



Constitution

3/13/20

ARTICLE – I Mission

Centerpoint Church Kent Island (CPKI) is a community of believers passionately pursuing Christ. This begins with a foundation built on the Word of God in conjunction with leading people into a growing relationship with Jesus Christ, creating an environment that embraces everyone regardless of their past, and creates opportunities to positively impact our community.

ARTICLE – II Statement of Faith

The statement of faith for CPKI includes the following:

1. We believe that the Bible is the Word of God and useful for teaching, rebuking, correcting and training in righteousness (2 Timothy 3:16).
2. We believe that there is one true God eternally existing in the Trinity (Father, Son, and Holy Spirit).
3. We believe that God created mankind as two distinct sexes: male and female. And that each person affirms God's infinite wisdom by living in alignment with their birth sex (Genesis 1:26-28; Matthew 19:4-5).
4. We believe that all humans were born in to sin and in need of salvation (Ephesians 2:8-9; Romans 10:9).
5. We believe that marriage is ordained by God at creation as a sacred union between one man and one woman (Genesis 2:24; Hebrews 13:4). It is a representation of Christ's relationship to His church (Ephesians 5:22-33).
6. We believe that children are a blessing from the Lord, thus all human life is sacred and worthy of protection from the moment of conception (Psalm 127:3-5, Psalm 139:13-16).
7. We believe that believers should be part of a church to fellowship, worship, serve, and hold each other accountable (1 Corinthians 12:12; Psalm 100; 1 Peter 4:10-11; Galatians 6:1-2).
8. We believe in and administer two ordinances, baptism and the Lord's Supper. Baptism occurs through immersion in water and profession of faith (Acts 2:38) and the Lord's Supper (communion) exemplifies a believer's relationship with God (Luke 22:19-20; John 6:53-54).
9. We believe that Jesus will return to Earth to judge all people (Matthew 25:31-46)

ARTICLE – III Membership, Covenant, and Restoration

CPKI does not have typical membership. Alternately, CPKI offers believers the opportunity to enter into a church covenant that provides support, encouragement, growth, and a healthy relationship with God. The covenant includes the below content:

1. We are led, by God’s Spirit, to receive Jesus Christ as our Lord, and Savior, and to be baptized in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.
2. Through the Holy Spirit, we will walk together in Christian love, holiness and peace. We will grow in biblical truth; spread the gospel throughout our community; and give regularly to the support CPKI.
3. We will maintain family and personal devotions and seek the salvation of others. Also, we will seek God’s help in keeping us from practicing what hurts our own or another’s faith.
4. As we watch over one another in love, we will remember to pray for each other too. We will help those in need, and always be ready for reconciliation.
5. If we depart from CPKI, we will, join with a church where we can carry out the spirit of this covenant.
6. CenterPoint Church Kent Island, Elders, and leadership, commit to advancing God’s word, and the spirit of this church covenant. As a church, we are committed to walking with you and each other, in spiritual growth and healthy relationship with God.

In order to vote on any matter at CPKI (e.g. to hire a new Senior Pastor), a person must at least 18 years old and have signed the CPKI Covenant. With the exception of children or youth under the age of 18, believers wishing to serve as an Elder, Elder Family, or ministry leader must have signed the CPKI Covenant.

The Senior Pastor may remove an Elder, Elder Family, or ministry leader based on their poor character and/or conduct. Upon repentance and request for restoration, the Senior Pastor will provide counsel until such time that their past character and/or conduct has been restored and they reaffirmed their faith through the CPKI Covenant and in accordance with biblical principles. Upon successful counseling and restoration, the believer may be considered for serving at CPKI again.

ARTICLE – IV Church Leadership and Structure

4.1 CPKI is spiritually governed by the Elders.

4.2 The CPKI leadership structure consists of the following:

1. Elders
2. Senior Pastor
3. Executive Pastor/Director
4. Ministry Leaders

ARTICLE – V Elders

Responsibilities

The Elder team is the governing body of the church and responsible for providing oversight of CPKI's vision, direction, and broad policy. As described for us in the New Testament, their overall responsibilities are as follows:

1. General oversight of the church (Acts 20:28, Hebrews 13:17; I Thessalonians 5:12)
 - a. in practical matters (Acts 11:29-30; Acts 6:1-6)
 - b. in matters of doctrine (Acts 15; Acts 16:4)
 - c. in matters of discipline/character (Hebrews 13:17)
2. Leading, the people (1 Peter 5:2-3; Acts 20:28; Hebrews 13:17; James 5:14)
3. Equipping the body of Christ for the work of ministry (Ephesians 4:11-12)
4. Teaching the members (1 Timothy 3:2; 1 Timothy 5:17; 1 Thessalonians 5:12)
5. Exhorting in sound doctrine (Titus 1:9)
6. Refuting those who contradict sound doctrine (Titus 1:9)
7. Living the standard of godliness (1 Timothy 3:1; 1 Peter 5:3)

The Elder team has the authority and responsibility to hold the Senior Pastor accountable with regard to his qualifications to serve as Senior Pastor and/or terminate the Senior Pastor if they have adequate justification to take such action. Additionally, the Elders will oversee church discipline, mentoring deacons, appointing ministry leaders, and approving the annual budget. The Senior Pastor will lead a monthly Elder meeting, meetings may be rescheduled or cancelled if the majority of the Elder team approve.

Qualifications

Elders should demonstrate Godly character, faithful to one spouse, exercise self-control, not be a heavy drinker, manage their household, be above reproach in public and private, and be

committed to shepherding the flock of God. Additionally, Elders must be willing to make the necessary time commitments to fulfill their responsibilities.

Team Composition and Appointment

The Elder team will consist of at least three, but not more than nine, active Elders and/or Elder family consisting of a husband and wife. The Senior Pastor is a permanent member of the Elder team.

When a vacancy exists, the Elder team will provide the regular attendees of CPKI an opportunity to nominate an individual or family (husband and wife) for consideration as an Elder. In addition to this opportunity, the Elder team and/or Senior Pastor may nominate an individual or family (husband and wife) for consideration as an Elder. In either case, the Elder team will evaluate the candidate(s) based on the Elder qualifications as well as their ability to fulfill an Elder's responsibilities outlined in this document. If the candidate(s) meet both the qualification and fulfillment responsibilities of being an Elder, the Elder team will conduct a vote. A majority of the Elder team must vote to approve the candidate in order for them to become an Elder or Elder family.

Newly appointed Elders will be presented to the church and confirmed by the laying of hands by active Elders, inactive Elders, and pastors.

A newly appointed Elder or Elder family, except for the Senior Pastor, will serve one three-year term. After this term expires, the Elder or Elder family will become inactive (rotate-off) for at least one year before becoming eligible to serve another term. The church may still ask for and receive counsel from an inactive Elder or Elder family regarding church matters.

Training and Continuing Education

Elder training and continuing education will focus on the roles and responsibilities of being an Elder, doctrine discernment, shepherding the Body of Christ, and teaching the Word of Christ.

During their first year of initial appointment, a newly appointed Elder or Elder family will complete the training or educational instruction assigned by the Senior Pastor in relation to their new role and responsibilities.

After their first year of their initial appointment, Elders or Elder families will undergo continuing education in relation to their role and responsibilities as deemed appropriate by the Senior Pastor.

The church (CPKI) will pay for the training and educational instruction assigned by the Senior Pastor, including travel costs.

Discipline and Dismissal

In the event that an active Elder or Elder family must be disciplined, because of their conduct or other legitimate reason, a vote will be conducted amongst the active Elder team. If the result of this vote is the majority, the Elder will be suspended for a period of time determined by the Elder team or be dismissed from being an Elder in any capacity.

ARTICLE – VI Deacons

Responsibilities

Deacons are responsible for promoting the church's vision, supporting operations and ministries, and caring for the needs of the CPKI family.

Qualifications

Deacons should be well respected, display integrity, faithful to one spouse, not be a heavy drinker, and manage their household (1 Timothy 3:8-13).

Team Composition and Appointment

The deacon team will consist of at least three, but not more than seven, active deacons. The Senior Pastor has authority over the deacon team.

When a vacancy exists, the Senior Pastor will nominate an individual for consideration as a deacon. The Elder team will evaluate the candidate(s) based on the deacon qualifications as well as their ability to fulfill a deacon's responsibilities outlined in this document. If the candidate(s) meet both the qualification and fulfillment responsibilities of being a deacon, the Elder team will conduct a vote. A majority of the Elder team must vote to approve the candidate in order for them to become a deacon.

