church officers, deacons, LIFE Group teachers, and members of committees must be members of the church. A non-member may temporarily teach a Bible Study or LIFE Group class on an exception basis if approved by the Senior Pastor or his designate.

PTCFBC believes the ordinances of baptism and the Lord's Supper are open to every believer in Jesus Christ, and therefore, any believer in attendance may participate in the ordinances of the church when administered. Those participating in the Lord's Supper shall always be mindful of their responsibility, under God, to participate.

A member, upon five business days prior written request, may inspect or copy the prepared financial statements of the church, and the minutes of the proceedings of church meetings, provided that the requirements of GA Code 14-3-1602 are fulfilled.

Membership does not constitute the right to inspect or copy any record relating to individual contributions to the church or the personnel records of the church.

Membership in the church does not afford the members any property, contractual, or civil rights based on principles of democratic government. Although the general public is invited to all of the church's worship services, the church property remains private property.

The Senior Pastor, or his designees, has the authority to suspend or revoke the right of any person, including a member, to enter or remain on church property. If, after being notified of such a suspension or revocation, the person enters or remains on church property, the person shall be treated as a trespasser. Members cannot be permanently excluded from church property unless criminal trespass procedures are followed under civil law.

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203 – TERMINATION OF MEMBERSHIP

Membership shall be terminated in the following ways:

- Death of the member
- Transfer of letter to another church
- Exclusion by disciplinary action as outlined in these bylaws
- Proof of current membership in another church
- Written request by the member asking to be removed from membership
- Determination by the MLC (in the MLC's sole and absolute discretion) after consultation with the Senior Pastor (unless the Senior Pastor role is vacant, then no consultation is necessary).

204 – DISCIPLINE OF MEMBERSHIP

It shall be the practice of the church to emphasize to its members that every reasonable measure will be taken to assist a troubled member. The Senior Pastor, pastoral 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. The procedure of reconciliation in Matthew 18:15-17 and Galatians 6:1-2 shall guide us before action is taken to discipline a member.

If your brother sins against you, go and show him his fault, just between the two of you. If he listens to you, you have won your brother over. But if he will not listen, take one or two others along, so that every matter may be established by the testimony of two or three witnesses. If he refuses to listen to them, tell it to the church; and if he refuses to listen even to the church, treat him as you would a pagan or a tax collector. Matthew 18:15-17

Brothers, if someone is caught in a sin, you who are spiritual should restore him gently. But watch yourself, or you also may be tempted. Carry each other's burdens, and in this way, you will fulfill the law of Christ. Galatians 6:1-2

Should some serious condition exist (such as promoting a behavior or doctrine contrary to Scripture and these Bylaws) that would cause a member to become a liability to the general welfare of the church, the Senior Pastor and the Chair and Vice Chair of Deacons shall take every reasonable measure to resolve the problem in accordance with Scripture. If reconciliation fails, the Senior Pastor, the chair and vice chair of Deacons, after consultation with the MLC shall notify the member in writing that their membership may be terminated. The MLC may decide to allow a member to have a hearing, or, depending on the circumstances, may not do so, in the MLC's sole and absolute discretion. The MLC will make the final determination of the member's status by majority vote. Such proceedings shall be conducted in a spirit of Christian kindness.

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The church may restore to membership any person previously excluded, upon recommendation of the Senior Pastor to the MLC, after the person has completed appropriate counseling and reaffirmation of the policies and beliefs of the church as presented in the Constitution and Bylaws. The Senior Pastor and MLC shall act on behalf of the church to restore the member by majority vote of the MLC.

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300 – CHURCH OFFICERS

To preserve the function and integrity of PTCFBC as the local body of Christ, and to provide a biblical role model to the church members and community, it is imperative that all persons employed by the church in any capacity, or who serve as officers or volunteers, shall agree to abide by the doctrinal statement and conviction of the church as well as the Constitution and Bylaws of PTCFBC. Any called or lay leader who becomes indifferent to these standards or fails to live and teach these religious standards in their public and private lives will be given a chance to graciously resign from their position or will be removed by a vote of the MLC.

301 – CHURCH OFFICERS

The officers of the church shall be (A) Senior Pastor, (B) Pastoral/Ministerial staff, (C) Clerk (the Assistant to the Senior Pastor), (D) Treasurer, (E) Trustees, and (F) Members of the Ministry Leadership Board.

