

Are you presently under discipline of another church? Yes No

If Yes, please provide the name and location of the church along with a brief summary the action taken by the church.

Have you read our Constitution, Covenant and Articles of Faith? Yes No

Do you have any questions about what you read? Yes No

Are you ready to abide and be governed by these documents? Yes No

Will you regularly support Emmanuel with your time, talents and treasure? Yes No

What kind of time commitment do you think you can make to the ministry of the church?

What talents has God given to you to develop and invest in ministry?

In what areas of ministry would you prefer to serve?

What evidences can you give that God may want to use you in this way?

If you are unsure about where you would like to serve, would you like to be challenged to serve in a ministry where we have a current need?

Is there anything else that would be helpful for us to know about you?

Please return this application to Emmanuel Baptist Church, 1503 West That Road, Bloomington, IN 47403-9726. An interview will then be arranged with someone from the leadership of the church so that you may be presented to the congregation for membership.

Emmanuel Baptist Church Constitution

ARTICLE 1 - NAME

The name of this church shall be the Emmanuel Baptist Church of Bloomington, Indiana, having been organized February 9, 1958 and incorporated May 19, 1963.

ARTICLE 2 - PURPOSE

Emmanuel Baptist Church exists to glorify God. We purpose to make Him known in this community and the world by proclaiming and living God's Word. Therefore, by God's grace, nonbelievers will trust the Lord Jesus Christ as Savior, and believers will be established in the faith and equipped for ministry to others.

ARTICLE 3 - ASSOCIATIONS

The church is a member of the General Association of Regular Baptist Churches and The Crossroads Fellowship, A Baptist Network of Churches Incorporated. Emmanuel can have association with other ministry organizations only if the leadership board determines that they are in agreement with our Statement of Faith.

ARTICLE 4 - MEMBERSHIP

Section 1 Any person, at least 16 years old, professing faith in the Lord Jesus Christ as Savior, having been baptized by immersion after salvation, and willing to be governed by the Constitution, Covenant and Statement of Faith is invited to become a member of this church. The person shall fill out a church membership application and complete a membership interview with a member of the leadership board. If the interview is satisfactory, the leadership board member will recommend the person to the leadership board for membership. The person shall be accepted into membership by a majority vote of the leadership board.

Section 2 A member must subject himself/herself to the lordship of Christ and leadership of the church and be regularly involved in the life of the church. Only a member may be the leader of an ongoing church ministry, and only a member may vote.

Section 3 Any member, in good standing, may resign without a congregational vote. A member not responding to discipline or not having contact with the church for a period of time will have his/her name recommended by the leadership board for termination from membership by a majority vote of the church.

Section 4 Associate membership is available for anyone who temporarily comes to Bloomington for educational, vocational, or personal reasons but wishes to remain a member of his/her home church. The procedure for becoming an associate member as well as the responsibilities and the privileges are the same as for regular membership.

ARTICLE 5 - OFFICERS, COMMITTEES, AND STAFF

Section 1 Officers of this church shall include senior pastor, associate pastors, deacons, church clerk, treasurer, financial secretaries and auditors. The church may have as many associate pastors and deacons as deemed necessary by the congregation, with a minimum of three deacons.

Section 2 The leadership board of the church consists of the senior pastor, associate pastors, and deacons. Committees shall consist of the nominating committee as well as other committees formed by the leadership board to enable them to fulfill their responsibilities. When necessary, a pulpit committee shall be formed. All committees are responsible to the leadership board.

Section 3 Any officer, except senior and associate pastor, must have been a member of the church for at least one year. Officers' lives must demonstrate spiritual maturity and agreement with the Constitution, Covenant and Statement of Faith. In addition, pastors' lives must be characterized by the qualifications of 1 Timothy 3:1-7 and Titus 1:6-9. Pastoral candidates must also meet qualifications for membership. Deacons' lives must be characterized by the qualifications of 1 Timothy 3:8-13 and Acts 6:1-6. An office will remain vacant if there are no qualified candidates.

