CONSTITUTION

Deaf Liberty Baptist Church

PREAMBLE

We, the Christian members of the Deaf Liberty Baptist Church, in order to form a church for the deaf, secure the blessings of liberty to ourselves and our posterity through Jesus Christ to serve and worship Him according to II Corinthians 3:17, promote the prosperity of the abilities from God through Jesus Christ for ourselves and our posterity, especially the deaf people, to do the works of God quoting from I Peter 4:11 and believe in the genuine, heavenly revival which God sovereignly gives to the Church to bring much fruit relating to Acts 1:8, do ordain and establish this Constitution for the Deaf Liberty Baptist Church.

ARTICLE I Name

Section 1: Name

This organization is presently known as the Deaf Liberty Baptist Church of Kansas City, Jackson County, Missouri.

Section 2: Organization

The church was organized on January 20, 1980 at Whatsoever Circle Community House at 1201 Ewing in Kansas City, Missouri. It was incorporated in the State of Missouri on May 23, 1980.

ARTICLE II Object

Section 1: Worship
To open the place of worship to learn God's Word and
fellowship with the Christians in prayer and the Lord's Supper,
especially for the deaf according to Acts 2:42.

Section 2: Fellowship
To assemble together to exhort and comfort one another in spiritual growth and build up on one's most holy faith in prayer in the Holy Ghost and keep one in the love of God quoting from Hebrews 10:23-25 and Jude 20-21.

Section 3: Mission
To fulfill the Great Commission mentioning in Matthew 28:19-20.

ARTICLE III Doctrinal Statement

Section 1: The Scriptures

We believe that the Holy Bible consisting of sixty-six books from Cenesis to Revelation is plenarily and verbally the infallible Word of God according to II Peter 1:19-21; that every and very word of the Scriptures is inspired by God as seen in II Timothy 3:16; that the holy men of God spoke as they were moved by the Holy Spirit mentioning in II Peter 1:21; and that the Holy Bible has its purpose that we may be furnished unto all good works by doctrine, reproof, correction, and instruction in righteousness referring to II Timothy 3:16-17.

Section 2: The True God

We believe in the Trinity which means three Persons, the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit in the Godhead but one God according to the plural Hebrew name Elohim and plural pronouns like us and our as seen in Genesis 1:26 and 3:22 and Isaiah 6:8; that their works are displayed an event all at one time as shown in Matthew 3:16-17; and that there is one and only one, true and living God, and the three Persons have distinct but yet harmonious offices according to I John 5:7-8.

We believe that God is omniscient, knowing and seeing all things referring to Psalm 139:7-12, omnipresent, being everywhere according to Psalm 139:7-12, omnipotent, being all powerful mentioning in Job 42:2 and Mark 10:27, immutable, having never changed as seen in Malachi 3:6 and James 1:17 and finally, eternal

as shown in Psalm 90:2 and Revelation 1:8.

We believe that the Father is recognized as God referring to John 6:27; that He is the author of the decree or plan of God according to Psalm 2:7-9; that He is related to the act of election as seen in Ephesians 1:3-6; that He sent His Son to the world for a purpose mentioning in John 5:37 and John 3:16; and that He chastens His own children as shown in Hebrews 12:5-11.

We believe that Jesus Christ is recognized as God as seen in John 20:28 and I Timothy 1:17; that He was born of virgin birth as found in Matthew 1:18; that He was God in flesh mentioning in I Timothy 3:16 and John 1:14; that He was bodily resurrected referring to I Corinthians 15 and Acts 1:3; and finally, that He was ascended into Heaven and is exaltedly on the right hand of

God as shown in I Peter 3:22.

We believe that the Holy Spirit is recognized as God referring to II Corinthians 3:17-18 and Acts 5:3-4; that He is responsible to reprove the world of sin, righteousness, and judgment according to John 16:8-11; regenerates the sinners as seen in John 3:3-8 and Titus 3:5; indwells the believers mentioning in I Corinthians 3:16 and Romans 8:9-11; seals the believers as said in Ephesians 1:13-14 and 4:30; guides the believers as shown in John 16:13; infills the believers as spoken in Ephesians 5:18; and finally, empowers the believers for Christian life and service relating to Romans 8:2.

