

By-laws
Seventh Day Home Church Fellowships - _____ (draft - copy)

- 1 Name: This organization shall be called: Seventh Day Home Church Fellowships - _____
- 2 Location of office
 - 2.1 Until decided upon or changed by the council, the location of the office of this organization shall start at:

 - 2.2 Location shall be subject to change, and is to be determined by the Council.
- 3 Membership
 - 3.1 Members shall consist of duly recognized groups, churches, organizations, missions regional entities, and institutions.
 - 3.2 Members shall be accepted or rejected by a majority vote of the council
 - 3.3 Member organizations shall have as a minimum qualification for acceptance of individual members, that they accept Christ, and covenant to keep the commandments of God and have the faith of Jesus.
 - 3.4 Member organizations shall have some roll, or record by which their membership is kept.
 - 3.5 Member organizations should be in agreement with our beliefs as stated in article 12,
- 4 Conducting Business
 - 4.1 Regular business shall be conducted by a council.
- 5 Council
 - 5.1 Council shall be made up of representatives chosen by the individual member organizations.
 - 5.1.1 Representation shall be as follows – Each member entity may be represented in the council by one representative regardless of the number of its membership, plus one representative for every 10 of its members.
 - 5.2 Representatives making up the council shall be chosen by the member entities and evidence of their election shall be submitted to the council. They must be acknowledged/accepted by the council prior to their admittance on the council.
 - 5.3 Ministers ordained or duly recognized by this body shall be council members at large, not representing any particular member entity.
 - 5.4 The council shall meet at least quarterly, at a time and location decided upon by the council. The meetings shall be organized by the chairman.
 - 5.5 A quorum shall consist of at least half of council members to conduct business.
 - 5.6 Meetings can be at a physical location or may be held by telephone/web conferencing or other means.
- 6 Powers of the council
 - 6.1 The council when convened shall have the power by majority vote to make all decisions relative to the conduct of the affairs of the church, including acquiring, buying, or selling properties, accepting or rejecting requests of membership in the organization, hiring Gospel

workers, secretaries or others. It shall have the power to authorize the disbursement of funds for any purpose it deems necessary in harmony with its mission as stated in the articles of its Charter, to make contracts, to organize meetings, and to organize institutions for Education, health, or otherwise. Its powers shall not be limited except in any other place in this document, to promote the mission of the church, as stated in its charter.

6.2 The council shall have the power to credential ministers and other Gospel workers, and to *recommend* to the ministers, individuals for ordination.

7 Officers

7.1 Officers shall be chosen by the members in the business meeting at least once a year, and shall consist of a

7.1.1 A chairman

7.1.2 A secretary

7.1.3 A treasurer

7.1.4 An Auditor (optional)

7.2 Term of office

7.2.1 Term shall be one year, or less if the individual ceases to be a representative of his entity or ceases to be a council member.

7.3 Duties of officers

7.3.1 The officers shall be responsible to carry out the decisions of the members between sessions.

7.3.2 The chairman shall organize council meetings, and be responsible to chair the meetings or find someone to do so.

7.3.3 The secretary shall keep and submit reports when requested by the council, of names of officers and council members, member entities, minutes, proposals, decisions, resolutions etc. of the council meetings. Duties of the chairman shall fall to the secretary in the event that the chairman is absent or fails to perform his duties.

7.3.4 Treasurers shall submit reports at each council meeting and when asked by the officers or council meeting. Duties of the chairman shall fall to the treasurer in the absence of the chairman and secretary.

8 Funding

8.1 Member entities shall give at least 10% of their income (clearly marked whether tithe or offering) to this organization unless other arrangements are made with the council. Funding shall come from this source as well as any other donations.

9 Legal Representation

9.1 The officers shall have authority to sign legal documents, such as real-estate, government paper-work etc. on behalf of this organization. The signatures of two officers shall be required for legal documents.

9.2 The treasurer shall have the authority to open a bank account in the name of this organization and the chairman shall also be a signer on the account.

10 Amendments

10.1 The Bylaws may be amended by a 2/3 majority vote of the council..

11 Removal of council members, officers, member entities

11.1 Any council member, or officer, may be removed from office, or expelled from the council and any member entity may be expelled from this church association by majority vote of the council.

12 Beliefs

12.1 We believe that the Bible is our creed, and the attached 1872 statement of beliefs, most closely expresses our current understanding of certain of its major teachings. It is understood that “new light” will not contradict “old” light, or undermine the foundation or pillars of our faith revealed in the Word of God and Testimony of Jesus.

12.2 We believe that the spiritual gift of prophecy was given to Ellen G. White, (and is referred to in Revelation 19:10 as the testimony of Jesus) and we hold to the teachings that the Spirit has brought to light through her ministry, revealed in the works she *published while alive*. This includes much counsel in regard to temperance and healthful living which is to be followed.