

Bylaws of NorthPointe Church of Adairsville, Inc.

ARTICLE I General

The name of this corporation is NorthPointe Church of Adairsville, Inc. This corporation will be further referred to in the Bylaws as the “Church”.

ARTICLE II Membership

Section 1. General

Membership in this church shall consist of all persons who have met the qualifications for membership and are listed on the membership roll.

Section 2. Qualifications

Qualifications for membership are:

1. A personal commitment of faith in Jesus Christ for salvation.
2. Baptism by immersion as a testimony of salvation or statement of previous baptism.
3. Completion of the Church’s membership class.
4. A commitment to abide by the Church’s membership covenant.

Section 3. Initial Members

Completion of the membership class shall not be a prerequisite for membership for those members who are part of the original organizational meeting. However, those members are expected to complete the membership class at their earliest possible convenience.

Section 4. Responsibilities

The responsibilities of membership are described in the membership covenant.

Section 5. Rights

Every active member shall have the right to vote on the following matters:

1. The annual budget of the Church.
2. The calling or removal of a Pastor.
3. The acquisition of real property and any related indebtedness.
4. Amendments to the Constitution or Bylaws of the Church.

Each active member 16 years or older is entitled to one vote. No proxy voting shall be permitted.

Section 6. Termination

Membership shall be terminated for the following reasons:

1. Death
2. Transfer of membership to another church.
3. By personal request of the member.
4. Dismissal by the Elders if the member's life and conduct is not in accordance with the membership covenant in such a way that the member hinders the ministry influence of the Church in the community.

Procedures for dismissal of a member shall be according to Matthew 18:15-17.

Dismissed members shall be restored by the Elders in the spirit of 2 Corinthians 2:7-8, when their life-styles are determined to be in accordance with the membership covenant.

ARTICLE III Membership Meetings

Section 1. General

A general meeting of the members shall be held in December of each year. The purpose of this meeting shall be to adopt an annual budget and conduct any other proper business. The Pastor shall preside over all membership meetings held for the purpose of conducting Church business. In the absence of the Pastor, the Elder body will appoint an Elder to preside over the meeting.

Section 2. Special Meetings

Special meetings may be called by the Pastor or by the Elders for any purpose by giving notice to the members in accordance with section 3.

Section 3. Notice of Meetings

Whenever members are required or permitted to take any action at a special meeting, notice shall be given to the members no less than one week prior to the meeting. This notice shall include the time and place of the meeting as well as the nature of the business to be conducted. Notice shall be given in any of the following manners:

1. Distribution of written material to the congregation in attendance at a regular worship service.
2. Oral announcement to the congregation at a regular worship service.
3. Delivery by Unites States mail to each member identified on the membership roll.

ARTICLE IV Elders

The Elders are a body of believers who serve as the overseers and shepherds of the Church. They will be the conscience and guardians of the Church. The number of Elders required will grow as the membership of the Church grows. The actual number of Elders will be set by the Elders, but shall be no less than 3 and no more than 10. The qualifications for Elders shall be those outlined in 1 Timothy 3:1-11 and Titus1:5-9. The Elders shall be responsible for the selection of men to serve as additional Elders or to replace vacated positions in the Elder body.

The Pastor shall serve as an Elder and the Elders shall serve as the primary accountability group for the Pastor.

The Elders shall meet regularly and evaluate the ministry and direction of the Church. Decisions of the Elders shall be made by affirmation of at least 75% of the Elder body. All Elders shall serve perpetually. If it becomes apparent that a certain Elder should not serve in the office of Elder, he may resign, or by unanimous vote of the other Elders, be immediately retired from office.

The Elders shall be responsible for preparation of the annual budget to be presented to the membership for approval.

The Elders shall elect a Church Secretary to maintain the membership roll of the Church. Elders will evaluate everything taking place in the Church in light of the purposes, missions, and beliefs of the Church.

For all practical purposes, the Elders have final say in all matters concerning the overall direction of the Church. Congregational approval shall be required for those items outlined in Article II Section 5.

ARTICLE V

Ministries

The Church is intended to function on the basis of spiritual gifts, not elected offices. The Church will work to help people discover their spiritual gifts and find fulfilling places of service and ministry.

When the need for a ministry is discovered and God raises up a servant to lead in this ministry, this person will be considered a Lay Minister. The Lay Minister will develop the goals and strategies they see for this ministry and bring this ministry to the Elder body. The Elder body will evaluate the ministry for consistency with the purposes and beliefs of the Church and after the Elders approve the ministry, the Lay Minister may form a Ministry Team as needed. Established ministries will exist and be supported by the Elders and the Church as long as they meet the needs of the members of the congregation or the community.

ARTICLE VI

Pastor

The Pastor shall be called by vote of the membership at a meeting called for that purpose. A Pastor will be called if he is affirmed by 75% of those members present and voting at this meeting.

In the event the position of Pastor is vacant, the Elder body shall appoint a Pastor Search Team of 5 active members to seek candidates for the Pastor position. An individual who has been selected by the Pastor Search Team and affirmed by the Elder body will be presented to the Church for election.

Recommendation for removal of the Pastor must come from the Elder body. This recommendation must be approved by 75% of members present and voting at a meeting called for that purpose. The purpose and time of this meeting must be announced to the congregation at least 2 weeks in advance.

ARTICLE VII

Ordinances

The Bible says that there are two symbols we need to be involved in to remind us of the decision we have made to accept salvation. These two symbols are baptism and the Lord's Supper. We call these symbols ordinances because they are ordained by God for Christians to remember Jesus' death. These are symbols of salvation, not things that make you saved.

Baptism:

Followers of Jesus Christ should be baptized because Christ commands it, it follows the example set by Christ, and it is a public demonstration of the believer's decision.

Baptism, to the extent it is physically possible, should be by immersion and should follow the decision to accept salvation as soon as practical.

The Lord's Supper:

Followers of Jesus Christ should participate in the Lord's Supper. Jesus asked us to remember his death by partaking of bread and the fruit of the vine. As a body of believers, we will regularly participate in this symbolic act of obedience to memorialize the death of our Redeemer and anticipate His second coming.

ARTICLE VIII

Church Year

The Church fiscal year and Church organizational year shall begin January 1 and end December 31.

ARTICLE IX

Amendments

These Bylaws may be amended at any business meeting of the Church, provided proper notice has been given as outlined in ARTICLE III Section 3. The proposed amendment must be submitted in writing to the Elder body. If the Elder body agrees the amendment should be brought before the Church membership, it will be presented at the next business meeting or a meeting will be called for that purpose. The amendment will be considered adopted when it is approved by 75% of those members present and voting.