ARTICLES OF INCORPORATION Of
PINE LEVEL MISSIONARY BAPTIST CHURCH
A NON-PROFIT CORPORATION

We, the undersigned natural persons of the age of twenty-one (21) or more, acting as incorporators for the purpose of creating a non-profit corporation under the laws of the State of North Carolina as contained in Chapter 55A of the General Statutes of North Carolina, entitled "Non-Profit Corporation Act," and the several amendments thereto, do hereby set forth:

I. The name of the corporation is "Pine Level Missionary Baptist Church" (hereinafter referred to as "the corporation").

II. The period of duration for the corporation shall be perpetual.

III. The purposes for which the corporation is organized are to operate a church for religious purposes and to engage in and conduct services for the worship of God, the study of the Holy Scriptures, and the spread of the gospel of Jesus Christ. The corporation is organized and shall be operated exclusively for the purposes stated above and not for profit. No part of the net earnings or income of the corporation shall inure to or for the benefit of any private person or individual.

Inclusive within these purposes are the following:

(a) To teach and preach the gospel of Jesus Christ.

(b) To carry on the work of a Bible-believing church in all of its spiritual, benevolent, educational, philanthropic, civil and social aspects and activities.

(c) To promote the spiritual welfare of all people and to disseminate the Word of God to the people of all nations.

(d) To accept donations, contributions and gifts of all kinds of property, whether real, personal or mixed, and to rent, lease, purchase or otherwise acquire, mortgage, sell and convey all kinds of property, whether real, personal or mixed, or any interest or estate therein in this State or in any other states of the United States, territories or dependencies

1) Notwithstanding the foregoing paragraph(s), the corporation is organized exclusively for charitable and religious purposes within the meaning of section 501 (c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1954, as amended (or corresponding provisions of future revenue laws) and is not empowered to engage, other than as an insubstantial part of its activities, in activities which are not in furtherance of these purposes.

IV. The corporation shall have as members such persons as shall be admitted under the by-laws of the corporation. There shall be no classes of members of the corporation. Each member shall have one vote. There shall be no voting or nominating by absentee ballot. There shall be no cumulative voting.

V. The directors of the corporation shall be elected by the members in the manner provided in the by-laws. They shall be the Deacons of the Pine Level Missionary Baptist Church of Pine Level, NC.

VI. The address of the initial registered office of the corporation is 110 South Peedin Ave., Pine Level, Johnston County, North Carolina 27568. The name of the initial registered agent of the corporation at the above address is Mr. Danny K. Casey.

VII. The number of directors constituting the initial Board of Directors shall be ten (10), including nine (9) voting directors elected by the church membership, and the pastor as an ex-officio, nonvoting member. The names and addresses of the persons who are to serve as directors until the first meeting of the corporation or until their successors are elected and qualified are:

Names and addresses of Deacons and Pastor:

Rev. John R. Bouldin, 112 East US 70-A, Pine Level, NC 27568
Mr. Clyde Creech, 214 Oliver St., Pine Level, NC 27568
Mr. Gerald Hinnant, Route 4, Box 298, Selma, NC 27576
Mr. Clyde Mozingo, 549 West US 70-A, Pine Level, NC 27568
Mr. Tim Overbee, 2562 Stevens Chapel Road, Pine Level, NC 27568
Mr. Frank Wiggs, Route 3, Box 517, Selma, NC 27576
Mr. Luby D. Worley, 108 S. Oak St., Pine Level, NC 27568
Mr. Phil Pittman, 463 W. Blanche St., Pine Level, NC 27568
Mr. Gilbert Rose, Route 2, Box 151, Smithfield, NC 27577
Dr. Gene Sullivan, Route 2, Box 556, Princeton, NC 27569

VIII. The names and addresses of the incorporators are:

Mr. Harold Peedin, Route 4, Box 70, Selma, NC 27576;
Mr. Grover Godwin, 110 S. Fitzgerald St., Pine Level, NC 27568
Mr. Rexford Hinnant, Route 4, Box 298, Selma, NC 27576

IX. In addition to the powers granted corporations under the laws of the State of North Carolina, the corporation shall have full powers and authority to acquire real or personal property by gift, contribution, bequest, devise, purchase, lease, exchange or in any other manner, and to hold legal or equitable title to real and personal property; to borrow money and issue notes, bonds, indentures or other evidence of indebtedness, secure or unsecured; to sell, buy, lease, encumber, mortgage, pledge, donate, and otherwise deal with, acquire and dispose of real and personal property, or both, and generally perform all acts which may be deemed necessary, expedient or proper by the corporation for the successful carrying on of the objects and purposes for which this corporation is formed.

