

Church Handbook



Welcome to THE BIBLE Baptist Church of DeLand, Florida! In this booklet we will attempt to introduce you to the purpose for and the work of our assembly and to answer the questions most frequently asked by new members.

WHAT WE BELIEVE

A church is not a social organization or a club. It is a gathering of men and women who have put their faith and trust in the Lord Jesus Christ. These people meet together to worship the Lord, to praise Him, to encourage one another to live lives pleasing to the Savior, and to be instructed in the truths of the Holy Bible.

It is also a place from which these believers go forth, individually and in groups, to present the gospel of Christ Jesus to men and women the world over.

The extent to which the blessing of the Lord abides upon a church and the effectiveness of a church in the aforementioned areas depends upon its understanding of and obedience to the word of God. There are certainly clearly stated truths found in scripture to which all believers must steadfastly adhere. A collection of individuals, each living in accord with their opinions or religious notions, can accomplish little for Christ. A gathering of men and women who have a likeminded faith in a foundational set of Biblical truths can do great things for the Lord.

Below are those truths upon which we have built THE BIBLE Baptist Church.

We believe in the absolute authority of the holy scriptures. We believe the original manuscripts were given by inspiration of God and were without error. We believe the God who gave His word to man has taken upon Himself the responsibility for its preservation. We believe the incorruptible word of God which cannot pass away is available to the English-speaking world in the Authorized (King James) Version. This Bible is our final authority in all matters.

We believe in one God eternally existent as the Father, the Word, and the Holy Ghost.

We believe God to be the Creator and Sustainer of all things, visible and invisible. We believe the universe and all that is therein to be held together by the word of His power.

We believe the Lord Jesus Christ to be God manifest in the flesh, virgin born, without sin, crucified, risen from the dead, and coming in the air to receive His church, then returning to Earth to establish His kingdom.

We believe salvation is available to all men by grace through faith in the finished work of the Lord Jesus Christ, apart from human works or merit of any kind.

We believe the saved child of God is eternally secure in the Lord Jesus Christ and is sealed, taught, and comforted by the Holy Spirit until the day of redemption.

We believe salvation makes one a member of the body of Christ and that the members of this body should gather together in a local church, where they may minister one to another.

We believe it is the responsibility of every believer to proclaim the saving gospel to all men by personal testimony and by giving of their means to finance the missionary efforts of the church.

We believe all men rejecting the Lord Jesus Christ will spend eternity in the conscious torment of a literal lake of fire, while those receiving the Lord Jesus Christ will spend eternity in the glorious presence of God.

We believe all saved men should be separate from the outward and inner ways of this world, being holy in mind and in

body. We believe, however, that righteousness does not come by keeping of laws and commandments but by an inner change of heart. We therefore place emphasis on the inner condition, trusting the outward appearance to follow accordingly.

We believe that water baptism is a public testimony made by the saved Christian and plays no part in salvation or making one a member of the church.

We believe that any attempt by the state to interfere with the working of the church or by the church to interfere with the working of the state is a violation of God's purpose for both.

We believe in the priesthood of all believers and decry any fashion of exalting one member of the body of Christ or one gift of the Spirit above another.

We believe that the church is a body of which Jesus is the head. Thus it is not a democracy to be run by the will of its members but is to conduct its temporal as well as its spiritual business in strict accordance with the word of God.*

WHAT YOU WILL NOTICE ABOUT US

Every church is different. Each has its own points of emphasis (1 Corinthians 12:4–6).

When you arrive you will see that God has provided us with a functional building, suited for our needs. It is clean but not elaborate. We feel no need for extravagant trappings or decorations, choosing rather to spend what is necessary on the building so that the rest of our funds can be devoted to gospel outreach.

We trust you were made to feel welcome when you first came to

* You may learn about many of these doctrines in detail and read the Bible verses which set them forth in a book we have published entitled *A Sure Foundation*. Be sure to ask one of our members for a free copy.

visit. At the same time, we do not call upon or publicly identify our visitors. We want them to feel a part of the group, not singled out or embarrassed by a great deal of attention.

