

Connectional Relationships

The General Association of General Baptists is a conglomeration of local churches and associations joined together for the purposes of doing kingdom work.

In this section we will explain certain entities within our framework that make us unique.

The Local Church

We believe that the local church is the highest ecclesiastical authority.

Associations

Each church within the General Association of General Baptists must belong to an association. This relationship will ensure two things:

- A. A voice in our annual general meetings
- B. Adequate and appropriate representation in the Council of Associations

Each association is made up of at least two churches and maintains jurisdiction only within the bounds of member churches. These churches do not have to be geographically close. Rather, most associations form around like-minded goals, values, and vision. Associations function to promote the unity, fellowship, and cooperation of like-minded churches. Together they engage in ministry, fellowship on an annual basis, and organize outreach projects. Each local association also forms a presbytery from which pastors and deacons are ordained.

Council of Associations

The Council of Associations is designed to give each General Baptist association a voice in the direction of the denomination as a whole. Council of Associations members are chosen by each local association.

“The Council of Associations is to be the eyes, ears, head, and heart of the General Association of General Baptists to enable the most effective means of fulfilling God’s will for the people of God called General Baptists.”

The Council of Associations exists to keep each member of the General Baptist denomination informed on the denominational issues and give each member a voice. From the smallest General Baptist congregation to the largest, each member is important to the success of our denomination. Communication is the key.