

1 **CONSTITUTION**

2 *of the*

3 **CAPITOL HILL BAPTIST CHURCH**

4 WASHINGTON, D.C.

5 *Adopted by the membership on May 17, 1998.*

6 *Revised by the membership on May 18, 2003, September 17, 2006,*

7 *November 16, 2008, March 15, 2009, September 21, 2014, September 16, 2018, and*

8 *March 21, 2021.*

9  
10  
11 **Preamble**

12  
13 Since it pleased Almighty God, by His Holy Spirit, to call certain of His servants  
14 to unite here in 1878 under the name Metropolitan Baptist Church of Washington, D.C.,  
15 for the worship of God and the spread of the gospel of Jesus Christ, and He has sustained  
16 and prospered this work to the present day; and

17 Whereas we, the members of Capitol Hill Baptist Church, having searched the  
18 Scriptures under the guidance of His Spirit, have recognized the need to reconstitute  
19 ourselves to more closely conform to His will for the Church in this age and prepare  
20 ourselves for greater efforts in His name;

21 Now therefore we, the members of Capitol Hill Baptist Church, do hereby  
22 organize ourselves in accord with the D.C. Nonprofit Corporation Act and adopt this  
23 Constitution as our articles of governance, to be interpreted at all times to reflect the  
24 character of and bring glory to Jesus Christ, as revealed in the Holy Bible and articulated  
25 in the standards set forth in the Statement of Faith (1878) and Covenant (1996) of this  
26 church.

27  
28 **Article 1 – Name**

29  
30 The name of this church is: Capitol Hill Baptist Church.

31  
32 **Article 2 – Purpose**

33  
34 This church exists by the grace of God, for the glory of God, which shall be the  
35 ultimate purpose in all its activities.

36 This church glorifies God by loving Him and obeying His commands through:

37 Worshipping Him;

38 Equipping the saints through Bible instruction and study;

39 Proclaiming the gospel of Jesus Christ through preaching and personal

40 evangelism, and any other means consistent with the teachings of Holy

41 Scripture;

42 Encouraging, supporting, and participating in missions work, local, domestic, and  
43 international;

44 Administering the ordinances of baptism and communion;

1 Encouraging Biblical fellowship among believers;  
2 Serving other individuals, families, and churches by providing for physical,  
3 emotional, and spiritual needs, in the name of Jesus Christ; and  
4 Calling fellow churches to biblical faithfulness and purity through instruction and  
5 encouragement about the nature of the local church.  
6

### 7 **Article 3 – Membership**

#### 8 Section 1 – Qualifications

9  
10 To qualify for membership in this church, a person must be a believer in Jesus  
11 Christ who gives evidence of regeneration, who has been baptized, in obedience to  
12 Christ, following his or her regeneration, and who wholeheartedly believes in the  
13 Christian faith as revealed in the Bible. Each member must believe the teaching of  
14 scripture as expressed in the Statement of Faith and must promise to keep the  
15 commitments expressed in the Church Covenant. The elders shall be responsible for  
16 determining each person’s qualification for membership. In making this determination,  
17 they may rely on a person’s profession of faith, or such other evidence, as the elders  
18 deem appropriate.  
19

#### 20 Section 2 – Admission of Members

21 To be admitted into church membership, applicants shall be ordinarily, but not  
22 necessarily, recommended by the elders for admission and must be accepted by vote of  
23 the members at any regular or special meeting of the members, and shall at that point  
24 relinquish their membership in other churches.  
25

#### 26 Section 3 – Duties and Privileges of Membership

27 In accord with the duties enumerated in the Church Covenant, each member shall  
28 be privileged and expected to participate in and contribute to the ministry and life of the  
29 church, consistent with God’s leading and with the gifts, time, and material resources  
30 each has received from God. Only those shall be entitled to serve in the ministries of the  
31 church who are members of this congregation; non-members may serve on an ad-hoc  
32 basis with the approval of the elders. Notwithstanding, non-members may serve the  
33 church for purposes of administration and professional consultation.