There are many different ways to praise the Lord in music and in song. We have chosen to use the congregational singing of traditional hymns, played and sung in a conservative fashion. It is our belief that this style of music allows for greater participation by men and women of all ages and lends itself to more rapid memorization of these songs of the faith. The depth and quality of the lyrics and their ability to teach Biblical truth to the singer are other important reasons why we use this style of music.

You will soon notice our emphasis is on the Bible. Whether you hear the pastors, one of our gifted members, or a guest speaker, there will be a consistent and faithful presentation of what the Bible says. Every effort will be made to help you understand the word of the Lord and to encourage you to apply its truths to your day-to-day life.

After our meetings formally close, it is not unusual for people to linger for hours, enjoying the company of true friends. Lifelong relationships are made and strengthened in these after-church fellowship sessions. Boys and girls have a grand time playing in the church yard while adults discuss the joys and struggles of the Christian life.

SOME OF THE WAYS IN WHICH WE TRY TO REACH OTHERS FOR THE LORD JESUS

And he said unto them, Go ye into all the world, and preach the gospel to every creature (Mark 16:15). It is the privilege and responsibility of every born-again believer to be a personal witness to others for Jesus each and every day. Below are some of the gospel outreach ministries sponsored and organized by our church.

- Personal Evangelism
- Public Ministry
- Nursing Home Services
- House-to-House Visitation
- Recorded Sermon Distribution

- Book Publishing
- Radio Broadcast
- YouTube / Sermon Audio
- Jail, Prison, Rescue Mission Ministries
- Mission Trips
- Good News Clubs
- College Campus Evangelism

Personal Evangelism

Personal evangelism is obedience to the Biblical command given by the Lord to all believers to tell everyone everywhere the good news of the gospel. Nothing is more effective and nothing bears more fruit than the individual Christians telling individual sinners what Jesus Christ has done for their salvation.

Public Ministry

By public ministry we simply mean going where people can be found and giving those people an opportunity to know the Lord Jesus. This is done in a park, on a city street, or at a staged event such as a ball game or a parade.

One effective and easy aspect of public ministry is the distribution of literature. We politely offer people tracts and pamphlets containing the gospel. Our youth have always enjoyed this work.

Another way to reach multitudes is by use of printed signs and banners displayed along public thoroughfares. A Bible verse held aloft at a busy intersection will be read by hundreds or thousands of people in an hour's time.

Like all the prophets, all the apostles, and Jesus himself, we lift up our voices in public places and preach the gospel. To crowds large and small we proclaim the wonderful words of life.

We attend fairs, parades, sporting events, shows, and gatherings of all kinds to which the general public is invited and offer God's gift of eternal life to any who desire to make heaven their home.

Nursing Home Services

Sitting in area nursing homes are two groups of people:

1. There are dear Christians trapped in failing bodies who need the joy and uplift of a visit from brothers and sisters in Christ.
2. There are dear souls at the door of eternity who need to be rescued from the final wages of sin and introduced to the Savior.

Regularly-held services where the residents join in song, hear God's word, and fellowship with our church members are a genuine blessing to all who participate.

House-to-House Visitation

Visitation is the term used for two aspects of evangelism. One is the cold call, for lack of a better term, where those who know Jesus move from house to house offering the gospel to their town. The other is a requested a visit—taking time to sit in the home of a lost person, a new Christian, or a church member in need of spiritual assistance.

Recorded Sermon Distribution / Book Publishing

Our recorded sermon and book ministry is our most extensive and fruitful outreach. In 1987 we began sending cassette recordings of our sermons to a couple of missionaries we knew, and we told them they could have more at no cost. Word spread of good teaching available at the right price. Letters began to pour in. We have now sent several million recordings to people in 180+ nations. We have also published over forty book titles, several of which have been translated into other languages. These teaching tools are being used around the world, with over one million books in print.

Radio Broadcast

We began airing *The Preaching of the Cross* radio broadcast weekly in 1981 and daily in 1991. This thirty-minute program of Bible teaching by our pastor is heard on radio stations in the United States, Canada, the Philippines, Uganda, and many places in between.

YouTube / Sermon Audio

More recently, making our sermons available on streaming services online has enabled us to reach many precious souls with the

truth of God's words.

