



BYLAWS OF FULL GOSPEL EVANGELISTIC ASSOCIATION

PO Box 702378
Tulsa, Oklahoma 74170

The following Bylaws, adopted by the voting Membership of the Association at a meeting in the City of Dallas, State of Texas, on the 4th day of April, 1989, shall govern the business of this Association of churches and ministers except as the same may be from time to time abridged or amended.

[Published here as amended through April 2026.]

ARTICLE I NAME AND OFFICES

SECTION 1. NAME. The name of this Association of ministers, churches and related ministries is FULL GOSPEL EVANGELISTIC ASSOCIATION, KATY, HARRIS COUNTY, TEXAS; also known as FULL GOSPEL EVANGELISTIC ASSOCIATION, FGEA, or THE ASSOCIATION.

SECTION 2. OFFICES AND FACILITIES. The facilities of the Association shall be used solely for purposes and activities which do not contradict or violate the religious purposes and teachings of the Association or its Statement of Faith and Purpose.”

ARTICLE II STATEMENT OF FAITH AND PURPOSE

SECTION 1. The programs and activities governing the worship of FULL GOSPEL EVANGELISTIC ASSOCIATION shall be based upon and at all times shall be consistent with the following creed and beliefs:

A. THE SCRIPTURES. The Bible is the inspired Word of God, the product of Holy Men of old who spoke and wrote as they were moved by the Holy Spirit. The New Covenant, as recorded in the New Testament, we accept as our infallible guide in matters pertaining to conduct and doctrine (II Peter 1:21; II Timothy 3:16; I Thes. 2:13).

B. THE GODHEAD. Our God is One, but manifested in three persons: the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit (Matt. 3:16,17; John 1:1-3; I John 5:7).

God the Father is greater than all; the Source of the Word (Logos) and the Begetter (John 14:28; 16:28; 1:14; Matt. 11:25).

Jesus is the Son of God, One with the Father, The Word (flesh-covered), the One begotten, and has existed with the Father from the beginning (John 1:1; 1:14; 1:18; 10:30).

The Holy Spirit proceeds forth from both the Father and the Son and is eternal (John 14:26; 15:26; 16:7-14).

C. MAN, HIS FALL AND REDEMPTION. Man was formed by God of the dust of the ground, made in the likeness of God; but through Adam's transgression and fall sin came into the world. "All have sinned and come short of the glory of God." "As it is written, there is none righteous, no not one." Jesus Christ, the Son of God, born of a virgin, was manifested to give His life and shed His blood to redeem and restore man back to God and to destroy the works of the devil. (Gen. 2:7; Rom. 5:12; 3:23; 3:9,10; Matt. 1:18-25; John 3:16; I John 3:8; I John 1:9)

Salvation is the gift of God to man, separate from works and the law, and is made operative by grace through faith in Jesus Christ, producing works acceptable to God (Eph. 2:8-10; II Cor. 5:21).

D. ETERNAL LIFE AND NEW BIRTH. Man's first step toward salvation is Godly sorrow that works repentance. The New Birth is necessary to all men, and when fulfilled, produces Eternal Life. (Acts 2:38; II Cor. 7:10; I John 5:12; John 3:3-5)

E. WATER BAPTISM. The ordinance of baptism by immersion is commanded in 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. (Matt. 28:19; Acts 10:47,48; Rom. 6:4)

F. COMMUNION - THE LORD'S SUPPER. Christians observe the ordinance of the Lord in obedience to His command that we show the Lord's death until He come. The bread symbolizes the Lord's broken body through which we have healing and health. The cup represents the New Covenant in His blood, which provides us forgiveness and relationship with God. We judge ourselves, honoring the Broken Body and the Blood of The Lord as our salvation; for if we receive it unworthily (without giving it honor as our salvation) we are guilty of the body and blood of the Lord. (I Cor. 11:23-31; Mark 14:22-26; Matt. 26:26-30; Luke 22:17-20)

G. SANCTIFICATION AND HOLINESS. The Bible teaches that "without holiness no man shall see the Lord" (Heb. 12:14). God has provided the Grace of Sanctification "wherein we stand and rejoice in hope of the glory of God" (Rom. 5:1-3). This grace is entered by:

1. Faith (believing that Jesus' blood was shed for our sanctification) (Heb. 13:12);
2. Knowledge of the Word of God (Truth) (John 17:17);
3. Consecrating ourselves and by offering every faculty continually to the dominion of the Holy Spirit. (Phil. 2:12; Rom. 12:1,2; Rom. 6:1-13; Rom. 8:1,2,13; Gal. 2:20)

H. DIVINE HEALING. Healing of the physical ills of the human body is wrought by the power of God through the prayer of faith, the laying on of hands and/or anointing with oil. It is provided for in the atonement of Christ and is the privilege of every Christian. (Mark 16:18; James 5:13-16; I Pet. 2:24; Matt. 8:17; Isa. 53:4,5)

I. BAPTISM WITH THE HOLY GHOST. The Baptism with the Holy Ghost is a gift from God as promised to believers by the Lord Jesus Christ. Persons who receive this baptism will speak with other tongues (languages other than their own) as the Spirit gives utterance, and will manifest other gifts of the Spirit according to the Spirit's choosing. (Matt. 3:11; John 14:16,17; Acts 1:8; Acts 2:4; Acts 2:38,39; Acts 19:6)

J. RESURRECTION OF THE JUST AND THE RETURN OF OUR LORD. We believe in the premillennial second coming of Jesus. First, to resurrect the righteous dead and to catch away the living saints to Him in the air. Second, to reign on the earth a thousand years. (Acts 1:11; I Thes. 4:16,17; I Cor. 15:51-53; Rev. 20:4,5)