All who serve as officers of the church must be members and affirmed by the church to their position, except the role of the Church Clerk. All officers will be indemnified and covered against any personal liability action by liability insurance provided by the church. The church will indemnify and advance expenses on behalf of all directors and officers to the fullest extent permitted by GA Code 14-3, Article 8, Part 5, with all decisions regarding indemnification and advancing of expenses to be made by disinterested members of the MLB. The church will indemnify employees on the same basis as officers and directors. The church is authorized and required to acquire insurance coverage to fulfill its obligations hereunder, as provided in GA Code 14-3-858. The church will indemnify only to the extent of such insurance coverage.

302 – SENIOR PASTOR

The Senior Pastor is the spiritual and operational leader of the church and is responsible for leading the church to function as a New Testament Church according to the Scriptures. The Senior Pastor serves as overseer, shepherd, and elder, and is ultimately accountable to the MLB on behalf of the church for any actions affecting the role of the Senior Pastor. A complete detail of the position of Senior Pastor and his calling, duties, election, vacancy, and vacating can be found in the Personnel section of the Operations Manual.

303 – PASTORAL AND MINISTERIAL STAFF

The pastoral and ministerial staff serve as spiritual and operational leaders to the church under the leadership of the Senior Pastor serving as an extension of his leadership. The pastors (ordained) and ministers (commissioned) serve as overseers and shepherds to their individual areas of ministry. All ordained pastors also function in the role of elder. A complete detail of the position of pastor and minister, and their calling, duties, election, vacancy, and vacating can be found in the Personnel section of the Operations Manual.

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304 – DEACONS

The Deacon Ministry of the church exists to co-labor with the Senior Pastor and ministry staff in accomplishing the mission of the church. Through intentional servant leadership to the congregation, deacons serve, encourage, and engage in leadership and ministry service for the purpose of presenting every believer fully mature in Christ. At PTCFBC, deacons are a serving body and not a governing body. A complete detail of the deacon ministry including the qualifications, nomination process, screening, election, ordination, organization, and duties is located in the Deacon Ministry Guide.

305 – CHURCH CLERK (DESIGNATED)

The Senior Pastor's Assistant will function as the church clerk to keep accurate records of all church actions as executed in church business meetings, and shall be responsible to oversee and maintain the membership electronic records of the church.

306 – CHURCH TREASURER

The church treasurer oversees the fiscal well-being of the church and is selected annually by the church through the church nomination process as spelled out in the Nominating Committee section of the Church Operations Manual. Duties and qualifications of the Church Treasurer can be found in the Stewardship section of the Church Operations Manual.

307 – TRUSTEES

The church shall maintain no less than three active trustees who serve as legal officers for the church. Once appointed, a trustee serves in perpetuity and will be annually reviewed by the Nominating Committee to be presented to the church for affirmation. Any trustee may be removed at any time by the MLB for reasons deemed in violation of accepted church practices. Annually, the congregation shall designate one trustee to serve on the MLB. The active rotating trustee will serve a 1-year term on the MLB and will be designated as the Chairman of the Board of Directors. When a new trustee is required, the Nominating Committee shall vet and present a candidate to the church.

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308 – MINISTRY LEADERSHIP BOARD (MLB)

Review Article 101 for more details

Membership – The council is comprised of ten (10) people: The Senior Pastor, the chair and vice chair of the Deacons, the chair and vice chair of the Personnel Committee and chair and vice chair of the Stewardship Committee, one member of the Board of Trustees, one pastoral staff designee, and the Church Treasurer (non-voting, except in the absence of the chair or vice chair of the Stewardship Committee). The Deacon Chair shall work with the Senior Pastor as co-facilitators.

Quorum – For MLB/Board meetings, a quorum of the Board shall be: (i) the Senior Pastor plus 5 MLB members, or (ii) 8 MLB members.

No Board meeting may be called without a representative of each of the Stewardship Committee, Personnel Committee, at least one Deacon, and at least one Trustee.