Jails, Prisons, Rescue Missions

The Lord has given us open doors into area jails, prisons, and rescue missions, where evangelistic services and discipleship classes are offered to men and women with time to think about their need for life-changing faith in Jesus Christ.

Good News Clubs

For many years, the Lord has provided a tremendous opportunity for us to reach boys and girls (and by extension, their families) with the gospel by conducting after-school Bible clubs in local public elementary schools and child care facilities. Each club requires teachers, coordinators, and other helpers. This is a most worthy investment of a few hours per week on the part of our many volunteers.

College Campus Evangelism

We regularly organize visits to public university campuses to take the light of God's word to the students, many of whom have been educated out of their belief in the existence of God, or of truth itself. These outreach efforts regularly yield interesting and productive conversations.

As you attend faithfully and we get to know one another, you will have opportunities to be directed by the Lord into some area of service for Him. We will gladly instruct you and show you how to be a good soldier in the Lord's army.

THE SUNDAY SCHOOL HOUR

We provide instruction geared for those of all ages in a Bible-based and Christ-honoring Sunday School program. Our children assemble for a time of song before gathering with boys and girls in their age group to learn the stories from God's word that will help them come to know and live for Him.

The Purposes of Our Sunday School

1. To ensure the furtherance of apostolic doctrine: ***And they continued stedfastly in the apostles' doctrine and fellowship, and in breaking of bread, and in prayers*** (Acts 2:42).
2. To make disciples of Jesus: ***As ye have therefore received Christ Jesus the Lord, so walk ye in him: Rooted and built up in him, and stablished in the faith, as ye have been taught, abounding therein with thanksgiving*** (Colossians 2:6-7).
3. To obey the Lord's commission to His church: ***Go ye therefore, and teach all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Ghost: Teaching them to observe all things whatsoever I have commanded you: and, lo, I am with you alway, even unto the end of the world. Amen*** (Matthew 28:19-20).
4. To ensure a future generation of Christian workers: ***And the things that thou hast heard of me among many witnesses, the same commit thou to faithful men, who shall be able to teach others also*** (2 Timothy 2:2).

The Requirements Met by Those Who Teach Our Classes

The points listed below should be the aim of every Christian but especially those who give themselves to the instruction of others in the local church or Sunday School. Each child in the class has been entrusted to the teacher by a parent or grandparent, by the pastor, and most importantly by the Lord our God. The space of time given will be the only true Biblical instruction some of these children have ever received. Others will find the instruction a supplement to what they are learning in the home. Many of these young ones will remember the teacher, not the lessons taught, for the rest of their lives. The impression made upon them can serve to keep them in church and walking in the ways of truth all their days.

The ministry of the Sunday School teacher should extend far beyond the time spent in the classroom. To be effective the teacher **MUST** be a continual living example of Christian conduct. While none of us can fully attain this noble goal, it should be the heartfelt desire

of all teachers. Each worker needs to always be available to meet the children's needs for counsel, friendship, encouragement, and prayer in their walk with God. Every effort should be made to establish a trusting relationship with each child. As each child and each home is different, there is no substitute for time spent with every student.

It is unreasonable to expect a student to be excited about a lesson or a class if the teacher is not. Every session should be a joyful overflow of the teacher's love for Jesus and for each child.

1. The teacher must be born again.
2. The teacher must be committed to living the Christian life inside and outside the church.
3. The teacher must be doctrinally sound, holding to all crucial points of doctrine held by the assembly.
4. The teacher must be in a right relationship with the pastor and leadership of the church, lest a critical spirit infect the children under his or her care.
5. The teacher must be free of scandal and habit that would offend one of the little ones. This includes refraining from places and activities that would not be suitable for members of his/her class. Use of alcohol, tobacco, profanity, or vulgar language and attendance at entertainment containing conduct unfit for viewing in the Sunday School are but a few obvious examples of those practices unsuitable for one being looked upon as a pattern.
6. The teacher must be faithful to the services, activities, and ministries of the church. One cannot send the mixed message of teaching Sunday morning and being absent Sunday night or of giving a lesson on evangelism but being absent from the outreach efforts of the church.
7. The teacher must have a true love for every child in his/her class, not just a desire to instruct or rule over them. Teaching must not be a matter of self-will or position but an outworking of the heart's care for the youth.
8. There can be no favorites or preferential treatment. Those who consider their own children superior and think taking a place

in the Sunday School will enable them to straighten out the inferior children is unfit for the position. Those who have issues and relationship problems with the parents of Sunday School children cannot effectively minister to the children.

