

# FIRST PROTESTANT CHURCH

## Constitution and Bylaws





# **FIRST PROTESTANT CHURCH**

## **CONSTITUTION**

The following Constitution and Bylaws for First Protestant Church in New Braunfels, Texas has been amended, adopted and approved on December 5<sup>th</sup>, 2017.

It comes from the hearts and souls of the 305 original members beginning with laws of the Republic of Texas on October 15, 1845; and from their first service under the “Seele Elm Tree” on Good Friday, March 21, 1845; and from the present commitment of all its members to the everlasting Gospel of Jesus Christ.

And so, conforming with the words of the Apostle Paul in 1 Corinthians 14:40, “But all things should be done decently and in order “ let us, as members of First Protestant Church of New Braunfels, Texas pledge ourselves to observe all various provisions contained herein.

We affirm the following:

- The Trinitarian name of God – Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.
- God has revealed Himself fully and decisively as attested in Holy Scripture. We believe the Bible, consisting of the Old and New Testaments, to be the inspired and authoritative Word of God. The Scriptures are the guide of faith and life.
- There is only one way to salvation – through Jesus Christ.
- The sanctity of human life at every stage based on our creation in the image of God and our election by God for service in His kingdom.
- The Biblical guidelines for human sexuality: marriage as the union of one man and one woman, chastity outside of marriage, lifelong fidelity and holiness in marriage for the sake of the kingdom.
- That the mission of the Church is to spread the good news of the Gospel of salvation in every word and deed. We are sent by Christ into all the world to bring every person into a life of faith, discipleship and submission to the Lordship of Jesus Christ.
- It claims as its own, the faith of the historic Church expressed in the ancient creeds and reclaimed in the basic insights of the Protestant Reformers, i.e., the Apostles’ and Nicene Creed and the “Solas” of the Reformation – Scripture alone, Grace alone, Faith alone, Christ alone, for the Glory of God alone.
- In accordance with the teaching of our Lord and practice prevailing among evangelical Christians, it recognizes two sacraments: Baptism and the Lord’s Supper or Holy Communion.

## **ARTICLE 1**

### **NAME**

The name of this Church will be First Protestant Church located in New Braunfels, Comal County, Texas.

## **ARTICLE 2**

### **MISSION AND PURPOSE**

First Protestant Church of New Braunfels exists to worship and proclaim to the world that Jesus Christ is Lord. We will serve others and make disciples for Christ in New Braunfels and to the ends of the earth.

## **ARTICLE 3**

### **FAITH AND COVENANT**

#### **3.1 Faith**

This Church acknowledges as its sole Head, Jesus Christ, the Son of God and the only Savior. It acknowledges, as brothers and sisters in Christ, all who share in this confession.

#### **3.2 Covenant**

We covenant one with another to seek and respond to the Word and the will of God and to walk together in the ways of the Lord, made known to us. We hold it to be the mission of the Church to witness to the Gospel of Jesus Christ in all the world, while worshipping God and striving for truth, justice and peace. As did our church forebearers, we depend on the Holy Spirit to lead and empower us. We pray for the coming of the kingdom of God and we look with faith toward the triumph of righteousness and eternal life.

## **ARTICLE 4**

### **POLITY**

#### **4.1 Local Congregation**

This Church will be an independent local congregation of Christian believers. First Protestant Church seeks ways to be a part of the wider body of Christ through involvement, in the Evangelical Association of Reformed and Congregational Christian Churches, networks, organizations, and associations of Christians. Any and all involvement with the wider church entities will be instituted and/or terminated by a majority vote of a duly called congregational meeting upon the recommendation of the Church Council. The Church Council designates the representative corporate member to the Evangelical Association.

#### **4.2 Government**

The government of this Church is vested in its members, assembled in meeting duly and legally called, who exercise the right of control in all its affairs, subject however, to and in compliance with the statutory provisions of the “Texas Non-Profit Act.” The vote of a majority of members present at the meeting will be the action of the Church. A quorum will consist of that number of members present at any duly called meeting of the congregation.

#### **4.3 Spiritual and Business Needs**

First Protestant Church functions as a “staff directed, council protected” model of governance. The Senior Minister provides leadership in developing, communicating, and implementing First Protestant Church’s vision.

The business of the Church must be conducted in a manner that is consistent with the spiritual mission of the Church. The Organization Chart, Exhibit A, establishes the general lines of authority clearly showing the relationship of the spiritual and business responsibilities.

