

LEE'S SUMMIT BIBLE CHURCH



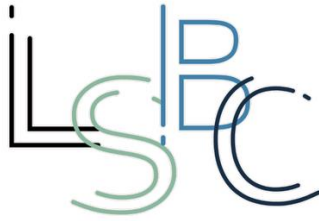
COMMITTED TO BIBLICAL TEACHING AND PREACHING
1200 NE COLBERN ROAD LEE'S SUMMIT, MO 64086



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Church Covenant Doctrinal Statement Constitution

LEE'S SUMMIT BIBLE CHURCH



COMMITTED TO BIBLICAL TEACHING AND PREACHING

Lee's Summit Bible Church Covenant

Adopted 1982 ~ Revised 2007

Having been led 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 the Son, and the Holy Spirit, we do now in the presence of God and the angels and this assembly most solemnly and joyfully, enter into covenant with one another as one body in Christ.

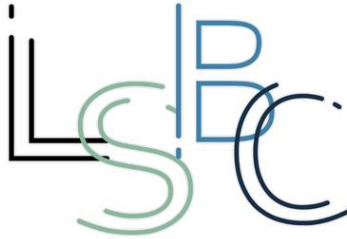
We engage, therefore, by the aid of the Holy Spirit, to walk together in Christian love; to strive for the advancement of the church in knowledge, holiness, and comfort; to promote its prosperity and spirituality; to sustain its worship, ordinances, discipline, and doctrines; to uphold its sacred preeminence over all institutions of human origin; and to contribute cheerfully and regularly to the support of the ministry, to the expenses of the church, to the relief of the poor, and to the propagation of the gospel.

We also engage to maintain family and personal devotions; to "bring (our children) up in the nurture and admonition of the Lord" (Proverbs 22:6); 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 adhere to the admonition, "Let all bitterness, and wrath, and anger, and clamor, and evil speaking, be put away from you with all malice; and be ye kind one to another, tenderhearted, forgiving one another, even as God for Christ's sake hath forgiven you" (Ephesians 4:31,32); to reject every form of worldliness; and to be zealous in our efforts to advance the Gospel of our Savior.

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

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

LEE'S SUMMIT BIBLE CHURCH



COMMITTED TO BIBLICAL TEACHING AND PREACHING

Lee's Summit Bible Church Doctrinal Statement

Adopted 1982 ~ Revised 2007 ~ Revised 2015

Introduction

The Lee's Summit Bible Church Doctrinal Statement reflects our basic understanding of the Scriptures, but does not exhaust the extent of what Scripture teaches or our beliefs and convictions as a church body. The Bible itself, as the inspired and infallible Word of God which speaks with final authority concerning truth, morality, and the proper conduct of all Christians, is the sole and final source of all that we believe (2 Timothy 3:16,17; Hebrews 4:12). For the purposes of Lee's Summit Bible Church's faith, doctrine, practice, conduct, policy, and discipline, the Advisory Council (Pastors, Elders, & Deacons), looking to God's Word and humbly led by the Holy Spirit, will be our final interpretive authority on the Bible's meanings and applications.

- I. The Doctrine of the Scriptures (*Bibliology*)
 - A. Scripture teaches that the Holy Scriptures of the Old and New Testaments as originally written were completely and verbally inspired of God and the product of Spirit-controlled men. Scripture further teaches that the Scriptures in the original writings are infallible and inerrant concerning all matters in which they address. (2 Timothy 3:16-17; 2 Peter 1:19-21)
 - B. Scripture teaches that the Scriptures are absolutely the only authority for the Christian in matters of faith and practice. (Colossians 1:10; Matthew 4:4,7,10; 2 Peter 3:18; 1 Peter 2:2; Romans 1:16,17)
 - C. Scripture teaches a literal, grammatical, historical, contextual, and dispensational interpretation of God's Word. (Nehemiah 8:8; Psalm 19:7-14; Acts 2:14-47; Acts 7:1-53; Hebrews 11)

- II. The Doctrine of God (*Theology*)
 - A. Scripture teaches the essential being of God
 1. God is spirit. (John 4:24; 2 Corinthians 3:17)
 2. God is invisible to man. (Exodus 33:20; John 1:18; 1 John 4:12)
 3. God is a living God. (Jeremiah 10:10; 1 Thessalonians 1:9)
 4. God is a personality. (John 17:3; Genesis 1:1,26)
 - B. Scripture teaches the attributes of God
 1. Self-existent: the existence of God is in Himself. (Exodus 3:14; 6:3; 1 Timothy 1:17; John 5:26)
 2. Infinite: God has no limits or bounds. (Job 11:7-9 Romans 11:33ff)

3. Omnipresent: God is everywhere, He fills the universe. (Psalm 139:7-10; Acts 17:27)
4. Omniscient: God know everything. (Psalm 147:5; Hebrews 4:13)
5. Omnipotent: God is able to do whatever He wills. (Matthew 19:26; Daniel 4:35)
6. Immutable: God is unchangeable. (Malachi 3:6; Psalm 102:27; James 1:17)

C. Scripture teaches the triune nature of God

1. Scripture teaches one God, eternally existing in three Persons, God the Father (John 6:27), God the Son (John 1:1,18; Titus 2:12,13), and God the Holy Spirit (Acts 5:3,4).
2. Scripture teaches the unity of the Trinity. (Deuteronomy 6:4; Isaiah 48:16; Matthew 28:19; 1 Timothy 2:5)

II. The Doctrine of Jesus Christ (*Christology*)

A. The person of Jesus Christ

1. Scripture teaches the preexistence of Jesus Christ. Christ is without beginning and end. (Micah 5:2; John 1:1,14; 17:15; Revelation 1:8)
2. Scripture teaches that Christ is deity and that He never ceased to be God for one instant. Christ in the human realm did not lay aside His deity. (John 1:1,18; Titus 2:13; 1 Timothy 2:5)
3. Scripture teaches the humanity of Christ. He was truly man as if He had never been God.
 - a. He was born of a virgin. (Matthew 1:25; Luke 1:26-38)
 - b. He had human weaknesses. (John 4:6; 19:28)
 - c. He had human development. (Luke 2:52)