In the Classroom

1. Each teacher should be fully prepared to fill all the available time with instruction and activity of interest and benefit to the students.
2. The teacher should arrive in his or her classroom at least fifteen minutes prior to class time. Each student, new or old, should find their teacher waiting for them in the classroom.
3. The classroom should be left clean and neat, ready for the next class. Return chairs and tables to their proper places, pick up rubbish, clean boards, etc. The children should be taught to perform these tasks.
4. Deal with discipline problems without involving the parents, if possible. Let each child learn to obey, get along with others, and listen attentively by your firm and gentle guidance. To call in dad and mom for each offence will make the Sunday School experience one dreaded by the child.
5. The teacher must never use any form of corporal punishment on a child, even if the parents have granted permission.
6. If accused by or confronted by a parent or student, the teacher should take this matter to the pastor or deacons immediately.

COMMUNION

The first Sunday of every month we suspend all classes and gather in the auditorium to partake of the Lord's supper. This simple memorial, calling to mind Jesus' broken body and shed blood, is the manner in which God has asked us to worship Him (1 Corinthians 11). Much of the communion service is spent in quiet prayer and meditation. This is a very personal time spent with our Lord. Those who know the Lord Jesus Christ as their personal Savior are welcome to participate.

MEMBERSHIP

We hold the view that all born-again Christians are members of the body of Christ (1 Corinthians 12; Ephesians 4) and that these believers are to gather together in a local church. We see no reason to add official local church membership to membership in the body of Christ.

Should a person or family desire to congregate with us at THE BIBLE Baptist Church, they are welcome to do so, providing there are no scriptural reasons to exclude them from fellowship.*

Those churches which have a secondary membership do so in order to grant voting privileges to members in good standing. Since we are a Bible-based church, we have no voting; thus, the only benefit of secondary membership would not be realized.

The Bible would exclude from attendance in a Christian church those who are engaged in sexual misconduct, idolatry, drunkenness (1 Corinthians 5), and similar transgressions which harm the testimony of a church in a community.

CHURCH STRUCTURE

The New Testament pattern for a church is a simple one. The steps below are set forth in the books of 1 Timothy, 2 Timothy, and Titus.

First, Jesus Christ is the head of the church. It has no human headquarters or government outside its walls. There is no denominational hierarchy or massive institution to make rules for or take money from a local congregation. While we fellowship with all Christians holding basic Bible truths, we are not formally or informally joined to any group or organization of churches. Our sole accountability is to God and to one another.

Second, a man or group of men enters a town or city, preaches the gospel to the lost, and gathers those believers into a regularly assembling congregation. This was done in DeLand during 1986, leading

*If you wish to join us in church fellowship, you will find a questionnaire in the back of this booklet that you may complete and give to one of the pastors so that we can include you and your family on our church directories.

to the formation of THE BIBLE Baptist Church in February 1987.

Third, the founding evangelist stays on to pastor the church or turns it over to a man of his prayerful choosing.

Fourth, the pastor along with the congregation will select men to serve as bishops and deacons who meet the specific qualifications set forth in the New Testament. These men will aid the pastor in his personal relationship with the Lord and in his ministry to the members of the church.

At present our founder still serves as pastor, and the congregation has recognized several men to serve with him as deacons. We also have one assistant pastor in a full-time status.

The Pastor

Brother James Knox serves as pastor of our church. His duties are summarized as follows:

1. Study and teach God's word to the church.
2. Strive to live an exemplary Christian life.
3. Seek to help men and women understand that Jesus Christ can and will meet all their spiritual needs.

The pastor is paid through the donations made by those in church fellowship. The amount of this compensation is determined by the deacons.

