## **Constitution Revision**

## **Original**

## **6 Membership**

## 6.1 Anyone who genuinely believes in the Triune God - the Father, the Son (the Lord Jesus Christ), and the Holy Spirit – according to the Scriptures, who has been baptized Scripturally as a believer, who desires to be united to this local Church, who is willing to submit to its Scriptural government, and who enters into the Church Covenant by signature is eligible for membership.

## 6.1.1. In special circumstances, a genuine believer in the Lord Jesus Christ, who was baptized as an infant according to certain “Protestant” traditions, may apply for membership in this church. This believer should first be instructed, and encouraged in the scriptural practice of “believer’s baptism”, and if during this instruction he/she comes to agreement with the convictions of this church regarding the practice of baptism, then he/she shall be baptized, as a believer, according to the Scriptures.

## 6.1.2. If, however, such a believer is prevented by conscience from submitting to “believer’s baptism” the elders may recommend such a person for affirmation into membership, provided that he/she agrees to be submissive to the instruction of the church in this matter, and to continue to maintain a teachable and peaceful spirit with regard to the standards of the church respecting baptism.

## **Suggested Revision**

## **6 Membership**

## 6.1 Anyone who genuinely believes in the Triune God - the Father, the Son (the Lord Jesus Christ), and the Holy Spirit – according to the Scriptures, who has been baptized Scripturally as a believer, who desires to be united to this local Church, who is willing to submit to its Scriptural government, and who enters into the Church Covenant by signature is eligible for membership. *While the preferred mode for believer’s baptism is immersion, believer’s baptism by sprinkling or pouring will not automatically disqualify from membership one who otherwise meets the criteria stated herein.*

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