

Constitution and Bylaws of
First Assembly of God of Dallas, Inc.
64 Holder Road
Dallas, Georgia 30132

Initially adopted March 12, 2002
Revised January 26, 2014
Revised November 14, 2021

PREAMBLE

For the purpose of establishing and maintaining a place for the worship of Almighty God, our heavenly Father; to provide for Christian fellowship for those of like precious faith, where the Holy Spirit may be honored according to our distinctive testimony; to assume our share of responsibility and the privilege of propagating the gospel of Jesus Christ by all available means, both at home and in foreign lands; we, whose names appear upon the Assembly roster under above date, do hereby recognize ourselves as a local Assembly in fellowship with and a part of The General Council of the Assemblies of God, and of the Georgia District Council of the Assemblies of God; and declare that we hereby adopt the following articles of church order and submit ourselves to be governed by them.

CONSTITUTION

ARTICLE I. NAME

The name of this Assembly shall be known and referred to as
DALLAS FIRST ASSEMBLY OF GOD

ARTICLE II. PREROGATIVES

This Assembly shall have the right to govern itself according to the standards of the New Testament scriptures and shall encourage and promote: (a) The evangelization of the world; (b) The worship of God; (c) The edification of believers; (d) The basis of fellowship among Christians of like precious faith; (e) The response to human need with ministries of compassion. The Assembly will own, hold in trust, use, sell, convey, mortgage, lease, or otherwise dispose of such property as may be needed for the prosecution of the Assembly's work.

ARTICLE III. AFFILIATION AND RELATIONSHIP

The Assembly declares itself to be voluntarily in cooperative fellowship with assemblies of like precious faith associated in the Georgia District Council, and The General Council of the Assemblies of God, with headquarters at Springfield, Missouri, and share in the privileges and assume the responsibilities associated with this affiliation.

ARTICLE IV. PRINCIPLES OF FELLOWSHIP

The Assembly shall represent the body of Christ as described in the New Testament. It shall recognize the principles inherent in the Body as also inherent in this Fellowship, particularly the principles of unity, cooperation, and equality. It recognizes that these principles will enable it to achieve its priority reason for being as an agency of God for evangelizing the world, as a corporate body in which believers may worship God, as a channel of God's purpose to build a body of saints being perfected in the image of His Son, and to be a people who demonstrate God's love and compassion for all the world.

ARTICLE V. STATEMENT OF FUNDAMENTAL TRUTHS

This Assembly accepts the Holy Scriptures as the revealed will of God, the all-sufficient rule of faith and practice, and for the purpose of maintaining general unity, adopts the Statement of Fundamental Truths of the General Council of the Assemblies of God as may be amended and adopted by the General Council from time to time. The current version of the Assemblies of God Statement of Fundamental Truths provides:

1. THE SCRIPTURES INSPIRED

The Scriptures, both the Old and New Testaments, are verbally inspired of God and are the revelation of God to man, the infallible, authoritative rule of faith and conduct.

- 2 Timothy 3:15-17 [[KJV/NIV](#)]
- 1 Thessalonians 2:13 [[KJV/NIV](#)]
- 2 Peter 1:21 [[KJV/NIV](#)]

2. THE ONE TRUE GOD

The one true God has revealed Himself as the eternally self-existent "I AM," the Creator of heaven and earth and the Redeemer of mankind. He has further revealed Himself as embodying the principles of relationship and association as Father, Son and Holy Spirit.

- Deuteronomy 6:4 [[KJV/NIV](#)]
- Isaiah 43:10-11 [[KJV/NIV](#)]
- Matthew 28:19 [[KJV/NIV](#)]
- Luke 3:22 [[KJV/NIV](#)]

THE ADORABLE GODHEAD

A. Terms Defined

The terms "Trinity" and "persons" as related to the Godhead, while not found in the Scriptures, are words in harmony with Scripture, whereby we may convey to others our immediate understanding of the doctrine of Christ respecting the Being of God, as distinguished from "gods many and lords many." We therefore may speak with propriety of the Lord our God who is One Lord, as a trinity or as one Being of three persons, and still be absolutely scriptural.

- Matthew 28:19 [[KJV/NIV](#)]
- 2 Corinthians 13:14 [[KJV/NIV](#)]
- John 14:16-17 [[KJV/NIV](#)]

B. Distinction and Relationship in the Godhead

Christ taught a distinction of Persons in the Godhead which He expressed in specific terms of relationship, as Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, but that this distinction and relationship, as to its mode is inscrutable and incomprehensible, because unexplained.

