

# **CONSTITUTION**

## **2010**

### 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 its relation to other churches.

### **I. NAME**

This body shall be known as the Wilroy Baptist Church of Suffolk, Virginia, located at 306 Williams Road.

### **II. OBJECTIVES**

To be a church whose purpose is to be Christlike in our daily living by emphasizing total commitment of life and possessions to the Lordship of Christ.

To be a dynamic spiritual body of believers empowered by the Holy Spirit; to share Christ and minister unselfishly to as many people as possible in our church, community, and throughout the world in Jesus' name.

To experience a growing knowledge of and fellowship with God.

To be a church that worships through a meaningful fellowship with God, recognizing who He is and following in obedience to His leadership.

### **III. STATEMENT OF FAITH**

The Holy Bible is the inspired Word of God and is the basis for our statement of faith. The church affirms "The Baptist Faith and Message" as adopted by the Southern Baptist Convention (SBC) in 2000. We band ourselves together as a body of baptized believers in Jesus Christ, personally committed to sharing the good news of salvation to all lost mankind. The ordinances of the church are Baptism by immersion and the Lord's Supper.

#### **IV. RELATIONSHIPS**

The government of this church is vested in the body of believers who compose it. This church believes in cooperating with other churches, as practical, and working together with and supporting the Blackwater Baptist Association (**BBA**), the Baptist General Association of Virginia (**BGAV**), and the Southern Baptist Convention (**SBC**).

#### **V. CHURCH COVENANT**

Having been led, as we believe, by the Spirit of God, to receive the Lord Jesus Christ as our Saviour and Lord, 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.

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, discipline, and doctrines; 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 also engage to maintain family and personal devotions; to train our children in the disciplines and instructions of the Lord; to seek salvation, not only of our families, but all people, and to be zealous in our efforts to advance the kingdom of our Saviour; to be just in our dealings, faithful in our engagements, Christlike in our behavior and to abstain from those things which harm our Christian witness.

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 feel and Christian courtesy in speech, to be slow to take offense, but always ready for reconciliation and mindful of the rules of our Saviour 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 the principles of God's Word.