



## **Cornerstone Fellowship of Snow Hill, NC**

Cornerstone Fellowship is a group of Christian believers who gathered together to start a non-denominational church in Snow Hill, NC. After seeking God and much prayer, the church would come to be named Cornerstone Fellowship, dedicated on the principles that the Bible is the inspired Word of God and that salvation is only through the power of Jesus Christ, and a personal relationship with the Lord can be had through salvation, baptism, and the power of the Holy Spirit.

The Lord provided a building on 1397 Peanut Road, Snow Hill NC which was previously a pecan sheller owned by Ronald Barrow. After renovations, the first service was held on June 4, 2017.

Cornerstone Fellowship is a tax-exempt non-profit organization with the Full Gospel Fellowship of Churches and Ministers International.

### **History of Full Gospel Fellowship of Churches and Ministers International**

It was in 1948 that The Voice of Healing was formed by Gordon Lindsay and Jack Moore, and later T. L. Osborn, Jack Coe, Richard Vineyard, F. F. Bosworth, Kenneth Hagin, Gayle Jackson, Raymond T. Richie, W. V. Grant, Louise Nankeville and others. So powerful was this healing revival that soon approximately 100 evangelists formed a fellowship electing Gordon as president.

It was when pastors, missionaries, evangelists, teachers and churches – some who had left their denominations to become Full Gospel – urged for a linkage with those of like-precious-faith, that the need for a fellowship was created. It became very evident that all these leaders needed to plan and work together to become a strong force to reap the whitened harvest. The fellowship was then founded in 1962 by a group of Pentecostal ministers under the leadership of Gordon Lindsey.

The years since, God has continued to use this Full Gospel Fellowship of Churches & Ministers International organization to bless ministers and ministries all over the world. Strong leadership has been raised up, and accountability, which is so essential to stability in every life, has been offered. Now a minister looking for those of like-precious- faith can find it in The Fellowship-no longer thinking that "I am the only one still serving God".

The Fellowship has grown since established in 1962 to 3,381 Clergy, 1,273 churches, and 432,632 members. The current President of the Fellowship is Pastor Steve Holder, Senior Pastor, Bethel Church, Goldsboro NC.

Our motto at Cornerstone Fellowship is that we live by the great commission and believe in loving the Lord and loving one another.

We believe that our membership can grow, develop, and reach its destiny in mission and ministry. We believe that we should be able to connect with people of all ages and all walks of life. Our mission is to bridge the generations and embrace and empower future emerging leaders. Together, we can serve and be a spirit-empowered community that will advance the Kingdom of God.

## **DOCTRINE OF FAITH**

### **The Scriptures Inspired:**

We believe in the Bible, the inspired Word of God, composed of sixty-six books and divided into two departments, Old and New testaments; the full and complete revelation from God to man of the plan and history of redemption. (*II Timothy 3:16-17; II Peter 1:20-21; Psalm 119:105,160; Proverbs 30:5*).

### **The One true God:**

We believe that God is the Creator and Ruler of the Universe. He has eternally existed in three persons: The Father, Son and Holy Spirit. These three are co-equal and are one God. (*Genesis 1:1; Genesis 1:26-27; 3:22; Psalm 90:2; Isaiah 43:10-11; Matthew 28:19*).

### **Man, His fall, and Redemption:**

Man was created good and upright – for God said, “Let us make man in Our image, after Our likeness”, but man, by voluntary transgression, fell and his only hope of redemption is in Jesus Christ, the Son of God (*Genesis 1:26-31; Genesis 3:1-7; Romans 5:12-21*).

### **Crucifixion and Resurrection:**

We believe that Jesus Christ shed His blood and died on the cross for the remission of our sins. We believe that Jesus was buried and rose again on the third day. He then ascended into heaven and now sits at the right hand of God until He shall return to judge all men at the last day. (*Matthew 27:35-50; Matthew 27: 57-60; Matthew 28:2-6; Acts 1:9; I Thessalonians 4:16-17*)

### **The Salvation of Man:**

Salvation is a gift from God to man. Man can never make up for his/her sins by self- improvement or good works. Salvation is only received by asking for forgiveness and accepting Jesus Christ as their Lord and Savior. (*Romans 6:23; Ephesians 2:8-9; John 14:6*).

### **Justification:**

We believe, teach, and firmly maintain the scriptural doctrine of justification by faith alone. “Just-if-I’d-never sinned”. (*Romans 5:1*)

### **Sanctification:**

The Scriptures teach a life of Holiness, without which no man shall see the Lord. By the power of the Holy Ghost, we are able to obey the command, “Be ye Holy, for I am Holy” (*1 Peter 1:16*). Entire Sanctification is the will of God for all believers and should be earnestly pursued by walking in obedience to God’s Word (*II Timothy 2:21; Hebrews 12:14; 1 Peter 1:15-16; 1 John 2:6*).

### **Holy Spirit:**

We believe that the Holy Spirit was given on the day of Pentecost according to Acts 2:1-4. Just as on the day of Pentecost, the Holy Spirit dwells with us today. It is also through the Holy Spirit that the believer receives power and boldness to witness, and comfort. It is through the Holy Spirit that the evidence of speaking in tongues is manifested. We believe in the baptism of the Holy Ghost and fire with the initial evidence of speaking with other tongues as the Spirit gives utterance (*Luke 11:13; Acts 1:5, 8; 2:1-4; 8:17; 10:44-46; 19:6*) Speaking in tongues is the same, in essence, as the gift of tongues (*1 Corinthians 12:4-11, 28*), but different in purpose and use.

### **The Church:**

The Church is the body of believers of Jesus Christ whose purpose is to fulfill the great commission (*Romans 12:4-5; Ephesians 4:4*).

### **Ministry and Evangelism:**

A divinely called and scripturally ordained ministry has been provided by our Lord for a two-fold purpose: (1) the evangelism of the world and (2) the edifying of the body of Christ (*Mark 16:15-20; Ephesians 4:11-13*).