- Luke 1:35 [[KJV/NIV](#)]
- 1 Corinthians 1:24 [[KJV/NIV](#)]
- Matthew 11:25-27 [[KJV/NIV](#)]
- Matthew 28:19 [[KJV/NIV](#)]
- 2 Corinthians 13:14 [[KJV/NIV](#)]
- 1 John 1:3-4 [[KJV/NIV](#)]

C. Unity of the One Being of Father, Son and Holy Spirit

Accordingly, therefore, there is that in the Father which constitutes him the Father and not the Son; there is that in the Son which constitutes Him the Son and not the Father; and there is that in the Holy Spirit which constitutes Him the Holy Spirit and not either the Father or the Son. Wherefore the Father is the Begetter, the Son is the Begotten, and the Holy Spirit is the one proceeding from the Father and the Son. Therefore, because these three persons in the Godhead are in a state of unity, there is but one Lord God Almighty and His name one.

- John 1:18 [[KJV/NIV](#)]
- John 15:26 [[KJV/NIV](#)]
- John 17:11 [[KJV/NIV](#)]
- John 17:21 [[KJV/NIV](#)]
- Zechariah 14:9 [[KJV/NIV](#)]

D. Identity and Cooperation in the Godhead

The Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit are never identical as to Person; nor confused as to relation; nor divided in respect to the Godhead; nor opposed as to cooperation. The Son is in the Father and the Father is in the Son as to relationship. The Son is with the Father and the Father is with the Son, as to fellowship. The Father is not from the Son, but the Son is from the Father, as to authority. The Holy Spirit is from the

Father and the Son proceeding, as to nature, relationship, cooperation and authority. Hence, neither Person in the Godhead either exists or works separately or independently of the others.

- John 5:17-30 [[KJV/NIV](#)]
- John 5:32 [[KJV/NIV](#)]
- John 5:37 [[KJV/NIV](#)]
- John 8:17-18 [[KJV/NIV](#)]

E. The Title, Lord Jesus Christ

The appellation, "Lord Jesus Christ," is a proper name. It is never applied in the New Testament, either to the Father or to the Holy Spirit. It therefore belongs exclusively to the Son of God.

- Romans 1:1-7 [[KJV/NIV](#)]
- 2 John 3 [[KJV/NIV](#)]

F. The Lord Jesus Christ, God with Us

The Lord Jesus Christ, as to His divine and eternal nature, is the proper and only Begotten of the Father, but as to His human nature, He is the proper Son of Man. He is therefore, acknowledged to be both God and man; who because He is God and man is "Immanuel," God with us.

- Matthew 1:23 [[KJV/NIV](#)]
- 1 John 4:2 [[KJV/NIV](#)]
- 1 John 4:10 [[KJV/NIV](#)]
- 1 John 4:14 [[KJV/NIV](#)]
- Revelation 1:13 [[KJV/NIV](#)]
- Revelation 1:17 [[KJV/NIV](#)]

G. The Title, Son of God

Since the name "Immanuel" embraces both God and man in the one Person, our Lord Jesus Christ, it follows that the title, Son of God, describes His proper deity, and the title, Son of Man, His proper humanity. Therefore, the title Son of God, belongs to the order of eternity, and the title, Son of Man, to the order of time.

- Matthew 1:21-23 [[KJV/NIV](#)]
- 2 John 1:3 [[KJV/NIV](#)]
- 1 John 3:8 [[KJV/NIV](#)]
- Hebrews 7:3 [[KJV/NIV](#)]
- Hebrews 1:1-13 [[KJV/NIV](#)]

H. Transgression of the Doctrine of Christ

Wherefore, it is a transgression of the Doctrine of Christ to say that Jesus Christ derived the title, Son of God, solely from the fact of the incarnation, or because of His relation to the economy of redemption. Therefore, to deny that the Father is a real and eternal Father, and that the Son is a real and eternal Son, is a denial of the distinction and relationship in the Being of God; a denial of the Father, and the Son; and a displacement of the truth that Jesus Christ is come in the flesh.

- 2 John 1:9 [[KJV/NIV](#)]

- John 1:1 [[KJV/NIV](#)]
- John 1:2 [[KJV/NIV](#)]
- John 1:14 [[KJV/NIV](#)]
- John 1:18 [[KJV/NIV](#)]
- John 1:29 [[KJV/NIV](#)]
- John 1:49 [[KJV/NIV](#)]
- 1 John 2:22-23 [[KJV/NIV](#)]
- 1 John 4:1-5 [[KJV/NIV](#)]
- Hebrews 12:2 [[KJV/NIV](#)]

I. Exaltation of Jesus Christ as Lord

The Son of God, our Lord Jesus Christ, having by Himself purged our sins, sat down on the right hand of the Majesty on high; angels and principalities and powers having been made subject unto Him. And having been made both Lord and Christ, He sent the Holy Spirit that we, in the name of Jesus, might bow our knees and confess that Jesus Christ is Lord to the glory of God the Father until the end, when the Son shall become subject to the Father that God may be all in all.

