

New Heritage Baptist Church  
Sherman, TX

## **CONSTITUTION**

### PREAMBLE

We declare and establish this constitution to preserve and secure the principles of our faith and 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.

### ARTICLE I. NAME

This body shall be known as the New Heritage Baptist Church<sup>1</sup> of Sherman, Texas.

### ARTICLE 2. MISSION

This body shall endeavor to:

- Be a dynamic spiritual organization empowered by the Holy Spirit to share Christ with as many people as possible in our church, community, and throughout the world.
- Be a worshipping fellowship, experiencing an awareness of God, recognizing his person, and responding in obedience to his leadership.
- Experience an increasingly meaningful fellowship with God and fellow believers.
- Help people experience a growing knowledge of God and man.
- Be a church which ministers unselfishly to all persons in the community and the world in Jesus' name.
- Be a church whose purpose is to be Christ like in our daily living by emphasizing total commitment of life, personality, and possessions to the lordship of Christ.

### ARTICLE III. STATEMENT OF BASIC BELIEFS

We affirm the Holy Bible as the inspired word of God and basis for our beliefs. This church subscribes to the doctrinal statement of the Baptist Faith and Message as adopted by the Southern Baptist Convention in 2000. We voluntarily band ourselves together as a body of baptized believers in Jesus Christ personally committed to sharing the good news of salvation to lost mankind. The ordinances of the church are believer's baptism and the Lord's Supper.

### ARTICLE IV. CHURCH COVENANT

Having been led as we believe by the Spirit of God to receive the Lord Jesus Christ as our Lord and 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 Spirit, we do now in the presence of God and this assembly most solemnly and joyfully enter into covenant with one another as one body in Christ.

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<sup>1</sup> East Sherman Baptist Church voted to rename itself New Heritage Baptist Church on March 3, 2019 due to relocating to west Sherman.

## **New Heritage Baptist Church      Constitution and By-Laws**

Version 1.2  
Amended: 3/18/2019  
Adopted: 11/10/2013  
Effective: 1/1/2014

We engage, therefore, by the aid of the Holy Spirit to walk together in Christian love; to strive for the advancement of this church in knowledge, holiness, and comfort; to promote its prosperity and spirituality; to sustain its worship, ordinances, doctrines and discipline; to contribute cheerfully and regularly to the support of the ministry, the expenses of the church, and the relief of the poor, and the spread of the gospel through all nations.

We seek to uphold God's design of the heterosexual family as found in His Holy Word, the Bible (Gen. 2:22-24; Eph. 5:22-23; Matt. 19:4-6; Mark 10:6-9). As a result of what the Bible teaches on the subject, we oppose any acceptance of homosexuality as an appropriate lifestyle or marriage or family system (Lev. 18:22; Heb. 13:4; Rom. 1:26-28; I Cor. 6:9-11).<sup>1</sup>

We also engage to maintain family and private devotions; to religiously educate our children; to seek the salvation of kindred and acquaintances; to walk circumspectly in the world; to be just in our dealings, faithful in our engagements, and exemplary in deportment; to avoid all tattling, backbiting, and excessive anger; to abstain from the sale of and use of intoxicating drinks as a beverage; to use our influence to combat the abuse of drugs and alcohol, and the spread of pornography; and senseless acts of abortion; 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 one another in prayer; to aid one another in sickness and distress; to cultivate Christian sympathy in feeling and Christian courtesy in speech; to be slow to take offense, but always ready for reconciliation and mindful of the rules of our Savior to secure it without delay.

We moreover engage that when we remove 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 principles of God's Word.

### ARTICLE V. POLITY AND RELATIONSHIPS

The government of this church is vested in the body of believers who compose it. Persons duly received by the members shall constitute the membership (see article I of the bylaws).

All internal groups created and empowered by the church shall report to and be accountable only to the church, unless otherwise specified by church action.

This church is subject to the control of no other ecclesiastical body, but it recognizes and sustains the obligations of counsel and cooperation which are common among Baptist churches. Insofar as is practical, this church will cooperate and support the Grayson Baptist Association, the Texas Baptist Convention, and the Southern Baptist Convention.

### ARTICLE VI. AMENDMENTS

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<sup>1</sup> This reading was passed by unanimous vote of the congregation of ESBC on Aug. 30, 2015.

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Changes in this constitution may be made at any regular business meeting of the church provided each amendment shall have been presented in writing at a previous business meeting and copies of the proposed amendment shall have been furnished to each member present at the earlier meeting. A notice of proposed changes must be mailed to each active resident member to be received at least fourteen (14) days prior to the vote.

Amendments to this constitution shall be adopted upon a two-thirds affirmative vote of the church members present.