### **Divine Healing:**

We believe in divine healing as in the atonement (*Isaiah 53:4; Matthew 8:16,17; Mark 16:14-18; James 5:14-16; Exodus 15:26*)

Deliverance from sickness is provided for in the atonement and is the privilege of all believers (*Isaiah 53:4; Matthew 8:16-17*).

### **Great Commission:**

We believe it is the responsibility of every believer to dedicate his/her life to carrying out the work of the Great Commission (*Matthew 28:18-20; mark 16:15-20; Acts 1:8*)

### **The Second Coming**

We believe in the imminent, personal, premillennial second coming of our Lord Jesus Christ. The resurrection of those who have fallen asleep in Christ and their translation together with those who are alive and remain unto the coming of the Lord is the blessed hope of the church (*1 Thessalonians 4:16-18; Romans 8:23; Titus 2:13; 1 Corinthians 15:52-53; Revelation 11:15*).

### **The Millennial Reign of Jesus**

The revelation of the Lord Jesus Christ from heaven, the salvation of national Israel, and the Millennial reign of Christ on the earth is the scriptural promise and the world's hope (*2 Thessalonians 1:7; Revelation 19:11-14; Romans 11:26-27; Revelation 20:1-7*).

We believe in a literal Heaven and hell, eternal reward and judgment

*(Revelation 19:20; Revelation 20: 10-15; 2 Peter 3:13; Revelation 21:22)*

### **Human Sexuality:**

We believe that God has commanded that no intimate sexual activity be engaged in outside of a marriage between a man and a woman. We believe that any form of homosexuality, lesbianism, bisexuality, bestiality, incest, fornication, adultery, and pornography are sinful perversions of God's gift of sex. We believe that God disapproves of and forbids any attempt to alter one's gender by surgery or appearance (*Genesis 2:24; Genesis 19:5, 13; Genesis 26:8-9; Leviticus 18:1-30; Romans 1: 26-29; 1 Corinthians 5:1; 6:9; 1 Thessalonians 4:1-8; Hebrews 13:4*).

We believe that the only legitimate marriage is the joining of one man and one woman (*Genesis 2:24; Romans 7:2; 1 Corinthians 7:10; Ephesians 5:22-23*).

### **Sanctity of Human Life:**

We believe that human life begins at conception and that the unborn child is a living human being. Abortion constitutes the unjustified, unexcused taking of unborn human life. We seek to uphold and preserve the sanctity of all human life (*Job 3:16; Psalms 51:5; Psalms 139:14-16; Isaiah 44:24; Isaiah 49:1, 5; Jeremiah 1:5; Jeremiah 20:15-18; Luke 1:44*).

**The Tenants of Faith does not exhaust the extent of our faith. The Bible is the sole and final source of all that we believe. We do believe, however, that the foregoing Tenants of Faith accurately represents the teaching of the Bible.**

### **Vision and Purpose**

Full Gospel Fellowship shall be to emphasize, encourage, and promote apostolic ministry, to promote unity and fellowship among all the members of the Body of Christ; to provide ways and means by which these objectives may be obtained. This body is and always shall remain only and solely a medium through which **Full Gospel Fellowship** churches may work harmoniously in cooperation with each other promoting the work and objectives set forth in the Fellowship Constitution. It is not, to any degree, and never shall have any ecclesiastical or hierarchical authority over its members. It shall not have and never shall attempt to exercise a single attribute of power or authority over any church, or over the messengers of the churches in such wise as to limit the sovereignty of the churches, but shall recognize the sovereignty of the churches under one Sovereign, the Lord Jesus Christ. Full Gospel Fellowship of Churches and Ministers International

## **FULFILLING THE VISION BACK TO THE FUTURE!**

For over forty years our Fellowship has followed the vision of Gordon Lindsay and the men who established this great Fellowship. We celebrated that fortieth anniversary in our International Convention in 2002. Truly the vision was inspired by God and has kept us focused and inspired for these many years. Prov. 29:18 The New American Bible without prophecy the people become demoralized..." This vision has provided the parameters for who we are, and what we do, past, present and future. The Constitution by which we are governed spells out the vision very clearly.

The Lord has honored the faith and commitment of both the leaders and the members and has truly brought us this far by faith. We are poised for our greatest days of growth and ministry. With our beautiful headquarters building, and outstanding office staff, the needs of our membership are better facilitated than ever before. Our National and International Regions are led by anointed men and women. Our Executive and International Boards work harmoniously together to provide cohesive leadership. Best of all the blessing of the Lord rests upon us in a precious way.

We are very grateful for the lives and ministries of those who have gone before us. They, as David, served their generation by the will of God. They kept the vision alive for all of us. May God help all of us to serve our generation by the will of God and keep the vision alive and vital for those who will follow us, or until Jesus comes.

### **Full Gospel Fellowship of Churches & Ministers International Was Born**

It was in 1948 that The Voice of Healing was formed by Gordon Lindsay and Jack Moore, and later T. L. Osborn, Jack Coe, Richard Vineyard, F. F. Bosworth, Kenneth Hagin, Gayle Jackson, Raymond T. Richie, W. V. Grant, Louise Nankeville and others. So powerful was this healing revival that soon approximately 100 evangelists formed a fellowship electing Gordon as president.

It was when pastors, missionaries, evangelists, teachers and churches – some who had left their denominations to become Full Gospel – urged for a linkage with those of like-precious-faith, that the need for a fellowship was spawned. It became very evident that all these leaders needed to plan and work together to become a strong force to reap the whitened harvest.

So, Gordon called a meeting for a two-day conference, held September 18 & 19, 1962 at the Baker Hotel in Dallas for interested ministers. Plans were laid and the Full Gospel Fellowship of Churches & Ministers International was born. Temporary officers were elected to serve until the great National Convention in latter part of June of 1963. John Mears President, J.C. Hibbard Vice-President, Gordon Lindsay Secretary-Treasurer, W. A. Raiford Executive Secretary. June 28, 1963, A. C. Valdez was elected president. On June 16, 1964, the second FGFCMT convention was held in Plankinton Hotel, Milwaukee, Wisconsin.

