

Constitution

PREAMBLE

We, the members of the Northwest Coast Baptist Association, do hereby declare and establish this Constitution to preserve and secure the principles of our faith and to govern the body in an orderly manner, to maintain the autonomy of this association in freedom of action in relation to other organizations.

Article One

NAME

This body shall be known as the Northwest Coast Baptist Association Inc., (NWCBA) whose offices are located at 1202 Virginia Avenue, Lynn Haven, Florida 32444.

Article Two

OBJECTIVE

To be a network of Southern Baptist churches who are encouraged, equipped, and engaged to share the love of Christ with communities in the Florida counties of Bay, Gulf, Franklin, and Washington County.

Article Three

PRINCIPLES OF FAITH

We affirm the Baptist Faith and Message (2000) as our statement of faith.

Article Four

PURPOSE

To be a community-transforming organization through the collaboration of disciple-making Southern Baptist churches who desire to see the Great Commandment and the Great Commission become evident in the Florida Counties of Bay, Gulf, Franklin, and Washington County.

Article Five

ORGANIZATIONAL GOVERNMENT

The government of the NWCBA is vested in the representatives of the member churches who comprise it, owing allegiance only to it's head and founder, the Lord Jesus Christ.

Churches duly received by the NWCBA shall constitute the membership. These members shall be churches who have in common their spiritual union with the Lord Jesus Christ as part of His Body and their agreement on the principles of faith contained in this document. These member churches, so bound together, regard one another as having equal rank and privilege as well as equal responsibility and obligation in fulfilling the purpose of the church as stated in Galatians 3:26-28.

All internal and external groups created and empowered by the NWCBA shall report to and only be accountable to the NWCBA, unless otherwise specified by associational action under authority of this constitution.

At the same time, this body recognizes the rightful place of the state and pledges itself to the support of federal, state, and local governments in accordance with Romans 12:1-7 and 1 Peter 2: 13-17.

Article Six

RELATIONSHIPS

The NWCBA is subject to the control of no other civil or ecclesiastical body. However, we recognize the benefits and sustain the obligations of mutual cooperation, which are common among Baptist churches, associations, and conventions. Insofar as practical, this body agrees to cooperate with and support the work of SBC churches, the Florida Baptist Convention, and the Southern Baptist Convention.

Article Seven

AMENDMENTS

This constitution may be amended, modified, or repealed under the following circumstances: the proposal must be read at one executive team meeting or engage session. The proposal must then be presented at another executive team meeting or equip session for action by the NWCBA. The proposal must be approved by two-thirds majority vote of the representatives present voting in the affirmative.

Article Eight

SOLE AUTHORITY

There shall be no action by member representatives or this fellowship which is in conflict with this constitution. The NWBCA shall not conduct any business transaction contrary to the Constitution.

All rules, regulations, bylaws, and policies previously approved, if any, by the NWCBA, in conflict with this Constitution are each and all repealed, set aside, and superseded.

This Constitution shall be and is, hereby established as the sole "Constitution" for this Association. No rules, regulations, bylaws, and policies may be established that conflict with this Constitution.

Article Nine

RATIFICATION

This Constitution is hereby ordained and established for the NWCBA by vote of the representatives of their members on _____.

Moderator

Associational Mission Strategist