

Kuna Baptist Church

Constitution Containing Articles of Faith

“Preaching unchanging truth for changing times”

Who we are, What we believe, Why we believe it and how we
purpose to operate

2017

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PREAMBLE:

Resting our faith wholly in the Lord Jesus Christ for our salvation and believing in the teaching of the Bible as the inerrant, inspired Word of the living God both verbally and in every part, we have affiliated ourselves with one another as a body of immersed believers, and we hereby rescind all previous action and adopt this constitution as a declaration of our convictions so that we may carry on the Lord's work decently and in order.

Article I – NAME

The name of this organization shall be known as **KUNA BAPTIST CHURCH Inc.**, Kuna, Idaho and is incorporated as a non-profit corporation in the state of Idaho.

Article II – ARTICLES OF FAITH

We believe that the church, as a corporate body, is answerable to God and God alone for its beliefs, and we believe the Word of God is the final authority on all issues of faith and practice. While it is not possible to fully detail everything we believe, the following Articles of Faith are intended to set forth the very core outline of who we are and what we believe. Individuals who are not in close agreement with these articles are welcome to attend this church, so long as they are not disruptive to the ministries of the church. Only those in agreement with these articles shall be allowed to be members or to hold any office within the church.

Section A. Of the Scriptures

We believe that the Holy bible, as originally written, was verbally inspired and the product of Spirit-controlled men, and therefore, is truth without any admixture of error for its matter. We believe the Bible to be the true center of Christian union, and the supreme standard by which all human conduct, creeds, and opinions shall be tried. II Timothy 3:16, 17; II Peter 1:19,21

We accept the Genesis account of creation and believe that the whole creation came to be through the direct creation of God in six literal twenty-four-hour days and not by evolution. Gen.1, 2; Col. 1:16, 17; John 1:3.

Section B. The Godhead

We believe in one Triune God, eternally existing in three Persons – Father, Son, and Holy Spirit – co-eternal in Being, co-identical in nature, co-equal in power and glory, and having the same attributes and perfections. Deut. 6:4; II Cor. 13, 14. We do believe however that each person of the God-head have differing roles or functions. For example, the Father is seen in Scripture as leading and planning while

Son submitted to the Father, took upon flesh, and died as a human in our place. The Spirit came as the comforter when Jesus ascended to heaven, indwelling the believer, and giving gifts among other things.

Section C. The Person and Work of Christ

We believe that Jesus was begotten of the Holy Ghost in a miraculous manner; born of Mary, a virgin, as no other man was ever born of woman, and that He is both the Son of God, and God the Son. Gen. 3:15; Isaiah 7:14; Matthew 1:18-25; Luke 1:35; John 1:14.

We believe that the Lord Jesus Christ ascended to heaven and is now exalted at the right hand of God, where, as our High Priest, he fulfills the ministry of Representative, Intercessor, and Advocate. Hebrews 7:25; 9:24; Romans 8:34.

Section D. The Person and Work of the Holy Spirit

We believe that the Holy Spirit is a person who convicts the world of sin, of righteousness, and of judgment; and that He is the supernatural agent in regeneration, baptizing all believers into the Body of Christ, indwelling, and sealing them unto the day of redemption. 1 Cor. 12:12-14; Eph. 1:13, 14; John 16:8-11.

We believe that He is the divine teacher who guides all believers into truth; and that it is the privilege and duty of all the saved to be filled with the Spirit. John 16:13; I John 2:20, 27; Ephesians 5:18.

We believe that the Holy Spirit administers gifts to the church for the purposes of glorifying God, establishing the church, and building up the church. The Holy Spirit is sovereign in the bestowal of all spiritual gifts – Hebrew 2:4. Gifts known as “Foundational” or “Sign Gifts” had their place at the inception of the church and were utilized to authenticate and validate the church. The sign gifts included: apostleship, prophecy, miracles, healing, and the interpretation of tongues. Scripture makes it clear that at some point these sign gifts will cease. We believe that they have indeed ceased – I Cor. 12:7-11; 13:8; Eph. 2:20. Gifts designed to build up the church like: evangelizing, helping, teaching, pastoring, serving, giving, administration, encouraging, and showing mercy are more permanent in nature and will continue at least until Christ returns for His church – Eph. 4:11; Rom. 12: 7-8.

Section E. The Total Depravity of Man

We believe that man was created in the image and likeness of God, but that in Adam’s sin the race fell, inherited a sinful nature, and became alienated from God; and that man is totally depraved, and of himself utterly unable to remedy his lost condition. Gen. 1:26, 27; Rom. 3:22, 23; 5:12; Ephesians 2:1-3, 12.

Section F. Atonement for Sin

We believe that the salvation of sinners is wholly of grace; through the mediation of the Son of God, who by the appointment of the Father freely took upon Him our nature, yet without sin, honored

the divine law by His personal obedience, and by His death made a full and vicarious atonement for our sins; that His atonement consisted not in His setting us an example by his death as a martyr, but was a voluntary substitution of Himself in the sinner's place, the Just dying for the unjust; Christ, the Lord bearing our sins in His own body on the tree; that having risen from the dead, He is now enthroned in Heaven and uniting in His wonderful Person the tenderest sympathies with divine perfection. He is in every way qualified to be a suitable, a compassionate, and an all-sufficient Savior. Eph. 2:8; Acts 15:11; Romans 3:24; John 5:16; Matthew 18:11; Philippians 2:7; Hebrews 2:14; Romans 3:25; I Corinthians 15:5; II Cor. 5:2.

