

Fellowship Church of God Bylaws
(Amended December 5, 2010)

Section 1

MISSION: To win Spokane County to the Lord Jesus Christ.

Section 2

MEMBERSHIP in Fellowship Church of God shall consist of all who, having accepted Jesus Christ as their personal Lord and Savior and the head of His church, have chosen Fellowship Church of God as their regular church home and who, in the spirit of harmony and godliness, consistently and prayerfully support Fellowship Church of God, its ministries, mission and goals by giving of the time, talent and resources that God has entrusted to them.

VOTING BODY: The Voting Body shall be composed of those who, having met the qualifications of Membership, desire to become voting members of the Voting Body and who

- are 18 years of age or older and have worshipped with us at least six months
- show evidence of continued desire to serve the Lord Jesus Christ by regular attendance and participation in ministries
- have registered to vote at least one week prior to a business meeting.

QUORUM: Members of the Voting Body present and voting shall constitute a quorum at all business meetings. If in the judgment of the presiding Leadership Council officer, there is a need for a larger representation, a motion may be entertained to postpone or recess until a larger number of members is present.

Section 3

CORPORATION / LEADERSHIP COUNCIL: The corporation board shall be known as the Leadership Council (LC). The LC shall be members of the Voting Body and shall be examples of faith and commitment to the mission of Fellowship Church of God.

MEMBERSHIP of the LC shall be composed of the Senior Pastor as an ex-officio member and six lay members chosen from the Voting Body in the following manner.

A **NOMINATING COMMITTEE** consisting of four lay people and the Chair of the LC will be appointed by the LC and ratified by the Voting Body. This committee will prayerfully consider open positions and those of the Voting Body who are qualified and then make recommendations to the LC. The LC will then present a slate of officers for ratification by the Voting Body at a business meeting.

POSITIONS to be filled on the LC in staggered two year terms are as follows: **Vice Chairman** (who also serves as the Pastoral Relations administrator) (1 yrs), **Chairman** (1 yr); **Secretary**; **Treasurer**; **Evangelism/Spiritual Life Director**; and one **Member-at-Large**. **RESPONSIBILITIES** of the LC include care and stewardship of all moneys, properties and records belonging to the corporation to ensure they are preserved in the name of the corporation and available to the Voting Body and/or their officers at any time. Also working with the Pastor to help coordinate the efforts to improve the work of all areas of the church such as **Christian Education, Ushering, Missionary Work, Visitation, Evangelism, etc.** A Budget will be prepared two months before the end of the fiscal year (December 31) and presented to the Voting Body. A two week period will be given for collecting comments and concerns after which the LC will reconsider and then approve a finalized budget.

The LC will also have the opportunity to **appoint short or long term committees or task forces in order to carry out the Mission and goals of FCOG.** They may develop a **POLICY MANUAL** that addresses all aspects of Fellowship Church of God operations.

A member of the LC may be removed for failure or inability to serve, or in the opinion of the majority of the other LC members, fails to meet the high standards of the office.

Vacancy on the LC may be filled by the LC for the unexpired portion of the term.

Section 4

BUSINESS MEETINGS of the Voting Body will occur annually between December 1 and December 31, unless otherwise called by the LC with ten days notice.

SPECIAL MEETINGS of the Voting Body may be called by the LC and/or 10 members of the Voting Body with with 10 days notice.

LEADERSHIP COUNCIL MEETINGS will take place at the discretion of the LC.

ABSENTEE BALLOTS: The LC may set up **guidelines and procedures for absentee ballots for business meeting of the Voting Body.**

Section 5

The **SENIOR PASTOR** shall be “called of God”. The call of God must be recognized and accepted by Fellowship Church of God and the prospective Pastor.

As a minister of God, the Senior Pastor of Fellowship Church of God shall faithfully endeavor to fulfill the Biblical charges to preach and/or teach the Word, oversee, serve, lead, and train the believers for the Mission to which God has called Fellowship Church of God.

The Senior Pastor may personally serve, or appoint a representative to serve as an ex-officio member of any board, task force, or committee.

The Senior Pastor shall be responsible for the calling, performance and replacing of all staff ministers and office personnel. They shall serve under his authority and supervision.

CALLING A PASTOR: The LC may act as a search committee or they may appoint a committee. Only one perspective Pastor may be presented to the Voting Body at a time. To be called by the Voting Body, the candidate must receive a minimum vote of 75 %.

Section 6

PASTORAL CHANGE: It shall be the Senior Pastor’s responsibility, in all but extreme cases, to determine when the Holy Spirit shall desire a change in pastoral leadership. If, however, an extreme case does exist, the Senior Pastor and at least 3/5 of the LC will agree on a trusted arbitrator/problem solver to facilitate a satisfactory solution. A solution must be approved by a unanimous vote of the LC.

Section 7

AMENDMENTS to these bylaws may be made by a 2/3 vote of the Voting Body at any annual or special business meeting provided that a copy of the proposed amendment(s) is made available to the Voting Body fourteen days prior to the date of the business meeting.

All proposed amendments shall be reviewed and approved by the LC and the Senior Pastor before they are presented to the Voting Body for approval.

Section 8

These bylaws shall govern the business, officers, boards, and committees of this corporation. If there arises a need not addressed in the bylaws, the current Robert's Rules of Order shall be used.