

Complete Change Summary

2023 GHBC Constitution & Bylaws → 2026 Waypoint Constitution & Bylaws

Full inventory of every substantive difference between the June 25, 2023 document and the August 20, 2026 document (including Membership Covenant).

1. Name & Legal Identity (Article I)

- Corporate name retained as **Great Hills Baptist Church**.
- Added assumed name: **Waypoint Church ATX** (referred to throughout as “Waypoint Church”).
- Principal address updated:
2023: 10500 Jollyville Road, Austin, Texas 78759
2026: **12708 Riata Vista Cir, Austin, TX 78727**
- Global replacement of “Great Hills Baptist Church” / “GHBC” → **Waypoint Church** throughout the entire document.

2. Article IV – Mission (Complete Rewrite)

2023 Version:

“The Mission of GHBC is to be a church that makes disciples who make disciples.” + Upward in Worship / Inward in Discipleship / Outward in Impact structure with supporting Scriptures (Matthew 4:19, Romans 12:1-2, 2 Timothy 2:2, Matthew 5:16, Matthew 28:19-20).

2026 Version:

- **Mission:** Love God most, and love people best – within our communities and beyond.
- **Vision:** Live a life of multiplication individually and corporately by sharing the gospel, serving our communities, and discipling people from different locations, generations, and ethnicities in Austin, Texas, and around the world.
- **Core Values:** Obeying God’s Word in all of life; Praying to God about everything; Sharing the gospel in Love; Unifying Generations in Every Season; and Pursuing God’s Design Together.

3. Bylaws Article I – Church Membership

3.1 Section 1.6 – Duties of the Members (Expanded)

2023: “Members are expected to be faithful and obedient in all areas of the Christian life, attend the services of this church, give regularly to its support, and participate in its ministries.”

*2026: Expanded to include regular attendance at worship and Bible study, contributing time, talents, and financial resources. Explicitly states that these duties and the fuller commitments of membership are expressed in the **Waypoint Church Membership Covenant**, which each member affirms upon joining.*

3.2 New Section 1.7 – Annual Membership Review, Renewal, and Pastoral Shepherdding

(Entirely new section – does not exist in 2023 document)

- Requires all members to participate in an annual membership review and renewal process.
- Provides opportunity for personal reflection, reaffirmation of beliefs / Membership Covenant / duties, and intentional renewal of covenant relationship.
- Emphasizes the **weighty and solemn responsibility of the Lead Team of pastors**, as under-shepherds of Christ, to know well the condition of the flock (**Proverbs 27:23**) and to shepherd this process with care, encouragement, admonishment, and grace-filled accountability.
- Process administered by the pastoral staff in coordination with deacon leadership.
- Non-participation without reasonable cause (or clear lack of desire to pursue membership commitments) may result in review under sections 1.4 and 1.5.

4. Section 2.3 – Lead Team Composition

2023: Executive Pastor, Family Pastor, Young Adult Pastor, Discipleship Pastor, and Senior Adult Pastor.

*2026: Executive Pastor, Family Pastor, **Young Adult Pastor**, and **Legacy Adult Pastor**.*

Still limited to 3–5 pastors; each continues to serve as a Director of the Corporation; Executive Pastor remains the Registered Agent.

5. Section 2.7 – Deacons (Scripture Reference Correction)

This is a deliberate correction. 1 Timothy 3:8–13 is the actual deacon qualification passage; verses 14–16 shift to the purpose of the letter and the mystery of godliness.

Location	2023 GHBC	2026 Waypoint
Opening paragraph of 2.7	Acts 6:1-7, 1 Timothy 3:8-17	Acts 6:1-7, 1 Timothy 3:8-13
Nominee qualification review	according to 1 Timothy 3:8-17	according to 1 Timothy 3:8-13
Candidate ability interview	according to 1 Timothy 3:8-17	according to 1 Timothy 3:8-13

All other language in the Deacons section (roles, election process, Active / Inactive / Emeritus status, terms, etc.) remains substantively the same, with only the name updates (GHBC → Waypoint Church) applied.

6. Membership Covenant (New Attachment)

A full **Waypoint Church Membership Covenant** has been added (pages 32–33 of the 2026 document). It did not exist in the 2023 version.

It is a relational agreement of privileges and responsibilities grounded in Scripture, with reciprocal commitments from leadership and from the individual member:

1. **Unity** (Ephesians 4:11-13; Colossians 3:13-14)
2. **Prayer** (Ephesians 6:18; 1 Thessalonians 5:17)
3. **Build Godly Families** (Psalm 103:17; Romans 12:5)
4. **Serve** (Matthew 20:26-28; 1 Peter 4:10)
5. **Steward and Support** (2 Corinthians 9:6-7; Luke 6:38; Matthew 6:21)
6. **Moral Purity & Accountability** (Matthew 18:15-18; Ephesians 4:15-16; Hebrews 13:17; 1 Corinthians 6:18)

Each commitment includes space for the member's initials, plus a final signature block (Printed Name, Signature, Date).

7. Other Consistency & Minor Updates

- All remaining “GHBC” / “Great Hills Baptist Church” references updated to Waypoint Church.
- Minor phrasing refinements for smoother reading and consistency with the new name (e.g., “shepherded by its pastors”).
- No structural changes to: Church Officers (2.1–2.2), Trustees (2.5), Church Staff (2.6), Standing Committees (2.8), Ordinances, Church Services & Business Meetings, Finances, or the Amendment process.
- Attachments A (Baptist Faith and Message) and B (Sexual Morality Policy) remain unchanged in substance.

Overall Character of the Changes

The 2026 document primarily accomplishes: (1) the rebrand to Waypoint Church with updated legal address, (2) a refreshed Mission / Vision / Core Values, (3) strengthened membership accountability through an expanded 1.6, a new annual review process (1.7) with clear pastoral/Lead Team shepherding weight, and the addition of a formal Membership Covenant, (4) a corrected Scripture reference in the Deacons section (1 Timothy 3:8-13), and (5) an updated Lead Team roster reflecting current pastoral roles — all while preserving the existing congregational polity and overall structure of the governing documents.