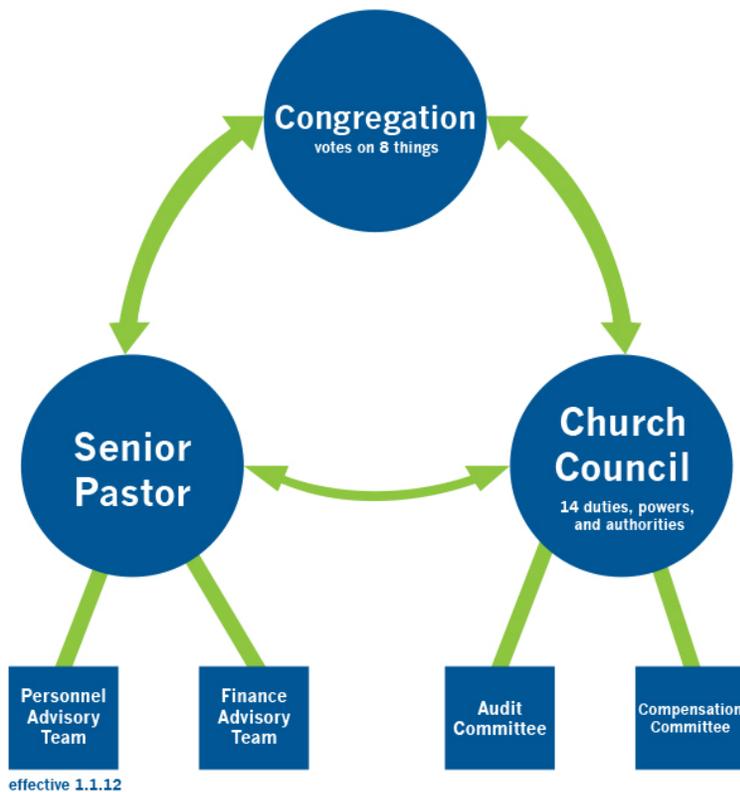




## Church Governance and Structure Summary

The government of the Church shall be focused on seeking and maintaining the Lordship and direction of Jesus Christ over His Body. All those in authority shall continually seek His mind and will through His Spirit and the Word of God in all actions and decisions.

### JERSEY BAPTIST CHURCH church polity



**The following sections further specify the details of responsibilities for the Congregation, the Church Council, and the Senior Pastor.**

**Congregation** (The General Members of the Church) vote on 8 things:

- i. Election of members to the Church Council,
- ii. Calling of a new Senior Pastor;
- iii. Removal of the Senior Pastor;
- iv. Approval of the annual operating budget and any capital budget of the Church;
- v. Authorizing the incurrence of debt by the Church in excess of one-twelfth (1/12) of the aggregate amount of the Church's most recent annual operating budget during one fiscal year;
- vi. Change in our affiliations;
- vii. Amendment to the Articles of Incorporation; and
- viii. Amendment to the Constitution.

**Church Council** (Board of Directors):

The Church Council ("Council") serves as the board of directors of the Church for purposes of Ohio law, and in accordance with applicable Ohio law shall oversee the business of the Church under the leadership of its Council Chair. The Church Council shall be the primary governing body of the Church with respect to business matters and affairs and, to the extent not inconsistent with the Church Constitution and by-laws, shall have the express power and authority to use the Policies as a governance tool to the extent deemed appropriate by the Church Council. The Policies are further explained in the following paragraph.

At JBC, the conduct of church business is accomplished through a process which is referred to as Policy Governance. In order facilitate church governance that is more consistent and uniform in its application to all matters of consideration, the Church Council operates in accordance with Policies that have been created and adopted by the Council for this purpose. The Policies, once adopted, provide guidance for the Council in the matters to which they apply. If warranted, the Council may amend or approve an exception to a Policy by majority vote of the Council. Policies are reviewed periodically to determine whether changes are warranted.

