

BLACKHAWK
ministries

DNA File

**"The Un-alterable Substance of
Who We Are"**

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INTRODUCTION:

What you hold in your hand is what we call our "DNA File" and while we sense a deep commitment to the Biblical truths and God-honoring principles contained in these pages - We want to ensure you that we are - as a Leadership Team - still extremely excited about our Spiritual Formation and the ongoing learning process we find ourselves in. We have not "arrived" and we anticipate many "new learnings" in the days to come as we continue to pursue the deep life changing truths of God's Word.

WHO WE ARE:**OUR MISSION**

We exist to Help seekers Find and Follow Christ.

OUR VISION (I Thessalonians 1)

By God's grace, for His glory, and empowered by His Spirit, we believe the church should resemble the body of believers in I Thessalonians 1, with work produced by faith, labor prompted by love, and endurance inspired by hope. We desire to be imitators of Jesus Christ as given to **"Helping Seekers, Find and Follow Christ."** It is our conviction that this will be realized through the prayerful and passionate pursuit of our Five E's:

THE FRAMEWORK FOR OUR MISSION AND VISION

The core framework for our Mission and Vision is reflected on the next couple of pages.

Mission:

Helping Seekers Find
& Follow Christ

What does a
Follower of Christ
"look like"?

They're growing in ...

Our 5 E's

So He
can establish...

1. Exaltation

Romans 12:1



A life of worship.

2. Evangelism

I Peter 3:15



Every encounter a divine
appointment.

3. Encouragement

Ecclesiastes 4:12



Authentic living in biblical
community.

4. Equipping

Ephesians 4:11,12



Clearly taught to uniquely
serve.

5. Excellent Stewardship

Matt. 6:21



Giving "T³" back to God.
Time, Talent, & Treasure

Vision:

A "I Thes. 1"
Fully
Surrendered
Community of
Christ
Followers

Core
Framework

BLACKHAWK

ministries

Blackhawk Ministries 5E's

Expanded Framework

1. Exaltation - *A life of worship.*

*"I urge you therefore, brethren, by the mercies of God, to present your bodies
a living and holy sacrifice, acceptable to God, which is your spiritual service of worship."
Romans 12:1*

This verse speaks of an entire **life** surrendered to Him. Our worship extends beyond the 70 minutes on Sunday morning to every arena of life, and our willingness to offer Him - in those arenas - a living and holy sacrifice.

2. Evangelism - *Every encounter a divine appointment.*

*"But sanctify Christ as Lord in your hearts, always being ready to make a defense
to everyone who asks you to give an account for the hope that is in you,
yet with gentleness and reverence;"
1 Peter 3:15*

We commit to view each and every encounter as divine . . . And regardless of the "encounter's" duration - be it brief, or the beginning of a redemptive friendship - we long to point each and every person toward Christ.

3. Encouragement - *Authentic living in biblical community.*

*"And if one can overpower him who is alone, two can resist him.
A cord of three strands is not quickly torn apart."
Ecclesiastes 4:12*

Real life change happens best in settings that promote intimacy, honesty, and accountability. Places where we experience the joy of knowing and being known, loving and being loved.

4. Equipping - *Clearly taught to uniquely serve.*

*"And He gave some as apostles, and some as prophets, and some as evangelists,
and some as pastors and teachers, for the **equipping of the saints for the work
of service**, to the building up of the body of Christ;"
Ephesians 4:11,12*

Here at Blackhawk this reminds us of two very important truths. We as leaders must faithfully **equip** Christ followers so they can in turn exercise their unique gifts while **equipping** and serving others.

5. Excellent Stewardship - *Giving "T³" back to God.*

*"for where your treasure is, there will your heart be also."
Matthew 6:21*

Scripture encourages us to invest in "heavenly treasure" by sacrificially giving back to Him our time, talent, and our treasure.

OUR CORE VALUES

(GUIDING PRINCIPLES THAT CONNECT BELIEFS TO ACTIONS!)

Based on the truth given to us in God's Word we are compelled to live by the following core values:

1. The holiness of God compels us to worship Him passionately in spirit and in truth (Revelation 4:8-11).
2. Devotion to prayer is foundational to each believer's growing relationship with God (Psalm 5:1-3, Philippians 4:6, 7).
3. God has called the church to initiate and cultivate life-changing relationships, but salvation is an act of God (I Corinthians 3:6-9).
4. Loving relationships are to permeate all of church life and be evident in the life of each believer (John 13:34, 35; II Corinthians 2:14, 15).
5. Life change happens best in settings that promote honesty, intimacy, and accountability (Ecclesiastes 4:9, 10; Proverbs 27:17; I Peter 1:22).
6. The church flourishes when people equipped by the Word of God, and led by the Spirit of God; serve in the right places for the right reasons (Romans 12:3-8).
7. The anointed teaching of God's Word is vital for life transformation (Acts 2:42, 47).
8. Obedience to God expresses our genuine worship and love for Him (Romans 12:1, 2; John 14:15).
9. All people matter to God, and therefore, matter to each believer (Luke 15).
10. The church is to be culturally relevant while remaining doctrinally pure (I Corinthians 9:22, 23).
11. A commitment to excellence honors God and inspires people (Colossians 3:23, 24).
12. Fully devoted hearts will selflessly seek to serve and meet the needs of those in their world (Matthew 25:40, 45).
13. The pursuit of full devotion to Christ will lead every believer to become a disciple-maker (II Timothy 2:2).

WHAT WE BELIEVE:**OUR STATEMENT OF FAITH**

This is a concise summary of key biblical truths adopted by the church to serve as a reference point for believers as an indicator of what we believe to be important concerning our faith in Jesus Christ as our Lord and Savior. Believers are required to support these views as a condition for membership.

We Believe...

