



Sanger Bible Church

CONSTITUTION

Sanger Bible Church
Sanger Texas

November 2025



Sanger Bible Church
Sanger, Texas 76266, United States
Internet Address: <https://SangerBibleChurch.org>

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PREAMBLE

This Constitution is intended to apply Biblical concept, the laws of the State of Texas, and the United States of America to the establishment, structure, and function of *Sanger Bible Church*. This is an understanding of how we contextualize and apply Biblical truth within our cultural reality.

*Be diligent to present yourself approved to God
as a workman who does not need to be ashamed,
Accurately handing the word of truth.*

2 Timothy 2:15

ARTICLE I: NAME & LOCATION

Section A: Name

As stated in the *Articles of Incorporation*, the name of the corporation and the Church shall be *Sanger Bible Church* (the Church).

Section B: Mailing Address

Until such time as the Church finds its own property its mailing address is:

Sanger Bible Church
PO Box 613
1008 N 5th St,
Sanger, TX 76266

Section C: Location

Until such time as the Church finds its own property it will be meeting at:

KOA Sanger / Denton North KOA Journey
13037 I-35,
Sanger, TX 76266

ARTICLE II: PURPOSE OF THE CHURCH

- **Teaching:** To teach the Bible, so the man and woman of God maybe perfect, and able to teach others also (2 Timothy 2:2, 15; 3:14-17).
- **Coaching/Discipleship:** To encourage to do what we don't want to do, so that we can win the crown of life which God has prepared for us (James 1:12; Revelation 2:10).
- **Worship:** To worship the Most-High God through praise, prayer, the ordinances, preaching and teaching the Word of God (Acts 2:42; Colossians 3:16-17).
- **Service:** to provide opportunities for service that will confirm God's purpose and the Holy Spirit's giftedness in their life (1 Corinthians 12:7; Ephesians 4:7).
- **Outreach:** To share Christ at home and abroad (Acts 1:8)

ARTICLE III: GOVERNMENT

The Lord Jesus Christ is the one building His Church (Matthew 16:18). The purpose of *Sanger Bible Church* is to join Him in this process. The Lord Jesus Christ the Head of the Church (Ephesians 1:22; 5:23; Colossians 1:18). We seek His guidance through the direction of the Holy Spirit (John 16:13).

We believe Jesus Christ guides *Sanger Bible Church* through men called especially for the purpose. *Sanger Bible Church* comprises both a spiritual body (the Church) and a legal body (the Corporation). The Board of Elders (cf. Article 4) are the overseers of the spiritual body (1 Timothy 5:17; Hebrews 13:17; 1 Peter 5:1-3). Select men on the Board of Elders will serve as Trustees of the Corporation (Romans 13:1; Titus 3:1).

ARTICLE IV: LEADERSHIP

The leadership of the Church is the Board of Elders and the Board of Directors. The corporate Officers of the Church are the Chairman, Vice Chairman, Secretary, and Treasure. The Board of Elders has the final oversight on all areas and aspects of the Church. The Board of Elders shall appoint such other officers as deemed necessary.

ARTICLE V: RESPONSIBILITIES OF ELDERS & DIRECTORS

Section A: Elders

The Bibles uses the terms *elders*, *overseers*, *shepherds* synonymously to identify and describe the same position in the church (Acts 20:17 & 28). *Sanger Bible Church* recognizes that the Biblical teaching concerning elders, overseers, and shepherds refer to the same person.

The Elders shall be responsible:

- For oversight of all the Church ministries and programs.
- The spiritual and physical pastoral care of the Church.
- The maintenance of the Biblical, theological, and doctrinal purity of the Church.
- The approval of all teaching, ministry, and leadership positions in the Church.
- The administration of the ordinances of the Church.
- Discipline in the Church in accordance with the Word of God.
- Approval of all programs used within the Church.

The Elders are responsible for the total operation of the Church, including but not limited to its ministries, organization, committees, finances, physical properties, and other temporal matters. The Board of Elders shall function only under the headship of Christ and the authority of the Word of God. Their decision-making process shall always be guided by clearly discerned Scriptural principles (1 Peter 5:2-6) .

Part 1. Decision making

All decisions will be made in a manner which preserves the principle of unity (Acts 15:25; Philippians 2:1-5). Since the Spirit has only one mind about any given decision, in the normal course of church ministry our goal is for all the elders to be of one mind in following the same Spirit (Phil. 2:2). Thus, we strive to be unanimous in all decisions. We endeavor to reach all decisions only after prayerful consideration and in a spirit of humility, with each elder regarding one another as more important than himself (Phil. 2:3-5).