## **ARTICLE 5**

### **MEMBERSHIP**

#### **5.1 Membership**

Membership of this Church will be as stated in Article 3 in the Bylaws.

#### **5.2 Responsibilities of Membership**

The responsibilities of membership are: to live a Christian life, to seek the spiritual well-being of the congregation and all people, to attend the regular worship services of the Church and the celebration of the Lord's Supper, to contribute financially to its support, and to share in its organized work.

#### **5.3 Right to Voice and Vote**

All members will have the right to voice and vote in transactions of the Church, to represent the congregation on Church Council, boards, committees and organizations, except as otherwise provided.

## **ARTICLE 6**

### **WORSHIP SERVICES**

#### **6.1 Services of Worship**

Services of worship will be held at stated hours each Sunday, except when temporarily suspended by the Ministers. Other services of worship will be arranged by the Ministers as deemed necessary.

#### **6.2 Sacrament of the Lord's Supper or Holy Communion**

The Sacrament of the Lord's Supper or Holy Communion will be celebrated regularly as determined by the Ministers.

### **6.3 Baptism**

The Baptism of children or adults will be observed, preferably in a public service of worship, at such time as the Ministers will deem necessary.

## **ARTICLE 7**

### **MINISTERS**

Only ordained Christian ministers who have a full ecclesiastical standing with the Evangelical Association of Reformed and Congregational Christian Churches and have graduated from an accredited college or university and an accredited graduate school of theology may serve this church.

## **ARTICLE 8**

### **THE CHURCH COUNCIL**

#### **8.1**

The Church Council, which is elected by the congregation, reflects the character of the congregation.

#### **8.2**

The Council's role is to listen reflectively and assure that our ministries and programs remain true to our Mission Statement, values and vision for the future. The Council stays informed, makes certain decisions, and reviews the budget according to Bylaw 5.7. Council decisions are communicated in the church newsletter, the Sunday bulletin, or via electronic media by the President of the Church Council or the Senior Minister.

#### **8.3**

The Church Council will be the policy-making body of this Church between annual meetings, with responsibility for the planning and administration of the total Church mission. Such

implementation of programs will be done in conjunction with the designated Boards of the Church as set forth in Article 5 and Article 6 of the Bylaws.

## **ARTICLE 9**

### **AMENDMENTS**

#### **9.1 Constitution and Bylaws**

The Constitution and Bylaws may be amended, repealed, or altered in whole or in part, at any duly-called congregational meeting by a two-thirds affirmative vote of the members present. A public announcement of the text of the proposed amendment will be made two weeks prior to the meeting.

#### **9.2 Constitutional Review**

A Constitution Review Committee will be appointed by the Church Council. This Committee will review the Constitution and Bylaws for proposed amendments and alterations. The Review Committee will act as the interpretive body of the Constitution.

## **ARTICLE 10**

### **PARLIAMENTARY AUTHORITY**

Robert's Rules of Order will be the parliamentary authority for all matters of procedure not specifically covered by this Constitution and/or Bylaws.



## **BYLAWS**

### **ARTICLE 1**

#### **OFFICIAL YEAR**

The official year, including all appointed and elected offices and the Church's fiscal operation will be January 1<sup>st</sup> through December 31<sup>st</sup>.

### **ARTICLE 2**

#### **CONGREGATIONAL MEETING**

##### **2.1 Annual Meeting**

There will be one annual meeting of the congregation, the date and time of which is to be determined by the Church Council. The annual meeting of the congregation will be limited to:

- a) Election of Council Members of the Church;
- b) Election of Board Members, Officers of the Church, Nominating Committee Chair and members;
- c) Election (as necessary) of delegates, representatives, and/or participants of any wider church entities to which this congregation may, at any time, choose to belong to or participate in;
- d) Presentation of annual financial report and approval of the Church budget; and
- e) Reviewing and discussing other items of business as determined by the Church Council.

Only members will be entitled to vote at any congregational meeting.

##### **2.2 Special Congregational Meetings**

Special congregational meetings may be called by the Senior Minister, Church Council, or upon written request of 20% of the membership of the congregation as defined under Article 5.1 of the Constitution, including reason for request. The Church Council will issue a call for such a meeting within two weeks after the request has been received. Proper notice will be given of the time, place, and purpose of a special congregational meeting. Only such business as has been mentioned in the call may be transacted at such special meeting.

