

**CONSTITUTION
AND BY-LAWS
OF
GRACE BAPTIST CHURCH**

**TAYLORS, SOUTH CAROLINA
Revised February 5, 1997**

Grace Baptist Church of Taylors, SC

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CONSTITUTION

PREAMBLE

We, the members of Grace Baptist Church of Taylors, South Carolina, do ordain and establish the following Articles, to which we voluntarily submit ourselves:

ARTICLE 1

Name

The name of this church shall be called the Grace Baptist Church of Taylors, South Carolina.

ARTICLE 2

Purpose

The purpose of this church is to glorify the God of the Scriptures in promoting His worship, evangelizing sinners, and edifying saints. To this end we are committed to proclaiming God's perfect Law and His glorious Gospel of Grace in Jesus Christ throughout the world, and to defending the "faith once delivered unto the saints" (Jude 3).

ARTICLE 3

Articles of Faith

The Holy Bible is the final and only authority in all matters of faith and practice. We adopt the London Baptist Confession of Faith of 1689 (hereinafter referred to as the London Confession) as the fullest and most accurate expression of the Christian faith as it is taught in God's Holy Word. "This document is a most excellent epitome of things most surely believed among us. We accept the same not as an authoritative rule or code of faith, whereby we are to be fettered, but as an assistance to us in controversy, a confirmation in faith, and a means of edification in righteousness. Here the members of our church will have a body of Divinity in small compass and by means of Scriptural proofs will be ready to give a reason for the hope that is in us." (1 Peter 3:15; quote from Charles Haddon Spurgeon)

Comments on the London Confession

1. In Chapter 26, Paragraph 4, the Pope of Rome is declared to be the "Antichrist." Although the Reformers and Puritans held this view, not all Christians do. Commentaries indicate that there are other possible interpretations. We understand this matter of the identity of the Antichrist to be an open question.
2. Because the London Confession does not present a clear statement on the personality of Satan, we include the following: We believe that Satan is a person, a being created by God; that he has become the open and declared enemy of God and man; and that he shall be eternally punished in the lake of fire (Job 1:6-7; Matthew 4:2-11; Matthew 25:41; Revelation 20:10).

ARTICLE 4

Government

The government of this church shall be of the congregational type with authority vested in its members who shall hold title to all properties and whose majority vote, unless otherwise specified in this Constitution and By-Laws, shall be final in all matters pertaining to the church. This church shall acknowledge the Lord Jesus Christ as its only head and shall remain independent of any affiliation which violates the local authority of this church. Association and cooperation with other churches are warranted by the London Confession, Chapter 26, Articles 14-15, by Christ's prayer for visible unity (John 17:20-23), and by Christian prudence and wisdom.

ARTICLE 5 Membership

Section 1. Reception of Members

Any person desiring to unite with this church shall present a written application for membership to the Board of Elders. Representatives from the Board shall then meet with the applicant, who will be examined as to his or her conversion, Christian experience, and doctrinal belief.

If the applicant has been a member of another evangelical church, a letter of inquiry into his or her standing with that church will be sent before final acceptance is made.

Baptism by immersion as a believer is a prerequisite for church membership. The Board of Elders shall have the authority to make exceptions to the requirement of immersion as the mode of believer's baptism in unusual cases.

Members shall be received into the fellowship of the church by a majority vote of the members in any congregational meeting upon the recommendation of the Board of Elders.

Section 2. Transfer of Members

Letters of transfer shall be granted by the Board of Elders to members, provided they are in good standing, not subject to or under discipline at the time of application. Such letters shall be given only to other evangelical churches.

Section 3. Termination of Membership

Anyone who has been habitually absent from the services of the church without giving just cause for such absence may be removed from membership by a vote of the Congregation upon the recommendation of the Board of Elders..

Section 4. Resignation of Membership

Members who want to resign their membership should exercise their Christian responsibility by requesting a meeting with the representatives from the Board of Elders to discuss their reasons for desiring to leave.

If a member is subject to or under disciplinary procedures, his resignation will not be accepted.

Section 5. Associate Membership

Any person who is a member in good standing in a church of like faith and practice may become an associate member by providing a letter of recommendation and approval from his home church. Eligible candidates include students and others who temporarily reside in our area. Other candidates may be determined by the Board of Elders.

Associate members shall be subject to the government and oversight of this church. They shall possess all the rights and privileges of regular membership of this church, except they shall not be able to hold office or vote in Congregational Meetings. Once their business is completed and they leave the area, their associate membership is dissolved. No formal resignation will be required.