- Hebrews 1:3 [[KJV/NIV](#)]
- 1 Peter 3:22 [[KJV/NIV](#)]
- Acts 2:32-36 [[KJV/NIV](#)]
- Romans 14:11 [[KJV/NIV](#)]
- 1 Corinthians 15:24-28 [[KJV/NIV](#)]

J. Equal Honor to the Father and to the Son

Wherefore, since the Father has delivered all judgment unto the Son, it is not only the express duty of all in heaven and on earth to bow the knee, but it is an unspeakable joy in the Holy Spirit to ascribe unto the Son all the attributes of Deity, and to give Him all honor and the glory contained in all the names and titles of the Godhead except those which express relationship (see Distinction and Relationship in the Godhead, Unity of the One Being of Father, Son and Holy Spirit, and Identity and Cooperation in the Godhead) and thus honor the Son even as we honor the Father.

- John 5:22-23 [[KJV/NIV](#)]
- 1 Peter 1:8 [[KJV/NIV](#)]
- Revelation 5:6-14 [[KJV/NIV](#)]
- Philippians 2:8-9 [[KJV/NIV](#)]
- Revelation 7:9-10 [[KJV/NIV](#)]
- Revelation 4:8-11 [[KJV/NIV](#)]

3. THE DEITY OF THE LORD JESUS CHRIST

The Lord Jesus Christ is the eternal Son of God. The Scriptures declare:

His virgin birth,

- Matthew 1:23 [[KJV/NIV](#)]
- Luke 1:31 [[KJV/NIV](#)]

- Luke 1:35 [[KJV/NIV](#)]

His sinless life,

- Hebrews 7:26 [[KJV/NIV](#)]
- 1 Peter 2:22 [[KJV/NIV](#)]

His miracles,

- Acts 2:22 [[KJV/NIV](#)]
- Acts 10:38 [[KJV/NIV](#)]

His substitutionary work on the cross,

- 1 Corinthians 15:3 [[KJV/NIV](#)]
- 2 Corinthians 5:21 [[KJV/NIV](#)]

His bodily resurrection from the dead,

- Matthew 28:6 [[KJV/NIV](#)]
- Luke 24:39 [[KJV/NIV](#)]
- 1 Corinthians 15:4 [[KJV/NIV](#)]

His exaltation to the right hand of God.

- Acts 1:9 [[KJV/NIV](#)]
- Acts 1:11 [[KJV/NIV](#)]
- Acts 2:33 [[KJV/NIV](#)]
- Philippians 2:9-11 [[KJV/NIV](#)]
- Hebrews 1:3 [[KJV/NIV](#)]

4. THE FALL OF MAN

Man was created good and upright; for God said, "Let us make man in our own image, after our likeness." However, man by voluntary transgression fell and thereby incurred not only physical death but also spiritual death, which is separation from God.

- Genesis 1:26-27 [[KJV/NIV](#)]
- Genesis 2:17 [[KJV/NIV](#)]
- Genesis 3:6 [[KJV/NIV](#)]
- Romans 5:12-19 [[KJV/NIV](#)]

5. THE SALVATION OF MAN

Man's only hope of redemption is through the shed blood of Jesus Christ the Son of God.

Conditions to Salvation

Salvation is received through repentance toward God and faith toward the Lord Jesus Christ. By the washing of regeneration and renewing of the Holy Spirit, being justified by grace through faith, man becomes an heir of God, according to the hope of eternal life.

- Luke 24:47 [[KJV/NIV](#)]
- John 3:3 [[KJV/NIV](#)]
- Romans 10:13-15 [[KJV/NIV](#)]
- Ephesians 2:8 [[KJV/NIV](#)]

- Titus 2:11 [[KJV/NIV](#)]
- Titus 3:5-7 [[KJV/NIV](#)]

The Evidence of Salvation

The inward evidence of salvation is the direct witness of the Spirit.

- Romans 8:16 [[KJV/NIV](#)]

The outward evidence to all men is a life of righteousness and true holiness.

- Ephesians 4:24 [[KJV/NIV](#)]
- Titus 2:12 [[KJV/NIV](#)]

6. THE ORDINANCES OF THE CHURCH

Baptism In Water

The ordinance of baptism by immersion is commanded by the Scriptures. All who repent and believe on Christ as Savior and Lord are to be baptized. Thus they declare to the world that they have died with Christ and that they also have been raised with Him to walk in newness of life.

- Matthew 28:19 [[KJV/NIV](#)]
- Mark 16:16 [[KJV/NIV](#)]
- Acts 10:47-48 [[KJV/NIV](#)]
- Romans 6:4 [[KJV/NIV](#)]

Holy Communion

The Lord's Supper, consisting of the elements --bread and the fruit of the vine-- is the symbol expressing our sharing the divine nature of our Lord Jesus Christ (2 Peter 1:4 [[KJV/NIV](#)]), a memorial of his suffering and death (1 Corinthians 11:26 [[KJV/NIV](#)]), and a prophecy of His second coming (1 Corinthians 11:26 [[KJV/NIV](#)]), and is enjoined on all believers "till He come!"