Our pastor is in much demand as a speaker in other churches. The congregation graciously allows him to be used in this way. The expense of these trips is borne by the pastor or the churches he visits. They are not paid for by THE BIBLE Baptist Church.

The Pastor's Wife

Lilian and James were married in August 1982. While Lilian is a diligent worker for the Lord, her duties are to her husband first and then to those who make up the church.

While she is ever willing and able to help in any way, we recognize that she, like all wives, is primarily responsible for serving her family.

Our Assistant Pastor

After many years of faithful service in our church, Brother David Brown was put on staff as an assistant to the pastor in 2007. His duties focus primarily on the youth of our church, but he is busy in every area of service to the pastor and the congregation. His attention to the details, organization of mission trips, Youth Rallies, VBS, etc. are invaluable.

The assistant pastor is paid through the donations made by those in church fellowship. The amount of this compensation is determined by the deacons.

Our assistant pastor is in much demand as a speaker in other churches. The congregation graciously allows him to be used in this way. The expense of these trips is borne by the assistant pastor or the churches he visits. They are not paid for by THE BIBLE Baptist Church.

Our Deacons

These men are scripturally selected based on several factors—an exemplary walk with the Lord, a good reputation inside and outside the church, and a manifest interest in the wellbeing of all those who make up their church family.

Simply stated their duties are:

- To encourage and strengthen the pastor and congregation and to guard them against moral and doctrinal error.
- To oversee the business and temporal affairs relating to the church.

The deacons meet with the pastor on a regular basis for prayer and planning, to appropriate funds, and on rare occasions, to deal with matters of trouble or strife within the fellowship.

CHURCH BUSINESS

We print a bulletin once each month to keep everyone up to date on events, prayer needs, etc. Often in the January bulletin we will print a list of names for you to know. Listed will be the deacons, the Sunday

School teachers, and those who lead each of our outreach ministries. This list will help you in knowing who to contact when the Lord places a specific desire to help or serve upon your heart.

We do not have business meetings, and we do not take votes. A careful reading of the New Testament will reveal that the Lord never instructed His church to do these things. They had prayer meetings and followed the leading of the Holy Spirit. We have an added advantage in that we have the written scriptures to show us how to conduct ourselves.

Anyone who has been in a church where business meetings are conducted knows that they accomplish three things, none of them good.

1. They detract from precious time that could be spent singing, praying, and preaching.
2. They invite division and strife, the great enemies of any church.
3. They give a forum to malcontents who use the opportunity to sow discord among the brethren.

No wonder God in His wisdom never told the church to hold such meetings.

Our church leaders continually:

- Take input and insight from all the believers.
- Take careful note of the needs of the hour.
- With the pastor, bring these matters before the Lord in prayer.
- Seek the prayerful support of those who love the Lord and love their church.
- Proceed according to Biblical principles.

This is the method set down by the Holy Spirit 2,000 years ago; and it works to this day.

MONEY

We do all that we can to make money a non-issue in our assembly.

We understand that it takes money to maintain a functioning church fellowship, to properly upkeep the facilities, and to send missionaries and Christian materials to a lost and dying world. However, we know there is a Biblical and orderly way to obtain and disperse funds.

There are no offerings taken in our services. There is a box conveniently located in the back of the auditorium where those wishing to contribute to the cause may make donations. The spot marked *General* is used to take care of all the ministries of THE BIBLE Baptist Church. The spot marked *Designated* allows for the giving of monies designated for specific causes announced from the pulpit or in the bulletin, such as an urgent need on some mission field. The spot marked *Pastor* was established at the request of those who thought our minister's family was undercompensated for their efforts.

You may also make one-time or recurring donations online via our giving website.*

We do not solicit funds from outside sources, but we do gladly receive them.

Following each service, two or three men count the money, log the total, and sign their names to the logbook. Receipts are deposited weekly in a local bank. We have two treasurers to take care of the bookkeeping and payment of bills. All checks payable must have two signatures.

Our books are open to be viewed by members in good standing. We send a receipt to contributors and publish a financial report each January.