ARTICLE 6 Conduct

Section 1. Means of Christian Growth

All public and private means of Christian growth, such as honoring the Lord's Day, regular attendance at the services of the church, daily systematic reading of the Bible, and private and family prayers shall be urged upon our members.

Section 2. Government of the Home

The church expects its members to follow the Scriptures in home government. God has required that godliness in the home have a high priority in every life. The home holds a central attention in God's law and is the object of frequent exhortations in the New Testament. Men are expected to lovingly rule their homes with gentleness and firmness. Women are expected to be subject to their husbands in everything. Parents should train up their children in the nurture and admonition of the Lord (Ephesians 6:4), by holy example, catechizing, consistent education in God's Word, and firm discipline (including corporal punishment). Children must reverently obey their parents. (Ephesians 6:1). These primary responsibilities, prayerfully executed, will honor the name of Christ in the community and strengthen the cause of Christ in generations to come.

Section 3. Missions and Evangelism

It is the duty of every Christian and of every church of Christ to seek to extend the Gospel to the ends of the earth. Missionary efforts are the natural consequences of regeneration (Psalm 51:10-15). "Preach the Gospel" is a frequently repeated command of Christ. It is the duty of every child of God to witness by life and word. Personal efforts at witnessing for Christ are expected of every member. Beyond this we are committed to common efforts for sending the Gospel to the ends of the earth.

Section 4. Principles of Giving

We also assert our conviction that Christians are to support the work of the Lord by offerings made to the local church. Hence we pledge ourselves to systematic contribution for the support of this church.

Section 5. Christian Liberty

We shall require of each other in our daily walk and conversation loyal obedience to all those moral precepts established in the Word of God. However, where God has not prohibited certain practices in His Word, the Christian may have liberty to participate in them. The following principles must always guide the Christian's exercise of liberty:

(1) Fear of God

As the servant of Christ, all actions must be moved by a motive of love to God, and all objects must be used for His glory. The term "liberty" is often used as a cloak of malicious self-indulgence, which is sin. (1 Corinthians 10:31; 1 Timothy 4:4-5; 1 Peter 2:15, 16).

(2) Love of Brethren

Though no man may dictate to the Christian's conscience, the welfare of fellow saints must always deeply affect his decisions. In a spirit of serving the brethren, he must do that which he judges will edify them and prevent their stumbling. (Galatians 5:13; 1 Corinthians 10:23; 1 Corinthians 8:9).

(3) Compassion for Sinners

Use of liberty must always be regulated by its effect upon sinners, and that behavior chosen which is likely to win some (1 Corinthians 9:19-22).

(4) Watchfulness over the Soul

Though free in conscience to use all of God's creation, carefulness in practice is demanded because of remaining lusts. Where the Christian judges himself weak through remaining sin, he must abstain in order to persevere in holiness (1 Corinthians 9:23-27).

ARTICLE 7 Church Discipline

Section 1. Formative Discipline

The church must build up its members by the use of and submission to the gifts of both old and young. If the mutually sanctifying influence of the whole body, as taught in 1 Corinthians 12:12-27, be well understood, and every member be satisfied with his God-appointed place, we shall all "grow in grace and in the knowledge of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ" (2 Peter 3:18). We regretfully acknowledge that the failure of formative discipline necessitates corrective discipline.

Section 2. Corrective Discipline

Corrective discipline results from disorderly conduct or heretical doctrine which is contrary to the church's standard of life and doctrine. Reasonable efforts shall be made to resolve difficulties and remove offenses before any action is taken. No offenses shall be brought before the church until the instructions of Christ have first been followed (Matthew 5:23-24; 18:15-16). Corrective discipline always has for its aims the glory of God, the welfare and purity of the church, and the restoration and spiritual growth of the offender.

(1) Suspension

If a member has publicly sinned, but shows hopeful signs of repentance, including submission to the admonitions of church officers, severe discipline, such as excommunication, would be improper. Nevertheless, serious offenses may not be overlooked altogether, lest God's enemies multiply their blasphemies, lest other saints be emboldened to sin, and lest the offender be harmed by a failure to test his own soul and appreciate the gravity of his offense. Therefore, at the discretion of the Board of Elders, it may impose lesser terms upon a member such as public rebuke, removal from office, or suspension from any other privileges of membership. Those who submit to such discipline are to be wholly forgiven and received as brethren. All such actions of the Board shall be reported to the congregation.