Section 4 Nominations for all offices, except pastors, may be made in writing to the nominating committee by any member. The nominating committee shall review these nominations and formulate a ballot. Nominees shall be elected by a majority of votes cast.

Section 5 Nominations for pastors will be made to the congregation by the pulpit committee. A meeting for a congregational vote shall be announced at least one Sunday in advance. A three-fourth's majority of votes cast is required to call a senior pastor, and a two-third's majority is required to call an associate pastor. Pastors automatically become members of the church.

Section 6 Non-pastoral staff positions can only be created by congregational vote. The leadership board shall hire persons to fill these positions. Persons hired shall be responsible to an officer determined at the time of hire and may be discussed by the leadership board.

ARTICLE 6 - DUTIES

Section 1 The senior pastor is responsible for the following areas of ministry: shepherding, public worship, Christian education, ministry development, leadership training, Biblical counseling and discipleship, and evangelism. He is an ex-officio member of all committees.

Section 2 Associate pastors are responsible to the senior pastor and shall assist him in carrying out his duties. They shall also fill in for the senior pastor in his absence.

Section 3 Deacons are responsible for assisting in the oversight of the ministry, including the following areas:

Real property and real estate: The deacons shall see that adequate insurance is in force, maintain building and grounds in a state conducive to the ministry of the church, plan for future needs of the ministry and see that all uses of the church facilities are consistent with the ministry of the church.

Finances: The deacons shall propose a budget for the coming year to be approved by the congregation and shall oversee spending based on the budget.

Caring fund: The deacons shall receive designated offerings, disburse as needs arise and report receipts and disbursements to the congregation in summary form.

Other responsibilities: The deacons shall assist the pastoral staff in carrying out their responsibilities, stimulate and encourage fellowship and hospitality in the church family and provide pulpit supply as needed. They shall function as the legal trustees of EBC.

Section 4 The church clerk shall prepare accurate minutes of all church business meetings.

Section 5 The financial secretaries shall count offerings, deposit offerings in the church's account, keep accurate, and confidential records of all offerings received, give receipts annually to givers and report, in summary form to leadership board as requested.

Section 6 The treasurer shall disburse funds according to vouchers approved by a leadership board designee and shall give reports to leadership, as requested, and to the congregation at quarterly business meetings.

Section 7 Auditors shall audit financial records and report their findings to the congregation at the April business meeting.

ARTICLE 7 - TERMS OF OFFICE

Section 1 There is no time-limit on a pastor's term of office. To resign, a senior pastor must give two weeks' notice to the leadership board. Associate pastors must give two weeks' notice to the senior pastor.

Section 2 Deacons, financial secretaries and auditors shall serve a three-year term of office and may serve consecutive terms. The terms will be staggered so that one-third of them (or as close as possible) will end each year. Other officers shall serve one-year terms and may serve consecutive terms.

Section 3 A person with a charge against any officer shall go to that person in obedience to Matthew 18:15-20 and Galatians 6:1-5. If the problem is not resolved, that person should immediately go to the senior pastor and request that they go to the officer together. If the problem is still not resolved, they should go to the deacons who will, if necessary, present the matter to the congregation. The congregation may remove any officer other than a pastor with a majority of votes cast.

Section 4 A pastor's term of office may also be terminated involuntarily. Members representing at least three households may request that the deacons evaluate the pastor's ministry. The deacons must then determine whether a vote of confidence should be taken. Should they choose to conduct a vote of confidence, the pastor must be notified, privately, one week before any announcement from the pulpit and must be told the schedule for the meetings required for such a vote.

A vote of confidence requires two meetings, one for discussion and one for the vote. The vote of confidence must be announced from the pulpit for three consecutive Sundays. The first meeting will take place between the second and third announcements. At this meeting, each side will be given opportunity to present its case fairly and objectively. The second meeting will take place after the third announcement. At this meeting, a vote will be taken, but no discussion will be permitted. A two-third's affirmative vote of members present is required for the pastor to continue his ministry at Emmanuel. Should a vote of confidence not be sustained, or should he resign after being notified of the vote of confidence but before the date of the second meeting, his term of office will cease immediately and he shall receive two months' compensation.

