

# **CHURCH MEMBERSHIP**

*"...Let us walk by the same rule; let us mind the same thing." Philipians 3:16*

## **COURSE OUTLINE**

### WELCOME

1. THE KODIAK BIBLE CHAPEL
  - a. History of the Church
  - b. History of Pastors
  - c. Our Affiliation
  - d. Our Goal
  - e. Balance
2. WHAT WE BELIEVE
  - a. Doctrinal Statement of the Church
  - b. Doctrinal Beliefs of The Kodiak Bible Chapel
3. OUR ORGANIZATION
4. REQUIRMENTS AND BENENFITS OF MEMBERSHIP
  - a. Requirements for Membership
  - b. Benefits of Local Church Membership
  - c. Characteristics of a Member
  - d. Responsibilities of a Member
5. THE MEMBERSHIP SERVICE
6. CONSTITUTION
7. HEIRARCHY
8. MY COVENANT

## WELCOME

Welcome to the family. It is our greatest desire that you understand that you are not joining an organization but that you are becoming part of a family that welcomes you with open arms and a warm heart.

Few of us have family here in Kodiak. Oh, yes some of us have our immediate family, (parent-child) but few of us enjoy the extended family of grandparents, aunts and uncles, cousins and more cousins. However, we have each other. In the Bible Chapel, we desire to be friends with one another, we desire to fellowship with one another, but even more, we desire to maintain a family relationship. A family is reliant on the other members for encouragement, support and nurture. A family fills the void of loneliness. A family forgives and understands that we all make mistakes. A family doesn't expect perfection but strives to build up the other members of the family.

The north end of Kodiak Island where you and live is covered by a spruce forest. The spruce trees grow closely together and actually hold each other up. Remove a few trees and soon others will begin to blow down. They have lost their support. Like the spruce, we need each other. We are thrilled that you have come to join together with this part of the family of God. Maybe God bless you.

*Father,*

*I know that no church is perfect,  
So help me not to be surprised  
when problems arise.*

*Keep me from pointing a finger of blame at others*

*Guard my tongue from shameful remarks.*

*Grant me the courage to do my part  
to make our church a better place.*

*And thank you for graciously allowing me  
to be a member of your wonderful family.*

*Amen*

## The Kodiak Bible Chapel

### *A History of the Church*

World War II woke up the little village of Kodiak. What had once been a sleeping fishing village had now become an important and strategic military base in the North Pacific War theater. The population began to swell from a few hundred to thousands of people. The government was busy building military housing on base and civil service housing in town. Meanwhile the island was being fortified against almost certain invasion attempts. Bunkers and gun sites seem to be everywhere. Kodiak had changed forever.

In 1945 the war ended, but Kodiak would not revert back to the sleepy village it once was. The U.S. Navy base would continue to be a strategic portion, until in 1972, when it would be turned over to the U.S. Coast Guard. Even then the military presence would be a vital part of Kodiak life. By the late 1940's, the Slavic Gospel Association was realizing the lack of a good fundamental, evangelical witness in Kodiak. Peter Deyneka Sr. (founder of the Slavic Gospel Association) came to Kodiak in 1953 to survey the possibility of beginning a work. Seventeen SGA missionaries were working in Alaska at the time, but none had come to Kodiak. Walter Covich was the SGA field Chairman and together with Peter Deyneka Sr., they met with Kodiak resident and shoe repairman DeWitt Fields. DeWitt was sympathetic to their cause and gave them \$1000 toward the purchase of a Quonset hut that would be home for the church. It was located in what is now down-town Kodiak.

By 1945, the work in Kodiak was in operation as a Christian servicemen's center. The center began Bible studies, then mid-week services and finally Sunday Services. It began to take on the general appearance of a church and SGA appointed Rev. Paul Schoeming in 1945 to be the first missionary pastor of the *Kodiak Christian Center*. The work grew and in 1964, the building was severely damaged by the earthquake and tidal wave. Plans began for the purchase of property and the erecting of a new building on our present site. The name was changed to the *Kodiak Bible Chapel* and the congregation moved in to the new building in 1967.

The Center continued as a Slavic Gospel Association church until 1973. At that time, the church became an Independent Bible Church and searched for an affiliation with an organization which could supply pastors for its ministry. That same year the Bible Chapel entered into affiliation with the Pacific Northwest District of the *Christian and Missionary Alliance*. The C&MA has supplied pastors for the church from 1973 until the present.

By the mid 1980's, the church had grown too large for its twenty year old building. A two story 7,100 square foot addition was built bringing the church to its present appearance.

