



CONSTITUTION
OF
GOSPEL ASSEMBLY MINISTRY

SECTION A

CONGREGATIONALIST GOVERNMENT POLITY

As adopted at the special meeting of the National Executive Council at Sangro House, Smith Street, Durban in September 2005.

1. DEFINATIONS

CHAPTER 1

“The Church” – Gospel Assembly Ministry.

CHAPTER 2

“The General-Overseer” – The General-Overseer is a Spiritual Leader of the church.

“National Executive Council” – The Overseer, Secretary-General, Treasurer-General and additional members as provided in this constitution.

CHAPTER 3

“The Church Council” – The church council is constituted as follows: The Overseer, Secretary-General, Treasurer-General, additional members, Regional-Overseers, Senior Pastors, directors of the department, Assembly Pastors, Elders, Deacons, Assembly Secretaries, Assembly Treasurers, House leaders, Youth leaders, Church Organizers, Women’s Chairpersons, Choir Masters and other leaders as provided in this constitution.

CHAPTER 4

“The Regional Council” – The regional council shall consist of all pastors worshipping at registered assemblies within the regions.

CHAPTER 5

“The Local Assemblies” – The local assemblies refers to the separate groups of members who comply with the conditions, and registered as local assemblies by the national executive council on recommendation of the regional council as provided in this constitution.

“The Executive Board” – The local Assembly Pastor and other leaders as provided in this constitution.

“The Assembly Treasury” - The local Assembly Treasurer and other persons as provided in this constitution.

John 15:12, This is the commandment: that you love one another (just) as I loved you



“The Deaconship Board” _ The deacons and deaconess are chosen from among the congregation to “serve the church” in the practical, spiritual and temporal matters of the church, this body shall be nominated by the assembly members in a general local assembly meeting called for that purpose, the nominees shall be approved and further appointed by the executive board of the local assembly.

“The House Church” – The house church shall be the house of the church member that is used by the church for the weekly church meetings, the executive board shall authorize the meetings or dismiss such meetings only on reasons of spiritual matters of a house church.

“The Church Choirs” – The executive boards shall encourage church members to form church choirs, small gospel groups, or invite individual artists that shall be organized to minister to the congregation with gospel songs and hymns, church choirs shall be under the leadership of choir's masters or group leaders.

CHAPTER 6

“The Theological Institution” – The Antioch Bible Institute.

“The Evangelistic Movement” – The Gospel Anchors Evangelistic Ministries.

“The Electoral Commission” – The electoral commission consists of three or more members that shall be nominated by the national executive council for its objectives as provided in this constitution.

CHAPTER 7

“The Church Fellowship” – The church fellowship shall constitute the congregation subscribing thereto in the manner prescribed in this constitution.

“The Church Service”– The church service shall be conducted in the manner prescribed in this constitution.

John 15:12, This is the commandment: that you love one another (just) as I loved you



PREAMBLE

Gospel Assembly Ministry was founded on the 8 August 2005 to preach the gospel of Jesus Christ to all humankind, GOD presented His redemption plan through His only begotten son Jesus Christ, it is, however the duty of those who are called according to His purpose to preach this Gospel to the hopeless world.

Whereas during the course of fulfilling the aim, Gospel Assembly Ministry has undertaken to unite all races, ethnic groups and different cultures living in this world, we are searching for the lost and uniting the divided and scattered ones, Jesus Christ was crucified for all races, we belong to one big Christian family and one GOD the Almighty.

Whereas through preaching of the Gospel of Jesus Christ, it is necessary for us as Gospel Assembly members not to compromise the standards of the Bible, not to practice idolatry and behave like unbelievers, we hold the truth that Jesus Christ is our Lord and Saviour, through His blood that was shed on Cross we are sanctified.

Whereas Gospel Assembly Ministry evolves around the fundamental pillars of Christian faith from generation to generation, most of these pillars has been long deserted by most Christian churches around the world which is the baptism in Jesus Christ name, Holy Communion and Ordination rites. Gospel Assembly Ministry stands strong on these Christian rites to be fulfilled.

