

Living Hope Baptist Church Constitution

(our life together defined by how we're legally organized)

Article 1 - Name

The name of this corporation is Living Hope Baptist Church (Missionary), Inc. This corporation will be further referred to in these governing documents as the "Church" and may be referred to and may do business as "Living Hope Baptist Church", "Living Hope" and such other names as the central Elders of the Church, as defined in Bylaw Article 2-A, shall determine from time to time.

Article 2- Mission

Living Hope Baptist Church exists to fulfill the Great Commission and Great Commandments of Jesus Christ to the glory of God. We are a family of disciples of Jesus committed to impact our homes, our neighbors, and every generation with the hope of Jesus.

Article 3- Offices

A. Principal Office

The principal office for business transactions of the church is 1805 Westen Street, Bowling Green, KY 42104. The central Elders of the Church shall have power and authority to change the principal office from one location to another.

B. Other Offices

The central Elders of the Church shall have power and authority to establish other offices, campuses, sites and locations at any place or places where the Church is engaged in ministry.

Article 4- Church Government

A. The Lord Jesus Christ is Head of the Church, and His Word is the authority for its life and practice.

B. The government of this Church is solely vested in the body of believers who compose it: those who are covenant members as described in Bylaw Article 1.

C. The ongoing ministries and business of the Church will be conducted under the oversight, direction, and care of the body of Elders selected by the congregation (see Bylaw, Article 2A). The Westen Campus Elders shall serve as the Directors of the Corporation.

D. The regular operations of the Church are guided through the Bylaws, approved, and adopted by the church membership.

Article 5- Relationships

A. Autonomy: The Church is independent, autonomous, and maintains the right to govern its own affairs. Under the Lord Jesus Christ, no superior authority above its own membership is recognized.

B. Affiliations: Living Hope Baptist Church voluntarily affiliates with the Southern Baptist Convention, the Kentucky Baptist Convention, and the Warren Association of Baptists.

C. Partnerships: The central Elders of the Church shall have the power and authority to engage the church and its ministries in partnership with other churches and organizations whose doctrine and mission match that of the Church.

Article 6- Meetings

- A. Public Worship:** Meetings for public worship will be held at such times and places as the central Elders shall determine and direct.

- B. Members' Meetings**
 - 1. The central Elders shall have the authority to call the covenant membership of the Church to meet for discussion, to take action, or for other purposes as they shall determine necessary to the ministry and business of the Church. The Church shall always review, discuss and vote on the adoption of the annual ministry budget, the calling of all ministers and pastors, and the sale or purchase of real property / real estate.

 - 2. All members' meetings shall be announced at no less than two regular worship services at each campus prior to the meeting and communicated to the membership by physical and / or digital means. This announcement will also include the definition of the method of the vote (paper, digital, etc.) and the duration of the voting period, should a vote be necessary.

 - 3. Participation in members' meetings is limited to active covenant members aged 16 and up, as defined in Bylaw Article 1A & 1E-2.

 - 4. Any votes or action of the membership may be signaled by physical action, paper ballot, or digital means as determined by the central Elders.

- C. An Annual Members' Meeting** for Living Hope covenant members shall be convened between May 1 and June 30 of each year for the purpose of reporting on and celebrating the Church's ministry. Covenant members may submit to the central Elders items to consider for the meeting agenda. Such submissions must be presented in writing to the central Elders two weeks prior to the announced date of the meeting.

Article 7 – Fiscal Year, and Annual Meeting of the Corporation

- A. The Fiscal Year** for the Corporation shall be from July 1-June 30.

- B. The Annual Meeting** of the Westen Campus Elders functioning as Directors of the Corporation shall take place on the third Monday of June of each fiscal year. The Westen Campus Elders shall have the authority to adjust this date within that month as long as the Annual Meeting occurs prior to the beginning of the Church's fiscal year.