Section 3: The Satan and Fallen Angels

We believe that God created an innumerable company of sinless spirit beings known as angels before the creation of the world (Psalm 68:17, Colossians 1:16 and Hebrews 12:22); that many of these continued in their holy state as the "elect" and are the ministers of God (I Timothy 5:21 and Hebrews 1:7); that the highest angel Lucifer (now known as Satan or the Devil) and many others, rebelled against God through his sin of pride in his own beauty, desiring to usurp the glory of God and be possessor of heaven and earth (Isaiah 14:12-15, Ezekiel 28:11-19 and Jude 6); that these fallen angels (except those who have been chained in Tartarus) though defeated in the cross of Christ, still continue to oppose God and His work through Satan, their ruler and the prince of the power of the air (John 12:31, Ephesians 2:2 and 6:11-12); that the Satan works to blind the minds of unbelievers so that they will not accept the gospel, snatches the Word of God from the hearts of the unbelievers, accuses and slanders the believers, tempts the believers to immorality and hinders their works, incites persecutions against the believers and sows tares which are the children of the wicked one and roves about as a roaring lion (II Corinthians 4:4, Luke 8:12, Acts 5:3, Revelation 12:10, I Thessalonians 2:18, Revelation 2:10, I Corinthians 7:5, Matthew 13:38-39 and I Peter 5:8); that the Satan and fallen angels ultimately be judged by God and cast into the lake of fire to suffer everlasting punishment (II Peter 2:4, Jude 6 and Revelation 20:10).

We believe that after the Millennium, Christ and the believers in Christ will judge the fallen angels for disobedience to God for following Satan in his revolt from Heaven; and that they will

be cast into the lake of fire (I Corinthians 6:3).

Section 4: The Creation

We believe that the true creation is revealed in Genesis which is inspired by God and is supported by the sentence, "In the beginning God created the heaven and the earth" and is existed through His Word and power (Genesis 1-2 and John 1:1-3) and is recognized by us through faith (Hebrews 11:3) and is purposed to please and glorify God (Revelation 4:11).

We believe that man is the special creature God has created in His image after His likeness and is formed with the dust of the ground and is breathed by Him to become a living soul

(Genesis 1:26-27 and 2:7).

We believe that the seven days in Genesis 1-2 is literal according to Jeremiah 32:16, and the living creatures continue after their kind which both are opposite to evolution (Genesis 1-2).

Section 5: The Fall of Man

We believe that no man is righteous (Romans 3:10) after the fall of Adam (Romans 5:12), and man is incapable of doing any spiritual work and understanding any spiritual thing to please God (Romans 8:8), and the fall of man is caused by sin (James 1:15).

It is called total depravity.

We believe that Adam disobeyed God's commandment voluntarily by hearing the voice of Eve to eat the fruit of the tree of the knowledge of good and evil which God forbad, and Eve was deceived by the serpent which was subtle through the lust to be wise, and the result was the fall of man (Genesis 3 and I Timothy 2:14).

We believe that God had planned to redeem us before the foundation of the world regardless of the fall of the man (Genesis 3:15 and Ephesians 1:4-7) and had sent Jesus Christ to the earth to become the last Adam (I Corinthians 15:45) so we

can be made alive in Him (I Corinthians 15:22).

Section 6: Salvation by Grace

We believe that the sacrifice of Jesus Christ has fulfilled God's requirement completely for our sins through His blood for the remission of them (Hebrews 9:22 and $10:10-1\overline{2}$), and the substitution of Himself has replaced the sinner's place to accept the wrath of God and the suffering by dying on the cross and becoming sin for us (I Corinthians 5:21).

We believe that salvation by grace is through the finished work of Jesus Christ on the cross by faith, not works or yourselves (Ephesians 2:8-9), and the simple work is belief (John 6:29).

We believe that repentance and faith are two basic requirements for salvation (Acts 3:19). Repentance expresses the change of mind toward God from sin and the abandonment of sin, and faith in the Lord Jesus Christ only reveals the fruit of salvation (Matthew 9:13, Acts 26:18-20 and John 14:6 and 20:29).

We believe that justification guarantees the believers to be righteous in God's sight by grace through the redemption that is in Christ (Romans 1:17 and 3:24-25).

We believe that regeneration is produced by the Holy Spirit (Titus 3:5) and is necessary for the sinners to be born again in order to have second birth which is of the Spirit since all have sinned and dead in Adam (John 3:1-12).