Our Lord Jesus Christ who is in the Centre of our Church and also the pillar around our baptismal rite.

³⁸ Peter replied, "Repent and be baptized, every one of you, *in the name of Jesus Christ* for the forgiveness of your sins. And you will receive the gift of the Holy Spirit. - Acts 2:38

Our Lord Jesus Christ who is the Centre of our Faith and also the pillar around our Holy Communion rite.

²⁶ While they were eating, Jesus took bread, and when he had given thanks, he broke it and gave it to his disciples, saying, "Take and eat; this is my body." ²⁷ Then he took a cup, and when he had given thanks, he gave it to them, saying, "*Drink from it, all of you.*" ²⁸ This is my blood of the ²⁹ covenant, which is poured out for many for the forgiveness of sins. ²⁹ I tell you, I will not drink from this fruit of the vine from now on until that day when I drink it new with you in my Father's kingdom." - Matthew 26:26-29

Our Lord Jesus Christ who is the Centre of our Lives and also the pillar around our Ordination rite.

And when they had *ordained* them elders in every church, and had prayed with fasting, *they commended them to the Lord, on whom they believed.* - Acts 14:23

And it shall come to pass afterward, that I will pour out my spirit upon all flesh; and your sons and your daughters shall prophesy, your old men shall dream dreams, your young men shall see visions: - Joel 2:28

Prejudice against women and young leaders in Christian churches must come to an end, this is the dispensation of the Holy Spirit in the church. Gospel Assembly Ministry is committed to ordain all those Christians leaders who are called into ministry without looking to their gender, age or level of education.

The General-Overseer encourages everyone in the world who believes in our vision to join us, anyone who abides with conditions laid in our constitution, and adheres to our statement of faith under section C of this constitution to establish a Gospel Assembly Ministry church or an assembly, The General-Overseer shall come and ordain that minister and also register that church under the main Gospel Assembly Ministry in South Africa.

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CHAPTER 1

1 NAME

1.1 The Church shall be called **GOSPEL ASSEMBLY MINISTRY**

1.1.2 The Church here unto be called as **G.A.M**

2 THE CHURCH ESTABLISHMENT

2.1 The Church was established on 8 August 2005

3. ADDRESS

3.1 The Church shall have its offices and shall be located at:
3 Maroela
25 Bristow Crescent
Mayville,
South Africa

4. PURPOSE

- 4.1 The Church is organised and operated exclusively for religious, charitable, educational, philanthropic and benevolent purposes.
- 4.2 The Church is established pursuant to and subscribes to the statement of faith annexed as Section C hereto, which statement of Faith may not, in any manner whatsoever, be amended or repealed to any extent unless so amended or repealed by the national executive council.
- 4.3 The Church shall have the following specific purpose:
- 4.3.1 To conduct a local church under the direction of the Lord Jesus Christ and under the leadership of the Holy Spirit in accordance with all the commandments and the provisions set forth in the Holy Bible.
- 4.3.2 To observe a creed, code of doctrine discipline and form of worship in accordance with the statement of Faith Annexed to this and marked Section C.
- 4.3.3 To establish a church fellowship by congregants subscribing thereto in the manner prescribed in this Constitution.
- 4.3.4 To establish regular religious services pursuant to Clause 4.3.2 hereof for fellowship of its congregants.
- 4.3.5 To establish, Leadership Training Institutes, Discipleship Schools, Sunday Schools and the like for the training and equipping of its congregants for the work of the Ministry.
- 4.3.6 To establish children's assembly league, teenagers forum and young assembly league, and the like for the religious instruction of the children and youth.
- 4.3.7 To provide food, clothing and other necessities for the underprivileged and to raise funds for the furtherance of this cause, (Acts 4:33 – 37.)