In addition to the statutory obligations granted the Church Council as the board of directors of the Church under Ohio law, the Church Council may govern itself and the Church in accordance with and pursuant to the Policies and shall exist in order to:

- Pray for the church;
- Determine and articulate in the Policies God's intermediate and long-range goals for the Church in cooperation with the Senior Pastor (which the Policies refer to as "ends");
- Determine the Church's ends with reasonable particularity,
- Establish Policies to constitute a governance tool to be utilized by the Church Council for the Church Council's internal governance. All Policies shall not be inconsistent with Ohio law, the Articles of Incorporation, and the Constitution;
- Recommend amendments to the Articles of Incorporation and this Constitution by two-thirds (2/3) vote of the total number of the Council Members (in each case including the affirmative vote of the Senior Pastor) at a meeting of the Church Council called for such purpose, in each case prior to submitting each such amendment to the General Members for approval pursuant to Article III;
- Additionally, in its legal capacity as the board of directors of the Church, the Church Council shall without limitation have the power and authority to:
  - Conduct, manage, oversee and control the business affairs of the Church,
  - Adopt and amend from time to time in its sole discretion by its majority vote Policies to provide for the governance of the Church;
- Authorize or ratify budgets and spending decisions of the Church in accordance with any standards or procedures set forth in the Policies subject to the authority of the General Members under Article III;

- Borrow money, incur indebtedness for the purposes of the Church and for those purposes cause to be executed and delivered, in the corporate name, promissory notes, bonds, debentures, deeds of trust, mortgages, pledges or other evidences of debt and securities, but in each case subject to the approval of the General Members to the extent required under Article III;
- Vote upon the removal of persons from Church membership as set forth in the Constitution and (to the extent applicable) in the Policies, and in its sole discretion announce such removal to the Church or any part thereof in accordance with Matthew 18:15-18 to aid in the ultimate restoration of the person or person removed and/or the admonishment of the Church;
- Appoint standing and special committees of the Church Council from time to time, including those standing committees required by the Constitution;
- Participate in the nomination and removal of the Senior Pastor, and appoint and/or remove the Ministry Staff as provided in the Constitution and in the Policies;
- Conduct periodic reviews of the Senior Pastor's performance in accordance with the Policies;
- Determine the compensation and benefits of the Senior Pastor by and through its Compensation Committee;
- Appoint associate pastors and other positions as determined by the Church Council;
- Establish executive limits on Church officers, the Senior Pastor, the Ministry Staff and the Deacons;
- Specify the order of relationships between the Church Council and the Church's staff, members and employees;
- Adopt Policies related to ordination and/or licensing for ministry.

**Senior Pastor:**

The Senior Pastor, acting with the advice and counsel of the Ministry Staff, shall be the spiritual overseer of the Church and to the extent not inconsistent with the Constitution shall have the express power and authority to preach, teach and interpret Scripture in a manner not inconsistent with The Baptist Faith and Message, to exercise spiritual authority and administer spiritual discipline in the Church. Additionally, the role of Senior Pastor is further defined as follows.

- The Senior Pastor's main responsibility is to spend time with God through prayer, reading the Bible and maintaining daily communion with Him.
- The Senior Pastor is responsible to receive God's vision for the Church, to communicate and model that vision to the members, and to preach, teach and interpret the Scripture as the Church's spiritual leader in a manner not inconsistent with The Baptist Faith and Message 2000. The Senior Pastor shall determine the specific strategies that the Church will use to fulfill its vision, values, mission and purposes.
- Under the leadership of the Holy Spirit, the Senior Pastor shall have the spiritual authority to oversee and direct the spiritual growth of all persons (members and non-members alike) attending Church functions, and to give spiritual leadership and general oversight to all paid and volunteer staff.
- In addition to the foregoing spiritual functions, the Senior Pastor shall be the President of the Corporation, its chief executive officer, and a member of the Church Council. Subject to the general direction of the Church Council, the Senior Pastor shall oversee (or cause to be overseen) the business of the Church, the Ministry Staff, the Church's administrative and other employees, the Deacons, the Church's ministry leaders, the Church's volunteer staff and the General Members.
- Except as noted in Article V, (A) (1) (b), the Senior Pastor and/or his designee has authority within the guidelines set forth in the Policies and in keeping within budget to hire and/or terminate staff.

In the event the language in this summary differs from the language in the Constitution and By-Laws of Jersey Baptist Church (The Constitution), the language in The Constitution shall prevail.