We believe that all the believers are eternally secured for salvation and are sealed by the Holy Spirit so they can not be plucked out of God's hand (John 10:27-29 and Ephesians 1:13 and

We believe that all the believers are sanctified through the offering of the body of Christ (Hebrews 10:10) to be separated from sin and to God through God's Word (John 17:17).

Section 7: The Church

We believe that the Church for which the Greek word is "Ecclesia" is a called out people who are the believers in Jesus Christ according to I Peter 5:10, and Jesus Christ builds His Church to prevail against the gates of hell and gives the spiritual gifts to the believers for the perfecting of the saints, the work of the ministry and the edifying of this church relating

to Matthew 16:16-18 and Ephesians 4:11-12.

We believe that two church ordinances are baptism and the Lord's Supper. The believer's baptism is the immersion in water to show the symbol of the death, burial and resurrection of Jesus Christ mentioning in I Peter 3:21. The believers recognize this verse to obey God in baptism and to declare faith before the world and to be not conformed to this world. The Lord's Supper shows the remembrance of the death of Jesus Christ and the shedding of the blood of Jesus Christ quoting from I Corinthians 11:23-30. I Corinthians 11:27-30 impresses the importance of self-examination of the believers by the Holy Spirit to secure the worth of the Lord's Supper.

We believe that the Lord's Day is the first day of the week on which Jesus Christ arose from the dead and which is the important day for the Church to worship Him according to

Matthew 28:1-7, Acts 20:7 and Revelation 1:10.

We believe that the tithe and voluntary contribution are given to the Church by the cheerful givers mentioning in II Corinthians 9:6-15. Malachi 3:8-10 impresses the obedience of

the believers in tithes and offerings.

We believe that there are the two officers in the local church: the pastor and the deacon relating to I Timothy 3:1-13. The pastor gives himself to prayer and to the ministry of the Word of God while the deacons give themselves to perform the church duties quoting from Acts 6:1-7.

Section 8: The Civil Government

We believe that the powers of civil governments are ordained by God, and the magistrates are appointed and removed by Him according to Romans 13:1 and Daniel 2:21. The believers are subject to the civil government with godly honour and do good works for it to glorify God relating to Titus 3:1. The believers have freedom to worship and obey God to do the Great Commission to spread the Gospel mentioning in Acts 5:29 and the Bill of Rights Amendment 1 of the Constitution of the United States.

Section 9: The Return of Jesus Christ

We believe that Jesus Christ will come to catch away His Church which is call the Rapture before the tribulation (I Thessalonians 4:13-18, Luke 17:34-36 and Matthew 24:36-45) and the believers will be judged in the Heaven by Jesus Christ for their work for Him which is called the Judgement Seat of Christ (I Corinthians 3:11-15 and II Corinthians 5:10), and after this judgment comes the

Marriage Supper of the Lamb (Revelation 19:6-10).

We believe that following the Rapture there will be the appearance of Antichrist who is the powerful, wicked world leader and has the mark "666" (Revelation 13 and Daniel 7:24-26), and then God's wrath will be outpoured on the world which is called the Great Tribulation and will last for seven years (Daniel 12:1-3, Matthew 24:5-31 and Revelation 4:1-21), and the nations of the world will assemble in Palestine to prepare for a great battle at the end of this tribulation which is called Armageddon (Revelation 16:14-16 and 19:17-21).

We believe that the Lord Jesus Christ will return with His army of saints and angels to the earth to destroy His enemies at Armageddon and to set up the kingdom which will last for a thousand years which is called the Millennial Reign (Revelation 19:11-21 and 20:4-6), and during the Millennium the Satan will be bound in the bottomless pit (Revelation 20:1-4) and will be freed at the end of the Millennium and will lead the people who will not love Jesus Christ to a final rebellion against God (Revelation 20:7-10), and the Satan will be cast into the lake of fire (Revelation 20:10).

We believe that the unsaved of all ages will stand at the judgment of God which is called the Great White Throne after the Millennium and will receive their final doom because their names are not written in the Book of Life and will be cast down into

the lake of fire (Revelation 20:11-15).