(2) Excommunication

When restoration is not secured by the processes required in Matthew 18:15-18, further steps must be taken to correct offenders. Written charges shall be given to the accused if he requests a trial. The Board of Elders shall meet with the accused, unless the person refuses to appear. After a fair and impartial hearing of all the witnesses accessible, and all facts ascertainable, the Board of Elders must form a judgment. If the majority of the Board believes the accused to be guilty and deserving of severe discipline, it shall make a recommendation that the offender be excommunicated at a duly called Congregational Meeting. The congregation shall have the right to excommunicate a member by two-thirds of the members present and voting.

(3) Restoration

It is the duty of the church to forgive and restore to membership those persons who give satisfactory evidence of repentance (2 Corinthians 2:6-8).

a. From Suspension

The Board of Elders may restore those who have been suspended when they have judged that the aims of the discipline have been accomplished. Such action is to be reported to the church.

b. From Excommunication

Upon recommendation of the Board of Elders the congregation shall have the right to restore an excommunicated person by a majority vote of the members present and voting at a duly called Congregational Meeting.

ARTICLE 8 Council of Appeal

Any matter involving controversy within this church, within the Board of Elders, or between the congregation and the Board of Elders, if it threatens to cause dissension and injury to the welfare of this church, must be called to the attention of the Board of Elders. If the Board of Elders fails to resolve the difficulty so as to avoid dissension, any such matter may be taken to a Council of Appeal.

A Council of Appeal shall be formed at the request of the Board of Elders or by a two-thirds vote of the members present and voting at a duly called Congregational Meeting. The Council shall consist of six members of the Board of Elders and/or Board of Deacons and six laymen in good standing to be chosen by the congregation. The congregation shall also appoint a Chairman from those on the Council to preside at its meetings.

A Quorum for a Council of Appeal shall be four of the members of the Board of Elders and/or Board of Deacons, four laymen and the Chairman. If a member of the Council is unable to attend a meeting after the judicial process has begun, he may thereafter sit and hear the case but will be disqualified to vote on the final issue of the case.

The resolution of any matter shall require a two thirds vote of a Council of Appeal. When a final decision of the Council of Appeal is announced to the congregation, that decision is final and the case is ended.

ARTICLE 9 Church Officers

Section 1. Church Officers

The officers of this church shall consist of teaching and ruling elders, and deacons. Teaching elders are men who are ordained to the Gospel Ministry and are designated as teaching elders by this church. All officers shall subscribe to the London Confession and the Constitution and By-Laws of this church. Except for teaching elders, all officers shall have been members of the church for a period of at least one year before being placed in nomination. The Board of Elders shall submit nominations for all officers to the congregation. Nominations from the congregation will be accepted in writing by the Board of Elders at least 2 months before the Annual Congregational Meeting. Consent must be secured from the nominees before their names are placed before the congregation. The term of church officers shall begin upon their installation. Retiring officers shall hold office until their successors are installed.

Section 2. Teaching Elders

The church shall have one Senior Pastor, and it may have one or more fellow teaching elders. A teaching elder shall be chosen by an 80% majority of the members present and voting at a duly called Congregational Meeting. He shall be recommended to the congregation by the Board of Elders, after prayerful investigation and consideration. Only such men shall be recommended who can and will conscientiously affirm and uphold the London Confession and the Constitution and By-Laws of this church. A teaching elder shall meet the Scriptural qualifications for his calling as outlined in 1 Timothy 3:1-7 and Titus 1:5-9.

Regarding resignation, a teaching elder shall serve until his ministry here is terminated by his giving a minimum of 30 days notice or a maximum of 120 days.

Regarding dismissal, a teaching elder shall serve until his dismissal is called to a vote by recommendation of the official Elder Board, or by twenty-five percent of the church congregation by petition. This termination of a teaching elder's services shall be effective immediately by a two-thirds majority vote of eligible members present during a duly called Congregational Meeting. Salary and other benefits shall continue for 60 days maximum or until he has obtained a full-time paid position, except in cases of immorality or false doctrine. In such cases, continuing provision will be at the discretion of the Boards of Elders and Deacons.

Section 3. Ruling Elders

The church shall elect from its membership not less than two ruling elders whose terms shall be for three years. Each candidate shall be voted on individually with a two-thirds majority of the members present and voting at a duly called Congregational Meeting.