34 Under Christ this congregation is governed by its members. Therefore, it is the  
35 privilege and responsibility of members to attend members’ meetings and vote on the  
36 election of officers, on decisions regarding membership status, and on such other matters  
37 as may be submitted to a vote.  
38

#### 39 Section 4 – On Church Discipline

40 Any member consistently neglectful of his or her duties or guilty of conduct by  
41 which the name of our Lord Jesus Christ may be dishonored, and so opposing the welfare  
42 of the church and/or rendering doubtful a profession of faith, shall be subject to the  
43 admonition of the elders and the discipline of the church, according to the instructions of  
44 our Lord in Matthew 18: 15–17 and the example of scripture. Church discipline, then,  
45 should ordinarily be contemplated after individual private admonition has failed.

1 Church discipline can include admonition by the elders or congregation,  
2 deposition from office, and excommunication (see Matthew 18: 15–17; I Timothy 5: 19–  
3 20; I Corinthians 5: 4–5).

4 The purpose of such discipline should be for the repentance, reconciliation, and  
5 spiritual growth of the individual disciplined (see Proverbs 15: 5; 29: 15; I  
6 Corinthians 4: 14; Ephesians 6: 4; I Timothy 3: 4–5; Hebrews 12: 1–11;  
7 Psalm 119: 115; 141: 5; Proverbs 17: 10; 25: 12; 27: 5; Ecclesiastes 7: 5;  
8 Matthew 7: 26–27; 18: 15–17; Luke 17: 3; Acts 2: 40; I Corinthians 5: 5;  
9 Galatians 6: 1–5; II Thessalonians 3: 6, 14–15; I Timothy 1: 20; Titus 1:  
10 13–14; James 1: 22);

11 For the instruction in righteousness and good of other Christians, as an example to  
12 them (see Proverbs 13: 20; Romans 15: 14; I Corinthians 5: 11; 15: 33;  
13 Colossians 3: 16; I Thessalonians 5: 14 [note this is written to the whole  
14 church, not just to leaders]; I Timothy 5: 20; Titus 1: 11; Hebrews 10: 24–  
15 25);

16 For the purity of the church as a whole (see I Corinthians 5: 6–7; II Corinthians  
17 13: 10; Ephesians 5: 27; II John 10; Jude 24; Revelation 21: 2);

18 For the good of our corporate witness to non-Christians (see Proverbs 28: 7;  
19 Matthew 5: 13–16; John 13: 35; Acts 5: 1–14; Ephesians 5: 11; I Timothy  
20 3: 7; II Peter 2: 2; I John 3: 10); and

21 Supremely for the glory of God by reflecting His holy character (see  
22 Deuteronomy 5: 11; I Kings 11: 2; II Chronicles 19: 2; Ezra 6: 21;  
23 Nehemiah 9: 2; Isaiah 52: 11; Ezekiel 36: 20; Matthew 5: 16; John 15: 8;  
24 18: 17, 25; Romans 2: 24; 15: 5–6; II Corinthians 6: 14–7: 1; Ephesians 1:  
25 4; 5: 27; I Peter 2: 12).

## 27 Section 5 – Termination of Membership

28 The church shall recognize the termination of a person’s membership following  
29 his or her death, and it shall also recognize the termination of a person’s membership  
30 following his or her self-professed apostasy as confirmed by congregational vote.

31 Additionally, the church may recognize the termination of a person’s membership after  
32 he or she has voluntarily resigned or joined with another church. Membership may also  
33 be terminated as an act of church discipline (ordinarily, but not necessarily, at the  
34 recommendation of the elders) upon the vote of at least two-thirds of the members  
35 present at any regular or special meeting of the members.

36 The church shall have authority to refuse a member’s voluntary resignation or  
37 transfer of membership to another church, either for the purpose of proceeding with a  
38 process of church discipline, or for any other biblical reason.