7. THE BAPTISM IN THE HOLY SPIRIT

All believers are entitled to and should ardently expect and earnestly seek the promise of the Father, the baptism in the Holy Spirit and fire, according to the command of our 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 [[KJV/NIV](#)]
- Acts 1:4 [[KJV/NIV](#)]
- Acts 1:8 [[KJV/NIV](#)]
- 1 Corinthians 12:1-31 [[KJV/NIV](#)]

This experience is distinct from and subsequent to the experience of the new birth.

- Acts 8:12-17 [[KJV/NIV](#)]
- Acts 10:44-46 [[KJV/NIV](#)]
- Acts 11:14-16 [[KJV/NIV](#)]
- Acts 15:7-9 [[KJV/NIV](#)]

With the baptism in the Holy Spirit come such experiences as:

- an overflowing fullness of the Spirit, John 7:37-39 [[KJV/NIV](#)], Acts 4:8 [[KJV/NIV](#)]
- a deepened reverence for God, Acts 2:43 [[KJV/NIV](#)], Hebrews 12:28 [[KJV/NIV](#)]
- an intensified consecration to God and dedication to His work, Acts 2:42 [[KJV/NIV](#)]
- and a more active love for Christ, for His Word and for the lost, Mark 16:20 [[KJV/NIV](#)]

8. THE INITIAL PHYSICAL EVIDENCE OF THE BAPTISM IN THE HOLY SPIRIT

The baptism of believers in the Holy Spirit is witnessed by the initial physical sign of speaking with other tongues as the Spirit of God gives them utterance.

- Acts 2:4 [[KJV/NIV](#)]

The speaking in tongues in this instance is the same in essence as the gift of tongues, but is different in purpose and use.

- 1 Corinthians 12:4-10 [[KJV/NIV](#)]
- 1 Corinthians 12:28 [[KJV/NIV](#)]

9. SANCTIFICATION

Sanctification is an act of separation from that which is evil, and of dedication unto God.

- Romans 12:1-2 [[KJV/NIV](#)]
- 1 Thessalonians 5:23 [[KJV/NIV](#)]
- Hebrews 13:12 [[KJV/NIV](#)]

The Scriptures teach a life of "holiness without which no man shall see the Lord."

- Hebrews 12:14 [[KJV/NIV](#)]

By the power of the Holy Spirit we are able to obey the command: "Be ye holy, for I am holy."

- 1 Peter 1:15-16 [[KJV/NIV](#)]

Sanctification is realized in the believer by recognizing his identification with Christ in His death and resurrection, and by the faith reckoning daily upon the fact of that union, and by offering every faculty continually to the dominion of the Holy Spirit.

- Romans 6:1-11 [[KJV/NIV](#)]
- Romans 6:13 [[KJV/NIV](#)]
- Romans 8:1-2 [[KJV/NIV](#)]
- Romans 8:13 [[KJV/NIV](#)]
- Galatians 2:20 [[KJV/NIV](#)]
- Philippians 2:12-13 [[KJV/NIV](#)]
- 1 Peter 1:5 [[KJV/NIV](#)]

10. THE CHURCH AND ITS MISSION

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.

- Ephesians 1:22-23 [[KJV/NIV](#)]
- Ephesians 2:22 [[KJV/NIV](#)]
- Hebrews 12:23 [[KJV/NIV](#)]

Since God's purpose concerning man is to seek and to save that which is lost, to be worshipped by man, to build a body of believers in the image of His Son, and to demonstrate His love and compassion for all the world, the priority reason for being of the Assemblies of God as part of the Church is:

1. To be an agency of God for evangelizing the world.
 - Acts 1:8 [[KJV/NIV](#)]
 - Matthew 28:19-20 [[KJV/NIV](#)]
 - Mark 16:15-16 [[KJV/NIV](#)]
2. To be a corporate body in which man may worship God.
 - 1 Corinthians 12:13 [[KJV/NIV](#)]
3. To be a channel of God's purpose to build a body of saints being perfected in the image of His Son.
 - Ephesians 4:11-16 [[KJV/NIV](#)]
 - 1 Corinthians 12:28 [[KJV/NIV](#)]
 - 1 Corinthians 14:12 [[KJV/NIV](#)]
4. To be a people who demonstrate God's love and compassion for all the world.
 - Psalms 112:9 [[KJV/NIV](#)]
 - Galatians 2:10 [[KJV/NIV](#)] & 6:10 [[KJV/NIV](#)]
 - James 1:27 [[KJV/NIV](#)]

The Assemblies of God exists expressly to give continuing emphasis to this reason for being in the New Testament apostolic pattern by teaching and encouraging believers to be baptized in the Holy Spirit. This experience:

1. Enables them to evangelize in the power of the Spirit with accompanying supernatural signs.
 - Mark 16:15-20 [[KJV/NIV](#)]
 - Acts 4:29-31 [[KJV/NIV](#)]

