

TALLAPOOSA PRIMITIVE BAPTIST CHURCH

RULES OF DECORUM

So that all things be done decently and in order, let the following rules of decorum be observed:

1. The church shall meet in conference once each month, or more often if necessary, unless prevented by a good cause, or the conference is postponed by agreement of the church.
2. The called pastor shall act as moderator. In his absence, the church shall fill the chair with a moderator.
3. Church meetings shall begin and end with Divine Worship. Being thus organized, the order of business shall be as follows:
 - a. Call for reference
 - b. Call for acknowledgments
 - c. Call for items dealing in gospel order
 - d. Call for miscellaneous business
4. No matter of dealing shall come under the consideration of the conference unless it has been treated according to the direction found in the gospel.
5. In all matters of business, the speaker shall rise from their seat and address the moderator in a mild and Christian-like manner, and shall not be interrupted while speaking, unless they depart from the subject, in which case the moderator shall call them to order.
6. No member shall speak more than twice on the same subject unless to explain, or by leave of the conference.
7. No brother shall absent himself in time of conference without leave of the moderator, nor shall any of the members hold private conversations in time of conference, but each member shall pay due attention and respect to the matter under consideration.
8. The church shall choose her pastor, clerk, and treasurer during the conference in June, by secret ballot.
9. A majority of the members present shall govern on all questions except those touching fellowship, which be unanimous, and shall be determined by a rising vote.
10. If the moderator shall wish to speak on any matter in debate, he shall call on some brother present to fill his seat until he shall have taken it again.
11. Any motion voted on by this body, should there be a tie vote, shall automatically be tabled for a period of three months.
12. Should there be a motion that receives a second brought before the church, after general discussion, unless motion or second is withdrawn, the church must then act on that motion

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13. Any motion brought before the church, should it not receive a second, shall be automatically void, and will not be open for discussion.
14. It shall be the Christian duty of all members to attend each conference, unless prevented from doing so by providential or other good cause.
15. Communion service shall be held annually, and consist of breaking of the unleavened bread, partaking of the fruit of the vine, and washing of the saint's feet. All members are admonished to attend unless providentially hindered, and shall participate in this sacred service. If found by the church to be derelict in this duty, members will come under the dealings of the church body.
16. The church shall have a clerk who shall keep a fair and accurate record of all here proceedings and sign her orders.
17. The church shall have a treasurer whose duties shall be to keep an accurate and precise record of all moneys contributed to the church, and shall promptly handle the financial obligations of the church.
18. Any member asking for a letter from this body must first state a reason for the request. If found satisfactory, it will be granted, but letter must be placed with a church of same faith and order within ninety days or letter will be rescinded.
19. These Rules of Decorum are to be read in conference during conference in January and July. A copy is to be given to each new member received.
20. The foregoing Rules of Decorum may be altered or amended at any regular conference by a vote of two-thirds of the members present.
21. It shall be the duty of the moderator to see that these rules are strictly adhered to.

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