B. The work of Jesus Christ

1. Scripture teaches that the Lord Jesus Christ accomplished our redemption through His death on the cross as a representative, vicarious, substitutionary Sacrifice; and all who believe on Him are justified solely on the basis of His shed blood. (Romans 3:21-25; 1 John 2:1-2)
2. Scripture teaches that the purpose of the atoning death of Jesus Christ was to satisfy the justice of God (Romans 3:26; Isaiah 53:10) and to give us forgiveness of sin and new life (Ephesians 1:7; 1 John 2:1-2)
3. Scripture teaches that the object of His atoning death was for;
 - a. The whole world. (John 3:16; Colossian 1:20)
 - b. The church. (Galatians 2:20)
 - c. The individual (Galatians 2:20)

C. The resurrection of Jesus Christ

1. Scripture teaches that Christ was raised bodily from the grave on the third day (1 Corinthians 15:4; Ephesians 1:20) and it was God who raised Him. (Acts 2:24)
2. Scripture teaches that it was the same body in a glorified state. (Luke 24:13-25; John 20:26-29)

- D. The present ministries of Jesus Christ
 1. Scripture teaches that the Lord Jesus Christ ascended into Heaven and is now exalted at the right hand of God, where, as our High Priest, He fulfills the ministries of Representative, Intercessor, and Advocate. (Acts 1:9,10; Hebrews 7:25; 9:24; Romans 8:34; 1 John 2:1-12; 1 Timothy 2:5)
 2. Scripture teaches that the Lord Jesus Christ is the Head of the church. (Ephesians 1:20-23)
 3. Scripture teaches that the Lord Jesus Christ is the Shepherd and Bishop of our souls. (1 Peter 2:25)

- IV. The Doctrine of the Holy Spirit (*Pneumatology*)
 - A. The person of Holy Spirit - Scripture teaches the deity and personality of the Holy Spirit. (Ephesians 4:30; 1 Thessalonians 5:19; Acts 5:3-4,9; John 15:26)
 - B. The work of the Holy Spirit
 1. Scripture teaches that the Holy Spirit convicts the whole world of sin, righteousness, and judgment. (John 16:8-11)
 2. Scripture teaches that He is the supernatural Agent in regeneration. (2 Thessalonians 2:13; 1 Peter 1:2)
 3. Scripture teaches that He baptizes all believers into the body of Christ. (1 Corinthians 12:12-14; 6:19)
 4. Scripture teaches He indwells and seals believers unto the day of redemption. (1 Corinthians 6:19; Romans 8:16; Ephesians 1:13,14; 4:30)
 - C. Scripture teaches that the modern day charismatic movement is not relevant for today. (Hebrews 2:1-4; 1 Corinthians 13:8-13)

- V. The Doctrine of Man (*Anthropology*)
 - A. The origin of man
 1. Scripture teaches that man was created in the image of God. (Genesis 1:27)
 2. Scripture teaches that man is a living soul, and thus is an eternal being. (Genesis 2:7)
 - B. The fall of man and its results
 1. Scripture teaches that man, in the person of the first Adam, was created innocent but by voluntary transgression fell into sin. (Genesis 3)
 2. Scripture teaches that this transgression plunged the race into condemnation and death, resulting in man being shaped in iniquity and born in sin, and becoming a practical sinner with the first expression of personal choice, not constraint, but by choice, and so is without excuse before God. (Psalm 51:5; Romans 1:18-32; 5:10-19; Ephesians 2:1-2; Genesis 3)
 - C. Scripture teaches that no heathen or other person can be saved apart from hearing the message of salvation and believing in Christ. (Romans 1:20; Acts 4:12)

- VI. The Doctrine of Sin (*Hamartiology*)
 - A. Scripture teaches that sin entered the human race by Adam's voluntary transgression placing all the human race in sin at our physical birth. (Genesis 3:6-13; Romans 3:9,10,23; 5:12; Ephesians 2:3)

- B. Scripture teaches that sin entered the angelic world first when Lucifer fell. (Isaiah 14:12-17; cp. Genesis 3:1-6; Ezekiel 28:11-15; 2 Corinthians 11:14; Revelation 12:9,14,15; John 8:44)
- VII. The Doctrine of Salvation (*Soteriology*)
- A. Scripture teaches that God sovereignly selected out the plan and the person according to His grace and mercy, but did not violate man's responsibility. (Acts 2:23; Romans 10:9,10; John 6:27; Ephesians 1:4; 2 Thessalonians 2:13; 1 Peter 1:1,2)
 - B. Scripture teaches that faith in the finished work of the Lord Jesus Christ is the only condition of salvation from sin and that salvation is wholly secure. (Acts 16:31; Ephesians 2:8,9; Titus 3:5-7; John 3:16)
 - C. Scripture teaches that all who take Christ as their Savior are born from above and are kept by God's power and are eternally secure in Christ. (John 10:28,29; Romans 8:35-39; Ephesians 1:13,14; 1 John 5:11-13)
- VIII. The Believer's Walk or Daily Conduct in the World
- A. Scripture teaches that the Bible is to be the guiding principle in faith and practice. (Romans 10:17; 1 John 2:6; 2 Timothy 3:16,17; 2:15; 1 Peter 2:2; Colossians 4:6)
 - B. Scripture teaches that the believer should seek to read and fulfill the church covenant as stated. (Colossians 4:6; 2 Timothy 2:15; 1 Peter 3:15; Hebrews 13:7,17)
 - C. Scripture teaches that whatsoever you do, do it heartily as unto the Lord as we share and show our faith, both verbally and outwardly. (Ephesians 5:16,17; Colossians 3:17,23; Philippians 2:15,17; James 1:22; 2:17,20,26)
- IX. The Doctrine of the Church (*Ecclesiology*)
- A. Scripture teaches that the church universal is a New Testament institution, established by Jesus Christ who is the sole Head and will be consummated at the coming of Christ in the rapture. (Matthew 16:18; Ephesians 1:22; 5:23-33; 1 Thessalonians 4:13-18)
 - B. Scripture teaches that the church universal is manifest through the local church, which is a congregation of immersed believers. (Matthew 18:15-17; 1 Corinthians 1:2; 6:4,5; 7:17; 11:16; 1 Timothy 3:1-15; Romans 12:5; cp. Ephesians 2:19-22)
 - C. Our position as a local body
 - 1. Scripture teaches total and absolute separation from apostasy, either locally or on a national basis. (2 Corinthians 6:11-7:1; Ephesians 5:7)
 - 2. Scripture forbids us, as a church, to participate in union Thanksgiving services, membership in any ministerial alliances, or participation in union evangelistic campaigns where modernists and liberals involved. (2 Thessalonians 3:1-6,14; 2 Corinthians 6:11-17; Ezra 4:1-4)
 - 3. Scripture teaches our position is to tell and teach the world of Christ. (Matthew 28:19,20; Mark 16:15; Luke 24:47; John 20:21; Acts 1:8)