- Hebrews 2:3-4 [[KJV/NIV](#)]
2. Adds a necessary dimension to worshipful relationship with God.
 - 1 Corinthians 2:10-16 [[KJV/NIV](#)]
 - 1 Corinthians 12 [[KJV/NIV](#)]
 - 1 Corinthians 13 [[KJV/NIV](#)]
 - 1 Corinthians 14 [[KJV/NIV](#)]
 3. Enables them to respond to the full working of the Holy Spirit in expression of fruit and gifts and ministries as in New Testament times for the edifying of the body of Christ and care for the poor and needy of the world.
 - Galatians 5:22-26 [[KJV/NIV](#)]
 - Matthew 25:37-40 [[KJV/NIV](#)]
 - Galatians 6:10 [[KJV/NIV](#)]
 - 1 Corinthians 14:12 [[KJV/NIV](#)]
 - Ephesians 4:11-12 [[KJV/NIV](#)]
 - 1 Corinthians 12:28 [[KJV/NIV](#)]
 - Colossians 1:29 [[KJV/NIV](#)]

11. THE MINISTRY

A divinely called and scripturally ordained ministry has been provided by our Lord for the fourfold purpose of leading the Church in:

Evangelization of the world.

- Mark 16:15-20 [[KJV/NIV](#)]

Worship of God.

- John 4:23-24 [[KJV/NIV](#)]

Building a body of saints being perfected in the image of His Son.

- Ephesians 4:11-16 [[KJV/NIV](#)]

Meeting human need with ministries of love and compassion.

- Psalms 112:9 [[KJV/NIV](#)]
- Galatians 2:10 [[KJV/NIV](#)] & 6:10 [[KJV/NIV](#)]
- James 1:27 [[KJV/NIV](#)]

12. DIVINE HEALING

Divine healing is an integral part of the gospel. Deliverance from sickness is provided for in the atonement, and is the privilege of all believers.

- Isaiah 53:4-5 [[KJV/NIV](#)]
- Matthew 8:16-17 [[KJV/NIV](#)]
- James 5:14-16 [[KJV/NIV](#)]

13. THE 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 imminent and blessed hope of the church.

- 1 Thessalonians 4:16-17 [[KJV/NIV](#)]
- Romans 8:23 [[KJV/NIV](#)]
- Titus 2:13 [[KJV/NIV](#)]
- 1 Corinthians 15:51-52 [[KJV/NIV](#)]

14. THE MILLENNIAL REIGN OF CHRIST

The second coming of Christ includes the rapture of the saints, which is our blessed hope, followed by the visible return of Christ with His saints to reign on earth for one thousand years.

- Zechariah 14:5 [[KJV/NIV](#)]
- Matthew 24:27 [[KJV/NIV](#)]
- Matthew 24:30 [[KJV/NIV](#)]
- Revelation 1:7 [[KJV/NIV](#)]
- Revelation 19:11-14 [[KJV/NIV](#)]
- Revelation 20:1-6 [[KJV/NIV](#)]

This millennial reign will bring the salvation of national Israel,

- Ezekiel 37:21-22 [[KJV/NIV](#)]
- Zephaniah 3:19-20 [[KJV/NIV](#)]
- Romans 11:26-27 [[KJV/NIV](#)]

and the establishment of universal peace.

- Isaiah 11:6-9 [[KJV/NIV](#)]
- Psalms 72:3-8 [[KJV/NIV](#)]
- Micah 4:3-4 [[KJV/NIV](#)]

15. THE FINAL JUDGMENT

There will be a final judgment in which the wicked dead will be raised and judged according to their works. Whosoever is not found written in the Book of Life, together with the devil and his angels, the beast and the false prophet, will be consigned to the everlasting punishment in the lake which burneth with fire and brimstone, which is the second death.

- Matthew 25:46 [[KJV/NIV](#)]
- Mark 9:43-48 [[KJV/NIV](#)]
- Revelation 19:20 [[KJV/NIV](#)]
- Revelation 20:11-15 [[KJV/NIV](#)]
- Revelation 21:8 [[KJV/NIV](#)]

16. THE NEW HEAVENS AND THE NEW EARTH

"We, according to His promise, look for new heavens and a new earth wherein dwelleth righteousness."

- 2 Peter 3:13 [[KJV/NIV](#)]
- Revelation 21 [[KJV/NIV](#)]
- Revelation 22 [[KJV/NIV](#)]

ARTICLE VI. MEMBERSHIP

Membership in this Assembly shall be open to all those who give evidence of their faith in the Lord Jesus Christ, and who voluntarily subscribe to its Tenets of Faith, and agree to be governed by its constitution and bylaws as herein set forth.

ARTICLE VII. OFFICERS AND BOARD OF DEACONS

There shall be a Pastor, a Secretary and Treasurer, and a Board of Deacons. Other officer and deacon positions shall be added as needed.

ARTICLE VIII. AMENDMENTS

This Constitution may be amended by a two-thirds (2/3rds) vote of the membership of the Assembly in attendance of any regular or special meeting called for that purpose, provided due notice of such proposed change shall have been made at least two consecutive Sundays immediately prior to the time of such meeting. It shall be understood that this does not apply to the Articles of Faith, which stands regardless of majority.