For MLB meetings, the Senior Pastor (or if he is not available, the Chairman of the Deacons) sets the agenda for MLB meetings. If (8) MLB members call a MLB meeting, that does not include the Senior Pastor or the Chairman of the Deacons, then the pastoral staff designee sets the agenda.

Remote communication is permissible for MLB meetings, provided that all attendees can simultaneously hear and be heard during the meeting. Remote participation is not permissible for member meetings. Member meetings are only held in-person.

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400 – CHURCH STAFF

401 – PASTORAL STAFF (Ordained)

A pastoral staff member is defined as one who has been ordained and called by God and the church to fill a position designated for the purpose of ministry. Job descriptions of all pastoral staff positions are maintained by the Personnel Committee.

402 – MINISTRY STAFF (Not Ordained)

A ministry staff member is defined as one who has been commissioned but not ordained and has been called by God, and the church to fill a position designated for the purpose of ministry. All ministry staff positions and their job descriptions are described and maintained by the Personnel Committee.

403 – DIRECTOR STAFF

A director staff member is defined as one who has been employed by church to fill a position designated for the purpose of supporting the operational services of the church. All director staff positions and their job descriptions are maintained by the Personnel Committee.

404 – SUPPORT STAFF

A support staff employee is defined as one who has been employed by the church in a support ministry capacity. All support staff positions and their job descriptions are maintained by the Personnel Committee.

405 – MINISTRY INTERNS

A ministry intern serves within a specific ministry area for up to 1 year in the role of an apprentice who assists in helping a ministry accomplish its missional objective.

CONSTITUTION AND BYLAWS

Peachtree City First Baptist Church, Inc.

500 – CHURCH COMMITTEES

The church, upon recommendation of the Senior Pastor, may establish standing committees and special-purpose committees. These groups shall exist until dissolved by the MLB or upon completion of their assignment (in the case of a Special Purpose Committee). The Senior Pastor, or his staff designee, is ex-officio voting member of each committee.

501 – STANDING COMMITTEES

The Standing Committees of the church shall include the Personnel and Stewardship Committees. Any future committee authorized by the church may become a standing committee upon MLB approval. Each standing committee shall be responsible to the church to follow the committee guidelines as established by written policy and will maintain accurate records of actions taken for inclusion in the church records. Committee members must be members of the church. Individuals or family members may not serve on more than one standing committee concurrently. Spouses or family members of an active staff member may not serve on a standing committee. Standing Committees shall have a minimum of seven active members who serve a three-year term. If membership falls below six, the chair of the committee may seek replacements from the special called Nominating Committee. A minimum of five members must be present for any vote. Standing committee members who have served a 3-year term must wait 1 year before nomination for another term on any standing committee.

STEWARDSHIP COMMITTEE

The Stewardship Committee maintains overall responsibility for the financial affairs of the church working in conjunction with the Senior Pastor and his financial designee. Specific details regarding the make-up, function, and responsibilities of the Stewardship Committee are found in the Stewardship section of the Church Operations Manual.

PERSONNEL COMMITTEE

The Personnel Committee serves to work with the Senior Pastor (or his HRO designee) in assisting with the oversight of paid church staff per the Personnel section of the Church Operations Manual. Specific details regarding the make-up, function, and responsibilities of the Personal Committee are found in the Personnel section of the Church Operations Manual.

CONSTITUTION AND BYLAWS

Peachtree City First Baptist Church, Inc.

502 – SPECIAL-PURPOSE COMMITTEES

A Special Purpose Committee may be formed by the Senior Pastor and Chairman of Deacons and affirmed by the MLB for a designated purpose. The objectives and members of a Special Purpose Committee shall be shared with the church. Specific details regarding the make-up, function, and responsibilities of Special Purpose Committees are found in the Special-Purpose Committee section of the Church Operations Manual.

NOMINATING COMMITTEE

The Nominating Committee is a regular reoccurring, special purpose committee responsible to prepare a slate of proposed nominees who have been vetted and verified with a willingness to serve on a standing committee. Specific details regarding the make-up, function, and responsibilities of the Nomination Committee may be found in the Special-Purpose Committee section of the Church Operations Manual.

CONSTITUTION AND BYLAWS

Peachtree City First Baptist Church, Inc.