Section G. Grace in the New Creation

We believe that in order to be saved, sinners must be born again; that the new birth is a new creation in Christ Jesus; that it is instantaneous and not a process; that in the new birth the one dead in trespasses and sins is made a partaker of the divine nature and receives eternal life, the free gift of God; that the new creation is brought about in a manner above our comprehension, solely by the power of the Spirit in connection with divine truth, so as to secure our voluntary obedience to the gospel; that is proper evidence appears in the holy fruit of repentance and faith and newness of life. I John 5:1; II Cor. 5:17; John 3:3, 6, 7, 8; Acts 16:30-33; II Peter 1:4; Romans 6:23; Eph. 2:1; II Cor. 5:19.

Section H. Justification

We believe that the great gospel blessing which Christ secures to such as believe in His is justification; a) that justification includes the pardon of sin, and the gift of eternal life, on principles of righteousness; b) that it is bestowed not in consideration of any works of righteousness which we have done; but solely through faith in the Redeemer's blood, His righteousness is imputed to us. Acts 13:39; Isa. 53:11; Romans 8:1; 5:9; 5:1.

Section I. Faith and Salvation

We believe that faith in the Lord Jesus Christ is the only condition of salvation. Eph. 2:8, 9; Gal. 2:16; Romans 4:4; Acts 16:31.

Section J. The Eternal Security and Assurance of Believers

We believe that all the redeemed, once saved, are kept by God's power and are thus secure in Christ forever. John 6:37-40; 10:27-30; Rom. 8:1; 8:38, 39; I Corinthians 1:4-8; I Peter 1:5.

We believe that it is the privilege of believers to rejoice in the assurance of their salvation through the testimony of God's Word, which, however, clearly forbids the use of Christian liberty as an occasion to the flesh. Romans 13:13, 14; Gal. 5:13; Titus 2:11-15.

Section K. The Two Natures of the Believer

We believe that every saved person possesses two natures, with provision made for victory of the new nature over the old nature through the power of the indwelling Holy Spirit; and that all claims to the eradication of the old nature in this life are unscriptural. Romans 6:13; 8:12, 13; Gal. 5:16-25; Eph. 4:22-24; Col. 3:10; I Peter 1:14-16; I John 3:5-9.

Section L. Separation

We believe that all the saved should live in such a manner as not to bring reproach upon their Savior and Lord; and that separation from all religious apostasy, all worldly and sinful pleasures, practices, and associations is commanded by God. II Cor. 6:14-7:1; II Tim. 3:1-5; Romans 12:1, 2; 14:13; I John 2:15-17.

Section M. The Church

We believe that the church, which is the body and espoused Bride of Christ, is a spiritual organism made up of all born-again believers of this present age. Eph. 1:22, 23; 5:25-27; I Cor. 12:12-14; II Cor. 11:2.

We believe that a local church is a congregation of immersed believers, associated by covenant of faith and fellowship of the gospel; observing the ordinances of Christ; governed by His laws; and exercising the gifts, rights, and privileges invested in them by His Word; that its officers are pastors and deacons whose qualifications, claims, and duties are clearly defined in the Scriptures; we believe the true mission of the church is the faithful witnessing of Christ to all men as we have opportunity. We hold that the local church has the absolute right of self-government, free from the inheritance of any hierarchy of individuals or organizations; and that the one and only Superintendent is Christ through the Holy Spirit; that it is scriptural for the true churches to cooperate with each other in contending for the faith and for the furtherance of the gospel; that each local church is the sole judge of the measure and methods of its cooperation; on all matters of membership, of policy, of government, of discipline, of benevolence the will of the local church is final. Acts 2:41, 42; I Cor. 11:2; Eph. 1:22, 23; 4:11; 5:23, 24; Col. 1:18; I Tim, 3:17; Acts 15:13-18; 20: 17-38.

Section N. Baptism and the Lord's Supper

We believe that Christian baptism is the immersion of a believer in water to show forth in a solemn and beautiful emblem of our faith in the crucified, buried, and risen Savior, with its effect in our death to sin, and resurrection to a new life; that it is a prerequisite to the privileges of church membership; we believe that the Lord's Supper is the commemoration of His death until He comes and should be proceeded always by solemn self-examination; that it is the right of all born-again believers to partake of the Lord's Supper, but that God's judgment will fall on those who partake unworthily. Acts 8:36-39; Rom. 6:3-5; I Cor. 11:23-32.

Section O. Missions

We believe that it is the obligation of the saved to witness by life and by word to the truths of the Holy Scriptures and to seek to proclaim the gospel to all mankind. Mark 16:15; Acts 1:8; II Cor. 5:19, 20.

Section P. The Eternal State

We believe in the bodily resurrection of all men, the saved to eternal life, and the unsaved to judgment and everlasting punishment. Matt. 25:46; John 5:28, 29; 11:25, 26; Revelation 20: 5, 6, 12, 13. We believe that the souls of the redeemed are, at death, absent from the body and present with the Lord, where in conscious bliss they await the first resurrection when spirit, soul, and body are reunited to be glorified forever with the Lord. Luke 23:43; Rev. 20:4-6; II Cor. 5:8; Phil. 1:23; 3:21; I Thess. 4:16, 17.

We believe that the souls of unbelievers remain, after death, in conscious misery until the second resurrection, when with soul and body reunited, they appear at the Great White Throne Judgment; and shall be cast into the Lake of Fire, not to be annihilated, but to suffer everlasting conscious punishment. Luke 16:19-26 Matt. 25: 41-46; II Thess. 1:7-9; Jude 6,7; Mark 9:43-48; Rev. 20:11-15.

