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TABERNACLE BAPTIST MISSIONS INTERNATIONAL

A ministry of:

*Tabernacle Baptist Church*

*3931 White Horse Road*

*Greenville, SC 29611*

Constitution

(Guides Rules and Principles)

ARTICLE ONE: OUR PREAMBLE

 Tabernacle Baptist Church, Greenville, South Carolina, began holding services in July 1952, after 20 weeks of praying without ceasing. God Led the late Dr. Harold B. Sightler and four other men to mortgage their cars to buy the first piece of land where the church is located today.

 With the beginning of Tabernacle Baptist Church, the church was led into “Faith Missions.” God honored Tabernacle for putting Him and His “commission” first. The ministry of Tabernacle has grown in a worldwide ministry.

 Because the Lord Jesus Christ commanded us in Mark 16:15, and commissioned us in Matthew 28:19,20 to “Go YE into all the world”, this calls for obedience by commitment. In 1952, Tabernacle Baptist Church started a faith outreach ministry for the servants of God, and called it “Tabernacle Baptist Missions (TBM).” The ministry was in operation on a low key until the early 80’s. Then, 1993 the name of the mission agency was changed from the original name to “Tabernacle Baptist Missions International” (TBMI).

TBMI is a local ministry extending a mission arm according to New Testament teaching and early church practice, believing that the evangelization of the world is the privilege and duty of the church, a sacred trust commitment to us by our ascended Lord. It is the desire of TBMI to establish fundamental, evangelistic, Baptist churches on the field through God’s servants, and by training of nationals to continue the ministry.

 TBMI is a full pledged Mission Board desiring to combine every effort with supporting churches and missionaries to go forth with the gospel of Jesus Christ. The combined efforts will be a voluntary agreement on the part of church, missionary, and mission, making TBMI a vital part of establishing and maintaining a relationship between the missionary on the field and the sending church at home, therefore, forming a partnership for the cause of Christ.

 TBMI believes in the verbal, plenary inspiration and the infallibility of the Scriptures. In harmony and agreement with the scriptural example in Acts 13, it is the authority of the local church to authorize and send forth missionaries. It is TBMI’s desire to encourage and promote this Biblical Principle. TBMI is an arm and handmaid to the local church to help hold the rope between those going and those sending.

ARTICLE TWO: OUR PURPOSE

 *Section 1 Propagating the Gospel*

Believing that TBMI is the will of God, we join together to carry out the purpose for its institution. First and foremost is our minds and hearts is the fulfillment of the Great Commission of our Lord in the Propagation of the Gospel. (Mt. 28:18-20; Lk 24:47; Acts 1:8; Jn. 20:21)

 *Section 2 Sending Forth God’s Personnel*

Our objective is to practice New Testament Missions according to Scripture. This means that missionaries are being sent forth from a local church body. There must be interaction between the missionary, his sending church, and the mission. (Acts 13:2-4; II Tim. 2:2)

 *Section 3 Planting Indigenous Baptist Churches*

The purpose of TBMI is to aid and assist the missionary in evangelizing and in establishing indigenous, Bible believing, Baptist churches in unreached fields around the world, and their related ministries. (See article five, section three) (Acts 2:47; 14:21-23; 26-27; Rom. 15:19,21).

 *Section 4 Assisting Other Local Churches*

A further desire and purpose of TBMI is to direct and maintain scriptural discipline for the missionary through the sending church which ordained him. (Mt. 18;15-20; Acts 15:1-35; Gal. 6:1-5; I Thess. 5:12-23; II Thess. 3:6-16; I Tim. 5:17-20; 4:6-16)

 *Section 5 Providing Encouragement*

A Definite need of the ministry is to provide spiritual encouragement to God’s servants both at home and abroad through Tabernacle Baptist Church and TBMI. (Eph. 4:11-16; II Tim. 4:2; Jude 1:20-23). A necessary determination is to contend for the faith once delivered to the saints of God. (Jude 1:3; I Jn. 4:1; II Jn. 1:9-11; Col. 2:7; I Pet. 3:15; II Tim. 1:13-14; II Tim. 2:15-26; 3:1-17).

