

BYLAWS

**NORTH RICHLAND HILLS BAPTIST
CHURCH, S.B.C.**

OF

FORT WORTH, TEXAS

Approved by Church Body

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ARTICLE I

MEMBERSHIP

Section 1. General

The membership of North Richland Hills Baptist Church, S. B. C. of North Richland Hills, Texas, referred to herein as the “Church”, shall consist of all persons whose names appear on the church membership role.

All authority not herein vested in any church or corporate officer pursuant to these bylaws is reserved in and to the Church and the Church reserves the right, at any time, to amend, modify, supplement or revoke, in whole or in part, these bylaws.

The management of the affairs of the Church shall be vested in the Church members pursuant to Section 2.14C of the Texas Non-Profit Corporation Act.

Section 2. Admission to Membership

Admission to membership shall be granted by completing the following steps:

- A. You must have made a profession of faith in Christ as personal Savior and Lord.
- B. You must be baptized by immersion following your profession of faith and as a symbol of that faith.
- C. You must complete the New Members class offered by NRHBC.
- D. You must sign the New Members Covenant.

Section 3. Rights of Church Members

- A. Every member is entitled to vote at all elections and on all questions submitted to the Church in conference, provided the member is present.
- B. Every member is eligible for consideration by the membership as candidates for elective offices in the Church in accordance with these bylaws.
- C. Every member may participate in the ordinances of the Church.

Section 4. Termination of Membership

Membership may be terminated:

- A. Upon death.
- B. Upon a member's joining another church.
- C. Upon withdrawal of fellowship by the Church from a member as provided by the Holy Scriptures and more particularly in Matthew 18:15-17 and in 1 Corinthians 5.
- D. Upon request of the member.
- E. Upon being unable to locate a member for five years and lack of evidence of attendance.

Section 5. Discipline of Members

It shall be the practice of this Church, through its ministers and members, to make every reasonable effort to counsel and help any member who is having spiritual problems. The body of Christ is holy due to the indwelling of the Holy Spirit, and the headship of Christ (Col. 1:18). Therefore, the Church must function so as to assure the maintenance of the purity of its character with respect to both morals and doctrine. 1 Cor. 5:1-13; II Cor. 6:16-18; Eph. 2:19-22; 1 Peter 1:16; II Peter 2:4-7; II John 9-11.

- A. The purposes for discipline
 - (1) To assure the godly character of the local church before God and man (Acts 5:1-13).
 - (2) To restore the offending believer (Gal. 6:1; II Cor. 2:4-11).
 - (3) To serve as a warning to others (1 Tim. 5:20).
 - (4) To maintain order in the assembly.
- B. The attitude of the Church in administering discipline
 - (1) Meekness (Gal. 6:1)
 - (2) Humility (Gal. 6:1)
 - (3) Impartiality (1 Tim. 5:21)
 - (4) Love (II Cor. 2:4)
 - (5) Forgiveness (II Cor. 2:7; Luke 17:3-4)
 - (6) Prayer (Matthew 18:18-20)

C. Procedure for discipline

In cases of discipline the Church shall follow the guidelines for reconciliation set out in Matthew 18. If reconciliation fails, the Church may take action according to Matthew 18 to exclude the offending member. Exclusion shall be by majority vote of members present and voting. All disciplinary proceedings shall be pervaded by a spirit of Christian kindness and forbearance.

D. Reinstatement of Excluded Members

The Church may restore to membership any person previously excluded, upon request of the excluded person, and by majority vote of members present and voting upon evidence of the excluded person's repentance and reformation.

ARTICLE II

CHURCH OFFICERS AND CORPORATE OFFICERS

Section 1. The Church Officers

A. Senior Pastor (hereafter referred to as Pastor)

We believe that Christ is head over His body, the Church, and is Chief Shepherd of the flock. We also believe that God calls men to be pastors of local churches. Such pastors are to model the Christian life, feed the body of Christ spiritually, and lead the church to minister.
Eph. 5:23; Col. 1:18; Eph. 4:11-12; I Peter 5:1-4.

(1) Qualifications

- (a) General qualifications found in 1 Tim. 3:1-7 and Titus 1:6-9.
- (b) The Pastor should walk circumspectly in all matters with no conflicting interests relative to worldly affairs.
- (c) The Pastor must acknowledge and be in agreement with the doctrinal statements of the Baptist Faith and Message as adopted by the Southern Baptist Convention.
- (d) The Pastor shall be doctrinally sound, evangelistically warm, missionary minded, and shall have a shepherd's heart.

