Pursuant to Article 18.4 (5) of the Bylaws of First Baptist Church of Dallas, Texas, the Bylaws Ministry Team proposes the following Bylaw amendments:

Amended and Restated Bylaws of First Baptist Church of Dallas, Texas

Adopted
January 23
August 21, 2019

The proposed Bylaw amendments will be presented to the Church for consideration at the August 2019 Business Meeting.
The proposed Bylaw amendments will be presented to the Church for consideration at the August 2019 Business Meeting.
Pursuant to Article 18.4 (5) of the Bylaws of First Baptist Church of Dallas, Texas, the Bylaws Ministry Team proposes the following Bylaw amendments:

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The proposed Bylaw amendments will be presented to the Church for consideration at the August 2019 Business Meeting.
Pursuant to Article 18.4 (5) of the Bylaws of First Baptist Church of Dallas, Texas, the Bylaws Ministry Team proposes the following Bylaw amendments:

The proposed Bylaw amendments will be presented to the Church for consideration at the August 2019 Business Meeting.
AMENDED AND RESTATED BYLAWS
OF FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH
of Dallas, Texas

MISSION STATEMENT

First Baptist Dallas exists to connect people to Jesus Christ by loving God through worship, loving each other through fellowship, loving the Word of God through discipleship, loving those in need through ministry, and loving the world through evangelism and missions. God has uniquely called and equipped First Baptist Dallas to carry out our mission: Transforming our world with God’s word… one life at a time. (Matthew 28:19-20 and Acts 1:8).

First Baptist Dallas is an anchor, a sanctuary, a beacon of truth and hope. It is a herald of good news and a celebration of redemption. First Baptist Dallas has stood unbowed by tribulations and undistracted by prosperity. It is an enduring hope of the eternal amidst the shifting sands of society. First Baptist Dallas praises the Lord with a joyful sound of worship that echoes through the canyons of Downtown Dallas and extends throughout the nation and the world. It is both a haven and an outpost for the weary weekday warrior. A place of worship where the old and young, mighty and lowly, inexperienced and seasoned kneel side by side to the one true God. First Baptist Dallas is an uncompromising voice for righteousness, but it extends a merciful and welcoming hand to the unrighteous. It is a committed scholar and devoted teacher, believing the same Holy Spirit who fills our hearts also enlightens our minds. It teaches the disciples of Jesus Christ to understand the Word of God and apply scripture to their everyday lives. First Baptist Dallas has been called to lead. It wears the mantle of leadership in the fear of the Lord, kneeling humbly before God while boldly leading His people to follow Jesus Christ. (Matthew 22:37-39 and Matthew 28:19-20).

ARTICLES OF FAITH OF THE CHURCH

The following Articles of Faith were adopted by First Baptist Church of Dallas, Texas from the June 2000 Baptist Faith and Message of the Southern Baptist Convention on September 20, 2000, and are included here for reference. Supplements were adopted by the Church in August 2003 as noted.

I. The Scriptures

The Holy Bible was written by men divinely inspired and is the record of God's revelation of Himself to man. It is a perfect treasure of divine instruction. It has God for its author, salvation for its end, and truth, without any mixture of error, for its matter. Therefore, all Scripture is totally true and trustworthy. It reveals the principles by which God judges us, and therefore is, and will remain to the end of the world, the true center of Christian union, and the supreme standard by which all human conduct, creeds, and religious opinions should be tried. All scripture is a testimony to Christ, who is Himself the focus of divine revelation.

It is inerrant and infallible in its original manuscript which is to be taken as verbally inspired. The entire Bible is inerrant, infallible, and verbally inspired in its original
The proposed Bylaw amendments will be presented to the Church for consideration at the August 2019 Business Meeting.
C. God the Holy Spirit

The Holy Spirit is the Spirit of God, fully divine. He inspired holy men of old to write the Scriptures. Through illumination, He enables men to understand truth. He exalts Christ. He convicts of sin, of righteousness and of judgment. He calls men to the Savior, and effects regeneration. At the moment of regeneration, He baptizes every believer into the Body of Christ. He cultivates Christian character, comforts the believers and bestows the spiritual gifts by which they serve God through His church. He seals the believer unto the day of final redemption. His presence in the Christian is the guarantee that God will bring the believer into the fullness of the stature of Christ. He enlightens and empowers the believer and the church in worship, evangelism, and service.

III. Man

Man is the special creation of God, made in His own image. He created them male and female as the crowning work of His creation. The gift of gender is thus part of the goodness of God’s creation. In the beginning man was innocent of sin and was endowed by his Creator with freedom of choice. By his free choice, man sinned against God and brought sin into the human race. Through the temptation of Satan, man transgressed the command of God, and fell from his original innocence, whereby his posterity inherited a nature and an environment inclined toward sin. Therefore, as soon as they are capable of moral action, they become transgressors and are under condemnation. Only the grace of God can bring man into His holy fellowship and enable man to fulfill the creative purpose of God. The sacredness of human personality is evident in that God created man in His own image, and in that Christ died for man; therefore, every person of every race possesses full dignity and is worthy of respect and Christian love.

IV. Salvation

The proposed Bylaw amendments will be presented to the Church for consideration at the August 2019 Business Meeting.
Salvation involves the redemption of the whole man and is offered freely to all who accept Jesus Christ as Lord and Savior who, by His own blood, obtained eternal redemption for the believer. In its broadest sense, salvation includes regeneration, justification, sanctification, and glorification. There is no salvation apart from personal faith in Jesus Christ as Lord.

A. Regeneration, or the new birth, is a work of God's grace whereby, believers become new creatures in Christ Jesus. It is a change of heart wrought by the Holy Spirit through conviction of sin to which the sinner responds in repentance toward God and faith in the Lord Jesus Christ. Repentance and faith are inseparable experiences of grace. Repentance is a genuine turning from sin toward God. Faith is the acceptance of Jesus Christ and commitment of the entire personality to Him as Lord and Savior.

B. Justification is God's gracious and full acquittal upon principles of His righteousness of all sinners who repent and believe in Christ. Justification brings the believer into a relationship of peace and favor with God.

C. Sanctification is the experience, beginning in regeneration, by which the believer is set apart to God's purposes, and is enabled to progress toward moral and spiritual maturity through the presence and power of the Holy Spirit dwelling in him. Growth in grace should continue throughout the regenerate person's life.

D. Glorification is the culmination of salvation and is the final blessed and abiding state of the redeemed.


V. God's Purpose of Grace

Election is the gracious purpose of God, according to which He regenerates, justifies, sanctifies, and glorifies sinners. It is consistent with the free agency of man and comprehends all the means in connection with the end. It is a glorious display of God's sovereign goodness, and is infinitely wise, holy, and unchangeable. It excludes boasting and promotes humility.

All true believers endure to the end. Those whom God has accepted in Christ, and sanctified by His Spirit, will never fall away from the state of grace, but shall persevere to the end. Believers may fall into sin through neglect and temptation, whereby they grieve the Spirit, impair their graces and comforts, and bring reproach on the cause of Christ and temporal
judgments on themselves; yet they shall be kept by the power of God through faith unto salvation.


VI. The Church

A New Testament church of the Lord Jesus Christ is an autonomous local congregation of baptized believers, associated by covenant in the faith and fellowship of the gospel; observing the two ordinances of Christ; governed by His laws; exercising the gifts, rights, and privileges invested in them by His word; and seeking to extend the gospel to the ends of the earth. Each congregation operates under the Lordship of Jesus Christ through democratic processes. In such a congregation each member is responsible and accountable to Christ as Lord. Its Scriptural officers are pastors and deacons. While both men and women are gifted for service in the church, the office of pastor is limited to men as qualified by Scripture.

The New Testament speaks also of the church as the Body of Christ, which includes all the redeemed of all the ages—the Church Age who accept Jesus Christ as their Lord and Savior, believers from every tribe, and tongue, and people, and nation.


VII. Baptism and the Lord’s Supper

Christian baptism is the immersion of a believer in water in the name of the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit. It is an act of obedience symbolizing the believer's faith in a crucified, buried, and risen Savior; the believer's death to sin; the burial of the old life; and the resurrection to walk in newness of life in Christ Jesus. It is a testimony to his faith in the final resurrection of the dead. Being a church ordinance, it is prerequisite to the privileges of church membership and to the Lord's Supper.

The Lord's Supper is a symbolic act of obedience whereby members of the church, through partaking of the bread and the fruit of the vine, memorialize the death of the Redeemer and anticipate His second coming.


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VIII. The Lord’s Day

The first day of the week is the Lord's Day. It is a Christian institution for regular observance. It commemorates the resurrection of Christ from the dead and should include exercises of worship and spiritual devotion, both public and private. Activities on the Lord’s Day should be commensurate with the Christian’s conscience under the Lordship of Jesus Christ.


IX. The Kingdom

The Kingdom of God includes both His general sovereignty over the universe and His particular kingship over men who willfully acknowledge Him as King. Particularly the Kingdom is the realm of salvation into which men enter by trustful, childlike commitment to Jesus Christ. Christians ought to pray and to labor that the kingdom may come and God's will be done on earth. The full consummation of the Kingdom awaits the return of Jesus Christ and the end of this age.


X. Last Things

God, in His own time and in His own way, will bring the world to its appropriate end. According to His promise, Jesus Christ will return personally and visibly in glory to the earth. First, The dead in Christ will rise first, then we who are alive and remain until the coming of the Lord shall be caught up together with them in the clouds to meet the Lord in the air. After the judgments of God upon this sinful world in the Great Tribulation, Jesus our Lord will come with His saints to establish His millennial kingdom. The dead will be raised; and, Christ will judge all men in righteousness. The unrighteous will be consigned to Hell, the place of everlasting punishment. The righteous in their resurrected and glorified bodies will receive their reward and will dwell forever in Heaven with the Lord.

(Pursuant to Article 18.4 (5) of the Bylaws of First Baptist Church of Dallas, Texas, the Bylaws Ministry Team proposes the following Bylaw amendments:)

The proposed Bylaw amendments will be presented to the Church for consideration at the August 2019 Business Meeting.)
XI. Evangelism and Missions

It is the duty and privilege of every follower of Christ and of every church of the Lord Jesus Christ to endeavor to make disciples of all nations. The new birth of man's spirit by God's Holy Spirit means the birth of love for others. Missionary effort on the part of all rests thus upon a spiritual necessity of the regenerate life, and is expressly and repeatedly commanded in the teachings of Christ. The Lord Jesus Christ has commanded the preaching of the gospel to all nations. It is the duty of every child of God to seek constantly to win the lost to Christ by verbal witness undergirded by a Christian lifestyle, and by other methods in harmony with the gospel of Christ.


XII. Education

Christianity is the faith of enlightenment and intelligence. In Jesus Christ abide all the treasures of wisdom and knowledge. All sound learning is, therefore, a part of our Christian heritage. The new birth opens all human faculties and creates a thirst for knowledge. Moreover, the cause of education in the Kingdom of Christ is co-ordinate with the causes of missions and general benevolence, and should receive along with these the liberal support of the churches. An adequate system of Christian education is necessary to a complete spiritual program for Christ's people.

