

Faith Fellowship
Ministerial Association, Inc.
Ministerial Handbook



Faith Fellowship Ministerial Association, Inc.

8145 Whiting Field Circle

Milton, Florida 32570

Executive Board

President
Danny Carnley

Secretary
Conni Carnley

Vice President
Joseph Gillman

HAND BOOK OF FACTS

Faith Fellowship Ministerial Association, Inc. is organized not for profit, and its primary and perpetual purpose is to promulgate the Christian Faith and Gospel throughout the world.

In addition to its principle purpose as set forth above, it is formed for the following purposes:

- To promote fellowship, cooperation, protection, recognition and promulgation of the Christian Gospel and for the support of public worship.
- 2) To ordain ministers and exhorters to any and all orders as may be deemed expedient and/or necessary.
- 3) To send forth home and foreign missionaries.
- 4) To print, publish, distribute and sell books, magazines and other literature in any way connected with the purpose of this corporation.
- 8) To do any and all things reasonably necessary to carry out the above and foregoing purposes.

OBJECTIVE

To build up one another in the most Holy Faith; to, "...earnestly contend for the faith which was once delivered to the saints" (Jude 3); to grant each local unit, whether fellowship, church or institution, absolute sovereignty to handle its affairs and each minister the right to carry out his or her individual vision as God directs; to provide a voluntary cooperative basis of fellowship for various local fellowships, churches, exhorters, ministers and institutions who believe the fundamental doctrines of the Bible, and to assist one another in carrying out the command of the Master to evangelize the world.

Churches, institutions and associations becoming affiliated with this fellowship may be independent and self-governing; own their own property; choose their own name; and call their own pastors or leaders as God may direct.

Pastors are to feed the flock "...over the which the Holy Ghost (not man) hath made (them) overseers..." (Acts 20:28), serving their own church indefinitely as its governing head, only being dismissed in the event he or she departs from the faith, or deliberately goes into sin, or by choice or directed of God, desires to enter other fields of ministry.

WHAT WE BELIEVE AND TEACH

The Fellowship believes strongly in the grace and keeping power of our Lord Jesus Christ, and that while no man can save himself by good works, he must bring forth good works, meet for repentance, and live a consecrated Christian life, lest he himself should be a castaway.

The Fellowship cannot endorse the radical theories and dogmas that are set forth by many of the denominational sects of today which tend only to split and divide God's people. We are willing to fellowship all clean Christian people who are contending for love and the principles of Christ. However, we cannot and will not approve or endorse teachings which tend to split and divide the body of Christ.

FUNDAMENTAL DOCTRINES OF THE FELLOWSHIP

- 1) **The Bible is the Word of God**, verbally inspired in the original writings (II Timothy 3:16; II Peter 1:21).
- 2) **The Holy Trinity** composed of the Father, Son and Holy Ghost with all power vested in the name of the Lord Jesus Christ is coexistent, eternal, omniscient, omnipresent and all powerful (Deuteronomy. 6:4,5; Matthew 28:19; II Corinthians 13:14; Luke 1:35; John 1:14)
- 3) **The salvation of man.** Through repentance toward God and faith in Jesus Christ, man is saved by the washing of regeneration, whereupon he is born again,

by grace through faith, he becomes an heir of God (John 3:3, 5, 7; Titus 2:11; 3:5, 7). The inward evidence is a witness of the Spirit (Romans 8:16). The outward evidence is a life of righteousness.

- 4) **Entire sanctification** is the will of God for all believers and should be earnestly pursued by walking in obedience to God's Word.
- 5) **Baptism of the Holy Ghost.** There is for every believer, whose heart has been cleansed, an endowment of power for service, the Baptism of the Holy Spirit, in accordance with Acts 2:4 and 10:44-48.
- 6) **Spiritual Gifts.** If we abide in Him, it is possible to have the "signs following" and the spiritual gifts, spoken of in I Corinthians 12 and 14, in the church.
- 7) **Healing in the Atonement.** "Himself took our infirmities, and bare our sicknesses" (Matthew 8:17) and "with His stripes we are healed" (Isaiah 53:5) It is our privilege to lay hands on the sick and anoint them with oil in the name of the Lord, and "the prayer of faith shall save the sick, and the Lord shall raise him up" (James 5:14-15).
- 8) **The Pre-Millennial Return of Our Lord.** We believe in the rapture of the prepared saints, the great tribulation, and that our Lord will then return with His saints in power and great glory to reign upon the earth a thousand years. (I Thessalonians 4:14-17; Matthew 25:31; Acts 1:11; Revelation 20:4; Jude 14, 15).