The years since, God has continued to use this Full Gospel Fellowship of Churches & Ministers International organization to bless ministers and ministries all over the world. Strong leadership has been raised up, and accountability, so essential to stability in every life, has been offered. Now a minister looking for those of like-precious-faith can find it in The Fellowship-no longer thinking that "I am the only one still serving God."

### **Mrs. Gordon (Freda) Lindsay**

*Co-founder*

*Christ For the Nations*

## THE FELLOWSHIP'S POSITION ON LICENSING AND ORDINATION OF MINISTERS

The Fellowship does not license or ordain ministers but recognizes such ministerial status. The Fellowship believes it is the function of the local Church, Bible College, Seminary, etc. to perform such ceremonies. If you wish to obtain such Ministerial Status, you need to approach your local Pastor, local Church, Seminary, Bible College, or a Pastor/Church that knows of you and ask about their procedures and requirements. Many times, these services are done in an office or in a special Church Service. (NOTE: You may be required to serve "internship"). The Fellowship urges Pastors and Churches to use great wisdom in matters of Licensing or Ordination, as the Ministry is a most solemn calling.

The Fellowship issues a certificate to the Ministerial members recognizing their status and showing when their Licensing or Ordination was conferred. All members also receive a wallet-sized identification card verifying their ministerial status. These items show that you as a minister are recognized by and are in affiliation with an organization that has National and International scope. If you plan to minister to those in prisons, hospitals, or other institutions, this recognition by a recognized organization is helpful in gaining admittance and oftentimes necessary.

### License-Ordination & Exhorters (Christian Workers)

We recognize three levels of Ministry:

- (1) Christian Workers sometimes called Exhorters;
- (2) those who have been Licensed;
- (3) those who have been Ordained (Ordination).

*Exhorter (Christian Workers or Gospel Workers):* An Exhorter is a person who is recognized as a beginner in the ministry. The person may have the call of God upon their life, but have very little religious training, experience, and/or theological education. Many of those who are beginners or "Exhorters" will enroll in a correspondence course if they are unable to attend a Bible School or Bible College. Many times, the Pastor of the Church recognizes the Call of God upon their lives and begins to instruct them in both theology and in the practical areas of leadership. The Pastor also may use that person in some areas of leadership, teaching or ministry in the local Church.

*Licensed:* A person who receives a License to Preach has been recognized by the Church and Pastors as an individual with the Call of God upon their lives, has leadership ability and some theological training and experience. Most of the time, this person will have completed some theological training (correspondence or Bible School) and will recognize his/her need for continual teaching, training and experience. If this person is truly called of God, they will apply themselves to study and prepare for the ministry that God has called them to. A person's ministry will always make room for him/her. Many states will not allow a Licensed Minister to perform weddings or to minister the sacraments of the Church unless the Licensed Ministers is serving as a pastor of a Church.

*Ordained:* Being an Ordained Minister is the highest calling that a person can have. An Ordained Minister is one who has a Call of God upon their lives and the Church, the Pastor and other Ministers recognize his/her training, experience and leadership ability. An Ordained Minister is one who has studied and prepared himself or herself well either through formal training and education, or through training and working side by side with a pastor. It is recommended that a person serve at least one

year as a Licensed Minister before being Ordained, giving time for that additional study, training and experience. As an Ordained Minister, he/she carries the full and highest level of authority to minister all of the sacraments of the Church, including communion, weddings, etc. This is not only a recognition by the Church, but by other Church Organizations and by the State and Federal government.

Licensed or Ordained – in many states you have to register in the county or state to be approved to perform weddings.

**CONSTITUTION FOR  
THE FULL GOSPEL FELLOWSHIP OF CHURCHES AND  
MINISTERS INTERNATIONAL, INCORPORATED**

**CONSTITUTION of The Full Gospel Fellowship of Churches and Ministers International,  
Incorporated amended and adopted this 9<sup>th</sup> day of July 2010**

**ARTICLE ONE: NAME**

**1.01** The name of this body shall be FULL GOSPEL FELLOWSHIP OF CHURCHES AND MINISTERS INTERNATIONAL, INCORPORATED, hereafter referred to in this document as ***THE FELLOWSHIP***.

**ARTICLE TWO: OFFICES**

**2.01** The principal office of Corporation shall be located in the State of Texas in the City of Irving. The Corporation may have such offices, either within or without the State as the Executive Board may determine or as the affairs of the Corporation may require.

**ARTICLE THREE: NATURE OF THE FELLOWSHIP**

**3.01** This body is and always shall remain only and solely a medium through which member churches, organizations, ministries, and ministers may work harmoniously in cooperation with each other, promoting the work and objects set forth in this Constitution and By-Laws. The Fellowship shall never have any ecclesiastical or hierarchical authority over its members.

**3.02** ***The Fellowship*** is a fellowship based on the Scriptural concept that all true believers are members of the Body of which Christ is the Head (1 Cor. 12:12-13).

**3.03** ***The Fellowship*** is designed to facilitate fellowship among God's people and has the capability to supply IRS 501(c)(3) covering for all its member churches and organizations in good standing and make available to them any and all vehicles of fellowship. This being true, churches, organizations, ministries, and ministers may be recognized in ***The Fellowship***. Each church, organization, or ministry will be free to carry on its own program and its own missionary work; churches may license and ordain ministers as they deem appropriate and necessary.

**3.04** Being international in character, ***The Fellowship*** may work harmoniously with other fellowships throughout the world.

**ARTICLE FOUR: PURPOSE**

**4.01** The purposes of ***The Fellowship*** shall be:

**A.** This corporation is organized and shall be operated exclusively for religious, charitable and educational purposes and it is authorized to accept, hold, administer, invest and disburse for religious, charitable and educational purposes such funds as may from time to time be given to it by any person, persons, or corporations, to receive gifts and make financial and other types of contributions and to assist religious, charitable and educational organizations and institutions, and to establish missions and conduct its business in the United States and its territories and over the entire world, and in general to do all things that may appear necessary and useful in accomplishing the purposes hereinabove set out. All of the assets and earnings shall be used exclusively for the purposes hereinabove set out, including the payment of expenses incidental thereto; and no part of the net earnings shall inure to the benefit of any private shareholder or individual, and no substantial part of its activities shall be for the carrying on of propaganda or otherwise attempting to influence



legislation. The organization may exercise such powers granted under state law to carry out purposes for which it was formed.