1. ...That the Bible is the authoritative Word of God; that it was inspired and inerrant in its original form; that it is to be trusted; that it is to be believed literally and obeyed fully.
2 Timothy 3:16
2. ...In one God who exists in three eternal persons: the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit.
Deuteronomy 6:4-7; John 10: 30; John 16:13-15
3. ...That Jesus Christ is the eternal God who entered humanity through the virgin birth and lived a sinless life.
John 8:58; Matthew 1:24, 25; 2 Corinthians 5:21
4. ...That Jesus Christ died for the sins of the world and His blood is the only atonement for sin.
John 3: 16; Romans 5:8, 9; 1 John 1:7
5. ...That all people are sinners and separated from God; that there is a literal heaven and a literal hell, and that salvation from sin and hell and entrance into heaven is through faith alone in Jesus Christ.
Romans 3:23; Ephesians 2:8, 9
6. ...That faith in Christ results in repentance, conversion, regeneration and an endeavor to live a life of obedience to Christ.
2 Corinthians 5:17; 2 Peter 1:4
7. ...That when an individual accepts Christ, he or she is immediately indwelt by, as well as sealed and baptized by the Holy Spirit of God.
1 Corinthians 6:19; Ephesians 1:13-14
8. ...That the Holy Spirit of God, upon indwelling, endows each individual with a specific spiritual gift or gifts. (We recognize that the revelatory and sign gifts were for the apostolic age, but that God does work supernaturally in answer to prayer.)
I Corinthians 12:4, 7, 11

9. ...That the church is the body of Christ, charged with the responsibility to provide spiritual direction, worship and fellowship for believers and to evangelize unbelievers. Baptism of believers by immersion and communion are the church's two ordinances.
Ephesians 5:25; Colossians 1:18
10. ...That Jesus is coming again to receive His church, believers both dead and living. Following this rapture is a seven year period of God's wrath, called the Great Tribulation. The tribulation will be ended by the coming of Christ with His church to reign for 1000 years on earth.
Acts 1:11; Matthew 24:21; John 14:3; I Thessalonians 4:16-18
11. ...That a believer is held secure eternally by the power of God. However, the believer's life will be judged by the Lord Jesus at the judgment seat of Christ, resulting in reward or loss of reward, but not loss of salvation.
John 10:27-29; Hebrews 9:27

WHAT WE TEACH:

This is an expanded list of key biblical truths adopted by the church to promote unity by serving as a reference point for church leaders and teachers as these biblical truths are taught within this body of believers.

THE BIBLE

WE BELIEVE THE BIBLE IS GOD'S INSPIRED WORD.

I. It was written by men who were supernaturally inspired by God.

A. The Bible often identifies the human author.

1. Romans was written by Paul. Romans 1:1
2. James was written by James. James 1:1
3. Other internal evidences often indicate who the human author was.
e.g. The use of medical terms in Acts leads us to believe it was written by Dr. Luke.
4. Some books we can only speculate who the human author was.
e.g. Hebrews

B. The Bible was inspired by God.

There are three steps in the transmitting of God's Word.

1. Revelation: God revealed His Word to His prophets, apostles and spokesmen in various ways. (Direct voice, angels, dreams, inner voice of His Spirit)
Hebrews 1:1; II Peter 1:21
2. Inspiration: God guided and controlled the writers as they recorded His Word to keep it from error.
II Timothy 3:16

We believe that it was recorded:

- a. Without error John 16:13
- b. The words are inspired Matthew 5:17-19
- c. All the words are inspired II Timothy 3:16

3. Preservation: God's power has kept His Word from becoming lost, destroyed or diluted with error.
Psalm 119:89; Proverbs 30:5,6; I Peter 1:23,25

II. Inspiration

By "inspiration" we mean that the books of the Bible were written by holy men of old as they were moved by the Holy Spirit in such a definite way that their writings were supernaturally inspired and free from error, as no other writings have ever been or ever will be inspired.

THE PERSON OF GOD

WE BELIEVE THAT THERE IS ONE AND ONLY ONE TRUE GOD WHO EXISTS AS THREE PERSONS: FATHER, SON AND HOLY SPIRIT.

I. There is but one true God. Deuteronomy 6:4-7

A. God is the maker and supreme ruler of Heaven and Earth.
Genesis 1:1; Psalm 83:18, Psalm 90:2, Psalm 147:5

B. God is an infinite intelligent spirit being with personality.
John 4:24

- | | |
|-------------------------|-----------------------------|
| 1. He is Omniscient | Psalm 147:5 |
| 2. He is Omnipotent | Job 42:2 |
| 3. He is Omnipresent | Psalm 139:7-12 |
| 4. He is Immutable | Malachi 3:6 |
| 5. He is Loving | I John 4:8,16 |
| 6. He is Righteous | Genesis 18:25 |
| 7. He is Merciful | Ephesians 2:4-7 |
| 8. He is Long-suffering | II Peter 3:9 |
| 9. He is Holy | I Peter 1:16; Habakkuk 1:13 |
| 10. He is Just | Deuteronomy 32:4 |

II. God exists as a "Trinity": Father, Son and Holy Spirit.

A. The Father is God.
John 6:27; Galatians 1:1

B. The Son, Jesus Christ, is God.

1. The Son existed forever in eternity past.
John 1:1-4,14; John 8:58
2. Jesus was begotten by the Holy Spirit.
Matthew 1:18-25
3. Jesus was born of a virgin, Mary.
Isaiah 7:14; Matthew 1:18-25
4. Christ lived a sinless life.
II Corinthians 5:21; I Peter 2:22
5. Christ proved He was the Son of God and Messiah.
 - a. By demonstrating the attributes of God and man
 - 1) God Mark 2:8
 - 2) Man Matthew 4:12
 - b. By miracles Matthew 9
 - c. By fulfilling Messianic prophecy Psalm 22:16; John 20:25
 - d. By the resurrection Matthew 12:40; John 2:19-22
6. Christ willingly gave up His life as a substitute for our sins by dying on the cross.
John 10:17-18

7. Christ's body rose from the grave proving His Lordship and victory over sin and death.
I Corinthians 15:20-21, 55-56
8. Christ ascended to heaven and is seated at the right hand of God.
Acts 1:11; Romans 8:34; Ephesians 1:20-21
9. Christ is coming again.
Acts 1:11; Matthew 26:64

C. The Holy Spirit is God.

1. Holy Spirit is part of the Trinity, being God.
Matthew 28:19; Acts 5:3-4; Luke 1:35; Hebrews 9:14
2. He is the comforter and teacher of believers.
John 14:16-17; John 15:26-27
3. He convicts the world of sin, righteousness and judgment.
John 16:8-11
4. He is the agent of the new birth.
John 3:5-6
5. He permanently performs ministries to believers.
 - a. Indwells I Corinthians 3:16
 - b. Baptizes I Corinthians 12:13
 - c. Endows with gifts I Corinthians 12:7-11
 - d. Seals Ephesians 1:13-14
6. He conditionally performs other ministries to believers.
 - a. Teaches I John 2:20; John 15:26-27
 - b. Fills or controls Ephesians 5:18
 - c. Guides Romans 8:14
 - d. Helps Romans 8:26-27
7. He restrains evil from overrunning the world.
II Thessalonians 2:7

- D. The Father, Son and Holy Spirit are co-equal.
Identical in nature, but unequal in function. Although the word "Trinity" does not occur in Scripture, the doctrine of the "Trinity" of God is clearly taught.
Genesis 1:26 "Let us make man in our own image."
Deuteronomy 6:4 "The Lord our God is one."