In Christian education there should be a proper balance between academic freedom and academic responsibility. Freedom in any orderly relationship of human life is always limited and never absolute. The freedom of a teacher in a Christian school, college, or seminary is limited by the pre-eminence of Jesus Christ, by the authoritative nature of the Scriptures, and by the distinct purpose for which the school exists.

XIII. Stewardship

God is the source of all blessings, temporal and spiritual; all that we have and are we owe to Him. Christians have a spiritual debtorship to the whole world, a holy trusteeship in the gospel, and a binding stewardship in their possessions. They are therefore under obligation to serve Him with their time, talents, and material possessions; and should recognize all these as entrusted to them to use for the glory of God and for helping others.

According to the Scriptures, Christians should contribute of their means cheerfully, regularly, systematically, proportionately, and liberally for the advancement of the Redeemer's cause on earth.

The tithe is to be considered the starting place of Christian stewardship. *(Supplemented August 2003)*


XIV. Cooperation

Christ's people should, as occasion requires, organize such associations and conventions as may best secure cooperation for the great objects of the Kingdom of God. Such organizations have no authority over one another or over the churches. They are voluntary and advisory bodies designed to elicit, combine, and direct the energies of our people in the most effective manner. Members of New Testament churches should cooperate with one another in carrying forward the missionary, educational, and benevolent ministries for the extension of Christ's Kingdom. Christian unity in the New Testament sense is spiritual harmony and voluntary cooperation for common ends by various groups of Christ's people. Cooperation is desirable between the various Christian denominations, when the end to be attained is itself justified, and when such cooperation involves no violation of conscience or compromise of loyalty to Christ and His Word as revealed in the New Testament.


XV. The Christian and the Social Order

All Christians are under obligation to seek to make the will of Christ supreme in our own lives and in human society. Means and methods used for the improvement of society and the establishment of righteousness among men can be truly and permanently helpful only when they are rooted in the regeneration of the individual by the saving grace of God in

*The proposed Bylaw amendments will be presented to the Church for consideration at the August 2019 Business Meeting.*
Jesus Christ. In the spirit of Christ, Christians should oppose racism, every form of greed, selfishness, and vice, and all forms of sexual immorality, including adultery, homosexuality, sexual abuse, and pornography. We should work to provide for the orphaned, the needy, the abused, the aged, the helpless, and the sick. We should speak on behalf of the unborn and contend for the sanctity of all human life from conception to natural death. Every Christian should seek to bring industry, government, and society as a whole under the sway of the principles of righteousness, truth, and brotherly love. In order to promote these ends Christians should be ready to work with all men of good will in any good cause, always being careful to act in the spirit of love without compromising their loyalty to Christ and His truth.

Therefore, the greatest contribution the Church can make to social betterment is to bring individuals to a heart-changing encounter with Jesus Christ. (Supplemented August 2003)


XVI. Peace and War

It is the duty of Christians to seek peace with all men on principles of righteousness. In accordance with the spirit and teachings of Christ, they should do all in their power to put an end to war.

The true remedy for the war spirit is the gospel of our Lord. The supreme need of the world is the acceptance of His teachings in all the affairs of men and nations, and the practical application of His law of love. Christian people throughout the world should pray for the reign of the Prince of Peace.


XVII. Religious Liberty

God alone is Lord of the conscience, and He has left it free from the doctrines and commandments of men which are contrary to His Word or not contained in it. Church and state should be separate. The state owes to every church protection and full freedom in the pursuit of its spiritual ends. In providing for such freedom no ecclesiastical group or denomination should be favored by the state more than others. Civil government being ordained of God, it is the duty of Christians to render loyal obedience thereto in all things not contrary to the revealed will of God. The church should not resort to the civil power to carry on its work. The gospel of Christ contemplates spiritual means alone for the pursuit of its ends. The state has no right to impose penalties for religious opinions of any kind. The state has no right to impose taxes for the support of any form of religion. A free church

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in a free state is the Christian ideal, and this implies the right of free and unhindered access
to God on the part of all men, and the right to form and propagate opinions in the sphere of
religion without interference by the civil power.

*Genesis 1:27; 2:7; Matthew 6:6-7, 24; 16:26; 22:21; John 8:36; Acts 4:19-20; Romans
6:1-2; 13:1-7; Galatians 5:1, 13; Philippians 3:20; 1 Timothy 2:1-2; James 4:12; 1 Peter
2:12-17; 3:11-17; 4:12-19.*

**XVIII. The Family**

God has ordained the family as the foundational institution of human society. It is
composed of persons related to one another by marriage, blood or adoption.

Marriage is the uniting of one man and one woman in covenant commitment for a
lifetime. It is God’s unique gift to reveal the union between Christ and His church and to
provide for the man and the woman in marriage the framework for intimate
companionship, the channel of sexual expression according to biblical standards, and the
means for procreation of the human race.

The husband and wife are of equal worth before God since both are created in God’s
image. The marriage relationship models the way God relates to His people. A husband is
to love his wife as Christ loved the church. He has the God-given responsibility to
provide for, to protect, and to lead his family. A wife is to submit herself graciously to the
servant leadership of her husband even as the church willingly submits to the headship of
Christ. She, being in the image of God as is her husband and thus equal to him, has the
God-given responsibility to respect her husband and to serve as his helper in managing
the household and nurturing the next generation.

Children, from the moment of conception, are a blessing and heritage from the Lord.
Parents are to demonstrate to their children God’s pattern for marriage. Parents are to
teach their children spiritual and moral values and to lead them, through consistent
lifestyle example and loving discipline, to make choices based on biblical truth. Children
are to honor and obey their parents.

*Genesis 1:26-28; 2:15-25; 3:1-20; Exodus 20:12; Deuteronomy 6:4-9; Joshua 24:15; 1
Samuel 1:26 28; Psalms 51:5; 78:1-8; 127; 128; 139:13-16; Proverbs 1:8; 5:15-20;
Ecclesiastes 4:9-12; 9:9; Malachi 2:14-16; Matthew 5:31-32; 18:2-5; 19:3-9; Mark 10:6-
12; Romans 1:18-32; 1 Corinthians 7:1-16; Ephesians 5:21-33; 6:1-4; Colossians 3:18-
21; 1 Timothy 5:8,14; 2 Timothy 1:3-5; Titus 2:3-5; Hebrews 13:4; 1 Peter 3:1-7*

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for consideration at the August 2019 Business Meeting.*
BYLAWS PREAMBLE

The Mission Statement, the Articles of Faith, and the Bylaws Preamble are included here for the purpose of laying the foundation upon which the orderly procedures and methods of conducting the business of the Church are established. Throughout Scripture we are admonished to "Let all things be done decently and in order" (I Cor. 14:40).

We hold then to the truths that Christ is the Head of the Church and the local expression for our purpose is the local body of baptized believers; the Church is a living organism with spiritual functions to perform that are essential to its life; these being (a) to worship (John 4:23-24; Ps. 95:6), (b) to evangelize (Matt. 28:19), (c) to educate (Matt. 28:20), and (d) to minister (Matt. 25:35; Eph 4:11-16); in an orderly process the Church calls a Pastor-teacher to be the undershepherd of the congregation and having done so, the congregation voluntarily submits itself to the spiritual authority and leadership of the Pastor; the deacons are members of the congregation and at the same time are servants of the congregation who are set apart by the congregation to promote unity in the church family, and to allow the spiritual leaders to give themselves to prayer and to the ministry of the word (Acts 6:1-4).

In order then to preserve the principles of our faith, govern our activities by choice in a Christian and orderly manner, secure the blessings of religious liberty for ourselves and our children in the fellowship of the Church, share the challenge of accomplishing the Great Commission, and sustain the obligations of cooperation among Southern Baptist churches, we hereby establish these Bylaws to further the work of the Lord Jesus Christ.

ARTICLE I. NAME

1.1 Our congregation shall be known as First Baptist Church of Dallas, Texas (the "Church").

ARTICLE II. DEFINED TERMS

2.1 For purposes of these Bylaws, the following words or phrases have the meanings set forth below:

"Act": The Texas Non-Profit Corporation Act, as amended, Article 1396-1.01, et. seq. V.A.T.S.
"Active Deacon": A deacon that is currently serving his three-year term in the Fellowship of Deacons, is regularly meeting the requirements and expectations of that office, and has not been moved to Inactive or Emeritus status by request or otherwise.

"Advice and Consent": The consideration of a matter and then the approval, disapproval, or referral of the matter.

"Articles of Incorporation": The Articles of Incorporation of the Church as filed in the office of the Secretary of State of Texas on April 24, 1995, and as subsequently amended and renewed from time to time.

Pursuant to Article 18.4 (5) of the Bylaws of First Baptist Church of Dallas, Texas, the Bylaws Ministry Team proposes the following Bylaw amendments:

The proposed Bylaw amendments will be presented to the Church for consideration at the August 2019 Business Meeting.
"Budget": The itemized summary of probable expenditures and receipts of the Church and the systematic plan for meeting Church expenses, which is prepared on an annual basis.

"Business Meeting": Any meeting in which the business of a group or organization of the Church is conducted and voted on by the group. Business Meetings of the Church are classified as a Regular or Special Business Meeting.

"Call": An invitation extended to a candidate to serve as Pastor or Interim Pastor of the Church. A Call follows the appropriate and prayerful determination that such candidate meets the Scriptural qualifications of service as provided in these Bylaws, and has previously received the inward calling of the Holy Spirit of God to pastoral service.

"Church Member" or "Member": Any person who has met all the qualifications for membership and has been approved for membership by the affirmation of the Church.

"Church Property": Any real, personal or intangible property of whatever kind or character owned or controlled by the Church.

"Church Staff": Employees of the Church who serve in ministerial positions.


"Deacon Emeritus": Any Deacon who is classified as a Deacon Emeritus in accordance with the provisions of Article VII.

"Director": The Fellowship of Deacons constitutes the Board of Directors of the Church, and Active Deacons serve as Directors.

"Executive Staff": Persons designated from time to time by the Pastor as having pastoral, administrative or managerial authority at the executive level in the Church Staff organizational structure.

"Fellowship of Deacons": The body of Active Deacons, affirmed by the Church to be servants of the Church, who have been ordained as Deacons in this Church or a Baptist church of like faith and order and who are Members of the Church.

"Fruit of the Spirit": "But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness, self-control; against such things there is no law" (Gal. 5:22-23 NASB).

"Inactive Deacon": Any Deacon who is placed on Inactive status in accordance with the provisions of Article VII.

"Material": Any situation, event, circumstance or matter, which a reasonable person would deem as having real significance, importance or great consequences.

"Notice": Notice of any kind, whether oral, written, electronic or graphic, which would reasonably and fairly inform the Church Members of the date, time, place, and purpose of a Business Meeting.

Pursuant to Article 18.4 (5) of the Bylaws of First Baptist Church of Dallas, Texas, the Bylaws Ministry Team proposes the following Bylaw amendments:

The proposed Bylaw amendments will be presented to the Church for consideration at the August 2019 Business Meeting.
Pursuant to Article 18.4 (5) of the Bylaws of First Baptist Church of Dallas, Texas, the Bylaws Ministry Team proposes the following Bylaw amendments:

or, as applicable, the members of the Fellowship of Deacons, a Church Ministry Team, or other constituency of the date, time, place and purpose of a meeting for which Notice is required under these Bylaws. Any Notice required under these Bylaws for a Church Business Meeting will be sufficient if made by oral announcement at a regularly scheduled worship service prior to the Business Meeting or included as a written announcement in a reasonably conspicuous manner in the materials normally distributed to the Members at a regularly scheduled worship service prior to the Business Meeting.