X. The corporation shall not have any shares of capital stock. It shall consist of and be governed by a majority of its members in accordance with its bylaws. The undersigned original incorporators execute these Articles of Incorporation on behalf of all the present members of the Pine Level Missionary Baptist Church of Pine Level. All such present members of the Pine Level Missionary Baptist Church of Pine Level shall, upon the official incorporation of this church, immediately be charter members of the corporation. All persons accepted in the future as members shall be members of equal standing.

XI. The corporation shall have the power and authority to ordain a minister to conduct the marriage ceremony and the power and authority to license and ordain ministers when necessary and proper from time to time.

XII. The corporation shall have the power and authority to establish, operate and maintain a Kindergarten, a Christian school and/or schools.

XIII. The corporation shall have the power and authority to establish, operate and maintain missions and branch churches of the Pine Level Missionary Baptist Church of Pine Level in the Town of Pine Level, or Johnston County, or any other place.

XIV. The final authority for the operation and management of the spiritual business and other affairs of this corporation shall be vested in the membership of the corporation.

XV. No member of the corporation, nor any officer or director shall, merely by virtue of such membership or office or position, incur or be subject to any personal liability for any indebtedness or any acts or omissions of the corporation.

XVI. No part of the net earnings of the corporation shall inure to the benefit of, or be distributable to, its members, directors, or other persons, except that the corporation shall be authorized and empowered to pay reasonable compensation for services rendered and to make payments and distributions in furtherance of the purposes as set forth in these Articles.

XVII. No substantial part of the activities of the corporation shall be the carrying on of propaganda or otherwise attempting to influence legislation. The corporation shall not participate in or intervene in (including the publishing or distribution of statements) any political campaign on behalf of any candidate for public office. Notwithstanding any other provisions of these Articles, the corporation shall not carry on any other activities not permitted to be carried on (a) by a corporation exempt from federal income tax under Section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1954 (or the corresponding provision of any future United States Internal Revenue Law) or (b) by a corporation, contributions to which are deductible under Section 170 (c)(2) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1954 (or the corresponding provision of any future United States Internal Revenue Law). Upon the dissolution of the corporation, the Board of Directors shall, after paying or making provision for the payment of all the liabilities of the corporation, dispose of all the assets of the corporation exclusively for the purposes of the corporation in such manner, or to such organization or organizations organized and operated exclusively for charitable, educational, religious, or scientific purposes as shall at the time qualify as an exempt organization or organizations under Section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1954 (or the corresponding provision of any future United States Internal Revenue Law), as the Board of Directors shall determine. Any such assets not so disposed of shall be disposed of by the Superior Court of the county in which the principal office of the corporation is then located, exclusively for such purposes or to such organization or organizations as said Court shall determine, which are organized and operated exclusively for such purposes.

IN TESTIMONY.WHEREOF, we have hereunto set our hands and affixed our seals this the 31st day of March, 1989.

(s/Harold Peedin (Seal)
Harold Peedin
(s/Grover Godwin (Seal)
Grover Godwin
(s/Rexford Hinnant (Seal)
Rexford Hinnant

NORTH CAROLINA
JOHNSTON COUNTY

I, the undersigned Notary Public for said County and State, do hereby certify that Harold Peedin, Grover Godwin, and Rexford Hinnant personally appeared before me this day and acknowledged the due execution of the foregoing Article of Incorporation.

Witness my hand and notarial seal the 31st day of March, 1989.