ANGELS, SATAN AND DEMONS

WE BELIEVE THAT ANGELS, SATAN AND DEMONS WERE CREATED BY GOD TO WORSHIP HIM. THE DEVIL AND HIS DEMONS REBELLED AND WERE CAST FROM HEAVEN.

I. Angels

A. The existence of angels is taught in the Old and New Testaments.
Genesis 18, 19; Matthew 2:19

B. Angels are created beings distinct from human beings.
Hebrews 1:12-14; 2:7-9

1. Angels were created during the seven days of creation but prior to earth's creation.
Exodus 20:11; Job 38:6-7

2. Angels were created holy (Satan and a host of angels followed him in rebellion against God).
Isaiah 14:12-14; Genesis 1:31; Matthew 25:31

3. Angels possess great knowledge and power, but are not omnipotent or omniscient.
I Peter 1:11-12; Revelation 7:1

4. Angels possess personality, intelligence, emotion and will.
Matthew 8:29; Luke 2:13-14; Jude 6

C. Angels are organized by God to serve Him.

1. The exact number of angels is not known; however, the Bible says there are myriads of angels. The amount does not increase or decrease.
Hebrews 12:22; Revelation 5:11

2. The fact of their organization

a. The Bible speaks of the "Council" and "Assembly" of the angels.
Psalm 89:5-7

b. The Bible speaks of their organization for battle.
Revelation 12:7

c. The ranking of angels

1) The archangel Michael is the only angel specifically designated as such.
Jude 9; I Thessalonians 4:16

2) Chief Princes refers to a group of superior angels.
Daniel 10:13

3) Cherubim refers to a group of angels which function as guardians of the holiness of God.
Genesis 3:24

4) Seraphim refers to an order of angels similar to Cherubim.
Isaiah 6:2,6

II. The primary function of angels is to minister as servants to God and His believers.

A. In relationship to God

1. They praise Him.
Psalm 148:1-2; Isaiah 6:3
2. They worship Him.
Hebrews 1:6; Revelation 5:8-13
3. They rejoice in what He does.
Job 38:6-7
4. They serve Him.
Psalm 103:20; Revelation 22:9
5. They appear before Him.
Job 1:6; 2:1
6. They are instruments of God's judgments.

B. In relationship to Christ:

They ministered to Christ throughout His life on earth.
Matthew 2:13-15; 28:1-2

C. In relationship to believers:

1. They help in personal ways
Hebrews 1:14
 - a. They bring answers to prayer.
Acts 12:5-10
 - b. They aid in winning people to Christ.
Acts 8:26; 10:3
 - c. They observe Christian order, work and suffering.
I Corinthians 4:9; 11:10; Ephesians 3:10; I Peter 1:12
 - d. They encourage in time of danger.
Acts 27:23-24
 - e. They care for the righteous at the time of death.
Luke 16:22
2. Angels have been involved in communicating and revealing the meaning of truth which the church benefits from today.
Daniel 7:15-27; 8:13-26; 9:20-27; Revelation 1:1; 22:6,8

III. Satan and Demons

- A. Satan was created as a holy angel and enjoyed heavenly honor, but through pride and ambition to be as God, he was cast out of heaven.
Isaiah 14:12-15; Ezekiel 28:11-17
- B. In Satan's attempt to be as God, he led a host of other angels in his rebellion.
Revelation 12:9; Jude 6; II Peter 2:4
- C. Having been expelled from heaven, Satan and his evil angels (also called demons in the Scriptures) continue to lead a rebellion on earth.
 - 1. He is now the malignant "prince of the power of the air" and the unholy god of this world.
John 14:30; II Corinthians 4:4
 - 2. He is the enemy of God and Christ.
I John 3:8; Matthew 13:25; Luke 22:3-4
 - 3. He is the ruler of all powers of darkness.
Ephesians 6:10-12; II Thessalonians 2:9-11
 - 4. He is the adversary and tempter of humanity.
I Peter 5:8; Matthew 4:1-3; Revelation 12:9
 - 5. He is the author of all false religions and apostasy.
II Corinthians 4:1-4; 11:13-15; I Timothy 4:1
 - 6. He is the accuser of the saints.
Revelation 12:10
- D. Satan will lead the unbelieving world in a final rebellion in the end times.
 - 1. He will inspire the word of the Anti-Christ (also called the Beast of the Sea) and the False Prophet (also called the Beast out of the Earth) in the Tribulation.
II Thessalonians 2:1-12; Revelation 12, 13, 16:13, 19:20
 - 2. He will be bound and chained in the abyss during the Millennium.
Revelation 20:1-4
 - 3. He will be let loose for a "short season" and then cast into the Lake of Fire forever.
Revelation 20:7-10

IV. Satan can possess and influence people.

- A. He can possess unbelievers, but not believers.
Matthew 12:22-29; I John 4:4

- B. He can influence and oppress believers.
Matthew 16:23; Luke 22:31
- V. As the adversary, believers are in a war with Satan.
 - A. Understood by believers
II Corinthians 2:11
 - B. Respected by believers
II Corinthians 11:14
 - C. Resisted by believers
James 4:7-8; Ephesians 6:10-19

MAN, SIN, SALVATION

WE BELIEVE THAT GOD CREATED MAN IN HIS OWN IMAGE BUT MAN SINNED AND IS DESTINED TO AN ETERNITY IN HELL UNLESS HE RECEIVES CHRIST AS SAVIOR.