## **The Kodiak Bible Chapel**

### *A History of Pastors*

Paul Shoeming	1954
Leonard Wilkenson	1956-1959
Vicent Porte	1956-1959
Lloyd Gutzell	1956-1959
Jim Jenkins	1956-1959
Woody Phillips	1959-1970
Earl Barnett (6 months)	1967
Paul Shoeming	1970
Lloyd Benton	1971
Lyn Wycoff	1972
Ray Stonehocker	1972-1973
Cliff Lien	1973-1978
Harvey Larson	1978-1980
Jack Couchey	1980-1984
Russell Schwarz	1983-1997
Frank Gardner	1997-1999
Mark Nymeyer	1999-Present
Assistant John Stickwood	1956-1959
Associate-Robert Wick	1989-1992
Associate-Bryce Ray	1992-1994
Youth Pastor-Andre Einan	1994-1996
Assistant-Frank Gardner	2002-2003
Assistant-Matthew Jensen	2003-Present

## The Kodiak Bible Chapel

### *Our Affiliation*

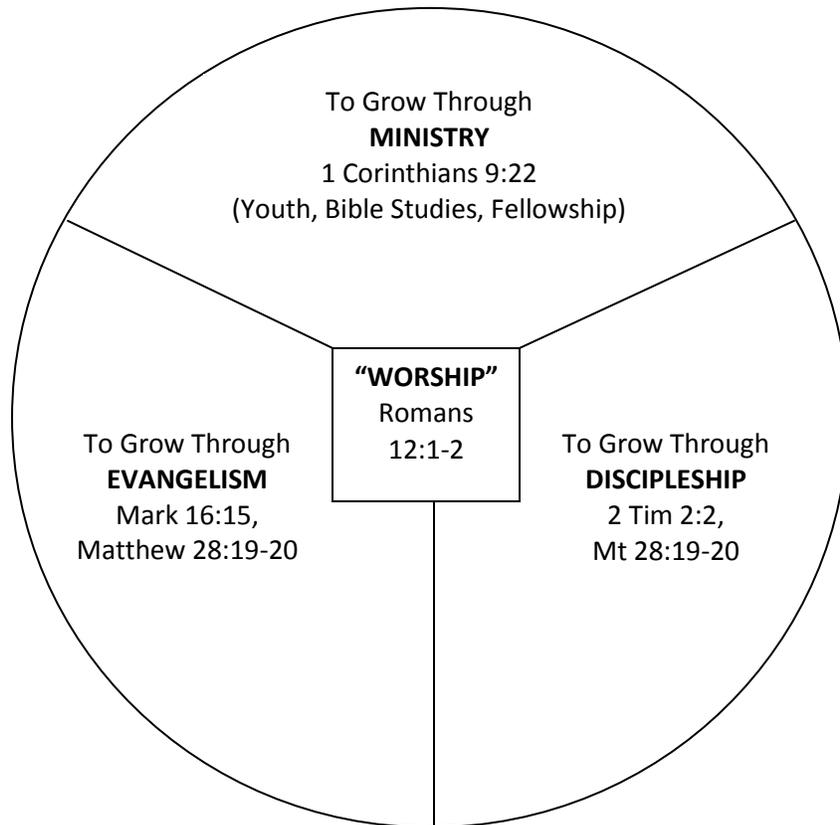
Besides being an Independent Bible Church, the Kodiak Bible Chapel is an affiliated church of the Christian and Missionary Alliance (C&MA), Pacific District. When several denominations were approached in 1973, only the C&MA agreed to supply pastors to the Bible Chapel and still allow the Chapel to maintain its independent status. In order to supply pastoral staff for the Bible Chapel, the District asked, and the church agreed, to become not a member church, but an affiliated church which includes the following points of commitment:

1. The church board will contact the District Superintendent when it is in search of a new pastor (however, as an independent church, the Chapel may contact a pastor directly).
2. The church will conduct a Christian and Missionary Alliance annual Missions Conference giving opportunity to church and people to support Alliance missions.
3. The church will send its pastor to the Annual District Conference.
4. The church will contribute 2% of its general fund giving to the C&MA Pacific Northwest District budget (80% of this money is used for church planting and evangelism in the State of Alaska. The other 20% goes into the District general fund).
5. If a pastor is a member of the Fellowship Fund, the church will pay its share of the required assessment.

