

**CONSTITUTION
EVANGELICAL COVENANT CHURCH
Baudette, Minnesota**

RATIFIED JANUARY, 2000 AND AMENDED JANUARY, 2001 AND JANUARY, 2010

ARTICLE I - NAME

The name of this church shall be the Evangelical Covenant Church of Baudette, Minnesota.

ARTICLE II - AFFILIATION

This church is a member of the Evangelical Covenant Church denomination and of its Northwest Conference, and covenants to work in harmony with the denomination and the regional conference, and to support their programs and institutions, as long as they are consistent with Article III of this constitution.

ARTICLE III - CONFESSION

We believe in the Holy Scripture, the Old and New Testaments, as the inspired Word of God, and the only perfect rule for faith, doctrine and conduct.

ARTICLE IV - PURPOSE

The purpose of this church is to unite believers in fellowship for spiritual edification, for the winning of souls for Christ and for the propagation of the Gospel of Jesus Christ through home and foreign missions.

ARTICLE V - MEMBERSHIP

Membership in this church is open to anyone who through faith in God's Son, our Lord Jesus Christ, has been born again to a living hope, is committed to living a Christian life, and desires to share in the fellowship, support and ministry of this church. This church strongly recommends that members be baptized according to the Scriptures.

ARTICLE VI - OFFICERS

The officers of this church shall be a Chairman, a Vice-Chairman, a Secretary, and a Treasurer.

BY-LAWS

ARTICLE I - MEMBERSHIP

(1) Admission of Members:

Persons desiring membership in this church, whether on confession of faith or by transfer from another Christian Church, shall apply to the Pastor or the Council; the application will then be acted upon by the Council, who shall interview the applicant. If they find him/her in accord with Article V of this constitution they shall recommend him/her for membership at the next business meeting of the church, where a simple majority vote is needed to confirm membership. The applicant shall be publicly received into the membership of this church at a worship service.

(2) Responsibility of members:

All members of this church shall assume the responsibilities and obligations placed on them by the Word of God for the church. They shall, through witness and word, consecrated service, prayer and financial support, further the cause of Christ in this church.

(3) Negligent Members:

Members who willfully neglect their duties and have not attended a service or contributed to the support of the church for one year shall be warned by the Council. If this warning is not heeded they can be liable to forfeit their membership.

(4) Erring Members:

If a member errs in doctrine or conduct, it is the duty of the member who has the knowledge, to warn or correct him according the procedure outlined in Matthew 18:15-18 and Galatians 6:1-2. If he/she does not heed the warning, the Council shall be notified, who shall in meekness and gentleness admonish him/her to repent and seek to restore him/her. If he/she still continues on his/her course the Council shall report the case to a business meeting of the church, who shall then, with due regard for the member as well as the church, act on the recommendation. Dismissal of a member must be acted upon by the church, which alone has that authority. A two-thirds vote of those present and voting at a congregational business meeting is necessary for such action.

(5) Transfer of members to another church:

Application for transfer of membership to another church shall be made in writing to the Pastor, who shall issue the transfer to the church with which the member is uniting. The transfer shall be reported through the Council to the next congregational business meeting, where it shall be made a matter of record.

(6) Withdrawal of Membership:

Request for withdrawal from membership in this church shall be made in writing to the Pastor or the Council. After careful consideration, the Council may present a recommendation to the congregation at the next church business meeting.