

White Rock Community Church Constitution

As Approved by the Congregation June 28, 2009

Article I. Name

Section 1.01

The name of this church shall be the White Rock Community Church Inc., of Dallas, Texas.

Article II. Purpose

Section 2.01

United by the grace of God as disciples of the Lord Jesus Christ, we purpose as a church to obey the Great Commission of our Lord Jesus Christ as commanded in Matthew 28:19.

“Therefore go and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father, and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit and teaching them to obey everything I have commanded you.”

We obey this command as we **Point People to Jesus through:**

- **Reaching** ministries that confront people with the Good News of the Gospel in corporate and individual witness.
- **Teaching** Ministries that strive to equip the Body of Christ to grow in wisdom and knowledge of the Lord through the study of Scripture and the practice of the spiritual gifts, and spiritual disciplines.
- **Celebrating** ministries that focus on creative worship and fellowship.
- **Serving** ministries that strive to meet physical, emotional, and spiritual needs.

Article III. Church Covenant

Section 3.01

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

We also engage to support family and private devotions: to religiously educate, our children, to seek the salvation of our family, friends, and community; to be just in our dealings, faithful in our engagements and exemplary in our behavior.

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Article IV. Faith Practice and Membership

Section 4.01 ALL MEMBERSHIP SHALL:

Subscribe to the church covenant and shall consist of persons who have made a profession of their faith in Jesus Christ as Savior and Lord; desire to be numbered among His Disciples; have experienced New Testament baptism; be in agreement with the faith and practices of this church, and have committed themselves to the principles of the ministry of this church.

Section 4.02 ADMISSIONS OF MEMBERSHIP:

Membership in this church may be obtained as follows:

- (a) By ordinance of baptism after profession of faith.
- (b) By statement of Christian experience indicating previous baptism or compliance with the sentiments expressed in Section 4.01.
- (c) Completion of new member's orientation
- (d) Acceptance by approval of a simple majority congregational vote.

Section 4.03 STATUS OF MEMBERSHIP:

Categories of membership include, but are limited to active, inactive, and honorary. Changing a member's status from active to inactive will be initiated only after a period of absence of 180 calendar days, or by request by member.

Section 4.04 TERMINATION OF MEMBERSHIP:

Membership of this church shall be terminated only as follows:

- (a) By dropping from the roll at request of the church member.
- (b) By death.
- (c) By discipline of the congregation as defined in the church by-laws.

Article V. CHARACTER

Section 5.01 POLITY

The government of this church is vested in the body of believers who compose it. It is subject to the control of no other church.

Section 5.02 AFFILIATION

This church shall maintain its autonomy, but may, with the approval of the congregation, cooperate with organizations and conferences aimed at mutual benefit or support.

Section 5.03 DOCTRINE

It receives the Bible as the Word of God and as its authority in matters of faith and practice. Its understanding of Christian truth as contained there is in essential accord with the belief of other evangelical churches.

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Article VI. CHURCH ORGANIZATION

Section 6.01 OFFICERS

The officers, boards, and committees of this congregation and their qualifications shall be prescribed by the By-Laws of this congregation.

Section 6.02 WORSHIP SERVICES

- (a) Worship Services will be held each Lord's Day.
- (b) There shall be a Bible study, either on church premises or in a member's home, at least once a week.
- (c) Worship services or prayer services may be omitted upon recommendation of the Pastor and approval by the congregation.
- (d) Services are to be conducted at a time that will make the church ministry most effective to the community.

Section 6.03 MEETINGS

- (a) The regular congregational meetings of the church shall be held quarterly. The meetings will normally be held on the second Sundays of September, December, March and June. The Chair of the Church Council, or his/her designee, shall serve as the moderator at any regular or special congregational meetings.
 - (1) At regular and all special congregational meetings, the members present shall constitute a quorum, unless otherwise stated in the Constitution and By-laws.
 - (2) All congregational meetings shall be conducted in accordance with "Robert's Rules of Order."
 - (3) Unless otherwise stated in the Constitution or By-laws, a simple majority vote shall govern.
 - (4) The agenda for all congregational meetings shall be discussed and approved by the Church Council.
- (b) A member must be an active member to vote in any meeting.
- (c) A member must be an active member to be a member of a church committee.
- (d) A member may resign from a committee at any time by providing written notification to the Committee Chair or to the Nominating Committee. The resignation is effective on receipt and does not require church or committee membership approval.

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(e) Requests for special congregational meetings are submitted to the Church Council and may be called by:

- (1) The Pastor or Chair of the Church Council.
- (2) The request of a majority of the Church Council.
- (3) By the Trustees.
- (4) By an Administrative Committee.
- (5) By the written request of any five members.

Notification of such meetings, including the purpose or agenda, must be made a minimum of fourteen (14) DAYS PRIOR TO THE MEETING. Notification may be made from the pulpit, posted on the church bulletin board, published in the worship bulletin, church newsletter, or via electronic distribution.

(f) The Church Council shall meet regularly on a monthly basis. The Pastor, Chair of the Church Council or one-third (1/3) of the Church Council may call special Church Council meetings.

(g) The Deacons shall meet on a monthly basis. The Pastor, Chair of the Deacons or one-third (1/3) of the Deacons may call special deacons meetings.

Article VII. ELECTIONS

Section 7.01

The annual and special elections of officers and committees shall be held as prescribed in the By-laws.

Article VIII. ORDINANCE

Section 8.01

The ordinances shall be baptism and communion.

Section 8.02 Baptism

The method of baptism by water will be by immersion or sprinkling, by choice of the believer, and only upon the authority of the Church.

Section 8.03 Communion

Communion will be available every Sunday and will be observed by the entire church body at least once a month. Communion shall be open to all professing Christians.

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Article IX. ORDINATION AND LICENSING

Section 9.01

"It is our confidence that God will raise up Spirit-filled and gifted men and women from among us who will be called to a life of proclaiming the Gospel of the grace of Jesus Christ. Such men and women may be given a commission to lead God's people, as is appropriate in scripture and share in the privileges and responsibilities thereof. The Congregation of White Rock Community Church shall determine the process, requirements, timing and forms leading to ordination. The Congregation of White Rock Community Church may also license Members of White Rock Community Church to serve as ministers of the Gospel of Jesus Christ under its authority, while they are Members in good standing at this church."

Article X. AMENDMENTS

Section 10.01

Amendments are defined as changes or additions to this document. Proposed amendments shall be brought, in writing, to the Church Council by the Policy and Procedures Committee Ministry for placement on a Congregational Meeting agenda.

Notice of any amendment to this Constitution shall be proposed, in writing, and distributed at least two (2) weeks prior to any congregational meeting of the church and shall be acted upon at that congregational meeting. Copies of proposed amendments shall be made available to active members. To be adopted, the amendment must be approved by two-thirds (2/3) of the active members present and voting. Refer to Section 6.03. MEETINGS of the Constitution.

Document History

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