## 40 **Article 4 - Meetings**

### 42 Section 1 – Worship Meetings

43 Worship services shall be held each Lord's Day, and may be held throughout the  
44 week as the church determines.

1 Section 2 – Members’ Meetings

2 In every meeting together, members shall act in that spirit of mutual trust,  
3 openness, and loving consideration which is appropriate within the body of our Lord  
4 Jesus Christ.

5 There shall be a regular members’ meeting at least every other month, at some  
6 time apart from a public worship service agreed upon by the membership.

7 An elder designated by the elders shall preside as moderator at all members’  
8 meetings of the church. The elders shall see that the stated meetings of the church are  
9 regularly held and that required reports are submitted to the church by the responsible  
10 members.

11 Provided all constitutional provisions for notification have been met, a quorum  
12 shall be understood to be met by those members present. All votes shall be tallied based  
13 on the number of votes cast by members present.

14 A budget shall be approved by the membership at a members’ meeting not more  
15 than three months after the start of the fiscal year. Congregational approval shall  
16 proceed, without amendment, as a single vote on the budget in its entirety. Prior to this  
17 approval and subject to the elders’ discretion, expenditures may continue at the prior  
18 year’s level.

19 At any regular or special members’ meeting, officers may be elected and positions  
20 filled as needed, so long as all relevant constitutional requirements have been met.

21 Special members' meetings may be called as required by the elders, or at the  
22 written request, submitted to the elders, of five percent of the voting membership.  
23 Ordinarily, a special meeting will be called with at least two-weeks' notice. The location,  
24 date, time, and purpose of any special meeting shall be announced at all public services  
25 of the church and posted at all entrances to the church building within the two weeks  
26 preceding the meeting or for as much time as is available if a meeting must be called with  
27 fewer than two-weeks' notice. In the event of a written request from the members, the  
28 elders shall call a special meeting to be held within one month of their receipt of the  
29 request. In situations where the elders call a special members meeting with fewer than  
30 two-weeks’ notice, an email shall be sent to all church members with email addresses on  
31 file indicating the location, date, time, and purpose of the meeting. When an email  
32 address is not on file, a physical letter shall be sent. No meeting shall be called with  
33 fewer than 48 hours’ notice.

34

35

36 **Article 5 – Officers**

37

38 Section 1 – Summary

39 The Biblical offices in the church are elders and deacons. In addition, our church  
40 recognizes the administrative positions under this constitution of clerk and treasurer. All  
41 officers must be members of this church prior to assuming their responsibilities.

42

43 Section 2 – Elders

44 The elders shall be comprised of not less than three men who satisfy the  
45 qualifications for the office of elder set forth in I Timothy 3: 1–7 and Titus 1: 6–9. No  
elder shall hold the office of deacon during his tenure.

1 Subject to the will of the congregation, the elders shall oversee the ministry and  
2 resources of the church. In keeping with the principles set forth in Acts 6: 1–6 and I  
3 Peter 5: 1–4, the elders shall devote their time to prayer, the ministry of the Word (by  
4 teaching and encouraging sound doctrine), and shepherding God’s flock.

5 The church shall recognize men gifted and willing to serve in this calling, in  
6 accordance with the constitutional provisions on elections. These men shall be received  
7 as gifts of Christ to His church and set apart as elders. This recognition shall be  
8 reaffirmed by the church triennially. After an elder, other than the senior or associate  
9 pastor(s), has served two consecutive three-year terms, he may only be elected to the  
10 office of elder after at least one year.

11 An elder's term of office may be terminated by resignation or by dismissal. Any  
12 two members with reason to believe that an elder should be dismissed should express  
13 such concern to the elders and, if need be, to the congregation. Any such action shall be  
14 done in accordance with the instructions of our Lord in Matthew 18: 15–17 and I  
15 Timothy 5: 17–21. Any of the elders may be dismissed by a two-thirds vote of the  
16 members at any members’ meeting of the church.