 *Section 6 Bringing Glory to our LORD*

The foremost purpose of TBMI is to bring glory to our LORD through our lives and ministry. (Col. 3:17-23; I Cor. 10:31-33; Mt. 6:33; Col. 1:18; Phil. 3:7-14; Eccl. 12:13-24).

ARTICLE THREE: OUR POSITION

*Section 1 Our Doctrinal Position*

1. We Believe in the verbal, plenary inspiration and infallibility of the Scripture (II Tim. 3:15-17; II Pet 1:19-21). We believe that the Word of God has been divinely preserved without contradiction or error in the King James Version for the English speaking people. (Ps. 112:6-7; 138: 2; Mt. 5:18; Jn. 12:48).
2. We believe in one God , eternal existent in three persons: Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. (Gen. 1:1,26; 11:7; Isa. 6:8; Deut. 6:4-5; I Cor. 8:6; Eph. 4:6; I Tim. 1:17; Matt. 3:16, 17; 28:19; Jn 15:16-17,26).
3. We believe that Jesus Christ was begotten by the Holy Spirit, and born to Mary, a virgin, and is true God and true man. (Is. 14:7; 9:6-7; Mt. 1:18-25; Jn. 1:1-2,14; Lk. 1:26-40; Col. 1:15-18).
4. We Believe that Man was created in the image of God, that he sinned and thereby incurred not only physical death, but also spiritual death which is separation from God; and that all human beings are born with a sinful nature. (Gen. 1:26; Mt. 1:18-25; Jn 1:1-2, 14; Lk 1:26-40; Col. 1:15-18).
5. We believe that the Lord Jesus Christ died for our sins according to the Scriptures as representative and substitutionary sacrifice, and all who believe in Him, with sorrow and repentance, are justified on the ground of His shed blood. ( I Cor. 15:1-10; Jn. 10:11, 15, 18; II Cor. 5:21).
6. We believe in the resurrection of the crucified body of our Lord, in His ascension into heaven and in His present life there as High Priest and advocate. (I Cor. 15:1-50; Mt. 28; Mk. 16; Lk. 24; Jn. 20; Acts 1:9-11; I Jn. 2:1-2; Heb. 4:14-16).
7. We believe in the “blessed hope”, the personal, premillennial, pretribulational, and imminent return of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ, when the Church ( The dead in Christ shall be raised and those who are alive shall be changed.) will be gathered together unto Him. (I Thess. 4:13-18; I Cor. 15: 51-58).
8. We believe that all who by faith receive the Lord Jesus Christ are born again of the Holy Ghost and there by become children of God. (Jn. 3:5-7; I Pet. 1:23-25; Tit. 3:5; I Jn. 3:1-3)
9. We believe in the bodily resurrection of the just unto everlasting bliss in Heaven, and the resurrection of the lost unto everlasting punishment in Hell Fire. (Jn. 5:28,29; I Cor. 15:51-58; I Thess. 4; Rev. 20:1-15).
10. We believe the Church is the body of Christ and that all born again believers make up this body. We believe the local church is made up of born again, baptized believers of whom Christ is the Head; that is the highest spiritual institution ever established in Christ. (Acts 1:5; 2:4, 37-47; I Cor. 12:12-13; Eph. 1: 3-23; 2:1-22).
11. We believe that the local church has the absolute right of self-government, free from any interference of any hierarchy or individuals or organizations, and the one and only Head is the Lord Jesus Christ. (Acts 2:41-42; I Cor. 11:2; Eph. 1:22-23; Col. 1:18; Eph. 5:23-24).
12. We believe that scriptural baptism is by a single immersion of born again people only. It is the outward sign of an inward belief. It identifies the convert with the Lord Jesus Christ in His death, burial and resurrection. The ordinances of Baptism and the Lord’s Supper are given to the church and must be carried out by the local church and under its authority. (Mt. 28:18-20; Mk. 16:15; Lk. 24:47; Acts 2:38; 8:36-38; Rom. 6:1-6)
13. We believe in salvation by the grace through faith: a free gift of God without the virtue of works, but by personal faith in Christ and His finished work in His death, shed blood, and resurrection. Through Him we have the gift of eternal life, imputed righteousness. We are children of God and are guaranteed never to perish. ( Eph. 2:8-10; Rom. 6:23; 10:9-13; Jn. 3:14-16; 10:28-30; 3:36; 5:24; I Jn. 3:1-3).
14. We believe that Satan is a person. He was originally created Lucifer, son of the morning, but fell from his first estate and led one-third of the angels astray with him. He became lifted up with pride and is now called Satan, the devil, his angels are called demons or devils. He is that evil and wicked one who is a defeated foe. (Gen. 3:1-15; Isa. 14:12-14; Ezek. 28:12-19; Jude 1:6-9; II Pet. 2:4; I Pet. 5:8-9; Rev. 12:3-17; 20:1-10; Heb. 2:14; I Jn. 3:8).
15. We believe in the priesthood of all believers. Christ, our High Priest, provides access to God without the need of a human intercessor. (Heb. 4:14-16; I Tim. 2:5,6; I Jn. 2:1,2; Heb. 7:25-26; Jn. 14: 13,14; I Pet. 2:9; Heb. 10:19-22).

