

Current bylaws (2017-8)	Bylaws in Process (2023)	Comments
<p data-bbox="159 205 561 279">The Believers Concert Band Gainesville, Georgia</p> <p data-bbox="305 283 415 317"><b>Bylaws</b></p> <p data-bbox="107 321 341 354"><b>Article 1. Name</b></p> <p data-bbox="107 399 557 541">The name of the organization shall be The Believers Concert Band. Our principal office is located in Hall County, Georgia.</p> <p data-bbox="115 619 388 653"><b>Article 2. Purpose</b></p> <p data-bbox="107 695 596 1094">The Believers Concert Band is a Christian-based church/community band with the purpose of providing musicians from Gainesville and the surrounding area with an opportunity to perform in a concert band for their personal pleasure and enjoyment, as well as to provide entertainment and cultural enrichment to the community.</p> <p data-bbox="107 1171 415 1205"><b>Article 3. Affiliations</b></p> <p data-bbox="107 1249 584 1570">The Believers Concert Band is an outreach ministry of Gainesville First United Methodist Church (GFUMC). The North Georgia Community Foundation (NGCF), a Section 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization, is the fiscal sponsor of The Believers Concert Band.</p> <p data-bbox="107 1648 341 1682"><b>Article 4. Goals</b></p> <p data-bbox="107 1726 589 1978">The goals of The Believers Concert Band are to use music as a vehicle to have fun, refresh the spirits of the players, refresh the spirits of the listeners, give to the community, and enjoy Christian fellowship.</p>	<p data-bbox="667 205 1070 279">The Believers <del>Concert</del> Band Gainesville, Georgia</p> <p data-bbox="805 291 919 325"><b>Bylaws</b></p> <p data-bbox="623 329 857 363"><b>Article 1. Name</b></p> <p data-bbox="623 407 1073 550">The name of the organization shall be The Believers <del>Concert</del> Band. Our principal office is located in Hall County, Georgia.</p> <p data-bbox="623 627 896 661"><b>Article 2. Purpose</b></p> <p data-bbox="623 695 1089 1136">The Believers <del>Concert</del> Band is a Christian-based, non-denominational organization with the purpose of providing musicians from Gainesville and the surrounding area with an opportunity to perform in a <del>concert band</del> <b>musical group</b> for their personal pleasure and enjoyment, as well as to provide entertainment and cultural enrichment to the community.</p> <p data-bbox="623 1171 932 1205"><b>Article 3. Affiliations</b></p> <p data-bbox="623 1249 1114 1570"><del>The Believers Concert Band is sponsored by the Worship Arts Ministry of Gainesville First United Methodist Church (GFUMC).</del> The North Georgia Community Foundation (NGCF), a Section 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization, is the fiscal sponsor of The Believers <del>Concert</del> Band.</p> <p data-bbox="623 1648 857 1682"><b>Article 4. Goals</b></p> <p data-bbox="623 1726 1081 1978">The goals of The Believers <del>Concert</del> Band are to use music as a vehicle to have fun, refresh the spirits of the players, refresh the spirits of the listeners, give to the community, and enjoy Christian fellowship.</p>	<p data-bbox="1138 390 1419 674"><i>The word "Concert" is removed from any reference to the umbrella organization, The Believers Band organization. See new Article 6.</i></p> <p data-bbox="1138 1339 1349 1444"><i>Clarifies relationship to GFUMC.</i></p>

## Article 5. Membership

Membership is open to adult musicians in the community and talented students recommended by their band directors. There must be a position open in the appropriate section as determined by the Band Director. The prospective member should attend rehearsals and "sit in" with the section to determine if he/she is comfortable with the performance level and to demonstrate to the section leader and Band Director that he/she plays at the desired level of musicianship.

The Band Director, at his/her discretion may from time to time designate musical subgroups of The Believers Concert Band, which may rehearse and perform at separate times from The Believers Concert Band. Such sub-groups will come under the umbrella of The Believers Concert Band and will also be governed by these Bylaws. No other musical sub-group of The Believers Concert Band, except as designated by the Band Director, is authorized to operate under the umbrella of The Believers Concert Band or to represent itself as part of The Believers Concert Band.

## Article 5. Membership

Membership is open to adult musicians in the community and talented students recommended by their band directors. There must be a position open in the appropriate section as determined by the Band Director. ~~The prospective member should attend rehearsals and "sit in" with the section to demonstrate to the section leader and Band Director that he/she will be able to play at the desired level of musicianship.~~

## Article 6. Organization

The Believers Band organization includes two primary performing groups; the Believers Concert Band, and the Southern Journey Big Band along with any other ensembles created from these two groups.