D. Scripture teaches that there are two church memorials: Baptism by immersion and the Lord's Supper.

1. Baptism

- a. Baptism is immersion of a believer in water and is properly called Believer's Baptism. (Acts 8:36-39; 10:43-48)
- b. Baptism sets forth in a picturesque way our faith in a crucified, buried, and risen Savior (1 Corinthians 15:3,4)
- c. Baptism by immersion is in obedience to Christ's command. (Matthew 28:18-20)

2. The Lord's Supper

- a. The Lord's Supper is to be taken by believers only. (1 Corinthians 11:23 "I delivered unto you [saints]"; cp. 1 Corinthians 1:2)
- b. The Lord's Supper commemorates our "Lord's death till He comes". (1 Corinthians 11:26)
- c. The Lord's Supper should be received after careful self-examination. (1 Corinthians 11:28)

E. Local church order

1. Scripture teaches that there are two formal offices within the church:

- a. Elders (Pastors; Overseers; Bishops), who bear the responsibility of shepherding the local church body and meeting its spiritual needs. (1 Timothy 3:1-7; Titus 1:5-9)
- b. Deacons (Servants), who bear the responsibility of serving the local church body and meeting its physical or tangible needs. (Acts 6:3; 1 Timothy 3:8-13)

2. Scripture teaches that Elders and Deacons within the local church must serve with unanimity in decisions, purpose, and direction, having one heart and one mind, that "all things be done decently and in order". (1 Corinthians 14:26-40)

3. Scripture teaches that all believers, regardless of gender, race, or age, are called to loving service and ministry within the local church body. (John 12:25,26; 13:1-20; 15:12,13; 1 Corinthians 12 & 13; Ephesians 4 & 5; also see Church Constitution)

X. The Doctrine of Satan and Demons (*Satanology & Demonology*)

A. Satan - Scripture teaches the distinct personality of Satan; that he is the god of this age, author of all powers of darkness and sin, and is destined to an eternal judgment in the lake of fire. (Matthew 4:1-3; 2 Corinthians 4:4; Revelation 20:10)

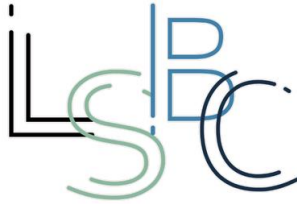
B. Demons - Scripture teaches that demons are Satan's helpers and entered into and controlled lives in the New Testament times; and we believe that man being the same and that Satan being the same, they can possess or control lives of unbelievers and influence believers today (Acts 16:16-18; 5:16)

- XI. The Doctrine of the Righteous and the Wicked
- A. The Righteous
1. Scripture teaches that there are radical and essential differences between the righteous and the wicked. (Proverbs 10:6; 12:7; 14:23; 16:25; 21:15; Malachi 3:18; Romans 2-9; 1 Peter 4:18)
 2. Scripture teaches that those who are justified in the name of the Lord Jesus Christ by faith and are sanctified by the Spirit of God are truly righteous in God's esteem. (Ephesians 2:8,9; 1 Corinthians 1:30)
- B. The Wicked
1. Scripture teaches that all who continue unrepentant and in unbelief are, in God's sight, wicked and under the curse. (Matthew 8:12; 13:42-50; Romans 1:20)
 2. Scripture teaches that this distinction holds among men both before and after death, in the everlasting blessedness of the saved and everlasting conscious suffering of the lost. (Matthew 25:34-41; Romans 6:17-23)
- XII. The Doctrine of the Last Times (*Eschatology*)
- A. Scripture teaches the imminent, personal, pre-millennial return of Jesus Christ. (Acts 1:11; Mark 13:32-34; 2 Thessalonians 2:2)
1. Scripture teaches that His coming will be before the seven-year tribulation (Daniel 9:24-27; Matthew 24; Luke 21; Revelation) period to "catch away" His church, coming in the air only. (1 Thessalonians 4:13-18)
 2. Scripture teaches that Christ will return with His church at the close of the tribulation to judge the living nations and to set up His Kingdom. (Matthew 25:31-46; Zechariah 14:1-9; Revelation 19:11-21)
- B. Scripture teaches that between the coming of Christ for His saints and the coming of Christ with His saints, the believers in Heaven will stand before "the judgment seat of Christ" to be judged for the "things done in the body, whether it be good or bad." (2 Corinthians 5:10).
1. This judgment is not for salvation, and will be followed by the "marriage supper of the Lamb". (Revelation 19:7-9)
 2. On the earth at this time God's wrath will be poured out and this will be known as the Great Tribulation. (Matthew 24:21-22; Revelation 4:19)
- C. Scripture teaches that Jesus Christ will literally rule upon this earth for a thousand years during which time Satan will be bound in the bottomless pit; and "when the thousand years are expired, Satan shall be loosed", after which he will go out to deceive the nations and to battle, after which God will cast him and his followers into the lake of fire, which is eternal punishment. (Revelation 20)

CONCLUSION

Scripture teaches that all who have placed their faith in Christ will live eternally with Him. (John 3:16; 14:1-14; Revelation 21,22)

LEE'S SUMMIT BIBLE CHURCH



COMMITTED TO BIBLICAL TEACHING AND PREACHING

Practical Doctrinal Positions

These statements of practical doctrine have been discussed and approved by the Lee's Summit Bible Church Advisory Council and presented to the membership of Lee's Summit Bible Church for approval on October 25th, 2015. Reasonable attempts have been made to inform current members in good standing of the proposed changes and meeting date in keeping with the Lee's Summit Bible Church Constitution. Upon approval, these statements became an official and integral part of the Covenant, Doctrinal Statement, & Constitution of Lee's Summit Bible Church. Continued membership after the date of approval indicates agreement with these statements as part of the membership agreement.