However, we recognize that godly men sometimes differ (e.g., Acts 15:37-40). In the event we are unable to reach a unanimous decision with the first vote, we have unanimously agreed to use the following process.

VOTE 1:

- 1 If any matter receives a unanimous yes vote, then the elders' decision is yes, the matter is settled, and the motion should be carried out.
- 2 If a motion receives a greater than 25% no vote, the elders' decision is no, the motion should not be carried out, and the matter is settled (unless the elders agree to bring it up again at a later date for further consideration).
- 3 If any elder or elders vote no, but there are not enough no votes to settle the matter (that is, less than the required 25%), a second vote must be scheduled for a future meeting.
- 4 Before the second vote is taken, the dissenting elders (or elder) are responsible to gather additional information on the motion, engage in discussion with the key parties, and seek godly counsel. The board will grant these men as much time as reasonably necessary to review the matter. After sufficient time to consider the additional information, discussion, and counsel, the elders will then allow additional time for prayer for all. Again, the desire is that all decisions will be unanimous, and the elders will work in good faith toward that end.

5 Once the necessary time has been allowed, the elders will schedule a second vote on the matter.
VOTE 2:

- 1 If 75% of the elders vote yes, then the elders' decision is yes, and the matter is settled.
- 2 If less than 75% of the elders vote yes, then the decision is no, and the matter is settled.
- 3 The elders agree that a decision will be final after the second vote.

Part 2. Statement of Unity:

Any decision finalized after following this process will be a unified yes or no decision by the entire board. All elders agree to be unified in the final decision, in public and in private, even though the final decision may not reflect their personal preference.

Part 3: Positions

The following Church and Corporate official will be Elders. All qualifications, terms, duties, and responsibilities of an Elder applies to these officials.

Senior Pastor: The Senior Pastor is a member of the Elder Board. The Senior Pastor is the only member of the Elder Board who cannot serve as Chairman, Vice Chairman, Secretary, or Treasurer. The Senior Pastor is responsible for developing and communicating the vision of the Church, overseeing the day-to-day ministry of the Church, and general pastoral care of the congregation.

President (Chairman): The President of the Corporation, hereafter identified as the Chairman, will be a member of the elder board, meeting all qualifications and responsibilities of an elder. In addition, the Chairman will have the power to act on behalf of the Elder Board to discharge the duties of his office in a manner consistent with the Bylaws of *Sanger Bible Church*.

Vice Chairman: The Vice Chairman will be a member of the Elder Board meeting all qualifications and responsibilities of an Elder. In addition, the Vice Chairman will fill the role of Chairman in his absence. The Vice Chairman is the next in line to become the Chairman.

Secretary: The Secretary of the Corporation need not be an elder. The secretary's job is to attend all meeting of the Elders and business meeting of the Congregation. They shall take, record, and file, in the prescribed format the minutes of all meeting of the Elders and Business meeting of the Congregation

Treasurer: The Treasurer of the Corporation need not be an elder. Their responsibility is to provide oversight and accountability for all funds of the Church. They are responsible of accurate record keeping, the preparation, presentation, and filing of all monthly, and annual reports (Balance Sheet, Income Statements, Budgets, etc.).

Section B: Directors

The Director's role is one of administration and serving the flock (Acts 6:1-6; Philippians 1:1; 1 Timothy 3:8-13). The Directors shall have responsibilities as delegated by the Elders and share with the Elders in their ministries. Directors will meet with the Elders as required to forward the ministry of the Church.

ARTICLE VI: SELECTION OF ELDERS, DIRECTORS, & PASTORAL STAFF

Section A: Elders

Elders shall be added to their number based upon the Spirit-led recognition of a man's fulfillment of the Scriptural qualifications (1 Timothy 3:1-7; Titus 1:5-9; 1 Peter 5:1-4) and his awareness of the call of the Holy Spirit to serve. Any man who candidates for the Office of Elder shall be recommended to the membership for their consideration. The Board of Elders shall establish and maintain a written procedure for identifying,

qualifying, and approving new Elders. Such procedures shall be available for inspection by any member of *Sanger Bible Church* upon request. Upon approval of an Elder candidate by the Board of Elders, that man shall be presented to the Church as an Elder.