"Ministry Team": A group of qualified individuals selected by the Church or the Fellowship of Deacons to provide advice and consent and make recommendations to the Fellowship of Deacons or the Church on particular matters, or to perform certain tasks which the Church feels could be accomplished with more efficiency, dispatch and expertise by the team. Applies to both Church Ministry Teams and Deacon Ministry Teams.

"Plan of Merger, Consolidation or Dissolution": The written, regulatory plan developed by the Directors to ensure the orderly merger, consolidation or dissolution of the Church in a Christian manner.

"Plan of Indemnification": The written plan that indemnifies Church Staff members and Church Members under certain conditions, as implemented pursuant to Article XXIV of these Bylaws.

"Policy": A definite course or method of action stating acceptable procedures to guide and determine present and future actions.

"Quorum": At least 100 Members present at any regularly scheduled worship service or the Members present at a Special Business Meeting, after Notice thereof of the Business Meeting shall have been given, if required.

ARTICLE III. CHURCH AUTHORITY

3.1 The Bible, God's inerrant and infallible Word, is the final authority for all matters of faith and practice in this Church.

3.2 The congregation, through its Members, is the final authority for all matters of self-government of the Church. Each Member shall seek through earnest prayer and reasoned discussion to ensure that the Church governs itself according to the principles found in Scripture and that the Church shall remain free from the control or supervision of any other ecclesiastical or denominational body or government control or influence.

3.3 The Members of the Church, through these Bylaws, shall have the exclusive right to determine the conditions of church membership.

ARTICLE IV. CHURCH POLITY

SECTION 1. A Texas Non-Profit Corporation

The proposed Bylaw amendments will be presented to the Church for consideration at the August 2019 Business Meeting.
For legal purposes, the Church is organized under the Texas Non-Profit Corporation Act, as amended, Article 1396-1.01, et. seq. V.A.T.S., and subsequently replaced by the Code.

SECTION 2. Registered Office and Registered Agent

The Registered Office of the Church is 1707 San Jacinto, Dallas, Texas, 75201. The Registered Agent of the Church is the person who from time to time shall be designated in accordance with the Code to serve in this capacity.

SECTION 3. Church Property

No Church Member shall have an individual, possessory interest in any Church Property except if such interest was acquired as the result of an arms-length transaction approved by the Church at a Business Meeting.

SECTION 4. Officers and Directors

(1) In order to satisfy the legal requirements of the ActCode, the Active Deacons shall constitute the Board of Directors of the Church. The office of President, Vice President and Secretary shall be held respectively by the current Chairman of the Fellowship of Deacons, the Vice-Chairman of the Fellowship of Deacons, and the Secretary of the Fellowship of Deacons.

(2) For purposes of the ActCode, the Officers and Directors shall be the legal representatives of the Church.

(3) Neither the Officers nor the Directors may exercise any power that is inconsistent with the Articles of Faith of the Church, these Bylaws or the ActCode.

(4) The Directors shall approve by their votes all matters requiring action by the Directors on behalf of the Church. The act of a majority of the Directors present at a Meeting of the Fellowship of Deacons is the act of the Directors. After such approval, the President, Vice President, Secretary or Treasurer may execute any legal instrument on behalf of the Church, unless additional approval by the Church is expressly required by these Bylaws.

(5) The office of Treasurer shall be held by the Executive Pastor. If the Church has no Executive Pastor, upon recommendation by the Pastor, after consultation with the Finance Ministry Team and the Chairman of the Fellowship of Deacons, the Treasurer of the Church shall be elected by the Directors.

(6) If it is ever necessary, at the request of the Directors, the Directors Officers shall be responsible for preparing the Plan of Merger, Consolidation or Dissolution after consultation with the Pastor, the Committee on Ministry Teams, and Legal Counsel. The Plan of Merger, Consolidation or Dissolution shall be presented to the Fellowship of Deacons for its advice and consent and then to the Church for consideration and approval in accordance with the provisions of these Bylaws. The Plan of Merger, Consolidation or Dissolution shall be based on Scripture, the Articles of Faith of the Church, these Bylaws, and the ActCode.

The proposed Bylaw amendments will be presented to the Church for consideration at the August 2019 Business Meeting.
ARTICLE V. CHURCH MEMBERSHIP

SECTION 1. Becoming a Church Member

5.1 (1) A person may become a candidate for Church membership by publicly manifesting a desire to join the Church at any worship service, and:

(a) professing a personal belief and faith in the Lord Jesus Christ, accepting the promises and commands of Scripture, being baptized by immersion, subsequent to (and as a non-essential to) salvation, and accepting the Articles of Faith of the Church; or,

(b) transferring a Letter from a Baptist church of like faith and order and accepting the Articles of Faith of the Church; or,

(c) by Statement, affirming membership in another Baptist church of like faith and order, even though the person is unable to provide a record of membership in such Baptist church for any reason and accepting the Articles of Faith of the Church; or,

(d) with respect to a person coming from another denomination, upon Statement, affirming a personal belief and faith in the Lord Jesus Christ, accepting the promises and commands of Scripture, being baptized by immersion, subsequent to (and as a non-essential to) salvation, if they have not done so previously, and accepting the Articles of Faith of the Church; or,

5.1 (2) A person who, for reasons of health or other circumstances, cannot physically attend the Church, may become a Church member by notifying the Church in writing of his or her desire to join the Church and by professing a personal belief and faith in the Lord Jesus Christ, accepting the promises and commands of Scriptures, being baptized by immersion, subsequent to (and as a non-essential to) salvation, and accepting the Articles of Faith of the Church.

SECTION 2. Expectations of Church Members

5.2 (12) All Church Members are exhorted to:

(a) attend the worship services of the Church on a regular basis,

(b) attend and participate in Sunday School and other ministries on a regular basis in order to become better equipped with God’s Word and to enjoy and strengthen the community of believers in the Church,

(c) freely and systematically give their tithes and offerings for the support of the
Church and its ministries,

(c)(d) share in the work of the Church as it seeks to fulfill the Great Commission by serving in the Church and by influencing society through the truth of God’s Word and the love of Jesus Christ, and

(d)(e) by their testimony in word and deed, reflect the Lordship of Jesus Christ.

5.21 (23) A qualified candidate for membership becomes a Church Member by the approval of a majority of the Members present affirming such membership at a worship service or Business Meeting.

SECTION 3. Special Conditions of Membership

5.3 (1) As a condition of membership, each Church Member covenants to waive his/her right to require a partition of any or all of the Church Property.

5.3 (2) As a condition of membership, each Church Member covenants to abide by the terms of any Plan of Merger, Consolidation or Dissolution if invoked.

5.3 (3) Each Church Member should seek to resolve all conflicts with other Members in accordance with Scripture.

SECTION 42. Termination of Church Membership

5.4 (1) Membership in the Church may be terminated as follows:

(a) Transfer of Letter to another church;

(b) A Member’s written or constructive request to withdraw membership;

(c) Reasonable evidence that a Member has united with another church;

(d) Death; or

(e) Exclusion by Church separation.

5.4 (24) If in the opinion of the Pastor and the Officers of the Fellowship of Deacons, the general welfare of the Church is jeopardized by the conduct of a Church Member ("troubled member"), the Pastor and the Officers of the Fellowship of Deacons shall recommend separation of such troubled member from the Church in accordance with Scripture (Gal. 6:1). An attempt may be made to counsel or minister to a troubled member in a spirit of love and compassion but tempered with justice so that the Church Member may remain in the fellowship of the Church.

5.43 (342) No troubled member may be separated from membership in the Church without the Church Member’s consent except with the concurrence of two-thirds (2/3) of the Members casting

Pursuant to Article 18.4 (5) of the Bylaws of First Baptist Church of Dallas, Texas, the Bylaws Ministry Team proposes the following Bylaw amendments:

The proposed Bylaw amendments will be presented to the Church for consideration at the August 2019 Business Meeting.
 Pursuant to Article 18.4 (5) of the Bylaws of First Baptist Church of Dallas, Texas, the Bylaws Ministry Team proposes the following Bylaw amendments:

The proposed Bylaw amendments will be presented to the Church for consideration at the August 2019 Business Meeting.

a vote at a Business Meeting. The privacy of the troubled member shall be respected as much as may be reasonably possible under the circumstances.

5.4 (453) Upon satisfactory evidence of the resolution or repentance of a troubled member's condition, such person may request restoration to Church Membership. Restoration requires the concurrence of a majority of Members casting a vote at a Business Meeting.

SECTION 4. Conditions of Membership

5.3 (1) As a condition of membership, each Church Member covenants to waive his/her right to require a partition of any or all of the Church Property.

5.4 (2) As a condition of membership, each Church Member covenants to abide by the terms of any Plan of Merger, Consolidation or Dissolution if invoked.

5.4 (3) Each Church Member should seek to resolve all conflicts with other Members in accordance with Scripture.

ARTICLE VI. CHURCH ASSEMBLIES

SECTION 1. Worship Services

6.1 (1) Worship services, or any other activity or assembly of the Church that furthers Christ's Kingdom, may be held at any reasonable time or place for prayer, praise, fellowship or Bible study. Special services to promote revival and evangelistic outreach shall may be regularly planned as a part of the life and ministry of the Church.

6.1 (2) The ordinances of Baptism and the Lord's Supper shall be regularly and faithfully observed in accordance with Scripture.

6.1 (3) All worship services of the Church are open to anyone so long as a person's behavior or actions are not disruptive or fraudulent and such person does not pose a security or safety threat.

SECTION 2. Business Meetings

6.2 (1) Any business of the Church, which requires approval by and through its Members, shall be conducted on the Church premises at Business Meetings called to order only after proper Notice, if required.

6.2 (2) The Church Clerk or a duly authorized designee is responsible for determining and certifying to the Moderator that proper Notice has been given if necessary, and that a Quorum is present before any Special Business Meeting is called to order.

SECTION 3. Notice for Business Meetings

63 (1) If, pursuant to these Bylaws, the nature of a matter to be considered at a Business Meeting is required to be disclosed in the Notice, the matter shall be described in sufficient detail to fairly
inform the Members of the business to be conducted.

6.3 (2) The Church Clerk or a duly authorized Church Staff designee shall be responsible for ensuring that Notices as required by these Bylaws are properly given for Business Meetings. Except as provided in Section 6.4 (2) below, Notice is not required for any Regular Business Meeting.

SECTION 4. Regular Business Meetings

6.4 (1) Regular Business Meetings shall be held on the Wednesday following each regular monthly meeting of the Fellowship of Deacons.

6.4 (2) All matters which are to be considered at a Regular Business Meeting which are outside the regular or ordinary course of business shall be described in sufficient detail in a Notice so as to fairly inform Members of the business to be conducted.