Practical Doctrinal Positions

After much prayer and study of God's Word, the following statements of practical doctrinal positions have been arrived at by the Advisory Council of Lee's Summit Bible Church and approved by the membership on the dates noted:

- Statement On The Sanctity Of Human Life - Scripture teaches that all human life is sacred and created by God and in His image (Genesis 1:27,28; Psalm 22:10-11; 127:3; 139:13,15). Human life is of inestimable worth in all its dimensions, including pre-born babies, the aged, the physically or mentally challenged, and every other stage or condition from conception through natural death. We are therefore called upon to pray for, defend, protect, and value all human life (Exodus 20:13; Deuteronomy 5:17; Matthew 18:1,2,10), from the moment of conception to the final breath. (*October 2015*)
- Statement On Marriage - Scripture teaches that God created, defined, and ordained marriage (Genesis 2:24; Matthew 19:4-6; Ephesians 5:31) to be a life-long relationship between one man and one woman. In view of this, we affirm that the word "marriage" has only one meaning: the uniting of one man and one woman in a life-long, one flesh relationship. Lee's Summit Bible Church shall only recognize marriages between a biological man and a biological woman. Further, the pastors, elders, deacons, and staff members of Lee's Summit Bible Church shall only participate in weddings and solemnize marriages between one man and one woman. Finally, the facilities, property, and resources of Lee's Summit Bible church shall only host weddings between one man and one woman. (*October 2015*)
- Statement On Racial Equality – Scripture teaches that all races of mankind are equal before God. Scripture also teaches that that all have been given free access and an open invitation to receive Christ as Savior (John 3:16; Revelation 22:17) and that some from

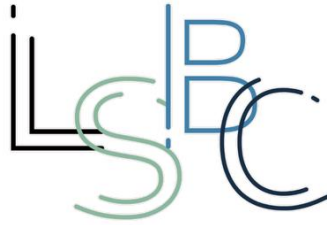
every nation, tribe, tongue, and people will receive Him, thus representing every race in Christ's presence (Revelation 5:9; 7:9). Because of this we reject all forms of racism & segregation in spiritual and practical issues. (*October 2015*)

- Statement On Sexuality & Gender Identity – Scripture teaches that every human being is “fearfully and wonderfully made” (Psalm 139:14) in the “image and likeness of God” (Genesis 1:27) for the basic purposes of “love[ing] the Lord your God with all your heart, with all your soul, and with all your mind...[and] you shall love your neighbor as yourself” (Matthew 22:37-40). With these facts in view, we affirm:
 - Each human being is designed by God as male or female, two distinct and complementary genders reflecting the image and nature of God (Genesis 1-2). Rejection of one's biological sex is a rejection of God's design for the individual.
 - God designed intimate sexual contact specifically for marriage which He defines as a one-flesh relationship between one man and one woman for life (Genesis 2:24). God declares all sexual conduct outside of the marriage relationship (adultery, homosexuality, incest, casual sexual contact, bisexual activity, bestiality, pornography, etc.) as sinful and damaging to the individuals involved (Matthew 15:18-20; I Corinthians 6:9-20), just as any violation of His revealed will and inspired Word is sinful.
 - Though each of these activities are declared sinful by Scripture, we affirm that Scripture teaches that each individual who has committed these sins can be forgiven, redeemed, and restored according to God's great mercy and grace if the sins are confessed to God and forsaken (Acts 3:19-21; Romans 5:8; 10:9,10; I Corinthians 6:9-20; I John 1:9).
 - Scripture teaches that every person must be afforded compassion, love, kindness, respect, and dignity (Mark 12:28-31; Luke 6:31) while at the same time presenting the truth of God's Word which identifies man as sinful and guilty of activities that God's Word declares sinful. Hateful and harassing behaviors or attitudes directed toward any individual, regardless of their sin and their choices, do not reflect the love of God or the love of Jesus Christ and are not in line with the practices of Scripture or of Lee's Summit Bible Church.
 - Scripture teaches that Christians must declare the truths of God's Word even though they may be viewed as uncomfortable or hateful by the culture (II Timothy 4:1-5). God hates the sin that man is mired in, but loves the sinner. As a church, we will strive to communicate the full message of God's Word in a loving and caring manner, understanding that true hatred would be a refusal to share the Good News of eternal life through Jesus Christ with those in need. Further, as a church we will strive to teach and stand for sound doctrine in a loving and caring manner, understanding that bad doctrine brings spiritual destruction to those who are entrusted by God to our care. (*October 2015*)
- Statement on Contemporary Theologies – Scripture teaches that we have a responsibility as a local church to staunchly defend and stand for sound doctrine (Titus 1:9; 2:1; I Timothy 1:10; II Timothy 3:16-17; 4:1-5). Therefore, we will continue to examine and reexamine every doctrine regularly, comparing Scripture with Scripture, to ensure that what we teach and what we state as sound doctrine is in line with God's Word. Though

we welcome differences of opinion and application, we will strive to stand on one proper interpretation of God's Word. We will not allow a public forum for doctrine, instruction, practices, programs, etc. that the Advisory Council determines to be inconsistent with a proper interpretation of Scripture (Proverbs 22:10-12; 1 Timothy 1:18-20; Ephesians 4:14; 2 Timothy 2:16-18; 4; Galatians 1:8,9). (*October 2015*)