Section Q. The Personality of Satan

We believe that Satan is a person, the author of sin and the cause of the fall; that he is the open and declared enemy of God and man; and that he shall be eternally punished in the Lake of Fire. Job 1:6; Matt. 4:2-11; 25:41; Rev. 20:10.

Section R. The Resurrection, Pre-Millennial Second Advent, Other Events

We believe in that blessed hope, the personal, imminent, pre-tribulation, and pre-millennial coming of the Lord Jesus Christ for His redeemed ones; and in His subsequent return to earth, with His saints, to establish His Millennial Reign. I Thess. 4:13-18; Rev. 19:11-16; 20:1-6; Rev. 3:10; I Thess. 1:10; 5:9.

We believe in:

The Bodily Resurrection. Matt. 28:6, 7; John 20:27; I Cor. 15:4.

The Ascension. Acts 1:9-11; Luke 24:51; Mark 16:19; Rev. 3:21; Heb. 12:2.

The High Priesthood. Heb. 8:6; I Tim. 2:5; I John 2:1; Heb. 2:17; Heb. 9:8.

The Second Coming. John 14:3; Acts 1:11; I Thess. 4:13-18; James 5:8; Heb. 9:28.

The Resurrection of the Righteous Dead. I Thess. 4:13-18; I Co. 15:42-52

The Change of the living in Christ. I Cor. 15:51-53; I Thess. 4: 13-18; James 5:8; Heb. 9:28.

The Throne of David. Luke 1:32; Isaiah 9:6, 7; Acts 2:29,30

The Millennial Reign. I Cor. 15:25; Isa. 32:1; 11:4-5; Rev. 20:4-6; Psalms 72:8.

Section S. Civil Government

We believe that civil government is of divine appointment, for the interests and good order of human society; that the magistrates are to be prayed for, conscientiously honored, and obeyed; except in those things opposed to the will of our Lord Jesus Christ who is the only Lord of the conscience, and the coming Prince of the kings of the earth. Rom. 13:1-7; Acts 5:20.

Section T. Marriage

We believe that God Himself designed, authored, and established marriage at the point of creation and that His authority, implementation, definition, and boundaries surrounding marriage are supreme above all others, be they individuals, special interest groups, any governing body or legislation known to man.

We believe that the term “marriage” has only one meaning: the uniting of one man and one woman in a single, exclusive union as delineated in Scripture – Gen. 2:18-25. We believe that sexual intimacy is only to occur between a man and a woman who are married to each other I Cor. 6:18; 7:2-5; Heb. 13:4 and that no other form of sexual activity should be engaged in outside a marriage between a man and a woman. Therefore, any other form of sexual intimacy or union is immoral and is in direct violation of God’s authority clearly stated in Scripture.

This church defines “Marriage” as the exclusive covenantal union of one man and one woman in which such union is a lifetime commitment. A civil government’s sanction of a union will be recognized as a legitimate marriage by the church only to the extent that it is consistent with the Word of God. Gen. 2:18, 24, 25; 3:6; Matthew 19:4-6; Rom. 1:18, 24-29, 32; 3:10-19; 5:12-19; 7:2; I Cor. 6:9-20; 7:1-4; Eph. 5:22-33.

Section U. Human Sexuality

We believe that sexual relationships, as originally designed by God, are a thing of beauty. Therefore, we believe they are to be exercised solely within a biblically defined marriage and that God, the originator of the sexual relationships, established the sexual union between one man and one woman and all the boundaries of that union for several reasons including but not limited to: procreation - Genesis 1:27, 28; 2:21-25, intimacy – Genesis 2:24; Eph. 5:31, illustration – Eph. 5:22-32, and to give pleasure within the bounds of marriage - I Corinthians 7:3-5.

Hence, sexual activities which fall outside Biblical marriage (referred to in the New Testament as “porneia”) including but not limited to adultery, premarital sex, incest, homosexuality, Bi-Sexual behavior, pedophilia, bestiality, transgender behavior, the viewing of pornography and even lusting in one’s mind after another who is not ones Biblical spouse are inconsistent and incompatible with the Biblical witness. The reality of these sexual sins being widely practiced, even within the church, and though they are protected by law, in some circumstance, does not change or nullify the laws and

boundaries of God. God's Word is not silent, and God is not changed based on the practices, the legislation, or the desires of man.

Romans 1 teaches clearly that people who ignore God and fail to worship Him as God fall into all kinds of sin. Sexual sins flow out of a debased mind, or a mind focused only on the flesh and it is important to realize these sins are sins against one's own body – Romans 1:27-29; I Cor. 1:18.

We believe that God offers redemption and restoration to all who confess and forsake their sin, seeking His mercy and forgiveness through Jesus Christ – Acts 3:19-21; Rom. 10: 9-10; I Cor. 6:9-11.

We believe that every person sins and that we all need to be confronted with our sin Matthew 18 and that one of the most loving acts we can perform is to turn one another away from sinful behavior - Gal. 6:1. But we also believe that every person must be afforded compassion, love kindness, respect, and dignity – Mark 12:28-31; Luke 6:31.

Article III – ASSOCIATIONS

Section A. General Guidelines on Affiliation and Fellowship

Kuna Baptist Church is and shall be an independent Baptist Church and shall never affiliate with other groups except as outlined below.

