

**AMENDED AND RESTATED BYLAWS OF NORTHPARK PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
OCTOBER 1, 2011**

I. Statement of Mission

Northpark Presbyterian Church has been called by God and organized to proclaim the good news of Jesus Christ, to minister to the needs of members of the congregation and residents of the community, and to promote peace and justice in the world.

II. Relation to the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.)

Northpark Presbyterian Church is a member church of the Presbytery of Grace in the Synod of the Sun of the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.).

III. Governance of the Church

This church shall be governed in accordance with the *Constitution of the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.)*. Consistent with that *Constitution*, these bylaws shall provide specific guidance for this church. The current version of *Roberts Rules of Order* shall be used for parliamentary guidance.

IV. Meetings of the Congregation

There shall be an annual meeting of the congregation ordinarily in January, to review the adequacy of the compensation of the pastor(s) and to transact any other business that may come before such meeting. (G-1.0501)

Special meetings may be called by the Session, by the Presbytery, or by the Session when requested in writing by one fourth of the active members on the roll of the congregation. Such calls shall state clearly the purpose of such meetings, and business shall be restricted to that which is specified in the call. (G-1.0501; G-1.0502)

V. Notice of Meetings

Public notice of the time, place, and purpose of all congregational meetings shall be given at two successive regular services of worship prior to the meeting. (G-1.0502)

VI. Moderator

The pastor shall moderate the meetings. If the pastor and the Session agree that the subjects to be discussed require it, or if the pastor is ill or otherwise unable to be present, he or she shall invite another teaching elder to serve as moderator. If there is not an installed pastor, the presbytery shall make provision for a moderator. (G-1.0504)

VII. Secretary

The clerk of Session shall serve as secretary. If the clerk is not present or is unable to serve, the Session shall elect a clerk pro tem. In the event the Session has not designated a secretary pro tem prior to the meeting, the Moderator shall designate a qualified member of Session to act as secretary.

VIII Minutes of the Meeting

The minutes of the meeting shall be recorded by the secretary and recorded in the minute book of the Session. (G-1.0505)

IX. Quorum for the Meeting

The quorum of a meeting of the congregation for ecclesiastical business shall be the moderator, the secretary, and 10% of the active members of the congregation. For all purposes of these bylaws, an active member shall be as defined in G-1.042 of the Form of Government (as amended or modified). All active members shall be entitled to vote at meetings of the church corporation. Consistent with the laws of the State of Texas for corporate business, a quorum shall be 51% of active members. The secretary shall determine that a quorum is present. All active members of the congregation present at either annual or special meetings are entitled to vote. (G-1.0501. Neither voting by proxy, nor cumulative voting for officers is allowed.

Consistent with the laws of this state, both ecclesiastical and corporate business may be conducted at the same meeting of the congregation. (G-1.0503).

X. Nominating Committee (See G-2.0401)

The congregation shall form a nominating committee in the following manner:

- (1) There shall be three active members of the congregation on the nominating committee.
- (2) One of the members shall be a ruling elder who is currently serving on the Session.
- (3) The pastor shall be a member ex officio and without vote.

(4) Full opportunity shall always be given to the congregation for nominations from the floor of the congregational meeting by any active member of the congregation (provided that the person nominated has confirmed beforehand that he or she will serve if elected).

- (5) A majority of all active members present and voting shall be required to elect.

XI. Ruling Elders

The congregation shall elect twelve ruling elders divided into three equal classes, one class of whom shall be elected each year at a congregational meeting before the end of the year for a three-year term. No elder shall serve for consecutive terms, either full or partial, aggregating more than six years. An elder having served a

total of six years shall be ineligible for reelection to the Session for a period of at least one year, except that an elder, having served a partial term, is immediately eligible to be elected to a full term.

The Session, at its first meeting in January, shall elect an elder to serve as clerk (who does not have to be currently serving on Session) and shall form such committees and commissions as necessary to carry out its work. At that same meeting of the Session, the Session shall annually elect a treasurer. A quorum for the Session shall be the pastor or other presiding officer and one third of the elders.

XII. Deacons

The congregation shall elect eighteen deacons divided into three equal classes, one class of whom shall be elected each year at a congregational meeting for a three-year term. The Board of Deacons, as so constituted, shall function under the supervision and authority of the Session in performing its duties and responsibilities.

The board of deacons, at its first meeting in January, shall elect a moderator and a secretary from among its members and shall form such committees as necessary to carry out its work.

The pastor shall be an advisory member of the board of deacons. A quorum for the board of deacons shall be one third of the members, including the moderator.

XIII. Vacancies

Vacancies on the Session or the board of deacons may be filled at a special meeting of the congregation or at the annual meeting, as the Session may determine.

XIV. Corporate Officers

The Session, where required or permitted by the Book of Order and Texas law, shall select officers to act on behalf of the Church, all subject to the ultimate authority of the Session. G-4.01.

V. Amendments

These bylaws may be amended subject to the Articles of Incorporation, the laws of the state of Texas and the *Constitution of the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.)* by a majority vote of the active members present, providing that the proposed changes in printed form shall have been distributed at the same time as the call of the meeting at which the changes are voted upon.

Adopted at a meeting of the congregation of Northpark Presbyterian Church on the ____ day of _____, 201__.

Brent Barry
Pastor and Moderator

Clerk of Session