K. RESURRECTION AND JUDGMENT OF THE UNSAVED. Those who do not believe and obey God's Word are presently under His condemnation. Their death in that state will result in their resurrection after the thousand-year reign of Christ, to stand before God at the White Throne Judgment, to be judged according to their works. Those whose names are not recorded in the Book of Life will be cast into the Lake of Fire. (Rev. 20:5, 11-15; John 3:18; Mark 9:42-48; Heb. 9:27; Acts 24:15)

L. TITHING AND GIVING OF OFFERINGS. Support of the ministry and the church is to be accomplished through tithing and giving of offerings. (Neh. 13:10-14; Matt. 23:23; Mal. 3:10-12; I Cor. 16:2)

M. GOD'S CHURCH. God is choosing for Himself a church. We should therefore recognize and have fellowship with other Christians wherever we find them. (I Cor. 12:13; Eph. 5:25-27)

N. MARRIAGE AND SEXUALITY. The Bible recognizes marriage as exclusively the legal union of one naturally born man and one naturally born woman (Titus 1:6). Therefore, the Association and its Members shall not recognize, perform, or condone any marriage between individuals of the same biological gender or between more than one man and woman. The Bible also teaches that legitimate sexual relations are exercised solely within the Biblical model of marriage (Genesis 2:18-25, Matthew 19:5, Mark 10:8, Ephesians 5:31). Sexual activities such as sex before marriage, outside of marriage, with multiple partners, altering one's biological gender, incest, pedophilia, bestiality, pornographic activity and same-sex sexual activities violate the teachings of the Bible and are therefore sinful and incompatible with Christian behavior. (I Corinthians 6:9-10; Leviticus 18:22 and 20:13; Romans 1:26-27).

SECTION 2. This Corporation shall consist of an Association of Churches, Ministers, and Associated Ministries within the meaning of Section 170 (b) (1) (A) (i) and shall be organized and operated exclusively for religious, charitable, and educational purposes within the meaning of Section 501 (c) (3) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1954 as amended or any superseding section in order to:

- A. Minister the Word of God (the Holy Bible);
- B. Conduct regular religious worship services through various forms of ministries;

C. Promote and encourage, through the ministries of Full Gospel Evangelistic Association, cooperation with various churches, ministers, missionaries, and organizations throughout the world;

D. Spread the Word of the Gospel by ministering to all peoples through seminars, radio, television, print (e.g. publish and circulate the *Full Gospel News*) and other forms of mass media;

E. Organize and/or establish local and international churches by the direction of the Lord Jesus Christ and under the leadership of the Holy Spirit in accordance with all the provisions as set forth in the Holy Bible;

F. License and ordain graduates of the ministerial schools and other qualified individuals;

G. Establish, institute, operate and maintain any and all such additional departments, associations, institutions, schools, mission stations, programs, and/or any and all such other vehicles as may be deemed appropriate and advisable by the Executive Board for the propagation of the Gospel within the United States of America and/or in any other country;

H. Have power and authority which is hereby given to negotiate or designate agents to negotiate all of the business transactions, all receipts and all disbursements, for any such additional departments, associations, institutions, schools, mission stations, programs, and/or any and all such other vehicles established or instituted by this Corporation.

ARTICLE III **EXECUTIVE BOARD AND OFFICERS**

SECTION 1. DUTIES OF THE EXECUTIVE BOARD. The business of this Association shall be managed by its Board of Trustees, which shall be referred to as the Executive Board (which shall consist of a **President**, a **Vice-President**, and a **Secretary-Treasurer**) which shall exercise all such powers of the Association as stipulated in the Articles of Incorporation or in the Bylaws. The duties of the Executive Board shall include but not be limited to the following:

A. The planning and promoting of an earnest soul-winning program;

B. The transaction of all matters of legal business for the Association; to act as agent in the acquisition of real properties by purchase, lease, gift, or devise; or disposal of same.

No encumbrance or single expenditure shall exceed \$20,000 without the consent of a majority of the voting membership;

C. To examine all applications for membership and to issue appropriate credentials upon approval of the applications. No appeal of the decision of the Executive Board shall be had in case an application for membership is denied;

D. To keep a record of all letters of recommendation, License and Ordination Certificates, which record shall be kept in the Home Office of the Association;

E. It shall be the duty of the Executive Board, following a thorough investigation, to request the return of any letter of recommendation, membership card, and License or Ordination Certificate from any person whose character or Christian walk may be such as to bring reproach upon the Gospel and the Association. The issuance of such request to the Member in question and notification of the Membership of the Association shall void said letter of recommendation, membership card, and License or Ordination Certificate. No appeal of the decision of the Executive Board shall be had in such a case;

F. If at any time a local church body, a Church Board or a Pastor within the Fellowship requests the Executive Board to counsel with them or to assist them in any way possible, the Executive Board shall render such assistance and/or judgment in accordance with the matters at hand.

If requested by a majority of the governing body present and in accordance with the individual organizations governing bylaws, the Executive Board (or their designee) may provide temporary oversight and supervision of a church, ministry or affiliated organization. Such oversight may include, at the discretion of the Executive Board, the right to appoint or remove members of the local church's board of directors and the right to appoint a pastor for the local church. The Executive Board shall surrender such authority when it determines in good faith that the local body is healthy and able to conduct their own affairs.

G. The Executive Board may appoint and delegate responsibilities to individuals, boards, committees to carry out various aspects of the association, such as directors of youth, missions, etc. Such persons will be under the supervision of the president.

SECTION 2. THE PRESIDENT. The President shall be no less than thirty years of age, an Ordained Minister of the Full Gospel Evangelistic Association, with at least seven years of ministerial experience, and with at least four years as a Member in good standing of FGEA. His life must be an example of godliness, sobriety, good behavior, and vigilance; and he must be apt to teach (I Tim. 3:1-7).