**B.** To receive offerings. To have the right to own, hold in trust, use, possess, sell, convey, mortgage, lease or dispose of such property, real or chattel, as may be needed for the furtherance of its work.

**C.** To assume and share responsibility of fulfilling the Great Commission – the promulgation of the Gospel and the evangelization of the nations.

**D.** To promote unity and fellowship among all the members of the Body of Christ.

**E.** To provide such services as may be necessary to its members in good standing.

## **ARTICLE FIVE: TENANTS OF FAITH AND DOCTRINE**

**5.01** This body recognizes that its basis of faith shall be the doctrine of Christ according to 2 John 9-11: *“Whosoever transgresseth and abideth not in the doctrine of Christ, hath not God.”* The Biblically inspired basis of faith which lists the seven principles of the doctrines of Christ is found in Hebrews 6: 1-2: *“Therefore leaving the principles of the doctrine of Christ, let us go onto perfection; not laying again the foundation of repentance from dead works and faith toward God, of the doctrine of baptisms, and of laying on of hands, and of resurrection of the dead, and of eternal judgment.”*

Thus, we see that these seven principles include the following:

1. Repentance from dead works

5. The resurrection of the dead

2. Faith toward God

6. Eternal judgment

3. Doctrine of baptism

7. The going on to perfection

4. The laying on of hands

## **5.02 TENETS OF FAITH:**

### **I. THE SCRIPTURES INSPIRED**

The Bible is the inspired Word of God, a revelation from God to man: the infallible rule of faith and conduct and is superior to conscience and reason, but not contrary to reason (2 Tim. 3:15-16; 1 Pet. 2:2).

### **II. THE ONE TRUE GOD**

The one true God has revealed Himself as the eternally self-existent, self-revealed “I AM”• ; and has further revealed Himself as embodying the principles of relationship and association, i.e., as Father, Son, and Holy Ghost (Deut. 6:4; Mark 12:29; Isa. 43:10-11; Matt. 28:19).

### **III. MAN, HIS FALL AND REDEMPTION**

Man was created good and upright – for God said, *“Let us make man in Our image, after Our likeness”*. But man, by voluntary transgression, fell and his only hope of redemption is in Jesus Christ, the Son of God (Gen. 1:26-31; 3:1-7; Rom. 5:12-21).

### **IV. THE SALVATION OF MAN**

Conditions to salvation: The grace of God, which bringeth salvation, hath appeared to all men, through the preaching of repentance toward God and faith toward the Lord Jesus Christ; Man is

saved by the washing of regeneration and renewing of the Holy Ghost, and being justified by grace through faith, he becomes an heir of God according to the hope of eternal life (Titus 2:11; Rom. 10:13-15; Luke 24:47; Titus 3:5-7). The evidences of salvation: the inward evidence, to the believer of his salvation, is the direct witness of the Spirit (Rom. 8:16); the outward evidence to all men is a life in righteousness and true holiness. While we are not legalistic in spirit we stand for Biblical righteousness in living and personal conduct, in accordance with the Scriptures. "Follow peace with all men and holiness, without which, no man shall see the Lord" (Heb. 12:14).

## **V. THE PROMISE OF THE FATHER**

All believers are entitled to, and should ardently expect and earnestly seek, the promise of the Father, the Baptism in the Holy Ghost and fire, according to the command of the Lord Jesus Christ. This was the normal experience of all in the early Christian Church. With it comes the enduement of power for life and service, the bestowment of the Gifts and their uses in the work of the ministry (Luke 24:49; Acts 1:4; 1 Cor. 12:1-31). This wonderful experience is distinct from and subsequent to the experience of the new birth (Acts 10:44-46; II:14-16; 15:7-9).

## **VI. THE EVIDENCE OF THE BAPTISM IN THE HOLY GHOST**

The Baptism of the believer in the Holy Ghost is witnessed by the physical sign of speaking with other tongues as the Spirit of God gives them utterance (Acts 2:4). The speaking in tongues in this instance is the same, in essence, as the gift of tongues (1 Cor. 12:4-10, 28), but different in purpose and use. This ministry in recognizing the unity of the Body of Christ and the ministry gifts God has set in the Church (as described in 1 Cor. 12) declares itself strongly for the supernatural ministry and the operation of the ministry gifts in the assembly in accordance with the divine order of their manifestation, as set forth by the Apostle Paul in 1 Cor. 14.

## **VII. ENTIRE SANCTIFICATION**

The Scriptures teach a life of Holiness, without which no man shall see the Lord. By the power of the Holy Ghost, we are able to obey the command, "Be ye Holy, for I am Holy" (1 Peter 1:16). Entire Sanctification is the will of God for all believers and should be earnestly pursued by walking in obedience to God's Word (Heb. 12:14; 1 Peter 1:15-16; 2 Thess.5:23-24; 1 John 2:6).

## **VIII. THE CHURCH**

The Church is the body of Christ, the habitation of God through the Spirit, with divine appointments for the fulfillment of her great commission. Each believer, born of the Spirit, is an integral part of the General Assembly and Church of the Firstborn, which are written in Heaven (Eph. 1:22-23; 2:22; Heb. 12:23).

## **IX. THE MINISTRY AND EVANGELISM**

A divinely called and scripturally ordained ministry has been provided by our Lord for a two-fold purpose: (1) the evangelism of the world and (2) the edifying of the body of Christ (Mark 16:15-20; Eph. 4:11-13).

## **X. DIVINE HEALING**

Deliverance from sickness is provided for in the atonement and is the privilege of all believers (Isa. 53:4; Matt. 8:16-17).

## **XI. THE SECOND COMING OR BLESSED HOPE**

The resurrection of those who have fallen asleep in Christ and their translation together with those who are alive and remain unto the coming of the Lord is the blessed hope of the church (1 Thess. 4:16-18; Rom. 8:23; Titus 2:13; I Cor. 15:52-53; Rev. 11:15).