(2) Responsibilities

- (a) The Pastor's primary responsibility is to equip the church for the work of the ministry and the building up of the church for the glory of God.
- (b) The Pastor shall be responsible to preach at the regular services of the Church, obtain supply-preachers, select evangelists and special speakers.
- (c) The Pastor shall lead the church in visiting the lost, the sick and the bereaved.
- (d) The Pastor shall oversee the counseling ministry to the church and to the community.
- (e) The Pastor shall make every effort to keep himself spiritually, mentally, physically and emotionally healthy, spending his time wisely to meet the needs of his family and ministry.
- (f) The Pastor shall be the chief administrative officer.
 - 1. The Pastor shall be the moderator of the Church or may designate a substitute moderator.
 - 2. It is the responsibility of the Pastor to give final approval for employment of all professional ministerial staff with the advice of the personnel committee, and with approval of 2/3 majority of the Church members present and voting.
 - 3. The Pastor shall have the responsibility of giving the final decision for dismissal of any professional ministerial staff after advice of the personnel committee.

(3) Pastoral Vacancy

If the Pastor is incapacitated or if the pastorate is vacant, the Body of Deacons shall be responsible for assigning the position of chief administrative officer to an individual. This person will oversee the daily activities of the church, and will have all the responsibilities stated above in Article II, Section 1, A. (2) with the following exceptions:

- (a) Dismissal of any professional ministerial staff shall be done by the Body of Deacons after the advice and counsel of the Personnel Committee.

(b) The assigning of preaching duties to current staff and/or obtaining supply-preachers will be the responsibility of a committee made up of the Personnel Committee and the Deacon officers.

(4) Selection of the Pastor

(a) The candidate for the position of Pastor shall be recommended to the Church by the Pastor Search Committee.

(b) The Pastor Search Committee shall be comprised of eight members, one member from each of the following divisions: Preschool workers, Children's workers, Student Ministries and workers, College/Single Adults and workers, Young Adults and workers, Median Adults and workers, Senior Adults and workers, and the Body of Deacons. Each specified division will select three names from among their group to be placed on a ballot for the church at large to select one from that group. The Pastor Search Committee selection process shall be administered by the Personnel Committee.

Members of the Pastor Search Committee shall be active members of the Church. No more than one member from a household may be on the final ballot. Names will not appear more than once on the final ballot. Ministerial staff and members of their households shall not be eligible.

The final ballot for the Pastor Search Committee, containing three nominees from each of the eight divisions, shall be made available to the church. The Church shall vote for one nominee in each division. The nominee in each division with the most votes shall be placed on the committee. The chairman shall be selected by the elected members.

(c) Upon selection of a candidate for the position of Pastor, the committee shall bring the candidate before the Church. The election of a Pastor shall be administered by the Personnel Committee.

There must be approval by 85% of the church members present and voting for the call of the Pastor.

(5) Termination

The Pastor shall be called for an indefinite period. If the Church finds it necessary to terminate a pastor, it shall be done in the following manner:

(a) The Church should view termination only as a last resort after every attempt to reconcile differences has been made and ample time given for

the Pastor to relocate if possible. The Body of Deacons shall be responsible to see that the spirit of this bylaw is followed.

- (b) The Personnel Committee with advice and counsel of the Body of Deacons must make a recommendation for termination to the Church in writing, two weeks prior to a vote, with reasons given for the recommendations. The Personnel Committee shall have the authority to place the Pastor on paid administrative leave with the advice and counsel of the Body of Deacons.
- (c) Said vote would take place at the Sunday evening worship service, with due time given for discussion before a secret ballot. This meeting shall be presided over by the Chairman of Deacons.
- (d) A 2/3 majority vote of those present and voting, shall constitute termination with severance immediate.

B. Church Staff

The church staff is to serve with the Pastor and under his leadership and supervision in the function of the church. All new positions must be recommended by the personnel committee and approved by 2/3 majority of the Church members present and voting.

C. Deacons

(1) Purposes

Deacons shall aid the Pastor and extend his ministry as requested so that the Pastor's time might be given to prayer and preaching. Deacons shall minister to the people of the church and serve as peacemakers.

