

ARTICLES OF INCORPORATION
OF THE
/ CAHABA VALLEY COMMUNITY CHURCH

ARTICLE 1

1. The name and title of this organization shall be the CAHABA VALLEY COMMUNITY CHURCH, Birmingham, Alabama.
2. This church is incorporated as a non-profit organization.
3. This church is a non-denominational, non-charismatic fellowship.

ARTICLE 11

DOCTRINAL STATEMENT

1. We believe that the Bible, containing the Old and New Testament totaling sixty-six books, is the verbally inspired Word of God as originally given (11 Timothy 3:16-17; 11 Peter 1:20-21) and that the Bible is God's message to man for living and is the final authority in faith and life. (Psalms 119:105; James 1:21-25)
2. We believe in one God existing in three persons, Father, Son (Word), Holy Spirit. (1 John 5:7; Deut. 6:4; Matt. 28:19)
3. We believe that Jesus Christ is God made manifest in the flesh, conceived by the Holy Ghost, born of the Virgin Mary and is true God and true man. (Luke 1:30-35; John 1:18; John 10:30)
4. We believe that man was created in the image of God; that he sinned resulting in both physical death and spiritual death. Because of original sin all mankind is totally depraved and possesses a sinful nature. (Genesis 1:26-27; 2:16-17; 3:6-19;

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B'ham, 35243

Romans 3:10-23)

5. We believe that Jesus Christ is God's perfect sacrifice for sin and that His death was the perfect and complete substitutionary sacrifice for all who believe on Him and by faith in His finished work all who believe in Him are saved. (John 1:29; Romans 5:8-10; 1 Timothy 2:5-6)

6. We believe in the bodily resurrection of the crucified body of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ, His ascension into Heaven as our High Priest, advocate and the head of the Church. (John 20:1-29; Acts 1:9-11; Hebrews 5:9-10; 1 John 2:1)

7. We believe in the personal and imminent return of the Lord Jesus Christ to the clouds to receive unto Himself the Church (His Bride) prior to the Tribulation and that He will visibly return to the earth with His Saints to reign during the millennial kingdom. (1 Thess. 4:13-18; Rev. 19:11-16; Zech. 14:1-21)

8. We believe in the bodily resurrection of the just and the unjust, the saved into everlasting life and the lost unto everlasting punishment. (1 Thess. 4:13-18; Revelation 20:1-6; 20:11-15)

9. We believe that through personal faith in Jesus Christ individuals are born again at which time the individual is indwelt by the Spirit of Christ, baptised by the Spirit of God into the body of Christ and sealed by the Holy Spirit unto the day of redemption. (Romans 8:9; 10:9-10; 1 Corinthians 12:13; Ephesians 4:30)

10. We believe in the Sanctification of the believer which

is separation unto God with the work of sanctification being finished at Calvary, progressively the believer is being sanctified as his or her life is more fully given to the Lord Jesus, and finally and completely wholly sanctified at the coming of the Lord Jesus for His bride. (1 Corinthians 1:2; 6:11; 1 Thess. 5:23; 11 Timothy 2:21; Hebrews 10:10)

11. We believe that the true church is the body of Christ composed of all who have been born again in this age and that the local church is God's means for the universal church to practice the ordinances of water baptism and the Lord's Supper and that the gathering of the local assembly is primarily for the purpose of exhorting and edifying one another. (Acts 1:1-47; 1 Corinthians 11:23-34; Romans 14:19; Hebrews 10:25)

12. We believe that the Great Commission was given to the church collectively and to the believer individually, that the Great Commission has two major commands: Preach the Gospel and teach all the commands of Christ. (Matt. 28:18-20; Mark 16:15; Acts 5:42; Colossians 3:16)

ARTICLE 111

The PURPOSE OF CAHABA VALLEY COMMUNITY CHURCH

1. To practice the regular and orderly assembly of the believers, "...provoking one another to love and good works... and exhorting one another." (Hebrews 10:24-25)

2. To allow the operation of the spiritual gift or gifts of the spiritual leader of this local congregation, "...for the perfecting of the saints, for the work of the ministry, for the

edifying of the body of Christ: Till we all come in the unity of the faith, and of the knowledge of the Son of God, unto a perfect man, into the measure of the stature of the fullness of Christ." (Ephesians 4:11-13)

3. To teach the Biblical standard for the building of the "temple of God". (11 Peter 1:5-8, 1 Corinthians 3:16-17)

4. To teach and develop the ministry of Spiritual Gifts according to the instruction of Romans 12:1-8, and to show how these gifts, when operating at the highest level, result in the "distributing to the necessity of the saints, given to hospitality". (Romans 12:13)