(s/Connie N. Capps)
Notary Public
My commission expires: 10-17-90

PINE LEVEL
MISSIONARY BAPTIST CHURCH

BY-LAWS OF
PINE LEVEL MISSIONARY BAPTIST CHURCH
OF PINE LEVEL, NC
(A Non-Profit Corporation)

Article I. Name
This corporation shall be known as "Pine Level Missionary Baptist Church" and will be referred to herein after as "the church."

Article II. Purpose
The purpose of the church shall be as set forth in the Articles. The church shall provide regular opportunities for public Worship, adhere to the ordinances, doctrines and ethics set forth in the New Testament, nurture its members through a program of Christian education. And fulfill the great commission of Jesus Christ as set forth in Matthew 28:19-20; to minister to the needs of the members and others as the church is able to do so.

Article III. Character
The government of the church is vested in its membership. It is subject to the control of no other ecclesiastical body, but it recognizes the
value of mutual counsel and cooperation among Christian churches.

Article IV. Statement of Faith:

1. We believe the Bible to be the inspired, only infallible, inerrant Word of God. (2 Timothy 3:16, 2 Peter 1:21)

2. We believe there is one God, eternally existent in three persons - Father, Son, and Holy Spirit. (Genesis 1:1, Matthew 28:19, John 10:30)

3. We believe in the deity of Christ (John 10:33), His virgin birth (Isaiah 7:14, Matthew 1:23, Luke 1:35), His miracles (John 2:11), His vicarious and atoning death (1 Corinthians 15:3, Ephesians 1:7, Hebrews 2:9), His resurrection (John 11:25, 1 Corinthians 15:4), His ascension to the right hand of the Father (Mark 16:9), and His personal return in power and glory. (Acts 1:11, Revelation 19:11)

4. We believe in the absolute necessity of regeneration by the Holy Spirit for salvation because of the exceeding sinfulness of human nature, and that men are justified on the single ground of faith in the shed blood of Christ, and that only by God's grace and through faith alone are we saved. (John 3:16-19, 5:24, Romans 3:23, 5:8-9, Ephesians 2:8-10, Titus 3:5)

5. We believe in a regenerated church membership: that is, persons old enough to understand their need for Jesus Christ, of their own free will, accepted Him as their personal Lord and Savior.

6. We believe in the resurrection of both the saved and the lost: they are saved unto the resurrection of life, and they are lost unto the resurrection of damnation. (John 25 : 28-29)

7. We believe 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 a means for man's salvation. (Mark 1:9-10, 1 Corinthians 11:24-25)

8. We believe in the present ministry of the Holy Spirit, by whose indwelling the Christian is enabled to live a godly life. (Romans 8:13-14, 1 Corinthians 3:16, 6:19-20, Ephesians 4:30, 5:18)

9. 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.

10. We believe that marriage is an institution ordained by God from the foundation of the world. Our statement of faith contained herein expresses our fundamental biblical conviction that marriage is, by the definition found in Genesis 2:18-24, the lifelong spiritual and physical union of one biological man and one biological woman.

Article V. Membership

Section 1:
The church shall receive members by a majority vote of members present and voting in any of its regular meetings or services subject to one of the following: (1) baptism by immersion upon profession of faith in Jesus Christ; (2) letter of transfer from a Southern Baptist church; or (3) statement of a Christian Conversion experience and previous baptism by immersion.

Section 2: Church discipline
The church is committed to the practice of church discipline for the following reasons:

A. It is commanded in the scripture. (Matthew 18:15-20, Matthew 28:19-20, Galatians 6:1, 1 Corinthians 5:9-13)

B. It protects the purity and holiness of the corporate body of Christ. (1 Cor. 5:6-7)

C. It promotes personal purity and holiness in individual members in the body of Christ. (Hebrews 12:10-11)

If a believer is unrepentant when lovingly confronted first by another believer, then by one or two witnesses, and finally by the entire church, he or she is to be treated as an unbeliever. The church family should discontinue fellowship with him or her. Discipline serves as a way to express genuine love and to practice accountability in the body of Christ. Therefore the entire discipline process should be motivated by and carried out with LOVE. The goal of discipline is the complete restoration of the disobedient believer to fellowship with God and the church body.

Article VI. Meetings

Section 1:
The church shall hold regular meetings for worship, teaching, training, and fellowship.