SECTION 5. Special Business Meetings

6.5 (1) Any two of the (i) Pastor, or (ii) the Executive Pastor, and (iii) the Chairman of the Fellowship of Deacons; or the Vice Chairman of the Fellowship of Deacons may call a Special Business Meeting to consider significant, emergency, or other business matters which reasonably cannot be delayed until a Regular Business Meeting. Notwithstanding the above, in addition, a majority of the Fellowship of Active Deacons may call a Special Business Meeting.

6.5 (2) Only those matters which have been reasonably described in the Notice of a Special Business Meeting with sufficient detail to fairly inform Members of the business to be conducted may be voted on at a Special Business Meeting. Any action taken on a matter considered at a Special Business Meeting, which was not properly Noticed, is only advisory and not binding.

SECTION 6. Business Meeting Procedures

6.6 (1) The Pastor, the Executive Pastor, or his authorized designee, shall be the Moderator of all Business Meetings, except as otherwise provided in these Bylaws. If both the Office of Pastor and Executive Pastor are vacant, the Chairman of the Fellowship of Deacons or his authorized designee shall be the Moderator at Business Meetings. If the Chairman of the Fellowship of Deacons cannot serve, the Church Clerk shall call for nominations from the floor and the Moderator shall be elected by a majority vote of the Members casting votes.

6.6 (2) If the Church is without a Pastor or Interim Pastor, the Chairman of the Fellowship of Deacons or his authorized designee shall serve as the Moderator of Business Meetings. If the Chairman of the Fellowship of Deacons or his designee cannot serve, the Church Clerk shall convene the Business Meeting and a Moderator shall be selected from the floor.

6.6 (23) The Moderator shall confirm that each Business Meeting was properly Noticed as applicable. The Moderator shall also ensure any matter presented for consideration was properly reviewed by the Pastor, and as applicable, the Fellowship of Deacons and the appropriate Church Ministry Team.

The proposed Bylaw amendments will be presented to the Church for consideration at the August 2019 Business Meeting.
6.6 (34) The Moderator shall appoint a qualified person to serve as the Parliamentarian for a Business Meeting, if necessary.

6.6 (45) Prior to the Members casting a vote on a matter, the recommendation of the appropriate Church Ministry Team(s) and the Fellowship of Deacons (if required) shall be presented orally or in writing to the Church for consideration.

6.6 (56) Each Member present at a Business Meeting may cast one (1) vote on each matter submitted to the Church for approval and may not vote by proxy.

6.6 (67) Any Officer, Director, or Member who does business with the Church directly or indirectly, or any Church Staff member shall not be eligible to vote on any budget or matter that could be construed as a conflict of interest.

SECTION 7. Parliamentary Rules

6.7 Robert's Rules of Order, as amended, shall be the parliamentary authority for all Business Meetings, Ministry Team Meetings, Fellowship of Deacons meetings, and any other meeting of the Church requiring parliamentary procedure. These Bylaws shall prevail if there is any conflict with Robert's Rules of Order.

SECTION 8. Voting at Business Meetings

6.8 (1) An official act of the Church requires the concurrence of at least a majority of the Members present and casting a vote on matters presented to the Church for consideration at a Business Meeting, except as otherwise provided in these Bylaws.

6.8 (2) The concurrence of at least three-fourths (3/4) of the Members present and casting a vote is required to approve the Calling of a Pastor or Interim Pastor at a Business Meeting.

6.8 (3) The concurrence of at least ninety percent (90%) of the Members present and casting a vote at a Regular Business Meeting and the concurrence of at least ninety percent (90%) of the Members present and casting a vote at a Special Business Meeting may suspend the requirements of Notice, and referral of a matter to the appropriate Church Ministry Team(s) or the Fellowship of Deacons for its advice and consent. A matter presented to the Church under the suspension provisions of this section requires the concurrence of two-thirds (2/3) of the Members present and casting a vote to be an official act of the Church.

SECTION 9. Business Meeting Minutes

6.9 The Church Clerk or authorized designee shall ensure that Minutes of all Business Meetings are prepared and secured in a safe place. A copy of the Minutes of each Business Meeting shall be filed in the Church Library within thirty (30) days after the meeting.

ARTICLE VII. DEACONS AND THE FELLOWSHIP OF DEACONS

The proposed Bylaw amendments will be presented to the Church for consideration at the August 2019 Business Meeting.
SECTION 1. Servants of the Church

7.1 (1) The office of Deacon is one of two offices of the church recognized in the New Testament (Phil. 1:1).

7.1 (2) The primary task of the Deacon is to serve Christ's Church and to maintain love and unity among the Family of Faith. A Deacon is characterized by a spirit of brotherhood and common purpose, a good reputation, and should be full of the Holy Spirit and wisdom, upholding the hands of the Pastor by affirming his leadership and authority, and instilling unity by example in the Church while ministering to the needs of the Members.

SECTION 2. Qualifications

7.2 (1) A Deacon shall have the qualifications required by Scriptures as set forth in Acts 6:1-7 and I Timothy 3:8-13.

7.2 (2) A Deacon shall be committed to faithful Bible study and prayer, attendance and participation in the worship services and ministries of the Church, and be a tither of his time, talents, and possessions.

7.2 (3) No person may serve as a member of the Fellowship of Deacons while serving as an employee of the Church.

SECTION 3. Nomination and Selection of Deacons

7.3 (1) Subject to prior approval by the Fellowship of Deacons, the concurrence of a majority of the Members casting a vote at a Business Meeting is required to affirm the recommendations of the Deacon Development Ministry Team for new Deacons as provided for in these Bylaws.

7.3 (2) During January of each year (or any other period designated from time to time for the nomination of candidates to become new Deacons), all Church Members are encouraged to recommend those men whom they feel should be considered for selection as Active Deacons.

7.3 (3) Any man who will be thirty (30) years of age or older at the time of his ordination may be considered as a candidate for new Deacon if he has been a Church Member for at least one (1) year prior to initiation of the Deacon selection process and is not currently a Deacon.

7.3 (4) A man selected to be a new Deacon may not serve on the Fellowship of Deacons until he has been ordained in this Church or has been previously ordained in a Baptist church of like faith and order.

SECTION 4. Fellowship of Deacons

7.4 (1) The Fellowship of Deacons shall be composed of those men affirmed by the Church to
serve as Active Deacons.

7.4 (2) Inactive Status: Active Deacons may be transferred to Inactive Status under the following circumstances:

(a) An Active Deacon may not serve for more than three (3) consecutive years in the Fellowship of Deacons without a break of one full year, except as otherwise provided in these Bylaws. Any Active Deacon, who for any reason is unable to meet the attendance requirements of these Bylaws, or who is unable to continue to serve as an Active Deacon for any other reason, may request transfer to rotation temporary Inactive status upon application to the Deacon Development Ministry Team.

(b) Active Deacons who fail to satisfy the attendance requirement set forth in Section 7.5(1) below may be transferred to Inactive status as provided in Section 7.5(1).

(a)(c) The Deacon Development Ministry Team may approve a request from any Inactive Deacon to return to Active Deacon status, provided such Inactive Deacon meets the qualifications of Section 7.2 at the time the request is made, and commits to all the obligations, expectations, and requirements of an Active Deacon. In addition, the Deacon Development Ministry Team will contact all Inactive Deacons at the beginning of each fiscal year of the Church and provide them an opportunity to return to Active Deacon status if they desire to do so and meet the qualifications of Section 7.2 at that time, and agree to commit to all the obligations, expectations, and requirements of an Active Deacon.

7.4 (3) Election of Chairman, Vice-Chairman, and Secretary of the Fellowship of Deacons shall be conducted in the following manner:

(a) The election of Deacon officers shall be held at the December meeting each year and they shall hold office until their successors are duly elected and assume their duties, on the following January 1.

(b) Only Active Deacons are eligible for nomination to the offices of Chairman and Vice-Chairman of the Fellowship of Deacons. All Deacons, regardless of rotation status, are eligible for nomination as Secretary of the Fellowship of Deacons.

(c) No nominations for Chairman shall be made from the floor nor shall solicitation for any particular individual be made at the December meeting.

(d) It is recognized that prayer and thought should be given to those qualified to hold and serve as Deacon leadership positions and Deacons should be encouraged to make suggestions to each other, freely, before the December meeting.

(e) Nominations from the floor shall be made for the offices of Vice-Chairman and Secretary.

(f) A written secret ballot shall be taken for each office and, if no nominee has a

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majority of the vote cast on the first ballot for that office, subsequent ballots shall carry the names of those who are included in the top 50% of the total votes cast in the previous ballot. The offices of Vice-Chairman and Secretary may be filled by acclamation if there is only one nominee for the applicable office.

(g) All Deacons, regardless of rotation status, are expected to attend the December meeting and all Deacons, regardless of rotation status, Only Active Deacons shall be eligible to vote, in the election of Deacon Officers.

(h) The normal rotation period for any Deacon Officer so elected shall be postponed until the end of his term of office.

(i)(h) This portion of the Bylaws shall be read at the October and the November Deacons meetings prior to the December vote.

7.4 (4) For whatever reason, in the event that the Chairman of the Fellowship should be unable to complete his term of service for any reason, the Vice-Chairman shall assume the position of Chairman until the next regularly scheduled election. If a vacancy should occur in the position of Vice-Chairman or Secretary, an election for either of these offices shall be held at the next regularly scheduled Deacons meeting of the Fellowship of Deacons in the manner described in Section 7.4(3) of these Bylaws. Officers thus elected under this Bylaw provision shall serve only until the next regularly scheduled December election of officers.

7.4 (5) The Officers of the Fellowship of Deacons may not serve in the same office for more than two consecutive one-year terms, and any individual completing his service as a Deacon Officer may not serve in the same office again until the expiration of at least five (5) years. The Officers of the Fellowship of Deacons may neither (i) nor serve on the Committee on Ministry Teams or the Personnel, Finance, Bylaws, or Deacon Development Ministry Teams while serving as Officers of the Fellowship of Deacons, nor (ii) serve on any of the above named Church Ministry Teams for a period of at least one year after serving as an Officer of the Fellowship of Deacons.

7.4 (6) Deacon Emeritus: a Deacon who has served the office of Deacon well as provided in I Timothy 3:13, and who has faithfully served this Church and the Fellowship, but who is unable to serve actively on account of age or health or other sufficient cause, shall be eligible to be classified as Deacon Emeritus. Application to the Deacon Development Ministry Team shall be made for this classification. Those classified as Deacon Emeritus shall be welcomed and invited to attend meetings and all Fellowship social activities but shall not otherwise be eligible to vote or expected to participate in any Fellowship assignments. The Deacon Development Ministry Team may consider a request from any Deacon Emeritus to return to Active Deacon status, provided such Deacon Emeritus meets the qualifications of Section 7.2 at the time the request is made, and commits to all the obligations, expectations, and rotation requirements of an Active Deacon.

7.4 (7) An Active Deacon desiring to resign from service as a Deacon is expected to address his request in writing to the Chairman of the Fellowship of Deacons, including an explanation of the reason for such request.