## **XII. THE MILLENNIAL REIGN OF JESUS**

The revelation of the Lord Jesus Christ from heaven, the salvation of national Israel, and the Millennial reign of Christ on the earth is the scriptural promise and the world's hope (2 Thess. 1:7; Rev. 19:11-14; Rom. 11:26-27; Rev. 20:1-7).

**XIII. WE BELIEVE IN A LITERAL HEAVEN AND HELL, ETERNAL REWARD AND JUDGMENT.** (Rev. 19:20; Rev. 20: 10-15; 2 Pet. 3:13; Rev. 21:22).

## **XIV. HUMAN SEXUALITY:**

We believe that God has commanded that no intimate sexual activity be engaged in outside of a marriage between a man and a woman. We believe that any form of homosexuality, lesbianism, bisexuality, bestiality, incest, fornication, adultery, and pornography are sinful perversions of God's gift of sex. We believe that God disapproves of and forbids any attempt to alter one's gender by surgery or appearance (Gen. 2:24; Gen. 19:5, 13; Gen. 26:8-9; Lev. 18:1-30; Rom. 1: 26-29; 1 Cor. 5:1; 6:9; 1 Thess. 4:1-8; Heb. 13:4).

We believe that the only legitimate marriage is the joining of one man and one woman (Gen. 2:24; Rom. 7:2; 1 Cor. 7:10; Eph. 5:22-23).

## **XV. SANCTITY OF HUMAN LIFE:**

We believe that human life begins at conception and that the unborn child is a living human being. Abortion constitutes the unjustified, unexcused taking of unborn human life. We seek to uphold and preserve the sanctity of all human life (Job 3:16; Ps. 51:5; 139:14-16; Isa. 44:24; 49:1, 5; Jer. 1:5; 20:15-18; Luke 1:44).

The Tenants of Faith does not exhaust the extent of our faith. The Bible is the sole and final source of all that we believe. We do believe, however, that the foregoing Tenants of Faith accurately represents the teaching of the Bible.

## **ARTICLE SIX: ORDINANCES**

### **6.01 BAPTISM IN WATER**

The ordinance of baptism by burial with Christ should be observed as commanded in the Scriptures, by all who have really repented and in their hearts, they have truly believed in Christ as Saviour and Lord. In so doing, they have the body washed in pure water as an outward symbol of cleansing, while their heart has already been sprinkled with the blood of Christ as an inner cleansing: thus they declare to the world that they have died with Jesus and that they have also been raised with Him to walk in newness of life (Matt. 28:19; Acts 10:47-48; Rom. 6:4; Acts 20:21; Heb. 10:22).

### **6.02 THE LORD'S SUPPER**

The Lord's Supper consisting of the elements, bread and fruit of the vine, is the symbol expressing our sharing the divine nature of our Lord Jesus Christ (2 Peter 1:4); a memorial of His suffering and death (1 Cor. 11:26) and prophecy of His coming (1 Cor. 11:26); and in enjoined on all believers "Until He comes"

## **ARTICLE SEVEN: GOVERNMENT**

## **7.01 EXECUTIVE OFFICERS OF THE FELLOWSHIP SHALL CONSIST OF THE FOLLOWING:**

- **President**
- **First Vice President**
- **Secretary**
- **Treasurer**

These officers shall serve as the Directors of the Corporation.

## **7.02 EXECUTIVE BOARD**

The Executive Board shall consist of the Executive Officers, the elected Regional Vice Presidents and the immediate past President in accordance to Article Five of the By-laws.

## **7.03 NATIONAL BOARD**

The National Board shall consist of the four elected board members from each of the regions.

## **7.04 INTERNATIONAL BOARD**

The International Board will be established by the Executive Board when the activities of ***The Fellowship*** outside the USA deem it necessary in accordance to Article Five of the By-laws.

## **ARTICLE EIGHT: DEPARTMENTS**

### **8.01 DEPARTMENTS OF THE FELLOWSHIP SHALL BE AS FOLLOWS:**

- MISSIONS DEPARTMENT
- EVANGELISM DEPARTMENT
- YOUTH DEPARTMENT

**8.02** Subsequent Departments may be established by the Executive Board as deemed necessary.

## **ARTICLE NINE: COMMITTEES**

**9.01** Committees shall be established in accordance with Article Seven, Committees, of the By-laws.

## **ARTICLE TEN: MEMBERSHIP IN THE NATIONAL BODY**

**10.01** Membership in ***The Fellowship*** shall be eligible to all who voluntarily subscribe to its Tenets of Faith and Doctrinal Statement and agree to be governed by its Constitution and By-laws. This is a sponsorship fellowship and membership must be obtained according to Article One, Membership, of the By-laws.

## **ARTICLE ELEVEN: FINANCES**

**11.01** ***The Fellowship*** shall be financed by membership dues, freewill offerings, special gifts, and by fund raising activities recognized and approved by the Executive Board.

**11.02** In carrying on the work of ***The Fellowship***, it is recognized that finances will be required. We, therefore, encourage and strongly recommend that ministers, churches, organizations, and ministries do their part to support ***The Fellowship*** by such means as agreed upon or they voluntarily choose.

**11.03** Financial procedures of ***The Fellowship*** shall be in accordance with Article Two, Finances, of the By-laws.

## **ARTICLE TWELVE: MEETINGS**

**12.01** The Corporation fiscal year shall coincide with the calendar year beginning on January 1<sup>st</sup> and running through December 31<sup>st</sup>.

**12.02** All meeting locations, dates and time will be under the discretion of the Executive Board.

### **ARTICLE THIRTEEN: DISSOLUTION**

**13.01** Upon the dissolution of the Corporation, the Board of Directors shall, after paying or making provision for the payment of all of the liabilities of the Corporation, dispose of all of the assets of the Corporation exclusively for the purposes of the Corporation in such manner, or to such organization or organizations organized and operated exclusively for charitable, educational, religious, or scientific purposes as shall at the time qualify as an exempt organization or organizations under Section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986, as amended (or the corresponding provision of any future United States Internal Revenue Law), as the Board of Directors shall determine. Any such assets not so disposed of shall be disposed of by the District Court of the county in which the principal office of the Corporation is then located, exclusively for such purposes or to such organization or organizations, as said Court shall determine, which are organized and operated exclusively for such purposes.