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- 4.3.8 To promote and encourage co-operation with other similar organizations.
- 4.4 Christian sport fellowship
 - 4.4.1 This will cater for the physical welfare of the brethren.
 - 4.4.2 Sport loving brethren need to be catered for; we excel in all dimensions of life. God wants it like that. (I Corinthians 9:24 – 27)

5 MEMBERSHIP

The members of the church shall be composed of persons:

- 5.1 Who are born again and have received the believer's baptism;
- 5.2 Who are recognised members of a local assembly, house churches and
- 5.3 Who adhere to and accept the "Statement of faith" as stipulated in Section C of the constitution

CHAPTER 2

1 STRUCTURE

1 (a) THE GENERAL-OVERSEER

The General-Overseer is a Spiritual Leader of the church and this position is hereditary only within the church founder offspring.

1 (b) THE EXECUTIVE POWERS, ROLES AND RESPONSIBILITIES

- The General-Overseer possess powers to appoint interim national executive council's and to dissolve the existing national executive council's should the need arises.
- The General-Overseer shall announce the dates of the elections of the National Office-Bearers as per Chapter 2 (1.2) and of the Regional-Overseers as per Chapter 4 (4.1) & (4.2) of the church constitution during the election years.
- The General-Overseer shall ordain all church officials and church ministry leaders according to the precepts of the church ordination policy.
- The General-Overseer shall appoint his own successor as per Chapter 2 (1 (a) of the constitution, the appointed one shall take over the position, powers, roles and responsibilities as a leading General-Overseer of the church to ensure the smooth transition of power.
- The General-Overseer may appoint the Bishop's Council on Adhoc terms from the retired overseer's, retired regional-overseers or any leader of the church to act as his advisory body for a period of time and may dissolve it anytime he wishes to do so.
- The General-Overseer may call special meetings with the national office-bearers of the church, the church council, the regional council or the executive board of any assembly of the church.
- The General-Overseer shall be a custodian of the church, chapter 2 (1 (a) and 1 (b) may not, in any manner whatsoever, be amended or repealed by any structure of the church.

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1.1 NATIONAL EXECUTIVE COUNCIL

1.2 THE NATIONAL EXECUTIVE COUNCIL OFFICE BEARERS: ELECTION OF

Every fourth (4th) year the General Business Meeting shall elect, from the ranks of the full-time workers and lay ministers of the church who qualify in terms of chapter 2 (1.9), an Overseer, Secretary-General, and a Treasurer-General. Such elected persons shall take office as the National Office Bearers of the church.

1.3 FILLING OF VACANCIES

Any vacancy which may occur in the National Office Bearers as elected in terms of chapter 2 (1.2) shall be filled by the national executive council from within their own ranks, and such person will hold office until the next General Business Meeting.

1.4 TERM OF OFFICE

A National Office Bearer or a member of the national executive council shall, unless otherwise provided for, hold office until the next election year, unless he/she resigns, is dismissed or retires from service, The National Office-Bearers term of office is limited to (3) three consecutive terms.

1.5 FUNCTIONS: NATIONAL EXECUTIVE COUNCIL

The National Executive Council:

- 1.5.1 Shall be responsible for the spiritual, temporal, financial wellbeing and the progress of the church throughout the country and its Subsidiary Regions and shall have the following powers:
- 1.5.2 To decide all matters on policy relating to doctrine and to church governance.
- 1.5.3 To make, issue and implement any Constitution for the guidance of Branches or Assemblies in its Region or to meet special on local church needs in any Region under its supervision.
- 1.5.4 To be generally responsible for the careful handling and spending of Headquarters monies and to receive the finances.
- 1.5.5 To open, conduct and operate banking accounts and to draw, make, accept, endorse, issue, negotiate bills of exchange, promissory notes and other negotiable instruments, including hire purchase agreements and also to invest and deal with the monies held by the Headquarters not immediately required in such manner as from time to time be determined.
- 1.5.6 To borrow, raise and secure money in such a manner and upon such terms as this national executive council may think fit, and in particular by way of mortgage, charge, debenture or otherwise on all or any part of the Gospel Assembly Ministry property held by Board of Trustees.
- 1.5.7 To rent, hire, take on lease any rights, stand, lands or farms and any buildings or improvements thereon for the purpose of the Gospel Assembly Ministry, and to let or give on lease any rights, lands, buildings, stands or farms held by the church, and if deemed necessary to improve, erect or construct thereon any buildings, structure or improvements, whether of a permanent or temporary nature.