Pursuant to Article 18.4 (5) of the Bylaws of First Baptist Church of Dallas, Texas, the Bylaws Ministry Team proposes the following Bylaw amendments:

The proposed Bylaw amendments will be presented to the Church for consideration at the August 2019 Business Meeting.
Upon the recommendation of the Deacon Development Ministry Team and in consultation with the Pastor, the Chairman of the Fellowship of Deacons may request the resignation or removal of an Active Deacon whose behavior or lifestyle is not in keeping with the qualifications of a Deacon as set forth in these Bylaws.

SECTION 5. Fellowship of Deacons Meetings

The Fellowship of Deacons shall meet on a regular basis. The Pastor and the Executive Pastor are encouraged to participate in all such meetings. Active Deacons are expected to attend all meetings of the Fellowship. Any Active Deacon who fails to attend at least 75% of the regularly scheduled Fellowship meetings during any fiscal year, without cause, shall with the approval of the Chairman of the Fellowship and Executive Pastor, be placed on rotation status for the following year. The Deacon Development Ministry Team will determine the reasons for the unexcused absences. The Deacon Development Ministry Team will make recommendations to the Deacon Officers regarding each of these Deacons. The recommendations may include, but are not limited to, counseling, encouragement to apply for Inactive or Emeritus status, and the possibility of being placed on rotation status for the following fiscal year with the approval by the Chairman of the Fellowship in consultation with the Pastor or Executive Pastor. An Active Deacon’s absence at a meeting will be considered to be excused if the Deacon informs the designated administrative assistant in the office of the Pastor or Executive Pastor prior to the meeting that the Deacon will be unable to attend the meeting.

Notice is not required for any regular meeting of the Fellowship of Deacons. The Chairman of the Fellowship of Deacons or the Vice Chairman of the Fellowship of Deacons may call a special meeting of the Fellowship of Deacons to consider significant, emergency, or other business matters which reasonably cannot be delayed until a regular meeting. A majority of the Fellowship of Deacons may also call a special meeting of the Fellowship. Notice is required for special meetings of the Fellowship of Deacons, and only those matters which have been reasonably described in the Notice in sufficient detail to fairly inform Deacons of the business to be conducted may be voted on at a special meeting of the Fellowship of Deacons. Any action taken on a matter considered at a special meeting of the Fellowship which was not properly Noticedinfor which proper Notice has not been provided is only advisory and not binding.

The Secretary of the Fellowship of Deacons shall ensure that Minutes of its meetings are prepared and secured in a safe place. A copy of the Minutes of each Fellowship Meeting shall be filed and maintained by the Church Clerk in a secure location designated by the Executive Pastor as the Church Office in consultation with the Pastor and Deacon Officersin the Church Library and the Deacon Office within thirty (30) days after the meeting in which they are approved.

SECTION 6. Deacon Ministry Teams

The Fellowship of Deacons may have as many Deacon Ministry Teams as they deem necessary from time to time to accomplish their task of ministering to the needs of the Church and its Members. The purpose and makeup of each Deacon Ministry Team shall be prescribed recommended by the Deacon officers and affirmed by the Fellowship of Deacons and written in a Deacon Ministry Team Manual. This Deacon Ministry Team Manual shall be a part of the Ministry Teams Manual on file and maintained by the Church Clerk in the Church

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Office in the Church Library and Deacon Office.

SECTION 7. Role of the Fellowship of Deacons in Business Matters

7.7 (1) With respect to the business of the Church, the Fellowship of Deacons shall, may, after consultation with the Pastor and Executive Pastor, recommend to the Church such policies, practices, procedures and actions as in their wisdom are advisable to accomplish the mission of the Church as detailed in the Mission Statement, and to the extent provided in these Bylaws, to do and perform all things reasonably necessary in connection therewith. To facilitate its role, the Fellowship of Deacons shall provide its advice and consent on certain matters that affect the life and ministries of the Church, as provided in these Bylaws.

7.7 (2) The "advice and consent" of the Fellowship of Deacons shall be carried out as follows:

(a) If a majority of the Fellowship of Deacons casting a vote concurs with a recommendation or proposal, the matter shall either be forwarded to the Church with a statement of concurrence by the Fellowship of Deacons or accepted as voted upon on those matters not requiring further Church approval; or

(b) If a majority of the Fellowship of Deacons casting a vote does not concur with a recommendation or proposal, the matter shall be returned to the appropriate Ministry Team or other its—author or proponent of the recommendation or proposal for reconsideration based on the comments made by the Fellowship of Deacons; and

(i) Following reconsideration, the appropriate Ministry Team or other its—author or proponent shall may again present the original or revised recommendation to the Fellowship of Deacons for its advice and consent. If the Fellowship of Deacons still does not concur with the original or revised recommendation, the written or oral comments of the Fellowship of Deacons shall be presented to the Church at the time the recommendation or proposal is submitted for consideration, except as provided below.

(ii) Following reconsideration again of a matter presented by its—the appropriate Ministry Team or other author or proponent, if it is the judgment of the Fellowship of Deacons that the proposal is not in the best interest of the Church with the concurrence of two-thirds (2/3) of the Fellowship of Deacons, no action shall be taken on the recommendation.

7.7 (3) Recommendations which are material or outside the regular or ordinary course of business or which have not been reviewed by a Church Ministry Team, shall be presented to the Fellowship of Deacons for its advice and consent prior to such recommendation being presented to the Church for consideration at a Business Meeting.

7.7 (4) On matters, which are not expressly required to be presented to the Church for approval, the matters shall be:

(a) Approved as presented if the Fellowship of Deacons concurs with the

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Pursuant to Article 18.4 (5) of the Bylaws of First Baptist Church of Dallas, Texas, the Bylaws Ministry Team proposes the following Bylaw amendments:

The proposed Bylaw amendments will be presented to the Church for consideration at the August 2019 Business Meeting.
Pursuant to Article 18.4 (5) of the Bylaws of First Baptist Church of Dallas, Texas, the Bylaws Ministry Team proposes the following Bylaw amendments:

recommendation; or

(b) Resubmitted to the appropriate Ministry Team or other author or proponent for changes if the Fellowship of Deacons does not consent to the recommendation.

7.7 (5) The following matters shall be presented to the Fellowship of Deacons for its advice and consent and then to the Church:

(a) The Budget.

(b) Any matter which may materially affect the Church or prospective ministries of the Church.

(c) The material acquisition or divestiture of any Church Property or the assumption by the Church of any material liability or encumbrance.

(d) Amendments to the Bylaws or Articles of Incorporation except as otherwise provided herein.

(e) Any Plan of Merger, Consolidation or Dissolution and any amendments thereafter; any matter related to disassociation of the Church from the Southern Baptist Convention, the Baptist General Convention of Texas, the Southern Baptists of Texas Convention, or the Dallas Baptist Association; and any merger or consolidation with any other Baptist Convention, Fellowship, or Association.

(f) The Plan of Indemnification and any amendments thereafter.

ARTICLE VIII. THE PASTOR

SECTION 1. Qualifications and Duties

8.1 (1) The Church affirms that the Lord Jesus Christ is the Head of the Church. With the assistance of the Holy Spirit, the Church shall call a gifted man to serve as its Pastor. The Pastor shall be God's undershepherd and overseer of the Church and shall apply, teach, and proclaim God's Word in an unfettered manner, in order to nourish, strengthen, and guide the Church.

8.1 (2) The Pastor shall possess the qualifications of a pastor found in Scriptures, be ordained by this Church or a Baptist church of like faith and order and affirm to the Articles of Faith of the Church.

8.1 (3) The Pastor or his authorized designee(s) shall administer the Ordinances of Baptism and the Lord's Supper in accordance with Scripture on a regular basis and in a manner that fulfills the spiritual needs of the Church.

8.1 (4) The Pastor shall be the overseer of the ministries, administration and operation of the Church and shall be responsible for hiring a staff of his choice and shall

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supervise directly or by delegation all Church Staff members so chosen.

8.1 (5) The Pastor shall be an ex-officio member of each Church Ministry Team and shall work with the Ministry Teams, Church organizations and the Fellowship of Deacons in ministering to the physical and spiritual needs of the Church and the community.

8.1 (6) As the spiritual and temporal head of the Church, the Pastor is accountable to God and the Church with respect to his personal life and his duties and responsibilities as Pastor.

SECTION 2. Pastoral Counseling

8.2 Believing that the person holding the Office of Pastor cannot be the overseer of the Church if he has breached the scriptural qualifications of the Office of the Pastor, or is physically or mentally unable to uphold the Office of Pastor, or his leadership materially compromises the welfare or Articles of Faith of the Church, the Personnel Ministry Team and Chairman of the Fellowship of Deacons, in accordance with principles of Scripture, shall counsel the Pastor if they believe the Office of Pastor has been impaired. The removal of the Pastor from Office by the Church requires (i) a majority vote of the Personnel Ministry Team, (ii) a majority vote of the Fellowship of Deacons, and (iii) the concurrence of at least three-fourths (3/4) of the Members present and casting a vote at a properly Noticed Business Meeting. Notice of a Business Meeting to consider removing the Pastor from Office shall be given at least seven (7) days in advance of the meeting. The Chairman of the Fellowship of Deacons or his designee shall serve as the Moderator for the Business Meeting to consider removing the Pastor from Office.

SECTION 3. Pastor Emeritus

8.3 In the providence of God, if the Pastor of the Church reaches an age or is otherwise placed in a pastoral necessity where another man of God is invited to come and to be the Pastor (undershepherd) of the Church, upon the recommendation of the Deacons and upon the election by the Church, this former Pastor and servant of Christ may assume the office of Pastor Emeritus. He shall work with the Pastor in such a way as to bring upon the congregation the spiritual blessings of our Lord and shall seek to minister in ways that shall complement and further the devoted efforts of the Pastor.

This means that the Pastor Emeritus shall be deeply sensitive to the leadership of the Pastor and shall seek to help him in every way possible, as requested by the Pastor. He shall prayerfully seek to hold up his hands, to encourage him in the work of the ministry and to be a blessing in all that the Holy Spirit leads the Pastor to do.

SECTION 4. Executive Pastor

8.4. (1) The Pastor may designate a staff person to serve as Executive Pastor. The Executive Pastor shall serve at the will of the Pastor to facilitate the total ministry and mission of the Church and to assist the Pastor in numerous other ways in order to free the Pastor to cast vision and focus on the ministry of the Word.

Pursuant to Article 18.4 (5) of the Bylaws of First Baptist Church of Dallas, Texas, the Bylaws Ministry Team proposes the following Bylaw amendments:

The proposed Bylaw amendments will be presented to the Church for consideration at the August 2019 Business Meeting.
8.4 (2) The Executive Pastor shall serve as the principal assistant to the Pastor in all matters related to the ministry, administration and operation of the Church, and shall exercise authority and direction over such functions subject to the leadership of the Pastor. Without limiting the generality of the foregoing, the Executive Pastor shall have general supervision of the activities of the Church and shall be responsible for establishing objectives; developing and executing strategies and policies to accomplish the mission of the Church; and providing general leadership to the Church Staff and the Church. The Executive Pastor is responsible for stewarding, allocating, and managing the Church’s resources and shall serve as the Treasurer of the Church. Without limiting the generality of the foregoing, the Executive Pastor shall be responsible for assisting the Pastor in identifying new Church Staff members; clearly and consistently communicating the mission and vision of the Church; supervising the total work of the Church Staff through the Executive Staff, for assisting the Pastor in identifying new Staff members; for overseeing the training, evaluation, and development of all Church Staff; for providing guidance, resources, and support to the Church Staff as they carry out assigned responsibilities in accordance with their positions; and, for encouraging, exhorting, and maintaining clear channels of communication with all Church Staff, and working closely with all Staff to resolve conflicts in a Biblical, redemptive, and timely fashion.