### **ARTICLE FOURTEEN: BREACH OF FIDUCIARY DUTY**

**14.01** To the fullest extent permitted by the Nonprofit Corporation Act of the State of Texas, as amended from time to time, no Officer of the Corporation shall be liable to the Corporation for monetary damages for a breach of the officer's fiduciary duty. Any repeal or amendment with this Article or adoption of any provision of the Articles of Incorporation inconsistent with this Article shall have prospective effect only and shall not adversely affect the liability of an Officer of the Corporation with respect to any act of omission occurring at or before the time of such repeal, amendment or adoption of an inconsistent provision.

### **ARTICLE FIFTEEN: INDEMNIFICATION**

**15.01** The Corporation shall, to the fullest extent permitted by the Nonprofit Corporation Act of the State of Texas, as amended from time to time, indemnify any Officer whom it shall have the power to indemnify, from and against any and all of the expenses, liabilities or other losses of any nature.

### **ARTICLE SIXTEEN: CHRISTIAN ARBITRATION**

**16.01** All legal challenges within the corporation shall be resolved exclusively by Christian Mediation and / or Arbitration. No affiliate or employee of any affiliate shall have any right to file any type legal proceedings, regarding a matter of law or equity in any court or tribunal in the secular judiciary and all such challenges shall be exclusively handled by Christian Arbitration through \_\_\_\_\_ name of Arbitrator.

- a) the mediators and or arbitrators, as the case may be, shall determine which party or parties are responsible for the expenses, cost of arbitration or cost of representation.
- b). all parties to all mediations and arbitrations shall have the absolute right to retain counsel to represent them before the arbitrator or arbitrators or mediator or mediators as the case may be.
- c). all Christian Arbitrations are by necessity, confidential, non-appealable and enforceable in every court of competent jurisdiction, both State and Federal in the Fifty (50) states of the United States by statute in each state.

### **ARTICLE SEVENTEEN: GROUP EXEMPTION**

**17.01** This Corporation shall maintain with the Internal Revenue Service a group exemption that shall apply to all active members, (churches, organizations, and ministers), and the particulars of same shall be covered in the bylaws of this Corporation.

**ARTICLE EIGHTEEN: AMENDMENTS**

**18.01** This Constitution shall not be changed and/or amended unless the changes or amendments are offered at the first session of the Annual International Leadership Conference and lie over to the subsequent day, and then, be presented to the voting membership in attendance at the Annual Business Meeting for consideration. A two-thirds majority vote is required for action and acceptance.

**BY-LAWS of The Full Gospel Fellowship of Churches and Ministers International, Incorporated  
amended and adopted this 9<sup>th</sup> day of July 2010**

**ARTICLE ONE: MEMBERSHIP**

**1.01 All churches, organizations, and ministries**, regardless of denomination, which believe in the principles, nature, Tenets of Faith and doctrine, and purpose of **The Fellowship**, may make application to become a member of **The Fellowship**. These applications for membership in the international body shall include an official sponsorship by an active member of **The Fellowship** and will be subject to final approval by the Executive Board.

**1.02 Churches, organizations and ministries** desiring IRS 501(c)(3) covering through affiliation with **The Fellowship** must meet the qualifications as set forth in Article Eight, 8.03 and 8.04 shall be considered for membership.

**1.03** In all business sessions of **The Fellowship**, the voting body shall consist of active members and certified delegates. Each active member church, organization, and ministry shall be entitled to one properly designated delegate. Each delegate shall secure a letter, on ministry letterhead, from the Secretary, President or Pastor of the church, organization or ministry certifying to his/her appointment to represent the organization at the business sessions. This letter shall be presented to the conference registration committee on or before the designated date as set forth by the Executive Board.

**1.04** The affiliated churches, organizations, and ministries shall be represented through their pastor or chief executive officer except when that person is an active ministerial member with **The Fellowship**, or the post is vacant, in which case, a duly elected member of the church or organization shall serve as the delegate and representative of that church, organization or ministry.

**1.05 Ministerial membership** shall be upon the basis of the sponsorship of an active **Fellowship** church and an active **Fellowship** ministerial member and will be subject to final approval by the Executive Board. Individual ministers, churches, organizations, and ministries who are a part of any local or regional fellowship must make separate application to be an active member of **The Fellowship** to receive its benefits. The levels of ministerial recognition shall be exhorter, licensed, and ordained.

**1.06** Names of affiliated ministers, churches, organizations, and ministries will be placed in an annual directory and made available to each Fellowship member.

**1.07** Membership in **The Fellowship** confers no civil or property rights upon any member.

**1.08** Any member may be removed and excluded from **The Fellowship** in accordance with the procedures set forth in Article Nine of these Bylaws.

**ARTICLE TWO: FINANCES**

**2.01** An annual budget shall be prepared by the Finance Committee and presented to the Executive Board and the National Board for approval. Approved budget shall then be presented to the voting membership in attendance at the International Leadership Conference Business Meeting. A simple majority vote is required for adoption.

**2.02** Membership fees shall be required of each minister, church, organization and ministry. The amount shall be set by the Executive Board and be subject to the approval of the National Board and ratification by simple majority of the voting body at the International Leadership Conference Business Meeting.

**2.03** All funds (except membership fees) of this body shall be raised by voluntary donation, secured upon the merits of the causes for which appeals are made. ***The Fellowship*** may also acquire funds by bequest, or income property that may be acquired.

**2.04** A tithe on all the income from membership applications and membership renewals will be disbursed through the Missions Department of ***The Fellowship***.

### **ARTICLE THREE: ANNUAL OR BIENNIAL INTERNATIONAL LEADERSHIP CONFERENCE**

**3.01** The Annual or Biennial International Leadership Conference shall be held at a time and place determined by the Executive Board. Conference business on the floor should be kept at a very minimum in order that the major part of the time might be given to spiritual ministrations.