(2) Responsibilities

(a) Ministry

The Body of Deacons shall assist the Pastor in any way needed and perform any ministries deemed necessary by the Church. Deacons shall :

- (1) attend to the welfare of the people by ministering to the sick, needy and distressed,
- (2) visit new and prospective members,

(3) be an example to the church in prayer, worship, Bible study, Christian character, and general Church attendance, and

(4) assist in baptism and the observance of the Lord's Supper.

(b) General Operations of the Church

The Body of Deacons shall:

(1) provide advice and counsel to standing committees on any matter which the committees are to bring before the church,

(2) provide counsel and administration during a Senior Pastor vacancy,

(3) recommend to the Church in regular or special business meetings such policies, practices and procedures as they deem advisable, and

(4) through its officers, participate in the appointment of the Nominating Committee and the Chairpersons of the four Administrative Committees according to Article II, Section 1.C(5)(d) on page 12.

(c) Each deacon on the Body of Deacons shall be required to attend two-thirds of the regularly scheduled meetings of the Body of Deacons in any calendar year. Any deacon that misses over one-third of the meetings shall be subject to transfer to the Auxiliary Deacons.(3)

(3) Qualifications

Deacons must be members of the Church that are "men of good reputation full of the Spirit and of wisdom" as stated in Acts 6:3. They, and their wives, if married, must exhibit Christian character as described in 1 Timothy 3:8-12. They must tithe to this Church. They must have already proved themselves to be an example in ministry and in involvement in Church life. The Deacon must acknowledge and be in agreement with the doctrinal statements of the Baptist Faith and Message as adopted by the Southern Baptist Convention. A man that has never before served this Church as a deacon must be a member of this Church for a minimum of one year before election, and before serving as a Yokefellow.

(4) Classifications

- (a) The Body of Deacons shall be comprised of those deacons that are serving an appointed three year term on the deacon body.
- (b) The Auxiliary Deacons shall be those deacons who either
 - (1) have rotated off of the Body of Deacons after serving an appointed three year term, or
 - (2) have determined that they are presently unable to serve on the Body of Deacons and have requested to remain on or be transferred to the Auxiliary Deacons, or
 - (3) have been removed from the Body of Deacons by action of that body because of lack of qualification to continue in that body.
- (c) Deacon Emeritus status may be granted men who have faithfully given exceptional service to this Church on the Body of Deacons and who are no longer able to actively serve due to age or health. This status is an honor which may be bestowed rather than an alternative to service to be chosen by the individual deacon. This status may be granted after nomination by the Deacon Nominating Committee and approval by the Body of Deacons. Deacons that have been granted the status of Deacon Emeritus shall be entitled to attend meetings of the Body of Deacons, participate in discussions and vote. The Deacon Emeritus will hold this status for as long as his walk with the Lord meets the qualifications as outlined in these Bylaws.
- (d) Yokefellows shall be those men who have been elected by the Church to serve on the Body of Deacons for their first time in this Church. These men shall be Yokefellows for one year of observation and training prior to becoming a part of the Body of Deacons. They shall attend Deacons meetings but shall not have voting rights. They shall receive training in evangelism, visiting and different ministries. At the end of one year as a Yokefellow, the deacon candidate shall, upon the recommendation of the Deacon Nominating Committee and following ordination, if he has not already been ordained, become a member of the Body of Deacons to serve a three-year term.

(5) Organization and Operation of the Body of Deacons

(a) Membership

The number of deacons serving on the Body of Deacons may be increased or decreased according to need as determined by the

Deacon Nominating Committee; however, the number shall not be less than 40. Selection and rotation are described under paragraph 6 of this section of Bylaws.

(b) Officers

The Body of Deacons shall annually elect a Chairman, a Chairman-Elect, a Secretary and an Assistant Secretary from the members who will be qualified to serve. The officers shall each serve for one year or until their successor has been elected. The Chairman shall preside at all meetings and shall perform such other duties as the Body of Deacons may authorize. The Chairman-Elect shall perform the duties of the Chairman upon the death, absence, resignation or inability of the Chairman to perform the duties of his office. The Secretary and/or the Assistant Secretary shall record the minutes of each meeting and keep such other records as are needed.

(c) Meetings and Quorum

The Body of Deacons shall meet regularly at such time and place as they may determine. Special meetings may be called by the Chairman, the Pastor or a majority of the Body of Deacons by giving notice thereof to each member and the Pastor. The presence of at least one-half of the members of the Body of Deacons shall constitute a quorum. The vote of a majority of the deacons present and voting at a meeting at which a quorum is present shall be sufficient to decide any matter before the Body of Deacons. Participation in meetings is restricted to members of the Body of Deacons, ministerial staff and individuals invited to attend by the Deacon Chairman or Pastor.