5. To train individual believers through "Practical Shepherding" the process of continuing maturity in Christ. (11 Peter 3:18; Ephesians 4:14-15)

6. To proclaim the Gospel of Jesus Christ to the lost as a way of life. (11 Corinthians 4:3-5; Matthew 28:18-20; Mark 16:15)

ARTICLE IV

PRINCIPLES OF FINANCE

1. We believe that the tithe is the Lords and is the primary means through which the needs of the local church are met. (Malachi 3:8-10; Matthew 23:23)

2. We believe that the New Testament principle goes beyond the Old Testament; We should give according as God has prospered us; and we should give "cheerfully". (1 Corinthians 16:2; 11 Corinthians 9:6-7)

3. We believe the example of collections received on the first day of the week for the needs of the saints is a suitable pattern for the practice of receiving the Lord's tithes and our gifts for the needs of the local church. (1 Corinthians 16:2)

4. We believe that giving should be done with simplicity knowing that God's Word teaches that as we give, it shall be given to us again. (Romans 12:8; Luke 6:38)

ARTICLE V

CHURCH GOVERNMENT

1. This church shall be a cogregationally run body with the Pastor as the head. According to Ephesians 4:11 the role of pastor is one of the spiritual roles set apart for the purpose of "...building up of the saints.." The Pastor, shepherd, has the responsibility of caring for the spiritual needs of the flock and shall be the final authority in spiritual matters for this congregation. The shepherd has several responsibilities toward the flock: He is to care for them, feed them, nourish them, encourage them, etc; however the most important of all his responsibilities is to lead the flock. The pastor shall meet the same standards established for the Bishop and Elder according to 1 Timothy 3:1-7 and Titus 1:3-9.

2. According to Acts 6:1-3 the Disciples instructed the church to select from among them men "full of the Holy Ghost" to be appointed over certain business. The Cahaba Valley Community Church shall have seven deacons for the purpose of handling certain business authorized by the congregation.

The Deacons shall have the responsibility of caring for the physical operation of the local church. During the first year the Pastor shall appoint men to fill the role of deacon to carry out the assigned responsibilities. The deacons shall select from their group an assistant chairman, secretary and treasurer who will serve as officers of the church. The secretary and treasurer shall serve as church secretary and church treasurer. At each annual conference seven men shall be appointed to serve as deacons for a period of one year. The standard for deacons shall be those set forth in 1 Timothy 3:1-7 and Titus 1:3-9.

3. The Pastor shall appoint men to serve as Elders for the purpose of assisting the Pastor in spiritual matters such as the preparation of the Lord's Supper and prayer for the sick according to James chapter five. The Elders shall be available to assist the Pastor in any other areas the Pastor deems necessary. The Elders shall select an assistant chairman and secretary to aid in the organization of the Elders activities and responsibilities. The standard for Elders shall be according to 1 Timothy 3:1-7 and Titus 1:3-9.

4. The congregation shall exercise its primary rule of authority through an annual church conference and any other necessary church called conference. The annual conference shall be held on the first Sunday in December. At the annual church conference the church treasurer shall present a proposed budget for the coming year submitted by the deacons for the

approval by the congregation. A list of qualified men shall be presented to the congregation for appointment to the role of Deacon with the top seven vote getters being appointed. All official offices run for one year beginning with the first day of January. All major purchases and sales (such as real estate) shall require approval by the congregation. All business which requires congregational approval shall be voted on by those qualified members present (at least eighteen years of age and a member in good standing) and requires at least seventy-five percent of those present voting approval in order for such business to pass. At the request of the deacons the Pastor may call a church conference at any time it is deemed necessary. Roberts Rules of Order shall be the guide for conducting all official church business.

ARTICLE VI

LEGAL DOCUMENTS AND COMMITTEES

1. Trustees shall be appointed by the deacons to serve for a period of one year beginning January first. There shall be three trustees appointed with at least two signatures for all legal documents. During the first year the Pastor shall appoint two men to serve as trustees. The trustees shall act only on the instruction of the deacons after congregational approval of said action. If a trustee fails to complete his term of office or ceases to be a member in good standing, the deacons shall appoint someone to complete his term of service.