ARTICLE 8 - MEETINGS

Section 1 The church shall meet regularly on Sunday for public worship. The Lord's Supper shall be observed at such times as shall be determined by the Leadership Board.

Section 2 Five regular business meetings are required throughout the year. Additional business meetings may be held as necessary. Each meeting must be announced at least one week in advance. A quorum consisting of a minimum of 30% of members residing in Indiana must be present at the beginning of the meeting.

Section 3 Business meetings shall be moderated by a pastor or a deacon. Meetings shall follow the regulations set forth in this constitution and the parliamentary procedure described by Robert's Rules of Order.

Section 4 Four of the five required business meetings will be quarterly meetings and shall be held in the months of January, April, July and October. The vote for the annual budget shall be held at the January meeting. The fifth meeting shall be for the election of officers and shall be held during the month of December. Newly elected officers shall assume their responsibilities at the beginning of the new year.

ARTICLE 9 - AMENDMENTS

Any member may submit written proposals for constitutional amendments or revisions to the Leadership Board. The Leadership Board shall review the proposal and report its decision to the person who submitted the proposal. The Leadership Board may propose constitutional amendments and revisions to the congregation. The proposal and the date of the vote must be announced for two consecutive weeks prior to the vote and the text of the proposal must be available for inspection by the congregation during this time. A two-third's majority of votes cast is necessary for ratification or revision of the amendment.

APPENDIX A: CHURCH COVENANT

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

We purpose, therefore, by the aid of the Holy Spirit, to walk together in Christian love; to strive together for the advancement of this church in knowledge, holiness and comfort; to promote its prosperity and spirituality; to attend its services regularly; to sustain its worship, ordinances, discipline and doctrines; to give it a sacred preeminence over all institutions of human origin; to give faithfully of time and talent in its activities; to contribute cheerfully and regularly, as God has prospered us, to the support of the ministry, the expenses of the church, the relief of the poor, and the spread of the gospel throughout all nations.

We also purpose to maintain family and private devotions; to train our children according to the Word of God; 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 conduct; to avoid all gossip, back-biting and unrighteous anger; to abstain from all forms of activity which dishonor our Lord Jesus Christ, cause stumbling to a fellow believer or hinder the winning of a soul to Christ; to be zealous in our efforts to advance the cause of Christ, our Savior; and to give Him preeminence in all things.

We further purpose to encourage one another in the blessed hope of our Lord's return; 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 in feeling and courtesy in speech; to be slow to take offense, always ready for reconciliation and, mindful of the rules of our Savior, to seek it without delay.

We moreover purpose that when we remove from this place, we will as soon as possible unite with some other church of like faith and order where we can carry out the spirit of this covenant and the principles of Word of God. In the event there is no such church, we shall seek, with the help of the Lord, to establish one.

APPENDIX B: ARTICLES OF FAITH

1. Bible

We believe that the Bible, the thirty-nine books of the Old Testament and the twenty-seven books of the New Testament, is the very Word of God. Each word is accurate and without error in the original text. The Bible is the final authority on any subject to which it speaks and is sufficient in determining what we believe and how we should live.

Psalm 19: 7-11; 2 Timothy 3:16-17; Hebrews 1:1-2; 2 Peter 1:19-21

2. God

We believe that there is one God, the creator and sustainer of all things, an infinite spirit being. He is in sovereign control over the entire universe. He is holy, and His glory is beyond our comprehension. As such, He is worthy of all our worship, honor, confidence and love. In the unity of God, there are three persons: the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit; each of Whom is fully God. They exist in a perfectly harmonious relationship with each other and willingly fulfill their individual roles in carrying out the great work of salvation.