(d) Special Committees and Ministries

(1) The Body of Deacons shall appoint members from its own body to prepare for and clean up after the Lord's Supper. The Body of Deacons shall, under the direction of the Pastor, assist the Pastor in serving the Lord's Supper.

(2) The Body of Deacons shall appoint those as requested by the Pastor to assist with baptism.

(3) The Deacon Nominating Committee shall be comprised of the four deacon officers and the Pastor. This committee shall annually

a. nominate deacon officer candidates for the next year

- b. evaluate Auxiliary Deacons and determine which are qualified to rotate back on to the Body of Deacons for the next year
- c. determine if new deacons are needed, and administer the nomination, evaluation, election, training and ordination of new deacons as described in Article II, Section 1, paragraph C(6)(b), page 14.
- d. appoint a church nominating committee of at least seven members, and
- e. appoint deacon or non-deacon chairpersons of the four administrative committees (Finance, Personnel, Properties, and Long Range Planning). Non-deacon chairpersons of the four administrative committees shall be ratified by the church.

(6) Selection of Deacons

(a) Rotation

The deacons shall be divided approximately into fourths with three-fourths serving on the Body of Deacons and one-fourth being Auxiliary Deacons. Deacons shall serve three years on the Body of Deacons and then rotate for at least one year to the Auxiliary Deacons. After one year on the Auxiliary Deacons, rotation back to the Body of Deacons shall be automatic after a deacon has been determined to be qualified by the Deacon Nominating Committee and the deacon agrees to again serve on the Body of Deacons. The implementation of this rotation system shall be the responsibility of the 1996 Body of Deacons. Section 1, paragraph C(6)(b), page 14.

(b) Nomination, election and ordination of new deacons

(1) The Deacon Nominating Committee shall determine if new deacons are needed. The committee shall administer the nomination, evaluation, election, training and ordination of new deacons.

(2) New deacon candidates shall be nominated by the Church.

- (3) The Deacon Nominating Committee shall determine which of the qualified nominees are to be presented to the church for ratification.
- (4) After ratification by the church, the deacon candidate shall serve one year as a Yokefellow as described in Art. II, Section C (4)(d), page 11.
- (5) After serving as a Yokefellow and upon recommendation of the Deacon Nominating Committee, the candidate, if not already ordained, shall be ordained. Following ordination, or following the recommendation of the Deacon Nominating Committee, if the candidate is already ordained, the candidate shall be a new deacon of the church and begin serving three years on the Body of Deacons.

(7) Termination of Deacons

The office of a deacon shall terminate upon

- (a) His death;
- (b) His resignation;
- (c) His removal from such office by the Church;
- (d) His joining another church.

Section 2. The Corporate Officers

In compliance with the Texas Non-Profit Corporation Act, the Church shall have the following Corporate Officers:

A. President

The office of President and Chairman of the Body of Deacons shall be held by the same person. In addition to his duties as Chairman of the Body of Deacons, the President's only other authority in the capacity of President shall be the power to execute on behalf of the Church such instruments and agreements as may be required by the Church when the execution thereof has been authorized as provided by these Bylaws.

B. Vice-President

The office of Vice-President and Chairman-Elect of the Body of Deacons shall be held by the same person. In addition to his duties as Chairman-Elect of the Body of

Deacons, the Vice-President's only other authority in the capacity of Vice-President shall be the power to perform the duties of the President upon the death, absence, resignation or inability of the President to perform the duties of his office.

C. Secretary

The Offices of Secretary and Secretary of the Body of Deacons shall be held by the same person. In addition to his duties as Secretary of the Body of Deacons, the Secretary's only other authority in the capacity of Secretary shall be the power to execute on behalf of the Church such instruments and agreements as may be required by the Church when the execution thereof has been authorized as provided in these Bylaws.

D. Assistant Secretary

The Office of Assistant Secretary and Assistant Secretary of the Body of Deacons shall be held by the same person. In addition to his duties as Associate Chairman for Education of the Body of Deacons, the Secretary's only other authority in the capacity of Secretary shall be the power to execute on behalf of the Church such instruments and agreements as may be required by the Church when the execution thereof has been authorized as provided in these Bylaws.