**3.02** Election of officers shall take place during the Conference Business Meeting on the open floor.

**3.03** The location of the Annual or Biennial International Leadership Conference shall be determined by the Executive Board.

### **ARTICLE FOUR: GOVERNMENT**

**4.01** The Executive Officers of ***The Fellowship*** shall be: President, First Vice President, Secretary, and the Treasurer in accordance to Article Seven of the Constitution. These officers shall serve as the Directors of the Corporation.

**4.02** The office of President, First Vice-President, Secretary, and Treasurer shall be elected for a four (4) year term by secret ballot during the International Leadership Conference Business Meeting. They shall take office immediately following the Conference at which they were elected. Each officer shall hold office until their successor is elected and takes office.

**4.03** In the event that a vacancy occurs in any office other than President, the Executive Board shall appoint a successor to fill the office until the following scheduled International Leadership Conference, at which time a successor shall be elected during the Conference Business Meeting to complete the unexpired term. In event that a vacancy occurs in the office of the President, through resignation, disability, or death, the First Vice President shall assume the office for the remainder of the unexpired term.

**4.04** The President shall be the official representative of ***The Fellowship***. He shall preside over all sessions of the Executive Board and the National Board. He shall preside as chairman over the deliberations of the Annual or Biennial International Conference. In his absence at any officially called meeting, the First Vice-President shall preside. In the absence of both, at any officially called meeting, the Secretary shall preside.

**4.05** The duties of the Vice-Presidents shall be those that are specifically delegated to them by the President and the Executive Board. The First Vice-President shall serve as assistant to the President.

**4.06** The duties of the Secretary shall be to see that accurate records of the proceedings of ***The Fellowship*** are kept.

**4.07** The duties of the Treasurer shall be to oversee the finances of ***The Fellowship***.

### **ARTICLE FIVE: BOARDS**

#### **5.01 THE EXECUTIVE BOARD:**

**A.** The Executive Board of ***The Fellowship*** shall be comprised of the Executive Officers, the Regional Vice Presidents, and immediate past President.



1. Each region shall elect one member to serve on the Executive Board. The election must be made by the members in attendance at the duly-scheduled Regional Conference prior to the International Leadership Conference.

2. Each regional member elected at the Regional Conference to serve on the Executive Board will serve for a four-year term. The elected member shall take office immediately following the Regional Conference at which they were elected. They shall hold office until their successor is elected and takes office. The elected board member for each region shall have the title and office of Regional Vice-President.

**B.** The duties of the Executive Board shall include being the chief administrative body of **The Fellowship**. The Executive Board shall approve all applications for membership and shall be responsible for removal and exclusion of members. It shall grant recognition to both regional and national fellowships and boards. It shall take care of all business not specifically given a loan officer or another board pursuant to these By-laws.

**C** The Executive Board shall comprise the Corporate Board of Directors.

## **5.02 THE NATIONAL BOARD:**

**A.** The United States shall be divided into regions. The boundaries shall be set by the Executive Board and ratified by the National Board.

1. Each region shall be authorized to establish a regional representative. This person shall be ratified by the Regional Board.

2. Each of the regional divisions shall elect four members from their region during their Regional Conference to serve on the National Board for a four-year term. They shall take office immediately following the Regional Conference at which they were elected. They shall hold office until their successor is elected and takes office.

**B.** The duties of the National Board shall include the specific responsibilities delegated to it by the Executive Board.

**C.** Members of the National Board shall represent **The Fellowship** in their particular area, and shall recommend ministers, churches, organizations, and ministries from their area for membership in **The Fellowship**. Whenever possible, they shall, at their convenience, attend the Executive Board Meetings in advisory capacity. They should seek to keep **The Fellowship** informed of events and activities in their area.

## **5.03 THE INTERNATIONAL BOARD:**

**A** When the activities of **The Fellowship** outside the USA make it desirable, the Executive Board may create an International Board, subject to an annual review, to direct those activities.

**B.** The duties of this International Board will be expected to exercise such power and authority as has been specifically given to it by the Executive Board and all other activities that are necessary and do not exceed that intended by the Executive Board. The International Board shall be responsible for seeing that its activities reflect the principles, nature, purpose, and Tenets of faith and Doctorial Statement of **The Fellowship**, as set forth in these By-laws.

## **ARTICLE SIX: DEPARTMENTS**

### **6.01 WORLD MISSIONS DEPARTMENT**

**A.** A World Missions Department shall be established by **The Fellowship** for the purpose of gathering and making available to the members of **The Fellowship** accurate information concerning all phases of missionary activity and to seek ways to further the cause of world missionary endeavors.

**B.** The Executive Board shall appoint a department chairman, a department director and approve the appointment of all world mission advisory council members for a term of two years. The Chairman of the World Missions Department may or may not be a member of the Executive Board and will serve under the supervision of the Executive Board.

**C.** The Executive Board has established a World Missions Policy and it will be adhered to until said policy is amended.

## **6.02 EVANGELISM DEPARTMENT**

**A.** An Evangelism Department shall be established by **The Fellowship** for the purpose of emphasizing and promoting the ministry of evangelism and to promote harmony and understanding between evangelists and pastors.

**B.** The Executive Board shall appoint a department director and committee members for a term of two years, half of whom shall be actively engaged in evangelistic work. The Director of the Evangelism Department may or may not be a member of the Executive Board and shall serve under the supervision of the Executive Board.

**C. *The Fellowship*** recognizes the ministry of an Evangelist as an office set in the Church and therefore, they should be encouraged. For the purposes of harmony, all pastors and evangelists are advised to have an agreement on all matters pertaining to projected campaigns.

## **6.03 YOUTH DEPARTMENT**

**A. *The Fellowship*** shall establish a Youth Department for the purpose of promoting the youth of **The Fellowship** in the development of their spiritual lives, ministries, and the implementation of the national fellowship among our youth.