BYLAWS

OF DALLAS FIRST ASSEMBLY OF GOD

These Bylaws define the respective roles and responsibilities of the officers, committees and members of the Assembly, and provide for the appointment of officers, and authorize other acts and functions to promote the responsible and efficient governance and operation of the Assembly. The definitions set forth below apply to both the Constitution and these Bylaws.

DEFINITIONS

Official Board – Means the Pastor and the Board of Deacons

Spirit-Filled – The Holy Spirit empowers us to live the life that glorifies God and to use us for His purposes. Ephesians 3:14-19 [[KJV/NIV](#)] says “For this reason I bow my knees before the Father, from whom every family in heaven and on earth is named, that according to the riches of his glory he may grant you to be strengthened with power through his Spirit in your inner being, so that Christ may dwell in your hearts through faith—that you, being rooted and grounded in love, may have strength to comprehend with all the saints what is the breadth and length and height and depth, and to know the love of Christ that surpasses knowledge, that you may be filled with all the fullness of God.”

ARTICLE I. DUTIES OF OFFICERS AND DEACONS

GOVERNANCE

The Pastor, Secretary and Treasurer are the Officers of the Assembly. Together, the Officers and Board of Deacons shall constitute the Official Board. The Official Board may create or eliminate other positions it determines necessary for the operation of the Assembly. All matters of church governance shall be carried out by the Official Board except in matters affecting the entire body. In such matters, the Official Board shall present its recommendations to the Assembly for ratification.

Section 1. The Pastor of the Assembly shall be considered as the spiritual overseer of the Assembly and shall direct all of its activities. The Pastor shall be the president of the corporation and shall act as chairman of all the business meetings of the Assembly and of the Board of Deacons and shall be an ex officio member of all committees or departments. The Pastor shall provide for all the services of the Assembly and shall arrange for all special meetings, conventions, or revival campaigns. No person shall be invited to speak or preach in the Assembly without the Pastor’s approval.

Section 2. The Board of Deacons will consist of not less than three (3) members, under the oversight and guidance of the Pastor, and shall be responsible for the spirit and management of the Assembly. Of this Board of Deacons, one may be Secretary and one may be Treasurer.

- A. The Board of Deacons is elected to serve the church and therefore shall act in an advisory capacity with the Pastor in all matters pertaining to the Assembly in its spiritual life and in the ministry of its ordinances. The Board of Deacons shall act in the examination of applicants for membership, and also in the administration of discipline.
- B. Members of the Official Board must be at least 21 years old and be active members of the Assembly for at least one (1) year.
- C. A majority present at any meeting of the Board of Deacons shall constitute a quorum, provided all the members have been notified to be present.
- D. In the event the Assembly is temporarily without a pastor, or the pastor is unable to be present, the Board of Deacons shall be empowered to provide for its own Chair from its own membership in order to transact business for the Assembly.

Section 3. Deacons will be Spirit-Filled believers elected to specific positions carrying certain responsibilities that are currently described as follows:

- A. **The Secretary** is the custodian of all legal documents of the Assembly and shall keep the minutes of the official meetings of the Board of Deacons and of the annual and special business meetings of the Assembly. The Secretary shall keep a record of the membership of the Assembly and perform any other clerical work necessary for the proper discharge of such duties.
- B. **The Treasurer** is entrusted with all the finances of the Assembly and shall deposit all funds in a responsible bank in the name of the Assembly, disbursing the same as authorized by the Pastor and Board of Deacons. All checks shall have two authorized signatures. The Treasurer shall direct the preparation of the financial books and records concerning receipts and disbursements of the Assembly and provide financial reports at the regular meeting of the Official Board and the Assembly's annual business meeting. All accounts may be audited under the direction of the Pastor and Board of Deacons as necessary.

- C. **The Building Overseer** is responsible for building maintenance and upkeep of the buildings both inside and out. The Building Overseer is not responsible to do the work but shall present to the Official Board maintenance and upkeep needs and arrange for such to be completed.
- D. **The Church Safety Advocate** is responsible for the overall safety of the congregation while attending church-related activities and will work with the Official Board to review and maintain policies and make provision for regular training for all workers, in all matters related to the overall safety of the congregation while attending any official Assembly activities.
- E. **The Property Overseer** is responsible for the upkeep and maintenance of church property that is outside of and not a part of a fixed building including grounds, parking lot, vehicles, signs, outside lighting, etc. The Property Overseer is not responsible to do the work but to present to the Official Board maintenance and upkeep needs of the property and arrange for such to be completed.

ARTICLE II. ELECTIONS AND VACANCIES

Section 1. The Official Board shall create and establish voting procedures and methods necessary for taking any official votes affecting the entire Assembly.