## Article 7. Ensembles

~~The director(s), in accordance with review by the Board, may designate musical ensembles which may rehearse and perform at separate times from The Believers Concert Band or the Southern Journey Big Band. Leaders of any ensemble groups are appointed by the appropriate Band Director. Such ensemble groups will come under the umbrella of The Believers Band and will also be governed by these Bylaws. No other music ensembles, except those designated by the director(s), is authorized to operate under the umbrella of The Believers Band or to represent itself as part of The Believers Band.~~

*Defines Believers Band organization (over the performing Concert band and Southern Journey Big band).*

*Article 7 is split from the former Article 5 and updated*

### Article 6. Officers

The officers of The Believers Concert Band shall be a President, Vice President, Secretary, and Treasurer. The officers shall be elected at the Annual General Meeting of Band members. Officers shall serve a one year term of office from January 1 through December 31.

### Article 7. Board

The Board shall consist of the Officers and the Band Director of The Believers Concert Band. The Board shall have the responsibility to support all administrative and financial aspects of The Believers Concert Band, including the planning and execution of rehearsals and performances. The Board shall follow all applicable policies and procedures of GFUMC and NGCF.

A quorum of three Board members is required to conduct the business of The Believers Concert Band, except as otherwise provided in these Bylaws. All motions presented to the Board must be approved by a majority vote, either by voice, phone, email, or by other means of telecommunication of its members. The Board members shall serve without compensation; however, they shall be allowed reasonable advancement of funds or reimbursement of expenses incurred in the performance of their duties. The Board

### Article 8. Officers

The officers of The Believers ~~Concert Band~~ organization shall be a President, Vice President, Secretary, and Treasurer. The officers shall be elected at an Annual General Meeting of all Band members (Concert Band and Big Band). Officers shall serve a one-year term of office from January 1 through December 31.

### Article 9. Board

The Board shall consist of the Officers, Band Director(s), and may include one or more at large members. At large members can be Band members or non-members at the discretion of the Board. The Board shall have the responsibility to support all administrative and financial aspects of The Believers Band including all ensembles. This will encompass the planning and execution of rehearsals and performances. The Board shall follow all applicable policies and procedures of GFUMC and NGCF.

The total number of Board members shall be at the discretion of the Board. A quorum of a majority of Board members will be required to conduct the business of The Believers ~~Concert Band~~. All motions presented to the Board must be approved by a majority vote, either by voice, phone, email, or by other means of telecommunication of its members. The Board members (with the exception of the Band Director(s)) shall serve without compensation; however, they shall be allowed reasonable

*New Article 9  
(Former Article 7)  
is reworded to  
include  
representatives of  
the Southern  
Journey Big Band*

members shall not be personally liable for the debts, liabilities or other obligations of The Believers Concert Band.

## **Article 8. Duties of the Board**

### **Section 8-1. President**

The President shall serve a one-year term and shall preside at all meetings and oversee all aspects of the band, including providing coordination among the Officers. In the absence of the President, the Vice President shall preside. The President shall be an ex-officio member of all committees. The President will establish standing or other working committees and appoint committee chairs in consultation with the Board.

### **Section 8-2. Vice President**

The Vice President shall serve a one-year term and may move into the position of President the following year, upon approval of the Band membership at the Annual General Meeting. The Vice President shall preside at Board meetings and take over duties of the President in the President's absence. The Vice President shall appoint a Nominating Committee to present a slate of Officers for election two weeks before the Annual General Meeting.

advancement of funds or reimbursement of expenses incurred in the performance of their duties. The Board members shall not be personally liable for the debts, liabilities or other obligations of the Believers Concert Band or Southern Journey Big Band.

## **Article 10. Duties of the Board**

### **Section 10-1. President**

The President shall serve a one-year term and shall preside at all meetings and oversee all aspects of the band, including providing coordination among the Officers. In the absence of the President, the Vice President shall preside. The President shall be an ex-officio member of all committees. The President will establish standing or other working committees and appoint committee chairs in consultation with the Board.

### **Section 10-2. Vice President**

The Vice President shall serve a one-year term and may move into the position of President the following year, upon approval of the Band membership at the Annual General Meeting. The Vice President shall preside at Board meetings and take over duties of the President in the President's absence. The Vice President shall appoint a Nominating Committee to present a slate of Officers for election two weeks before the Annual General Meeting.