We believe that the earth and the heaven will be destroyed before the Great White Throne, and there will be new heaven and new earth, and then New Jerusalem will come down from Heaven, and all the saints will be with Christ forever (II Peter 2:7-12 and Revelation 21:1-22:5).

ARTICLE IV Practice of the Normal Christian Life

Section 1: The Normal Christian

We believe that the Christians maintain their godly, happy
and mature lives to glorify Jesus Christ (Ecclesiastes 7:16-17
and Hebrews 6:1).

Section 2: The Creature in God's Image
We believe that the Christians accept themselves in God's image and take pleasure in their infirmities to glorify Jesus Christ (II Corinthians 12:9-10 and Psalm 139:14-16).

Section 3: The Clear Conscience
We believe that the Christians are required to have clear conscience to God and man in order to have peace of God and have right relationship with God, the parents, the relatives, the children, the employers, the employees, the friends and the civil government and maintain their godly attitudes and behaviors and communications in the society (Acts 24:16, Ephesians 5:22-25 and 6:5-8, Romans 13:1-7 and 12:17-21, James 4:11, I Timothy 4:1-3, Colossians 3:8, I Timothy 6:20 and Proverbs 15:1).

Section 4: The Consecration
We believe that the Christians have true consecration to present their bodies to Jesus Christ for service because He has bought them with His blood (Romans 6:13 and 12:1-2 and I Corinthians 6:20).

Section 5: The Crucifixion of Old Man
We believe that the Christians see and understand the importance
of being crucified with Christ on the cross in order to have an
exchanged life and to walk in the Spirit and to have the fruit
of the Spirit (Galatians 2:20 and 5:22-25).

Section 6: The Enduement
We believe that the Christians must have the power of God to serve Him and to do the spiritual works and gifts (Acts 1:8, Luke 24:49 and Ephesians 5:18).

Section 7: The Christian Trial
We believe that God gives the Christians the trials to purify them and produce them the good fruit and work through chastening (Hebrews 12:1-15 and James 1:2-6).

Section 8: The Prayer and Faith
We believe that the prayer of the Christians is very important
for the inner man to have fellowship with God in the Spirit and
to know the will of God through God's Word and to be grounded in
the love of God, and the faith is very important for the Christians
to please and glorify Jesus Christ to bring good reports and the
works of God (Colossians 1:9-12, Ephesians 3:13-21, Hebrews 11:1-2,
I Peter 1:7 and I Thessalonians 1:3).

ARTICLE V Membership

Section 1: Member

A member has his true experience of salvation by Jesus Christ in faith with true repentance and has obeyed Christ in baptism by immersion and has continued in sound doctrine and fellowship and in breaking of bread and in prayers and in his consistent Christian life according to Acts 2:37-47.

Section 2: Admission and Dismissal

The Membership Committee, which consists the pastor and the deacons, has its decision to provide the church the right to admit or refuse a candidate to be a member after its well acquaintance with his conversion, obedience in baptism and his reputation in his Christian behavior mentioning in Acts 20:28-31. The church votes to admit a candidate in majority.

The Membership Committee checks up on the roll of the members two weeks before Stephen's Ballot Day for dismissal. The church votes for dismissal in majority during Stephen's Ballot Day.

Section 3: Discipline, Expulsion and Restoration

The church discipline is described in Matthew 18:15-17 and I Corinthians 5:1-13 in three steps by the individuals, the Membership Committee and finally the church for expulsion by vote in majority. The Membership Committee provides the church the right to restore an expelled member in majority vote after its acquaintance with his confession of his wrong behavior and his restitution.

ARTICLE VI Pastor

Section 1: Definition

There are three different words for the same officer of the local church to rule: Bishop (overseer), Elder (man who rules) and Pastor (shepherd).

Section 2: Qualification

The qualification of the pastor is described in I Timothy 3:1-7 and Titus 1:5-9.

Section 3: Call of God

The pastor surely knows God's will to be the pastor of Deaf Liberty Baptist Church and acknowledges the good work which God has begun in him according to Colossians 1:9-12 and Philippians 1:6. His term is begun and terminated by God through Jesus Christ.

Section 4: Duties

The pastor shows the proof of his ministry, performs as an example to his flock not being lord over God's heritage, preaches and teaches the Word of God to reprove and rebuke and exhort his flock and does not neglect the gift from God to do these things according to I Timothy 4:12-16, II Timothy 4:5 and I Peter 5:1-3.

