

# Constitution

## Crestwood Baptist Church (Amended May 25, 2025)

### Preamble

We declare and establish this constitution to preserve and secure the principles of our faith and to govern the body in an orderly manner. The intent of this constitution is to preserve the liberties of each individual church member and the freedom of action of this body in relation to other churches.

### Article I: Name

This body shall be known as Crestwood Baptist Church, located in Hardin County, Texas, a non-profit organization incorporated under the laws of the State of Texas.

### Article II: Purpose

We quote our purpose to be:

1. The maintenance of the worship of God and the observance of the Christian ordinances. (Exalting the Savior) *Philippians 2:9-11; I Corinthians 11:24-25; Romans 6:4; Matthew 28:18-20*
2. The study of Christian principles and the practice of the Christian life as revealed and taught in the New Testament. (Equipping the Saints) *II Peter 3:18; Ephesians 4:11-12; II Timothy 2:15*
3. The salvation of the lost at home and abroad. (Evangelizing the Lost) *Matthew 28:18-20; Acts 10:15*
4. The making of disciples that make disciples to the glory of God. (Extending the Ministry of Christ) *Matthew 28:18-20; I Corinthians 4:15*
5. The enhancement of Christian fellowship among believers. (Encouraging the Saints) *Acts 2:42*

### Article III: Statement of Basic Beliefs

In keeping with the Bible, God's Word, we affirm and hold to the following key beliefs:

1. There is one true God, creator and sovereign ruler of the universe, eternally existing in three persons: Father, Son and Holy Spirit. *Psalms 115; I Corinthians 8:5-6; Matthew 28:18-20; John 14:26*
2. The Bible is the inspired word of God, without any error, the all-sufficient authority in matters of faith, doctrine and Christian living. *II Timothy 3:15-17; Hebrews 4:12*
3. Man's sinful condition alienates and separates him from God. *Romans 3:10-12; Ephesians 4:18; Colossians 1:21*
4. Jesus Christ is God's virgin born son, true God and man. He lived a perfect life, died on the cross, was buried, and rose from the dead to pay the debt for the sins of mankind. *Matthew 1:18-23; I Peter 2:22; Hebrews 4:15; Philippians 2:6-8; Colossians 2:9; Hebrews 2:17; Colossians 2:13-14*
5. Salvation from sin and entrance to Heaven is only by grace through faith in Jesus Christ. *Ephesians 2:8-9*

Approved: 2/26/12, Amended: 5/25/25

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6. Baptism is by immersion, and the Lord's Supper is a memorial to His suffering and death on the cross. These are ordinances to be observed by the church. They are, however, not to be regarded as the means to man's salvation. *John 3:23; Acts 8:38; Matthew 26:26-28*

Therefore, we voluntarily band ourselves together as a body of baptized believers in Jesus Christ, personally committed to sharing the good news of salvation to lost mankind.

#### **Article IV: Covenant**

Being aware of our hopelessness in sin through revelation of the Holy Spirit, we have received Jesus Christ as our Savior and Lord. Having been baptized in the name of the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit, we of Crestwood Baptist Church joyfully enter into this covenant as one body in Christ.

We acknowledge Jesus Christ as Lord of our fellowship. We will worship together regularly and participate individually in the ministry of our church. We will support her growth as a New Testament church. We will contribute generously and regularly to her ministry by using our time, talents, resources and spiritual gifts for the building up of the body of Christ.

We will, with God's help, grow toward Christian maturity by consistent study of His Word and communion with Him in prayer. We will strive individually for total commitment to Christ in every area of our lives. We will oppose all conduct that compromises our Christian faith. We will practice and promote high standards of Christian morality. We will live so that God can use us in extending His Kingdom.

We will endeavor to conduct family worship and diligently educate those under our care in God's Word. We will strive by example and personal effort to lead those within our influence to a commitment of their lives to Jesus Christ. We will encourage their growth toward Christian maturity.

In the spirit of this covenant we acknowledge our responsibility in developing a Christ-centered fellowship. We will walk together in Christian love and forgiveness with concern for one another at all times, rejoicing in the abundant and eternal life that is ours through Jesus Christ our Lord.

#### **Article V: Polity and Relationships**

The government of this church is vested in the body of believers who compose it. Persons duly received by the members shall constitute the membership.

The church being under the Lordship of Jesus Christ, all internal groups created and empowered by the church shall report to and be accountable to the church, unless otherwise specified by church action.

This church is subject to the control of no other ecclesiastical body, but it recognizes and sustains the obligations of mutual counsel and cooperation which are common among Southern Baptist churches.

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