- Statement on Scripture & The Laws Of Men – Scripture teaches that we have the responsibility to observe the laws of the nation in which we live (Romans 13:1-7; I Peter 2:17). However, Scripture also teaches that, should the laws of the land come into conflict with the Word of God, we, as a church, and individual Christians, must “obey God rather than men” (Acts 4:18-22; 5:22-32). As new laws are adopted that might come into conflict with God's Word, the Advisory Council will prayerfully examine them in light of Scripture. (*October 2015*)
- Statement on God's Promises to Israel – Scripture teaches that God's fundamental promises to Israel were and remain unconditional and have not yet been completely fulfilled (Genesis 12:1-3; 12:7; 13:14-17; 15:1-21; 17:1-21; 22:15-18; 2 Samuel 7:8-17; multiple passages in the major and minor prophets confirm these promises and point to a yet future fulfillment of these promises). In light of the fact that God is always faithful to His Word and that His promises are always kept (Numbers 23:19; I Samuel 15:29; Malachi 3:6), we reject teaching that maintains God's rejection of Israel and/or God's replacement of Israel with the Church. We trust that God will fulfill His promises to Israel in the Millennial Kingdom of Jesus Christ, a literal 1,000 year reign of Jesus Christ on Earth in Jerusalem (Isaiah 2; Ezekiel 40; multiple passages in the major and minor prophets point to and give details concerning this Kingdom & restoration of Israel; Matthew 25:31-46; Revelation 20). (*October 2015*)

LEE'S SUMMIT BIBLE CHURCH



COMMITTED TO BIBLICAL TEACHING AND PREACHING

Constitution Of The Lee's Summit Bible Church Lee's Summit, Missouri

Adopted 1982 ~ Revised 2007 - Revised 2015

Introduction

The Lee's Summit Bible Church Constitution reflects our desire to govern this local church of Jesus Christ based on our understanding of the Scriptures and the conduct and practices commanded therein. For the purposes of Lee's Summit Bible Church's conduct and practices, the Advisory Council (Pastors, Elders, & Deacons), looking to God's Word and humbly led by the Holy Spirit, will be our final interpretive authority

Article I Name and Organization

Section 1: Name

The name of this body of believers (organization) shall be Lee's Summit Bible Church, Lee's Summit, Missouri.

Section 2: Organization

The church (organization) was organized by Charter Members May 23, 1982. Independent in its organization and policy, it shall resemble other fundamental churches in all matters of discipline, order, and policy. Fundamentally, it shall be a church that is standing true to Jesus Christ apart from compromise. It shall have no affiliation or association with the National Council of Churches or any other non-separated organization, group, or other professing evangelical organization which denies the infallibility of Scripture and positions stated in the Lee's Summit Bible Church doctrinal statement.

Article II Incorporation and Property

Section 1: Incorporation

The articles of incorporation were applied for and then obtained on April 16, 1982, and we are registered in the State of Missouri, City of Jefferson City, as Lee's Summit Bible Church, Inc.

Section 2: Property

The control and ownership of all assets and real property shall not be given to any outside organization but shall remain in the hands of the local constituency.

Article III Character and Purposes

Section 1: Character

Its government is vested in Jesus Christ through the body of believers who compose it. It is subject to the control of no other ecclesiastical body, but it recognizes and sustains voluntary fellowship with other Bible-believing fundamental churches.

Section 2: Purpose

The purpose of this church shall be 1) to witness to the unsaved by life and word, collectively and individually, to the truth of the salvation of the Lord Jesus Christ; 2) to edify the believers through the teaching and preaching of the Word of God; 3) to worship God in praise, song, and prayer; 4) to provide the fellowship of believers which the Lord requires and blesses; 5) to make possible congregational good works to fellow believers and to all men; 6) to warn and to strengthen the safeguards against apostasy from within and attacks from without; and 7) to ordain or commission those in the assembly whom God has called into the pastoral, or missionary, or other Biblical ministries.

Article IV Missionary Affiliation

This church shall be affiliated only with such missionaries and missionary organizations that 1) are willing to subscribe to the doctrinal statement of this church, and 2) maintain doctrinal positions consistent with and approved by Lee's Summit Bible Church, for it is not consistent to promote a missionary ministry that is out of harmony with the ministry of this local church. Lee's Summit Bible Church can, upon approval by the Elders, and by vote of the independent body, approve or reject such missionaries or missionary proposals that are brought before the church in a scheduled business meeting.

Article V Membership

Section 1: Qualifications

Anyone professing faith in Christ Jesus as Savior and Lord, having been baptized by immersion after confession of faith, giving evidence of a change of heart, and declaring unity with the principles, practices, and doctrines of this church is heartily invited to become a candidate for church membership by reading and signing the Covenant, Doctrinal Statement, & Constitution, and completing the personal data sheet.

Section 2: Reception of Members

Anyone desiring to unite with this church shall be examined by the Pastors and/or elders. The Pastors and/or elders shall question and inform each candidate of the church's qualifications and

prescribe any restrictions (see the qualifications of all elected officers) they may deem advisable for the best interest of the church. Membership decisions shall not be made unilaterally. Upon satisfactory examination by the Pastors and/or elders, the candidate shall be submitted to the church for acceptance or rejection one week prior to the vote. Five (5) dissenting votes constitute refusal of admission, but any member objecting will be required to present Biblical grounds of their objection before the elders at a specially called meeting to handle the matter. A total agreement from the elders shall overrule their objection and the name shall be submitted once more before the church. After acceptance for church membership, the candidate shall be given the “right hand of fellowship” (Galatians 2:9) by the church at a regular church service.

Section 3: Duties of Members

The duties of each member include...

- A. The acquisition of Scriptural knowledge, constant progress in grace and spirituality, consistency of conduct, and control of an unholy temper. (John 15:12-14; I John 4:11; II Peter 3:8)
- B. Bearing faithful testimony against all sin, to meet all obligations incurred, to live in a peaceful and neighborly manner, and to declare in every place the Gospel in life and conversation. (Titus 2:12, 13; Romans 13:8 Colossians 3:15; Matthew 28:18-20)
- C. Demonstrating honor, esteem, and love for the pastors and elders; to pray fervently and daily for them; to support them in the Scriptural exercise of their Scriptural authority; to attend regularly upon their pastoral care; and to maintain a tender regard for their reputation. (Hebrews 13:7, 17-19)
- D. To support the church in regular attendance, cheerful giving, and Biblical service. (Hebrews 4:23; II Corinthians 9:7; Ephesians 4:11-15)

Section 4: Voluntary Departure of Active Members

Upon request and upon recommendation by the Elders, a certificate of Christian faith shall be granted to any member desiring to unite with another church.