Section 2:
Business meetings will be held at which time the business affairs of the church shall be conducted and plans projected for the church's ministry.

Section 3:
Other meetings of the church as a whole or of authorized groups within the church shall be set according to the needs of the congregation.

Section 4:
Annual meetings of the membership of the church shall be held in August of each year to select officers and teachers of the church.

Section 5:

PINE LEVEL MISSIONARY BAPTIST CHURCH

Annual meetings by the newly constituted Board of Directors (Deacons) for the election of officers and other business shall be held in August each year.

Section 6:
Absentee ballots shall not be allowed for any nominations or elections. All members of the church present when the vote is taken shall be entitled to one vote each. Notice shall be published in the bulletin at least one week before any (regular or special) business meeting is to be held.

Article VII. General
The church may be affiliated with the Johnston Baptist Association, the Baptist State Convention of North Carolina, the cooperative program of the Southern Baptist Convention, and the Southern Baptist Convention. Its participation shall be through messengers elected by the church membership.

Article VIII. Board of Directors
The deacons and the Pastor shall constitute a Board of Directors of the church. The Board of Directors shall be referred to hereinafter cumulatively as "Deacons."

Article IX Church Officers
Section 1: Officers
The officers of the church shall be a Pastor, deacons, a deacon's chairman, a deacon's vice-chairman, a deacon's secretary, a treasurer, an assistant treasurer, a clerk, and such other officers as shall be needed for the work of the church. The chairman, the vice-chairman, and secretary shall be elected annually by the deacons. The treasurer, assistant treasurer, clerk, and all other officers that shall be needed by the church shall be nominated by the Nominating Committee and approved by the church membership as provided in Article X Section 2 of these By-Laws.

Section 2: Procedure for Calling a Pastor
Whenever the church is without the services of a pastor, a pulpit committee of at least five (5) members shall be nominated by the Nominating Committee and elected by the church. Whenever the pulpit committee recommends a prospective pastor to the church, this pastor shall be called for an indefinite period of time; provided, however, that at least seventy-five percent (75%) of the members, present and voting, vote in favor of extending such a call. The relationship between pastor and church may be dissolved at the request of either the pastor or a majority vote of the church, provided that at least thirty (30) days notice shall, be given of termination of the relationship.

Section 3: Deacons (Directors)
Immediately following the second worship service in the month of August each year, the church membership shall nominate Deacons by a written ballot. Each member may nominate up to three (3) members on each ballot. Ballots containing more than three (3) names will not be counted. These nominations shall be counted and the top three (3) nominees receiving the most nominations, who are qualified (1 Timothy 3; Titus 1), willing, and able to serve shall be elected Deacons to serve terms of three (3) years each. The deacons shall consist of at least nine (9) members, the Pastor as an ex-officio non-voting member, and as many other deacons as the church may require, one-third of whom shall be elected annually for terms of three (3) years. No member of the deacons having served two (2) or more years of a full term shall be eligible to succeed himself until after the lapse of one (1) year. If a vacancy shall arise, repeat the nomination procedure as described above. (For a single vacancy, three (3) nominees shall be placed on the ballot). Newly elected deacons shall begin their term of service on the first day of September of each year. Deacons shall at all times consider themselves servants of the church. They shall assist the pastor in the observance of the ordinances and such other pastoral duties as may be necessary. They shall arrange for regular meetings and such committees as are necessary to the discharge of their duties, and they are to consider and make recommendations to the church pertaining to its work and progress. The Pastor

PINE LEVEL
MISSIONARY BAPTIST CHURCH

or the chairman of the deacons may call the deacons into special session whenever need for such arises. The deacons may delegate to committees such regular or special duties as they deem necessary and proper. Notice of regular meetings of the deacons shall be published in the bulletin at least one week prior to the scheduled meeting, specifying the time and place of the regular meeting. The purpose(s) of the meeting need not be disclosed in the notice. Notice of special meetings shall be communicated in such manner as may be practical under the circumstances to advise all members of the time and place of the special meeting. A majority of the deacons shall constitute a quorum necessary for the transacting of business.