### **2.3 All Congregational Meetings**

All meetings of the congregation will be announced in services of Worship on two successive Sundays prior to the meeting, by written notice mailed to all members or via electronic media at least two weeks prior to such meetings.

## **ARTICLE 3**

### **MEMBERSHIP**

A person may become a member after consultation with the Senior Minister by:

- a) affirmation of faith;
- b) re-affirmation of faith, if membership in this or another church has been allowed to lapse;
- c) letter of transfer from another Christian fellowship;
- d) baptism and rite of confirmation after a period of instructions.

Any membership within the framework of faith and commitment indicated in this Constitution and its Bylaws will be received by the congregation in a Service of Worship.

Any member who desires a letter of transfer and recommendation to another church is entitled to receive it upon request. Letters of transfer will be given only to a specific Christian Fellowship.

Active membership rolls are maintained in the church office.

## **ARTICLE 4**

### **STAFF**

#### **4.1 General**

The Church Council will provide for an adequate staff to accomplish the primary mission of the Church. The Organizational Chart, Exhibit A, identifies all major staff positions, both ministerial and administrative.

- a) With the exception of the Senior Minister, all ministerial members of staff will be approved by the Church Council as recommended and approved by the Senior Minister.

- b) Administrative members and support staff will be employed by the Business Manager with approval of the Senior Minister.
- c) Salary and/or hourly wages and benefits for all staff members will be provided for in the Council/Congregation approved annual budget and will be coordinated and approved by the Senior Minister and the Business Manager.

## **4.2 Staff Positions**

### **a) Senior Minister**

The Senior Minister is the recognized spiritual leader of the Church, responsible for the planning, organization and its effective operation in the attainment of the mission of First Protestant Church as specifically noted in Article 2 of the Constitution.

- 1) The Senior Minister will be called for an indefinite time by a 90% affirmative vote of those present at an official meeting of the congregation of the Church. At the earliest opportunity, the Senior Minister will become a member of First Protestant Church.
- 2) The Senior Minister will be an ex-officio member of the Church Council, all boards and committees of the Church, with voting privileges. Other members of the ministerial staff will have voting privileges on their assigned boards, departments and committees.
- 3) No other minister will perform any function within the congregation without the consent of the Senior Minister. While the term of the Senior Minister will be indefinite, the Church may, at any time by a two-thirds vote of those present at an official Congregational Meeting called for the purpose of termination, request his or her resignation with the expectation that it will be presented within sixty days.
- 4) The Senior Minister will give a minimum sixty days notice in the case he or she wishes to leave of his or her own volition.
- 5) In the call, the terms of the relationship will be stated, including the agreement of the Church to participate in a pension fund, a suitable health insurance program, and other terms agreed upon by the candidate and the Church Council.
- 6) When a vacancy occurs on the part of the Senior Minister, the Executive Committee of the Church Council will be responsible for determining whether to

use internal resources (a search committee selected from church members) and if determined by council with the assistance of external sources (a professional ministerial search firm) in the replacement of the Senior Minister.

**b) Associate Ministers**

- 1) The Church Council, in cooperation with the Senior Minister, selects and dismisses all other Ministers. Other Ministers will include, but not be limited to, the Minister of Congregational Life and Pastoral Care and an Associate Minister. Specific duties will be provided cooperatively by the Church Council and the Senior Minister. At the earliest opportunity, the Associate Ministers will become members of the Church.
- 2) In the temporary absence of the Senior Minister, the Associate Ministers will assume the pastoral duties of the Senior Minister. They will not be required to attend and participate in additional committee memberships or Church Council.
- 3) When a vacancy occurs, a five member committee, consisting of four members from the congregation selected by the President of the Church Council and approved by the Church Council, plus the Senior Minister, as the fifth member of this committee, will institute a search for a replacement.

**c) Minister or Director of Christian Education**

- 1) The Church Council, in cooperation with the Senior Minister, selects and dismisses the Ministers or Directors of Christian Education. These may include but are not limited to, Director of Children's Ministries, Director of Youth Ministries, and the Director of Adult Ministries. Specific duties and responsibilities will be provided by the Senior Minister.
- 2) At the earliest opportunity, the Ministers or Directors of Christian Education will become members of the Church. The Ministers or Directors of Christian Education will be under the guidance of the Senior Minister.