Section B: Directors ¹

Directors shall be added based upon the Spirit-led recognition of a man's fulfillment of the Scriptural qualifications (Acts 6:3, 5; 1 Timothy 3:8-13; 1 Peter 5:5) and his awareness of the call of the Holy Spirit to serve. Any man or woman who candidates for the office of Director shall be recommended to the membership for their consideration. The Board of Elders shall establish and maintain a written procedure for identifying, qualifying, and approving new Directors. Such procedures shall be available for inspection by any member of *Sanger Bible Church* upon request. Upon approval of a Director candidate by the Board of Elders, that man or woman shall be presented to the Church body as a Director.

The job of Director is service oriented. The Director's roles maybe but are not limited to administration, development, grounds and facilities, benevolence, finances, human resources, and ushers. Dirctors will often serve as committee leaders for the service committees of the Church.

Section C: Senior Pastor & Pastoral Staff

Pastoral staff may be hired to manage and administer various ministries within the church, such as the music ministry, or the youth ministry.

Any man or woman who is a candidate pastoral staff position shall be recommended by the Board of Elders to the church at a business meeting called for this purpose. Approval at that business meeting shall be by at least two-thirds (2/3) of the attending members. Final approval will be made by the Elders after consideration and closure of any open concerns that came to light during the process.

The pastoral staff shall be under the direct supervision of the senior pastor. Pastoral staff shall meet all the requirements of a Church member plus be approved by the Board of Elders of the Church.

Section D: Miscellaneous

All teachers and leadership of the Church shall be adult members of the Church and be in submission to the *Statement of Faith, Constitution, Bylaws*, and Elders of the Church.

ARTICLE VII: TERMS OF SERVICE OF LEADERSHIP POSITIONS

Each Elder, Director, and Pastoral Staff member, shall serve in perpetuity. They are expected to faithful discharge their duties of office, and full participate as a regularly attending member and supporter of *Sanger Bible Church*.

The terms of service for an Elder or Director may be terminated by resignation or disqualification as set forth in Article VIII. Their leadership term, all responsibilities, authorities, and privileges granted to the Elder, Director, or Pastor, shall cease on the date of resignation or knowledge of disqualification.

¹ That SBC we have chosen to the title *Director* instead of the Biblical terms' *deacon* or *deaconess*. We are an independent church with members that have come from a variety of denominations many of which have defined these terms in a variety of ways. To remove any ethnocentric meaning and focus on the Biblical meaning we have chosen to use the term *Directors* which in the western cultural defines the meaning intended by the Biblical writers.

An Elder or Director may resign from office. If they later desire to be reinstated, they must re-submit to the application/qualification process and be approved before they can resume the office. Any Elder or Director may take a voluntary bi-annual sabbatical of not more than ninety (90) consecutive days. If the sabbatical extends beyond ninety (90) days, he must re-candidate before resuming his former office.

ARTICLE VIII: REMOVAL OF ELDERS, DIRECTORS & PASTORAL STAFF

Resignation from any position must be submitted in writing to the Elder Board and may be accepted at any time. Vacancy in the Office of Senior Pastor will be filled in the above-described procedures as expeditiously as possible.

Any Elder, Director, or Pastoral Staff Member may be removed from office at any regular or special meeting of the Board of Elders if he is found to be physically or mentally incapacitated or spiritually unqualified (according to pertinent Scripture, including 1 Timothy 3:2-13 and Titus 1:5-9), after a thorough corroborating investigation by the Elders (or a duly appointed Committee of the Board), in accord with the procedures prescribed by pertinent Scripture, including Matthew 18:15-18 and 1 Timothy 5:19. When an Elder, Director, or Pastoral Staff Member is removed because of sin that is deemed sufficient to disqualify him from his office, and if he refuses to repent from that sin, the removal shall be accompanied by a public rebuke, and notice shall be made before the Church and the congregation thereof at a regularly-scheduled worship service as prescribed in 1 Timothy 5:20.

ARTICLE IX: BUSINESS MEETINGS OF THE CONGREGATION

Notice shall be given from the pulpit in at least two (2) consecutive Sunday morning services prior to a business meeting. Business meetings shall be called for member input.

Approval of the congregation by a vote of at least two-thirds (2/3) of adult members voting shall be required for the following:

- Purchase or sale of real estate,
- Filling of permanent full-time senior pastor position,
- Amendment of the Constitution or Statement of Faith,
- Any other matters provided herein, or any matters presented by the Elders for church vote

A business meeting shall be called by the Elders for any specified purpose.

Section A: Business Meeting

A Business Meeting shall be any meeting called to review any item designated in Article IX requiring congregational approval.