- I. We believe that God uniquely created man in His image.
 - A. God created the world and everything in it in six literal days and created each living thing uniquely "after its kind" and that one species did not evolve from another.
Exodus 20:1; Genesis 1:11,24
 - B. God created man in His own image with the capacity to know God and live free from sin.
Genesis 1:26-27; 2:7,21-23
- II. We believe that Adam, the first man, voluntarily sinned against God.
Genesis 3:1-6
 - A. Adam's sin marred the image of God, altering the nature of all humanity, so that everyone since him has a sinful nature.
Romans 5:12,19; I Corinthians 15
 - B. All humanity is both by nature and action sinful and under the penalty of spiritual death.
Romans 3:10-23
- III. We believe that personal faith in Jesus Christ is God's only plan of forgiveness, restoration and eternal life.
 - A. Christ died on the cross as our substitute, atoning for our sins.
 - 1. The Son of God, by appointment of the Father, freely took upon Himself our nature yet without sin and by His death made a full and vicarious atonement for our sins.
John 3:16; Matthew 18:11; Philippians 2:7; Hebrews 2:14; Isaiah 53:4-7; Romans 3:25; I John 4:10; I Corinthians 15:3; II Corinthians 5:21

2. That His atonement consisted not in setting an example by His death as a martyr, but was the voluntary substitution of Himself in the sinner's place, the just dying for the unjust, Christ, the Lord, bearing our sins in His own body on the tree.

John 10:18; Philippians 2:8; Galatians 1:4; I Peter 2:24; Isaiah 53:11; Hebrews 12:2

B. Salvation comes when an individual is born again by personal faith in Jesus Christ.

1. Faith is trusting alone in the death of Christ for our sins and not just intellectual assent to creeds or statements.

James 2:19

2. Such personal faith results in an instantaneous new birth and new creation by the Spirit of God and not of any human doing.

John 3:1-5; John 1:12-13; II Corinthians 5:17

3. In the new birth, the one who was spiritually dead is made alive and a partaker in the divine nature, and receives eternal life.

Ephesians 2:1; Romans 6:23; II Peter 1:4

4. Justification and pardon for sin is wholly of grace, apart from the performance of "good works", but we are saved when Christ's righteousness is accounted to us by faith.

Ephesians 2:8-9; Romans 4:23-25

C. Salvation is free; offered to all men.

1. Christ's death was a ransom for the sins of the world.

Matthew 11:28; I John 2:2; II Peter 2:1

2. Because of sin, left to himself, no one would seek God unless God first calls, elects him.

Romans 3:11; John 6:44; I Peter 2:1; Ephesians 1:4-7

3. Nothing prevents the salvation of the greatest sinner on earth except for his own sin.

Romans 2:12-16; John 3:18-36

4. All who repent of their sins and place their faith in Christ will be saved (Acts 2:38) and all who do not, face eternity separated from God in Hell.

John 3:36

5. We believe that both Heaven and Hell are literal, not figurative, realms where all the dead abide forever.

John 14:1-6; Luke 16:23-28; Revelation 20:11-15

IV. We believe that Biblical sanctification has three aspects.

- A. First, the believer is set apart positionally before God the moment he believes.
I Corinthians 1:2-3; II Thessalonians 2:13; Hebrews 10:10-14; I Corinthians 6:11
- B. Secondly, he is set apart progressively in his walk day by day as he grows in grace.
John 17:17-19; I Thessalonians 4:3-8
- C. Thirdly, he is set apart from the very presence of sin when his sanctification is completed at the coming of Christ for the Church.
I John 3:5-7

V. We believe that each person who has experienced the new birth in Christ is eternally secure in their position as a child of God.

- A. Their position is secure because of the work of the Father.
 - 1. Through His purpose: God purposed to glorify those whom He predestined, called and justified.
Romans 8:30
 - 2. Through His power: by God's power a believer is sustained.
Jude 24; John 10:28-29
- B. Their position is secure because of the work of the Son.
 - 1. Through His death, burial and resurrection
Romans 8:32-34; John 6:39-40,51; Hebrews 10:14
 - 2. Through His prayers
John 17; Hebrews 7:25; I John 2:1
- C. Their position is secure because of the work of the Holy Spirit.
 - 1. Through indwelling
John 14:16-17; I Corinthians 16:19; I John 3:24
 - 2. Through sealing
II Corinthians 1:21-22; Ephesians 1:13-14; Ephesians 4:30
- D. Their position is secure because of the nature of salvation.
 - 1. Eternal life means eternal life.
John 3:16; 17:3; 6:40,47,51,54
 - 2. Through the nature of adoption
Romans 8:15; Galatians 4:5-7; Ephesians 1:5

END TIMESTHE LAST DAYS AND THE SECOND COMING OF CHRIST

WE BELIEVE THAT JESUS IS COMING AGAIN TO CLAIM HIS CHURCH AND WILL ONE DAY RETURN WITH HIS CHURCH TO ESTABLISH HIS EARTHLY KINGDOM IN WHAT WILL BE CALLED HIS MILLENNIAL REIGN.

I. What we believe about the "Last Days."

A. Apostasy will increase as we draw nearer.

1. Doctrinal Characteristics

a. Denial of the Doctrine of the Trinity
I John 2:22-23

b. Denial of the Doctrine of the Incarnation of Christ
I John 2:22; 4:3; II John 7

c. Denial of the Doctrine of Christ's Return
II Peter 3:4

2. Lifestyle Characteristics (Defection in doctrine always brings a decline in morals.)
A life of self, love of money, pride, blasphemy, disobedience to parents, lack of thankfulness, lack of holiness, love of pleasure, etc.
II Timothy 3:1-5

B. The Rapture of the Church

1. A definition - The state or experience of being carried away. Comes from the Latin word "rapio"; the carrying away of the church from earth to heaven.

2. The time of its occurrence

a. The Doctrine of Imminency - at any moment coming
Acts 1:6-7; 1:11; I Thessalonians 5:2

b. Premillennial, pretribulation rapture
The church will not go through the tribulation period.
Revelation 3:10

3. The components of the Rapture
I Thessalonians 4:13-18

a. The return of Christ (v. 16)
All those who have died "in Christ" will be raised "in the twinkling of an eye." This will occur just prior to the living being "caught up."

b. A Rapture (v. 17)

All living believers on earth at that moment will be caught up in the Lord's presence without experiencing physical death.

c. Reassurance (v. 18)

This marvelous truth should encourage and comfort us.

C. The Tribulation Period

1. Its uniqueness - It will be a time of God's wrath, "such as has not occurred since the beginning of the world until now, nor ever shall."

Matthew 24:21

- a. It will be worldwide, not localized.

Revelation 3:10

- b. Men will act as they have never acted. They will hide in the dens and caves of mountains and they will think the world is coming to an end.

Revelation 6:16.

- c. The world will experience devastating natural catastrophes.

