

RULES OF ORDER AND DISCIPLINE
FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH
Savannah, Missouri
Adopted October 4, 1922
Revised and Updated January 1, 2004
Update November 2013
Update January 21, 2019

Rule 1: Regular business meetings of the church shall be held on the third Sunday of every other month at the regularly scheduled evening worship time.

Rule 2: Special meetings of the church may be called by the Clerk when requested to do so by not less than fifteen members or by request of the Senior Pastor and Deacons of which special meeting the Church shall have due notice. Due notice shall mean that the meeting is announced at least once during each Sunday Morning Worship service and is published at least once in any regular publication of the church.

Rule 3: The members present shall constitute a quorum for the transaction of business.

MANNER OF CONDUCTING BUSINESS

Rule 1: The Senior Pastor of the church, or, in his absence, or when the church has no pastor, the chairman of the deacons or any member whom the church may elect, shall act as moderator at all business meetings.

Rule 2: It shall be the duty of the Moderator to keep order, state and explain propositions, and by his/her vote decide all questions upon which there is no majority.

Rule 3: Business of the church shall be called for in the following manner:
First: Reading minutes of the previous meeting
Second: Hear reports of committees and other unfinished business.
Third: New Business

Rule 4: All meetings of business shall be conducted according to Robert's Rules of Order.

Rule 5: All questions shall be decided by the vote of a majority of members present, except when voting upon receiving members and choosing a pastor.

Rule 6: All committees may report their recommendations to the Church Council at a regular meeting of the council prior to the business meeting at which the recommendation is to be voted upon. Also, at the discretion of the Pastor, a recommendation may go before the deacons prior to presentation to the church. The recommendation will be discussed at the Church Council and/Deacons meeting and then will be brought to the business meeting by the committee. The church will vote upon the

recommendation. This applies to all committees except the nominating committee which shall report directly to the church body.

RECEIVING MEMBERS

Rule 1: Any person professing faith in Christ giving evidence of a change of heart and adopting the views of faith and practice held by this Church may, upon baptism, be received into it's membership.

Rule 2: Members from other churches holding the same faith may be received upon promise of letters of recommendation from their respective churches, but members from churches of other faith may be received only upon baptism.

Rule 3: Those who have once been members of Baptist churches but in consequence of any peculiar circumstances have no way to obtain a letter of recommendation may be received by statement and giving evidence of Christian character and scriptural faith.

Rule 4: Those who have been biblically baptized by immersion by other Christian denominations.

Rule 4: Excluded members may be restored to membership upon confession of their errors and evidence of repentance.

Rule 5: In receiving members a unanimous vote is necessary, but any member objecting must submit his objection to the decision of the church.

CHOOSING OFFICERS

Rule 1: In calling a Pastor, a three-fourths vote of the members present in favor of the call shall be necessary to affirm the choice.

Rule 2: No election of officers shall be held without due notice being given at a previous meeting.

Rule 3: All such elections shall be by private ballot; but the right of nomination shall be recognized.

CHURCH OFFICERS

Rule 1: The officers of the church shall be Pastor, Deacons, Treasurer, and Clerk.

Rule 2: The pastor shall be chosen for so long as there shall be mutual satisfaction. The relation between the Pastor and the church may be dissolved at the option of either by giving two months notice, or otherwise by mutual consent.

Rule 3: The deacons shall be chosen according to the procedure set forth in the Deacon Council description/policies.

Rule 4: The Treasurer shall be elected each year and shall receive all moneys and keep a true and fair book of accounts and shall bi-monthly make statements to the church of all moneys received and disbursed.

Rule 5: The Clerk shall be elected each year and shall keep a fair and true record of the proceedings of the Church in their meetings of business; sign all orders and be the custodian of all records and keep a record of all members of the church.

Rule 6: All business of a legal nature shall be transacted by the Pastor, Chairman of the Board of Deacons and/or the Church Clerk upon an order of the Church made of record at a regular or special business meeting.

DISCIPLINE

Rule 1: In all cases of personal or private offenses the rule given by our Savior in the 18th Chapter of the Gospel of Matthew at the 15th, 16th, and 17th verses must be strictly observed. Any offended member neglecting to observe this rule, or violating it, becomes himself an offender and should be admonished by the church.

STATEMENT OF BELIEF

Rule 1: We affirm the 2000 Baptist Faith and Message as our statement of belief.

EFFECTIVE DATE

Rule 1: These rules shall be considered to be in effect as of January 1, 2004 and to have been in effect by general practice of the church as related in church business meeting minutes since February 14, 1988.

ALTERATION OF RULES

The above rules may be altered, added to or amended by a vote of two-thirds of the members present at a regular meeting, provided notice be given of such intended alteration, addition, or amendment in the same manner as due notice of a special called meeting of the church.

These rules are affirmed by the church on January 20, 2019.