

# CONSTITUTION

## GATE CITY BAPTIST CHURCH

POCATELLO, IDAHO

### PREAMBLE

That all things may be done decently and in order, and that we may more readily help one another in our Christian service as members of Gate City Baptist Church, we adopt the following Constitution.

### ARTICLE I

#### NAME

This organization shall be known as the Gate City Baptist Church, Pocatello, Idaho, Inc.

### ARTICLE II

#### PURPOSE AND OBJECTIVES

##### Section 1. Purpose

This church, believing in the Bible as the inspired word of God and the sole authority for faith and practice, and acknowledging its adherence to all the teachings of Jesus Christ, declares its purpose: to glorify God by leading people to become fully devoted followers of Jesus (1 Corinthians 10:31, Matthew 28:19-20, and Mark 12:29-31)

##### Section 2. Objectives

- A. To be a worshipping fellowship, experiencing an awareness of God, recognizing His Person, and responding in obedience to His leadership.
- B. To be a fellowship earnestly proclaiming the gospel message and urging its personal acceptance.
- C. To be a cooperating fellowship seeking to establish the Kingdom of God on earth by praying, serving, and giving.
- D. To be a fellowship committed to systematic study of the Bible, and Christian training in discipleship.
- E. To be a fellowship ministering unselfishly to people in the community and the world in Jesus' name.

## **ARTICLE III**

### **STATEMENT OF FAITH**

The Church Ministry Council voted to update Gate City Baptist's Constitution, Article III – Statement of Faith to The 1689 London Baptist Confession of Faith.

## **ARTICLE IV**

### **Relationships**

The government of this church is vested solely in the body of the members who compose it currently. It shall be subject to the control of NO OTHER ECCLESIASTICAL BODY.

If Gate City Baptist Church ever ceases to be a Southern Baptist church or dissolves, the title to all real and personal property will remain the property of the members.

If the church dissolves, the title to all real and personal property will be sold and the monies will go into a trust fund that will be distributed by the current trustees to an existing, registered nonprofit organization that aligns with our mission statement at the dissolution of the church. This church may be dissolved by a two-thirds vote of active members voting. This meeting must be announced from the pulpit and to every member for at least two weeks prior to the voting. There also must be a way (i.e. mail in voting) for those members that would like to but are unable to attend. And allow for at least two weeks for the mail in ballots to come in and be counted after the meeting.

## **ARTICLE V**

### **The Reason for Church Covenants:**

**First**, forming and abiding by covenants follows the example of God Himself who placed Himself under the obligation of promises to be kept (i.e. Covenant of Works, Noahic Covenant, Abrahamic Covenant, Mosaic Covenant, Davidic Covenant, and the New Covenant)

**Second**, forming and abiding by covenants follows the model of our Lord Jesus who defines and establishes the church on earth. The New Covenant creates the church as defined by the Bible. Churches are *covenantal* communities.

**Third**, forming and abiding by covenants establishes clear expectations of church members. There is no mistaking membership responsibilities to the body of believers.

**Fourth**, forming and abiding by covenants guards the church of its purity from wolves that creep in unaware to subvert or usurp the church of Jesus Christ and His appointed leaders.

***Fifth, forming and abiding by covenants shields and fortifies the church against legal action, such as lawsuits and the like.***

## **ARTICLE VI**

### **Amendments**

This Constitution may be amended by a two-thirds majority vote of those members present and voting at a properly called business meeting for the purpose of amending the constitution. A copy of the proposed amendment shall be provided to the congregation at least four weeks prior to the called meeting.

**NOTE:** This Constitution was adopted on the **Fifth** day of **February, 2023** and will now serve as our basis for conducting God's work in Pocatello, Idaho.