# The Kodiak Bible Chapel

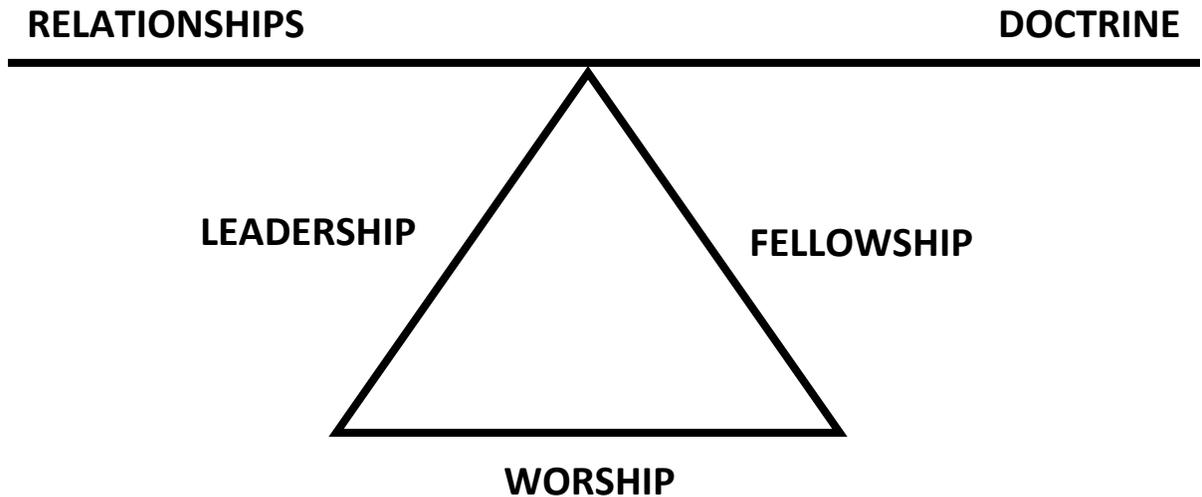
## *Our Goal*

*"I press on toward the goal"*  
*Philippians 3:12-14*



**You are an integral part of the goal wherever you are**

**The Kodiak Bible Chapel**  
*The Balanced Church*



- LEADERSHIP =** The ability to guide God's people according to the will of God for that time and place.
- WORSHIP =** Ascribing to God the honor that is due through obedience to His commands concerning praise and prayer, evangelism and discipleship, and corporate gatherings that are structured to exalt Him.
- FELLOWSHIP =** The inter-relational contact of the body of Christ for the purpose of the encouragement of one another in the Lord.
- DOCTRINE =** The Biblical beliefs, polity, & policies of the organization.
- RELATIONSHIPS =** The continuing association between individuals or families and the church organization.

## **WHAT WE BELIEVE**

### *Doctrinal Statement of The Kodiak Bible Chapel*

We believe in God the Father, Son, & the Holy Spirit. We also believe in the verbal inspiration of the Holy Scriptures as originally given, in the vicarious atonement of the Lord Jesus Christ, in the eternal salvation of all who believe in Him, and the eternal punishment of all who reject Him.

*We stress balance, unity, and  
understanding of one another  
in non-absolute areas of  
doctrine.*

### **PURPOSE**

We believe that the purpose of the church is to adhere to the teachings of the Bible; that she must concern herself with the propagation of the gospel, with emphasis on the Spirit-filled life and victorious Christian living, and with the sending forth and support of missionaries to all parts of the world; looking forward to His second coming.

### **SUPPORT**

The Kodiak Bible Chapel is committed to world missions, stressing the fullness of Christ in personal experience, building the church and preaching the gospel to the ends of the earth.

We support a variety of missionaries and pray for them, including Alaskan missions as well as overseas missions. Many of our people support friends on the mission field. Because of our roots and our affiliation, we emphasize both Slavic Gospel Association and Christian & Missionary Alliance missions.