17 The elders shall take particular responsibility to examine and instruct prospective  
18 members, examine and recommend all prospective candidates for offices and positions,  
19 oversee the work of the deacons and appointed church agents and committees, conduct  
20 worship services, administer the ordinances of baptism and communion, equip the  
21 membership for the work of the ministry, encourage sound doctrine and practice,  
22 admonish and correct error, oversee the process of church discipline, coordinate and  
23 promote the ministries of the church, and mobilize the church for world missions.  
24 Further, the elders should seek to ensure that all who minister the Word to the  
25 congregation, including outside speakers, affirm our fundamental gospel convictions and  
26 do not teach our church anything contrary to the Statement of Faith.

27 The elders may establish ministry positions or committees to assist them in  
28 fulfilling their responsibilities. The elders may also propose funding for new paid staff  
29 positions. The membership shall approve all candidates to fill the positions of senior and  
30 associate pastor. The scope and approval of job descriptions for any staff position shall  
31 reside in the hands of those with hiring authority for that position.

32 Each year the elders, after consultation with the deacons, the deaconesses, and the  
33 membership, shall present to the church an itemized budget. This budget shall be  
34 presented for discussion at a regular or specially-called budget meeting and called up for  
35 a vote at the following members’ meeting. No money shall be solicited by or on behalf  
36 of the church or any of its ministries without the approval of the elders.

37 The elders shall elect a chairman of elders’ meetings and shall also elect one of  
38 their number to serve as moderator of members’ meetings. For purposes of compliance  
39 with the nonprofit corporation laws of the District of Columbia, the elders shall elect one  
40 of their number to serve as the president of the corporation.

#### 41 42 Section 3 – The Senior Pastor

43 The senior pastor shall be an elder. He shall perform the duties of an elder  
44 described in Section 2, above, and shall be recognized by the church as particularly gifted  
45 and called to the full-time ministry of preaching and teaching.

1 His call shall not be subject to the triennial reaffirmation or to the term limitation  
2 set out in Article 5, Section 2, for elders. His call shall be defined as per Article 6,  
3 Section 3.

4 He shall be responsible for the church's public services, including preaching and  
5 the administration of the ordinances of baptism and communion; and performing such  
6 other duties as usually pertain to that office, or as set forth in the constitution.

7 The senior pastor shall have primary responsibility for the supervision and  
8 evaluation of staff members. This responsibility may, on a case-by-case basis, be  
9 delegated to another staff member.

10 In the absence or incapacity of the senior pastor the elders shall assume  
11 responsibility for his duties, any of which can be delegated.

#### 12 13 Section 4 – Associate Pastors

14 The church may call additional pastors whose relationship to the senior pastor is  
15 that of associate.

16 An associate pastor shall be an elder. He shall perform the duties of an elder  
17 described in Section 2, above, and shall be recognized by the church as particularly gifted  
18 and called to the full-time ministry of preaching and teaching.

19 His call shall not be subject to the triennial reaffirmation or to the term limitation  
20 set out in Article 5, Section 2, for elders. His call shall be defined as per Article 6,  
21 Section 4.

22 He shall assist the senior pastor in the performance of his regular duties and shall  
23 perform any other duties as usually pertain to the office of pastor, or as set forth in the  
24 constitution, or which may be specifically assigned to him by the congregation.

25 In the absence or incapacity of the senior pastor for defined periods of time (such  
26 as sabbatical or illness), the associate pastor(s) shall assume the responsibility for his  
27 duties under the oversight of the elders.

#### 28 29 Section 5 – Assistant Pastors

30 The church may call additional pastors, from within the congregation only, whose  
31 relationship to the senior pastor is that of assistant.

32 An assistant pastor shall be an elder. He shall perform the duties of an elder  
33 described in Section 2, above, and shall be recognized by the church as particularly gifted  
34 and called to the full-time ministry of preaching and teaching.