Elders shall be men in full communion with the church, of mature judgment, of unquestioned Christian character, loyal to the Word of God, able to teach sound doctrine and devoted to the Lord Jesus Christ and the spiritual welfare of the church (1 Timothy 3:1-7; Titus 1:6-9). They shall be ordained as elders after their first election as soon as convenient.

It shall be the duty of the elders to be diligent and faithful in attendance at the Board of Elders meetings and at the regular services of the church. They shall assist the Pastor at the Lord's Table. They shall make suggestions regarding the Pastor's pulpit ministry, and encourage him in the work of the Lord. Elders may at their discretion call upon one or more deacons to assist with any of their responsibilities when necessary.

Section 4. Deacons

The church shall elect from its membership not less than four deacons, whose terms shall be for three years. Each candidate shall be voted on individually, with a two-thirds majority of the members present and voting at a Congregational Meeting needed to elect him.

Deacons shall be men in full communion with the church, being sober in life, having a good reputation, and being able to comfort the oppressed (1 Timothy 3:8-13). They shall be installed as deacons after their first election as soon as convenient.

It shall be the duty of deacons to be diligent and faithful in attendance at Board of Deacons' meetings and at the regular services of the church. They shall be watchful to assist the elders in every possible way.

Section 5. Paid Staff Ministry

The church may elect to call other gifted individuals to serve as financially supported staff who will work in cooperation with and under the oversight of the Senior Pastor. Depending on the nature of their ministry, these individuals may or may not be chosen either as teaching elders or deacons. It is hoped that such individuals may be raised up within the ranks of this church body, should God make them available and they become adequately trained and equipped to serve in such a capacity. These individuals will be called at the recommendation of the Board of Elders and an 80% majority of members present and voting at a duly called Congregational Meeting.

Regarding resignation, a ministerial staff member shall serve until his ministry here is terminated by his giving a minimum of 30 days notice or a maximum of 120 days.

Regarding dismissal, a staff member shall serve until his dismissal is called to a vote by recommendation of the official Elder Board, or by 25 percent of the church congregation by petition. This termination of a staff member's services shall be effective immediately by a two-thirds majority vote of eligible members present during a duly called Congregational Meeting. Salary and other benefits shall continue for 60 days maximum or until he has obtained a full-time paid position, except in cases of immorality or false doctrine. In such cases, continuing provision will be at the discretion of the Boards of Elders and Deacons.

ARTICLE 10 Board of Elders

Section 1. Board of Elders

The Board of Elders shall consist of all of this church's duly elected ruling and teaching elders.

Section 2. Responsibility of the Board of Elders

The Board shall have the general oversight of all this church's affairs. The conduct of all church business and the work of all church organizations shall be subject to its supervision and government.

Section 3. Officers of the Board of Elders

Following each Annual Congregational Meeting, at its first meeting, the Board of Elders shall reorganize. A Chairman and a Clerk shall be elected to serve for one year, or until their successors are elected.

Section 4. Membership and Discipline

The Board shall accept applications for church membership, and apply discipline to offending members in accordance with Articles 6 and 7. The Elders shall watch over the souls of the flock "as they that must give account." (Hebrews 13:17) They must be diligent in prayer for, visitation of, and instruction of the membership and its families.

Section 5. Church Officials and Teachers

The Board shall appoint the Superintendent of the Sunday school and approve the directors of all church groups. These in turn, upon request, shall be responsible to present to the Board of Elders for its approval, all proposed teachers and leaders.

Section 6. Pulpit Supply

It shall be the duty of the Board of Elders to supply the pulpit with men whose ministry in our church shall be consistent with the London Confession.

Section 7. Grievances and Suggestions

The Board shall receive, consider and dispose of any grievance, suggestion, or recommendation by any member or organization of this church.

Section 8. Miscellaneous Duties

The Board of Elders shall exercise all other power and duties which properly belong to the sole governing body of an independent church, congregation and corporation, but shall at all times be subject to the majority vote of the congregation unless otherwise stated.

ARTICLE 11 Board of Deacons

Section 1. Board of Deacons

The Board of Deacons shall consist of all this Church's duly elected deacons.

Section 2. Ministry of Mercy

The ministry of mercy in our church and community is a special responsibility of the diaconate. The Board of Deacons shall see that the sick, the sorrowing, the aged, and the impaired receive spiritual and physical comfort. They shall minister the Word of God, administer this church's benevolence funds, and render counsel to those in need. They shall be vigilant for opportunities to do good, especially to those who are of the household of faith.

