

SELMORE BAPTIST CHURCH, INC.  
4768 Selmore Road  
Ozark, MO 65721

CONSTITUTION  
(2007)

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PREAMBLE

We declare and establish the constitution to preserve and secure the principles of our faith and to govern the body in an orderly manner. This constitution will preserve the liberties of each individual church member, provide for a strong fellowship and maturing Christian lifestyle, specify the authority and responsibility of the church, and declare the freedom of this body in relation to other churches.

ARTICLE I  
NAME

The name of the church is the Selmore Baptist Church, Inc., located at 4768 Selmore Road, Ozark, MO 65721.

ARTICLE II  
PURPOSE

The purpose of this church shall be to strive for the edification of the body of Christ, under the guidance of the Holy Spirit. We are committed to: the worship of God; witnessing to the lost; promoting the preaching and teaching of God's word; ministering to all people with love, patience, and compassion; maintaining a cheerful and forgiving fellowship; supporting the Southern Baptist Cooperative Program for the accomplishment of the Great Commission.

ARTICLE III  
STATEMENT OF BASIC BELIEFS

We affirm the Holy Bible as the inspired word of God and the basis for our beliefs. This church subscribes to the doctrinal statement of The Baptist Faith and Message as adopted by the Southern Baptist Convention in 2000. We voluntarily band ourselves 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 Section 14 of the By-laws).

ARTICLE IV  
CHURCH COVENANT

Having been led as we believe by the Spirit of God to receive the Lord Jesus Christ as our Lord and Savior and, on the profession of our faith, having been baptized 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 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 this church in knowledge, holiness, and comfort; to promote its prosperity and spirituality; to sustain its worship, ordinances, doctrines, and discipline; to contribute cheerfully and regularly to the support of the ministry, the expenses of the church, and the relief of the poor, and the spread of the gospel through all nations.

We also engage to maintain family and secret devotions; to religiously educate our children; 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 avoid all tattling, backbiting, and excessive anger; to abstain from the sale of and use of intoxicating drinks as a beverage; to use our influence to combat the use of drugs and the spread of pornography; and to be zealous in our efforts to advance the kingdom of our Savior.

We further 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 sympathy in feeling and Christian courtesy in speech; to be slow to take offense, but always ready for reconciliation and mindful of the rules of our Savior to secure it without delay.

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

ARTICLE V  
POLICY AND RELATIONSHIPS  
*(Rev. 06/01/2007)*

The government of this church is vested in the body of believers who compose it. Persons duly received by the members shall constitute the membership. (See Section I of the By-laws).

All individuals serving as officers, staff, committee members, directors, or teachers and assistants will be active members of Selmore Baptist Church for a minimum of one year. Exceptions may be considered by the Church if all of the following conditions are met by the individual:

- (1.) Becomes a member of Selmore Baptist Church by presenting himself/herself as a candidate for membership according to I. Section 1. B. Candidacy, of the By-Laws of Selmore Baptist Church, and;
- (2.) Provides a letter of recommendation from another Southern Baptist Church or church that holds like beliefs in the doctrines of God, the Bible, Salvation, the Church, and Baptism, wherein the church confirms the individual's active membership for a minimum of one year just prior to presenting himself/herself as a candidate for membership at Selmore Baptist Church, and;
- (3.) Desires to serve and believes God is leading him/her to serve in this Church.

The church shall provide, support, and maintain such officers, organizations, programs, plans and committees to insure the orderly functioning of the church and the accomplishment of its purpose.

All individuals appointed to serve as officers, program directors, department leaders, teachers, and members of committees will be active members of this church. They are responsible and accountable to the church; are to be in agreement with The Baptist Faith and Message, dated 2000; and are committed to this church's constitution and by-laws. Specific job requirements and outlines are contained in the church by-laws.

This church is subject to the control of no other ecclesiastical body, but it recognizes and sustains the obligations of mutual counsel and cooperation's which are common among Baptist churches. Insofar as is practical, this church will cooperate with and support the Tri-County Baptist Association, the Missouri Baptist Convention, and the Southern Baptist Convention.

ARTICLE VI  
AMENDMENTS

This constitution may be amended by a three-fourths majority of the members present and voting. Amendments must be placed before the church six (6) months prior to vote.