While we consistently tend to matters of benevolence through our giving, we cannot launder money for those looking for tax breaks. Funds donated to the church must be used for the church and its ministries in order to be tax-exempt. We take and disperse monies only for those ministries associated with or sent from THE BIBLE Baptist Church. Those wishing to contribute to the work of other good men and women should send funds to the church or mission board with which these workers are associated.

* biblebaptistdeland.churchcenter.com

NAME HISTORY

You may notice that in much of our correspondence we are identified as Highway Evangelistic Ministries of THE BIBLE Baptist Church, Inc. The reason for this is as follows. When we started shipping cassettes overseas in 1988, most went to nationals, not missionaries or pastors. Using the church name prevented us from sending materials into certain countries. Using the name Baptist greatly limited the number of persons who would avail themselves of the materials. So we used the neutral Highway Evangelistic Ministries in hopes of reaching more people in more places. This decision has proven very beneficial.

NURSERY

During our regular services we provide a nursery for children ages two and under. This is done for two reasons:

1. It allows the parents of children to concentrate on the ministry of the word.
2. It prevents the little ones from distracting others who have come to worship and to learn.

Providing a nursery is a service to all who attend, not just those with children.

The nursery will open ten minutes prior to service time, and workers are to be in place and ready when nursery opens.

If your children have not been trained at home to sit quietly for an hour or more, please use the nursery. People who do not have small children are not able to listen to a minister and a child at the same time.

Nursery workers are there to care for children so that mothers may enjoy the services. For this reason we ask that mothers allow the workers to do their job. The nursery workers are to be the only adults in the nursery during services.

Should schedules require, nursing mothers may enter to feed babies but are asked to return to services afterward.

Children will be released from the nursery only to those who left them at the nursery. Do not send friends, other adults, or brothers

and sisters, as this leads to confusion.

Please come for your children as soon as services are over and then fellowship with others. This allows the nursery workers time to clean the nursery and get out in time to fellowship.

One of the nursery workers will meet parents at the door to receive babies for care and return babies after services. It is not safe for the children to have a multitude of people walking in and out of the nursery area where they are playing.

No adult with any communicable disease or sickness may work in the nursery. No child with any communicable disease or sickness may stay in the nursery.

YOUTH

In addition to our services and Sunday School activities, we schedule a number of activities throughout the year for our boys and girls. These include evangelistic efforts after school or on weekends and outings for fun activities and meals. We do not open these activities to children not attending church, as we want to have better control of the environment we create for our young people, and we do not have the relationships with the parents of children outside our church that would be necessary to properly address issues involving inappropriate language, behavior, etc.

Every fall our boys and girls take charge of a Sunday evening service and do all of the song leading, musical accompaniment, and preaching. It is a great experience for them and a wonderful time for the adults.

Frequently we organize trips for our teens that allow them to see God's creation, visit other churches or the mission field, and have a grand time with one another. These trips are open to those who faithfully attend throughout the year and meet any additional requirements specific to the trip. Our young people benefit from working to raise funds for these trips, and our members enjoy providing opportunities for them to do so.

Dress Codes

While we cannot legislate righteousness, we do have to have some structure in order to keep ourselves from evolving into the world. Thus, we have put the following clothing requirements in place for all church-related youth activities. The submissive Christian views the Lord's commands as the path of life. The rebellious view all commands as legalism. Setting of a proper example by adults is expected and appreciated.

Women and Girls

- Dresses, skirts, or culottes (long shorts are not culottes) shall be worn to non-athletic activities. These shall be at or below the knee when in a sitting position.
- No tank tops or sleeveless shirts.
- Shirt collars should be such as to keep the bosom and undergarments covered when in a stooping or bending position.
- No T-shirts or caps displaying unwholesome pictures, containing unwholesome slogans, or advertising that which is ungodly.

Men and Boys

- Trousers only. No dresses or skirts.
- If shorts are worn, they will be at or below the knee when in a sitting position.
- Trousers will be worn in such a way as to fully cover undergarments.
- No tank tops or sleeveless shirts.
- No T-shirts or caps displaying unwholesome pictures, containing unwholesome slogans, or advertising that which is ungodly.
- No earrings or nose rings.