A newly appointed deacon will serve one three-year term. After this term expires, the deacon will become inactive (rotate-off) for at least one year before becoming eligible to serve another term.

Training and Continuing Education

Deacon training and continuing education will focus on the roles and responsibilities of being a deacon and caring for as well as ministering to the Body of Christ and supporting the ministry leaders of the church.

During their first year of initial appointment, a newly appointed deacon will complete the training or educational instruction assigned by the Senior Pastor in relation to their new role and responsibilities.

After their first year of their initial appointment, deacons will undergo continuing education in relation to their role and responsibilities as deemed appropriate by the Senior Pastor.

The church (CPKI) will pay for the training and educational instruction assigned by the Senior Pastor, including travel costs.

Discipline and Dismissal

In the event that an active deacon must be disciplined, because of their conduct or other legitimate reason, a vote will be conducted amongst the active Elder team. If the result of this vote is the majority, the deacon will be suspended for a period of time determined by the Elder team or be dismissed from being an Elder in any capacity.

ARTICLE – VII Ministry Leaders and Volunteers

Ministry Directors

Directors will:

- Promote the church's vision, provide leadership to, and oversee the activities of their ministry area
- Recommend the creation of new or termination of committees in their ministry area
- Solicit and appoint volunteers for their ministry area
- Prepare the annual budget for and manage the budget for their ministry area

ARTICLE – VIII Pastor Search

Upon the Senior Pastor providing notice to leave CPKI or the termination of the Senior Pastor, the Elder team will hire an Interim Pastor until a permanent Senior Pastor is selected for CPKI. Within thirty (30) days of the Senior Pastors departure, the Elder team will select a Pastor Search Team in order to conduct the hiring process and ultimately hire a new Senior Pastor. The team will consist of:

- An Elder or Elder family (Lead/Chair)
- A ministry leader
- Three other people that have signed the CPKI Covenant and regularly attend CPKI

Upon appointment, the team will establish the process and a reasonable timeframe for recruiting, interviewing, and hiring a new Senior Pastor. The Elder team is responsible for ensuring there is an Interim Pastor at CPKI during the transition to a new Senior Pastor.

ARTICLE – IX Church Administration

The Financial Team will be formed to manage all aspects of CPKI's finances. This includes, but is not limited to, formulating the annual budget; conducting a midyear review and adjustment to the budget; overseeing payments and deposits; and managing other financial activities. The team will consist of no more than five (5) members and is led by the Executive Director or Elder that is appointed by the Senior Pastor. Team members will serve a two-year term and are eligible for reinstatement after being inactive on the team for at least one (1) year. The team will also collaborate with the Senior Pastor and Elders for personnel matters including hiring, terminating, performance, and salary.

For planning purposes, the Financial Team will ensure that the fiscal year begins on the first day of January in each year and ends on the last day of December each year. The midyear includes the first six-months of the year (January through June).

There will be two semi-annual church meetings each calendar year (in July and December) in which the Senior Pastor and Executive Pastor/Director will update the church on the budget, vision, goals, and other matters.

ARTICLE – X Ordination, Licensing, and Commissioning

CPKI reserves the right to ordain, license, and/or commission individuals as minister of the gospel to perform the ordinances, ceremonies, or other activities of the church. These include, but not limited to, marriage; baptism; funerals; and counseling.

ARTICLE – XI Amending the Constitution and Bylaws

Regular attendees of the church may suggest changes to this constitution to the Elder team at any time. In turn, the Elder team will evaluate the suggested changes and determine if the constitution should be updated and when. A majority vote from the Elder team is required to amend this constitution.

Changes to the bylaws may be made. Each amendment shall have been presented in writing and/or posted electronically at least two weeks prior to the business meeting. The proposed amendment or any changes shall be made available to the membership and communicated via the most effective and efficient methods. Amendments to the bylaws shall be by a three-fourths vote of the church.

ARTICLE – XII Dissolution and Liquidation

The Elders have the authority to cease all activities at CPKI and dissolve the corporation by majority vote. Upon dissolution, the Elders will act as the trustees and liquidate all assets of CPKI and ensure payment is made to all outstanding liabilities associated with CPKI. Liquidation may include selling, donating, and/or disposing of assets (including equipment).