600 – CHURCH MEETINGS

The church entrusts God to lead the Senior Pastor in the overall vision and direction of the church and gives the Senior Pastor and the pastoral staff flexibility in the pursuit of ministry ideas and programs. The Deacon body, standing committees, and the MLB are often called upon to assist in decisions regarding any major change on behalf of the growth and development of the church.

601 – WORSHIP SERVICES

The church shall meet regularly each Sunday morning, as well as other times deemed appropriate by the Senior Pastor for the worship of God. Prayer, praise, teaching, instruction, and evangelism shall be among the ingredients of these services. The Senior Pastor, or his designee, shall direct the services.

602 – SPECIAL SERVICES

Special services and any other church-wide corporate gatherings essential to the advancement of the church's objectives shall be approved by the Senior Pastor or his designee prior to meeting.

603 – CHURCH BUSINESS MEETINGS

The church shall schedule business meetings as necessary annually.

A) Regular Business Meetings

Regular business meetings are held annually for matters of significance to be brought to the church body. A regular business meeting will be held in the Spring with a printed update to the church in the fall. The Senior Pastor or MLB may call special business meetings at any time for issues requiring church consideration.

Only people present during a called business meeting will be allowed to vote. There will be no proxy or absentee voting processes used during business meetings. Voting will only occur either on Sunday mornings during regularly scheduled worship services or at a called business meeting.

The MLB is responsible for determining the type of vote. In the instance of a ballot vote, the MLB is responsible for deciding how the ballot vote will be distributed and screened to ensure that only active members are voting.

Active engagement in the ongoing mission of the church as seen by regularly attending worship and small groups, and is an active giver in the previous 12-months, are all religious determinations made in the sole and absolute discretion of the MLB.

It is the intention of this Church that its voting process is a religious process and neither the process nor the outcomes are subject to review by civil courts.

B) Informational Meetings

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At the discretion of the Senior Pastor and MLB, informational meetings may be held before a regular or special ministry meeting involving a vote to enable congregational members to discuss the issue at hand. Such informational meetings shall be published within the same notification guidelines stated below. No amendments may be offered or voted on at informational meetings. Votes will not be taken at informational meetings.

A one-week notice must be given for any informational meeting unless extreme urgency renders such notice impractical. Notice shall include the subject, date, time, and place, and at a minimum, it must be given in such a legitimate manner so that all resident members have an opportunity to know of the meeting. The church website, other electronic means and/or special mailings may be used.

The Senior Pastor shall preside at meetings of the church and will serve as presiding officer or moderator in all business meetings in keeping with the rules of order authorized in these Bylaws. In the absence of the Senior Pastor, the Chairman of Deacons will serve as moderator of the meeting. An agenda for each ministry meeting will be provided via the best communication methods available. Consideration of non-agenda items or amendments from the floor will be at the sole discretion of the presiding officer.

Type of voting will be determined by the Chair. Voting on any issue shall be pass/fail only, except as noted elsewhere in these Bylaws.

604 – QUORUM

For membership meetings, a quorum for a properly called church business meeting shall consist of no less than 50 members of the church. A majority of votes is required to carry a matter where a quorum exists. The power to amend these bylaws requires a two-thirds majority vote of the established quorum of members present and voting at a properly called regular business meeting.

605 – PARLIAMENTARY PROCEDURES

Church ministry meetings shall be considered under orderly Biblical decorum and all decisions shall be legal and supported by Scripture. Roberts Rule of Order Newly Revised shall serve as the parliamentary guide unless superseded by Scripture.

606 – DISSOLUTION

CONSTITUTION AND BYLAWS

Peachtree City First Baptist Church, Inc.

In the event of dissolution or final liquidation of Peachtree City First Baptist Church, Inc., as permitted by applicable law, the Church shall, after lawfully paying or making provision for the payment of all lawful debts and liabilities of PTCFBC, distribute all of the assets of the Church to an organization or organizations having similar aims and Great Commission objectives, to be determined by congregational vote at the time of the proposed dissolution, or to an organization created to succeed the Church provided that these organization(s) at the time of the dissolution or final liquidation is qualified as an organization exempt from taxation under Section 501(a) of the Code as an organization described in Section 501(c)(3) of the code. The decision to dissolve requires a two-thirds vote of the members, pursuant to GA Code § 14-3-1402