THE DELAND SCHOOL OF THE BIBLE

In January 2003 we began a Bible institute to provide a multi-year course of intensive Bible study for men and women interested in a better knowledge of the word of God, but in particular, to train people for the ministry at home and abroad.

Our aim is to provide our students with an exceptional knowledge of the scriptures and combine this with practical training in evangelistic outreach programs while they observe the day-to-day functions of a strong and scriptural local church.

All classes and materials are free of charge for attending students. There is a small administration fee for correspondence students. The spring semester begins in late January and runs into May. The fall semester begins in late August and runs into December.

USE OF THE FACILITIES

Properties belonging to THE BIBLE Baptist Church are available for use only by those who are active participants attending THE BIBLE Baptist Church. Persons who are not active participants in regular attendance at THE BIBLE Baptist Church may not use properties belonging to the church for any reason.

1. Facility use must be pre-approved by the Pastor or Assistant Pastor.
2. Non-church activities using church facilities (birthday parties, showers, etc.) require:
 - All regular attendees of THE BIBLE Baptist Church be invited. No exclusionary activities will be allowed.
 - Those conducting the activity are responsible for set up, clean up, and repair of any damage done during activity.
3. All activities held on or at properties belonging to THE BIBLE Baptist Church will be conducted in accord with the doctrinal and moral policies of THE BIBLE Baptist Church, as stated in our Church Handbook.

OFFICIAL POLICY REGARDING MARRIAGE

Our final authority for all matters of faith and practice is the Holy Bible as rendered in the Authorized (King James) Version. We believe

this document to be the word of God. The Holy Bible teaches that God made a man and then made a woman for the man and instituted marriage as the union of a man and a woman (Genesis 1–2). All other unions are forbidden in both the Old and New Testaments. Jesus Christ, our Lord, upheld this view of marriage (Matthew 19).

We do not sanction, condone, or recognize any other union as a marriage. We do not admit into church fellowship those living in any other union, married or unmarried. We do not allow those living in any other union, married or unmarried, to participate in church activities.

We perform weddings only for those uniting as a man and a woman.

We perform weddings only for those who meet the scriptural qualifications for marriage set forth in the New Testament.

We do not amend our Use of the Facilities policy for weddings.

OFFICIAL POLICY REGARDING EMPLOYMENT

Our final authority for all matters of faith and practice is the Holy Bible as rendered in the Authorized (King James) Version. We believe this document to be the word of God. From the Holy Bible we have established a statement of doctrinal beliefs which are listed in our Church Handbook. From the Holy Bible we have established a statement of practical applications which are listed in our Church Handbook.

We do not employ persons whose beliefs and practice are not in accord with the principles referred to in the points above. All candidates for employment must submit to criminal and child abuse history background checks.

POLICY FOR GENDER-BASED GROUPS

Our final authority for all matters of faith and practice is the Holy Bible as rendered in the Authorized (King James) Version. We believe this document to be the word of God. The Holy Bible teaches that God made human beings male and female (Genesis 1:27; 5:2; Mark 10:6).

We view a person's gender is an objective biological fact which is not altered by the person's subjective feelings, imagination, or sense of identity (Jeremiah 17:9).

THE BIBLE Baptist Church sanctions gender-based groups and activities, such as Men's Prayer Group, Women's Prayer Group, Boys' Sunday School Class, Girls' Sunday School Class, Boys' Youth Activities, Girls' Youth Activities, etc. Participation in Men's and Boys' groups and activities is limited to those who are biological males. Participation in Women's and Girls' groups and activities is limited to those who are biological females.

THE BIBLE Baptist Church maintains a Men's bathroom, a Women's bathroom, and individual bathrooms. Use of the Men's bathroom is limited to those who are biological males. Use of the Women's bathroom is limited to those who are biological females. The individual bathrooms may be used any individual.

SERVICE ANIMAL POLICY

Religious institutions and organizations are specifically exempt from the ADA.

No animals are permitted on church grounds or in buildings other than legally-documented, fully-trained service dogs.

Upon arrival the person wishing to have a service dog on the premises will present the following to an usher or security team member on duty:

- Documentation that the dog is required owing to mental or physical disability on the part of the person wishing to have a dog on the premises.
- Documentation that the dog is a properly-trained service animal.
- Proof of the dog's vaccination status.