**d) Minister of Music and Fine Arts**

The Church Council, in cooperation with the Board of Music and Fine Arts and the Senior Minister, selects and dismisses the Minister of Music and Fine Arts. Specific duties and responsibilities will be provided cooperatively by the Church Council and the Senior Minister.

**e) Members of the Administrative Staff**

- 1) The Business Manager, in cooperation with the Senior Minister and President of the Church Council, selects and dismisses the administrative and support staff.
- 2) In general, the Business Manager will be responsible for all administrative and support staff in successful management of all church business operations.

**ARTICLE 5**

**THE CHURCH COUNCIL AND EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE**

**5.1 Purpose and Responsibilities**

The Church Council will be the duly elected representatives of the Church membership to direct the planning, administrative and legal affairs of the Church. Delegation of specific Council approved responsibilities may be given to Council's Executive Committee.

**5.2 Membership**

The Church Council will consist of twelve (12) members, elected or appointed as follows:

- a) Eleven (11) elected by congregation as follows:
  - President
  - Vice President
  - Secretary
  - Treasurer – Chair of the Board of Finance
  - Seven (7) at large members
- b) Senior Minister – ex officio – (voting)

**5.3 Nominations and Elections**

The Church Council officers and at-large members will be elected at an annual meeting of the congregation, with nomination and election to be conducted as follows:

- a) The Nominating Committee of the Church will nominate a person for each office to be filled. Public notice of such nominations will be as stated in Article 2.3. Additional

nominations may be made from the floor, but the consent to serve by such nominee must have been obtained in advance of the meeting.

- b) Nominations made from the floor must specify the position for which the nomination is being made.

#### **5.4 Terms of Office**

- a) Church Council members (officers and at-large members) will be elected for a three year term or until their successors have taken office. They may succeed themselves in office for one additional elective term. A simple majority of the votes cast by the congregational members present will elect.
- b) When elected, the newly elected members will be publicly installed on a Sunday agreed upon by the Church Council and Ministry staff.
- c) Vacancies on the Church Council will be filled by the Church Council.

#### **5.5 Officers and Duties**

##### **The Officers of the Church Council**

##### **1) The President**

The President will preside at all meetings, will have general supervision of the affairs of the Church, will sign or countersign all contracts and other instruments of the Church as authorized by the Church Council, will make reports to the Church Council and members, and perform all such duties as are incident to this office or properly required by him/her of the Church Council.

##### **2) The Vice President**

In the absence or disability of the President, the Vice President will exercise all functions of the President.

##### **3) The Secretary**

The Secretary will issue notices for all meetings, keep the minutes, have charge of the seal and corporate books, sign with the President such instruments which require such signatures, and make such reports and perform such other duties as are incident to his/her office or are properly required of him/her by the Church Council.

#### **4) The Treasurer**

The Treasurer will sign or countersign such instruments which require his/her signature and will perform all duties incident to his/her office or that are properly required of him/her by the Church Council. The Treasurer also serves as the Chair of the Board of Finance, coordinating all financial board policy with Church Council and the Business Manager.

#### **5.6 Executive Committee**

- a) The Executive Committee will consist of the Church Council offices: President, Vice President, Secretary, Treasurer, and the Senior Minister.
- b) The Executive Committee will directly represent the Church Council in all matters as specifically directed by the Church Council. With Church Council approval, the Executive Committee will have all authority of Church Council as indicated in the Constitution and in these Bylaws.
- c) The Executive Committee will receive and review monthly financial reports. They may meet in special session on a call by the President of the Church Council or the Senior Minister.

#### **5.7 Church Council Meeting**

- a) The Church Council will meet in regular session at least once every quarter (4 meetings per year) for the normal transactions of Church business as may properly come before it. Special meetings may be called by the President of the Church Council or the Senior Minister.
- b) The regular order of business at meetings of the Church Council and meetings of the congregation will be in accordance with Robert's Rules of Order.
- c) Church Council members may be replaced, upon review by the Executive Committee, if not participating or absent from at least 50% of the scheduled yearly meetings.

## **ARTICLE 6**

### **BOARDS OF THE CHURCH**

#### **6.1 Representation by Members**

All facets of Church life will be considered and represented by members of the congregation and working staff.

#### **6.2 Board Size**

Membership of each Board will be at least six (6) members.

#### **6.3 Ad-Hoc Committees**

Board Chairs may also appoint ad-hoc or other committees for specific board research or tasks.