**B.** One Youth Department member shall be duly appointed by the Regional Board in their respective regions and be actively engaged in youth ministry. The appointment of all Youth Department members shall be for a term of two years.

**C.** The Executive Board shall appoint a Youth Department Director for a two-year term. The Director may or may not be a member of the Executive Board and shall serve under the supervision of the Executive Board.

## **ARTICLE SEVEN: COMMITTEES**

**7.01** Permanent committees shall be appointed by the President to serve, as needed, in an advisory capacity to the Executive Board and the National Board. They shall be as follows:

- A.** Membership Committee
- B.** Publications Committee
- C.** Education Committee
- D.** Chaplaincy Committee
- E.** Resolution Committee

**7.02** Special committees may be appointed by the President or established by action of the Executive Board. They will serve for specific periods of time, to perform specific duties that, in the judgment of the President, or Executive Board, cannot be effectively performed by one of the general committees or the Executive Board.

## **ARTICLE EIGHT: LOCAL CHURCHES, ORGANIZATIONS, AND MINISTRIES**

**8.01** Local churches, organizations and ministries who qualify for affiliation with ***The Fellowship*** according to the provisions set forth on the Membership Application, will receive a Membership Certificate identifying them as affiliated with ***The Full Gospel Fellowship of Churches and Ministers International Incorporated***. These certificates are renewable annually on a calendar year basis.

**8.02** Local churches, organizations and ministries must conform to ***The Fellowship*** principles and procedures as set forth in this Constitution & By-laws.

**8.03** Affiliated churches, organizations and ministries who desire recognition as a tax-exempt, non-profit organization from the United States Internal Revenue Service must adhere to required articles and/or provisions set forth by the United States Internal Revenue Service.

**8.04** Churches, organizations and ministries of ***The Fellowship*** wishing tax exemption by the U. S. Internal Revenue Service must provide the national office of ***The Fellowship*** with a copy of their Constitution and By-laws. If the church, organization or ministry is incorporated, a copy of the state charter should also be provided. The Constitution and By-laws of the local church, organization or ministry may be adapted to meet the particular needs of that body, but it must contain the vital provisions set forth by the United States Internal Revenue Service.

**8.05** The local churches may license and ordain ministers. Such licensed and ordained ministers shall be the responsibility of the local pastor and church which confers said licensing or ordination. ***The Fellowship***, in concert with the licensing or ordaining body, retains the right to recognize or withhold recognition for reasons of immorality or departure from the doctrine of Christ.

**8.06** ***The Fellowship*** desires to encourage all persons called of God to fulfill their ministry. It does not sit in judgment on those who have made mistakes but leaves them with God. If, however, their past has become seriously controversial, ***The Fellowship*** counsels them in the spirit of Christ to quietly pursue their ministry as God leads and helps them and to do nothing to cause themselves to become a further issue or matter of controversy, trusting that, in the course of time, God will heal the wounds and scars.

**8.07** It is strongly recommended that when situations requiring discipline arise, that ministers, organizations and churches follow the Biblical method laid down by Christ – that every effort be put forth to secure reconciliation, but if all else falls, then divine discipline should be in order (***Matthew 18: 15-19***). When disciplinary action becomes necessary with respect to any member, such action shall be taken in accordance with the principles set forth in Article Nine of these By-laws.

**8.08** The sovereignty of the local church, organization, and ministry shall be inviolate as noted in Article Three of the Constitution. Churches, Ministers and Organizations shall be free to go wherever God may lead them to fulfill their own missionary/evangelistic endeavors.

## **ARTICLE NINE: EXCLUSION FROM THE FELLOWSHIP (for discussion purposes)**

**9.01** Any member of ***The Fellowship*** (whether an individual or a church, a ministry or any other type of organization) *may be removed* as a member of ***The Fellowship*** for the following reasons:

**A.** Failure to pay membership fees as required pursuant to Article Two of these By-laws.

Any member who fails to pay membership fees as required pursuant to Article Two, 2.02, of these By-laws shall be automatically removed and excluded as a member of ***The Fellowship*** if said member has not paid such fees within thirty (30) days after notice of non-payment is sent to such member by ***The Fellowship***. Notice given to a member for non-payment of membership fees shall be

in writing and addressed to such member at his or its last address shown on the records of ***The Fellowship***.

**B.** The sponsor withdraws their sponsorship.

**C.** Upon the death of the sponsor a member does not secure another sponsor within the subsequent twelve months.

**D.** Failure to comply with the provisions of these By-laws. All matters concerning exclusion from ***The Fellowship*** shall follow these By-laws as well as the "Written Policy" established by the Executive Board.

#### **ARTICLE TEN: BREACH OF FIDUCIARY DUTY**

**10.01** To the fullest extent permitted by the Nonprofit Corporation Act of the State of Texas, as amended from time to time, no Officer of the Corporation shall be liable to the Corporation for monetary damages for a breach of the officer's fiduciary duty. Any repeal or amendment with this Article or adoption of any provision of the Articles of Incorporation inconsistent with this Article shall have prospective effect only and shall not adversely affect the liability of an Officer of the Corporation with respect to any act of omission occurring at or before the time of such repeal, amendment or adoption of an inconsistent provision.

#### **ARTICLE ELEVEN: INDEMNIFICATION**

**11.01** The Corporation shall, to the fullest extent permitted by the Nonprofit Corporation Act of the State of Texas, as amended from time to time, indemnify any Officer whom it shall have the power to indemnify, from and against any and all of the expenses, liabilities or other losses of any nature.

#### **ARTICLE TWELVE: AMENDMENTS**

**12.01** These By-laws shall not be changed and/or amended unless the changes or amendments are offered at the first session of the Annual International Leadership Conference and lie over to the subsequent day, and then, be presented to the voting membership in attendance at the Annual Business Meeting for consideration. A simple majority vote is required for action and acceptance.

#### **ARTICLE THIRTEEN: PARLIAMENTARY LAW**

**13.01** In all questions covering the proceedings of the International Leadership Conference, parliamentary law shall be the authority used by the presiding officers and by the voting body unless the Constitution or the By-laws clearly cover such proceedings.