2. Its duration - The Tribulation will last for seven years.

Daniel 9:25-27; Revelation 12:6,14

3. Its leader will be the Antichrist who will attempt to rule the world.

Revelation 6:1,2; 13:4

4. The Tribulation will culminate with the Battle of Armageddon.

Revelation 16:12; Daniel 11:36-43; Ezekiel 38:10-12,21

D. The Second Coming of Christ

1. It will end the Battle of Armageddon and the Great Tribulation.

Revelation 19:1-12

2. Christ will come physically to earth to establish His kingdom.

Revelation 11:15-18; Zechariah 14:3

3. He is coming to reward His saints and to execute His judgment.

Revelation 11:18, 22:12-20; II Timothy 4:1

E. The Millennium

1. When Christ returns He will establish His kingdom on earth for 1000 years.

Revelation 20:1-7

2. Christ will rule as king and the saints will rule as His subordinates.
Revelation 19:16; 20:4; Luke 19:12-28

F. The Final Rebellion

1. Satan is released from the bottomless pit.
Revelation 20:7
2. A final rebellion occurs against God, called Gog and Magog.
Revelation 20:8
3. God puts down this final rebellion and Satan is judged and cast into the Lake of Fire.
Revelation 20:10
4. All unbelieving dead are resurrected to stand before the Great White Throne Judgment.
Revelation 20:11-15

G. New Heaven and New Earth

Present heaven and earth are abolished and God creates a new heaven and a new earth.

II Peter 3:13; Revelation 21

THE CHURCH

WE BELIEVE THAT ALL BELIEVERS ARE PART OF GOD'S UNIVERSAL CHURCH AND THAT LOCAL CHURCHES EXIST ON EARTH TO DO THE WORK OF THE MINISTRY UNTIL CHRIST RETURNS.

- I. We believe that the church is made up of the universal body of all believers and is reflected on earth by local churches.
 - A. The church is the object of Christ's mission.
"Christ loved the church and gave Himself for her."
Ephesians 5:25
 - B. Christ is the life, head and power of the church.
 1. He is the head of the body.
Colossians 1:18
 2. He is the vine; the church is His branches.
John 15:1-6
 3. He is the bridegroom; the church is His bride.
Matthew 25:6
 4. He is the good shepherd; the church is His sheep.
John 10:11-18
 5. He is the cornerstone; the church is His building stones.
Ephesians 2:19-22; I Peter 2:4-8

6. He is the High Priest; the church is a kingdom of priests.
I Peter 2:5-9

7. He is the last Adam; the church is His new creation.
I Corinthians 15:45-49; II Corinthians 5:16-21

II. We believe that the "Universal Church" is reflected on earth by local churches.

A. The church exists for the mutual function of its constituency.

1. The local church exists for the mutual worship of Christ.
Acts 2:42-47

2. The local church exists for the mutual support and fellowship of its members.
Romans 14:19 "edify one another"
Romans 15:14 "admonishing one another"
Galatians 5:13 "serve one another"
Galatians 6:2 "bear one another's burdens"

3. The local church exists for the mutual serving of Christ.

a. God commands individuals to do the work of the ministry.

1) Grow

I Peter 2:1-2

2) Evangelize

II Timothy 4:5

3) Teach and make disciples

II Timothy 2:1-2

b. The church is to help to train, equip, encourage and develop believers.

Ephesians 4:10-12

B. The church is instructed to observe two specific ordinances.

1. The Lord's Supper is to be observed to be a constant reminder of Christ's death and our forgiveness.
Matthew 26:17-30; I Corinthians 11:23-26

2. Baptism is the physical testimony of a believer's relationship to Christ.

a. Baptism pictures the death and burial of Christ (being lowered into the water), and the resurrection of Christ (being raised out of the water).

Romans 6:1-4

b. Baptism pictures that we are dead to ourselves and alive in Christ.

Colossians 2:12

- c. We believe that only believers should be baptized because in the Scriptures only believers were baptized.
 - d. We believe that baptism is to be done by immersion.
 - 1) The word "baptize" means "to dip."
 - 2) It is a picture of burial.
Romans 6:1-4; Colossians 2:12
 - 3) It was the habit of the early church.
Acts 8:36-40
- C. The church is given great freedom and responsibility to organize itself to function.
- 1. Leadership is to be recognized and selected.
 - a. The New Testament established the office of elder or pastor, with the primary responsibility for leadership, teaching and spiritual ministry.
I Timothy 3:1-7
 - b. The New Testament established the office of deacon and deaconess with the responsibility of serving the needs of the body.
I Timothy 3:8-13
 - 2. The church is to keep itself pure.
 - a. The church must maintain moral purity.
I Corinthians 5:1-4
 - b. The church must maintain doctrinal purity.
I Timothy 1:18-20
 - c. The church must exercise discipline to maintain purity by asking those who are not willing to maintain purity to leave the assembly.
I Corinthians 5:1-13

SPIRITUAL GIFTS

WE BELIEVE THAT ALL TRUE BELIEVERS HAVE AT LEAST ONE SPIRITUAL GIFT AND ARE TO USE IT TO EDIFY THE BODY OF CHRIST.

- A. Every born again believer is baptized by the Holy Spirit at conversion and it is not a second blessing to be sought or anticipated.
I Corinthians 12:12-13
- B. Every believer is given a particular spiritual gift or gifts at conversion by the discretion of the Holy Spirit and not of or by the choosing of the individual.
I Corinthians 12:7-11

- C. Spiritual gifts are given for the edification of the body of Christ, for mutual growth and not for personal blessing or experience.
Ephesians 4:11-16; I Corinthians 14:1-12
- D. The gifts of tongues, miracles and healing, and prophecy were "signs of the apostles" and given during the Apostolic Age to establish the church unit. "The more sure Word", the New Testament, was completed and these gifts are no longer given to the church since the time of the apostles.
II Corinthians 12:11-12; I Corinthians 12:8-11; II Peter 1:17-21

CIVIL GOVERNMENT

WE BELIEVE THAT CIVIL GOVERNMENT IS ESTABLISHED BY GOD AND THAT CHRISTIANS ARE TO BE ACTIVE, LOYAL CITIZENS.