*Section 2 Our Doctrinal Position Against*

1. Neo-orthodoxy: We believe this method of scriptural interpretation is false and deceiving. Instead of presenting the truth, this method presents a half truth. It is inconsistent with true biblical interpretation. It tries to reconcile Higher Scientific Biblical Criticism with the Word of God.
2. Neo-evangelicalism: We believe that neo-evangelicalism is one of attitude than doctrine. It compromises with modernists and liberals in cooperative efforts in evangelism and other so-called Christian endeavors.
3. Ecumenical Movement: We believe this movement to be unscriptural, since it desires to unite all faiths into a worldwide Church. This movement does not raise the standards of morality but a contributing factor in the destruction of moral fiber of mankind today.
4. Charismatic Movement: This movement is very much a part of the ecumenical monster used by Satan to bring together the one world church through experiences called tongues and healing. The bible doctrine of separation from the ungodly is ignored while promoting a so called “brotherly love”.
5. Hyper-Calvinism: We believe this is a false doctrine represented by the letters TULIP. This teaches that man has no choice, but must accept that God has predestined some to be saved while the rest must go to Hell. This is totally inconsistent with God’s Word which teaches that whosoever will may come. Christ’s death on the cross was not just for the few but for all. (II Pet. 3:9; I Jn. 2:2; Jn. 3:16; I Tim. 2:3-6).
6. Humanism: We believe humanism to be evil, as it is referred to as “faith” and a “religion”. Humanism was declared by the U.S. Supreme Court to be a religion. It denies the deity of God, the inspiration of the Bible, and the divinity of Jesus Christ. It teaches that there are no absolutes nor rights, nor wrongs and that moral values are self-determined and situational. Do your own thing is the philosophy of this cult.
7. Easy-believism: Among Independent Baptist in recent years has arisen a philosophy of evangelism which has NO repentance, nor demands conviction of, or sorrow for sin. We believe that salvation is by grace through faith with repentance toward God and faith toward our Lord Jesus Christ. (Eph. 2:8,9; Acts 20:21). A believing sinner confesses (agrees with) the Lord Jesus Christ, calling upon the Lord for forgiveness and salvation. (Rom. 10:1-13).

*All missionary candidates must sign an agreement upon making application that they concur with and adhere to the doctrinal stand of TBMI.*

ARTICLE FOUR: OUR POLICIES

TBMI is governed by guiding rules and principles listed in the constitution, under Tabernacle Baptist Church. We stand firm on the guiding rules and principles adopted by the Mission Committee. These policies herein may be altered or amended by the majority vote at any regular meeting by Tabernacle Baptist Church and the approval of TBMI’s Committee. Any Amendment shall be made with in the guidelines of Tabernacle Baptist Church.

 *Section 1 Legal Headquarters*

 TBMI will furnish legal headquarters in the United States and when needed, legal representation for the missionary. TBMI will be worldwide in effort, evangelistic in action, and sound in doctrine. Headquarters will be provided by Tabernacle Baptist Church.

 *Section 2 Work of Faith*

 TBMI is totally a work of faith and every part of work must be financed by faith. The missionary will be responsible for all of his monthly support, equipment, and supplies. No money will be deducted from the missionary’s support to maintain the support of the home office, unless the missionary so dictate.