35 His call shall be subject to the triennial reaffirmation and term limitation set out in  
36 Article 5, section 2, for elders. His call shall be defined as per Article 6, Section 5

37 He shall assist the senior pastor and associate pastor(s) in the performance of their  
38 regular duties, and shall perform any other duties as usually pertain to the office of  
39 pastor. The elders shall define the responsibilities of the assistant pastor(s).

#### 40 41 Section 6 – Senior Pastoral Assistants

42 With the approval of the elders, the senior pastor may hire additional staff to  
43 assist with pastoral ministry, designated as senior pastoral assistants. These shall not be  
44 pastors, though they may be recognized as elders should they be nominated by the elders  
45 and elected by the congregation, in accordance with Article 5, Section 2. Should the

1 congregation recognize a senior pastoral assistant as an elder, he will assume the title and  
2 responsibilities of assistant pastor as described in Article 5, Section 5.

3 The elders shall define the responsibilities of the senior pastoral assistant(s).  
4 They shall serve at the will of the elders for an initial term up to four years, though that  
5 term may be extended with the approval of the elders.

6  
7 Section 7 – Pastoral Assistants

8 The senior pastor may hire additional staff to assist with pastoral ministry,  
9 designated as pastoral assistants. These shall not be pastors, though they may be  
10 recognized as elders should they be nominated by the elders and elected by the  
11 congregation, in accordance with Article 5, Section 2.

12 The senior pastor shall assign the responsibilities of the pastoral assistant(s).  
13 They shall serve at the will of the senior pastor for a term of one year, though that term  
14 may be extended with the approval of the elders.

15  
16 Section 8 – Deacons & Deaconesses

17 The office of deacon is described in I Timothy 3: 8–13. The church shall  
18 recognize, in accordance with the constitutional provisions on elections, men and women  
19 who are giving of themselves in service to the church, and who possess particular gifts of  
20 service. In keeping with the principles set forth in Acts 6:1-6, these members shall be  
21 received as gifts of Christ to His church and set apart as deacons and deaconesses. They  
22 shall be elected to one term lasting for a maximum of three years and may only be elected  
23 to another term after one year.

24 Deacons and deaconesses shall care for the temporal needs of members, attend to  
25 the accommodations for public worship, and encourage and support those able to help  
26 others and those with gifts of administration.

27 The elders, with assistance from the deacons and deaconesses shall receive, hold,  
28 and disburse a fund for benevolence, reporting on its use to the elders at their request, and  
29 reporting to the church its total receipts and total disbursements only.

30 The deacons and deaconesses, with the agreement of the elders, may establish  
31 unpaid administrative positions or committees of members to assist them in fulfilling  
32 their responsibilities in the church.

33  
34 Section 9 – Clerk

35 It shall be the duty of the clerk to record the minutes of all regular and special  
36 members' meetings of the church, to preserve an accurate roll of the membership, and to  
37 render reports as requested by the elders or the church.

38 The clerk, who shall be a member in good standing, shall be nominated by the  
39 elders and elected by the congregation to serve a term of three years.

40 In the absence or incapacity of the clerk, the elders shall appoint a member to  
41 perform the duties of the church clerk.

42 For purposes of compliance with the nonprofit corporation laws of the District of  
43 Columbia, the clerk shall serve as the secretary of the corporation.

44 The church clerk shall ensure that dated copies of the most recent revision of this  
45 constitution shall be available for all church members.

46

1             Section 10 – Treasurer

2             The treasurer, who shall not be an active elder, deacon, or paid church staff  
 3 member, shall be a member in good standing. The treasurer shall support the elders in  
 4 providing oversight of the financial and accounting activities of the church, shall not have  
 5 custody of church funds, and shall ensure that all funds and securities of the church are  
 6 properly secured in such banks, financial institutions, or depositories as appropriate. The  
 7 treasurer shall also be responsible for presenting regular reports of the account balances,  
 8 revenues and expenses of the church at each members’ meeting. This responsibility may  
 9 be delegated with the approval of the elders. The treasurer shall also see that full and  
 10 accurate accounts of receipts and disbursements are kept in books belonging to the  
 11 church, and that adequate controls are implemented to ensure that all funds belonging to  
 12 the church are appropriately handled by any officer, employee, or agent of the church.  
 13 The treasurer shall render to the elders, whenever they may require it, an account of all  
 14 activities as treasurer and of the financial condition of the church.