The President shall be Chairman of the Annual Business Meeting, Special Meetings. He shall be a member of the Executive Board and chairman of Executive Board Meetings, except that he may relinquish the Chair to any of the other Executive Officers as necessary. A Temporary Chairman may be chosen by proper parliamentary procedure during a discussion critical of the Executive Board.

The President shall act as overseer of all business matters of the Association. However, all business matters of FGEA will be decided by the Executive Board. He may resign from office by giving thirty days notice to the Executive Board. He may be removed from office by a two-thirds vote of the Members and representatives at the Annual Business Meeting or at a Special Meeting, should it become necessary for the good of the Association. Should the office become vacant for any reason, the First Vice-President shall be empowered to fill the unexpired term.

SECTION 3. THE VICE-PRESIDENT. The qualifications for the Vice-President shall be the same as for the President. The Vice-President shall serve in any capacity assigned by the President. He shall serve as a member of the Executive Board by virtue of his office.

Removal or resignation from office shall be the same as for the President. Should this office become vacant for any reason, the Executive Board shall appoint a qualified Member to fill the unexpired term.

SECTION 4. THE SECRETARY-TREASURER. Qualifications for the Secretary-Treasurer shall be the same as for the Vice-President with exception of the age limitation.

It shall be the duty of the Secretary-Treasurer to keep the minutes of meetings of the Executive Board, the minutes of the Annual Business Meeting and of any Special Meetings. He shall be responsible for receiving and disbursing all moneys. He shall be responsible to provide an annual report at the Annual Business Meeting of income and expenditures for the previous calendar year, as well as a statement of assets, liabilities, and net worth. The Secretary-Treasurer shall also serve in any capacity assigned by the President. He/she shall serve as a member of the Executive Board by virtue of his/her office.

The Executive Board may appoint one or more employees who are duly qualified to fulfill bookkeeping or accounting responsibilities.

Removal or resignation from office shall be the same as for the other officers. Should this office become vacant for any reason, the Executive Board shall appoint a qualified Member to fill the unexpired term.

SECTION 5. TERMS OF OFFICE. The Executive Board shall be a rotating board with each term of office being four years. For example, the officers to be elected at the Annual Business Meeting shall be:

President	2027
No Election	2028
Secretary-Treasurer	2029
Vice-President	2030

The office of President shall be eligible for re-election without a limit to the number of terms served. All other officers may be elected to serve a maximum of three consecutive terms in the same office.

SECTION 6. MISCONDUCT OF OFFICERS. In the event of misconduct by any member of the Executive Board, the other members of the Executive Board shall grant a hearing, if so desired by the officer in question. After thorough investigation, the Executive Board may, at their discretion, request his resignation and/or declare his office vacated.

In the event a question arises concerning the action of the Executive Board and a motion is made from the floor and seconded during an Annual Business Meeting or a Special Meeting, that a Temporary Chairman be elected, a vote shall be taken immediately to determine the will of the Body. In the event a majority votes in favor of having a Temporary Chairman, one shall be selected by normal parliamentary procedure, and the President or Chairman shall relinquish the Chair to him during discussion of the subject and conclusion and judgment of the same by a majority of the voting Members and Representatives.

ARTICLE IV **MEMBERSHIP**

SECTION 1. INDIVIDUAL MEMBERS. Membership in the Association is available to individuals on three progressive levels: Certified Minister, Licensed Minister, and Ordained Minister. The Executive Board will establish and oversee a Membership policy that has been presented to and approved by a majority of the voting Members; the Membership policy which will define the application and

advancement procedures for individuals desiring Membership in the Association.

SECTION 2. INDIVIDUAL MEMBERSHIP LEVEL.

A. CERTIFIED MINISTER. An individual who is beginning the process of becoming a Licensed Minister or one who feels a definite call to Christian service (e.g., as a singer, musician, altar worker, soulwinner, office worker [assisting a church, pastor, evangelist, or other para-church ministry]) may apply for Membership as a Certified Minister. After submission of an Application for Membership in FGEA and subsequent approval by the Executive Board, he/she shall receive an appropriate membership card and certificate.

B. LICENSED MINISTER. A Member who has been classified as a Certified Minister for a minimum of one year and meets the qualifications established in the Membership policy may request advancement from the Executive Board. Following approval, he/she will receive a membership card and a certificate as a LICENSED MINISTER.

C. ORDAINED MINISTER. A Member who has been classified as a Licensed Minister for a minimum of one year and meets the qualifications established in the Membership policy may request advancement from the Executive Board. Following approval, he/she will be duly and scripturally ordained to the ministry and receive a membership card and a certificate as an ORDAINED MINISTER.

D. TRANSFERRING CREDENTIALS. An individual who has been Licensed or Ordained for at least 3 years by another like-minded, Spirit-filled ministry organization and who meets the qualifications established in the Membership policy may apply to transfer their credentials to become a Licensed or Ordained Minister of FGEA.

SECTION 3. INDIVIDUAL MEMBERS' FINANCIAL RESPONSIBILITIES.

All Members of FGEA are expected to contribute faithfully to the Association. These funds shall be used for the purposes and objectives specified in Article II, Section 2.

- A. An Application Fee must be submitted with the Application for Membership.
- B. An annual Renewal Fee must be submitted with the Application for Renewal of Membership. Memberships expire annually on a date set by the Executive Board.
- C. Each Member shall contribute undesignated General Fund offerings to the Home Office on a

regular basis. The minimum amount for each Member (or couple, if both husband and wife are Members) shall be set by the Executive Board in the Contributions Guidelines policy will be presented to and approved by a majority of the voting Members.

D. Exemptions concerning fees and undesignated offerings for students, retired, and disabled persons will also be set in the Contributions Guidelines policy by the Executive Board.

E. No credentials or letters of recommendation shall be issued to any person who is known to be delinquent in his/her financial obligations to the Association. This determination will be based on compliance with the Contribution Guidelines and the Member in Good Standing Policies.