 TBMI will provide reports sharing needs, victories, praises, prayer request and legal information. These reports will be kept before the TBMI Committee and the pastor of Tabernacle Baptist Church.

 *Section 3 Standing for Truth*

 TBMI will promote worldwide missionary effort and evangelistic action opposing all movement of ecumenicalism. Our goal is to send the Gospel to the ends of the world with a minimum of paperwork and with a maximum of force.

 *Section 4 TBMI as an Agency*

 TBMI is a missionary conduit of Tabernacle Baptist Church, an independent, fundamental work and reserves for itself the authority to deal with problems related to finances, medical crises, governmental difficulties or problems relative to the efficiency of the work. It does not, however, reserve the right to discipline the missionaries who are within its commission. The local church holding the missionary’s membership is solely responsible for any disciplinary action that must be taken, and TBMI defers that right based on the belief that those who are sent forth should be answerable to their local church. TBMI does, however, reserve the right to recall the missionary.

 *Section 5 Membership of Missionaries*

 TBMI, though established for the use of its member missionaries, does not require its own to be members of Tabernacle Baptist Church. But all missionaries with TBMI must be a member of a Baptist church with doctrinal beliefs like those of Tabernacle Baptist Church.

FINANCIAL POLICIES

 *Section 1 Home Office Financial Policy*

1. TBMI’s home office is a faith outreach of Tabernacle Baptist Church. All funds denoted will be placed 100% as given.
2. “Financial policies” of TBMI are based on a “work of faith”. Both missionary and mission board must live by faith. Since we are not supported by a denomination, fellowship or convention, we depend on the Lord to supply all our needs through His people. The financial burden is supported by voluntary means as churches, individuals, and organizations contribute to it. This dependence and trust is faith in God who is able to make all things abound to your account.
3. Each missionary must raise his own support and equipment for the ministry. We do not require the missionary to support the mission. However, we pray that we might have the kind of ministry is which he would want to have part, as TBMI serve his needs on the field.
4. A general fund has been established to maintain supplies, printing, publications, mailing, and salaries of office personnel, and other items and as situations deem necessary for the furtherance of TBMI’s purpose.
5. Salaries of all office personnel will be set and administered by Tabernacle Baptist Church and TBMI.

*Section 2 Missionary Financial Policy*

1. Missionary support, housing, and work fund levels will be regulated by approval from TBMI each year.
2. The missionary must secure his own funds for expenses as follows: Equipment, field support, travel to and from the field, physical examinations, field outfit, language school, and other things necessary for the field and the ministry.
3. Each missionary’s support will be adjusted according to the field and need. One hundred percent of missionary’s support must be raised before going to the field.

*All checks shall be made payable:*

*Tabernacle Baptist Missions International*

*3931 White Horse Road*

*Greenville, South Carolina – 29611*

 *Section 3 Furlough Fund policy*

1. An escrow account for needed funds shall be maintained by each foreign missionary. The recommendation deduction from the missionary support shall be from 15% to 20% to be withheld each month for emergencies, such as: sickness, passage home for furlough, evacuation in case of political unrest or war.
2. The escrow accounts will be maintained in one account under the name of each missionary, with amount and date posted.
3. The missionary may draw up to one half of this fund in case of an emergency need, approved by TBMI.
4. Home missionaries are not required to have an escrow account.

ARTICLE FIVE: OUR PLATFORM

 *Section 1 Home Missions*

1. Each candidate will be viewed individually following the same policies and purpose of service on the field as stated under article two, sections 1,2, 3, 4, 5, 6.
2. Home missionaries have the same length of term in their place of service as foreign missionaries. TBMI will determine the length of transition time and directed deputation between church planting works. No furlough is provided for home mission workers.
3. It is expected that the men sent out will seek to establish independent, missionary, Baptist churches.
4. Missionaries remaining in the States working through national, printed literature and distribution, communication media, and special projects, will be re-examined and re-evaluated by TBMI every six months.
5. All home missionaries must attend the Annual Candidate School.

