

The subscribers
of Book Run
Congregation Entice
in to an allegation
not to do by any
part of the Expenses
that may be a taking
when the Church
may be complete

January the 4th 1836

We the undersigned signers, members of Polk-run Congregation, do agree and hold ourselves bound, unto Daniel St. Koron Treasurer of the building committee, of Polk-run meeting house, for any amount remaining due on contract after the house is completed, the Pew sold and the public money all expended. This obligation shall be considered effectual if twenty-five signers or more be procured. The sum to be equally divided amongst them.

John Townser
Joseph Young
William Bicker
Joseph Thompson
Alexander Thompson
Josiah Mainer
Joseph Christy
John Jamison
William McQuaig
William Scott
Jacob Motes
Wm Thompson
James Haul
James McBreese
Daniel McHaven
John Wylie
Wm Gutterie
John Paul
Alex Stewart
William Hall
James Christy
Sara Kuppert
Samuel Givison
John Craig Jr.

Samuel P Moorhead
John M. Bunker

The Constitution of the New Congregation

We the members of the New Congregation in order to secure that the temporalities of the congregation may be conducted in a more regular manner and the interests of the Society the better consolidated do make and ordain and establish this ^{new} constitution

Section 1st

Article 1st All powers herein granted shall be vested in five Trustees chosen by the congregation in the following manner viz. On the day appointed for the first annual settlement with the congregation subsequent to the ratification of this constitution the seats of the two senior Trustees in office shall be vacated and on the day appointed for the second annual settlement the seats of the two next senior Trustees in office shall be vacated &c. So that two may be chosen yearly at the day of annual settlement. Provided always that they said Trustees severally ^{shall} be capable of being reappointed at the end of the terms severally before limited and in all cases wherein an election as heretofore described is neglected the Trustees whose seats were to be vacated shall be considered as holding their office to all intents & purposes as if reelected. Also in case of resignation, death & incapacity to fulfil the duties of the Office the number shall be regularly filled up by the congregation as soon as convenient —

2^d In pursuance of the Power herein granted all the acts and Deeds ^{of the Trustees} done in conformity to this constitution shall be considered valid & to all intents & purposes the acts & deeds of the congregation —

3^d The Trustees may meet ~~from time to time~~ ^{from time to time} agreeably to their own appointments for the purpose of transacting the business committed to their care. Also they may appoint their own President & Secretary & determine the rules for their own proceedings. The Secretary is always ~~to keep the public records & plans of the Meeting house~~ —

4th Not less than three of the Trustees shall be competent to form a quorum for the transaction of business & a majority of those present shall be competent to decide in all matters that come before them except in difficult matters which are likely to create uneasiness in the congregation or in which the rights of individuals are deeply involved. In all such cases the affair shall be decided by a majority of the whole number —

5th The Trustees in office at the time of the ratification of this constitution shall hold their seats until others are elected in their places as heretofore described —

6th Full credit shall be given to all the acts and deeds of the Trustees who were in office previous to the adopting of this constitution —

Section 2^d

That the Powers herein vested in the Trustees may be better understood & more clearly defined they shall be as follows —

1st All the public property belonging to the congregation shall be in trust vested in the Trustees for the use of the congregation —

2^d The Trustees have power when they judge it expedient or necessary that any further repairs should be made to the Church or any further buildings or improvements made on the public lands belonging to it. to announce the same to the congregation & appoint a day for the congregation to assemble & consult & determine whether or not it be necessary to carry into effect the object proposed and on a Majority ^{of those} present agreeing to it they trustees may then issue papers for the purpose of raising money by subscription clearly stating in them the end and purpose for which the money is to be appropriated. And on obtaining

sufficient encouragement by subscription, to agree with workmen, purchase materials and
superintend the whole ~~work~~ and pay all the expense out of the money collected
for the aforesaid purpose.

3^d The trustees have power to appoint suitable persons to superintend & collect
all subscriptions for the ~~the~~ repairs of the church, buildings or improvements
made on the public lands belonging to it and the money when collected
shall be paid into the hands of the treasurer appointed by the Trustees who shall
keep a regular account of all the money received and of all disbursements
Further the Trustees have power to obtain in a legal manner all subscriptions
which are not paid in a reasonable time or authorize the collectors to do the same.

