BYLAWS
of the
Religious Liberty Council

Article 1. Membership

The Religious Liberty Council (RLC) shall consist of individuals who have supported the Baptist Joint Committee's mission by financially contributing to the Baptist Joint Committee within the last three (3) years.

Article 2. Meetings

The RLC shall have one annual meeting. Special Meetings of the RLC shall be called by the Chair of the RLC at the direction of the Board of Directors. Written notice of a Special Meeting shall be provided to members of the RLC at least 30 days before the date of the Special Meeting. Representatives from the RLC to the Baptist Joint Committee shall meet in conjunction with the annual board meeting of the Baptist Joint Committee. All meetings shall be announced to the membership at least thirty (30) days in advance.

Article 3. Officers

The officers of the RLC shall be a chairperson (or co-chairpersons) and a secretary-treasurer. The chairperson(s) shall preside at all meetings, appoint all committees not otherwise provided for in the bylaws and fill all committee vacancies that might arise between meetings. The secretary-treasurer shall maintain accurate minutes of all meetings and is the organization's chief financial officer.

The officers shall be elected at the annual meeting after having been nominated by the Nominating Committee or from the floor. Officers shall serve one-year terms subject to being reelected for three consecutive terms.

Article 4. Board of Directors

The RLC shall be governed by a Board of Directors, who shall be elected at the annual meeting. The Board shall have thirteen (13) members, who shall serve for a three-year term subject to being reelected for another three-year term. The Nominating Committee shall provide a list of nominations at the Annual Meeting. Nominations can also be made from the floor at the Annual Meeting.

When vacancies occur in the Board of Directors for any cause, the vacancy may be filled by the vote of a majority of the Directors then in office. Each Director so elected will serve until the next annual meeting and until such Director's successor is elected.

Any Director may be removed without cause by the vote of two-thirds of the Members entitled to vote at an election of Directors.

Any Director may resign at any time by giving written notice to the chairperson(s) or secretary-treasurer. The resignation will take effect at the time specified therein, and, unless otherwise specified therein, the acceptance of such resignation will not be necessary to make it effective.

Article 5. Committees

The Board of the RLC is empowered to create committees and to delegate responsibility and authority to said committees, as it deems appropriate, including an Executive Committee of the Board, which would have all powers of the Board when the Board is not meeting. The Executive Committee, if created, would be made up of the Chair of the RLC, the Secretary-Treasurer of the RLC, and three (3) members of the Board of Directors chosen by the Board of Directors at the annual meeting.

The chairperson(s) of the RLC shall appoint all other committees and committee chairpersons.

The Nominating Committee shall consist of five persons including men and women, and clergy and laity. It shall nominate persons for consideration as members of the Board of Directors and shall submit its nominees at the annual meeting.

Article 6. Authority

No member or officer of the RLC shall be authorized to execute contracts, to make or receive loans or to enter into any other legal obligation on behalf of the RLC without the approval of a majority the Board of Directors or a majority of the membership of the RLC.

Article 7. Parliamentary Authority

The guideline for parliamentary procedure at all meetings of the RLC will be the latest edition of Robert's Rules of Order.

Article 8. Amendments

These bylaws may be amended by a two-thirds majority of the members present and voting at any meeting of the RLC provided all members received notice of the proposed amendment at least fifteen (15) days in advance of said meeting.