- A. God establishes it for our interests and order, and we are responsible to obey all laws.
Romans 13:1-7
- B. We are to pray for our rulers, honor and obey them.
I Timothy 2:2; Titus 3:1; I Peter 2:13-14,17
- C. When confronted with a clear conflict between government and God, we must be obedient to God.
Acts 5:29

HOW WE FUNCTION:**CHURCH NAME**

The legal name of the church is Blackhawk Baptist Church, Inc. of Fort Wayne, Allen County, Indiana. It operates under the assumed name of "Blackhawk Ministries".

MEMBERSHIP**A. ADMISSION OF MEMBERS**

1. Any person who: professes faith in Christ, gives evidence of a changed heart, has been baptized by immersion after conversion, supports the church views of faith as outlined in section titled "What We Believe" and indicates agreement with the church practices as outlined in section titled "How We Function", may, upon recommendation of the Membership Interview Team, be received into the membership of the church and presented to the body of believers at a regular church service. A Membership Interview Team shall consist of any group of two or more Elders assembled for the primary purpose of interviewing candidates for membership.
2. Those seeking membership are requested to share their personal testimony with the Membership Interview Team as to their salvation experience and baptism (or their willingness to be baptized).
3. A letter of dismissal shall be forwarded for members desiring to unite with another church.

B. INACTIVE MEMBERS

1. Members who become inactive and/or fail to support the church may be placed on the list of "Inactive Members." The Board of Elders shall have sole charge of this matter and prior to making decision will take into consideration such things as age, health, place of residence, etc. The list of inactive members shall be kept on file accessible to church members upon request.
2. The Board of Elders will notify all members placed on the "Inactive List" at their last known address.
3. An inactive member may be placed on the active list of members of the church upon approval of the Board of Elders.

C. DISCIPLINE OF MEMBERS

1. The Board of Elders with the Senior Pastor shall constitute the discipline team of the church.
2. In case of **personal differences** between members of the church, the Board of Elders shall recommend that the parties endeavor to settle their differences consistent with Biblical truth. Differences that cannot be settled between individuals may with the agreement of both parties request binding arbitration from the Board of Elders who will select three Elders to hear and render a judgment.
3. Matters pertaining to alleged unrepentant sin that cannot be resolved as outlined in Matthew 18:15-17 may be brought to the attention of one of the Elders or Pastors for direction and/or handling by the Board of Elders. If reconciliation and restoration cannot be obtained, the Board of Elders may by majority vote privately or publicly remove unrepentant members from the membership of the church.
4. The Board of Elders is directed to move promptly in the safeguarding of the purity and peace of the church when anyone is obstructing the work of the church in any way.
5. Members previously removed from membership may be restored to membership upon recommendation of the Board of Elders, after such members have given to them a satisfactory explanation or acceptable evidence of honest repentance and confession.

MEETINGS

A. CHURCH MEETINGS

1. The fiscal year of this church shall close on the last day of June.
2. The affirmation by the church of next year's annual budget and the Governing Elders nominated to the Board of Elders shall take place at the annual meeting. The annual meeting shall be held on a Sunday thirty to fifty days prior to the close of the fiscal year. The specific Sunday is to be determined by the Board of Elders and announced to the congregation on the two preceding Sundays. New Elders assume office the following Sunday.
3. Church business may be conducted at any time when the church meets. Major business (including affirmation of Governing Elders and annual budget) shall have previous announcement on the two preceding Sundays before the date of any meeting.

4. A quorum consisting of 100 active resident members at least 16 years of age is required to conduct business at church meetings.

B. EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETINGS

(Corporation trustees/officers)

1. Meetings are usually held monthly but additional meetings may be held depending on the need to do so.
2. The congregation is encouraged to bring ideas, suggestions, issues, and concerns to the various Elders and Pastors responsible for the specific ministry in question. Items that require additional oversight or approvals are identified for review and discussion at staff meetings conducted by the Senior Pastor. The Senior Pastor and/or Board of Elders Chairman in turn surface these items at the Executive Committee meetings for consideration to be placed on the Board of Elders' meeting agenda.

C. BOARD OF ELDER MEETINGS

1. Meetings are usually held monthly but additional meeting may be held depending on the need to do so.
2. All Elders, Pastors, Deacons, and leaders are encouraged to attend and participate in Board of Elder meetings. However, only Elders who are currently serving on the Board of Elders are able to introduce and vote on motions. The Board of Elder meetings are also open to members who wish to attend and observe these meetings but may be requested to stand aside if any confidential issues are to be discussed. In addition, assuming the previous protocol described concerning the agenda for Board of Elder meetings are followed, individuals may be invited to attend and participate depending on the need (i.e., introducing program or reviewing an element of some ministry, etc.).

CHURCH ORGANIZATION

A. ADMINISTRATION

We all understand that Christ is the "Head" of the church but how His leadership is materialized within an organization is less well defined. Various churches select and use individuals within the church very differently depending on the size of the congregation, its history or tradition, and its core values (see section on core values). For example: At Blackhawk Ministries we choose to use men in positions of responsibility for shepherding and/or teaching where both genders are participants, but in general church leaders can be either gender.

Therefore, it is especially beneficial to understand terminology not normally used outside of the church (i.e., Elder, Deacon,

Deaconess, etc.). The application of these terms and how they apply to the various positions described within this section will be helpful in fully comprehending how Blackhawk Ministries is governed.

B. POSITIONS

Listed below are various positions currently in use with a brief summary explanation that while not all-inclusive will provide some clarity concerning leadership at Blackhawk Ministries.

- Elder
When using the term "Elder" it is best to think of this as a general description referring to a function and not limited to any specific individual who may currently be serving on the Board of Elders because it also refers to the various Pastors and former Elders who previously served on the Board of Elders.
- Senior Pastor:
This is an Elder who is elected by the congregation to provide leadership that includes overseeing the day-to-day functional responsibilities for all ministries within the church.
- Pastor:
This is an Elder who is hired or volunteers to serve for a specific area of responsibility (i.e., Teaching Pastor, Spiritual Formation, etc.). Typically this position reports to the Senior Pastor and oversees the responsibilities for ministries functioning under Associate Pastors, staff, and/or volunteers.
- Associate Pastor:
This is an Elder who is hired or volunteers to serve for a specific area of responsibility (i.e., Youth Pastor, Music Pastor, Legacy Ministry, Care Ministry, etc.). Typically this position reports to a Pastor and oversees the responsibilities for ministries functioning under staff and/or volunteers.
- Staff functions:
This is an individual who is hired or volunteers to serve in a specific area of responsibility (i.e., Custodial, Administrative Assistant, etc.). Typically this position reports to one of the Pastors or their designee and may include responsibility over other staff or volunteers.
- Deacon, Deaconess, and other appointed leaders:
This is an individual who is appointed to a position of responsible for a specific ministry that includes the shepherding of other individuals (i.e., Adult Bible Fellowships, Greeter Ministry, Men/Women Ministries, Global Missions Ministry, etc.).

