

CONSTITUTION
OF
WAIKOLOA BAPTIST CHURCH
WAIKOLOA, HAWAII 96738
Revised and Adopted July 9, 2017

Preamble

We declare and establish this Constitution for the preservation and security of our faith. This body shall be governed in an orderly manner consistent with the generally accepted practice of Southern Baptist Churches. This constitution shall preserve the liberties inherent in each individual member of this church and the freedom of action of this body with respect to its relationship to other churches of the Good News of the Gospel of Jesus Christ.

Article 1. Name

This church shall be known as the Waikoloa Baptist Church of Waikoloa, Hawaii.

Article II. Objectives

1. We have joined together to become a spiritually dynamic church empowered by the Holy Spirit. Our purpose is to share Jesus Christ with the people in our community, our state, and around the world.
2. We aspire to be a worshiping, equipping, growing fellowship, ministering unselfishly to the members entrusted to us. We also seek to meet the needs of our community and the world in the name of Jesus.
3. We desire to exemplify Christ-likeness in our daily living, emphasizing total commitment of our lives to the Lordship of Christ.

Article III. Statement of Faith

Section 1. Basic Beliefs

1. We affirm the Holy Bible as God's inspired, inerrant, and infallible Word to us. We also affirm that it is the basis for our beliefs and the sole authority for our faith and practice.
2. We agree in principle and in spirit with the most recent doctrinal statement of the Baptist Faith and Message as adopted by the Southern Baptist Convention.
3. We voluntarily band ourselves together as a body of baptized believers in Jesus Christ personally committed to sharing the Good News of salvation to lost mankind.
4. We believe that the ordinance of baptism is the immersion in water of a professed believer 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, and his own death to sin, the burial of his old life and his resurrection to a new life in Jesus Christ.

5. We believe that the Lord's Supper is a symbolic act of obedience whereby a member of the Body of Christ, in obedience to His command, partake of the bread and the fruit of the vine, to commemorate the sacrificial death of the Lord Jesus Christ.

Section 2. Marriage and Family

We believe that Christian wedding ceremonies on church property are considered to be worship services of God. A wedding ceremony shall only be officiated by one or more ordained Ministers of the Gospel and must be in accordance with the Waikoloa Baptist Church Personnel and Policy Manual – Amended May 2014.

Article IV. Church Covenant

Having been drawn by the Holy Spirit to receive Jesus Christ as our Savior and Lord, and on our public profession of our faith in Him, having been scripturally baptized in the name of the Father, and the Son, and the Holy Spirit, we do now enter into a covenant with the church as one body in Christ and promise to:

1. With the aid of the Holy Spirit, to strive for the advancement of this church for the glory of Christ, in proclaiming, ministering, witnessing, and educating; to sustain its worship, ordinances, discipline, and doctrine, and pray regularly for the leadership of this church;
2. Contribute in a cheerful and regular manner to the expense of this church, the relief of the poor, and the spread of the gospel through all nations;
3. Walk with fellow Christians in brotherly love; to refrain from gossip, to help those who are weak in faith, sick or in distress, to remember them in prayer;
4. Study the Scripture and maintain family and individual devotions; to bring up our children in the way of the Lord; to seek the salvation of lost kindred and acquaintances;
5. Work honestly in the world; to be just in our dealing, faithful in our commitments, and exemplary in our behavior;
6. Abstain from harmful habits and appearances of evil, as consistent with the Holy Scriptures;
7. Return no man evil for evil, but be always ready for reconciliation, and mindful of the rules of our Savior to seek it without delay, and to use leisure time to build body, soul, and character, as well as Christian fellowship;
8. Unite with some other church where we can carry out the spirit of the covenant and the principles of God's word, as soon as possible, when we move from this place.

Article V. Church Governance

The Lord Jesus Christ is the Head of the church, and it is spiritually a theocracy where He is the final authority. In matters of local church government, we are an autonomous body, practicing a congregational form of polity. Authority for church governance resides with the membership composed of baptized believers whose names appear on the church roll at the time of the adoption of this constitution and those accepted for membership as hereinafter provided.

The membership reserves the exclusive right to determine who shall be members of this church and the conditions of their membership. This constitution may be amended as listed in the by-laws. All internal groups formed and empowered by the church shall report to and be accountable only to the church, unless otherwise specified.

This church is subject to the control of no other ecclesiastical body, but it recognizes and sustains the obligations of mutual counsel and cooperation, which are common among Baptist churches. Insofar as is practical, this church will cooperate and support the Hawaii Pacific Baptist Convention, including financial support through the Cooperative Program.

Article VI. Amendments

When the Pastor, Pastoral Staff, or the Deacon Ministry Team decide an amendment is warranted, they must inform the church members two weeks prior to a regular or called business meeting. Printed copies of the amendment must be available at the time of the announcement. Amendments to the constitution shall require a two-thirds vote of the members present and voting.