E. Treasurer

The Treasurer is authorized to perform the functions of a treasurer and shall be the Church Business Administrator. He may or may not be a Deacon, but must be a member of the Church.

F. Election of Officers

All officers provided for in this corporate section, including the Chairman, the Chairman-Elect the Secretary and Assistant Secretary of the Body of Deacons shall be elected annually for a term of one year by the Body of Deacons at its annual election. Unless an officer's term of office is terminated as provided herein, each officer so elected shall continue in office until a successor shall have been duly elected as herein provided and shall have assumed the responsibilities of the office. A vacancy in any office may be filled by the Body of Deacons at any regular or special meeting of the Body of Deacons.

G. Other Duties and Officers

The Body of Deacons at their discretion may impose upon the corporate officers, such other duties as the Body of Deacons may designate consistent with these Bylaws. The Body of Deacons may also at their discretion elect such other officers and assistant officers as they may deem necessary. Any such additional officer or assistant officer may or may not be a Deacon, but must be a member of the Church.

H. Removal of Officers

Any officer elected by the Body of Deacons may be removed by them at any time. Whenever in their judgment the best interests of the Church will thereby be served. Any office shall become vacant when the holder thereof dies, resigns, becomes incapacitated or is no longer a member of the Church.

I. Compensation

Unless expressly authorized by the Body of Deacons, the officers provided for in this section shall receive no salary or compensation for their services as officers.

ARTICLE III

CONVEYANCES AND OTHER INSTRUMENTS

Section 1. General

The Church may acquire, purchase, hold, sell, convey, mortgage, encumber or otherwise deal with or dispose of real or personal property owned or acquired by the Church and may evidence any such transaction by deed, bill of sale, mortgage, security interest, deed of trust, contract or other appropriate instrument, with or without the seal of the Church, signed by the President or Vice-President or other corporate officers of the Church when such transaction is authorized by appropriate resolution or budget adopted by the Church.

Section 2. Exempt Organization Declaration

This organization is organized and shall be operated for the purpose of engaging in religious worship and promoting the spiritual development and well-being of individuals. Its assets are pledged for the use in performing its religious function. Upon discontinuance of this organization by dissolution or otherwise, its assets are to be transferred to the Tarrant Baptist Association or its successor.

ARTICLE IV

CHURCH COMMITTEES

Section 1. General

The Church shall authorize such committees as are necessary to carry out its mission, including those committees specified in these Bylaws. The Committee members, except such

chairperson as are herein otherwise specified in Article II, Section 1.C.(5)(d), page 13 shall be elected by a majority of the Church members present at a business meeting or at a meeting called for this purpose. Normally the chairperson of a Standing Committee shall not serve two or more consecutive terms; however, under special circumstances, a chairperson may be appointed to serve a second term.

Section 2. Membership

- A. Members for the standing committees shall be recommended to the Church prior to January 31 of each year by the Nominating Committee. Other committees may be recommended to, and approved by, the Church as needed. Additional nominations may be made by Church members. All administrative committee chairpersons shall be appointed by the Deacon Nominating Committee.
- B. All committee members shall be members of this Church.
- C. Members of standing administrative committees shall be elected for a three-year period with one-third rotating off each year. Members of the other Standing Committees shall be elected for one year at a time not to exceed three consecutive years.
- D. The Pastor shall serve as ex-officio member of all committees.
- E. The Pastor may assign a member of the staff to be available for advice and assistance for each committee with no voting privileges.
- F. The members shall serve from February 1 through January 31.
- G. Members should excuse themselves from voting if there is a conflict of interest.

Section 3. Standing Committees

The following list of committees shall be standing committees with their number of members, purpose and duties set out in policy and procedures. All business of each Standing Committee to be brought before the Church shall first be brought before the Body of Deacons for their advice and counsel.

- A. Administrative Committees
 - (1) Finance
 - (2) Personnel
 - (3) Properties
 - (4) Long-range Planning
- B. Other Standing Committees
 - (1) Cornerstone Counseling Center

Section 4. Nominating Committee

Prior to January, there shall be a Nominating Committee of seven or more members appointed by the Deacon Nominating Committee as provided in Article II, Section 1.C.(5)(d), page 14. It shall be the duty of this Nominating Committee to nominate all standing Committees, and Chairpersons, except as provided in Article II, Section 1. C.(5)(d) of these Bylaws; and such other committees as authorized by the church, such nominees to be elected by the Church, unless otherwise provided by these Bylaws.