*Section 2 Foreign Missions*

1. When it is deemed necessary, TBMI will be registered in the country.
2. TBMI expects all foreign missionaries to be involved in evangelism and church planting (See article 2, sections 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6).
3. TBMI is dedicated to planting the VINE not just educating the mind.

*Section 3 Help Ministries in Missions*

TBMI recognizes there are areas called “help ministries“ in mission work, home and foreign. The purpose of all “help ministries” must be to aid or assist a missionary in reaching the goal of planting and indigenous Baptist Church. Some of the areas of help could be: Teaching, Bible School for nationals, Bible, Bible translation, school for missionary children, aviation, medical, mechanical workers, writing literature for Sunday School and training nationals, children’s home workers, and printers. Each “help ministry” will be reviewed individually.

ARTICLE SIX: OUR PROSPECTS

 *Section 1 The General Qualification*

1. A missionary Applicant and his wife must give testimony of having being born again by trusting Christ as Saviour (Jn. 3: 5-7; I Pet. 1: 21-25).
2. A missionary applicant must know he has a definite, divine call to the gospel ministry (II Tim. 1:9, Heb. 3:1; Jn. 15:16).
3. A missionary applicant and his wife must be faithful members of a Bible believing Baptist Church (Acts 2:47; 13:2-4; I Tim. 3:14).
4. A Missionary applicant and his wife must comply with qualifications of the bishop and the wife given by Paul, when in a church planting ministry (I Tim. 3::1-7, 11; Titus 1:5-9; 2:1-7; I Cor. 7: 10-11). A missionary applicant and his wife must live a separated, consistent, Christian life. Neither husband nor wife is to have more than one living companion.
5. A missionary applicant and his wife must agree with and approve by signing the Doctrinal Statement of our position for and position against (Jn. 1:7; Amos 3:3).
6. A missionary applicant and his wife must be dept free or make satisfactory arrangements to pay the same in full before leaving for the field (Rom. 13: 7-10)
7. A missionary applicant and wife should give great care to personal appearance at all times, including the children.
8. A missionary applicant and his wife must be given to humility and willing to serve others in an acceptable manner.
9. A missionary applicant and his wife must have complete confidence in God for the financial, material, and spiritual needs of the field (Phil. 4).
10. All missionary applicants must attend TBMI’s Annual Candidate School each year while on deputation and when on furlough. Before going to the field he must come before the director.
11. All missionary applicants that are foreign nationals must be under the watch care and supervision of an American missionary that Tabernacle Baptist Church supports.

*Section 2 Educational Requirements*

1. A missionary applicant must be graduated from high school and have an approved three year Bible College diploma to qualify as an applicant. The diploma must be from a fundamental, independent, Baptist school. Pastoral experience will be considered as part of missionary’s training (II Tim. 2:15; I Tim. 4: 12-16)
2. Each missionary applicant will be considered on an individual basis. Certain exceptions may apply based upon the board’s approval.
3. A missionary applicant’s wife needs to be sympathetic and committed to her husband’s call. Her qualifications will be left to the discretion of TBMI.
4. The missionary applicant and his wife will be required to learn the language of his chosen field. If there is a language school to attend, this should be the first requirement upon entering a foreign field. It is suggested that he study linguistics before entering his field.
5. A missionary applicant and his wife must pass all tests given by TBMI.

*Section 3 Physical Requirements*

1. The missionary applicant must be healthy in mind and body. He and his wife must be able to meet the physical requirements of TBMI.
2. The missionary applicant and his wife must pass any physical examination prescribed by TBMI.
3. The family of the applicant likewise must be in good health.

*Section 3 Field Term and Furlough Time*

1. The general term on the mission field will be four years, unless it is altered by unforeseen circumstances. Request of an early furlough will be reviewed by TBMI.
2. The first term will include the length of time spent in language school.
3. The missionary serving near the continental limits of the United States will not be granted special privileges concerning his furlough.
4. The missionary may return home in case of death in the family, but he must assume the financial responsibility for this trip. The escrow fund may be used for this emergency. Other emergencies may be reviewed and discussed with TBMI.
5. Furlough will be one year in duration, during which deputation can be performed.
6. TBMI will determine the length of transition time and directed deputation between church planting works for home missionaries.
7. Furlough missionaries are required to attend the annual Candidate School of TBMI (Page 13 E).