- 9) The Resurrection.** We believe in a resurrection of the crucified Body of our Lord, the resurrection of the just before the thousand years, and the unjust after the thousand years (Acts 2:22-24; I Corinthians 15:2-8; Romans 8:34; Daniel 12:2; Revelation 20:4, 5).
- 10) Heaven and Hell.** We believe in the everlasting blessedness and reward of the righteous, and the everlasting punishment of the wicked (Matthew 26:46; Revelation 2:8; Luke 16:19-25).
- 11) Ordinances.** The Lord's Supper should be observed (Luke 22:19,20; I Corinthians 11:23-26). We believe in water baptism by immersion, in the name of the Lord Jesus Christ, according to His command, In the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Ghost" (Matthew 28:19; Matthew 3:15-17; Acts 2:38; Romans 6:3,4). There is a great blessing to be derived from and a great lesson of love and humility, taught by foot washing as practiced by our Lord and His disciples (John 13:4-17). "Therefore, if ye know these things, happy are ye if ye do them." The practice of foot washing may be optional with each assembly.

12) The Church. We believe that the church is the Body of Christ, the habitation of God through the Spirit, with divine appointments for its Great Commission. Each believer, born of the Spirit, is an integral part of the general assembly and Church of the First born which are written in Heaven (Hebrews 12:23; Ephesians 1:22, 23, 2:22). A divinely called and scripturally qualified ministry has been provided by our Lord for the evangelization of the world, and the edifying of the Body of Christ (Mark 16:15-20).

HOW THE FELLOWSHIP OPERATES

The vision of this Fellowship is not to lord it over God's heritage, nor to bring ministers into bondage, nor to create many offices to be supported. The vision is to promote fellowship among God's people and especially among God's Holy Ghost Ministers.

CREDENTIALS

Ordained ministers, licensed ministers and exhorters becoming affiliated with this Fellowship shall first be ordained or recommended to be licensed by one or more ministers of maturity. Such worthy individuals, after having been properly ordained or recommended for license shall be referred to the office through an application furnished by said office, and in turn shall receive proper credentials signed by the President and Secretary of the Executive Board of the Fellowship.

The Executive Board shall be empowered to grant credentials to such worthy ministers, who have been ordained or licensed with other organizations before applying to the Fellowship, who are properly recommended.

The local church is urged to exercise good judgment in the examination of applicants, and at no time is the leadership to recommend an applicant for credentials unless they are thoroughly convinced that God has called the applicant to a definite ministry and that the applicant is living a consecrated life and has a proven ministry. Be it thoroughly understood that the Executive Board of Faith Fellowship Ministerial Association, Inc. assumes no responsibility or liability for the ministry, life and conduct of the ministers holding credentials with the Fellowship; however, according to the scriptures, each minister is responsible to the congregation to which he ministers or attends. “And when they had ordained them elders in the church, and had prayed with fasting, they commended them to the Lord on whom they believed” (Acts 14:23).

Applicants shall not receive ordination credentials unless they are actively engaged in the ministry and have had at least one year of preaching experience.

License may be granted to applicants upon reasonable evidence that they are actively engaged in gospel work and are preparing for full-time ministry.

Be it further understood, that this Fellowship does not condone loose living and unethical practices by any of its ministers. We insist that all evangelists conducting revivals and ministers beginning new works give due consideration to any existing local churches and their pastors, so that the interests of the local churches be kept inviolate.

To be eligible for credentials, all applicants must have a home church and be actively engaged in the ministry. The Certificate and Fellowship Card bear the corporate seal of the corporation. Credentials may be withdrawn at any time for just cause.

MINISTERIAL GUIDELINES

It is strongly suggested that all Fellowship ministers attend the annual services held in Milton, Florida generally the first week of June every year. During this time the annual business meeting of Faith Fellowship Ministerial Association, Inc will be conducted. It is mandatory that all Executive Board members, as well as all Advisory Board members attend this meeting.