SECTION 4. INTERNATIONAL MEMBERS. International Members are ministers who are citizens of, residents of and minister in, nations other than the United States, but desire to spiritually connect with FGEA. Applicants must have an ordained USA Member serve as their sponsor and be committed to regular connection and communication. Applicants must pay an application fee but shall be exempt from the regular giving requirements. They have NO voting privileges and cannot fund raise in the USA unless they have an organization or ministry that legally can do this on their behalf.

SECTION 5. MEMBER CHURCHES. A church may become a Member Church of FGEA by a two-thirds (2/3) majority vote of said church's active voting membership to:

- A. Adopt a Constitution and Bylaws approved by the FGEA Executive Board;
- B. Incorporate the FGEA Statement of Faith (Article II, Section 1, A. through M.) into said Constitution and Bylaws;
- C. Complete and submit to the FGEA office the appropriate application forms provided by FGEA;
- D. Comply with all applicable portions of the Internal Revenue Service tax code governing churches.

Membership will become effective on the date of certification.

Member Churches shall have the privilege of sending one (1) representative for each fifty (50) members or fraction thereof, to the Annual Business Meeting and to any Special Meeting of the Association (see Article V, Section 4, Paragraph B.). Church representatives must be certified on forms supplied by the Association and signed by the Pastor or Church Secretary.

Member Churches with over five hundred (500) in membership will be allowed a maximum of ten (10) votes.

It is required of the Member Church to send to FGEA a monthly undesignated offering to be used for the purposes and objectives specified in Article II, Section 2. Each Member Church shall be responsible to send a year-end financial report to FGEA as soon as possible after December 31 and no later than February 28.

A Member Church may discontinue membership with FGEA by a two-thirds (2/3) majority vote of said church's active voting membership. A Member Church considering such action shall notify the FGEA office a minimum of two weeks prior to the date of a meeting for that purpose. A vote to discontinue the church's Membership in FGEA shall nullify every portion of the Constitution and Bylaws of the church pertaining to FGEA.

FGEA may discontinue association by a two-thirds (2/3) majority vote of the FGEA Executive Board for;

- Not complying with financial responsibilities
- Not complying with reporting responsibilities
- Departing from the prescribed Statement of Faith and Purpose prescribed in Article II.

This includes notifying the IRS that the church will be stricken from the group ruling.

SECTION 6. COOPERATING CHURCHES. Churches which have pastors who are Members of this Association and who submit a written request to FGEA shall be known as Cooperating Churches.

They shall have the privilege of sending one (1) representative with one (1) vote to the Annual Business Meeting and to any Special Meeting of the Association in all matters presented. Church representatives must be certified on forms supplied by FGEA and signed by the Pastor or Church Secretary.

Cooperating churches shall send to FGEA quarterly undesignated offerings to be used for the purposes and objectives specified in Article II, Section 2.

FGEA may discontinue fellowship by a two-thirds (2/3) majority vote of the FGEA Executive Board for;

- Not complying with financial responsibilities
- Departing from the prescribed Statement of Faith and Purpose prescribed in Article II.

SECTION 7. FELLOWSHIP CHURCH. Churches which have a relational connection with FGEA and do not qualify under the provisions of Member Church or cooperating church but desire fellowship and spiritual connect, may request a fellowship certificate without legal, financial or voting responsibility.

SECTION 8. ASSOCIATED MINISTRIES. Singing ministries, schools, missionary ministries, campgrounds and other ministry organizations which desire to become a

subordinate of FGEA and be known as an Associated Ministry shall:

- A. Be duly incorporated as a non-profit religious organization;
- B. Adopt Constitution and Bylaws approved by the FGEA Executive Board;
- C. Incorporate the FGEA Statement of Faith (Article II, Section 1, A. through M.) into said Constitution and Bylaws;
- D. Have a Director who is currently a Member of FGEA;
- E. Complete and submit to the FGEA office the appropriate application forms provided by FGEA;
- F. Comply with all applicable portions of the Internal Revenue Service tax code governing religious organizations.

They shall have the privilege of sending one (1) representative with one (1) vote to the Annual Business Meeting and to any Special Meeting of the Association in all matters presented.

Associated Ministries shall send to FGEA quarterly undesignated offerings to be used for the purposes and objectives specified in Article II, Section 2. Each Associated Ministry shall be responsible to send a year-end financial report to FGEA as soon as possible after December 31 and no later than February 28.

FGEA may discontinue fellowship by a two-thirds (2/3) majority vote of the FGEA Executive Board for;

- Not complying with financial responsibilities
- Not complying with reporting responsibilities
- Departing from the prescribed Statement of Faith and Purpose prescribed in Article II.
- Not having a director on the board who's a Member of FGEA.

This includes notifying the IRS that the Associated Ministry will be stricken from the group ruling.

SECTION 9. STATEMENT OF FAITH. All individuals and organizations wishing to attain Membership in the Association shall affirm their agreement with the Statement of Faith as established at Article II. Notwithstanding any other provision of these bylaws or any other policies or practices of the Association or any secular law or regulation, Membership in the Association is a privilege, not a right. The Association reserves the right to deny Membership to any applicant, or to revoke Membership of any Member, for opposition to or failure to adhere to the established policies and or Statement of Faith.

ARTICLE V MEETINGS

SECTION 1. THE ANNUAL BUSINESS MEETING. An Annual Business Meeting shall be held in the month of April or at a time determined by a consensus of the Executive Board. Dates, hours, location and agenda of said meetings shall be set by the Executive Board. Due notice of said Annual Business Meetings shall be given to Member Churches, Cooperating Churches and all individual Members by the Secretary-Treasurer at least one month in advance.

All proposals or business to be voted upon by the body shall be submitted to the Secretary-Treasurer at least 30 days in advance of Annual Business Meeting so that proper notification of all Members can be made. Exceptions could be made by a consensus vote of the Executive Board on urgent unforeseen matters.