2. Committees, including Deacons and Elders shall be chaired by the Pastor. Each committee shall appoint an

assistant chairman who shall have the responsibility of working with the Pastor in coordinating the activity of each committee member and directing the overall responsibilities of their committee. The assistant chairman shall also serve as liaison between the committee, congregation and the Pastor. All potential committee members shall meet privately with the Pastor to insure: That the potential committee member is walking with the Lord; That they are in agreement with the direction of the Cahaba Valley Community Church; That they meet the Biblical standard (where applicable); That they have a desire to serve. In order to meet the growing needs of the church, the Pastor and Deacons shall work together to determine what additional committees may be needed in the future. At any time a committee member ceases to be in agreement with the objectives of the Cahaba Valley Community Church or ceases to live a consistent christian life, that individual shall be removed from the committee. In an effort to remain true to the Biblical standard, every effort should be made to restore that individual to a right relationship with God. This is not to imply that the individual will be restored to a committee position; however it is possible that at some future date they may be appointed to serve on a committee after having proven themselves. (Galatians 6:1-2)

ARTICLE VII

CHURCH MEMBERSHIP

1. Individuals desiring membership with the Cahaba Valley Community Church should express that desire with the Pastor who

will insure that a copy of the church constitution shall be made available.

2. After reading the constitution a meeting will be scheduled with the Pastor. At this time the Pastor will have opportunity to hear the testimony of the potential member and answer any questions that the potential member may have.

3. After having satisfied any questions, the potential member will be given an opportunity to sign a statement of agreement with the constitution of the Cahaba Valley Community Church signifying their desire to unite with this fellowship of believers. Jesus said, "...Every kingdom divided against itself is brought to desolation; and every city or house divided against itself shall not stand." (Matthew 12:25)

4. Upon the completion of the above, the potential member must meet with the Pastor and members of the Deacons committee for a pre-membership meeting. At the conclusion of this meeting those desiring membership will be presented to the congregation for approval and shall enter into full membership of the Cahaba Valley Community Church.

5. Any member who ceases to be actively participating in the fellowship of the Cahaba Valley Community Church over an extended period of time will be contacted by the Pastor, Elder or both to determine how we as a body may assist them. If it is determined that the inactive member no longer desires to be a part of this fellowship they will be removed from the church roll immediately. Any member who wishes to remain on the roll

though they are inactive will be placed on an inactive roll of membership. They may be returned to active membership by a return to active fellowship with the Cahaba Valley Community Church and by requesting to be returned to active membership status in writing.

OUTREACH AND MINISTRY DEVELOPMENT

1. As the local church, and in particular the individual believer, grows so the outreach of the Cahaba Valley Community Church should grow. It is our desire to be sensitive to the Lord and to develop those opportunities which will enable our members to more effectively reach out to others.

2. Ministry is literally service. It is our desire to provide as many opportunities for service as is manageable in an orderly fashion and to teach the responsibility of each believer to engage in Christian service according to their specific level of spiritual development.

ARTICLE 1X

DISSOLUTION

Upon the dissolution of this local church the officers shall, after paying or making provision for the payment of all its liabilities, dispose of the holdings of this corporation to another non-profit organization, with similar doctrinal beliefs, evangelical in nature and committed to world evangelization which qualifies at such time under Section 501(c) (3) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1954 (or the corresponding provision of any future United States Internal Revenue Laws) as the officers

shall determine. (Officers being Deacons)

DONE THIS 25th DAY OF March 1984

A. B. Jones
TRUSTEE

David Engel
TRUSTEE

BOOK 25 PAGE 729

SUBSCRIBED AND SWORN TO

BEFORE ME ON THIS THE

25 DAY OF April, 1984.

Betha Isabel Bago
NOTARY PUBLIC

MY COMMISSION EXPIRES: 9/9/87

State of Alabama

SHELBY

County

CERTIFICATE OF INCORPORATION OF

CAHABA VALLEY COMMUNITY CHURCH

The undersigned, as Judge of Probate of SHELBY County, State of Alabama, hereby certifies that duplicate originals of Articles of Incorporation for the incorporation of CAHABA VALLEY COMMUNITY CHURCH, duly signed pursuant to the provisions of Section 64 of the Alabama Business Corporation Act, have been received in this office and are found to conform to law.

ACCORDINGLY the undersigned, as such Judge of Probate, and by virtue of the authority vested in him by law, hereby issues this Certificate of Incorporation of CAHABA VALLEY COMMUNITY CHURCH, and attaches hereto a duplicate original of the Articles of Incorporation.

GIVEN Under My Hand and Official Seal on this the 2nd day of APRIL, 1984.

STATE OF ALA. SHELBY CO.
I CERTIFY THIS
INSTRUMENT WAS FILED

1984 APR -2 PM 1:36

Thomas A. Brundage, Jr.
Judge of Probate

Thomas A. Brundage, Jr.
JUDGE OF PROBATE

Rec 10.00
Jud 1.00
11.00