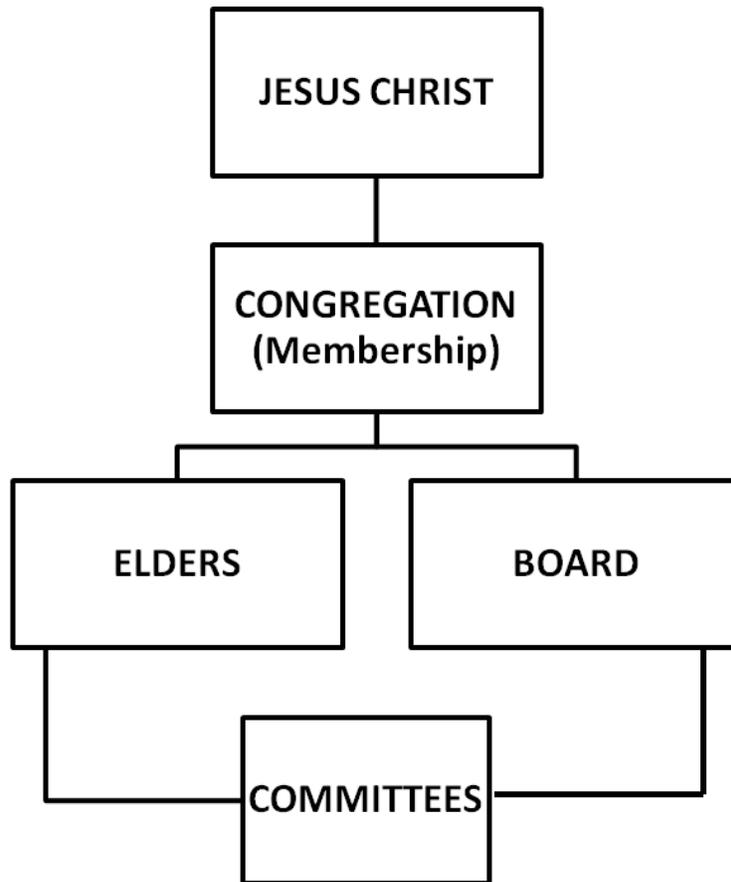
## **WHAT WE BELIEVE**

### *Doctrinal Beliefs of The Kodiak Bible Chapel*

1. There is one God, who is infinitely perfect, existing eternally in three persons: Father, Son, & Holy Spirit.
2. Jesus Christ is true God and true man. He was conceived by the Holy Spirit and born of the Virgin Mary. He died upon the cross, the Just for the unjust, as a substitutionary sacrifice, and all who believe in Him are justified on the grounds of His shed blood. He arose from the dead according to the Scriptures. He is now at the right hand of the Majesty on high as our great High Priest. He will come again to establish His kingdom of righteousness and peace.
3. The Holy Spirit is a divine person, sent to indwell, guide, teach, empower the believer, and convince the world of sin, of righteousness, and of judgment.
4. The Old and New Testaments, inerrant as originally given, were verbally inspired by God and are a complete revelation of His will for the salvation of men. They constitute the divine and only rule of Christian faith and practice.
5. Man was originally created in the image and likeness of God: He fell through disobedience, incurring thereby both physical and spiritual death. All men are born with a sinful nature, are separated from the life of God, and can be saved only through the atoning work of the Lord Jesus Christ. The portion of the impenitent and unbelieving is existence forever in conscious torment: and that of the believer, in everlasting joy and bliss.
6. Salvation has been provided through Jesus Christ for all men; and those who repent and believe in Him are born again of the Holy Spirit, receive the gift of eternal life, and become the children of God.
7. It is the will of God that each believer should be filled with the Holy Spirit and be sanctified wholly, being separated from sin and the world and fully dedicated to the will of God, thereby receiving power for holy living and effective service. This is both a crisis and a progressive experience wrought in the life of the believer subsequent to conversion.
8. Provision is made in the redemptive work of the Lord Jesus Christ for the healing of the mortal body. Prayer for the sick and anointing with oil are taught in the Scriptures and are privileges for the Church in this present age.
9. The Church consists of all those who believe on the Lord Jesus Christ, are redeemed through His blood, and are born again of the Holy Spirit. Christ is the Head of the Body, the Church, which has been commissioned by Him to go into the entire world as a witness, preaching the gospel to all nations. The local church is a body of believers in Christ who are joined together for the worship of God, for edification through the Word of God, for prayer, fellowship, the proclamation of the gospel, and observance of the ordinances of Baptism and the Lord's Supper
10. There shall be a bodily resurrection of the just and the unjust; for the former, a resurrection unto life; for the latter, a resurrection unto judgment.
11. The second coming of the Lord Jesus Christ is imminent and will be personal, visible, and pre-millennial. This is the believer's blessed hope and is a vital truth which is an incentive to holy living and faithful service.

