

Tucson Chinese Baptist Church

Constitution

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TUCSON CHINESE BAPTIST CHURCH
2411 East Fort Lowell Road
Tucson, Arizona 85719
520-477-8220
Website: <http://tcbcf.org>
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Tucson Chinese Baptist Church

Constitution

I. Preamble

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

II. Name

The name of this church shall be Tucson Chinese Baptist Church (hereafter referred to as the “church”). It shall be affiliated with the Catalina Baptist Association, Arizona Southern Baptist Convention, and the Southern Baptist Convention.

III. Business Location

The address of the principal office of the church shall be 2411 East Fort Lowell Road, Tucson, Arizona 85719.

IV. Purpose

Our purpose as a church is as follows:

1. To worship God as a fellowship of believers, in the power of the Holy Spirit, under the lordship of Jesus Christ.
2. To minister to each other and to all the world.
3. To lead the lost to a saving knowledge of Jesus Christ both at home and around the world.
4. To nurture Christian growth through preaching, teaching, fellowship, and living by example.

V. Articles of Faith

1. We believe the Holy Bible as the inspired Word of God, without any error, and the all-sufficient authority in matters of faith, doctrine, and Christian living.
2. We believe in one God, eternally existing in three Persons: the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit.
3. We believe in the Virgin Birth of Jesus Christ, and that He is true God and man. He died on the cross for our sins. He rose bodily from the dead, ascended into heaven where He sits at the right hand of the Father and is now our High Priest and Advocate.
4. We believe that man was created in the image of God but fell into sin and therefore lost. Only through regeneration by the work of the Holy Spirit can man's salvation and spiritual life be obtained.
5. We believe that eternal salvation is the free gift of God, entirely apart from man's works, and is possessed by any and all who have faith in and receive Jesus Christ as their personal Lord and Savior.
6. We believe in a regenerated church membership: that is, persons old enough to understand their need for Jesus Christ and, of their own free will, accepted Him as their personal Lord and Savior.

7. We believe that 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 in its present age. They are, however, not to be regarded as means for man's salvation.
8. We believe in the personal, bodily, imminent, and glorious return of the Lord Jesus Christ and that His Second Coming inspires believers for dynamic and zealous life and service for Him while waiting for His return.
9. We believe in the bodily resurrection of the dead, the everlasting blessedness of the saved in heaven, and the everlasting punishment and separation from God of the unsaved in hell.
10. We believe in the autonomy of the local church. The church shall manage its own affairs and shall not be subject to any other religious body or organization.
11. We subscribe to the "Baptist Faith and Message" adopted by the Southern Baptist Convention (latest version published in 2000; see <http://www.sbc.net/bfm2000/bfm2000.asp>) as our larger statement of faith with scriptural references.

VI. Church Covenant

Having been led, as we believe, by the Spirit of God, to receive the Lord Jesus Christ as our Savior, and on the profession of our faith, having been baptized in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Ghost, we do now in the presence of God, His angels, and this assembly, most solemnly and joyfully enter into covenant with one another, as one body in Christ.

We engage, therefore, by the aid of the Holy Spirit and with the Bible, the inspired Word of God, as our guide, to walk together in Christian love; to strive for the advancement of this church, in prosperity and spirituality; to sustain its worship, discipline, and doctrines; to observe the church ordinances of baptism and the Lord's Supper; to contribute cheerfully and regularly to the support of the ministry, the expenses of the church, the relief of the poor, and the spreading of the Gospel through all nations.

We will strive to establish personal and family devotions; to educate our children according to the faith; to seek the salvation of unbelievers, both kindred and acquaintances; to walk circumspectly in the world; to be just in our dealings, faithful in our engagements, and reliable in our responsibilities; to be exemplary in our deportment; to demonstrate the fruit of the Holy Spirit in our daily walk; to treat our bodies as the temple of God; and to be zealous in our efforts to advance the Kingdom of our Savior.

We further engage to watch over one another in brotherly love; to remember each other in prayer; to aid each other in sickness and distress; to cultivate Christian sympathy in feeling and courtesy in speech; to be slow to take offense but ready always for reconciliation; and to be ever mindful of the rules of our Savior.

Moreover, upon removal from this place, we will as soon as possible unite with some other church, where we can carry out the spirit of this covenant and the principles of God's Word.

VII. Government

The government of the church is vested in its members. The membership retains unto itself the right of exclusive self-government in all phases of its life and organization. It recognizes the needs for mutual counsel and cooperation, which are common among Baptist churches. The church will cooperate with and mutually work with Catalina Baptist Association, Arizona Southern Baptist Convention, and the Southern Baptist Convention.

VIII. Nonprofit Status & Liquidation

This church is not organized for profit. In the event of liquidation or dissolution of the church, all of its assets and property of every nature and description whatsoever shall be paid over and transferred at the direction of the Trustees to the Catalina Baptist Association, Arizona Southern Baptist Convention or both, to the Southern Baptist Convention.

IX. Ratification & Amendment

A. Ratification:

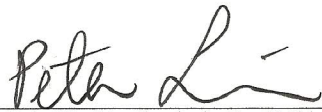
1. The Constitution shall be presented to the church for ratification at a business meeting. It shall be made available in writing and/or electronically to the church members for review at least two weeks prior to the business meeting at which it is to be presented for ratification.
2. Ratification of the Constitution shall be by 2/3 vote of the members present in the business meeting.
3. Upon ratification, it shall be considered to be in immediate effect and supersedes any and all previously dated versions of said Constitution and any other Constitution of the church that may exist and that is dated prior to the date below. Furthermore, the Chinese translation of this Constitution is dependent and subordinate to this official English composition. Clarification of any point in the Constitution shall be dependent upon the interpretation of this official English composition.

B. Amendment:

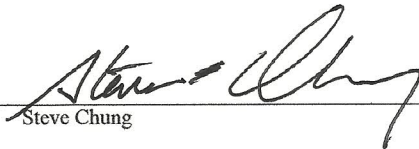
1. This Constitution may be amended provided that any proposed amendment or revision shall have been made available in writing and/or electronically to the church members for review at least two weeks prior to the business meeting at which it is to be presented for ratification.
2. Ratification of proposed amendments or revisions to this Constitution shall be by 2/3 vote of the members present in the business meeting.
3. Upon ratification, it shall be considered to be in immediate effect.

Ratified by action of the church in its business meeting on the 9th day of July 2017, in the year of our Lord.

Moderator:


Peter Lin (standing in for David Shin)

Church Clerk:


Steve Chung