Advisors will be appointed by the Executive Board and will hold such position until the individuals appointed decline the appointment, or the Executive Board deems it necessary to remove them from the Advisory Board.

All ministers are to submit quarterly reports at the end of each quarter throughout the year. The quarterly reports enable us to know where all Fellowship ministers are and how active they have been in the service of the Lord.

The Word of God tells us to be “...not slothful in business; fervent in Spirit; serving the Lord...” (Romans 12:11). The greatest business that one could ever be in is the Lord’s business.

Failure to comply with these guidelines will put the minister’s credentials in Jeopardy.

DISCIPLINE

All charges presented against an ordained minister, a licensed minister or an exhorter, must be sustained by two or more witnesses. Such accusations must be in writing, signed by the accuser, and sent through the mail or email to the general office. An official, unbiased committee from the local assembly where the charge is made shall investigate such charge and adjust matters where possible. In the event said local committee cannot adjust the case, a committee of two or more nearby ministers may be called upon to assist in said investigation. The request may be made by the accused minister or by the individual(s) making the accusations. In extreme cases, where matters cannot be settled locally, they may be referred to or appealed to the Executive Board, which is empowered to take final action in such cases, and when necessary revoke credentials. In such cases where charges are leveled against an evangelist who has no base church from which a committee can be justly chosen to investigate his case and adjust matters accordingly, his case shall be handled by the Executive Board of the Fellowship.

TITHES AND CONTRIBUTIONS

We accept tithing as God's plan through the ages for the support of the ministry and the continuation of God's work. Therefore, we urge that tithing be taught and that all ministers pay tithes as God may prosper.

We urge all ministers to send contributions regularly to the General Office. These funds will be used, as stated, to further the purposes of this Fellowship.

DISBURSEMENT OF FUNDS

All monies received will be deposited into a General Fund; from this fund the office will be operated in the following manner:

Payment for postage and any stationary or printing deemed necessary to promote the Fellowship.

All office bills will be paid from this fund.

Any salaries to be paid will be set at the Annual Business Meeting.

Anyone sent on special missions to promote the Fellowship will be reimbursed for expenses ONLY.

Only the necessary expenses that are required to carry on the work of the Fellowship shall be expended from the fund.

A full financial report will be submitted at each Annual Business Meeting

PASTORS

Concerning pastors and their callings, we do not find where the early church VOTED once a year to determine whether or not James would remain in Jerusalem, or if Paul would be Bishop of the Gentile churches any

longer. In other words, our understanding is that every man is a bishop over that which he builds and should have the right legally, spiritually, and morally to carry on his or her local program without interference from the office of some organization.

NOTES

CHURCHES

Although Faith Fellowship Ministerial Association, Inc. is not currently chartering any new churches, the following guidelines exist for those already chartered through this Fellowship. Should, in the future the Fellowship decides to charter churches again, these guidelines would also pertain to those new churches. Each local cooperative work may have its local trustees and incorporate locally, if desired, with said local trustees and their successors in office holding the property in trust. We suggest that the leader, founder or pastor of such local church or institution, who God has used to create such work, be chairman of the Board of Trustees. All churches in fellowship with Faith Fellowship Ministerial, Inc. have all the protection of the corporate seal. It should be stated in such local deed of contract that said church is affiliated with Faith Fellowship Ministerial Association, Inc. with general offices in Milton, Florida. When it is so desired by the local unit, property belonging to the local church, mission, institution, fellowship or individual may pass into the possession of Faith Fellowship Ministerial Association, Inc. to be held in trust by its Executive Board and their successors in office.

DUES

The financial plan of Faith Fellowship Ministerial Association, Inc. is that all ministers pay a one time credential fee. Ordained ministers are to pay \$50.00; licensed ministers are to pay \$45.00; exhorters are to pay \$40.00. All fees are to be received at time of application. In addition, all ministers are required to send \$20.00 per month for support and expenses of the Fellowship. In the case of a husband and wife team, the dues are \$30.00 per couple per month. It is further required that all ministers' dues be kept current. Any minister having difficulty with keeping dues current should contact the general office.

We pray that each minister is obedient to his or her call and blessed by God for his or her endeavors.

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