

CONSTITUTION

28-May-2010

1. **Name**

The name of the church will be Glen Osmond Baptist Church Incorporated (hereinafter "the church"). It will have all the powers conferred by Section 25 of the Associations Incorporation Act 1985.

2. **Convictions**

We believe in and follow the biblically revealed God - Father, Son and Holy Spirit - and His mission to redeem and transform creation, beginning with us His Church.

3. **Aims**

The aims of the church are to worship God, reach out to others, build up disciples of Jesus, and send out many to do the same.

4. **Membership**

The elders will ensure that a register of members is properly kept. All baptised (or confirmed in a previous church) followers of Jesus, who are regular participants in the life of the church, support the Convictions and Aims of the church, and whose application has been approved by the elders, will be members for life unless they either resign or are delisted by the elders. The elders may delist a member on the basis of no longer meeting the above criteria, or of misconduct detrimental to the interests of the church. A delisted member may appeal their delisting within 14 days of being informed, in which case s/he will remain a member until the matter is resolved at the next members' meeting.

5. **Members' Meetings**

The elders will call at least three members' meetings (including an Annual General Meeting) in each calendar year, with members given at least 14 days notice in advance of each.

The elders will appoint in advance a chairperson for all members' meetings, who will ensure that the meeting proceeds in a fair, loving and orderly manner. The quorum at a members' meeting will be one quarter of the members of the church. Voting at meetings will be by show of hands or ballot at the discretion of the chairperson and require only a simple majority for resolution. There will be no voting by proxy as significant aims of the meetings are to pray and discern and reach consensus together.

An extraordinary members' meeting must be called by the eldership within 21 days of receipt of a petition of at least 20 percent of members to request such a meeting.

6. **Elders**

The church will be overseen by a group of elders, each of whom may be appointed (or relieved) with 2 weeks notice of motion at any members' meeting. Appointments will be for terms of up to 2 years. The elders will be authorised to appoint and relieve other types of leaders and employees, with the exception of pastors whose appointments (and reliefs) may only be made by members' meetings. All leaders will be subject to the oversight of the elders, and will have clear descriptions of their role and the extent of their delegated authority (including to appoint and relieve from ministry roles).

In all decisions the will of the members' meeting will be binding and conclusive.

7. **Finance and Property**

The elders will ensure the proper management and control of the funds and property of the church. They will ensure that statements of income and expenditure, and assets and liabilities are clearly presented to all regular members' meetings, and that independently audited statements to each Annual General Meeting. The budget may only be set or amended by a members' meeting.

The elders will be the holders of the common seal. The seal will be affixed by resolution of members at a properly constituted members' meeting.

8. **Amendment of Constitution**

Amendments to the constitution may only be made by a three-quarters majority at an Annual General Meeting or an extraordinary members' meeting called for this purpose. Notice of the proposed amendments, will be circulated to all members at least 60 days in advance.

9. **Dissolution**

The church may only be dissolved by an extraordinary members' meeting called specifically for that purpose, preceded by at least 30 days notice. The assets remaining after the satisfaction of any debts and liabilities, will be transferred by the liquidator of the church to the South Australian Baptist Union.