SECTION 2. THE PARLIAMENTARIAN. A Parliamentarian shall be appointed by the Executive Board at each Annual Business Meeting to serve for one year, including the next Annual Business Meeting. It shall be his duty to see that business meetings are conducted according to FGEA Bylaws and Roberts' Rules of Order, and shall have the right and duty to interrupt said meetings in order to correct parliamentary errors.

In the event the elected Parliamentarian shall not be present at any Annual Business Meeting or at any Special Meeting, it shall be the duty of the President or Chairman, in the beginning of the meeting, to appoint another Member to serve in this capacity for the business meeting in progress.

SECTION 3. NOMINATING COMMITTEE. A Nominating Committee of three persons shall be appointed by the Executive Board a minimum of three months prior to the Annual Business Meeting. The Nominating Committee shall submit to the Secretary-Treasurer the names of two or more nominees for the office to be filled. If after a thorough search has been made, and no other qualified Member has been found, an incumbent's name may be the only name submitted. At least thirty (30) days prior to said meeting the Secretary-Treasurer shall mail the names of nominees to the Member Churches, Cooperating Churches and to individual Members at the last address of record in the Home Office. Other nominations shall be entertained from the floor at the Annual Business Meeting only if the nominee shall have given his consent, in writing, to the Secretary-Treasurer prior to the time of his nomination.

SECTION 4. VOTING. Voting privileges shall be as follows:

A. Each Member, having been in good standing for one (1) year, shall be entitled to vote on all matters coming before the Association Membership.

B. Each Member Church, having been in good standing for one (1) year, shall have one (1) vote for each fifty (50) members or fraction thereof.

e.g. through 50 - 1 vote

51 through 100 - 2 votes

101 through 150 - 3 votes, etc.

Number of members should be based on the average attendance during the previous six (6) months.

C. Each Cooperating Church, having been in good standing for one (1) year, shall have one (1) vote.

D. Each Associated Ministry, having been in good standing for one (1) year, shall have one (1) vote.

Voting may be done by absentee ballot, signed by the Member or church representative(s) so voting, provided that such ballot reaches the registrar before the ballots are cast in the business meeting. Said absentee ballot shall continue to be counted so long as voting continues concerning the matter or person being voted on. Voting may be done by absentee ballot only on agenda items.

SECTION 5. SPECIAL MEETINGS. Special Business Meetings may be called and held at any time and place decided by the Executive Board, provided that a minimum of thirty (30) days prior to the date of said meeting the Secretary-Treasurer shall have mailed to each Member Church, Cooperating Church, and each individual Member a notice of said meeting, including the date, hour, location, and the agenda to be discussed. Items of business not listed in the agenda may not be brought to the floor during a Special Meeting, except at the pleasure of a majority of those persons present and voting.

SECTION 6. QUORUM. A majority of those voting Members present at any Annual Business Meeting or Special Meeting shall constitute a quorum.

SECTION 7. DECISION BY MAIL VOTING. In the event an urgent decision must be made concerning a matter requiring the vote of the Membership, which matter, in the opinion of a majority of the Executive Board, cannot wait for the length of time required for a Special Meeting, the Executive Board may present the question as clearly and precisely as possible in a letter to the Membership, requiring an answer by a certain date; the question shall be decided by a majority of those persons replying by that date.

ARTICLE VI
MEETINGS OF EXECUTIVE BOARD

SECTION 1. LOCATION OF MEETINGS. Meetings of the Executive Board of Full Gospel Evangelistic Association may be held within or outside the State of Texas.

SECTION 2. REGULAR MEETINGS. Regular Meetings of the Executive Board may be held at such a time and place as shall be determined by the Executive Board.

SECTION 3. SPECIAL MEETINGS. Special Meetings of the Executive Board may be called by the President on three (3) days notice to each member of the Executive Board. Special Meetings shall be called by the Secretary in like manner upon written request of two members of the Executive Board.

SECTION 4. WAIVER OF NOTICE. Attendance of any member of the Executive Board at any meeting shall constitute a waiver of notice of such meeting, except where an Executive Board Member attends for the express purpose of objecting to the transaction of any business because the meeting of the Executive Board was not lawfully called or convened. Neither the business to be transacted nor the purpose of any Regular or Special Meeting of the Executive Board need be specified in the notice or waiver of notice of such meeting.

SECTION 5. QUORUM. A majority of the members of the Executive Board shall constitute a quorum for the transaction of business unless a greater number is required by law or by the Articles of Incorporation. The action of the Executive Board must be carried out when a majority of the Executive Board are present at any meeting at which a quorum is present, unless the action of a greater number is required by law or by the Articles of Incorporation. If a quorum shall not be present at any meeting of the Executive Board, the members then present at such a meeting may adjourn the meeting without notice, other than an announcement at the meeting, until a quorum shall be present.

SECTION 6. ACTION WITHOUT MEETING. Any action required or permitted to be taken at a meeting of the Executive Board may be taken without a meeting only if consent in writing, setting forth the actions taken, shall be signed by all of the Executive Board.

ARTICLE VII
INDEMNIFICATION OF EXECUTIVE OFFICERS
AND EMPLOYEES

SECTION 1. Full Gospel Evangelistic Association shall indemnify any Executive Officers or employees, or former

Executive Officers or employees of the Association, or any person who may have served at its request as Executive Officer or employee of another church organization in which it owns a share, or of which it is a creditor, against expenses actually and necessarily incurred by him in connection with the defense of any action, suit or proceeding in which he or she is made a party by reason of being or having been such Executive Officer or employee, except in relation to matters as to which he shall be adjudged in such action, suit or proceeding to be liable for negligence or misconduct in the performance of duty. The Association may also reimburse any Executive Officer or employee the reasonable costs of settlement of any action, suit or proceeding if it shall be found by a majority of a committee appointed by the Executive Board who are not involved in the problem that such settlement should be made and that such Executive Officer or employee was not guilty of negligence or misconduct. Such rights of indemnification and reimbursement shall not be deemed exclusive of any other right to which such Executive Officer or employee may be entitled under any bylaw, agreement, vote of Members, or otherwise.