Section 5: Vacancy

The pastor expresses his call of God clearly to his flock to leave Deaf Liberty Baptist Church, and his flock accepts his call as they perceive that it is God's work relating to Acts 13:1-3. The members of Deaf Liberty Baptist Church are responsible to seek God's will to have God's vessel to be their pastor. It is God through Jesus Christ to reveal His will both to the members of Deaf Liberty Baptist Church and to God's vessel. The members vote to accept God's vessel to be their pastor by two-thirds. The board of the deacons serves as the pulpit committee to seek the candidate as it depends on the leadership of the Holy Spirit and to present him to the church for vote. This board is in the charge of these special meetings on selecting God's vessel and also of Deaf Liberty Baptist Church and of the services and the Sunday school and the meetings during the vacancy of the pastor.

ARTICLE VII Board of the Deacons

Section 1: Definition

The meaning of the word deacon is a servant in the ministry of Jesus Christ.

Section 2: Qualification

The qualification of the deacons is described in Acts 6:1-7 and I Timothy 3:8-13.

Section 3: Duties

The duties of the deacons are described in Acts 6:1-8. The deacons give themselves to minister the widows and widowers, to conduct the Lord's Supper, to arrange the Sunday school classes and teachers, to take care of the church finance and to supervise Deaf Pioneer International Missions and the variance of the church activities and organizations.

Section 4: Election and Appointment

The ballot sheets are given to the members of Deaf Liberty Baptist Church who are 21 years old or older on Stephen's Ballot Day, the first Sunday of September. The ballot box is placed in the back of the church. The ballot is closed on the third Sunday evening of September after service. The Certifying Committee, which consists of the pastor, the chairman of the board of the deacons and two men from Matthew's Chamber who are not the deacons, counts the votes for the deacons, interviews with the candidates, and certifies the candidates' qualification. This committee brings up the names of the candidates to Matthew's Chamber on the first Sunday of October for the approval by two-thirds. The pastor appoints the deacons to be the chairman of the board of the deacons, the secretary and the treasurer for Deaf Liberty Baptist Church and the director and assistant director for Deaf Pioneer International Missions. appointments must be approved by two-thirds in Matthew's Chamber on the first Sunday of October. The announcement of the names of the deacons and the ordination by the pastor are held at Stephen's Service on the second Sunday of October.

Section 5: Term and Number of the Deacons
The number of the deacons is depending on the decision by
Matthew's Chamber and the amount of the duties in the church by
the deacons, and this number must be approved by two-thirds.

The term of the deacon is one year.

ARTICLE VIII Meetings and Activities

Section 1: Church Services

There are Sunday school, morning and evening services on the Lord's Day, Sunday. There is Hour of Prayer on Wednesday evening. The Lord's Supper is held on last Sunday evening of the month during evening service. There is an exceptation to let the Holy Spirit lead the services during the genuine, heavenly revival according to God's sovereignty.

Section 2: Antioch Conference

The annual church business meeting and rehearsal is called Antioch Conference according to Acts 11:26. It is held on the Sunday on or after 20th day of January after dinner after morning service. It is directed by the pastor and the board of the deacons and proceeded in Robert's Rule. The members of Deaf Liberty Baptist Church, who are 21 years old or older, are allowed to make the motions, debate and vote at this meeting. The quorum is 50%. The conference is planned by the pastor and the board of the deacons and Matthew's Chamber.

Section 3: Stephen's Ballot Day
Stephen's Ballot Day is the first Sunday of September on which
the ballot sheets are given to the members of Deaf Liberty Baptist
Church. It is extended to the third Sunday of September after
evening service. This title is from Acts 6:1-7.

Section 4: Stephen's Service
Stephen's Service is held on the second Sunday of October for the announcement and ordination and prayer for the deacons and the servants of Deaf Liberty Baptist Church. This title is from Acts 6:1-7.

Section 5: Matthew's Chamber
The men's business meeting is called Matthew's Chamber according to Matthew 9:9. It is held on first Sunday of the month and is directed by the pastor and the board of the deacons and is proceeded in Robert's Rule. The men, who are the members of Deaf Liberty Baptist Church and are 21 years old or older, are allowed to make the motions, debate and vote. The quorum is 50%.