8.4 (3) The Executive Pastor shall be an ex-officio member of each Church Ministry Team and shall work with the Pastor, the Ministry Teams, Church organizations and the Fellowship of Deacons in ministering to the physical and spiritual needs of the Church and the community.

ARTICLE IX. PASTORAL TRANSITION TEAM

SECTION 1. Selection

9.1 (1) Upon the resignation, termination or vacancy of the Office of Pastor, a Pastoral Transition Team shall be formed which shall be composed of seven (7) Members. In consultation with the Executive Pastor, the Fellowship of Deacons shall recommend five (5) Members and the Committee on Ministry Teams shall recommend two (2) Members to the Church for approval as the Pastoral Transition Team. The Fellowship of Deacons and Committee on Ministry Teams shall concur on the person nominated, from among the seven, as Chairman of the Pastoral Transition Team. The concurrence of a majority of the Members present and casting a vote at a Business Meeting is required to select the Chairman and each member of the Pastoral Transition Team. Each member of the Pastoral Transition Team shall exhibit the Fruit of the Spirit (Gal. 5:22-23, Eph. 5:9).

9.1 (2) The Executive Pastor, the Pastor Emeritus, if there is one, the Chairman of the Fellowship of Deacons, the Chairman of the Committee on Ministry Teams, the Chairmen of the Finance and Personnel Ministry Teams, and the Interim Pastor, shall serve as ex-officio, non-voting members of the Pastoral Transition Team. If the Church has no Executive Pastor, then the Pastoral Transition Team shall designate one member of the Executive Staff to serve as an ex-officio, non-voting member.

The proposed Bylaw amendments will be presented to the Church for consideration at the August 2019 Business Meeting.
SECTION 2. Recommendations For the Pastor Search Team

9.2 (1) The Pastoral Transition Team shall solicit recommendations for the Pastor Search Team from all Church Members.

9.2 (2) The Pastoral Transition Team shall interview and recommend for Church affirmation a Pastor Search Team composed of at least eight (8) Pastor Search Team members.

SECTION 3. Duties

9.3 The Pastoral Transition Team shall:

(a) Ensure that the Pulpit is filled for each worship service;

(b) Recommend an Interim Pastor as soon as reasonably possible after prayerful and careful deliberation based on recommendations from the Committee on Ministry Teams, the Fellowship of Deacons, Executive Staff, Church Members, and denominational pastors, leaders and officials;

(c) So long as the Church is without a permanent Pastor, ensure that the Chairman of the Pastoral Transition Team or Interim Pastor presents a State-of-the-Church report to the Church at least semi-annually;

(d) Seek to adopt those measures, which seem to best ensure harmony within the Church during the transition period; and

(e) If the Church has no Executive Pastor, designate the Executive Staff person who shall be responsible for supervising the Church Staff.

ARTICLE X. PASTOR SEARCH TEAM

SECTION 1. Selection and Duties

10.1 (1) Each of the members of the Pastor Search Team shall be approved by the concurrence of a majority of the Members present and casting a vote at a Business Meeting. Each Pastor Search Team member shall exhibit the Fruit of the Spirit (Gal. 5:23, Eph. 5:9).

10.1 (2) Pastor Search Team members shall select, by secret ballot from among the regular Pastor Search Team members, a Chairman and Vice-Chairman by a majority vote at its first meeting.

10.1 (3) The Chairman of the Pastor Search Team shall provide the Church with regular updates of the Pastor Search Team's progress.

SECTION 2. Selection of Pastoral Candidates

10.2 (1) The Pastor Search Team shall solicit from Church Members the attributes and qualities Pursuant to Article 18.4 (5) of the Bylaws of First Baptist Church of Dallas, Texas, the Bylaws Ministry Team proposes the following Bylaw amendments:

The proposed Bylaw amendments will be presented to the Church for consideration at the August 2019 Business Meeting.
desired of a new Pastor. In addition, the Pastor Search Team shall solicit recommendations for a Pastor from Church Members, the Executive Staff, Southern Baptist pastors, leaders and officials, and other Christian leaders.

10.2 (2) The Pastor Search Team shall have the authority to consider as many pastoral candidates as are deemed reasonably necessary to make a well-advised recommendation for Pastor. Members of the Pastor Search Team may attend worship services led by pastoral candidates as often as reasonable the Pastor Search Team reasonably deems appropriate.

10.2 (3) Sufficient funds shall be appropriated to pay the reasonable expenses incurred by the Pastor Search Team in the search for a Pastor.

10.2 (4) The Pastor Search Team will consult with the following individuals as appropriate and will keep the following individuals informed of the Pastor Search Team’s progress: the Executive Pastor, the Pastor Emeritus, if there is one, the Chairman of the Fellowship of Deacons, the Chairman of the Committee on Ministry Teams, and the Chairmen of the Finance and Personnel Ministry Teams.

10.2 (5) Subject to Section 10.2(4), the internal workings, discussions and visits of the Pastor Search Team shall always be and remain confidential.

SECTION 3. Presentation of a Pastoral Candidate to the Church

10.3 (1) When the Pastor Search Team agrees upon the man whom they believe is God’s choice for Pastor of the Church, the Pastor Search Team shall invite the pastoral candidate to preach at least one (1) Sunday worship service in view of a Call as Pastor.

10.3 (2) Notice of a Business Meeting to consider calling a Pastor shall be given at least seven (7) days in advance of the meeting.

10.3 (3) The Chairman of the Fellowship of Deacons or his designee shall serve as Moderator for the Business Meeting to consider calling a Pastor. The Pastor Search Team shall provide Church Members with biographical information on the pastoral candidate and his family prior to the meeting.

10.3 (4) The concurrence of at least three-fourths (3/4) of the Members present and casting a vote at the Business Meeting is required to call a Pastor.

10.3 (5) Prior to the Church issuing a Call to a pastoral candidate, the Personnel Ministry Team shall have reached an acceptable understanding with the pastoral candidate on the financial terms of employment as Pastor. Such terms may not materially deviate from the Church’s approved range of benefits and severance package.

ARTICLE XII. INTERIM PASTOR

112.1 (1) An Interim Pastor shall have the same spiritual qualifications as a permanent Pastor.
affirm the Articles of Faith of the Church, and be accountable to God, the Church, and the Fellowship of Deacons.

112.1 (2) The Pastoral Transition Team shall determine the duties and responsibilities of an Interim Pastor before such person is presented to the Church in view of a Call.

112.1 (3) Upon the recommendation of the Personnel Ministry Team or the Officers of the Fellowship of Deacons, the services of an Interim Pastor may be terminated by concurrence of a majority of the Active Deacons present and casting a vote at a Business Meeting of the Fellowship of Deacons after reasonable Notice to the Fellowship of Deacons and Interim Pastor.

112.1 (4) Except as otherwise provided in these Bylaws, or otherwise determined by the Pastoral Transition Team as provided above, an Interim Pastor has the same duties and responsibilities as the Pastor. Notwithstanding the foregoing, an Interim Pastor shall only be permitted to terminate members of the Executive Staff with prior approval by the Personnel Ministry Team.

112.1 (5) The Interim Pastor shall be an employee at will of the Church.

ARTICLE XII. CHURCH STAFF

SECTION 1. Qualification and Selection

121.1 (1) Each Church Staff member serving in a ministerial or pastoral capacity shall demonstrate evidence of a personal Call of God to the ministry.

121.1 (2) The Pastor of the Church shall be responsible for recruiting and hiring a qualified staff to assist him in the ministries of the Church. The Church Staff shall serve at the pleasure of the Pastor within the guidelines set by the Personnel Ministry Team in consultation with the Pastor and Executive Pastor.

121.1 (3) Church Staff members shall maintain the highest standards of spirituality and integrity. Persons holding the office of minister are accountable to God, the Pastor, and the Church.

ARTICLE XII. INTERIM PASTOR

12.1 (1) An Interim Pastor shall have the same spiritual qualifications as a permanent Pastor, affirm the Articles of Faith of the Church, and be accountable to God, the Church, and the Fellowship of Deacons.

12.1 (2) The Pastoral Transition Team shall determine the duties and responsibilities of an Interim Pastor before such person is presented to the Church in view of a Call.

12.1 (3) Upon the recommendation of the Personnel Ministry Team or the Officers of the Fellowship of Deacons, the services of an Interim Pastor may be terminated by concurrence of a majority of the Active Deacons present and casting a vote at a Business Meeting after reasonable Notice to the Fellowship of Deacons and Interim Pastor.

The proposed Bylaw amendments will be presented to the Church for consideration at the August 2019 Business Meeting.
12.1 (4) Except as otherwise provided in these Bylaws, or otherwise determined by the Pastoral Transition Team as provided above, an Interim Pastor has the same duties and responsibilities as the Pastor.

12.1 (5) The Interim Pastor shall be an employee at will of the Church.

ARTICLE XIII. CHURCH REPRESENTATIVES

SECTION 1. Moderator

13.1 (1) The Pastor, the Executive Pastor or their authorized designee, shall be the Moderator for all Business Meetings of the Church except as otherwise provided in these Bylaws. If both the Office of Pastor and Executive Pastor are vacant, the Chairman of the Fellowship of Deacons or authorized designee shall be the Moderator at Business Meetings. If the Chairman of the Fellowship of Deacons cannot serve, the Church Clerk shall call for nominations from the floor and the Moderator shall be elected by a majority vote of the Members casting votes.

13.1 (2) The Moderator shall ensure Church business is conducted in a fair, orderly and Christian manner and shall reasonably clarify all motions before allowing a vote. The Moderator shall not vote on any motion except those to be determined by secret ballot.

SECTION 2. Church Clerk

13.2 (1) The Church Clerk shall be elected annually by the Church upon nomination by the Committee on Ministry Teams. The Church Clerk shall hold office without necessity of periodic reappointment until her successor is chosen and qualified in her stead or until her earlier death, resignation, retirement, disqualification, or removal from office. The Church Clerk may be removed from office by the Fellowship of Deacons upon recommendation from the Committee on Ministry Teams.

13.2 (2) The Church Clerk or authorized designee shall be responsible for keeping an accurate record of all official actions of the Church, preserving all official Church records in a safe place, and ensuring the Notices required by these Bylaws are properly given for all Business Meetings. A Church Staff member may assist serve as the Church Clerk in the duties of the office.

SECTION 3. Church Messengers

13.3 (1) The Pastor, in consultation with the Executive Staff and the Deacon Officers shall nominate the appropriate number of Members as official Church Messengers to the various conventions or associations with which the Church is affiliated and other such denominational meetings at least seven (7) days in advance of the particular denominational meeting or convention. Church Messengers shall exhibit the Fruit of the Spirit as described in Galatians 5:22-23 and Ephesians 5:9.