ARTICLE VIII
CONTRACTS

SECTION 1. The Executive Board, except as these Bylaws otherwise provide, may give written authorization to any officer or agent to enter into any contract or execute and deliver any instrument in the name of and on behalf of Full Gospel Evangelistic Association, and such authority may be general or confined to a specific instance; and unless so authorized by the Executive Board, no officer, agent or employee shall have any power or authority to bind the Association by any contract or engagement, or to pledge its credit or render it liable pecuniarily for any purpose or for any amount.

ARTICLE IX
PROHIBITION AGAINST SHARING IN CORPORATE
EARNINGS

SECTION 1. No Member, officer, employee, committee member or person connected with Full Gospel Evangelistic Association, or any other private individual shall receive at any time any of the net earnings or pecuniary profit from the operations of the Association, provided that this shall not prevent the payment to any such person of such reasonable compensation for services rendered to or for the Association in effecting any of its purposes as shall be fixed by the Executive Board. No such person or persons shall be entitled to share in the distribution of any of the FGEA assets upon the dissolution of the Full Gospel Evangelistic Association.

ARTICLE X
EXEMPT ACTIVITIES

SECTION 1. Notwithstanding any other provision of these Bylaws, no Member, officer, employee or representative of this Association shall take any action or carry on any activity by or on behalf of this Association not permitted to be taken or carried on by an organization exempt under Section 501 (c) (3) of the Internal Revenue Code and its Regulations as they now exist or as they may hereafter be amended, or by an organization contributions to which are now deductible under Section 170 (c) (2) of such Code and Regulations as they now exist or as they may hereafter be amended.

ARTICLE XI
NOTICES

SECTION 1. Any notices to voting Members, Executive Board Members, Churches or Church Representatives shall be in writing and shall be delivered personally or mailed to their respective addresses appearing on the records of the Association. Notice by mail shall be deemed to be given at the time when the same shall be deposited in the United States Mail, postage prepaid.

SECTION 2. Whenever any notice is required to be given under the provisions of the statutes or under the Articles of Incorporation or these Bylaws, a waiver thereof in writing signed by the person or persons entitled to such notice, whether before or after the time stated therein, shall be deemed equivalent to the giving of such notice.

ARTICLE XII
CHECKS

SECTION 1. All checks or demands for money and notes of the Association shall be signed by such officer or officers or other such person or persons as the Executive Board may from time to time designate.

SECTION 2. Only those persons who are designated by the Executive Board shall be privileged to enter the safe deposit box, safe, or other place where valuables or legal papers of the Association are kept.

ARTICLE XIII
FISCAL YEAR

SECTION 1. The fiscal year of the Association shall be on a calendar year basis ending December 31 of each year.

ARTICLE XIV
DISSOLUTION

SECTION 1. All Members of Full Gospel Evangelistic Association shall be deemed to have expressly consented and agreed that upon dissolution or winding up of the affairs of the Association, whether voluntary or involuntary, the assets of the Association, after all debts have been satisfied, then remaining in the hands of the Executive Board shall be distributed, transferred, conveyed, delivered and paid over, in such amounts as the Executive Board may determine or as may be determined by a court of competent jurisdiction upon application of the Executive Board, exclusively to charitable, religious, or educational organizations which would then qualify under the provisions of Section 501 (c) (3) of the Internal Revenue Code and its Regulations as they now exist or as they may hereafter be amended.

ARTICLE XV
AMENDMENTS

SECTION 1. These Bylaws may be amended by the following procedure only at a regular Annual Business Meeting by a two-thirds (2/3) majority vote of the individual Members, Church Representatives, and Associated Ministries voting:

Proposed amendment(s) shall be presented to the Executive Board at the Home Office address a minimum of ninety (90) days prior to the date of the Annual Business Meeting, in petition form, signed by ten (10) or more Ordained Members. Petitions with less than ten (10) signatures may be accepted by the Executive Board, at their discretion. A notice stating the proposed amendment(s) shall be mailed to the Members and Churches at the last address of record in the Home Office sixty-five (65) days prior to said meeting. Members and Churches shall have thirty (30) days from the date of said notice to recommend to the Executive Board suggested changes in the wording of the proposed amendment(s). Final wording of the proposed amendment(s) shall be mailed to Members and Churches no later than fifteen (15) days prior to the date of the Annual Business Meeting.

Changes in the wording of the proposed amendment(s) may be entertained at the Annual Business Meeting.

Any amendment adopted by the above procedure shall become effective immediately unless stated otherwise within the amendment.

* * * * *

POLICIES ADOPTED BY FGEA

Policy: Member in Good Standing

Adopted by Resolution at 1994 Annual Business Meeting of FGEA

Be it resolved that “Member in good standing” be defined in policy as an individual or organization who:

1. Is financially responsible and contributing regularly.
2. Exemplifies a supporting attitude (having an agreeable spirit) toward the ministries of FGEA.

Makes a reasonable effort to attend and participate in conventions, business meetings, and other FGEA-sponsored meetings or activities.

Policy: Re-instating Non-givers Who Are Not Currently Members

Adopted by the Executive Board, October 21, 2013

An individual who does not renew Membership, and whose Membership was not in good standing at expiration, but at some later time desires to re-join, their Membership will be reinstated in the manner following.

1. Former Member should send in a letter stating why he/she was a “non-giver” previously
2. And state in letter that they intend to be a Member in good standing in the future and keep their financial obligations.
3. Accepted on a probationary period of three months and if has contributed monthly we would mail a new membership card.