Section 3A: Trustees
At such time as deacons elect officers (chairman, vice chairman, and secretary) each year, active deacons shall also elect three (3) members from the active, serving deacons to act as trustees for the church calendar year. Trustees shall be elected by a majority of the deacons present and voting. Trustees may succeed themselves, serving no more than three years consecutively.

Duties: It shall be the function of the Trustees to sign any, and all legal documents requiring signature for and on behalf of the church. The trustees shall have no authority to buy, sell, mortgage, lease, or transfer any property of the church or take legal action without a specific vote of the church authorizing such action.

Section 4: Clerk,
The clerk shall be elected annually. It shall be the duty of the clerk to attend or be represented at all church business meetings, to keep an accurate record of all business transactions, and to prepare the annual associational letter. The clerk shall issue letters of transfer as authorized by the church. It shall also be the duty of the clerk to see that an accurate roll of church members is kept with dates and methods of admission and dismissal,
change in name, correct mailing addresses and other pertinent information. All records kept by the clerk shall be the property of the church.

Section 5: Treasurer.
The treasurer shall be elected annually. It shall be the duty of the treasurer to receive, safeguard, and disburse upon proper authorization all funds received by the church. The treasurer shall keep at all times an itemized account of all receipts and disbursements; rendering regular accounts to the church to be preserved by the church secretary or clerk. The treasurer's books shall be audited annually as arranged by the church, and all books, records, and accounts kept by the treasurer shall be considered the property of the church.

Section 6: Assistant Treasurer
The assistant treasurer shall be elected annually. The assistant treasurer shall have authority to perform all the duties of the treasurer mentioned above.

Section7:
There shall be elected annually such other officers as the church deems necessary.

Article X. Standing Committees

Section1:
To facilitate the work of the church, a Nominating Committee, a Budget and Finance Committee, and a Building and Grounds Committee shall be elected by the church to serve on a three (3) year rotating basis.

Section 2: Nominating Committee

The Nominating Committee shall consist of at least five (5) persons, plus the Directors of Sunday School, Woman's Missionary Union, and Brotherhood in lieu of the director, the Woman's Missionary Union or the Brotherhood shall be allowed to select a representative of its membership to serve on the committee. Throughout the year, this committee shall have the responsibility of nominating persons to serve in the various capacities and positions of the church and its committees. The church shall, by majority vote of members present at the church business meeting or election, confirm or reject the nominations. Other nominations will be accepted from the floor at the time the Nominating Committee submits its recommendation.

Section 3: Budget and Finance Committee
The Budget and Finance Committee shall consist of at least seven (7) members, with at least three (3) active deacons among that seven (7). This committee shall meet at regular intervals to consider the financial condition of the church and shall make regular reports of the same to the church in business meetings. This committee shall prepare annually a proposed budget including local expenses, education, missions and benevolences, and shall submit the same to the church for review and adoption at the business meeting in September. It shall be the committee's responsibility to make available offering envelopes for the membership.

Section 4: Building and Grounds Committee
This committee shall have at least eight (8) members and shall consist of both men and women. It shall be the duty of this committee to give attention to and study the condition and state of repair and appearance of the buildings and grounds including the parsonage property, making such repairs and improvements authorized by the church and included in the church budget. All matters of major repair or improvement shall be referred to the Budget and Finance Committee for recommendation to the church. The committee shall be responsible for the work of the janitor and all other persons employed in the capacity of caring for the buildings and grounds. The chairman of the committee shall be responsible for purchasing janitorial supplies. The janitor(s) shall be recommended to the church by the Building and Grounds Committee for employment by church action.

Article XI. Corporate Seal
The corporate seal of the church shall have the words "Missionary Baptist Church of Pine Level" on the outer circle, and the words "Corporate Seal" on the inside.

Article XII. Amendments
These by-laws may be amended, altered, or repealed by a two-thirds vote of the members present and voting at any regular business meeting of the church; provided, however, that notice and proposal of such amendment, alteration, or repeal must be published in the bulletin at least two weeks preceding the business meeting of the church.