1. The church may choose, at any time, to fellowship with other groups whose doctrinal position is consistent with the Articles of Faith of Kuna Baptist Church and the membership feels would be spiritually helpful to both organizations.
2. New relationships of fellowship shall be accepted by a simple majority vote of Church members present at any regular business meeting of the Church.
3. The Church may choose to withdraw from any fellowship or affiliation by a 2/3 majority vote of those present at any regular or special business meeting.
4. No financial support is to be given to a work or workers whose doctrinal position is not consistent with the Articles of Faith of Kuna Baptist Church.

Section B. Existing Relationships of Fellowship

This Church declares itself to be in fellowship with the following groups so long as they remain true to a statement of faith which is consistent to that of Kuna Baptist Church, and to their original aim, purpose, and practice.

1. The General Association of Regular Baptist Churches (GARBC)
2. The Baptist Network Northwest (BNN)
3. The Southern Idaho Regular Baptist Fellowship (SIRBF)

Section C. Camp Affiliation

We affiliate with a group of other churches (SIRBF) in joint and equal ownership of Camp Pinewood in Mc Call, Idaho. This affiliation is legally known as the Idaho Regular Baptist Bible Camp, Inc. Each of these churches is an independent and self-governing organization. We do not recognize or accept any legal rights or powers of these churches over Kuna Baptist Church other than that directly related to the **IRBBC, INC.** Nor do we accept or believe ourselves to have legal control over or liability for any of those churches. This Church shall maintain this affiliation so long as the camp and the affiliated churches maintain statements of faith consistent with that of Kuna Baptist Church. Likewise, their constitutions, policy & procedures, purpose, and methodology are to be acceptable to the membership of Kuna Baptist Church.

ARTICLE IV – PURPOSE

Kuna Baptist Church is a community of believers committed to the **EXALTATION** of God, the **EDIFICATION** of Fellow Believers a, and the **EVANGELISM** of unbelievers to Jesus Christ.

More specifically our purpose is to:

1. Glorify God by conducting a Baptist church in accordance with the Word of God, the Articles of Faith, and the Constitution of this local church.
2. Promote genuine worship of our God by edifying believers, teaching the whole counsel of God, and administering the ordinances of biblical discipline.
3. Seeking to win the lost to Christ through personal witnessing and the preaching of the Gospel.
4. Carry on a vigorous missionary program around the world.
5. Establishment of Baptist churches.
6. Defend the faith and maintain a good testimony for Christ in our community by godliness and good works.

Article V - POWERS

This Church, as a non-profit corporation, shall have power to:

1. Purchase, sell, lease, trade, and/or mortgage personal and real property, and to borrow and receive funds for and on behalf of the objects and purposes of itself.
2. Receive and hold funds and properties, be they personal or real, in such forms as stocks, bonds, securities, or real estate as the official church board(s) and membership sees fit in their discretion.

3. Establish, operate, direct, and control other corporations, businesses, activities, and organizations as desirable to carry out its objectives and purposes.
4. Administer discipline as set forth in this constitution. Anyone uniting with this church is to recognize the responsibility of the personnel of the church in the areas of counsel and discipline and agrees not to enter into legal suits against the church or personnel of the church as a result of such procedures.
5. Publish and distribute Gospel literature; to license and ordain ministers; to send out missionaries; to operate a Christian day school, and to preach the Gospel of the Lord Jesus Christ as outlined in the objects of said corporation in any way available, including but not limited to television, radio, special services, as well as regular church services.
6. Do each and every act necessary to carry out the fulfillment of its objects and purposes; but in order to carry out said objects and purposes it shall be necessary that there be an approval by majority, or other designated vote, of those present at any regular or specially called congregational business meeting.

All actions and powers of this church shall be in accordance with the organizational structure as established by the Articles of Incorporation and this constitution and bylaws of this church.

ARTICLE VI – MEMBERSHIP

Section A. Make Up of Membership

This Church shall consist of immersed believers in Christ who accept the Bible as their only rule of faith and practice, and who are in agreement with this church's Constitution and in particular, the Articles of Faith contained therein.

Section B. Reception of Members

A person may be received into membership by Christian experience having been previously immersed or by Christian experience and baptism. Candidates for membership shall complete a membership class taught by the pastor or his appointee prior to meeting with the Deacon Board. All prospective members shall meet with the Pastor(s) and Deacons and be recommended by them to the Church. All members shall be received by vote if the church.

Section C. Active Members

A member shall be considered active and in good standing when he/she shall regularly: 1) attend church services and participate in communion, 2) contribute to the church program in proportion to his/her

ability, 3) serve in at least one ministry of the church, and 4) demonstrate in his/her daily living the Christian way of life.

Section D. Voting Age

Active members 16 years old and older shall be eligible to vote except in matters of legal contract, such as the purchase of land or a vehicle, and in matters of church discipline. Active members 18 or older may vote in all matters of church business.

Section E. Inactive Members

Any member who fails to faithfully carry out one or more of the requirements of an active member for a period of six months shall be placed on the inactive roll by a majority vote of the Pastor(s) and the Deacon Board and shall immediately lose the right to vote on church business. The Pastor(s) and the Deacon Board may make exceptions, at their discretion, and retain an individual's active membership status when it is determined that they are unable to be active due to such things as a time away to go to college, military deployment and prolonged and severe illness. The church membership shall be told of individuals placed on inactive membership status and a best faith effort will be made to notify the individual in writing. That individual will then have an opportunity to appeal, in writing, such actions to the Pastor(s) and Deacon Board. Should that individual's appeal, to retain active membership status, be denied by the Pastor(s) and/or Deacon Board, they may request, in writing, that the matter be brought before the voting membership. The vote of the congregation shall be the final word on this matter. Anyone on the inactive roll for a period of six months shall be dropped from the membership by vote of the church body. Prior to the vote an attempt will be made to notify the individual in an effort to see them restored to active membership. The vote of the church is the final decision. There are no appeals.