13.3 (2) Nomination for Church Messengers shall be the result of prayerful deliberation after:

(a) Seeking to identify qualified volunteers.

Pursuant to Article 18.4 (5) of the Bylaws of First Baptist Church of Dallas, Texas, the Bylaws Ministry Team proposes the following Bylaw amendments:

The proposed Bylaw amendments will be presented to the Church for consideration at the August 2019 Business Meeting.
Pursuant to Article 18.4 (5) of the Bylaws of First Baptist Church of Dallas, Texas, the Bylaws Ministry Team proposes the following Bylaw amendments:

(b) Seeking to ensure that the nominees are reasonably balanced between Church Staff and laypersons.

(c) To avoid the appearance of a possible conflict of interest, Church Members who are employees of entities of any convention supported by the Church will not be eligible to be a messenger to the convention that employs them. This paragraph (c) would also apply to immediate family members of such convention employees.

13.3 (3) Church Messengers shall be selected by a concurrence of a majority of the Church Members present and casting a vote at a Business Meeting.

ARTICLE XIV. CHURCH MINISTRY TEAMS

SECTION 1. Definition

14.1 A Church Ministry Team is a group of qualified individuals selected by the Church to provide advice and consent and make recommendations to the Fellowship of Deacons or the Church on particular matters, or to perform certain tasks which the Church feels could be accomplished with more efficiency, dispatch and expertise by the Ministry Team.

SECTION 2. Purpose of Church Ministry Teams

14.2 (1) Ministry Teams shall ensure the matters within the purview of their responsibility are properly administered in a manner consistent with the values and principles of the Church and in furtherance of the Church’s mission. Ministry Teams shall, after thorough research and discussion, creative, innovative, practical or effective plans for carrying on the work of their Ministry Team.

14.2 (2) Church Ministry Teams shall provide all Church Members with an opportunity to tithe their time, talent and abilities for God’s work by serving as Ministry Team members.

14.2 (3) Any interested Church Member shall be considered for membership on a Church Ministry Team on which the Church Member is eligible to serve. Church Members are encouraged to make known to the Committee on Ministry Teams their desire to serve on a particular Ministry Team.

SECTION 3. Duties and Responsibilities

14.3 (1) Each Ministry Team shall have a job description, annually reviewed and updated from time to time if necessary, of its duties and responsibilities. The job description for each Ministry Team shall be kept in the Ministry Teams Manual maintained by the Church Clerk on file in the Church library.

14.3 (2) The duties and responsibilities of each Church Ministry Team and the number of persons serving on each Church Ministry Team shall be determined by the Committee on Ministry Teams, except as otherwise provided by these Bylaws.

The proposed Bylaw amendments will be presented to the Church for consideration at the August 2019 Business Meeting.
14.3 (3) Members of each Ministry Team shall be Church Members possessing relevant talents, gifts, skills, and experience, and shall reflect their commitment to the Lordship of Jesus Christ in their daily activities. Ministry Team members shall be asked to be faithful stewards of their time, talent, income and material possessions in support of the Church.

14.3 (4) Any Member selected by the Church for membership on a particular Ministry Team may not serve for more than three (3) consecutive years on that Ministry Team; however, after a break of at least one (1) year, a person may again be nominated for membership on the same Ministry Team.

14.3 (5) Regardless of the number of years a person may have served on a particular Church Ministry Team, each Ministry Team member shall be selected to serve on the particular Church Ministry Team by the concurrence of a majority of the Members present and casting a vote at a Business Meeting each year.

14.3 (6) At least once each calendar year all Church Ministry Teams shall prepare a written report of their activities. A copy of this report shall be presented delivered to the Pastor, Committee on Ministry Teams, and the Chairman of the Fellowship of Deacons with a copy placed in the Church library.

14.3 (67) Each action or recommendation of a Church Ministry Team shall be approved by a majority of its members.

14.3 (78) A Church Staff member, as designated by the Pastor or Executive Pastor, may serve as an ex-officio, non-voting member of each Ministry Team. The Pastor and Executive Pastor shall be ex-officio members of each Ministry Team.

14.3 (89) The authority of each Church Ministry Team is limited by its job description, budget, these Bylaws and the will of the Church. Any deviation or breach of authority by a Church Ministry Team is subject to appropriate Church action upon the recommendation of the Pastor, Committee on Ministry Teams, or the Officers of the Fellowship of Deacons.

14.3 (940) If a recommendation of a Church Ministry Team is to be presented for consideration to the Fellowship of Deacons for its advice and consent the Church or to the Church the Fellowship of Deacons for its advice and consent, the Chairman of the Ministry Team shall ensure that at least one of its members, the Executive Pastor, or his authorized designee, is available to provide background information related to the recommendation.

14.3 (104) Except for the Chairman of the Committee on Ministry Teams, the Chairman of each Church Ministry Team shall be nominated by the Committee on Ministry Teams, except as otherwise provided in these Bylaws.

14.3 (112) Each Church Ministry Team may prepare and submit a budget request for its ministry to the appropriate Executive Church Staff member to be reviewed and approved by the Executive Pastor and the Finance Ministry Team.

Pursuant to Article 18.4 (5) of the Bylaws of First Baptist Church of Dallas, Texas, the Bylaws Ministry Team proposes the following Bylaw amendments:

The proposed Bylaw amendments will be presented to the Church for consideration at the August 2019 Business Meeting.
During the same calendar year, no person may serve on more than one of the following Church Ministry Teams. Except upon the determination of the Committee on Ministry Teams, in consultation with the Pastor or Executive Pastor, a member of any of the Church Ministry Teams listed below may not be selected to serve on another Church Ministry Team listed below without a membership break of at least one (1) year:

(a) Committee on Ministry Teams

(b) Personnel Ministry Team

(c) Finance Ministry Team

(d) Bylaws Ministry Team

(e) Deacon Development Ministry Team

(f) Wills and Trusts Ministry Team

14.3 (134) The Pastor or Executive Pastor, in consultation with the Committee on Ministry Teams, may create additional Church Ministry Teams to fulfill the mission of the Church or the task designated.

14.3 (145) Each Ministry Team shall keep minutes of its meetings. The Chairman of each Ministry Team shall ensure its records are safeguarded and filed and maintained by the Church Clerk passed to the new Chairman of the Ministry Team for the succeeding year.

14.3 (156) Notwithstanding anything to the contrary hereto, a person, nominated, appointed or elected to serve as the Chairman of any Church Ministry Team or any other ministry team operating within the Church shall serve for a term of one year and shall be allowed to succeed himself as Chairman of that Ministry Team only one additional year on the request and consent of the Committee on Ministry Teams.

ARTICLE XV. COMMITTEE ON MINISTRY TEAMS

SECTION 1. Composition

15.1 (1) The Committee on Ministry Teams shall be composed of a Chairman and at least eight (8) members. Each member shall exhibit the Fruit of the Spirit (Gal. 5:22-23; Eph. 5:9). To ensure diversity of the Committee on Ministry Teams, the Fellowship of Deacons may nominate three (3) members of the Committee on Ministry Teams, the Pastor may nominate three (3) members of the Committee on Ministry Teams, and the current Committee on Ministry Teams shall be responsible for nominating two (2) members of the Committee on Ministry Teams. In the absence of such nominations, the current Committee on Ministry Teams shall be responsible for nominating the

Pursuant to Article 18.4 (5) of the Bylaws of First Baptist Church of Dallas, Texas, the Bylaws Ministry Team proposes the following Bylaw amendments:

The proposed Bylaw amendments will be presented to the Church for consideration at the August 2019 Business Meeting.
members of the Committee on Ministry Teams. If the Committee on Ministry Teams is enlarged, the nomination ratio for its membership shall remain the same as above.

15.1 (2) The concurrence of at least two of (a), (b) or (c) below is necessary to select the nominee for Chairman of the Committee on Ministry Teams for each succeeding year or to enlarge the Committee:

(a) The Pastor, or the Executive Pastor as his authorized designee, Interim Pastor if there is no Pastor or Executive Pastor, or Chairman of the Pastoral Transition Team if there is no Interim Pastor, in consultation with the Executive Staff;

(b) The Chairman of the Fellowship of Deacons, in consultation with the Officers of the Fellowship of Deacons;

(c) The out-going Chairman of the Committee on Ministry Teams, in consultation with the Committee on Ministry Teams.

15.1 (3) The Chairman and each member of the Committee on Ministry Teams shall be approved by the Fellowship of Deacons and a majority of the Members present and casting a vote at a Business Meeting.

SECTION 2. Team Purpose

15.2 (1) The purpose of the Committee on Ministry Teams is to ensure qualified individuals are appointed to serve on each Church Ministry Team and ensure the effective functioning of the Church Ministry Team infrastructure in support of the mission of the Church.

15.2 (2) The Committee on Ministry Teams shall not set policy or dictate the decision making process for any Church Ministry Team, but shall act as a counselor, adviser, and mediator.

ARTICLE XVI. PERSONNEL MINISTRY TEAM

SECTION 1. Composition

16.1 (1) The Personnel Ministry Team shall be composed of at least nine (9) members who, when nominated, shall be from among the Fellowship of Active Deacons.

16.1 (2) A Church Staff member or immediate family member of a Church Staff member may not serve on the Personnel Ministry Team.

SECTION 2. Team Purpose

16.2 (1) The purpose of the Personnel Ministry Team is to oversee ensure the appropriate administration of all personnel policies and procedures of the Church, including job descriptions.
for all salaried Church Staff, and the establishment and administration of salaries and benefits.

ARTICLE XVII. FINANCE MINISTRY TEAM

SECTION 1. Composition

17.1 The Finance Ministry Team shall be composed of at least nine (9) members who when nominated, shall be from among the Fellowship of Active Deacons.

SECTION 2. Team Purpose

17.2 (1) The purpose of the Finance Ministry Team is to oversee the financial policies and procedures, and all matters relating to the Church budget, financial statements, and annual audit. The Finance Ministry Team shall also encourage gifts and bequests to the Church through wills and trusts; assist the Church Staff in ensuring the proper handling and application of donor gifts; and direct the disbursements of funds from the various wills and trusts accounts according to the specific directions for use and the policies established by the Fellowship of Deacons.

17.2 (2) No employee of the Church or employee of any ministry or entity affiliated with the Church shall be eligible to serve on the Finance Ministry Team.

ARTICLE XVIII. BYLAWS MINISTRY TEAM

SECTION 1. Composition

18.1 The Bylaws Ministry Team shall be composed of at least nine (9) members. At the discretion of the Committee on Ministry Teams, up to three (3) of the total members may be non-deacons and the remainder of the members shall be from among the Fellowship of Active Deacons when nominated. The Chairman shall be an Active Deacon. A quorum for the transaction of business at a team meeting shall consist of a majority of Deacon members.

SECTION 2. Team Purpose

18.2 (1) The purpose of the Bylaws Ministry Team is to ensure the proper administration, amendment, and interpretation of these Church Bylaws.

SECTION 3. Bylaw Opinions

18.3 (1) When necessary, the Bylaws Ministry Team shall render a written opinion of the reasonable meaning and intent of a Bylaw provision(s) in accordance with Scripture, the Articles of Faith of the Church, Bylaw precedent, and federal, state or local laws, as applicable. As a rule of Bylaw construction, a specific Bylaw provision has precedence over a general Bylaw provision. A Bylaw Opinion approved by a majority vote of the Bylaws Ministry Team shall govern in matters of construction, meaning, or intent of the particular provision and subject matter.

