

OAK GROVE BAPTIST CHURCH

CONSTITUTION

Preamble

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

Article 1: Name

This body shall be known as the Oak Grove Baptist Church, located at 45 Floyd Sumner Rd., Cadiz, KY.

This body will be an active member of the Little River Baptist Association, the Kentucky Baptist Convention, and the Southern Baptist Convention.

Article 2: Objectives

To be a dynamic spiritual organism empowered by the Holy Spirit to share Christ with as many people as possible in our church, community, and throughout the world.

To be a worshipping fellowship, aware of God, recognizing His person and responding in obedience to His leadership.

To fellowship in an increasingly meaningful way with God and fellow believers.

To help people grow in the knowledge of God and His Word.

To be a church which ministers unselfishly to persons in the community and the world in Jesus' name.

To be a church whose purpose is to be Christ-like in our daily living by emphasizing total commitment of life, personality, and possessions to the lordship of Christ.

Article 3: Statement of Faith

The Holy Bible is the inspired Word of God and is the basis for any statement of faith. The church subscribes to the doctrinal statement of the "Baptist Faith and Message" as adopted by the Southern Baptist Convention in 2000 (see Appendix A). We band ourselves together as a body of baptized believers in Jesus Christ, personally committed to sharing the good news of salvation to lost mankind. The ordinances of the church are Believer's Baptism and the Lord's Supper (see Article 7 of Bylaws). This statement supports and enhances the Articles of Faith as adopted by our founding fathers on August 27, 1875 (see Appendix B).

Article 4: Church Covenant

Having been led, by the Spirit of God, we do now, in the presence of God and this assembly, enter into covenant with one another as one body in Christ.

We engage, therefore, by the aid of the Holy Spirit to walk together in Christian love; to strive for the advancement of this church, in knowledge, holiness, and comfort; to promote its prosperity and spirituality; to sustain its worship, ordinances, disciplines, and doctrines;

and to contribute cheerfully and regularly to the support of the ministry, the expenses of the church, the relief of the poor; and to spread the Gospel through all nations.

We agree to maintain family and individual devotions; to religiously educate our children; to seek the salvation of our family and friends; to walk honorably in the world; to be just in our daily dealings, faithful in our relationships, and exemplary in our behavior; to avoid all tattling, backbiting, gossip, and unjustified anger; to abstain from the sale of, and use of, intoxicating beverages, drugs, pornography and any practices which harm the body or jeopardize our own or another's faith; and to be passionate in our efforts to advance the kingdom of our Savior.

We will engage to watch over one another in brotherly love; to remember one another in prayer; to aid one another in sickness and distress; to cultivate Christian courtesy in speech; and be slow to take offense, but always ready to seek reconciliation as commanded by our Savior.

We moreover encourage those who withdraw from this fellowship to unite with some other church where they can carry out the principles of God's Word.

Article 5: Polity and Relationships

The government of this church is vested in the body of believers who compose it. It is subject to the control of no other religious body, but it recognizes and sustains the obligation of mutual counsel and cooperation which are common among Baptist churches. As is practical, this church will cooperate and support the Little River Baptist Association, the Kentucky Baptist Convention, and the Southern Baptist Convention.