

# **Leadership Decision Policy**

College Avenue Church of Christ

El Dorado, Arkansas

Realizing that we must have unity in the Eldership if we expect to have unity in the congregation, and recognizing that we are mutually accountable to each other, we hereby agree to abide by the following rules which we voluntarily and of our own free will make and enter into this day in the hope of more closely uniting both the Eldership and the entire congregation over which we preside.

1. In order that each one of us may feel free to perform his duties as he sees them, any shepherd shall be allowed to express himself freely in the business meetings of this leadership body, and what he says shall not be repeated outside of the business meeting.
2. When any, or all, of the shepherds have been allowed to express themselves on any matter that may come before this body, a poll shall be taken by the acting chairman and the minority agrees to accept the decision of the majority and to work faithfully and sincerely for the success of whatever measures have been agreed upon.
3. In the course of time if any elder finds that he cannot conscientiously support the decision of the majority, he agrees to resign for the sake of peace and harmony in the eldership and consequently, for the good of the entire congregation.
4. If any shepherd shall continue to oppose the will of the majority of the shepherds, after all efforts shall have been made to secure his cooperation, he may then be asked by the majority to resign for the sake of peace and harmony in the congregation.
5. If any elder voluntarily resigns, or if he is asked to resign, he agrees to do so peacefully, and promises to continue to support the programs of the congregation and to refrain from creating any dissension or trouble in the body.
6. No one shepherd has authority, except such as may have been delegated to him by the other shepherds meeting together in a body, and he shall make no commitments or decisions affecting the church, except in a meeting of his fellow shepherds.
7. All matters of business shall be decided in a regular business meeting or, when necessary, in a special called meeting of the shepherds. The only exception to this rule shall be in regard to any work, or problem, to which one of the elders has been previously assigned by the other elders in a business meeting.
8. In any regular or special business meeting nothing shall be officially decided without the presence of the majority of the elders, and no measure shall ever be passed in any meeting unless it is agreeable to a majority of the entire eldership.
9. The above guidelines may be expanded or revised from time to time as the elders deem wise for the good of the congregation, but no change shall be made without calling a meeting for the express purpose of deciding on such changes and in the presence of all the shepherds.
10. No changes shall be made in these rules unless two-thirds of the shepherds approve of the changes.