*Section 5 Recall of Missionaries*

1. TBMI reserves the right to recall its missionaries when problems arise regarding a doctrinal, moral, or governmental matter.
2. The missionary who is recalled or resigns must do so in written form, giving the reason for doing so. All supporting churches of the missionary will be informed in writing of the reason given by the missionary for resigning or the reason for being recalled by TBMI.
3. TBMI will make every effort to bring its missionaries out of any country where revolution, nationalism or communistic thought may threaten their lives. Every missionary, however, should recognize the possibility of danger when he goes to a field.

*Section 6 All Personnel Requirements*

TBMI is resolved that the personnel of missionaries, Mission Committee and office shall live godly and according to biblical standards.

1. The Guiding principle for life is to glorify God (I Cor. 10; 30-33; Phil. 1:21; Col. 3:17, 24; Eccl. 12:13,14).
2. Modesty in dress is required for those in the service of the Lord. The basis for any standard must be the Word of god. Men are to look and dress like men, and women like women, wearing no men’s attire (I Tim. 2: 9-10; I Pet. 3: 1-5; James 1: 22-25; Deut. 22:5).
3. Good grooming is a must for the proper testimony to others (I Cor. 11: 13-16; Rom. 14: 7-33).
4. Strong drink is forbidden to those who must maintain a good testimony to those within and without the body of Christ (Prov. 20:1; 23: 29-32; Heb. 2:15; I Tim. 3:3; Tit. 1:7). Use only prescription and over-the-counter drugs from a pharmacy (Rev. 21:8; 22:8).
5. Worldly and fleshly habits must be broken so that we may be empowered to do the Lord’s work. (Eph. 2:2-5; 4:30-32; 5:1-14; 6:7-9; Col. 3:5-10; Gal. 5:16-21; II Cor. 5:17; II Pet. 1:5-10; Tit. 2:11-15).
6. The believer’s body is the Temple of the Holy Ghost; therefore, believer’s shall not defile the Lord’s Temple ( I Cor. 3: 16-17; 6:19,20).
7. Believers are to be led by and filled with the Spirit (Rom. 8:14-16; Eph. 5:18-20; Gal. 5:22-23).
8. Believers shall walk circumspectly, redeeming the time, and understanding the will of the Lord (Eph. 5:15-17).
9. Believers are to work in unity of the Spirit.

ARTICLE SEVEN: OUR PARTNERSHIP

 *Section 1 TBMI Relationship to Local Churches*

TBMI is an arm of the ministry of the local independent Baptist Churches. It is a ministry of Tabernacle Baptist Church of Greenville, South Carolina, given to helping other churches send forth their missionaries. The board is comprised of the pastor of Tabernacle Baptist Church as Pastor and President. The Vice President, General Director, Secretary, treasurer and Missions Committee are chosen out of the deacons and trustees of Tabernacle Baptist Church.

 *Section 2 TBMI Relationship to the missionary*

TBMI is an agency for missionaries to aid them in getting to their respective fields. We will provide the necessary facilities for the handling of the support nd work funds. TBMI will only be a means of disbursing funds from churches to the missionary. We will maintain proper financial records for the missionary to give an honest and clear accounting to his supporting churches.

 *Section 4 Relationship of the Local Churches to TBMI*

The sending church for each missionary is responsible for the doctrinal position and discipline for the missionary in case of a departure from biblical truth which is set forth in our doctrinal statement. The sending church shall be responsible to discipline the missionary for any disorderly conduct concerning standards for godly living. TBMI reserves the right to discipline the missionary if the local church fails to biblically exercise its responsibility (Gal. 6:1; II Thess. 3:6-14; I Thess. 5:14,15).

TBMI, in conference with the pastor of the sending church, will determine the status of the disorderly missionary under the watch care of TBMI. The sending church clerk and pastor are asked to sign an agreement with TBMI to enforce the guiding rules and principles if the need arises.

ARTICLE EIGHT: OUR PROMISE

 *Section 1 Our Promise to the Missionary*

TBMI pledges its prayer support to each missionary and his family, and for the work to which God has called them. We promise to pray individually, inspirationally, intelligently, intensively, and inclusively.

