

WELCOME TO BETHEL BAPTIST CHURCH

New/prospective member orientation

Session TWO

BETHEL BAPTIST CHURCH

I. History

Bethel Baptist Church was organized on March 31, 1894 with seven charter members. Bethel became affiliated with the Rehoboth Baptist Association on Sep. 7, 1894. For the first 17 years, Bethel was located a few miles north of Shafter in what was known as the Union Building. On June 4, 1910, the church voted to relocate and build a new church where Bethel is now located.

In 1970 an education wing was constructed and a basement added. A new auditorium was built in 1977. A new fellowship hall was constructed in 1985 and expanded in 1996. The old fellowship hall was converted to classrooms. Our present sanctuary was constructed in 2004.

II. Affiliation

Bethel Baptist Church is a _____ Church and part of the Southern Baptist Convention.

Southern Baptist Churches are autonomous; in other words, we decide how we will govern ourselves and no one tells us what to do. While we are part of the Southern Baptist Convention, we are an autonomous church.

The Southern Baptist Convention is organized around a core set of beliefs called _____, which is also our statement of faith and belief.

Bethel Baptist Church is also part of the Rehoboth Baptist Association which is a collection of 30+ churches mainly in Fayette County that strive to cooperate in the advancement of the gospel. Rev. Joe Lawson is Director of Missions at Rehoboth Baptist Association.

Notes: _____

III. Organization

The head of the church is Jesus Christ. As a Southern Baptist Church, Bethel is not controlled by any board of directors outside or inside the church.

The pastor, Dr. Ben Foxworth, has been called as pastor to lead the church;

The interim Music Director, Beth Hoffman, has been called to lead the church in worship.

The director of Children's Ministries, Rick Myers, has been called to coordinate the many children's ministries of Bethel Baptist Church.

The deacons have been called to be the stewards, or caretakers of the church. This includes ministering to the many families in the church.

Sunday School teachers are called to teach our many Sunday School classes.

Our various ministry leaders have been called to lead the many ministries of Bethel Baptist Church.

Our nominating committee helps fill the many committees that exist in the church to help the church function more smoothly.

The Associate Pastor for Youth and Young Adults has been formed to begin the search for a new youth pastor.

IV. Vision and mission

Bethel Baptist Church his one message: _____

Bethel Baptist Church has one mission: to _____ Jesus Christ to a lost and dying world.

Bethel Baptist Church uses many methods to proclaim its message.

The vision of the church is where we envision God leading this church (attached)

Notes: _____

V. What is expected of me as a church member?

Church covenant

God has _____ everyone in the church for a specific reason, with special _____ to serve in that capacity.

To not serve in the church is to _____ the work of the Lord in you.

God expects us to grow in our relationship with Him and to exercise the spiritual gifts He has given us to help others know Christ and to grow in their walk with Him.

VI. WHERE DO YOU FIT IN?

Notes: _____