*More accurately reflects each officer's and conductor's duties*

### **Section 8-3. Secretary**

The Secretary shall record minutes of all meetings and distribute them via email at least two weeks before the next meeting. Minutes will be read, amended if necessary, and approved at the next meeting. The Secretary shall handle all Band correspondence.

### **Section 8-4. Treasurer**

The Treasurer shall establish an annual budget based on historical information and requests from the Band Director, Board, and committees. The Treasurer shall immediately deposit any money received by the Band with the North Georgia Community Foundation (NGCF). The Treasurer shall submit all bills to the NGCF pursuant to Article 13 of these Bylaws. The Treasurer shall present the financial report prepared by the NGCF to the monthly meeting of the Board. The Treasurer shall present a financial report to the Band membership at the Annual General Meeting.

### **Section 8-5. Music Director/Conductor (a.k.a. Band Director)**

The Band Director shall be responsible for all musical aspects of the Band, including performances, rehearsals, music selection, selection of musicians

### **Section 10-3. Secretary**

The Secretary shall serve a one-year term and record minutes of all meetings and distribute them via email at least one week before the next meeting for review and comment. Minutes will be read, amended if necessary, and approved at the next meeting. The Secretary shall maintain, complete, and submit the annual Association of Concert Band's ASCAP-BMI Performance List to keep the Believers Band Organization blanket license current.

### **Section 10-4. Treasurer**

The Treasurer shall serve a one-year term and establish an annual budget based on historical information and requests from the Band Director(s), Board, and committees. The Treasurer shall immediately deposit any money received by the Band with the North Georgia Community Foundation (NGCF). The Treasurer shall submit all bills to the NGCF pursuant to Article 15 of these Bylaws. The Treasurer shall present the financial report prepared by the NGCF to the monthly meeting of the Board. The Treasurer shall present a financial report to the Band membership at the Annual General Meeting.

### **Section 10-5. Music Directors/Conductors (a.k.a. Band Directors)**

The Believers Concert Band and the Southern Journey Big Band, shall have a Band Director who will be responsible for all musical aspects of their respective bands, including performances,

for performances, and use of assistant conductors. The Band Director shall be responsible to the Band membership, as represented by the Board, and shall keep the GFUMC Director of Music apprised of Band activities and performances.

If the Band Director position should become vacant, the President shall appoint interim conductor(s) until a new Band Director is appointed. The President shall also appoint a Search Committee. The Search Committee will establish Band Director criteria for review and approval by the Board. Upon approval, the Committee will select and interview candidates. The Search Committee will present the Board with up three finalists for the Band Director position. The finalists will have an opportunity to conduct a rehearsal and will be interviewed by the Board. The Board will make the final decision regarding the new Band Director.

### **Article 9. Meetings**

Meetings of the Board shall be held monthly while the Band is in session. Meetings shall be scheduled by the President on a date and at a time convenient for Board members. The President, with sufficient notice, may call special meetings of the Band membership or the Board. The Annual General Meeting of the Band membership will be held between mid-October and mid-November. All motions presented at meetings of the

rehearsals, music selection, selection of musicians for performances, and use of assistant conductors. The Band Director(s) will be responsible to the Band membership, as represented by the Board, and shall keep the GFUMC Director of Music apprised of Band activities and performances if those impact the church.

If either of the Band Director positions should become vacant, the President shall appoint interim conductor(s) until a new Band Director is appointed. The President shall also appoint a Search Committee. The Search Committee will establish Band Director criteria for review and approval by the Board. Upon approval, the Committee will select and interview candidates. The Search Committee will present the Board with up to three finalists for the Band Director position. The finalists will have an opportunity to conduct a rehearsal and will be interviewed by the Board. The Board will make the final decision regarding the new Band Director.

### **Article 11. Meetings**

Meetings of the Board shall be held monthly while the Band is in session. Meetings shall be scheduled by the President on a date and at a time convenient for Board members. The President, with sufficient notice, may call special meetings of the Band membership or the Board.

The Annual General Meeting of the Band membership will be held between mid-October and mid-November. All motions presented at meetings of the Band

*The purpose of the change allows for flexibility to vote for new officers at the*

Band membership shall be approved by a majority voice vote of the Band members present.

**Article 10. Standing and Other Working Committees**

The President will establish standing or other working committees and appoint committee chairs in consultation with the Board. The committee chairs shall make reports to the Board as requested by the President. Anticipated funding needs for the committees will be coordinated with the Treasurer prior to the preparation of the annual budget.