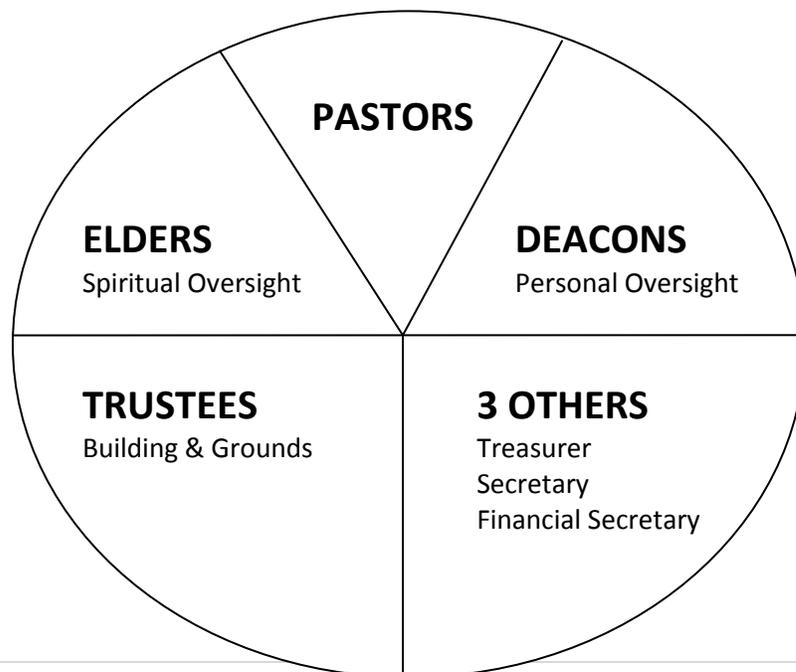


# OUR ORGANIZATION



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# THE CHURCH BOARD



## **REQUIREMENTS & BENEFITS IN MEMBERSHIP**

### *Requirements for Membership & Benefits of Local Church Membership*

#### ***Requirements for Membership***

1. Conversion
2. Baptism
3. Doctrinal Agreement
4. Signed Covenant
5. Public Acceptance (Usually at an Evening Service)

#### ***Benefits of Local Church Membership***

1. The joy of obediently following a Biblical pattern
2. A deeper sense of belonging to a group of God's people with the increased degree of fellowship, support, comfort and encouragement that comes with that relationship
3. The responsibility of voting on issues that affect the church and electing officers that serve the church
4. The opportunity to serve in many areas not open to non-church members
5. The accountability of your commitment to an organized group of God's people and the commitment of that group to you and your needs

## REQUIREMENTS & BENEFITS IN MEMBERSHIP

### *Characteristics of a Member & Responsibilities of a Member*

#### Characteristics of a Member

1. INTERDEPENDENT
2. UNITES
3. NURTURES
4. SUSTAINS
5. FLEXABIITY

**God desires unity, not mere union, not mere uniformity, not unanimity, but visible cooperation in communication the Gospel**

#### Responsibilities of a Member

##### 1. INVOLVEMENT IN MINISTRY

Every Christian should have the opportunity to be involved in Christian ministry. For this reason, we would like to have you fill out the questionnaire which will enable us to help you become involved in church ministries. There are also a number of Christian groups in town that may be able to use your help.

##### 2. ATTENDANCE AT CONGREGATIONAL MEETINGS

Some of the responsibilities of membership have to do with decision making and voting. Members are asked to be faithful in attendance at the congregational meetings. Unless there are specifically called meetings, the only scheduled meeting is the Annual Meeting and election of officers held in mid-January.

##### 3. TITHING

Tithing to the ministries of the local church is a Biblical principle.

##### 4. UNITY

Unity does not mean uniformity. By unity we mean oneness of purpose in Christ. It is acceptable to disagree agreeably.

##### 5. PRAYER

Please hold the church, the pastors, the workers, and the ministry in prayer. Ephesians 6:18 says, “Pray also for me, that whenever I open my mouth, words may be given me so that I will fearlessly make known the mystery of the gospel.”

## THE MEMBERSHIP SERVICE

*What to Expect*



### **THE FOLLOWING IS A BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF THE SERVICE IN WHICH NEW MEMBERS WILL BE RECEIVED:**

1. New Members are received in a Sunday Evening Service in an informal setting.
2. Usually toward the end of the service the new members will be asked to come forward and be introduced. At that time, at least some of the group will be asked to share their testimonies.
3. Following the testimonies, a prayer will be offered for those joining the church.
4. Following the prayer, the Elders will come and extend the right hand of fellowship to the new members as an expression of acceptance and fellowship. After this, the church body will come and express their greetings to the new members.

*“Pray also for me, that whenever I  
open my mouth, words may be  
given so that I will fearlessly make  
known the mystery of the gospel.”  
Ephesians 6:18*

# **CONSTITUTION**

## *Of the Kodiak Bible Chapel*

### **ARTICLE I NAME**

This church shall be known as the Kodiak Bible Chapel.

### **ARTICLE II AFFILIATION**

This shall be an Independent Bible Church with an interdenominational ministry

### **ARTICLE III MEMBERSHIP AND DOCTRINE**

We believe in God the Father, Son, & Holy Spirit; in the verbal inspiration of the Holy Scriptures as originally given; in the vicarious atonement of the Lord Jesus Christ; in the eternal salvation of all who believe in Him, and the eternal punishment of all who reject Him.