15             The treasurer shall be nominated by the elders and elected by the congregation to  
 16 serve a term of three years.

17  
 18   **Article 6 – Elections**

19  
 20             Section 1 – Principles

21             The process for church elections shall be interpreted and carried out to fulfill the  
 22 following principles:  
 23             Substantial prayer, both individually and corporately, should be an integral part of  
 24             the election process;  
 25             Nominations should proceed with the support of the elders;  
 26             All candidates for church office should be treated with the grace, kindness, and  
 27             honesty appropriate in evaluating fellow members;  
 28             The election process shall express that spirit of mutual trust, openness, and loving  
 29             consideration that is appropriate within the body of our Lord Jesus Christ.

30  
 31             Section 2 – Selection of Officers

32             The election of officers shall be held at a members’ meeting of the church.  
 33 Names of nominees to serve as elders, deacons, deaconesses, clerk, or treasurer shall be  
 34 presented by the elders at the previous members’ meeting (providing that previous  
 35 meeting occurred at least eight weeks prior), and the election shall proceed as directed by  
 36 the moderator.  
 37             The elders should seek recommendations and involvement from the general  
 38 membership in the nomination process. Any member with reason to believe that a  
 39 nominated candidate is unqualified for an office should express such concern to the  
 40 elders. Members intending to speak in opposition to a candidate should express their  
 41 objection to the elders as far in advance as possible before the relevant church members’  
 42 meeting.  
 43             The moderator shall declare elected all men receiving a two-thirds majority of all  
 44 votes cast for the office of elder at a regularly-scheduled members meeting. For all other  
 45 offices, the moderator shall declare elected all persons receiving a simple majority of all  
 46 votes cast; abstentions will not be considered as votes cast.



1 The persons elected shall assume their respective offices upon election, unless  
2 another date has been specifically designated.

3  
4 Section 3 – Calling of the Senior Pastor

5 In the calling of any man to this position, the same basic process of calling an  
6 elder must be followed. In addition, however, the church must be given adequate  
7 opportunity to assess the preaching gifts of any potential senior pastor and, before being  
8 asked to express its judgment, must receive assurance from the elders that, having  
9 interviewed the man concerned, they are in no doubt as to his wholehearted assent to the  
10 Statement of Faith and Church Covenant. Notice of the nomination of a man to be  
11 elected to membership and called as senior pastor (which shall include, if necessary,  
12 election to membership of his wife if he is married) must be given at two Sunday  
13 morning services following the nomination, prior to the vote at a members' meeting.

14  
15 Section 4 – Calling of Associate Pastor

16 In the calling of any man to the position of associate pastor, the same basic  
17 process of calling an elder must be followed. In addition, however, the church must be  
18 given adequate opportunity to assess the preaching gifts of any potential associate pastor  
19 and, before being asked to express its judgment, must receive assurance from the elders  
20 that, having interviewed the man concerned, they are in no doubt as to his wholehearted  
21 assent to the Statement of Faith and Church Covenant. Notice of the nomination of a  
22 man to be called as associate pastor (which shall include, if necessary, election to  
23 membership of him and his wife if he is married) must be given at two Sunday morning  
24 services following the nomination, prior to the vote at a members' meeting.

25  
26 Section 5 – Calling of Assistant Pastor

27 The calling of any man to the position of assistant pastor requires that that man  
28 have been recognized and called by the congregation to the office of elder, according to  
29 the process described in Article 6, Section 2. Such a man may then be called by the  
30 elders to serve as assistant pastor with defined duties for a fixed period of time specified  
31 by the elders in the terms of his call.