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- 1.5.8 To authorise and approve the ordination and appointment of all Apostles, Pastors, Teachers, Evangelists, also the suspension or dismissal of any officer, see chapter 5 paragraph 6 under “DISCIPLINE”, for right of appeal.
- 1.5.9 To provide, equip, maintain, repair, build upon, alter, improve, extend, manage, develop, mortgage or otherwise deal with the whole or any part of the property and assets at any time acquired, possessed or controlled by the national leadership council in any place wheresoever situated, including (i) Bible Colleges and similar institutions for the training of Pastors, students and others in the work of the Gospel Assembly Ministry, (ii) Church halls, homes, hostels, and any other premises or grounds deemed desirable by the national executive council.
- 1.5.10 To effect insurance to against risk of loss to any property of the national executive council by fire, storm, sea, accident, war or otherwise howsoever.
- 1.5.11 To effect insurance against any risk of any personal injury or loss whatsoever by accident or any other means.
- 1.5.12 Transactions mentioned in paragraph (1.5.9) and (1.9.10) in respect of property registered in the name of Gospel Assembly Ministry and held by the Board of Trustees under the jurisdiction of the national executive council, may be dealt with or executed only in the best interests of the Gospel Assembly Ministry.
- 1.5.13 To receive, accept and obtain money and funds by ways of the tenth of tithes, received by Assemblies or offerings departments, and by way of offerings, donations, subscriptions, legacies, grants or any other lawfully method.
- 1.5.14 To issue, amend, revoke and enforce regulations for implementing the policy of the Church.
- 1.5.15 To endeavor to make provision in the event of retirement, sickness, accident or decease of any of the full-time ministering brethren of the Church or their wives, widows, dependants, by grants of money, pensions or otherwise and in furtherance thereof to establish, contribute to and support funds or schemes for any such purpose.
- 1.5.16 To appoint any committee or person with appropriate powers and to appoint officers or other persons with specific administrative responsibilities and powers, to appoint any Field Secretary with appropriate powers.
- 1.5.17 To establish any necessary Department for the Church with appropriate powers and to appoint a Director to head such a Department.
- 1.5.18 To accept or decline to accept into fellowship, and to expel from fellowship, any person, assembly, movement, institution, or community.
- 1.5.19 To promote, support, assist, absorb or become associated with any charitable body or other institution having objects similar wholly or partly to the objects of the Gospel Assembly Ministry.
- 1.5.20 To publish, print, issue, circulate or sell reports, periodicals, books, pamphlets, leaflets or other documents as this national executive council may think expedient in connection with the furtherance of the work of the Church.
- 1.5.21 To take advantage of any lawfully means to protect interests of the Church.
- 1.5.22 To have powers of every Committee, Board, Organ, Department, Sub-committee and Officer of the Church, unless otherwise stated in this Constitution.
- 1.5.23 To amend, alter or revoke any decision of every other Committee, Executive Board, Organ, Department, Sub-committee and Officer of the Church.
- 1.5.24 To be responsible for training of students and other persons for the work of the Church.
- 1.5.25 To define, establish or to remove Conferences and Conference Areas.
- 1.5.26 To do all such other acts and things as may seem incidental or conclusive to the attainment of the above objects or any of them.