Section F. Conditions of Reinstatement

When a person on the inactive roll wishes to become active again, he/she shall make application to the Pastor(s) and the Deacon Board, in writing, by simply stating that he/she wishes to be placed back on the active membership list. The applicant must have demonstrated all the characteristics of an active member while on inactive status for a period of not less than three (3) months in order to be reinstated by the Pastor(s) and Deacons to the active roll. It shall be the duty of the Pastor and Deacons, working with the Clerk, to keep the rolls up to date.

Section G. Dismissal from Membership

Members of the Church in good standing may be dismissed by letter of recommendation to any Church of like faith and order. A member may have his name removed from the rolls at his/her request unless that member is under disciplinary action by the Church. No resignation of an individual under discipline shall be accepted until the disciplinary action has run its course. Letters of dismissal may be sent to churches of like faith for members not in good standing, or to churches not of like faith, for any member. Members inactive for more than a year may be dismissed by vote of the church whether they have been

placed on the inactive list or not prior to such action. And a member, whether active or inactive, may be dismissed immediately from membership for disciplinary reasons by a 2/3 vote of the church membership present at a regular or special business meeting of the church so long as a notification is given (when required) and a quorum (as prescribed by the constitution) is present.

Section H. Discipline

The purpose of disciplinary action is not for punishment but for restoration of believers to true fellowship and to maintain purity in the church, which is the body and bride of Christ. Church discipline is a biblical requirement and is the responsibility of all believers. The steps of discipline shall follow the guide of Matthew chapter 18.

1. **Matthew 18:15** – An individual who is offended is instructed to talk with the offender in love, trying to restore the brother or sister. The offense is considered a private matter and great care should be used to keep it as private as possible, preserving the reputation and Christian standing of the offender.
2. **Matthew 18:16** – If that fails, the offended is to take one or two others, again confronting the erring brother or sister in love with the purpose of restoration while still keeping it a private matter. It is recommended, but not required, that in this second step one of the individuals involved be a deacon or the pastor.
3. **Matthew 18:17** – If step two fails the case is no longer a private matter and is to be brought before the Pastor(s) and the whole Deacon Board. They shall investigate and diligently seek to reclaim any member known to be living in disregard of his/her biblical obligations. Charges against the character or Christian standing of any member must be presented to the Pastor and Deacons in writing and the person submitting such charges must be prepared to support the same with reliable witnesses or strong evidence. Such charges shall not be received, or witnesses heard until the accused has been notified in writing and given ample time to prepare his (or her) defense. Failure to appear for such defense will be considered supporting evidence of the charges advanced.

It is specifically directed that the Pastor and Deacons move with promptness in dealing with anyone who is involved in sin that publicly impacts the testimony of the church or when the offender is obstructing the work or disturbing the peace of the church by slander, falsehood gossip, conspiracy or other un-Christ like methods.

The Church shall be informed of the proceedings and if, after the intercessions of the Pastor and Deacon Board, the erring brother or sister still will not repent and be restored, the final decision must be made by the Church in expulsion from membership

*Principles and Practices for Baptist Churches,” by Edward T. Hiscox, is available in the church office as a helpful resource to the Pastor(s) and Deacons as a guide for church discipline. See Chapters VII and VIII. Matthew 18: 15-20, Romans 16:17, Galatians 6:1; II Thess. 3:6-15; Titus 1:1:13; 3:10-11; Acts 5:1-11; I Cor. 5; I Thess. 5: `4; I Timothy 5:20; Revelation 2:2, 14,15,20; I John 1:9.

Section I. Rights

All members shall have equal rights, except as stated in this constitution. Neither members nor officers of this church have any property rights, and upon termination of office or membership they shall not be entitled to any interest in the assets.

Individual members may make purchases of up to but not to exceed fifty dollars (\$50) without prior approval for an item needed for a church ministry, activity, or supply need with the expectation of being reimbursed for the item. An individual officer of the church may spend up to but not to exceed two hundred dollars (\$200) without prior approval for an item needed for a church ministry, activity, or supply need with the expectation of being reimbursed for the item. And the Pastor(s) may spend up to but not to exceed four hundred dollars (\$400) without prior approval for an item. In order for any reimbursement to take place a receipt signed by the Pastor, a Deacon, or a Trustee must be presented to the Treasurer. These individual spending privileges may be revoked from any individual for abusing the privilege by the Trustee Board. These spending privileges may be revoked from everyone, for a specific time period, in the event that it is determined that the Church’s funds are not sufficient to sustain such privileges. The Trustees, with input from the Pastor and/or Deacons and/or Treasurer shall decide if it is necessary to suspend these privileges and for how long.

ARTICLE VII OFFICERS

Section A. Elected Offices

The elected officers of this Church shall be members in good standing for at least 6 months prior to holding an office with the exception of the office of Senior Pastor, which shall have no such time requirement. The elected officers of this church consist of:

1. **SENIOR PASTOR**, who shall have general oversight of the entire work of the Church; shall be ex-officio member of all departments, boards, and committees, shall preside at all meetings of the Church for worship, or business and shall perform the duties ordinarily devolving upon a Pastor.