Policy: Child Protection Statement

Adopted by the Executive Board, October 17, 2014

The Executive Board of the Full Gospel Evangelistic Association acknowledges its responsibility to safeguard the welfare of every child and young person who has been entrusted to its care. We are committed to providing a safe environment for all Executive Board controlled activities and functions.

The child’s welfare is and must always be of paramount importance. Every person, minor or adult, has a right to be protected from abuse regardless of their age. Suspected abuse of any type will be taken seriously and responded to swiftly.

We acknowledge that every child who participates in FGEA board-controlled activities should be able to do so in a safe environment and be protected from abuse and neglect.

We recognize that this is the responsibility of every staff member or volunteer involved in working with children or youth to play an active role in safeguarding their welfare by protecting them against physical, sexual or emotional harm and from neglect.

We recommend that each local autonomous church and ministry organization that is connected in any way, formally or informally, to FGEA develop its own policy to safeguard the welfare of every child or youth;

- Ensure that appropriate supervision is in place for all activities involving minors.
- Ensure that proper screening of staff and volunteers is conducted.
- Maintain and update this program as needed.
- Respond appropriately to credible allegations of suspected abuse.
- Collect and maintain proper documentation for all employees and volunteers.
- Train staff and volunteers in the application of this policy.

- Promptly report suspicions of abuse according to your state’s guidelines.
- Each adult must behave in a manner that reduces the likelihood of someone misinterpreting their actions.
- Make every effort to prevent conduct that will endanger the welfare of a child.

Policy: Gay Marriage

Adopted by the Executive Board, January 3, 2015

We, in the United States of America and the world, are facing insurmountable inroads of same sex agendas on television, the news, education and in general society. We are continually having to courageously stand against a wave of acceptance of same-sex couples in the name of tolerance, divergence and equal rights. We see the attitude and moral level of the world encroaching gravely upon the Holy Bible and it’s teachings on marriage being of “male and female”. Many states, as a trend, are continually being forced by the court system to accept same-sex marriage and anti-discrimination laws pertaining to sexual matters.

We believe our Full Gospel Evangelist Association Members, Churches and Subordinate Ministries are to be protected by an umbrella of unified conviction and a clear biblical stand.

The Executive Board of the Full Gospel Evangelistic Association has set a high standard for our Members, Churches and Subordinate Ministries and all those under our ecclesiastical covering.

Those who carry credentials (Certified, License, or Ordained) will not be allowed to perform same-sex marriages and retain credentials with FGEA.

Individuals who live a homosexual or lesbian lifestyle should not serve in leadership positions.

FULL GOSPEL EVANGELISTIC ASSOCIATION CONTRIBUTIONS GUIDELINES FOR INDIVIDUAL MEMBERS

(As revised April 2024 and voted on at National Convention)

ANNUAL MEMBERSHIP RENEWAL FEE:

All Full Gospel Evangelistic Association Members are required to pay an annual Membership Renewal Fee of \$45.

GENERAL FUND CONTRIBUTIONS:

All individual Members of FGEA must commit to sending regular General Fund contributions (undesignated offerings) to the FGEA Headquarters Office. The minimum amount of this contribution is set at 30% of tithes from all income received from ministry and secular sources, or \$100.00 per year, WHICHEVER IS GREATER.

A non-member spouse's income is not included in the above requirements.

“General Fund Contributions” are donations that are not designated to any particular project or ministry of FGEA. These funds are used to cover the operating costs, including investments in the support, care, training, and advancements of our Members, ministries, and missions. Designations of gifts to any other specific funds (such as Foreign Missions, Home Missions, etc.), however worthy they may be, do not qualify as General Fund contributions.

BY-LAW REQUIREMENTS:

FGEA Bylaws (Article IV, Membership, Section 1, Financial responsibilities, Paragraph 6) state: No credentials or letters of recommendation shall be issued to any person who is known to be delinquent in his financial obligations to the Association.

FULL-TIME STUDENT STATUS

Full-time students may apply for Membership at half the current fee and apply for annual Membership Renewal at half the current fee. Students will be required to verify their enrollment status.

RETIRED OR DISABLED STATUS

A Member who is “in good standing” may request Retired Status or Disabled Status from the FGEA office.

A retired Member shall be defined as a person who is solely living on Social Security, disability, and/or investment income and is not employed.

Once approved with this status, the Member will be exempt from the minimum financial contribution (30% of tithes), but not from the \$100/annual minimum. All Members, regardless of status, must complete the Annual Renewal Form. Retired or Disabled status Members are exempt from the Annual Membership Renewal fee.

If a person with Retired or Disabled Status returns to active ministry, this special status will be automatically revoked, and he/she will return to regular Member status.

If unusual circumstances temporarily prevent compliance with these Contribution Guidelines, a letter explaining the circumstances can be written to the Executive Board requesting a temporary exception. After review by the Executive Board, a one-year hardship waiver may be granted.

Regardless of hardship or status, the minimum contribution shall be \$100 per calendar year.

The Executive Board is authorized to approve individual exemptions for Members with unusual health or memory issues or other situations that need clarification.

FGEA Membership Credentials Procedure & Policy

Adopted by Resolution at 2026 Annual Business Meeting of FGEA

The person seeking ministerial credentials (at any level) should go to www.fgeaonline.org to print an “Application For Membership” form (found under the “How can I join FGEA?” tab). Complete the application and return it to the FGEA Tulsa Office.

The Office Manager will ensure that the application is complete. If NOT, the Secretary/Treasurer will contact the candidate to request the information that’s lacking.

A COMPLETED, LEGIBLE APPLICATION must include:

- A current photo (within 6 months, suitable for publication)
- A completed and signed “AUTHORIZATION OF BACKGROUND INVESTIGATION” page
- The \$50.00 application fee
- Any additional explanations, as requested in the application
- Complete (and verified) mailing addresses for all 5 personal references (which will be mailed from the FGEA Office)

The completed application along with references will be sent to FGEA Executive Board for final membership approval. Each level of Membership and advancement is outlined below, with specific requirements at each level (a complete description of the “mentoring” process is described below).