Genesis 1:2, 26; Exodus 20:2-3; 1 Corinthians 8:6; Revelation 4:11

We believe that God the Father is fully and eternally God and equal with the Son and the Holy Spirit. He is the supreme authority in the universe, and He has decreed what will ultimately come to pass. He is the sovereign ruler of all things and is the Father of all who come to faith in Jesus Christ.

Psalm 2:7-9; Ephesians 1:3-6; Galatians 3:26

We believe that Jesus Christ is fully and eternally God and equal with the Father and the Holy Spirit. He was born of a virgin, lived a perfect, sinless life and died as a substitute for our sins. He rose bodily from the grave after three days and ascended to the right hand of the Father to serve as our Great High Priest. He will return to this earth to establish His kingdom.

Genesis 3:15; Isaiah 7:14; Matthew 1:16, 18-25; Luke 1:35; John 1:1-4, 14, 18;

Matthew 28:6-7; Luke 24:39; John 20:27; 1 Corinthians 15:4; Acts 1:2-11; Hebrews 12:2; Revelation 3:21; Hebrews 8:6; Isaiah 11:45; Revelation 20:6; Colossians 2:9

We believe that the Holy Spirit is fully and eternally God and equal with the Father and the Son. He restrains sin and Satan until God's purposes in the world are fulfilled. He convicts people of sin, opens their minds to understand the Word of God and draws them to faith in God. He is the agent of salvation and baptizes believers into the body of Christ. He indwells, seals and secures believers for all eternity, and He equips, guides, teaches, sanctifies and helps believers to live out the will of God on this earth.

In order to help verify the message of the apostles, the Holy Spirit bestowed miraculous gifts to people including speaking in tongues, interpretation of tongues, miracles and healing. With the completion of God's written revelation to man in the Bible, these gifts are no longer necessary to verify the message. However, the Spirit still gives specific gifts to believers to help them serve in the church.

John 14: 16, 17; Matthew 28:19; Hebrews 9:14; John 14:26; Luke 1:35; Genesis 1:1-3; John 16:8-11; Acts 5:30-32; John 3:5-6; 1 Corinthians 3:10; 12:12-13; 13:8-13; Ephesians 1:13-14; 4: 11-16; John 1:33; Acts 11:16; Luke 24:49; Romans 8: 26-27; Hebrews 2:3-4

3. Angels

We believe that angels are created spirit beings. They were not created in the image of God and cannot be redeemed. Angels minister before the throne of God by declaring His glory and defending His holiness. They ministered to Jesus Christ while He was on earth by protecting and caring for Him. They also made declarations of truth to man and offered physical protection, provision, encouragement and direction.

Colossians 1:16; Psalm 8:4-5; Hebrews 1:14; Matthew 2:13; 4:11; Luke 22:34

We believe that Satan, also called the dragon, the serpent and the Devil, is an angel who rebelled against God and was cast out of Heaven. He is alive and active in this world as the unholy god of this age who rules over all the powers of darkness. He is destined to be defeated forever by Jesus Christ and will be cast into the eternal lake of fire at the end of the Thousand Year Reign of Christ on earth. A host of other angels followed Satan in his rebellion against God and became fallen angels or demons. They are active in carrying out the plan of Satan to attack God and destroy man and will join him in the eternal lake of fire.

Matthew 4:1-3; Corinthians 4:4; Revelation 20:10; 20:2

4. Creation

We believe in the literal interpretation of the Genesis account which teaches that the world and all that is in it was created as the direct result of the spoken word of God. The first man, Adam, was an historical person. He was created in the image of God by the hand of God. God breathed into him and made him a living soul. All men have descended from Adam and Eve.

Genesis 1 and 2; Colossians 1:16-17; John 1:3

5. Fall of Man

We believe that man was created as an innocent being with the freedom to choose to obey God. By a voluntary choice, Adam and Eve committed an act of rebellion against God, and as a result, they fell from their original state and were separated from Him. Because of the fall, all men are now sinners by nature and by choice. All men are totally depraved and are under condemnation and without defense or excuse. The only hope for man is found in the person and work of Jesus Christ.