Section 3. Business Affairs

The Board of Deacons shall have general executive powers to administer the business affairs of this church. It shall be the deacons' responsibility to prepare the church budget and submit it to the Board of Elders each year. When the congregation has approved the budget, it will be the deacons' responsibility to administer it. The duty of caring for and maintaining the church's properties shall belong to this Board. They shall function as trustees in all legal transactions.

Section 4. Limitation of Powers

The Board of Deacons shall not encumber, transfer, sell or purchase any real estate for the church except by the express authorization conveyed by a majority vote of the membership present at an officially called Congregational Meeting. No obligation shall be incurred to spend over 0.2% of the current annual budget on one item without the special vote of the congregation, unless that item already appears in the adopted budget.

Section 5. Representation at Meetings

The Board of Deacons shall inform the Board of Elders of all their meetings so that a representative may be present.

Section 6. Officers of the Board of Deacons

The Board of Deacons shall reorganize at its first meeting following each Annual Congregational Meeting. A Chairman, Vice-Chairman, and Secretary shall be elected to serve for one year or until their successors are elected.

ARTICLE 12 Ordination and Installation

Section 1. Ministers of the Gospel

It is our hope that spirit-filled men will be called out from among us to proclaim the Gospel of the Grace of God. The church will commission such men by giving a license to those whose ministries will be limited to scope or time, or by ordination to the ministry.

When there is a prospective candidate for ordination to the ministry, the Board of Elders shall guide that person in his studies and preparation. It shall then call a council of elders and brethren to examine the qualifications of the candidate. It shall look into the genuineness of his conversion, the godliness of his walk, the soundness of his doctrine, the degree of his gifts, the extent of his training, and the blessing of God upon his labors for Christ.

If the council heartily recommends that the candidate be ordained, the church may give the recommended commission by a two-thirds majority of the members present and voting at a Congregational Meeting.

The Board of Elders, under the principles set forth in Article 7, shall have the power to discipline, even to the revocation of this church's ordination or license.

Section 2. Installation of Ruling Elders

In a regular worship service of the church, the Pastor shall question newly elected elders as follows:

A. Do you believe the Scriptures as written in the Old and New Testaments to be the Word of God, and do you accept them as the only infallible rule of faith and practice?

B. Have you personally adopted and will you cheerfully submit to and defend the Confession, Constitution and By-Laws of this church?

C. Do you accept the Office of Elder readily, and do you promise to perform its duties of caring for the flock of God in the fear of His Name?

Then the hands of the existing eldership shall be placed on the heads of the new elders and prayer offered in their behalf. Following this, the people shall be exhorted to esteem and obey those whom God has placed over them.

Section 3. Installation of Deacons

In a regular worship service of the church, the Pastor shall question newly elected deacons as follows:

A. Do you believe the Scriptures as written in the Old and New Testaments to be the Word of God, and do you accept them as the only infallible rule of faith and practice?

B. Have you personally adopted and will you cheerfully submit to and defend the Confession, Constitution and By-Laws of this church?

C. Do you accept the office of deacon and do you promise to care for the poor and needy and to manage the business of this church in the fear of God?

Then the hands of the elders shall be placed on the heads of the new deacons and prayer offered in their behalf. Following this, the people shall be exhorted to esteem and obey those whom God has placed over them.

ARTICLE 13 Finances

The work of this church is financially dependent upon the voluntary gifts of God's people. No paid performances, sales or solicitations shall be used to raise money for the church. Before the Annual Congregational Meeting, the Board of Elders shall obtain from the Board of Deacons an estimate of the needs of the several divisions of the work, and a prepared budget, detailing the proposed expenditures for the coming year. When this budget is approved by a vote of the congregation, it shall be considered the basis for the current liabilities. No committee or board is authorized to make changes in its provisions, or to make unauthorized disbursements without the consent of the congregation.

The fiscal year of the church shall begin October 1 and end September 30.

ARTICLE 14 Dissolution of the Corporation

In the event of the dissolution of the Grace Baptist Church as a non-profit corporation, the assets of the corporation shall be given and paid over to a non-profit corporation of like faith and practice. Said corporation shall be determined by a majority vote of the members of the corporation present at a previously announced business meeting for said dissolution.