Certified Minister

A Certified Minister is a person who has not held ministerial credentials before. This person feels a call into ministry and is actively pursuing that calling by working within the local church under the authority of a local pastor. According to the IRS, this level of credential does not qualify for a housing allowance; and, in most states, this level cannot perform weddings or other “legal” ceremonies.

After acceptance as a Certified Minister, they will be assigned a mentor approved by FGEA leadership to supervise their progress; under most circumstances, this mentor will be their local pastor or an FGEA minister near them. (See *Explanation of Mentoring* section below.)

Licensed Minister

A Member who has held Certified Minister status in good standing for at least one year (and who is actively involved in ministry) may then apply to become a Licensed Minister by using the **Procedure For Advancing To Licensed Minister form** available online. Included in that form is a page where the Certified Minister and mentor can verify the work completed on the Mentoring Track assignment document.

This level of credentials does qualify for housing allowance and in most states is allowed to perform weddings.

The Advancement will be submitted for approval only after the FGEA Office has received the following:

- Completed Procedure For Advancing To Licensed Minister form with signatures (enclosed)
- Current Photo (within 6 months, suitable for publication)
- Completed Mentoring Track assignment document, including verification that FGEA's "What We Believe" manual was graded/discussed by Pastor or Mentor

Upon receipt of this request and information, the Office Manager will send the request to the FGEA Executive Board and the appropriate Regional Representative for final approval.

Ordained Minister

A Licensed Minister may apply to become an Ordained Minister after a minimum of one year as a Licensed Minister. The applicant must be in good standing with FGEA, have a record of faithfulness, godly character and spiritual maturity, and must have demonstrated an anointing for ministry for a minimum of two years. They must express in writing their desire to become an Ordained Minister using the **Procedure For Advancing To Ordained Minister form** and have the approval of their mentor. This process may take from one to three years.

The Advancement will be submitted for Approval only after the FGEA Office has received the following:

- Completed Procedure For Advancing To Ordained Minister form with signatures (enclosed)
- A current photo (within 6 months, suitable for publication)
- Verification that FGEA's "What We Believe" manual was graded/discussed by Pastor or Mentor (if not completed at Licensing)
- Completed Mentoring Track assignment document

Upon receipt of this request and information, the Office Manager will send the request to the FGEA Executive Board and the appropriate Regional Representative for consideration. They will then approve the minister to become a "candidate for ordination." The board will consider the candidate's approval based on the recommendation from their mentor, as well as their progress and development in ministry.

The Executive Board will set up an in-person interview at least 45 days prior to the National Convention before final approval. If an in-person interview is not possible, a video or conference call is acceptable.

An Ordination Service will be conducted at the next National Convention. All documents will become part of the minister's permanent record.

EXCEPTIONS

All Individuals initially joining FGEA must complete the application process, beginning with the Application for Membership in FGEA.

The following are exceptions to the normal process concerning acceptance at various Membership Levels.

An Uncredentialed Minister already serving as a senior pastor with duties requiring advanced credentials to perform weddings, etc, may be accepted as Licensed or Ordained. They will be required to proceed through the mentoring process and complete the What We Believe

manual; failure to complete the process may result in the withdrawal of credentials or non-renewal.

Transferring Credentials: An individual who has been Licensed or Ordained for at least 3 years by another like-minded, Spirit-filled ministry organization and who meets the qualifications established in the Membership policy may apply to transfer their credentials to become a Licensed or Ordained Minister of FGEA.

Applicants holding License/Ordination credentials with another group must show proof of that License/Ordination by sending a copy of their current certificate(s) to FGEA, along with their FGEA application for membership. FGEA reserves the right to contact previous credentialing organizations to obtain a letter of good standing or recommendation. FGEA will consider each transfer request individually by reviewing the former/current organization's process, requirements, and the applicant's experience. Applicants will be required to proceed through the mentoring process, particularly including the completion of the "What We Believe" manual in a timely manner.

Credentials purchased and/or obtained online are not acceptable. Credentials issued by a local church generally will not be accepted, but will be addressed on a case-by-case basis.

Explanation of Mentoring Process:

- a. All new FGEA Members should seek out a mentor, or one will be assigned and approved by FGEA leadership to supervise their progress. Mentor may be a Licensed or Ordained minister that IS NOT a member of FGEA, but must be approved by FGEA Leadership.
- b. This mentoring shall occur over the required timeline and before becoming eligible for the next level of membership.
- c. Mentoring generally involves personal face-to-face teaching, advising, encouragement and correction. The mentor may include the use of assigned materials, such as books, videos, seminars/workshops (including those at FGEA National Convention), and other coursework.
- d. The mentor and mentee should discuss and agree on a path of studies, activities and assignments to include Theology, Leadership, Ministry, and Personal Growth.
- e. Successful completion of the "What We Believe" course with quizzes reviewed/graded by the Mentor is required.
- f. Mentoring process should be documented by using the "Mentoring Track" (see attached form) that records the type of media used, the date completed, the title of the material, the area of ministry, and "sign-off" by the mentor.
- g. The mentor has the authority, at any time, to withdraw their recommendation or support of the candidate. Then, a different mentor will continue to assist the minister through this process until ordination, or as mutually agreed.

Full Gospel Evangelistic Association
Mentoring Track for Credentials Advancement

Mentee: _____
Mentor: _____

What We Believe Manual Completion

Area*	Title	Date Completed *	Signature of Mentor
T	FGEA's What We Believe Manual		

Books

Seminars – Workshops

Other Coursework

*Area: T = Theology L = Leadership M = Ministry P = Personal Growth