Genesis 3:1-19; Romans 5:10-19; 1:18, 32

6. Salvation

We believe that the salvation of sinners is by grace alone through faith alone in the Lord Jesus Christ and His death on the cross for sin. Jesus Christ fulfilled the purposes of God through the incarnation where He became the perfect God/Man Who fulfilled the divine law by His personal obedience. This qualified Him alone to die on the cross as the only sufficient sacrifice for the sins of the whole world. He was a voluntary substitute for each one of us, the just dying for the unjust, bearing our sin in His own body on the cross. His resurrection from the dead proved that His death satisfied the full payment for sin. This salvation is so life changing that it is clearly evidenced by a new life of faith, obedience to God's Word and the growth of the fruit of the Spirit. All true believers are preserved by the power of the Holy Spirit in such a way that everyone who trusts Christ as their savior from sin is kept eternally secure as a child of God.

Ephesians 2:8-10; Acts 15:11; Romans 3:24; John 3:16; Philippians 2:7; Hebrews 2:14; Isaiah 53:4-7; Romans 3:25; 1 John 4:10; 1 Corinthians 15:3; 2 Corinthians 5:21

7. The Church

We believe that the universal church is made up of all those who have placed their faith in the Lord Jesus Christ as personal Savior from sin from the day of Pentecost through the Rapture of the church.

Matthew 16:18; Acts 1:8, 2:1-13, 41-47, 15:14; Ephesians 1:22, 23, 3:21, 5:23-32; 1 Thessalonians 4:13-18

We believe that a local church is a congregation of believers in Christ who have banded together to fulfill the commands of the New Testament in such a way that they influence their community and the world for Christ. The purpose of the church is to glorify God, fulfill the Great Commission and live out God-honoring relationships with one another. Local churches are autonomous bodies that engage the gifted people God has given to them to fulfill His calling. While independent of any authority other than Jesus Christ, local churches work interdependently with other churches of like faith to exemplify the unity prayed for by Christ and to be more effective in ministering His grace to a lost and needy world. A local church should separate itself from sin and those who have left the faith.

Acts 2:41-42; 1 Corinthians 11:2; Ephesians 1:22-23; Ephesians 4:11; Acts 20:17-28; 2 Timothy 3:17; Colossians 1:18; Ephesians 5:23-24; Acts 15:13-18.

We believe that the biblically designated offices in a local church are pastor, also called elder and overseer, and the office of deacon. The biblically designated ordinances of the local church are Baptism and the Lord's Supper. Baptism in the New Testament was always by immersion following salvation as a symbol of the death, burial and resurrection of Christ. The Lord's Supper was instituted by Jesus to remember His death until He returns.

Acts 8:26-39; John 3:23; Romans 6:3-5; Matthew 3:16; Colossians 2:12; 1 Corinthians 11:23-28.

8. Eschatology

We believe that the Rapture of the Church and the Tribulation are the next prophetic events to be fulfilled on earth. The Tribulation will end with the Battle of Armageddon, during which Christ will return to defeat His enemies and establish His kingdom on earth for a thousand years. At the close of the Millennium, Satan will be released to deceive the nations. God will end this rebellion and cast Satan into the eternal lake of fire. After this, all unbelievers will be judged at the Great White Throne and cast into the lake of fire with Satan. Then, the New Jerusalem will come down out of heaven and all who have trusted Christ will dwell with Him there forever. We believe that Heaven is a literal place where believers who die go immediately to be in the presence of God. We believe that Hell is a literal place where people will be separated from God for eternity because they rejected Jesus Christ. It is a place of conscious and eternal torment from which there is no escape.

John 14:1-3; 1 Thessalonians 4:13-18; 1 Corinthians 15: 15-58; Luke 1:32; Isaiah 9:6-7; Acts 2:29-30; Revelation 20:14

October 18, 2009