Article XIII. Parliamentary Procedure
The parliamentary procedure used in the business affairs of this church shall be the latest revised edition of ROBERT'S RULES OF ORDER. The Pastor shall act as Moderator at all church meetings and elections. However, in the absence of the Pastor, the Chairman of the Deacons shall preside, or someone selected by the church.

PINE LEVEL MISSIONARY BAPTIST CHURCH

CHURCH COVENANT

Since I have received Jesus Christ as my Lord and Savior, and have publicly testified through Baptism of that new birth; and since I am in agreement with the statement of faith, constitution, and mission of Pine Level Missionary Baptist Church, I commit myself to God and to other members to protect the unity of my church, share the responsibility of my church, serve in the ministry of my church and support the testimony of my church.

I. I WILL PROTECT THE UNITY OF MY CHURCH

A. *By acting in love towards other members* (1 Peter 1:22)
"See that ye love one another with a pure heart fervently"

B. *By refusing to gossip* (Ephesians 4:29)
"Let no corrupt communication proceed out of your mouth, but that which is good to the use of edifying, that it may minister grace unto the hearers."

C. *By reconciling conflicts* (Matthew 5:24)
"Leave there thy gift before the altar and go thy way, first be reconciled to thy brother, and then come and offer thy gift."

D. *By following the leaders of the church* (Hebrews 13:7)
"Remember them which have rule over you, who have spoken unto you the word of God: whose faith follow, considering the end of their conversation."

II. I WILL SHARE THE RESPONSIBILITY OF MY CHURCH

A. *By praying for spiritual growth* (Ephesians 6:18)
"Praying always with all prayer and supplication in the Spirit, and watching thereunto with all perseverance and supplication for all saints."

B. *By giving financially to support the church's ministries* (1 Cor. 16:2)
"Upon the first day of the week let every one of you lay by him in store, as God hath prospered him, that there be no gatherings when I come." (2 Cor. 9:6–7) "But this I say. He which soweth sparingly shall reap sparingly; and he which soweth bountifully shall reap also bountifully. Every man according as he purposeth in his heart, so let him give; not grudgingly, or of necessity, for God loveth a cheerful giver."

C. *By welcoming those who visit* (Romans 15:7)
"Accept one another, then, just as Christ accepted you, in order to bring praise to God."

D. *By participating in personal and corporate efforts to reach the unsaved* (Mark 16:15)
"And He said to them, Go ye into all the world, and preach the gospel to every creature."

III. I WILL SERVE IN THE MINISTRY OF MY CHURCH

A. *By using my spiritual gifts and talents* (1 Peter 4:10)
"As every man hath received the gift, even so minister the same one to another, as good stewards of the manifold grace of God."

B. *By edifying the body of Christ* (Ephesians 4:11–12)
"And he gave some apostles, and some, prophets, and some, evangelists, and some pastors and teachers; for the perfecting of the saints, for the work of the ministry, for the edifying of the body of Christ."

C. By developing a servant's heart (Philippians 2:5 & 7)
"Let this mind be in you, which was also in Christ Jesus….who made himself of no reputation, and took upon himself the form of a servant, and was made in the likeness of men."

IV. I WILL SUPPORT THE TESTIMONY OF MY CHURCH

A. *By attending faithfully* (Hebrews 10:25)
"Not forsaking the assembling of ourselves together, as the manner of some is; but exhorting one another: and so much the more, as ye see the day approaching."

B. *By submitting to the Bible as my guide for faith and practice* (2 Timothy 3:16–17)
"All scripture is given by inspiration of God, and is profitable for doctrine, for reproof, for correction, for instruction in righteousness: That the man of God may be perfect, thoroughly furnished unto all good works."

C. *By living a Godly life* (Philippians 1:27)
"Whatever happens, conduct yourselves in a manner worthy of the gospel of Christ. Then whether I come and see you or only hear about you in my absence, I will know that you stand firm in one spirit, contending as one man for the faith of the gospel."

PINE LEVEL
MISSIONARY BAPTIST CHURCH

Originally adopted: July 30, 1989
Amended: Jan.18, 1998
Jan. 17, 1999
May 19, 2010
Jan. 14, 2015
May 6, 2018