Required animal will be permitted under the following conditions:

- Trained service animals must be properly cleaned and must

not have a foul odor. This will be determined by usher or security team member on duty.

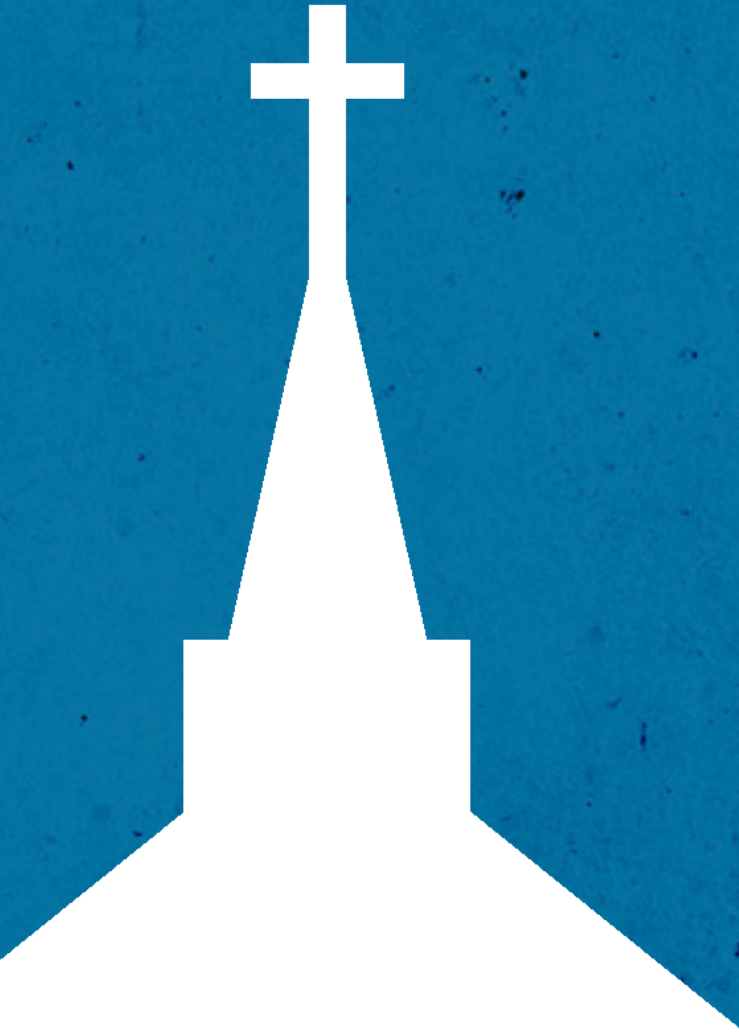
- Animal will be fully restrained at all times.
- Animal will be kept upon the lap of the person requiring the animal or on the floor directly beneath where said person is seated.
- If the dog is seated on the floor, a blanket or cloth will be placed beneath the animal.
- Animal will not be permitted on any furniture.
- To protect public health, we require all service animals to be current on all vaccinations.
- Animal will not be permitted to defecate or urinate on church grounds without cleanup afterward by the owner of the dog. The animal will only be allowed to urinate on the grass, not on buildings, fences, signs, trees, sidewalks, driveways, or other items belonging to the church.
- Should any person present have issues with dog allergies or fear of dogs, dog owner will give preferential treatment to said persons.
- An animal growling, biting, jumping on or toward others, or barking not in response to handler's need or distress, will be removed immediately.
- If the owner of a service dog wishes to question any of these policies, they may schedule an appointment to do so. They will not be discussed on days set aside for church services.

FINAL NOTES

Our website address is jameswknox.org.^{*} There you will find church news, a great wealth of helpful materials, and more.

Our sermons can be viewed online at:

^{*}This domain name was chosen by the helpful volunteer who first set up a website to make our pastor's teaching available online.



THE BIBLE Baptist Church
872 Glenwood Rd | DeLand, FL 32720
(386) 736-9274 | jameswknox.org