When calling a Pastor, the Deacons shall constitute a Pulpit Committee whose duty it will be to seek out a man whose qualifications shall include a good character, an ability

to lead and the endorsement of the Articles of Faith of this Church. It is understood in determining these qualifications that a knowledge of his last field of service be obtained. He shall meet the qualifications listed in I Timothy 3: 1-7 and Titus 1:6-9.

No more than one candidate shall be considered at a time.

Other Pastors may be added to assist the Senior Pastor by vote of the church but are to be individuals fully approved by the Senior Pastor. These additional Pastors shall work under the direction of the Senior Pastor and shall be considered his assistants. They may be terminated at the recommendation of the Senior Pastor, who shall immediately place them on paid administrative leave until the termination approved by the Deacon and Trustee Boards and confirmed by a vote of the Church.

2. **DEACONS**, 3-5 in number, not Trustees, who shall meet the New Testament standards as given in 1 Timothy 3:8-13, shall assist the Pastor and serve the Church in sustaining meetings for public worship and for prayer, presiding at these meetings in the Pastor's absence, consulting with candidates for membership and baptism, administering the ordinances of the Lord's Supper, restoring the erring, caring for the needy, acting as an advisory committee, and such other duties as the Church may delegate to them.

This Board shall organize itself each year following the annual election and shall meet at its discretion. **Deaconesses**, wives of the Deacons, shall assist in baptismal services, in caring for the needy, and in preparation of the Lord's Supper.

3. **TRUSTEES**, 3-5 in number, not Deacons, who, under the general direction of the Church, shall have charge of the Church property. This Board shall organize itself each year following the annual election and shall meet at its discretion. Specifically, the Trustees shall have the responsibility of maintaining an accurate inventory of all Church assets; reviewing the Pastor(s) compensation package on a yearly basis with consideration given to the cost of living, longevity, work ethic, and ability; recommending an annual budget (with input from the Pastor(s), Deacon Board and church financial officers), seeing that all church property and equipment are properly maintained; and guiding the Church Treasurer with a "Priority of pay list" and if any questions arise in the distribution of church funds to address such questions.
4. **A CLERK**, who shall keep a record of the transactions of all business meetings and correct list of the members of the Church. He/she shall forward letters of dismissal

voted to members and shall attend to any other business usually devolving a Church Clerk. All records kept by the Clerk are the property of the Church and shall be delivered, with all contents complete to that date, to the successor of the office.

5. **A TREASURER**, who shall count all monies received by the Church and under the supervision of the Pastor(s) and Trustees, shall disburse the same as necessary. He/she shall keep a careful account of all receipts and expenditures, and report to the Trustees monthly and to the Church on a quarterly basis. The Treasurer is to maintain confidences and is not to tell anyone else inside or outside the church what an individual gives unless mandated to do so by legal action. The Treasurer may be asked by the nomination committee if a potential candidate is a "faithful giver." The Treasurer is allowed to give either a yes or no answer but is not permitted to tell the amount anyone gives.
6. **FINANCIAL SECRETARY**, who shall receive, count, and deposit all monies contribute to the church; keep an accurate account of donations and the individuals making the donations and provide the same upon request after the end of December for tax purposes of the donor. The Financial Secretary is to maintain the confidence and is not to tell anyone else what an individual gives unless mandated to do so by legal action. The Financial Secretary may be asked by the nomination committee if a potential candidate is a "faithful giver." The Financial Secretary is allowed to give either a yes or no answer but is not permitted to tell the amount that anyone gives.

Section B. Appointed-Positions:

Appointed positions in the church shall be filled by those who have been members in good standing for at least six months. These positions shall be appointed by the Pastor and confirmed by the Deacon Board. These positions shall be for an indefinite term.

Any appointee may be immediately removed from office by the Pastor at any time with or without cause. The removal shall be reviewed by the Deacon Board at the next regularly scheduled Deacon's Meeting. Should the Deacon Board not believe the removal was in the best interest of the Church, they may (after meeting with the Pastor without the appointee present) choose to reverse the Pastors decision and reinstate the appointee.

Appointed Positions Include:

- a. **THE SUNDAY SCHOOL SUPERINTENDENT:**
- b. **THE SOCIAL COMMITTEE CHAIR**

- c. **THE AWANA COMMANDER**
- d. **The OUTREACH/MISSION COMMITTEE CHAIR**
- e. **THE WORSHIP LEADER/TEAMS**
- f. **THE CAMP REPRESENTATIVES**
- g. **THE YOUTH LEADER**
- h. **THE FOOD BANK COORDINATOR**
- i. **THE NURSERY COORDINATOR**
- J. **THE WOMEN'S MINISTRY COORDINATOR**
- k. **THE MEN'S MINISTRY COORDINATOR**
- l. **VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL DIRECTOR**
- m. **THE CHIEF SAFETY OFFICER**

OTHER POSITIONS-which prove needful shall be appointed by the Pastor and assume their position upon confirmation of the Deacons. Appointed positions may be left vacant if they are no willing or qualified people to fill the position or if it is determined that the position is not needed at any given time.

Section C. The Joint Boards

The Deacon Board and/or the Trustee board shall have the power to make purchases or sell items so long as they are legal and do not require membership approval. Legal transactions not requiring membership approval shall be defined as the purchasing or selling of non-real estate assets necessary for the ordinary operation of the church up to, but not exceeding one thousand dollars (\$1,000.00) per board or twenty-five hundred dollars (\$2,500.00) combined.