Section B: Voting

The privilege to vote is restricted to adult members of this Church. The Board of Elders shall determine the method of voting. Unless stated otherwise in this Constitution, a simple majority is required for the adoption of any resolution or motion.

ARTICLE X: MEMBERSHIP

Section A: Qualifications For Membership

Persons desiring to unite with *Sanger Bible Church* by profession of a personal faith in Jesus Christ as Savior shall be examined as to their Christian faith and experience. Membership requirements are:

- Belief in the finished atoning work of Christ for sin (John 3:16; Acts 4:12; Romans 5:8; Ephesians 5:2)
- Belief in the Bible as the only inspired, inerrant, sufficient, authoritative guide for life (2 Timothy 3:16)
- Submission to the Statement of Faith, Constitution, Bylaws of Sanger Bible Church
- Believer's baptism

Section B: Obligations of Membership

The members of the church shall be responsible for faithful support to the body of Christ, the Church (2 Corinthians 9:6-15; Hebrews 10:24-25), for submission to Church leadership (Hebrews 13:17; 1 Peter 5:5), and for a ministry of support and encouragement to one another (Galatians 6:2; Colossians 3:12-17).

Members are encouraged to contact any Elder if they wish to meet with the Board of Elders to discuss any matter of concern.

Section C: Types of Memberships

- **Adult members:** Age eighteen (18) year of age and over who have been accepted into membership, who adhere to the *Statement of Faith, Constitution, and Bylaws*, attend and support the Church faithfully, and are not under disciplinary restriction. Only adult member shall have the privilege to vote and hold office in the Church.
- **Youth members:** Those under the age of eighteen (18) year of age who have been accepted into membership, who adhere to the *Statement of Faith, Constitution, and Bylaws*, attend and support the Church faithfully, and are not under disciplinary restriction. Youth members do not have the right to vote or hold office in the Church.
- **Seasonal members:** Seasonal member only live in Sanger or the surrounding area for part of the year. These people may be accepted into membership, adhere to the *Statement of Faith, Constitution, and Bylaws*, attend and support the Church faithfully, and are not under disciplinary restriction. During their time in the Sanger area, they have privileges as full member. The only restriction being privileges that would be adversely affected because of their season availability.
- **Homebound members:** Member who by reason of age and/or health cannot attend regular services but who stay in fellowship by actively supporting the church, according to ability, with prayer, finances, and other membership responsibilities can be classified as homebound member by the Elders. Homebound members can expect regular visits from an Elder, Pastor, or member of the Church. Homebound members shall be granted voting privileges by absentee ballot.
- **Inactive members:** Members who have not been in attendance at the services of the Church or who cease to contribute to the support of the Church for three (3) consecutive months without just cause, as determined by the Elders, may be placed on the inactive membership list. Inactive members shall be notified by letter from the Elders. Inactive members desiring return to active status may make application to the Elders and may be reinstated, should the Elders deem that advisable. Members with inactive status forfeit privileges of active membership and do not have the right to vote or participate in business meetings. After one-year, inactive members may be removed from Church membership by the Elders and shall be notified by letter.

Section D: Membership Rolls

Membership rolls approved by the Board of Elders shall be maintained in the official Church records at all times. Members shall be designated:

- Adult members
- Youth members
- Seasonal members
- Homebound members
- Inactive members

Section E: Review of Membership

The Church staff shall review the membership rolls every five (5) years. Members who no longer meet the requirements for membership as outlined in Article X, Section A, shall be purged from the member roll after an affirmative vote by the Board of Elders.

Section F: Termination

Membership may be terminated for any of the following reasons: (1) voluntary termination at the request of any member in good standing; or (2) involuntary termination as a result of failing to regularly attend services of this church for at least twelve (12) months and not giving satisfactory explanation of such absence, as a result of discipline under Article XII, or renunciation of the faith.

ARTICLE XI: TEACHERS

Teachers must consent in writing to submit too and be bound by the *Statement of Faith, Constitution, Bylaws, Constitution*, and elders of *Sanger Bible Church*. All teachers must be approved by the Elder Board.

ARTICLE XII: CHURCH DISCIPLINE

Section A: Church Discipline

Part 1: Purpose

The threefold purpose of church discipline is (1) to glorify God by maintaining purity in the local church (1 Corinthians 5:6), (2) to edify believers by deterring sin (1 Timothy 5:20), and (3) to promote the spiritual welfare of the offending believer by calling him or her to return to a biblical standard of doctrine and conduct (Galatians 6:1) .