#### **6.4 Staff Membership**

The Senior Minister and other staff ministers may also be members of boards.

#### **6.5 Established Boards**

The following Boards will be established:

- a) Board of Music and Fine Arts
- b) Board of Christian Education
- c) Board of Global Outreach
- d) Board of Contagious Christians
- e) Board of Pastoral Care
- f) Board of Finance
- g) Board of Hospitality

#### **6.6 Authorization**

Other Boards will be created as authorized by the Church Council.



## **6.7 Terms and Board Chairs**

Board Members will be elected for terms of three (3) years or until their successors have taken office. They may succeed themselves in office for one additional elective term, for a total time in service of six (6) years. They must be out of office for one (1) year before becoming eligible for election again. A simple majority of the votes cast will elect. When a vacancy occurs on the board, the board is responsible for filling the vacancy.

Board Chairs will be elected by the membership of the specific board. Any and all expenditures made by a board shall be in accordance with Church policy and State and Federal laws.

### **a) Board of Music and Fine Arts**

- 1) The Board of Music and Fine Arts will work with the ministerial staff in the evaluation, planning and development of the corporate worship life of the Church with regard to music and fine arts.
- 2) This Board will coordinate a cooperative partnership of fine arts in the expression of our Christian faith through the use of music, drama, and other aspects from the creative and performing arts to enhance corporate worship.
- 3) This Board is responsible to the staff in serving the congregation at times when the Church is called to perform weddings and funerals and to serve as counsel when establishing policies relating to these and other special rites.
- 4) This Board will strive to expand the music and fine arts ministry throughout the membership of First Protestant Church using music that embodies the fundamental purpose of worship through musical, dramatic, and visual expressions of our praise, repentance, and offerings.
- 5) This Board will plan music and fine arts to enhance significant days of the liturgical year including, but not limited to, Advent, Christmas, Lent, and Easter. Further, this Board will plan to enhance special events that are a part of the community.

### **b) Board of Christian Education**

- 1) The Board of Christian Education will work in concert with the Ministers, the Director of Youth Ministries and the Director of Children's Ministries to promote and facilitate the church's educational ministries (Sunday School, small groups,

youth ministry, children's ministry, etc.) so that persons of all ages may be led into a deeper relationship with Jesus Christ and with the global Christian community.

**c) Board of Global Outreach**

- 1) The Board of Global Outreach will promote and facilitate the church's local and global mission's vision, determine strategic priorities and procedures and allocate resources for the fulfillment of the mission's vision.
- 2) The Board will consist of a pastoral advisor, global area leaders and apprentices (Jerusalem [local], Judea/Samaria [Texas/Nation], Ends of the Earth [rest of the World]) and support team leaders and apprentices as necessary.

**d) Board of Contagious Christians**

- 1) The Board of Contagious Christians will work with the Associate Minister as a catalyst to ignite, empower, and focus the desire of every member of First Protestant Church to impact their world toward a personal relationship with Jesus Christ.
- 2) The Board will meet as needed to explore creative and relevant means to fulfill its constitutional mission.
- 3) This Board will serve as a suggestion pool for ideas of effective community outreach that First Protestant Church can do for the purpose of evangelism.

**e) Board of Pastoral Care**

- 1) The Board of Pastoral Care will work with the Minister of Congregational Life and Pastoral Care and the Director of Lay Ministry in developing the pastoral care ministry of the Church for members of all ages.
- 2) This Board will assist in developing the lay ministry program of the Church in the area of pastoral care. There will be teams of lay ministers in areas such as shut-in ministry, caregiver ministry, and hospital visitation, to assist the Ministers in emergencies.

**f) Board of Finance**

- 1) The Board of Finance will work closely with the Business Manager, the Senior Minister, and the Church Council in developing the financial needs of First Protestant Church which are presented to the Church Council for approval.

- 2) This Board will develop an on-going annual stewardship program.
- 3) The Board will prepare a comprehensive Annual Budget for all Church operations, providing for a monthly update of financial condition of the Church's operations.
- 4) This Board will develop and supervise special funding requirements as approved by the Church Council and/or the congregation, such as loans, bond programs, etc.

**g) Board of Hospitality**

- 1) The Board of Hospitality will develop and promote a meaningful and sincere sense of belonging to the local church through participation in fellowship activities and groups.
- 2) The Board will work directly with the Director of Volunteer Ministries.