**Article 11. Elections**

Band Officers shall be elected at the Annual General Meeting for one-year terms. The Board shall fill any vacancies that occur during the term of office.

**Article 12. Dues**

The Board may levy dues to cover ongoing expenses. Band members are expected to provide their own instrument and concert attire for performances.

membership shall be approved by a majority vote of the Band members present, or through other Board approved voting methods, as long as the vote is received no later than the Annual General Meeting date.

**Article 12. Standing and Other Working Committees**

The President will establish standing or other working committees and appoint committee chairs in consultation with the Board. The committee chairs shall make reports to the Board as requested by the President. Anticipated funding needs for the committees will be coordinated with the Treasurer prior to the preparation of the annual budget.

**Article 13. Elections**

All Board Officers shall be elected at the Annual General Meeting for one-year terms. The Board shall fill any vacancies that occur during the term of office.

**Article 14. Dues**

The Board may levy dues to cover ongoing expenses. Band members are expected to provide their own instrument and concert attire for performances.

*meeting or through any additional Board approved methods. (See Article 8, Election of Officers and Article 10, Section 10-2)*

**Article 13. Expenditures and Disbursements**

Expenditures greater than \$250.00 must be approved in advance by a majority of the Board. Expenditures not exceeding \$250.00 may be approved by the Band President or Band Director. Any expenditure approved outside of a regular meeting of the Board must be reviewed and included in the minutes of the next regular meeting. Expenditures over \$1,000.00 must be approved by a voice vote of the majority of the Band members present at a meeting of the Band membership. All disbursements must be presented to the NGCF for payment as outlined in the agreement between the NGCF and The Believers Concert Band.

**Article 14. Purchases of Equipment and Supplies**

All purchased equipment and supplies shall become the property of The Believers Concert Band. All music provided to Band members shall remain the property of The Believers Concert Band, and may not be used by a member for any other purpose.

**Article 15. In Effect**

These Bylaws go into effect immediately upon approval by a two-thirds vote of the members present at a meeting of The Believers Concert Band.

**Article 15. Expenditures and Disbursements**

Expenditures greater than \$250.00 must be approved in advance by a majority of the Board. Expenditures not exceeding \$250.00 may be approved by the Band President or Band Director. Any expenditure approved outside of a regular meeting of the Board must be reviewed and included in the minutes of the next regular meeting. Expenditures over \$1,000.00 must be approved by a voice vote of the majority of the Band members present at a meeting of the Band membership. All disbursements must be presented to the NGCF for payment as outlined in the agreement between the NGCF and The Believers ~~Concert~~ Band.

**Article 16. Purchases of Equipment and Supplies**

All purchased equipment and supplies shall become the property of The Believers ~~Concert~~ Band. All music provided to Band members shall remain the property of The Believers ~~Concert~~ Band, and may not be used by a member for any other purpose.

**Article 17. In Effect**

These Bylaws go into effect immediately upon approval by a two-thirds vote of the members present at a meeting of The Believers ~~Concert~~ Band.



<p><b>Article 16. Amendments to Bylaws</b></p> <p>These Bylaws may be amended at any meeting of The Believers Concert Band membership by a two-thirds vote of members present. The proposed change shall be distributed to the Band members by email or other means, then discussed at two or more rehearsals prior to the voting date.</p> <p><b>Article 17. Rules of Order</b></p> <p><i>Robert's Rules of Order</i> shall be used by the Board to conduct all business meetings.</p>	<p><b>Article 18. Amendments to Bylaws</b></p> <p>These Bylaws may be amended at any meeting of The Believers <del>Concert Band</del> <b>Organization</b> membership by a two-thirds vote of members present. The proposed change shall be distributed to the Band members by email or other means, then discussed at two or more rehearsals prior to the voting date.</p> <p><b>Article 19. Rules of Order</b></p> <p><i>Robert's Rules of Order</i> shall be used by the Board to conduct all business meetings.</p> <p><b>Article 20. Dissolution of Band</b></p> <p>In the event of the dissolution of The Believers <del>Concert Band</del> <b>organization</b>, all liabilities and obligations shall be paid, satisfied and discharged. The remaining assets will be distributed to nonprofit organization(s) as determined by the Band membership, and based upon the Board's recommendations.</p>	
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Ratified

President

Vice-President

Secretary

Treasurer