We believe that the need of the church is to adhere to the teachings of the New Testament; that she must concern herself with the propagation of the Gospel, with emphasis on the Spirit-filled life and victorious Christian living; and with the sending forth and support of missionaries to any party of the world, looking forward to His second coming.

Membership may be granted to anyone who gives satisfactory evidences of faith in Jesus Christ as Savior, adherence to the doctrinal statement of the Kodiak Bible Chapel and has submitted to Believer's baptism.

Senior Membership is available for those eighteen years old and above and involved full voting privileges. Senior members alone may vote on the calling of a pastor, legal matters, financial decisions, and matters involving property.

Intermediate Membership is available for those fifteen through seventeen years of age and carries limited voting privileges.

Junior Membership is available for those ten through fourteen years of age carries no voting privileges.

The membership category of an individual automatically advances with their age.

### **ARTICLE IV ORDINANCES**

Immersion shall be the mode of baptism practiced by the church. Applicants for membership who have been baptized by another method may be received on the condition of membership as stated in Article III. The Lord's Supper shall be administered regularly.

## **ARTICLE V GOVERNMENT**

There shall be an annual meeting held on or before January 21<sup>st</sup> at which time the church shall elect church officers and other members of the Executive Board and hear reports from all departments, including audited reports from the treasurers. This Executive Board shall conduct the affairs of the church between annual meeting and is amenable to the congregation. The Executive Board shall consist of at least six members with a maximum to be established by the Executive Board. It shall include the Pastor (who shall act as Chairman), Secretary, Treasurer, Chairman of the Board of Elders, Chairman of the Board of Deacons, Chairman of the Board of Trustees, and such other members as the church may deem wise to elect. The Executive Board shall have monthly meetings for prayer and business and report to the church as the church may decide. Officers, elected at the annual meeting from the membership, shall consist of the following: Secretary, Treasurer, Financial Secretary, Elders, Deacons, Trustees, and such others as the church may find necessary to elect.

## **ARTICLE VI PASTOR**

The Pastor of the church shall be called by the Executive Board and approved by a three-fourth-majority vote of members of the congregation voting during a duly called meeting. The Pastor may resign from the church by giving due notice of his intentions to the Executive Board. The Executive Board may ask for the resignation of the pastor; Such action must be ratified by a majority vote of the congregation voting during a duly called meeting. When ratified, the pastor's service will be discontinued.

## **ARTICLE VII NOMINATION COMMITTEE**

A nomination committee, consisting of the pastor, two members of the Executive Board selected by the Executive Board, and two members selected by the congregation, shall be elected at least one month prior to the annual meeting. Nominations from the committee shall be presented to the congregation not later than 14 days prior to the annual meeting. There will be no nominations from the floor. Elections shall be by ballot.

## **ARTICLE VIII DUTIES OF OFFICERS**

### *Section 1- Pastor*

The Pastor shall have general oversight of the work of the church. He shall be chairman of the Executive Committee and presiding officer of all regular or special meetings of the church, and is a member ex-officio of all committees. When the church has no pastor, the Executive Committee shall have oversight of the work. At such time it shall elect a chairman, who shall preside at business meetings.

### *Section 2- Financial Secretary*

A financial Secretary shall be elected, and with the Treasurer, shall count all monies and keep a separate record of all receipts.

### *Section 3-Treasurer*

The treasurer shall receive all monies for the church. He shall pay all bills on the order of the Executive Committee, keeping proper back records of all transactions and filing cancelled vouchers and receipts for payments made. The Executive Committee shall determine where funds shall be kept.

#### *Section 4-Secretary*

The Secretary shall keep the minutes of the church and Executive Committee meetings, and the membership roll, a copy of which shall be given to the pastor, and conduct the correspondences of the church upon the vote of the Executive Committee.

#### *Section 5-Trustees*

The Trustees shall be elected according to the laws of the State of Alaska. They shall be custodians of all properties, both real and personal. Their Work shall be under the direction of the congregation and Executive Committee.

#### *Section 6-Elders*

The Elders shall assist the pastor in the spiritual work of the church. They with the pastor, shall constitute the committee on membership.

#### *Section 7-Deacon*

The Deacons shall have charge other charities of the church, and receive offerings for relief purposes and dispense the same and make regular reports to the Executive Committee.

#### *Section 8-Records*

The official records of al offices of the church and all of its departments are the property of the church. All financial records shall be audited annually or at any time on order of the Executive Committee. In the event of the death or resignation of the incumbent or upon the election of his successor the current records necessary for fulfilling the obligation s of the office shall be passed on to the newly elected officers. All record, other than current, shall be kept in a safe depository selected by the Executive Committee.