Section 5: Removal of Inactive Members

Members failing to support the church by their regular attendance for six (6) months of a year, unless providentially hindered (which shall be defined by the Elders) will be placed on the Inactive List by voice vote of the Elders and so lose their right to franchise. Persons continuing on the Inactive list for one (1) year will be removed from the church roll by decision of the Elders.

Section 6: Discipline of Members

The matter of discipline of the membership shall be in the hands of the elders assisted by the Pastors. Upon unanimous agreement by the Pastors and Elders, Biblical disciplinary action shall be taken and the church shall be informed of the action. No member shall be expelled until every effort has been made, including, if physically possible, personal visits to restore the individual to fellowship with Christ and the church. (Matthew 18:15-17; I Corinthians 5:1-8)

Section 7: Dissolving of Real Estate Rights

Any member or group of members withdrawing from or in any other way losing their active membership in the congregation, thereby forfeit all rights and privileges to any and all properties belonging to the congregation.

Article VI Meetings

Section 1: Spiritual Meetings

- A. Worship services shall be held regularly each Sunday morning and evening, time being recommended by the elders and by agreement of the church.
- B. Mid-week Bible study and prayer services shall be held regularly each week, time being recommended by the elders and by agreement of the church.

Sections 2: Business Meetings

- A. The annual business meeting shall be held in December.
- B. Business meetings shall be held as needed and posted a minimum of three services prior to the meeting date.
- C. The fiscal year of the church shall begin on the first day of January of each year and shall end on the last day of December of each year.
- D. The Senior Pastor or his appointee shall serve as moderator of the business meetings. If the church is without a Senior Pastor, the Elders shall appoint one of their number to serve as moderator.
- E. In general, only the election of officers, appointment of employees, establishment or modification of major policies, and other questions of major interest and importance, need to be decided at a congregational meeting as described in Article VI, Section 2, Paragraphs A and B. Matters of lesser importance may be handled by the Pastors, elders, deacons, or other officers in accordance with their prescribed responsibilities. However, in the event of doubt arising concerning the proper disposition of such matters, the congregation always shall have the responsibility to request a formal review of the matter(s) before the Advisory Council.

It must always be recognized that these rules and procedures are not ends in themselves. The Lord Jesus Christ is Head of the Church, and it is of preeminent importance to ascertain and obey His will in all decisions. Each question should therefore be considered carefully in the light of pertinent Scriptures and prayer.

Section 3: Special Meetings

- A. It shall be the prerogative of the Senior Pastor or the Chairman of the Elders or Chairman of the Deacons to call a special meeting at their own discretion having prior approval of said committee. Notification and purpose for such a meeting shall be posted a minimum of three (3) services prior to said meeting. Such business transactions shall be for that specific purpose only.
- B. Special business meetings for the purpose of: 1) calling a pastor; 2) a vote of confidence for the Senior Pastor, any Associate or Assistant Pastor, Elder, any elected officer, or committee member, or staff member; 3) any amendment or alteration of the Constitution, shall be called

three (3) weeks prior to date of such meeting and notices shall be posted on the bulletin board.

- C. A request for a vote of confidence for a change of Senior Pastor, any Associate or Assistant Pastor, Elder, any elected officer, committee member, or staff member may be secured when 15% of the recorded voting members present a written petition to the elders. Reason or reasons must be presented to the elders for consideration of said petition, which in turn shall be brought before the church body for vote only upon unanimous agreement of the Elders. Such a meeting shall be called three (3) weeks prior to the meeting date and said petition shall be posted on the bulletin board for this three (3) week period.

Section 4: Quorum

- A. 15% of the recorded voting members shall constitute a quorum for all spiritual or business transactions, with only a simple majority vote required, except as stated in Paragraph B of this section.
- B. 40% of the recorded voting members will be required to constitute a quorum, with a 3/4 majority vote, for all business items mentioned under Article VI, Section 3, Paragraphs B and C.

Section 5: Voting Qualification of Membership

Any active member 16 years of age or older is qualified to vote at any called business meeting. The floor is always open for discussion to all ages. A Christ-like attitude must always prevail in all discussions.

Article VII Officers

Section I: Officers

- A. Official church officers shall be the Senior Pastor (and such Associate Pastors, Assistant Pastors, and Pastoral Interns, as may be recommended and voted on by the church body), Elders, Deacons, Clerk, and Treasurer. Other minor officers may be created by the Elders and Deacons from time to time as may be deemed necessary.
- B. All official officers, except the Senior Pastor and all Associate and Assistant Pastors and Pastoral Interns, shall be elected by the church at a scheduled business meeting called for this purpose as described in Article IV, Section 2, Paragraph E.
- C. The Advisory Council shall consist of the Pastors, Elders, Deacons, and Pastoral Interns. All new officers and committees shall be created and appointed in accordance with Article VII, Section 1, Paragraph A. They are to advise the church in the areas of spiritual and physical matters for the glory of God. They shall recommend all employment, salaries, and benefits to the church body for their approval at a business meeting in accordance with Article VI, Section 2, Paragraph B. The Senior Pastor or his appointee shall serve as Chairman of the Advisory Council. If the church is without a Senior Pastor, the Elders shall appoint one of their number to serve as Chairman.

Section 2: Senior Pastor

A. Qualifications

1. The Senior Pastor shall be a man who meets the spiritual qualifications as set forth in I Timothy 3:1-7 and Titus 1:5-9.
2. The Senior Pastor shall give wholehearted approval to the Covenant, Confession of Faith, and Constitution, as set forth in this document.
3. The Senior Pastor and his wife shall become members of this church upon his acceptance of pulpit ministry.
4. The Senior Pastor shall not be divorced or married to such.