Section 6: Christian Activities

The devotion for the women is called Eve' Garden naming from Genesis 2:8-9.

The devotion for the men is called Gethsemane naming from Matthew 26:36.

The devotion for the single people is called Branch naming from John 15:5.

The devotion and prayer meeting for the Christians is called Upper Room naming from Acts 1:13-14.

The fellowship for the married people are called Aquila-Priscilla naming from Romans 16:3.

Section 7: Deaf Liberty Letter

The monthly church newsletter for Deaf Liberty Baptist Church is called Deaf Liberty Letter naming from II Corinthians 3:17. This newsletter is edited by one editor and one assistant editor whom Matthew's Chamber appoints and is supervised by the pastor and the board of the deacons.

ARTICLE IX Deaf Pioneer International Missions

Section 1: Name

This organization is presently known as the Deaf Pioneer International Missions and is supervised under the Deaf Liberty Baptist Church.

Section 2: Organization

This mission organization was established in February 1981 by Deaf Liberty Baptist Church.

Section 3: Object

To receive money from the churches and the individuals and send it to the missionaries and the Christian organizations they donate.

Section 4: Officers

The chancellor of Deaf Pioneer International Missions is the pastor of Deaf Liberty Baptist Church. The other officers are the director and the assistant director. They must be the deacons appointed by the pastor of Deaf Liberty Baptist Church and approved by Matthew's Chamber by two-thirds on the first Sunday of October, and their names are announced at Stephen's Service. The term of these officers is one year.

ARTICLE X Amendment

This Constitution may be amended by a two-thirds vote of the members of Deaf Liberty Baptist Church present at Antioch Conference. It is written and placed on the table and checked by the pastor and the board of the deacons before voting. The special business meeting for any amendment may be called by the pastor and the board of the deacons if necessary.

Amendment 1

Article VIII Section 1: Church Services

There are Sunday school, morning and evening services on the Lord's Day, Sunday. There is an Hour of Prayer on Wednesday evening. The Lord's Supper is held on the last Sunday morning of the month during morning service. There is an exceptation to let the Holy Spirit lead the services during the genuine, heavenly revival according to God's sovereignty.

Amendment 2

Article VIII Section 2: Antioch Conference

The annual church conference and rehearsal is called Antioch Conference according to Acts 11:26. It is held on the Sunday on or after 20th day of January. It is directed by the pastor and the board of deacons. The conference is planned by the pastor and the board of deacons and Matthew's Chamber.

Amendment 3

Article VIII Section 6: Christian Activities

The devotion for women is called Eve's Garden named from Genesis 2:8-9.

The devotion for men is called Gethsemane named from Matthew 26:36.

The devotion for single people is called Branch named from John 15:5.

The devotion and prayer meeting for Christians is called Upper Room named from Acts 1:13-14.

The fellowship for married people are called Aquila-Priscilla

named from Romans 16:3.

The Bible study and fellowship for men and women is called Deaf Liberty Fellowship named from Acts 2:42.

The ministry of discipleship is called House to House Ministry

named from Acts 2:46.

The ministry at Kansas School for the Deaf is called Jackrabbit Ministry. There is Bible study for students at Kansas School for the Deaf. It is directed by the pastor and the deacons.

The ministry at Johnson County Community College is called Johnson County Community College Ministry. There is Bible study for students at Johnson County Community College. It is directed by the pastor and the deacons.

Amendment 4

Article VIII Section 8: Jerusalem Assembly

The annual church business meeting is called Jerusalem Assembly named from Acts 15:2. It is held on the first Sunday of May. It is prepared by three committees: Budget, Ministry and Constitution. Each committee has a deacon and two male members and one female member of the Deaf Liberty Baptist Church. The pastor may be involved in Ministry Committee if necessary. Jerusalem Assembly is directed by the pastor and the board of deacons and is proceeded in Robert's Rule. The members of the Deaf Liberty Baptist Church who are 21 years old or older are allowed to make the motions, debate and vote at this meeting. The quorum is 50%.

Amendment 5

Article VIII Section 9: Board of Trustees
The board which has an audit on the Deaf Liberty Baptist
Church finance is called the Board of Trustees. There is an audit
quarterly every year (January, April, July and October). This
board consists the pastor, the chairman of the Board of deacons,
the treasurer and two men from Matthew's Chamber.