**ARTICLE 7**

**FIRST PROTESTANT SCHOOL**

**7.1 Mission**

The First Protestant School will be an on-going Christian mission of First Protestant Church, encompassing on-going Christian values with a caring, professional, instructional program including an after-school program.

**7.2 First Protestant School Director**

The First Protestant School Director will be directly responsible to the Business Manager and will be responsible for the First Protestant School's management and administration of the program in full coordination with the Senior Minister.

**7.3 Financial Records**

Separate financial records will be kept and will be included with the monthly financial reports.

**7.4 Operating Budget**

A yearly operating budget will be developed and coordinated through the Business Manager.

## **7.5 Hiring of First Protestant School Director**

The First Protestant School Director will be hired by the Business Manager and the Senior Minister.

## **7.6 Hiring of other staff of First Protestant School**

Other staff of First Protestant School will be hired by the First Protestant School Director in accordance with the Texas Department of Protective and Regulatory Service and job description requirement.

# **ARTICLE 8**

## **THE NOMINATING COMMITTEE**

### **8.1 Membership**

The Nominating Committee will be elected at the Annual Meeting for three year terms that are rotating so that two members will be elected each year. The Senior Minister is a member of the Nominating Committee with full voting privileges. The remainder of the committee is composed of five members plus the chairperson. No member other than the Senior Minister will serve more than six years on the Nominating Committee.

### **8.2 Duties**

This committee will prepare nominations for members and officers of the Church Council, delegates, and members of the Nominating Committee for the subsequent year to be elected at the Annual Meeting. Such nominations will be printed in accordance with Article 2, Section 3, and Article 5, Section 3 of the Bylaws.

# **ARTICLE 9**

## **FINANCE**

### **9.1 Tax ID Number**

First Protestant Church is a non-profit corporation being granted a nontaxable status of 501 (c) 3, ID #74-1189690.

## **9.2 Deposits**

All monies of the First Protestant Church will be deposited in the name of First Protestant Church in all appropriate and approved accounts in accredited banks, financial institutions, or investment instruments.

## **9.3 Financial Responsibility**

The Business Manager will be responsible for all financial operations through the Church Council, Executive Committee, and Board of Finance.

## **9.4 Signature Authority**

All checks for expended funds will have at least two authorized signatures as approved by the Church Council. Generally, the following personnel will have authorization to sign:

- a) Business Manager
- b) Treasurer
- c) President of Church Council

## **9.5 Audits**

All financial records will be audited at least once each year or as often as the Church Council may deem necessary, by a committee of three members of First Protestant Church appointed by the President, or the task may be performed by a qualified audit firm if directed by the Church Council.

## **9.6 Debt Approval**

It will be noted that the congregation must approve all incurred debt, such as loans, bond sales, etc.

## **ARTICLE 10**

### **PROPERTY**

#### **10.1 Corporate Name**

First Protestant Church may, in its corporate name, acquire by purchase, gift, device, bequest, or otherwise own, hold, invest, reinvest, or dispose of property both real and personal for such work as First Protestant Church may undertake, and may purchase, own, receive, hold, manage, care for, and transfer, rent, lease, mortgage, or otherwise encumber, sell, assign, transfer, and convey such property for the general purpose of First Protestant Church, and sue or be sued. It may receive and hold in trust both real and personal property and invest and reinvest the same and make contracts for promoting the objects and purposes of First Protestant Church. The purchase or sale of any real estate must be approved by the congregation at the regular or special called meeting.

#### **10.2 Dissolution of First Protestant Church**

Upon dissolution of First Protestant Church, its assets and all property and interests of which will then be possessed, including any device, bequest, gift, or grant contained in any will or other instrument, in trust or otherwise made before or after such dissolution, will be transferred to another Christian entity or charity by a majority vote of the congregation at a meeting called for said purpose.

## **ARTICLE 11**

### **POWER TO PASS BYLAWS**

The Church Council does not have the power to amend, alter, or repeal the Bylaws, but may recommend such additional Bylaws in conformity therewith as may be necessary or convenient to facilitate the business of First Protestant Church in accordance with Article 9 of the Constitution.

## **ARTICLE 12**

### **CORPORATE OFFICE**

The principal office of First Protestant Church will be in New Braunfels, Comal County, Texas.

## **ARTICLE 13**

### **SOCIETIES AND ORGANIZATIONS**

All societies and organizations of First Protestant Church are under the direct control of the Church Council.

Exhibit A.