The Deacons and the Trustees shall work together as one Board on matters of greater importance which include but are not limited to the consideration and calling of a Pastor, the consideration of major construction, the consideration of major purchases. In addition, the Pastor or either Board Chairman may call a joint meeting at his discretion. The Deacons and Trustees shall meet together at least quarterly. The Chairman of the Board of Deacons shall serve as the Chairman of this joint Board.

Section D. Elections

- 1- At a meeting of the Church, at least six weeks prior to the Annual Meeting, the Pastor shall appoint a Nominating Committee. As far as possible, the majority of the persons chosen shall be those whose terms of office do not expire at the Annual Meeting. The Committee shall consist of at least five people (In addition to the Pastor, two of which shall be Deacons)
- 2- It shall be the duty of the Nomination committee to take nominations from the Active Members for two weeks after the Nominating Committee is posted and to nominate people to all elected offices of the Church which the Nomination Committee feels is necessary to provide a “full and adequate” ballot for Active Members to vote on. At least four weeks prior to the Annual Meeting, the Nomination Committee Chairman shall post a list of the nominees. It shall be the responsibility of the Nomination Committee to ensure that all candidates are qualified to serve as Church officers and to notify and gain approval from all qualified candidates to be placed on the ballot. It shall also make available to all Church members a list of those on the Nominating Committee and the Committee’s nominees. Any Church member who wishes to make another nomination must make the nomination(s) in writing and present it (them) to the Pastor or a member of the Nomination Committee at least three (3) weeks prior to the Annual Meeting. No nominations may be made from the floor at the Annual Meeting. The Nominating Committee shall post a final ballot the Sunday prior to the Annual Meeting. The fact that the final ballot has been posted shall be announced at both Sunday Worship Services. Voting shall be by written ballot
- 3- In the event that an officer resigns during their term, The Pastor may appoint an individual to hold the office till the end of the year. This appointment must be confirmed by the Deacon Board to be ratified. The tenure of office shall be only until the next Annual Meeting. At the next Annual Meeting, a person shall be elected by the Church Membership to fill the remainder of the original term.

Section D-E. Terms of Office

1. **THE PASTOR** or pastor(s) term shall be unlimited. The relation may be terminated by two months’ notice by the Pastor or the Church, or by mutual consent at any time.
2. **DEACONS** shall be elected for three-year terms, approximately one third of the number elected each year. A Deacon may serve only two consecutive full terms. After serving two consecutive full terms, a person will not be eligible to serve in the office of Deacon for a period of one year unless there are no other qualified men willing to serve as

Deacon. In the event there is no other qualified man willing to serve as Deacon, the church can choose to allow another three-year term. After one year rest period, the person will be eligible for nomination to the office of Deacon and be eligible to again serve two consecutive full terms.

3. **TRUSTEES** shall be elected for three years, approximately one-third of the number elected each year. After serving two consecutive full terms, a person will not be eligible to serve in the office of Trustee for a period of one year unless there are no other qualified men willing to serve. In the event there is no other qualified man willing to serve as Trustee, the Church can choose to allow another three-year term. After the one-year period, the person will be eligible for nomination to the office of Trustee and be eligible to again serve two consecutive full terms.
4. **ALL OTHER ELECTED OFFICES** shall have a one (1) year term but shall not have a "term limit" apply to them other than by the congregation vote.
5. **APPOINTED OFFICES** shall be for an indefinite term.

ARTICLE VIII DEPARTMENTS, ORGANIZATIONS, MINISTRIES

All departments, organizations, and ministries of Kuna Baptist Church may be controlled by constitutions of their own so long as they are in harmony in all respects with the Bible and this Constitution and so long as their constitution states that in every instance, they are ultimately subject to the Church.

ARTICLE IX MEETINGS

Section A. General

The Pastor is to be in charge of the meetings of the church be they meetings intended for spiritual purposes like Worship Services or meetings intended to conduct the business of the church. This includes engaging speakers, as well as being responsible for the entire program. He may designate these responsibilities, when needed to, whom he desires. In the event of the Pastor(s) absence or when it is fitting for the Pastor not to be present at a meeting, such as when salaries and benefits are being discussed or when the church is without a Pastor, the Chairman of the Board of Deacons shall assume these responsibilities with the assistance and approval of the rest of the Deacon Board until such time that the discussion of the compensation package is complete or another Pastor is called.

Section B. Other Meetings

In addition to the meetings specified in Article III, the Church shall hold the following meetings:

- 1- The Lord's Supper shall be observed on the first Sunday of each month unless there is some hindering circumstance.
- 2- Meetings for the transaction of business may be set by the Church or may be called on due notice at any time by the Pastor or by the Board of Deacons. Ordinary matters of business may be transacted at these meetings.
- 3- The Annual Meeting of the Church shall be held on the fourth Sunday of January. At this meeting reports of the year's work shall be presented by the officers and committees of the Church. Officers shall be elected as heretofore indicated under Article VI Section 3. Any other business pertaining to the Church may be transacted at this meeting.
- 4- Special meetings can be called with adequate notification as prescribed by this constitution. When a special meeting is called only the specific purpose for which the meeting is called may be dealt with. No other business shall be conducted at that time.
- 5- Routine business such as receiving members or granting letters may be transacted when necessary and without regard to the notification time requirements of special meetings.

Section C. A Quorum

A Quorum shall consist of at least fifteen (15) Active members unless otherwise stated in this constitution.