Section 2. The Pastor shall be elected for an indefinite period of time. He shall be nominated by a Pastoral Search Committee consisting of the Board of Deacons and two (2) members of the Assembly who are appointed by the Board of Deacons. Election shall be by secret ballot at the annual business meeting of the Assembly or at a special meeting called for that purpose. A two-thirds (2/3) majority vote of all votes cast shall be required to constitute an election.

Section 3. Deacon positions will be elected by the congregation at the Annual Business Meeting. Each Deacon position will be voted on individually, with the nominee taking the most votes being elected.

Section 4. The Board of Deacons

- A. The Board of Deacons shall be nominated and presented for election by a Deacon Nominating Committee, consisting of the Pastor, the Board of Deacons and two (2) additional members of the Assembly appointed by the Official Board for this purpose. Nomination forms may be submitted by the Official Board or a voting member of the Assembly to the Deacon Nominating Committee for a two-week period beginning four weeks prior to the annual business meeting.

The Official Board shall create and establish a process to govern nominations made to the Deacon Nominating Committee.

- B. Board terms of office shall not exceed 3 years from time of election, except that the office of Treasurer will serve a 5-year term.
- C. No Board Members shall succeed themselves in office without the lapse of one year. However, if there are not enough nominations to fill vacated positions, those Board Members whose terms are completed may stay on the Board to fill vacant positions until a successful candidate can be nominated and elected. Any special decisions that need to be made for **this transition** will be determined by the Official Board.

Section 5. Vacancies.

- A. **The Pastor.** In the event a pastor has serious charges credibly preferred against him, or his ministry has ceased to be effective, or no provision has been made for termination of his ministry, power is vested in the Board of Deacons to ask for the resignation of the Pastor at any of its regular business meetings. If such resignation is refused, the pastorate shall not be considered vacant until the action of the Board of Deacons has been confirmed by a majority vote of the congregation at a meeting called for the purpose, such meeting to be presided over by the District officers. When a vacancy in the pastorate shall occur, a supply shall be arranged by the Board of Deacons until a pastor shall be elected as prescribed in Section 2 of this Article. In the case of a pastor's removal from office, a report of such action shall be made to the Georgia District.
- B. **Other Officers and Deacons:**
 - 1. Any position may be declared vacant by an act of a majority of the membership of the Board of Deacons at any regular or special business meeting.
 - 2. Grounds for such action shall be: (a) Unscriptural conduct, (b) Doctrinal departure from the Statement of Fundamental Truths, (c) Incompetency in office, or (d) For any good cause.
 - 3. Any incumbent under charges shall have opportunity for a fair and impartial hearing before the Assembly at a special meeting called for that purpose if they so desire.

ARTICLE III. MEMBERSHIP

Section 1. Membership Eligibility. Membership in this Assembly shall be open to all those who give evidence of their faith in the Lord Jesus Christ, and who voluntarily subscribe to its Statement of Fundamental Truths, and agree to be governed by its Constitution and Bylaws as herein set forth.

Section 2. Voting Membership. All those who have been accepted into the membership of the Assembly shall constitute the legal voting membership of the Assembly, provided they are eighteen (18) years of age or over, that they regularly attend services, are living consistent Christian lives and are in agreement with our distinctive testimony.

Section 3. Inactive Membership. Those who have moved to another community but have not yet transferred their membership to another church, along with those who for any other cause (except physical disability, or temporary absence from the community) shall have absented themselves from the regular services of this Assembly for a period of three (3) months or more, shall be classified as inactive members, and shall not be qualified to participate in the business of this Assembly. If an inactive member becomes active again by resumed attendance at church services for a period of three (3) months, upon request, the Official Board may return their name to the active list without formal reception.

Section 4. Honorary Members. Honorary members shall consist of those members who have entered the ministry as District Officers, Pastors, Evangelists, Missionaries, Religious Educators, or those serving in the Armed Services, which makes it impossible to serve as active members. Honorary membership recognition shall continue as long as the member remains sound in doctrine and maintains a cooperative attitude toward the home Assembly. Voting privilege may be granted at the discretion of the Official Board.

Section 5. The Standard of Membership. The standard of membership of this Assembly shall be:

A. Evidence of a genuine experience in regeneration (the new birth).

- John 1:12-13 [[KJV/NIV](#)]
- John 3:3-8 [[KJV/NIV](#)]
- 1 Peter 1:18-25 [[KJV/NIV](#)]

B. Evidence of a consistent Christian life.

- Romans 6:4 [[KJV/NIV](#)]
- Romans 8:1-4 [[KJV/NIV](#)]
- Romans 13:13-14 [[KJV/NIV](#)]
- Ephesians 4:17-32 [[KJV/NIV](#)]
- Ephesians 5:1-2 [[KJV/NIV](#)]

- Ephesians 5:15 [[KJV/NIV](#)]
 - 1 John 1:6-7 [[KJV/NIV](#)]
- C. Faithful in tithing to the Lord.
- Leviticus 27:30 [[KJV/NIV](#)]
 - Numbers 18:25-28 [[KJV/NIV](#)]
 - Deuteronomy 14:22-24 [[KJV/NIV](#)]
 - 2 Chronicles 31:5-6 [[KJV/NIV](#)]
- D. To fully subscribe to the Tenets of Faith as set forth in the Constitution adopted by the Assembly.
- E. Actively participates in the activities of the Assembly according to his or her ability.