32  
33 **Article 7 – Indemnification**

34  
35 Section 1 – Mandatory Indemnification

36 If a legal claim or criminal allegation is made against a person because he or she  
37 is or was an officer, employee, or agent of the church, the church shall provide  
38 indemnification against liability and costs incurred in defending against the claim if the  
39 elders determine that the person acted (a) in good faith, (b) with the care an ordinarily  
40 prudent person in a similar position would exercise under similar circumstances, and (c)  
41 in a manner the person reasonably believed to be in the best interest of the church, and  
42 the person had no reasonable cause to believe his or her conduct was unlawful.

43

1            Section 2 – Permissive Indemnification

2            At the discretion of the elders, the church also may indemnify any person who  
3 acted in good faith and reasonably believed that his or her conduct was in the church’s  
4 best interest and not unlawful.

5

6            Section 3 – Procedure

7            If a quorum of the elders is not available for an indemnification determination  
8 because of the number of elders seeking indemnification, the requisite determination may  
9 be made by the membership or by special legal counsel appointed by the membership.

10

11                            **Article 8 – Dispute Resolution**

12

13            Believing that the Bible commands Christians to make every effort to live at  
14 peace and to resolve disputes with each other in private or within the Christian Church  
15 (see, e.g., Matthew 18: 15–20, I Corinthians 6: 1–8), the church shall require its members  
16 to resolve ordinary civil disputes among themselves according to biblically based  
17 principles, without reliance on the secular courts. In the case of criminal activity within  
18 the congregation, the State has a God-given responsibility to protect the peace and  
19 security of its citizens that should be supported and encouraged. Consistent with its call  
20 to peacemaking, the church shall encourage the use of biblically based principles to  
21 resolve disputes between itself and those outside the church, whether Christian or pagan  
22 and whether individuals or corporate entities.

23

24                            **Article 9 – Deviations of Practice**

25

26            If a church member believes the church to be out of accord with this constitution,  
27 he or she should inform an elder. When the elders determine that the church is out of  
28 accord with this constitution, they must provide an update at each members’ meeting  
29 until the situation is remedied.

30

31                            **Article 10 – Amendments**

32

33            The Statement of Faith and Church Covenant may be amended by a two-thirds  
34 vote of the members present and voting at a members’ meeting, provided the amendment  
35 shall have been offered in writing at the previous members’ meeting, and shall have been  
36 announced from the pulpit at church services two successive Sundays prior to such vote.

37            This constitution may be amended by a two-thirds vote of the members present  
38 and voting at a members’ meeting, provided the amendment shall have been offered in  
39 writing at the previous members’ meeting, and shall have been announced from the pulpit  
40 at church services two successive Sundays prior to such vote.

41            The revised version of this constitution shall be made available to all church  
42 members by the church clerk.

43

44                            **Article 11 – Dissolution**

45

1 In the event that the elders of the church determine that there is reasonable cause to  
2 dissolve the Capitol Hill Baptist Church as a corporate entity, the elders shall recommend  
3 dissolution to the membership. The elders shall call a special members' meeting as set  
4 out in Article 4, Section 2. Notice of the meeting shall be sent in writing to the  
5 membership and posted at all entrances to the church building no less than sixty days  
6 prior to the meeting. The notice shall state that the purpose of the meeting is to consider  
7 dissolution of the corporation and how the assets of the corporation will be distributed  
8 after all creditors have been paid. At least two-thirds of the members present at the  
9 meeting must vote in the affirmative to approve the proposal of dissolution.

10  
11 After approval of dissolution by the members, all of the corporation's debts shall be fully  
12 satisfied. None of its assets or holdings shall be divided among the members or other  
13 individuals, but shall be irrevocably designated, as approved by a simple majority of the  
14 members present at a members' meeting, to one or more religious organizations which  
15 meet the qualifications described in Section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code and  
16 which are in agreement with the letter and spirit of the Statement of Faith. Any such  
17 assets not so disposed of shall be disposed of exclusively for such exempt purposes by a  
18 court of competent jurisdiction where the principal office of the corporation is then  
19 located.