ARTICLE X USE OF CHURCH BUILDING AND FURNISHINGS

The Church building may be used for all activities of Church life. The Church building has been erected and set apart for God's glory and should be used only for such activities that honor Him and His Word. The Church will gladly offer its services for weddings and funerals which are in keeping with Our understanding of the Word of God and this constitution, although a fee may be required for use by non-members. This will be the responsibility of the Trustees.

Use of the Property & Name

- a. Use of the property for other than regularly scheduled meetings shall first be approved by the Pastor(s) and the Trustee Board.
- b. All gatherings off the Church property held in the name of the Church shall be subject to the approval of the Pastor(s) and/or Deacon Board.
- c. No secret society will be permitted to use the Church building
- d. Any wedding performed in the Church building by someone other than the Pastor or his designate must be cleared by the Pastor and Deacon Board.
- e. Any funeral performed in the Church building by someone other than the Pastor or His designate must be cleared by the pastor and Deacon Board.

ARTICLE XI MISSIONS

The Church shall consider missionary giving and praying a vital part of its work. Missionary interest shall be encouraged by every means possible. It shall be the practice of this Church to give regular financial support to individual missionaries and Christ centered organizations which are in agreement with our Articles of Faith.

ARTICLE XII THE ORDINANCES

Section A. Baptism

Those professing saving faith in Jesus Christ as personal Savior and Lord, shall, upon recommendation of the Pastor and the Board of Deacons, be immersed in water in accordance with the Scriptural teaching; by the Pastor or some qualified person authorized by the Church. Baptism may be administered apart from application for Church membership, but the applicant will be encouraged by the Pastor and Deacon Board to join the Church.

Section B. The Lord's Supper

The Lord's Supper (Communion) shall be served to the assembled Church by the Pastor, or some person designated by the Church, and the Deacons or some other appointed individual on the day designated. The Pastor shall frequently state the Scriptural teaching for those partaking of the Lord's Supper (I Corinthians 11:23-24).

ARTICLE XIII PARLIAMENTARY RULES

All business meetings shall be performed in an orderly manner. Generally, common sense and Christian courtesy shall be the guidelines for Church Business Meetings. In the event that these guidelines fail to keep a business meeting running smoothly, Robert's Rules of Order shall be the standard.

ARTICLE XIV DISPERSEMENT OF ASSETS AND/OR DISSOLUTIONMENT

Section A. Simple Disbursement of Assets.

In the event that there is a desire to dispose of an assets(s) of the Church, the value of which exceeds one thousand dollars (\$1,000), a 2/3 majority vote of the membership shall be required at any regular or special business meeting. In the event that a special meeting is called, the purpose for such meeting must be stated from the pulpit and posted for two Sundays preceding such a vote. No such notification is required if the business is done at a Quarterly or Annual business Meeting.

Section B. General Rules for Dissolving the Church

In the event that the Membership of Kuna Baptist Church believe it best to dissolve this organization a special meeting for such action shall be called, the purpose of such meeting posted and announced in every Sunday Service for three (3) consecutive Sundays. If this business is to be undertaken at a "regular: business meeting the preceding statements shall apply. In the event that proper notification, as prescribed above, is not given, no such meeting shall be allowed to take place. For the purpose of this meeting a quorum shall be set at twenty-four (24) active members 18 years or older. At no time, under any circumstances, shall the assets of Kuna Baptist Church be divided, equally or by any other ratio among the individual members that make it up or to those outside the Church, unless the Church is legally bound to do so.

Section C. Dissolving the Church by Merger

In the event that the Church is voting to dissolve Kuna Baptist Church to legally merge with some other church of like faith and practice, the general rules of for dissolving shall be met. If the Church votes to merge, all of Kuna Baptist Church's financial obligations shall be cared for as a priority before such merger can take place so as to maintain a good testimony and following the resolution of all financial responsibilities, all remaining assets shall become the rightful property of the newly merged entity. Should another church wish to merge with Kuna Baptist Church and maintain the legal identity of Kuna Baptist Church, there is no need to dissolve anything as the legal entity, Kuna Baptist Church, shall remain.

Section D. Outright Closure of Kuna Baptist Church

In the event that the Church wishes to close its doors and cease to exist as a legal entity in any form or under any name, all of the Church's financial obligations shall be met first and then all remaining assets, be they real estate, money, securities, stocks, bonds, or personal property, or in some other form shall become the sole possession of the Northwest Baptist Home Mission.

ARTICLE XV AMENDMENTS & BYLAWS

Section A. Amendments

This constitution or articles of this constitution, with the exception of Article XIV, may be repealed or amended by a two-thirds vote of the members present and voting at any meeting of the Church, a notice of the proposed amendment(s) having been given at the two Sunday morning services preceding the meeting. For the purpose of amending Article XIV (Disbursement of Assets and/or Dissolving) the recommended amendment(s) must be announced and posted for three consecutive weeks, a quorum is set at 24 active members of the age of 18 or older, and 2/3 of that quorum must vote to amend Article XIV in order to amend the article.

Section B. By-Laws

No by-laws shall be adopted which shall be in conflict with or void any provision of the constitution. If there is a conflict between the constitution and by-laws the constitution shall prevail. However, by-laws shall take precedent over any statement of policy or procedure.

This Constitution shall supersede all previous legal documents, and these shall now constitute the legal documents of Kuna Baptist Church, Inc. Inc., Kuna, Idaho revised and adopted January 29, 2017.