1. Notice of dissolution meeting shall be sent in writing to each member at least 15 days prior to the scheduled meeting, and public notice shall be given at least 45 days prior to the meeting.
2. All recommendations for recipients of the corporation assets shall be placed in writing by a member of the corporation to the official Board of Elders no less than 30 days prior to the dissolution meeting. No other recommendations will be considered.
3. It shall be the duty of the official Board of Elders to examine all recommendations submitted to it and make its own recommendation to the congregation concerning the distribution of the church's assets.
4. Said recommendation from the official Board of Elders will be made available in writing to the congregation 15 days prior to the dissolution meeting.
5. The decision as to the recipient(s) of the assets of the corporation will be the mutual consent of the majority of the members present at the dissolution meeting by secret ballot.
6. The official Board of Deacons, in the stead of the members of the corporation, shall assume the responsibility of all dissolution proceedings, and shall seek and obtain legal assistance to complete said proceedings.

ARTICLE 15 Amendments

Amendments to the Constitutions and By-Laws may be adopted by a two-thirds majority of the members present and voting at any Annual Congregational Meeting or any Congregational Meeting called for such purpose. Written notification for a Congregational Meeting to amend the Constitution shall be given six months in advance.

BY-LAWS ARTICLE 1 Congregational Meetings

The following shall be regular Congregational Meetings:

1. Sunday services, morning and evening.
2. A mid-week Bible study and prayer meeting.
3. An Annual Congregational Meeting, held on an evening in October, to be determined by the Board of Elders and announced to the congregation in the bulletin and/ or from the pulpit during worship services for three weeks prior to the meeting. Confirmation or denial of officers of the church shall be by secret ballot.
4. Baptismal services in conjunction with Sunday services when deemed necessary.
5. The Lord's Supper shall be observed regularly.

Other meetings for business, fellowship and worship shall be called by the Pastor or official Board of Elders as deemed necessary.

In all Congregational Meetings twenty-five percent of eligible voting members shall be considered quorum. When less than 50 percent of eligible voting members are present, a two-thirds majority shall be required to pass any measure, except when voting for a new pastor. Any member at least eighteen years of age who is walking in fellowship with the Lord shall be entitled to vote.

Any major proposition to be voted upon by the congregation shall be presented in written ballot form and announced verbally at least two services and one week prior to the vote on such propositions.

The Board of Elders shall arrange the details of all congregational meetings and see that all possible preparation for their successful conduct is made.

Roberts Rules of Order shall be the authorized procedure for all church Congregational Meetings in matters not covered by this Constitution.

ARTICLE 2
Church Boards

Section 1. Monthly Meetings

The Board of Elders and the Board of Deacons shall hold regular monthly meetings.

Section 2. Quorum and Call for Meetings

The quorum of the Board of Elders or of the Board of Deacons shall be one-half of the total number of the Board. They shall meet at the call of their Chairman, or at the request of one-half of the Board.

Section 3. Duties of the Church Clerk

The Church Clerk, a man to be elected by the congregation at the Annual Congregational Meeting, shall keep a record of all business transacted at the Congregational Meetings, keep an accurate record of the membership, and carry on all necessary correspondence for the congregation. His term shall be for one year.

Section 4. Duties of the Church Treasurer.

The Treasurer, an officer to be elected by the congregation at the Annual Congregational Meeting, shall deposit all church funds in a bank account or accounts, as instructed by the Board of Deacons, which accounts shall be opened and maintained in the name of the church. He shall disburse the same at the direction of the Board of Deacons. He shall make monthly reports to the Board of Deacons and an annual report to the congregation at the Annual Congregational Meeting. He shall submit his books for an annual audit prior to the Annual Congregational Meeting, and at such other times as he may be directed by the Board of Deacons. He may be required to furnish a bond, the amount of which shall be determined by the Board of Deacons, and the cost of which shall be paid by the church. His term shall be for one year.

APPLICATION FOR MEMBERSHIP IN
GRACE BAPTIST CHURCH OF TAYLORS, SOUTH CAROLINA

It is my desire to be received into the membership of Grace Baptist Church of Taylors, South Carolina. In assuming this membership I agree to be loyal to the interests of this church, to seek its purity and prosperity, to do some definite Christian work, to contribute to its support, and to be subject to the doctrine and discipline of this church as embodied in the Confession, Constitution and By-Laws of this church.

If at any time I find myself out of harmony with the Articles of Faith, Constitution or By-Laws of this church, or if my conduct or belief is called in question, I agree to submit the differences or charges to the Board of Elders for action, and if it is found that I am unwilling to settle the differences on Scriptural grounds (Matthew 18:15-17), I understand that I will be excluded from the church membership.

Signed _____

Address _____

Date _____