### **ARTICLE IX MISSIONARY SUPPORT**

The church shall hold an annual Missionary Conference and shall take free will offerings and pledges for those missionaries who by their integrity and sound doctrine are approved by the Executive Committee.

### **ARTICLE X MINISTRIES OF THE CHURCH**

The church shall establish such ministries as are needed to meet the needs of every segment of the church family. This will include maintaining a Sunday school, Youth Fellowship, Prayer meetings and such other ministries as needed.

### **ARTICLE XI AMENDMENTS**

This constitution may be amended by a two-thirds majority vote of the members during a duly called meeting that has been clearly advertised as to its purpose at least 14 days prior to the meeting. The same majority must ratify it at a subsequently called meeting.

### **ARTICLE XII BY-LAWS**

By-laws not in conflict with the provisions of the constitution may be adopted at the Annual Meeting or any specially called meeting of the church.

### **ARTICLE XIII DISPOSITION OF PROPERTY**

In case of a division of the church body, the church property shall belong to those members who abide by the spirit and letter of the constitution.

Dissolution: Should conditions arise when the regular services cease to be held and all members cease to attend then the property shall revert to the Slavic Gospel Association.

### **ARTICLE XIV VOTING**

The privilege of voting, including absentee ballots, will be limited to members in good standing at any duly called meeting of the membership. Proxy voting will not be allowed. Absentee ballots shall be used in votes regarding: calling of a pastor, borrowing money, electing officers and members of the Executive Board and any other major decisions as deemed appropriate by the Executive Board. Absentee ballots will be available 14 days prior to the duly called meeting to be considered valid.

### **ARTICLE XV CONGREGATIONAL MEETINGS**

In addition to the Annual Meeting outlined in Article V, the Executive Board may call for additional meetings of the membership as deemed necessary. Any such duly called meeting requiring a congregational vote for the issue outlined in Article XIV must be advertised and an agenda posted not less than 14 days prior to the meeting. A quorum is required to be present to conduct business at a duly called meeting of the congregation. A quorum is defined as a simple majority of the membership.

## **MINISTRY INVOLVMENT**

*The Foundation Which Holds the Church in Place*

- 1. Evangelism Explosion**
- 2. VBS**
- 3. Summer Camps**
- 4. Women's Ministries**
- 5. Special Music**
- 6. Lawn Care**
- 7. Decorations**
- 8. Ushering**
- 9. Teaching Sunday School**
- 10. Nursery**
- 11. Building Maintenance**
- 12. Junior Church**
- 13. Sound System**
- 14. Social Committee**
- 15. Deaconess**
- 16. Senior High Youth**
- 17. Junior High Youth**
- 18. AWANA**

# CHRISTIAN SERVICE INVENTORY

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

We are always looking for volunteers to help in the many areas of ministry that are open to us here at the Bible Chapel. If you would take a moment to answer the following questionnaire, place a check by those areas of ministry that you may be interested in serving in. We will get you more information. Thank you

I. OUTREACH & EVANGELISM

- Evangelism Explosion
- Visitor Follow-Up

II. MUSIC

- Special Music
- Choir
- Sound System
- Music Committee

WORSHIP TEAM

- Song Leader
- Vocal Accompaniment
- Piano/Organ/Keyboard
- Guitar
- Other \_\_\_\_\_

III. SUNDAY SCHOOL

- Nursery/Toddlers/Kindergarten
- Elementary
- Jr. High
- Sr. High
- Adult
- Substitute (Ages \_\_\_\_\_)

IV. CHILDREN'S MINISTRY

- VBS
- AWANA
- Children's Church

V. YOUTH & ADULT GROUP

- Jr. High
- Sr. High
- Young Adults
- Small Group Leader
- Small Group (Opening your home)