- Council of Elders:
This is an Elder who previously served as a Governing Elder who commits annually to provide direct and indirect support to the Board of Elders through various ministry opportunities that are sponsored by the Board of Elders.
- Governing Elders:
This is an Elder who is nominated, appointed by the Board of Elders, and affirmed by the congregation to serve on the Board of Elders along with the Senior Pastor to provide leadership oversight to the different ministries. Some individuals serving on the Board of Elders are also selected to serve on the Executive Committee and/or as Corporation trustees/officers (see information below under Elder responsibilities for additional details). While various Pastors, Elders, Deacons, etc. provide information and input, it is only those serving on the Board of Elders who can introduce and vote on motions pertaining to church business and thus the reason for referring to them as "Governing Elders".
- Board of Elders Chairman:
This is the Elder currently serving on the Board of Elders who is elected annually by the Board of Elders to serve as Chairman.
- Corporation trustees/officers (State of Indiana requirement) and Executive Committee:
This is a Pastor and/or Elder currently serving on the Board of Elders who is identified by the Senior Pastor and Board of Elders chairman and approved by Board of Elders based on abilities to serve in specific functions (i.e., president, treasurer, secretary, School Board Chairman, etc.). These men are responsible for their specific assignments and along with the Senior Pastor for:
 - ✓ Handling of all legal and financial matters of the church as directed by the Board of Elders.
 - ✓ Preparing and submitting a proposed annual budget to the congregation for affirmation as directed by the Board of Elders.
 - ✓ Establishing the Board of Elders meeting agenda.

Note:

All the Elder positions are subject to self-examination and review by fellow Elders to ensure they meet the requirements set forth in the New Testament (I Timothy 3:1-7, Titus 1:5-9). The positions of Deacon, Deaconess, and other appointed leaders as well as Staff functions are subject to self-examination and review by those responsible for appointing them to ensure they meet the requirements set forth in the New Testament (Luke 22:25-26, Acts 6:1-4, and I Timothy 3:8-13).

OFFICERS OF THE CHURCH

A. BOARD OF ELDERS (Governing)

1. The Board of Elders serves as the Trustees of the church and appoints the officers of the corporation.
2. The Board of Elders may review and take action by majority vote to privately or publicly suspend or remove an elder at any time the conduct or circumstances of an elder is such that they cannot fulfill their responsibilities.
3. The church shall affirm at the annual business meeting the individuals submitted by the nomination committee of not less than three men to serve as Elders. Their terms shall be three years. An Elder may only serve two consecutive terms except a man who fills a partial term of one (1) year or less may serve two additional three (3) year terms. The minimum number of Elders shall be eleven with the maximum number determined by the Board of Elders based on church membership, attendance, and ministry requirements.
4. The qualifications for Elder shall be as described and set forth in the New Testament (I Timothy 3:1-7, Titus 1:5-9). Individuals or their spouses who are nominated and who do not meet the criteria in section titled "Our Position On Divorce" will be given consideration on a case-by-case basis as a part of the normal review process by the Board of Elders.
5. It shall be the duty of the Elders to: (1) prepare the elements and table for the Lord's Supper and assist in serving the same; (2) assist the Pastors in administering Baptism and in the spiritual supervision of the church; (3) together with the Pastors to carefully examine all candidates for church membership, recommending such as they consider eligible for the church for membership; (4) together with the Senior Pastor have charge of all matters of discipline of members; (5) serve as Vice Moderators of the church in the Pastor's absence.
6. A quorum of one member more than half of the members of the Board of Elders is necessary to conduct business. A record of the Board of Elders meetings shall be maintained and available for review upon request of members.
7. The Board of Elders shall serve as the Trustees of the church and as the Directors of the Corporation. At the beginning of each fiscal year, the Elders shall be responsible for appointing the Corporation officers. The officers shall include, but not necessarily be limited to, the president, treasurer, and secretary. Only men who are either on the Board of Elders or Staff members responsible for specific functions (i.e., financial matters) are eligible to be Corporation officers.

8. The Corporation officers and Elders shall be responsible for the handling of all legal and financial matters of the church. They shall be responsible for preparing and submitting a proposed annual budget to the congregation for affirmation. This proposed budget shall be made available to the congregation two weeks in advance of the meeting and shall be presented for affirmation by the congregation at the annual meeting. Together with the Senior Pastor the Elders and Staff shall be responsible for operating the church business within the approved budget. They may, if desired, present revised budgets at any time throughout the year. The authorization of any significant expense not included in the approved budget shall require church action.
9. At the first Elders meeting following the Annual Meeting the Board of Elders shall choose one of the Elders to act as chairman. The chairman shall be in charge of liaison and shall take charge of the Elders meetings in the absence of or as directed by the Senior Pastor. The chairman must be elected every year, but he may serve as many consecutive terms as his office allows.
10. Upon the election of the Elders, the Senior Pastor and Board of Elders chairman will evaluate the abilities and spiritual gifts of each of the men on the Board. Each man will be assigned to serve in various areas of service, administrative and/or leadership responsibility that will correspond with his abilities and spiritual gifts.
11. The Board of Elders has final authority in all matters pertaining to church function, operation, and policy with the exception of specific authority that remains in the active church membership as identified in this document.

B. SELECTION AND AFFIRMATION OF ELDERS

1. At least 10 weeks prior to the annual meeting the active membership of the church shall be notified that they have opportunity to submit their name or that of others to the Board of Elders Chairman or their designee to fill vacancies on the Board of Elders. Candidates must be age 21 or older, who were members as of January 1 the prior year and who have regularly attended the services of the church during the last year, meet Biblical requirements for office, and having expressed their willingness to serve if appointed to the office.
2. The Senior Pastor and Chairman of the Board of Elders, along with two Elders from the Board of Elders and one Pastor (selected by the Board of Elders) will act as a church Nomination Committee. This committee will review the submissions received from individuals to determine who is best

qualified to serve on the Board of Elders, confirm their availability and willingness to serve, and submit to the Board of Elders for review of qualifications set forth in the New Testament (I Timothy 3:1-7, Titus 1:5-9). Those determined to be qualified shall be available for submission to the congregation for affirmation at the annual church business meeting. The number of names submitted for affirmation shall not be more than would make a complete complement of elders.