B. Election and Term

1. The Senior Pastor shall be called at a designated business meeting for this specific purpose, only after the recommendation of the Pulpit Committee (Article VIII, Section 1).
2. The Chairman of the Pulpit Committee shall present the name from the pulpit and have said name posted on the bulletin board three weeks prior to the calling of the Senior Pastor. Only one candidate shall be considered at a time.
3. The church body shall hold a general discussion regarding the candidate at a designated business meeting prior to the calling of the Senior Pastor. Such meeting shall be under the supervision of the Elders.
4. Election procedures are covered under Article VI, Section 3, Paragraphs B and C and Section 4 Paragraph B.
5. The Senior Pastor shall be called for an indefinite time and shall serve until the office is terminated either by written resignation or by failing to obtain a vote of confidence, in accordance with Article VI, Section 3, Paragraph C, if such is presented to the church body. Termination shall become effective thirty (30) days after the date of written resignation or immediately upon failure to obtain a vote of confidence with uninterrupted salary a minimum of thirty (30) days. It shall be the responsibility of the elders to fulfill all obligations of said termination to the satisfaction of all parties concerned, if possible. Failing to accomplish this, the elders shall automatically declare the office vacant.

C. Duties

1. Such duties as are customarily associated with this office shall be performed by the Senior Pastor, and at all times to be to the best of his ability. He shall have the oversight of the spiritual growth of the individual member and the total complex of the church body according to the New Testament teachings of the Lord Jesus Christ.
2. The Senior Pastor shall be an ex-officio member of all committees.
3. The Senior Pastor is to live a separated life, and to avoid questionable things that would hinder his testimony or cause him to be a stumbling block to others.
4. The Senior Pastor will have two weeks out of the calendar year to hold or attend Bible Conferences, evangelistic services, or other meetings of his preference with his present salary uninterrupted. Any other meetings and expenses must have 100% Advisory Council approval.
5. The Senior Pastor shall have the prerogative to select and approve all speakers, preachers, and teachers.

Section 3: Pastoral Staff

A. Qualifications

1. All Pastoral staff, including Pastoral Interns, must be men who meet the spiritual qualifications as set forth in I Timothy 3:1-7 and Titus 1:5-9.
2. The Pastoral staff, including Pastoral Interns, shall give wholehearted assent to the Covenant, Confession of Faith, and Constitution, as set forth in this document.
3. The Pastoral staff, including Pastoral Interns, and their wives shall become members of this church upon their acceptance.
4. The Pastoral staff, including Pastoral Interns, shall not be divorced or married to such.

B. Election and Term

1. Upon recommendation of the Advisory Council and with the approval of the congregation, the elders will seek the needed personnel. Having prior approval of the Senior Pastor and the Advisory Council, the name will be presented to the congregation. The election procedures of Article VI, Section 3, Paragraphs B and C will be followed.
2. Pastoral staff and Pastoral Interns shall be directly responsible to the Senior Pastor who shall be responsible for monitoring their performance.
3. Pastoral staff and Pastoral Interns shall be called for an indefinite period of time and shall serve until the office is terminated either by written resignation or by failing to obtain a vote of confidence, if such is presented to the church body. Termination shall become effective thirty (30) days after the date of written resignation or immediately upon failure to obtain a vote of confidence with uninterrupted salary for thirty (30) days. It shall be the responsibility of the Elders to fulfill all obligations of said termination to the satisfaction of all parties concerned, if possible. Failing to accomplish this, the Elders shall automatically declare the office vacant.

C. Duties

1. A designation of responsibilities will be prepared by the Senior Pastor and approved by the Advisory Council, and will be issued at the time of calling.
2. All Pastoral Staff and Pastoral Interns shall be members of the Advisory Council.

Section 4: Non-Pastoral Interns

A. Qualifications

1. All non-pastoral interns must be believers who set the proper example of the believer according to I Timothy 4:12-16.
2. All non-pastoral interns shall give wholehearted approval to the Covenant, Confession of Faith, and Constitution, as set forth in this document.
3. All non-pastoral interns and their spouses shall become members of the church upon acceptance of their position.

Section 5: Staff

A. Employment

Upon recommendation of the Advisory Council and with the approval of the congregation, the deacons will seek the needed personnel. Employment will be granted only after obtaining approval from the Senior Pastor and the Advisory Council.

B. Duties

All staff members, unless specifically stated in their designation of responsibilities, shall be directly responsible to the Senior Pastor who shall be responsible for monitoring their performance. Dismissal of any staff member may be tendered by the Advisory Council with the advice and consent of the Chairman of the Elders and Chairman of the Deacons. Staff members include secretarial personnel, maintenance personnel, custodial personnel, and other such non-pastoral staff as may become necessary. A designation of responsibilities will be prepared by the Senior Pastor and approved by the Advisory Council, and will be issued at the time of employment.

Section 6: Elders

A. Qualifications

1. The elders shall be men who meet the spiritual qualifications as set forth in I Timothy 3:1-7 and Titus 1:5-9.
2. Each must be a church member for one year before nominations can be made. This may be waived if deemed necessary.
3. The elders shall not be divorced nor married to such.

B. Election

The Elders shall consist of members who shall be elected by the church as set forth in Article VII, Section 1, Paragraph B.

C. Duties

1. The Elders and Senior Pastor shall hold regular monthly meetings. Special meetings may be called at any time by the chairman of the Elders or the Senior Pastor. A simple majority shall constitute a quorum, but total agreement must be obtained upon the matter at hand.
2. It shall be the responsibility of the Elders with the assistance of the Senior Pastor, to fulfill any and all needs regarding the spiritual welfare of the church body. These obligations shall be performed in a manner befitting New Testament teachings.
3. They shall visit the sick, the needy, the distressed, and especially those within the community who are lost and without Christ. They shall promote and maintain a constructive missionary and evangelistic Bible teaching program in the performance of their duties, as required or requested.
4. It shall be the responsibility of the Elders to assist the Senior Pastor in receiving all new church members and help in all matters of discipline of members.
5. The Elders shall automatically act as a nominating committee for all church officers of the church body except, that of the Senior Pastor (see Article VIII, Section 1).
6. It is the Elder's responsibility to shepherd the flock, to care for the spiritual welfare of God's people, and to demonstrate love and service through their life to the Glory of God.
7. A chairman shall be elected from the Elders beginning each fiscal year.

Section 7: Deacons

A. Qualifications

1. The deacons shall be men who meet the spiritual qualifications as set forth in Acts 6:3 and I Timothy 3:8-13.
2. Each must be a church member for one year before nominations can be made. This may be waived, if deemed necessary.

3. The deacons shall not be divorced nor married to such.

B. Election

The Deacons shall consist of the Treasurer and members nominated by the Elders and agreed upon by the church to serve, as set forth in Article VII, Section 1, Paragraph B.

