

# Bylaws

1. Name: This organization shall be called: \_\_\_\_\_ conference of  
\_\_\_\_\_
2. Location of office:
  - 2.1. The location of the office of this organization is: \_\_\_\_\_
  - 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. If not already represented by an entity mentioned above, individuals may also hold membership, but shall not be a council member. This may be necessary in case of isolated members for example.
  - 3.3. Members shall be accepted or rejected by a majority vote of the council and in the case of individuals shall be subject to prior baptism
  - 3.4. Member organizations shall have as a minimum qualification for acceptance of individual members, that they accept Christ as their personal Savior, understand and are in harmony with the fundamental beliefs of 1889, and covenant to keep the commandments of God and have the faith of Jesus.
  - 3.5. Member organizations shall have some roll, or record by which their membership is kept
4. Conducting Business
  - 4.1. Regular business shall be conducted by a council
5. Council
  - 5.1. The council shall be made up of representatives chosen by the individual member organizations for a term to be decided by the individual member groups, of at least one year.
    - a) 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
    - b) The representatives shall supply written evidence of their election and submit it to the current council. Representatives shall be acknowledged by the current council prior to their admittance on the council.

- 5.2. Ministers ordained or duly recognized by this body shall be council members at large.
- 5.3. The council shall meet at least quarterly, at a time and location decided upon by the council, which could also include over the Internet or telephone.
- 5.4. The meetings shall be organized by the chairman.
- 5.5. A quorum shall consist of at least half of council members to conduct business.
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. These powers shall not be construed to limit the powers of the individual member groups to do the same types of activity.
  - 6.2. The council shall have the power to replace any of the trustees by a 2/3 majority vote.
  - 6.3. The council shall have the power to credential ministers and other Gospel workers, and to recommend individuals to the ministry for ordination.
7. Officers
  - 7.1. Officers shall be chosen by the council, and shall consist of a:
    - a) Chairman
    - b) Secretary
    - c) Treasurer
    - d) Auditor
  - 7.2. Term of office shall be one year.
  - 7.3. Duties of officers
    - a) The officers shall be responsible to carry out the decisions of the council, between sessions.
    - b) The chairman shall organize council meetings, and be responsible to chair the meetings, or find someone to do so.

- c) The secretary shall keep and submit reports when requested by the council, of member group names, council members, officers, minutes, proposals, decisions, resolutions etc. of the council meetings. Duties of the chairman shall fall to the secretary in the event that the chairman fails to perform his duties.
- d) Treasurers shall submit reports at each regular council meeting, and when asked. Duties of the chairman shall fall to the treasurer in absence of the chairman and the secretary.
- e) Auditor, together with the treasurer, shall educate treasurers of local churches on how to keep books properly, and shall conduct an audit on the books of the local churches. Auditor shall also audit the books of this conference, annually.

## 8. Funding

- 8.1. Unless other arrangements are made with the council, member entities shall systematically give 100% of tithes collected if they have a full time worker paid by this conference, or at least 15% of tithes collected if they are supporting their own worker.
- 8.2. Unless other arrangements are made with the council, member entities shall systematically give at least 10% of their General or non allocated donations received to this organization.
- 8.3. Funding shall come from these sources 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.
- 9.2. The treasurer shall have the authority to open a bank account in the name of this organization and shall have one other member of the council open it with them, and be a signer. One signature on checks is acceptable.

## 10. Amendments

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

## 11. Impeachment

- 11.1. Any officer or council member may be impeached for open sin. The council may act as a church to try the offender in the manner marked out by Matthew 18, and a 2/3 majority of members present shall be required to impeach someone.

## 12. Beliefs

- 12.1. It is understood that “new light” does not contradict the established faith, or undermine the foundation or pillars of our faith revealed in the Word of God and Testimony of

Jesus. We believe that the Word of God is our creed. The attached 1872 statement, however, most closely defines our current beliefs.

- 12.2. We believe that the spiritual gift of prophecy was given to Ellen G. White, 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.