3. No paid employee of the church or person reporting to the Senior Pastor may serve as an Elder on the Board of Elders.
4. If a vacancy occurs on the Board of Elders at other than the scheduled election time, the Board may elect to fill the vacant position(s) using identified candidates previously determined to be qualified and present to the congregation for affirmation at a regular church meeting (service).
5. For the sake of church unity individuals in these positions will be required to confirm their willingness to support what is stated in the section titled "What We Teach" prepared for this purpose.

C. SENIOR PASTOR

1. The Senior Pastor shall be elected at a special or regular meeting of the church, public notice of such action having been given from the pulpit two Sundays immediately preceding the date of the meeting, and 75% of the ballots cast shall be necessary for his election.
2. The Senior Pastor shall continue in office until he resigns, or until the Board of Elders requests his resignation (two thirds majority vote required for any action to be taken).
3. The Elders shall constitute the pulpit committee and are responsible for all matters pertaining to selecting an individual to be elected as the Senior Pastor by the congregation. This committee is entrusted to ensure any candidate's willingness to support what is stated in the section titled "What We Teach" and understanding that existing Pastors cannot be removed for the first 18 months except as agreed to by the Board of Elders.

CHURCH LEADERS, TEACHERS, AND SUBSIDIARY ORGANIZATIONS

A. CHURCH LEADERS AND TEACHERS

1. Positions responsible for shepherding of others or that are being used in a teaching ministry capacity will be identified by the Board of Elders (i.e., pastors, deacons, some staff positions, and any teachers or leaders of; Adult Bible Fellowships, small groups, Women or Men's Ministries, Life

Skills, Children Ministries, etc.). For the sake of church unity individuals in these positions will be required to confirm their support for what is stated in the section titled "What We Teach" prepared for this purpose.

2. Those positions not otherwise identified in this document are to be filled by appointment via the various staff processes under the Senior Pastor. In addition to the specific functional requirements, the qualification of candidates is also based on Luke 22:25-26, Acts 6:1-4, and I Timothy 3:8-13. An opportunity for review by the Board of Elders is to be initiated should there be any concerns about qualifications and/or membership requirements. Individuals or their spouses who do not meet the criteria in section titled "Our Position On Divorce" will be given consideration on a case-by-case basis as a part of the normal review process.
3. Individuals who are not members of the church cannot fill the positions identified by the board of Elders as indicated above. However, individuals reporting to leaders or teachers or whose position has not been identified as referenced above are considered secondary positions and while church membership should be considered a preference it is not a requirement. Likewise, short-term positions for programs such as Vacation Bible School, Hotshots, back yard children ministries, etc. are considered temporary positions and while church membership should be considered a preference it is not a requirement.

B. SUBSIDIARY ORGANIZATIONS

1. No subsidiary organization of this church shall engage in any practice or policy contrary to the general position of the church itself and must be aligned under the Senior Pastor or one of the staff and/or management positions reporting to the Senior Pastor.
2. All regular officers of, or individuals responsible for, subsidiary organizations shall abide by the same guidelines as church leaders and teachers.

OUR POSITION ON DIVORCE

WE BELIEVE THAT GOD DESIGNED MARRIAGE BETWEEN MAN AND WOMAN TO BE PERMANENT AND THAT DIVORCE IS NEVER HIS DESIRE.

We believe ...

1. ... God's design for marriage is permanency and purity. This is the constant theme since the creation of man, woman and marriage in the Garden of Eden. Most always the Bible reaffirms the design of permanency and purity in a discussion regarding divorce.
Genesis 2:18-25

2. ... God hates divorce. He never initiates divorce. He never commands divorce. He never encourages divorce.
Malachi 2:10
3. ... Because sin has marred God's creation and hardened the hearts of people, God has permitted divorce.
Matthew 19:6-9
4. ... Adultery breaks purity and the one-flesh relationship and is the only grounds on which a divorce may be initiated.
Genesis 2:23-25; I Corinthians 6:15, 16)
5. ... If adultery has taken place, God's plan is not divorce, but forgiveness and restoration. Hosea teaches us the priority of forgiveness. Having been forgiven of God, the violated believer is to be forgiving. Christ taught that it is incongruous for the believer to be forgiven of a life of sin and not be a forgiver himself.
Matthew 6:14, 15; 18:21-35
6. ... In the case of adultery, when forgiveness is extended and adultery persists, divorce is permitted. This is the nature of God's divorce from Israel.
Jeremiah 3:8
7. ... The believer may not initiate a divorce with an unbeliever except for marital unfaithfulness, but is free from the marriage and free to marry if the unbeliever initiates the divorce.
I Corinthians 7:12-13
8. ... If the divorce has taken place contrary to God's Word, the believer is to seek restitution and remain unmarried.
I Corinthians 7:10-13
9. ... In the event that an unbiblical divorce has taken place and a second marriage has already transpired, a second divorce is not permitted to reunite the original couple. Furthermore, if the death of the second spouse occurs, the original couple may not reunite.
Deuteronomy 24:1-4
10. ... In the case where a second marriage has taken place, it is impossible to retrace history and restore the relationship. The believer can only seek to follow God today and follow beginning now. A marriage, established contrary to God's standards, is still a marriage and binding.

DOCUMENT AMENDMENTS AND REVISION RECORD

A. AMENDMENTS

This document may be amended at a regular business meeting by a two-thirds vote of the members present, provided notice of proposed amendment shall have been given in writing at a previous regular business meeting or in the church bulletin and announced to the congregation on the two preceding Sundays.

B. REVISION RECORD

Amendment Dates:

October 76, December 80, February 82, February 84, October 85, July 86, November 87, February 88, February 92, May 92, and May 06.

Note:

The May, 2006 changes consolidated several documents: "Who we are" (Our Mission, Our Vision, and Our Core Values), "What We Believe" (Our Statement of Faith), "What We Teach" (previous confession of faith), and "How We Function" (previous Constitution). In addition, redundant information was removed, all sections were reformatted using standard outline style, a Table of Contents was added with electronic indexing, and verbiage reworded to clarify and change the constitution (Article III, Section II; Article IV, Section I; Article VII, Section I & II; Article IX & XI); modified Article VII (Subsidiary Organization).