 *Section 2 Our Promise to the Ministry*

TBMI promises to be upright and truthful, laboring for the cause of Christ, and for the souls of men. We promise to keep in mind that it is not our own ministry, but the ministry of the Lord Jesus Christ and which must be kept first and foremost.

*Section 3 Our Promise to the Ministers (Pastors)*

TBMI promises to work with local pastors within the guidelines of the ministry of Tabernacle Baptist Church, and the Word of God.. TBMI furnishes the sending church a way where by it might contribute directly to the missionary and his ministry. TBMI promises to work within the position of “Faith”, trusting the local churches will do likewise.

 *Section 4 Our Promise to the Master*

TBMI pledges to stand firm upon the Word of God, in obedience to the great commission. TBMI is *“Committed to the command of the Master.”*

ARTICLE NINE: OTHER POLICIES (MISCELLANEOUS)

 *Section 1 Missionary Report*

All missionaries must send at least a quarterly report of their work to the home office. They also need to send a copy of each prayer letter to the home office.

 *Section 2 Missionary, you are a Guest*

The missionary must respect the country and its laws he is working in to the best he is able in accordance with the Word of God. The missionary must remember at all times that he is a citizen of the United States and guard against doing anything that could cause a governmental problem.

 *Section 4 Missionary with Full Support*

The missionary in the United States or in a foreign country, who has raised full support, must not be engaged in gainful employment. However, the children, who are of age, may do so, if permitted by the government of that country. A missionary on deputation or one who has not reached his support level may continue to work to supplement his needs.

 *Section 5 Missionary Children’s Education*

The missionary shall make satisfactory arrangements for the education of his children. This must be approved by TBMI (Eph. 6:4; Col. 3:21; Prov. 22:6; Deut. 6:4-7).

 *Section 6 Missionary Insurance*

All missionaries must maintain both health and life insurance for all members of the family who are living within the home. All countries demand verification of adequate provisions for the missionary. All missionaries must maintain liability insurance on all vehicles used by the missionaries. If registered in the name of TBMI, please file a copy of the policies with the mission office.

 *Section 7 Deceased Missionary Funds*

In the case of the death of a missionary, the support funds and the ministry work funds must be disbursed. Each missionary must sign a form, once approved by TBMI, giving directions for how these funds are to be disbursed.

TBMI will continue to receive and disburse the support of the missionary for three months after the decease of a missionary. After which, any support received will be returned to the contributor.

 *Section 8 Single Missionary*

A single missionary applicant or an appointed single missionary must submit an application to TBMI before making plans for marriage.

 *Section 9 The Missionary Taxes*

All missionaries are responsible to the United States government for federal taxes. All missionaries, home and foreign, are personally responsible to file the proper forms each year for the required taxes. This responsibility also applies in foreign countries when the missionary as an American citizen in under another government.

 *Section 10 Deputation*

It is necessary for the missionary to raise support by faith through churches in order to be fulltime in the ministry. A foreign missionary cannot be chargeable to the country where ministering. He must have sufficient support before leaving to the field. The same holds true for the home missionary. Since some fields are more difficult to raise support for, it becomes necessary for a missionary to spend extra time raising such support. Therefore, we have set 3 to 5 years as suggested periods for the raising of support. As a missionary nears this time frame, the board will review his or her deputation and support. If the missionary has not been active on deputation and exceeds this time period, he may be asked to resign from the board.

All foreign missionaries will be required to have an escrow account set up before leaving for the field. This fund can be used in a case of emergency, unforeseen needs or furlough passages. TBMI board members recommend a minimum of $60 be set aside each month. Use of the funds by the missionary must be approved by the TBMI director or pastor.

 *Section 10 The TBMI Director Guidelines*

1. Oversees the operation of the board in maintaining the policies set forth in the handbook.
2. Oversees the ministries of the missionaries under the board. He is to visit their fields of service as often as possible.
3. Represents TBMI in churches, Fellowships, Missions Conferences, Revivals, Camp Meetings, etc.
4. Promotes and encourages prospective missionaries to join TBMI in the outreach of World Evangelism.
5. Serves on the board along with the pastor of Tabernacle Baptist Church and six men elected by the church.