18.3 (2) A request for a Bylaw Opinion may only be made by a Member of the Church. All such

Pursuant to Article 18.4 (5) of the Bylaws of First Baptist Church of Dallas, Texas, the Bylaws Ministry Team proposes the following Bylaw amendments:

The proposed Bylaw amendments will be presented to the Church for consideration at the August 2019 Business Meeting.
requests for a Bylaw interpretation shall be presented in writing to the Pastor, Executive Pastor, Chairman of the Fellowship of Deacons, and to the Chairman of the Bylaws Ministry Team. Before the Bylaws Ministry Team shall be required to issue a Bylaw Opinion, either at least one of the Pastor, Executive Pastor, Chairman of the Fellowship of Deacons, or Chairman of the Bylaws Ministry Team, must determine that the request should be taken up by the Bylaws Ministry Team. A determination as to whether the request should be taken up by the Bylaws Ministry Team shall be made within thirty (30) days after the request is made, and the decision shall be communicated to the person making the request by the Chairman of the Bylaws Ministry Team.

18.3 (3) If the request for a Bylaw Opinion is considered by the Bylaws Ministry Team, the final draft of the Bylaw Opinion shall be presented to the Fellowship of Deacons for its suggestions and comments within ninety (90) days after the request for a Bylaw interpretation was presented to the Pastor and the Chairman of the Bylaws Ministry Team accepts the request for opinion.

18.3 (4) The official Bylaw Opinion shall be delivered to the person making the interpretation request, the Pastor, Executive Pastor, and the Chairman of the Fellowship of Deacons within thirty (30) days after review of the final draft of the opinion by the Fellowship of Deacons. A copy of this opinion shall be maintained by the Church Clerk in the business office Church Office and made available upon request by any Member.

18.3 (5) By a majority vote of its members, the Bylaws Ministry Team may deem a request for a Bylaw interpretation opinion as a matter more appropriate for referral to the Church for consideration. If so, and within thirty (30) days of receiving the Bylaw interpretation opinion request, the Bylaws Ministry Team shall refer the matter to the Committee on Ministry Teams for review, and the Fellowship of Deacons for its advice and consent and, referral to the Church if appropriate. Notice of such referral shall be given to the requestor.

18.3 (56) Bylaw Opinions shall be permanent records of the Church and are the final authority for the meaning or construction of any Bylaw provision(s).

The proposed Bylaw amendments will be presented to the Church for consideration at the August 2019 Business Meeting.
SECTION 4. Bylaw Amendments

18.4 (1) A request that a particular provision of the Bylaws be amended may only be made by a Member of the Church. All such requests for Bylaw changes shall be presented in writing to the Pastor, Executive Pastor, Chairman of the Fellowship of Deacons, and the Chairman of the Bylaws Ministry Team. Before the Bylaws Ministry Team shall consider the request, either at least one of the Pastor, Executive Pastor, Chairman of the Fellowship of Deacons, or Chairman of the Bylaws Ministry Team, must determine that the request should be taken up by the Bylaws Ministry Team. A determination as to whether the request should be taken up by the Bylaws Ministry Team shall be made within thirty (30) days of receiving the request, and the decision shall be communicated to the person making the request by the Chairman of the Bylaws Ministry Team.

18.4 (2) The final draft of the suggested Bylaw amendment shall be presented to the Fellowship of Deacons for its suggestions and comments within ninety (90) days after the request for a Bylaw change was presented to the Pastor and the Chairman of the Bylaws Ministry Team.

18.4 (3) The final draft of the suggested Bylaw amendment shall be delivered to the person making the request, the Pastor, the Executive Pastor, the Chairman of the Committee on Ministry Teams, and the Chairman of the Fellowship of Deacons within thirty (30) days after Fellowship of Deacons review of the final initial draft of the Bylaw amendment.

18.4 (4) By a majority vote of its members, the Bylaws Ministry Team may deem a request for a Bylaw change as a matter more appropriate for referral to the Church for consideration. If so, and within thirty (30) days of receiving the suggested Bylaw change, the Bylaws Ministry Team shall refer the matter to the Committee on Ministry Teams for review, and the Fellowship of Deacons for its advice and consent, and referral to the Church if appropriate. Notice of such referral shall be given to the requestor. By a majority vote of its members, the Bylaws Ministry Team shall refer the final draft of the suggested Bylaw amendment to the Fellowship of Deacons for its advice and consent and referral to the Church if appropriate. Notice of such referral shall be given to the person making the request.

18.4 (5) The Bylaws Ministry Team shall publish a draft of all proposed Bylaw amendment(s) before consideration by the Church at a Business Meeting. For at least seven (7) consecutive days, copies of draft Bylaw amendment(s) shall be available on the Church website, and in a conspicuous place on the Church premises for any Church Member who chooses to obtain a copy of the proposed Bylaw amendment(s).

18.4 (6) After Notice, Bylaw amendment(s) may be presented to the Church for consideration at a Business Meeting.

18.4 (7) In order to be implemented, Bylaw amendment(s) must be approved by the concurrence of at least two-thirds (2/3) of the Members present and casting a vote at a Business Meeting.

SECTION 5. Conflicts with Bylaws

18.5 These Bylaws shall be the final authority in the event that any conflict should arise between

The proposed Bylaw amendments will be presented to the Church for consideration at the August 2019 Business Meeting.
Pursuant to Article 18.4 (5) of the Bylaws of First Baptist Church of Dallas, Texas, the Bylaws Ministry Team proposes the following Bylaw amendments:

The proposed Bylaw amendments will be presented to the Church for consideration at the August 2019 Business Meeting.
ARTICLE XX. CHURCH FISCAL POLICY

SECTION 1. Fiscal Year

20.1 The fiscal year of the Church shall be the twelve month period beginning on October 1 and ending on the following September 30; provided that the fiscal year of the Church may be changed for good reason as determined by the Finance Ministry Team in consultation with the Executive Pastor, and with the advice and consent of the Fellowship of Deacons.

SECTION 2. Church Finances

20.2 No expenditure of Church funds may be made for any purpose unless the expenditure is authorized and approved in accordance with an approved Church Budget or the written policies and procedures of the Church or these Bylaws.

SECTION 3. Non-Cash Gifts

20.3 Non-cash gifts may be accepted by the Executive Pastor on behalf of the Church; provided, however, that the Executive Pastor is encouraged to seek input from the appropriate Ministry Team or Teams with respect to any non-cash gift that carries with it material potential for future liability or expense to the Church. The appropriate Ministry Team, at its discretion and subject to the advice and consent of the Fellowship of Deacons, may defer or decline to accept any non-cash gift.

21.3 (2) The appropriate Ministry Team, at its discretion and subject to the advice and consent of the Fellowship of Deacons, may defer or decline to accept any non-cash gift.

21.3 (3) All non-cash gifts accepted by the appropriate Ministry Team on behalf of the Church shall be disbursed or administered under the direction of such Ministry Team according to the donor's wishes, if any. All non-cash gifts or bequests received through wills and trusts shall be disbursed or administered under the direction of the Wills & Trusts Ministry Team according to the donor’s wishes, if any.

ARTICLE XXII. CHURCH OPERATIONS AND POLICY MANUALS

212.1 (1) Under the leadership of the Pastor, the Executive Pastor or his authorized designee shall designate the person to prepare and review annually from time to time, updating if necessary, policies and procedures which describe the lines of authority, responsibility, and operating procedures used by the Church Staff and Ministry Teams to administer Church activities. Any Church Member upon request may review these written policies and procedures during regular business hours.

The proposed Bylaw amendments will be presented to the Church for consideration at the August 2019 Business Meeting.
212.1 (2) A manual containing these policies shall be prepared and a copy maintained in the executive offices and the business office, and the church library.

212.1 (3) Church Members or Church organizations may suggest changes to the written policies and procedures of the Church by discussing such changes with the appropriate Church Staff members as directed by the Executive Pastor and presenting proposed changes to the Committee on Ministry Teams for review by the appropriate Ministry Team.

212.1 (4) The written policies and procedures of the Church and any material changes thereafter are subject to the advice and consent of the Fellowship of Deacons.

ARTICLE XXIII. AMENDMENT OF ARTICLES OF INCORPORATION

223.1 (1) Subject to the advice and consent of the Fellowship of Deacons, the Directors The Fellowship of Deacons may recommend amendments to the Articles of Incorporation. The concurrence of a majority of the Members present and casting a vote at a Business Meeting is required to amend the Articles of Incorporation, except as otherwise provided in these Bylaws.

223.1 (2) The process by which amendments to the Articles of Incorporation are Noticed and approved by the Church are the same as those for Bylaw amendments, except as otherwise provided in these Bylaws.

223.1 (3) Changes of the Registered Agent, Registered Office or other non-material changes to the Articles of Incorporation, which are within the ordinary course of business, may be made with the concurrence of a majority of the Directors.

ARTICLE XX IV. PLAN OF INDEMNIFICATION

234.1 (1) The Directors shall prepare a Plan of Indemnification in accordance with the Code, which shall be reviewed annually, updating if necessary, from time to time and updated, as appropriate, under the direction of the Executive Pastor. The Plan of Indemnification shall provide for reasonable indemnification of Church Staff members, Directors and Church Members under those circumstances, which are reasonably described in the Plan of Indemnification.

234.1 (2) Subject to the advice and consent of the Fellowship of Deacons, any material changes to the Plan of Indemnification and any material changes thereafter shall be approved by the Church Members subject to the advice and consent of the Fellowship of Deacons and shall be subject to approval by the Church Members.

ARTICLE XX IV. MISCELLANEOUS

24.1 The Article, Paragraph, and Subparagraph entitlements and headings in these Bylaws are Pursuant to Article 18.4 (5) of the Bylaws of First Baptist Church of Dallas, Texas, the Bylaws Ministry Team proposes the following Bylaw amendments:

The proposed Bylaw amendments will be presented to the Church for consideration at the August 2019 Business Meeting.
24.2 If any portion of these Bylaws shall be invalid or inoperative, then, so far as is reasonable and possible, the remainder of these Bylaws shall be considered valid and operative, and effect shall be given to the intent manifested by the portion held invalid or inoperative.

24.3 These Bylaws and other documents referred to herein shall be construed and enforced in accordance with, and governed by, the laws of the State of Texas.

24.4 The Church pledges its assets for use in performing the charitable functions of the Church. It directs that on discontinuance of the Church by dissolution or otherwise, the assets are to be transferred to a charitable, religious, educational, or similar organization(s) that qualifies under Section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code, or as otherwise set forth in the Church’s Certificate of Formation Articles of Incorporation.

ARTICLE XXVI EFFECTIVE DATE

256.1 These Bylaws, effective the 25th 21st day of April August two-thousand and twelvenineteen, and as subsequently amended from time to time, revoke supersede and replace all previous Bylaw provisions of First Baptist Church of Dallas, Texas.

The proposed Bylaw amendments will be presented to the Church for consideration at the August 2019 Business Meeting.