VI. SOCIAL

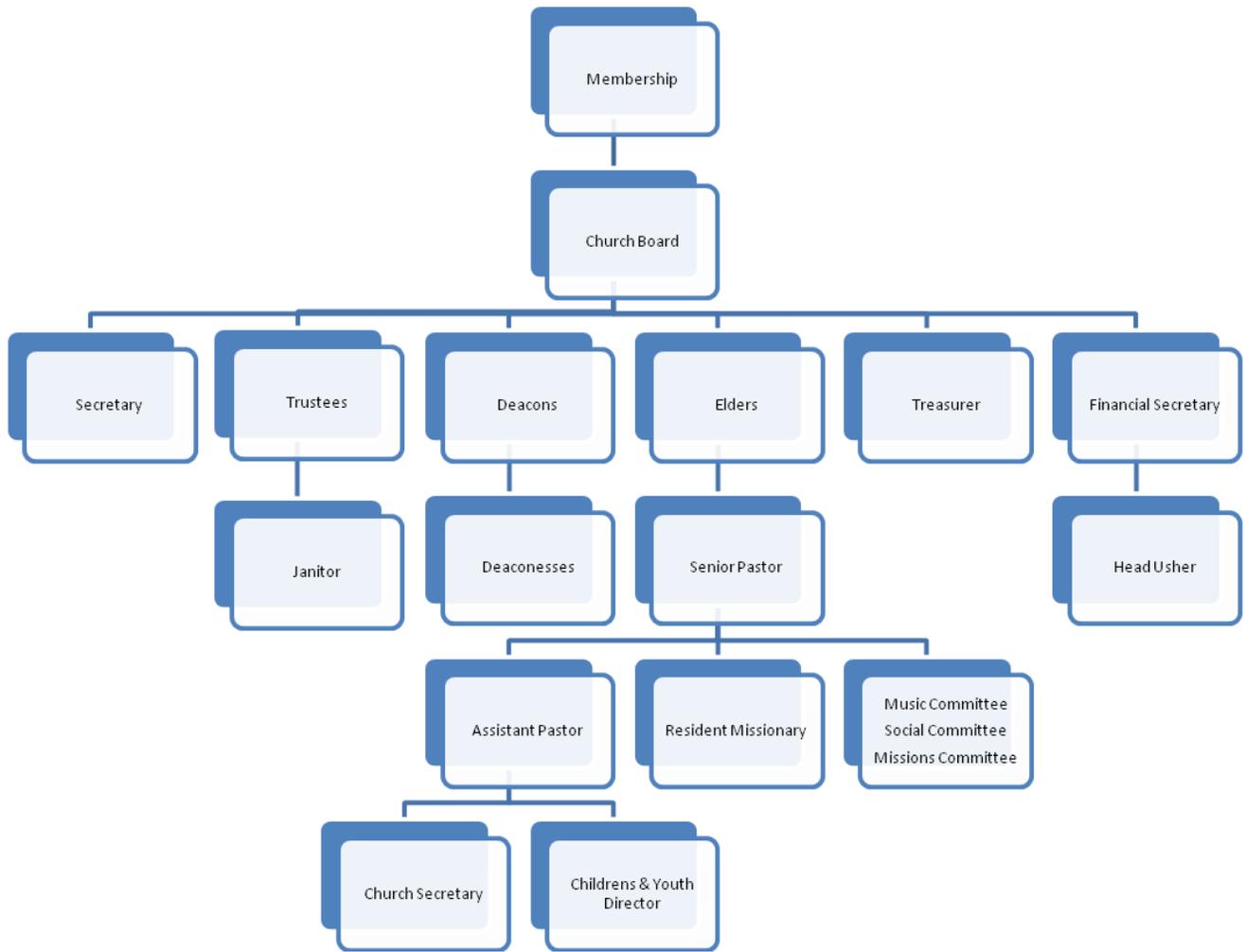
- Greeter
- Usher
- Meals
- Visit Shut-Ins
- Social Committee
- Set-Up/Clean-Up
- Decorating

VII. MAINTENANCE

- Landscaping
- Lawn Care/Flowers
- Carpentry
- Painting
- Electrical
- Plumbing
- Other \_\_\_\_\_

VIII. OTHER

- \_\_\_\_\_



## MY COVENANT

Having received Christ as my Savior, and having been baptized in the name of the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, I do now in the presence of God, most solemnly enter into covenant with others of like mind as being a member of the body of Christ.

I purpose, therefore, by the aid of the Holy Spirit to walk in Christian love; to strive for the advancement of this church, in knowledge, holiness and comfort; to promote its prosperity and spirituality; to sustain its worship, ordinances, discipline, and doctrines; to give it a sacred preeminence over all institutions of human origin; and to contribute regularly to the support of its ministries, the relief of the needy, and spread of the gospel throughout the world.

I also purpose to maintain family and personal devotions; to live an exemplary life in all my ways, to be just in my dealings, faithful in my commitments; avoiding anger, backbiting or gossip, to refrain from any habits that would set a bad example or be a cause of stumbling to others; that I might be an example to all believers and to the world as a child of God.

I purpose also to seek the salvation of my kindred and others, praying often for them, and watch over them in Christian love; to aid others in sickness and in speech, to be slow to take offense, and ready to forgive and make every effort to restore any broken fellowship with other believers.

If ever I find it necessary to move to another area, I will endeavor without delay, to find a church of like spirit and doctrine to join, and continue with the principles of this pledge.

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Name

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Signature

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Date