

The Northwood Family of Churches Bylaws

Article I - Name

The name of this organization is "The Northwood Family of Churches" also referred to as NFC.

Article II – Office

The principal office of the NFC shall be 2200 Greenridge Road, North Charleston, South Carolina, 29406. The NFC may also have offices at such other locations as the Leadership Board may determine.

Article III - Definition and Mission

Section 1 - Definition

The Northwood Family of Churches is made up of an interdependent family of self-sustaining, self-governing, self-replicating churches that share a common family name (Northwood Baptist Church), common doctrine, common core commitments, common family traits, and common family affiliations.

Section 2 - Mission

The Northwood Family of Churches exists to help member churches make disciples who encounter God, experience community, are equipped to make disciples, and engage the world.

Article IV - Statement of Faith

Every member church will agree with the basic understanding of the Baptist Faith and Message 2000. Member churches will fully affirm the essential beliefs and abide by the distinctive beliefs listed below.

Essential Beliefs

1. The scriptures are inspired by God and inerrant
2. God is triune
3. Jesus is fully God and fully man
4. Man is sinful – by birth and by action
5. The penalty of sin is death
6. Jesus physically rose from the dead
7. Salvation is by grace alone, through faith alone, in Christ alone
8. Jesus physically ascended into heaven and he will one day return for his bride

Distinctive Beliefs

1. Believer's baptism
2. Complementarian in church and family
3. Every believer a missionary
4. Elder led; congregationally ruled

Article V - Affiliations and Networks

Churches within the NFC will also affiliate with the Southern Baptist Convention, the state SBC convention, and local SBC associations.

Article VI - Member Churches

Section 1 - Becoming Member Church

Churches seeking to join the NFC must be approved by a majority vote of the Leadership Board.

Section 2 - Privileges of Being a Member Church

1. *Intellectual Property*. Each member church will share the "Northwood Baptist Church" name, branding, website branding, and other shared printed or digital content recognized by the Leadership Board.
2. *Shared Resources*. Each member church will contribute to and benefit from the ministries funded by the NFC. Examples of this might be international missions, leadership development, church planting, counseling, etc.
3. *Representation on the Leadership Board*. Each member church can have at most two pastors from their church represent their church at monthly NFC Board meetings.

Section 3 - Expectations of a Member Church

Giving - Member churches will give at least 2% of their undesignated offerings to the ongoing work of the NFC.

Participation - Member churches will be expected to actively participate in the ongoing work of the NFC including relational connection, ministry cooperation, and sending pastors to represent their church at monthly board meetings.

Representation - Each member church will commit to representing the NFC in character, Christlike humility, doctrine, philosophy of ministry, and abstain from any other behaviors the Leadership Board deems hurtful to public witness. Member churches will be required to abide by and sign the NFC covenant and membership agreement annually.

Section 4 – Voting of Members

The NFC shall have no voting members, and all voting powers shall be vested in the Leadership Board.

Section 5 - Termination of Member Church

Member churches can either resign from the NFC or they may be removed by majority vote of the Leadership Board. Upon termination, former member churches will cease and desist from using any of the privileges defined in **Section 2** including intellectual property.

Article VI - Leadership

Section 1 -The Leadership Board

The Leadership Board will be responsible for admitting new member churches and removing existing member churches. They are responsible for amending bylaws, approving budgeted and non-budgeted expenses, providing oversight and accountability for the President, and any other necessary business required.

1. Representation. The Leadership Board will be comprised of no more than two pastors from each member church that will represent that church at the NFC Board meeting. Representative pastors from each member church will be selected by their respective member church for each NFC Board meeting.
2. Quorum. To establish a quorum, a minimum of $\frac{2}{3}$ of the member churches of the NFC must have representation at a Leadership Board meeting. If no quorum is met, no formal business can take place.

Section 2 - Elected Officers of the Leadership Board

1. President. A president of the Leadership Board will be elected by the Leadership Board and will not have a limit to term. The President will preside at all meetings of the Leadership Board. The President can be removed by a majority vote of the Leadership Board. The President will be responsible for the day-to-day operations of the NFC. Any staff of the NFC will report to the President.

2. Vice-President. The vice-president will serve one-year terms and will be elected by the Leadership Board. There is no limit to the number of terms they can serve. The vice-president is responsible for assisting in the leading of the monthly NFC board meeting at the discretion of President. The Vice President will also select a Secretary defined below.

3. Treasurer. The treasurer will be elected by the Leadership Board. The treasurer will serve one-year terms by the Leadership Board. There is no limit to the number of terms they can serve. The treasurer will be responsible for monthly financial reports, ensuring payment of NFC

expenses, managing contribution information, and monthly communication to the Leadership Board.

Section 3 - Appointed Officers

Secretary. A secretary is appointed by the vice-president. The secretary is responsible for recognizing the Leadership Board each Board meeting through a roll call and keeping the minutes of each meeting.

Article VII - Dissolution

Upon dissolution, a majority vote of the existing Leadership Board shall determine the dispersion of remaining assets of the NFC. This dissolution does not include assets held by each autonomous member church. If there is no Leadership Board, the President shall determine the dispersion of assets. If there is no Leadership Board or President, the South Carolina Southern Baptist State Convention will determine where those assets will go.