C. Duties

1. The Deacons and Senior Pastor shall meet as agreed upon by the parties. Special meetings may be called at any time by the chairman of the Deacons or the Senior Pastor. A simple majority shall constitute a quorum, but total agreement must be obtained concerning the matter at hand.
2. They shall set the example in godly conduct and see that all things be done in decency and in order.
3. They shall seek to serve wherever needed, especially within the church.
4. The Deacons shall have complete custody and supervision over all tangible and real property owned or leased or rented by the church.
5. They shall secure and maintain adequate insurance of every nature (fire, theft, liability, etc.) covering all tangible and real property.
6. They shall maintain all necessary repairs or replacements and attend to the purchasing of all new equipment as requested by the various committees or the church body.
7. They shall coordinate the purchase of all necessary supplies for maintenance and upkeep of the building and grounds. They shall also coordinate the purchase of all necessary supplies for the operation of the church body, such as classroom supplies, Sunday School supplies, fellowships, special events, etc., as requested by heads of departments and chairmen of committees.
8. The Deacons must operate within budgetary constraints.
9. They shall handle all physical and monetary matters pertaining to the church body.
10. They shall be responsible for all monies coming into the church and turn such amounts over to the treasurer.
11. A chairman shall be elected from the Deacons beginning each fiscal year.

Section 8: Clerk

A. Qualifications

1. The clerk shall live a separated life and avoid questionable things that would hinder his or her testimony causing him or her to be a stumbling block to others.
2. He or she must maintain an active part as a member of the church.

B. Election

The clerk shall be nominated by the Advisory Council and approved by the church at a business meeting called for this purpose as set forth in Article VI, Section 2..

C. Duties

1. The clerk shall keep minutes and accurate records of all church business meetings.
2. The clerk shall keep an up-to-date register of all members begin received or dismissed from the local membership.
3. The clerk shall automatically serve as the church historian and compile any and all historical items of importance to the church body and file same for a permanent record.

Section 9: Treasurer

A. Qualifications

1. The Treasurer shall live a separated life and avoid questionable things that would hinder his testimony causing him to be a stumbling block to others.
2. The Treasurer must be an Elder or Deacon in accordance with the attend qualifications and election.

B. Election

The Treasurer shall be nominated by the Advisory Council and approved by the church at a business meeting called for this purpose as set forth in Article VI, Section 2.

C. Duties

1. The treasurer shall be responsible for the custody of all monies, make all deposits, pay all expenditures and shall keep accurate records of same, including special funds, such as missionary, building, etc.
2. The treasurer shall be bonded if this is deemed necessary by the Advisory Council and church body.
3. The treasurer shall keep accurate weekly records of all members' contributions to the church. Such records shall be kept confidential. Details of individual contributions shall not be discussed at any time except by request of the Senior Pastor or Elders.
4. Accurate annual individual records shall be mailed or presented to each member at the close of the calendar year.
5. Monthly and annual reports shall be prepared as stated in Article VI, Section 2, Paragraph A.
6. The treasurer shall cooperate at all times with any information required by the Advisory Council or Senior Pastor regarding the financial situation of the church.

Section 10: Confidentiality

All matters pertaining to the spiritual life and/or welfare of the local body, including private meetings, conversations, counseling, and discussions within and outside of meetings, shall be kept confidential. This pertains to Pastors, Pastoral staff, Elders, Interns, Deacons, Treasurers, clerks, and other staff members.

Article VIII Committees

Section 1: Pulpit Committee

A. A Pulpit Committee shall be formed for the sole purpose of calling a Senior Pastor

B. The Pulpit Committee shall consist of five (5) members:

1. The Chairman of the Elders, who shall serve as chairman.
2. The Chairman of the Deacons.
3. One Elder and one Deacon selected by their respective boards.
4. One member selected by the Pulpit Committee Chairman from the congregation having Advisory Council approval.

- C. The duties of the Pulpit Committee shall be to fill the vacated office of the Senior Pastor. They shall seek a suitable candidate for the pastorate and present his name to the church body, having first secured the sanction of the Advisory Council.
- D. It shall be the responsibility of the Pulpit Committee to collect resumes and interview the prospective candidates. Having fulfilled this responsibility, they shall unanimously agree on one candidate. He shall be presented to the Advisory Council for unanimous approval and then to the church body for their approval or disapproval in accordance with Article VI, Sections 2-5. If the candidate fails to obtain necessary votes, the committee shall continue the same procedure.

Section 2: Other Committees

The Advisory Council shall appoint other committees as they, deem necessary. All other organizations or committees in the church, including the mission board, youth groups, ladies groups, men's groups, and any other group, are subject to the Constitution and Advisory Council in their activities.

Article IX Amendments

The power to alter, amend, or repeal this Constitution or to adopt a new Constitution shall be only by a vote of the independent body; having been first submitted by the Advisory Council. (See Article VI, Section 3, Paragraph B and Section 4, Paragraph B.)

Article X Business Meeting Procedure

Robert's Rules of Order shall govern any business of any nature by the church body not covered by this Constitution.



Six Important Things The Bible Wants You To Know About Jesus

1. "For God so loved the world that He gave His only begotten Son, that whoever believes in Him should not perish, but have everlasting life." John 3:16
2. "Jesus said unto him, 'I am the way, the truth, and the life; No man comes to the Father except through Me.'" John 14:6
3. "Nor is there salvation in any other, for there is no other name under heaven given among men by which we must be saved." Peter speaking of Jesus in Acts 4:12
4. "For I delivered to you first of all that which I also received: that Christ died for our sins according to the Scriptures and that He was buried and rose again on the third day according to the Scriptures." I Corinthians 15:3&4
5. "That if you confess with your mouth the Lord Jesus and believe in your heart that God raised Him from the dead, you will be saved. For with the heart one believes unto righteousness, and with the mouth confession is made unto salvation." Romans 10:9&10
6. "He who has the Son has life; he who does not have the Son of God does not have life." I John 5:12

Do YOU have the Son of God?

Questions? Visit us at Lee's Summit Bible Church or e-mail at info@lsbible.com