Section 6. Reception of Members.

- A. Persons desiring to become active members of the Assembly shall make the fact known to the Pastor, who shall examine the applicant according to the standard of membership.
- B. The Pastor shall present the names of those who apply for membership with a recommendation to the Board of Deacons who shall act upon said recommendation and render a final decision. All persons who meet the membership requirements shall be received in the Assembly publicly at any of the regular Sunday services and their names inscribed on the Assembly's membership roster.

Section 7. Discipline

- A. Any member of the Assembly who is willfully absent from the regular services of the Assembly for a period of three (3) consecutive months, or who shall be under charges, shall be temporarily suspended from active voting membership pending investigation and final decision in such case.
- B. Unscriptural conduct or doctrinal department from the Tenets of Faith held by this Assembly shall be considered sufficient grounds upon which any person may be disqualified as a member.
- Matthew 18:15-18 [[KJV/NIV](#)]
 - Romans 16:17-18 [[KJV/NIV](#)]
 - 1 Corinthians 5:11 [[KJV/NIV](#)]
 - Galatians 1:8-9 [[KJV/NIV](#)]
 - Titus 3:1-15 [[KJV/NIV](#)]

Section 8. The Official Board shall be authorized to revise the membership roll of the Assembly, and to remove from the list of active members the names of those deceased, together with the names of those who have been absent or withdrawn from the fellowship for a period of three (3) months, or who may have fallen into sin and whose lives may have become inconsistent with the standards and teachings of the Assembly. The following rules and instructions shall be observed as occasion may require.

- Matthew 18:15-17 [[KJV/NIV](#)]
- Romans 16:17-18 [[KJV/NIV](#)]
- 1 Corinthians 5:1-5 [[KJV/NIV](#)]
- 2 Thessalonians 3:6-15 [[KJV/NIV](#)]

If a member's name is removed for cause, they shall be notified of the action through the Secretary. If appeal is made to the Official Board for reconsideration and reinstatement is not granted, the dismissed member may appeal to the congregation at a special meeting called for that purpose. The action of the Assembly, by majority vote, shall be considered final.

ARTICLE V. OTHER MINISTRIES

Should other Ministries be created they shall operate under the general supervision of the Pastor as a branch of the activities of the Assembly and have the right to elect leaders of such Ministries.

ARTICLE VI. PROPERTY RIGHTS

Section 1. All property of the Assembly, real or personal, shall be taken, held, sold, transferred, or conveyed in the corporate name of the Assembly.

Section 2. In the event this Assembly located within the Georgia District shall be divided over doctrinal or any other issues, all property of the Assembly shall remain with those members, whatever their number, desiring continued affiliation with the Assemblies of God and adhering to its Statement of Fundamental Truths. The determination of which group members desire continued affiliation with the Assemblies of God and adheres to its Statement of Fundamental Truths shall be arbitrated by the District Executive Committee of the Georgia District Council, and its decision shall be final and binding.

ARTICLE VII. ORDER OF BUSINESS

The Official Board shall establish the order of business for any annual or special business meeting of the Assembly.

ARTICLE VIII. PARLIAMENTARY ORDER

In conducting its affairs, the Assembly shall be governed by parliamentary procedure as set forth in the current edition of Roberts' Rules of Order Newly Revised, in keeping with the spirit of Christian love and fellowship. A Parliamentarian may be appointed by the Official Board.

ARTICLE IX. AMENDMENTS

These Bylaws may be amended by a simple majority vote of the membership of the Assembly in attendance of any regular or special meeting called for that purpose, provided due notice of such proposed change shall have been made at least two consecutive Sundays immediately prior to the time of such meeting. It shall be understood that this does not apply to the Articles of Faith, which stands regardless of majority.

ARTICLE X. MEETINGS

Section 1. Meetings for public worship shall be held on each Lord's Day and during the week as may be provided for under the direction of the Pastor and Board of Deacons.

Section 2. There shall be an annual business meeting of the Assembly. The time and place of this meeting shall be announced by the Pastor or Board of Deacons and shall take place as early in the first quarter of the calendar year as is conveniently possible. Due notice shall be given on the two Sundays immediately prior to the date of said meeting.

Section 3. Special business meetings of the Assembly may be called by the Pastor, by a majority of the Official Board, or by petition having been signed by not less than one-third of the voting membership of this Assembly, and announcement made in the two Sundays immediately prior to the date of the meeting.

Section 4. *The Board of Deacons*, with the Pastor, shall meet at least monthly for the transaction of routine business for the assembly, time and place to be announced by the Pastor.