Part 2: Individuals

Members of the Church and all other professing Christians who regularly attend or fellowship with *Sanger Bible Church* who err in doctrine, or who engage in conduct that violates Scripture as determined by the Board of Elders, shall be subject to church discipline, including dismissal according to Matthew 18:15-18. Before such dismissal, however, (1) it shall be the duty of any member of the Church who has knowledge of the erring individual's heresy or misconduct to warn and correct such erring individual in private, seeking his or her repentance and restoration. If the erring individual does not heed this warning, then (2) the warning member shall again go to the erring individual, seeking his or her repentance, but accompanied by one or two individuals who shall confirm that the sin has occurred or is continuing to occur, and/or that the erring individual has been appropriately confronted and has refused to repent. The first and second warnings may occur with no specified time interval. If the erring individual still refuses to heed this warning, then (3) it shall be brought to the attention of the Board of Elders. If the Board of Elders determines-after thorough investigation in accord with the procedures prescribed by pertinent Scripture, including Matthew 18:15-18, 1 Timothy 5:19 that there is corroborating evidence that the erring individual has sinned or is continuing to sin, that he or she has been appropriately confronted, and that he or she has refused to repent, then the Elders shall inform the Church and the congregation thereof at a regularly scheduled worship service (or other appropriate Church gathering at the Elders' discretion) in order that the Church may call the erring individual to repentance. If the erring individual demonstrates repentance, then notice to that effect may be given at a regularly scheduled worship service (or other appropriate Church gathering at the elders' discretion). If, however, the erring individual does not repent in response to the Church in its collective call to repentance, then (4) he or she shall be publicly dismissed from the fellowship and/or membership of the Church and the congregation thereof at a regularly scheduled worship service (or other appropriate Church gathering at the

elders' discretion; in the case of non-members, the elders may choose, at their discretion, to follow the steps of Matthew 18 privately). If the erring individual, after such dismissal, heeds the warning, demonstrates repentance, and requests reinstatement before the Board of Elders (or duly appointed Committee of the Board, per the Bylaws, at the sole discretion of the Board), then he or she shall be publicly restored to all the rights, duties, privileges, and responsibilities of fellowship and/or membership.

Notwithstanding the foregoing, the Elders in the exercise of their discretion may proceed directly to the third stage of church discipline, (i. e. the informing of the church and the congregation thereof at a regularly scheduled worship service or other appropriate church gathering at the elders' discretion in order that the church may call the erring individual to repentance) or to the fourth stage of church discipline, (i. e. the dismissal from the fellowship and/or membership of the church) when one or more of the following have occurred;

- Where the transgression and the refusal to repent have been public, i.e. openly and to the offense of the whole Church (1 Corinthians 5:1-5);
- Where the disciplined party has taught or otherwise disseminated doctrine deemed false or erroneous by the elders, then chosen to disregard the direction and reproof of the elders (Romans 16:17); or
- Where the disciplined party has been warned twice to cease from factious and divisive conduct and has chosen to disregard that warning (Titus 3:10-11).

Part 3: Lawsuits

Since Scripture clearly prohibits lawsuits in secular courts against fellow Christians (I Corinthians 6:1-8), the members of this Church, and all other professing Christians who regularly attend or fellowship with this Church, agree that there shall be no appeal to any secular court because of the process of church discipline, including dismissal or public statements at the third or fourth stages of church discipline, when discipline is carried out in keeping with Matthew 18 and this article. A request to withdraw membership will not discontinue or alter the biblical process of church discipline once it has begun. Any request to withdraw membership under discipline will be pending until the steps our Lord commanded in Matthew 18 are complete.

Part 4: Separation

Separate and apart from the process of church discipline, but subject to the discretion and approval of the Elders (or a duly constituted subcommittee thereof) , a member, non-member, regular attendee, or other individual may be notified that he or she is not to be present upon Church premises for such a period of time as is deemed necessary for the safety and well-being of others on Church premises. Such required absence may, but need not, be concurrent with church discipline of that person.

Section B: Consideration Concerning Ministry Responsibilities

Protection of the flock as well as each individual will always be carefully considered by the Elders. Removal of the believer subject to church discipline from ministry responsibilities will be by the decision of the Elders and will always be necessary whenever a public confrontation is required. After restoration of fellowship for this believer, time to restore trust and credibility (1 Timothy 3:7) with opportunities to serve and to be proven (1 Timothy 5:22-25) will be provided before resumption of ministry responsibilities.

ARTICLE XIII: AMENDMENTS

Amendment 1: <name>

Updated November 5, 2025