ARTICLE V
CHURCH ORDINANCES

Section 1. Baptism

This Church shall receive for baptism any person who has received Jesus Christ as Savior by personal faith, who indicates a commitment to follow Christ as Lord.

- A. Baptism shall be by immersion in water.
- B. The Pastor, or whoever is authorized by the Pastor, shall administer baptism.

Section 2. The Lord's Supper

Utilizing the two symbolic elements of bread and the fruit of the vine, the Church shall regularly observe the Lord's Supper. In accordance with the spirit of 1 Cor. 11:28, those present are urged to examine themselves as to Christian conversion and as to an obedient Christian walk. The Pastor, or whoever is authorized by the Pastor, shall administer the Lord's Supper.

ARTICLE VI
CHURCH MEETINGS

Section 1. Worship Services

The Church shall meet regularly on Sunday mornings, Sunday evenings, Wednesday evenings and any other times as determined by the Pastor.

Section 2. Business Meetings

A. Regular Business Meetings

Regular business meetings shall be held quarterly.

B. Special Business Meetings

special business meetings shall be given by written announcement and/or oral announcement at a Sunday worship service.

C. Quorum and Voting

The quorum consists of those who attend the business meeting. Passage of business matters shall be by majority vote of those present and voting unless otherwise stated in these Bylaws.

D. Parliamentary Rules

Robert's Rules of Order Revised is adopted as the procedure for all business meetings unless suspended by 2/3 majority vote of those present and voting.

Section 3. Fiscal Year

The fiscal year begins on January 1 and ends on December 31.

ARTICLE VII

EDUCATIONAL MINISTRIES

Section 1. General

All organizations of the Church shall be under Church control. All officers, except as otherwise provided in Article II, shall be elected by the Church and report regularly to the Church. It is understood that the Pastor is an ex-officio officer of all organizations named, and his leadership is to be recognized in them.

Section 2. Bible Study

There shall be a Bible Study for all ages meeting regularly on Sunday mornings. The objectives of the Bible Study shall be to teach God's word, lead in reaching all prospects for the Church, and lead all Church members to worship, witness, learn and minister daily.

ARTICLE VIII

LICENSE AND ORDINATION

Section 1. To the Gospel Ministry

From time to time the Church shall license or ordain to the gospel ministry men who have shown evidence of divine call in their lives.

A. License

A license to preach the gospel shall be issued upon recommendation of the Body of Deacons and an majority vote of the congregation in any regular or special business meeting.

B. Ordination

A man may be ordained to the gospel ministry following the recommendation of the Body of Deacons or Pastor. Upon recommendation, the Pastor shall convene a council of ordained ministers and deacons to examine the candidate. His life, doctrine, and call shall be examined in light of I Timothy 3:1-7, other applicable Scriptures, and usual Baptist practice. At the ordination service a presbytery of all ordained men present shall be formed to receive the recommendation of the examining council. Upon acceptance of the examining council's report, the Church shall vote to proceed with the ordination.

C. Limits and Revocation

A license granted by this Church shall expire in five years unless the man is ordained or unless the license is renewed by majority vote of the Church. The license certificate shall bear the date of expiration. The ordination of this Church is valid for the lifetime of the minister. However, the Church reserves the right to withdraw upon majority vote any license or ordination it has issued should the life of the minister cease to bear those qualities required for such recognition.

Section 2. To the Deacon Ministry

A. Ordination

Upon the recommendation of the Deacon Nominating Committee the Church shall ordain the unordained Deacons as soon as convenient following their year's service as a Yokefellow. At the ordination service, a presbytery of ordained men present shall lay hands on the candidate and ordain them to the Deacon ministry.

B. Limits and Revocations

The ordination of this Church is valid for the lifetime of the Deacon. However, the Church reserves the right to withdraw the ordination upon majority vote should the life of the Deacon cease to bear those qualities required for such recognition.

ARTICLE IX

SAVINGS CLAUSE

All Church regulations, policies and procedures heretofore adopted by the North Richland Hills Baptist Church which are inconsistent with these Bylaws are hereby repealed and of no force and effect, after the date of the adoption of these Bylaws.

ARTICLE X

AMENDMENTS

The Bylaws may be amended at any regular business meeting by a two-third majority vote of the members present and voting. The proposed revision or amendment shall have been submitted to members of the Church in writing at least thirty (30) days prior to the meeting.