4th Every collector when he has obtained the amount of his subscription paper &
paid it over to the treasurer shall deliver the ~~original~~ ~~original~~ subscription paper
to the trustees who shall put it on the public files

5th The Trustees shall faithfully expend the money collected for the use of the
church or public property belonging to it for the purposes for which it was
appropriated & if any surplus should remain after the object contemplated
is accomplished they shall have power to expend such surplus in ~~such~~ ^{that} way
which appears to them most useful for the public good

6th The Trustees have power to prosecute at law any person or persons who
shall take any public property belonging to the church or do any damage
or injury to the same or public property belonging to it & recover such
damages as the law will award for the use of the congregation & if any
costs should accrue in consequence of such prosecution or prosecutions
they are to be paid by the congregation

Section 3^d

4th The Trustees are invested with power to devise such means & carry them into
effect as will appear most proper for collecting & obtaining the yearly stipends
promised to the Pastor of the congregation so that he may have a regular
& comfortable support for his ministerial labours

2^d The Trustees have power in concert with the Pastor of the congregation to make
such alteration in his yearly salary as he & they may agree upon provided such
alteration if made in the Minister's favour does not exceed the then existing rent
arising from the seats or amount of the subscriptions

3^d All settlements made with the incumbent minister of the Gospel by the
Trustees shall be considered valid in behalf of the congregation

4th When the amount of the rent of the seats or subscriptions do not amount
to the sum promised the minister of the Gospel for his yearly salary the Trustees
shall make it known to the congregation & appoint a day for the congregation
to meet for the purpose of making over in addition to the rent of their seats or
the amount of their subscriptions as the case may require

Section 14th

of the congregation

4. The Trustees shall annually appoint a day for settlement with the Parlor at which time any person wishing to give up his or her seat or part of a seat shall give up ~~his or her seat or part of a seat~~ to the Trustees that they may have an opportunity of renting it to another or otherwise be responsible for it another year and any person who wishes to rent a seat or part of a seat shall make regular application to the Trustees & have his or her name entered for the rent of the seat or part of a seat which he or she may take & when any person wishes to change his or her sitting application must be made to the Trustees in like manner that it may be regularly entered in the plan of the Meeting house —

2^d. When any person wishes to rent a seat or part of a seat at any time when the Trustees are not in Session he or she shall apply to their Secretary who shall enter his or her name for the seat or part of a seat & make report of it to the Trustees at their next meeting —

3^d. Every person who rents a seat or part of a seat from the Trustees shall hold the same during pleasure, & he or she continues to pay the rent provided it was not through mistake previously given to another. In such a case the latter occupant is to give it up as soon as he or she receives information of the mistake by the Trustees —

4th. It shall be the duty of the Trustees carefully to endeavour as far as will comport with the interests of the congregation to rent all fractional parts of seats that are vacant previously to their giving out a part of an integral or whole seat that is vacant unless the applicant or applicants wishes to pay the rent of the whole seat —

5th. When any person or head of a family wishes to rent a whole seat that is vacant he or she shall have it in preference to two persons or heads of families applying for it at the same time & two shall have the preference to three &c —

6th. When any person or head of a family applies for a fractional part of a seat that is vacant he or she shall have it in preference to two persons or heads of families applying for it at the same time & two shall have the preference to three &c —

7th. When any person or head of a family who has contributed to the building of the Meeting house or for the repairs of it or any of his or her children makes application for a seat or part of a seat that is vacant & one who has contributed for neither makes application for it at the same time he or she who has contributed shall have the preference —

8th. When two persons or heads of families who have contributed for the building or repairs of the Meeting house apply for the same seat or part of a seat that is vacant at the same time he or she who has contributed most shall have the preference —

9th - When one person or head of a family applies for a seat that is vacant & he or she becomes responsible for the full amount of the rent although he or she takes other families into the seat with him or her shall have the preference to the same number of persons or heads of families who apply for it at the same time when each only becomes responsible for his or her part

10th - When any person or head of a family becomes responsible for a seat & he or she takes in a family or more than one into the seat with him or her, he or she shall clearly state to the Trustees what sum each family pays that they may be known to be contributors for the support of the Gospel & that none may have an opportunity of obtaining their own sitting free or reduced to a mere trifle

11th - Four heads of families shall not be permitted to take a seat unless they pay the whole amount of the rent neither shall more than four families be permitted to take a seat except it be a double seat

12th - When any dispute arises concerning a seat or part of a seat the Trustees shall decide agreeably to the foregoing regulations if it comes under them if not according to the best of their own judgements

Section 5th

1st - This Constitution shall be subject to such amendments as the Congregation may deem proper & all amendments shall be valid to all intents & purposes as part of the Constitution

2^d - The Powers herein granted shall not be so construed as to interfere with the Spiritual interests of the Congregation or the duties of those who are to be its Spiritual guides but always to be exercised in subordination to them

Done by the ^{consent of the} Congregation of Wake Run assembled this second day of June in the year of our Lord one thousand eight hundred and seventeen and signed in behalf of the Congregation by their Chairman & Secretary In Witness whereof we have hereunto subscribed our names -

John Jerns Chairman
William Guthrie Secy