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- 1.5.27 To create a context within the church for spiritual and strategic leadership;
- 1.5.28 To be the guardian of doctrinal, ethical and liturgical matters in the church;
- 1.5.29 To be the guardian of ministerial training, determine curricula, set minimum training requirements for entry to the ministry, accredit training institutions and evaluate the final training product through accredited bible college, Antioch Bible Institute;
- 1.5.30 To determine entry requirements to the ministry, licence and review pastors and ministries;
- 1.5.31 To monitor approved specialist ministries;
- 1.5.32 To facilitate “in service” leadership training and development in co-operation with the regional council;
- 1.5.33 To facilitate the ministry of pastors to pastors (fatherhood principle);
- 1.5.34 To promote ecumenical relations;
- 1.5.35 To convene an annual national executive conference;
- 1.5.36 To convene the General Business Meeting in terms of chapter 2 (2.3);
- 1.5.37 To where it deems necessary, form department to undertake specialised duties
- 1.5.38 To manage the affairs of the church, shall have and exercise all powers granted in terms of the constitution of the church;
- 1.5.39 To decide on all matters which give rise to different interpretations, or other matters of current importance for which no regulations exist at the time

1.6 PASTORAL STATUS

- 1.6.1 Pastors shall fall directly under the discipline of the national executive council as far as their pastoral status is concerned.

1.7 COMPOSITION

The National Office Bearers of the church elected in terms of chapter 2 (1.2), the Regional-Overseers elected in terms of chapter 4 (4.1), leaders of the Departments in terms of chapter 2 (1.5.17), and a representative of the Theological Training Institutions shall constitute the national executive council. The national executive council may co-opt additional members as it deems fit.

1.8 SECUNDUS: REGIONAL-OVERSEER

When a Regional-Overseer elected in terms of chapter 4 (4.1), or a leader of a Department in terms of chapter 2 (1.5.17), or the representative of Theological Training Institutions is absent, a secundus from the ranks of the Regional Committee, Department or Theological Training Institutions may attend the meeting of the national executive council and have voting powers.

1.9 QUALIFICATIONS OF MEMBERS

No pastor shall be eligible for the national executive council unless he/she has served as an ordained pastor in a registered local assembly of the Gospel Assembly Ministry for at least three (3) years.

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1.10 POWERS IN RESPECT OF REGULATIONS

- 1.10.1 The national executive council shall have the competency to make, amend or repeal regulations.
- 1.10.2 Any Statutory Body as defined in terms of the constitution may, in writing, submit proposals with regard to the making, amending or repealing of regulations to the national executive council for consideration.
- 1.10.3 Any regulation made, amended or repealed in terms of clause 1.10.1 or 1.10.2 hereof shall only take effect in terms of clause 1.5.14 of this constitution.

1.11 DELEGATION OF POWERS

Any powers of the national executive council may for such periods and under such conditions as it may deem fit, be delegated to or withdrawn from a member of the national executive council. The national executive council may authorise any person or persons to take any action on its behalf.

1.12 LEGAL ACTION

In the event of a lawsuit, the available National Office Bearers of the church or person/s so authorised by the national executive council, shall act on behalf of the church in such lawsuit.

2. ANNUAL NATIONAL EXECUTIVE CONFERENCE AND GENERAL BUSINESS MEETING

2.1 CONFERENCE: FREQUENCY

The Annual Leadership Conference shall be held at a place and time determined by the national executive council.

2.2 FOCUS

The focus of the Annual Leadership Conference will be to empower and equip the local church, ministries, pastors and leadership, with specific reference to leadership, celebration and direction for the church.

2.3 GENERAL BUSINESS MEETING

Every fourth (4th) year a General Business Meeting shall be held at a place and time determined by the national executive council.

2.4 CONSTITUTION

The General Business Meeting shall consist of:

- 2.4.1 One pastor and a delegate per local assembly;
- 2.4.2 Members of the national executive council in terms of chapter 2 (1.2);

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- 2.4.3 Members of Standing Committees appointed in terms of chapter 2 (3.1);
- 2.4.4 One additional member of each Department formed in terms of chapter 2 (1.5.17);
- 2.4.5 One additional representative of Theological Training Institutions accredited in terms of chapter 2 (1.5.29).

2.5 CHAIRPERSON

The Overseer elected in terms of chapter 2 (1.2) shall ex officio be the chairperson of the General Business Meeting.

2.6 QUORUM

A quorum for the General Business Meeting shall consist of a representation of a third of the local assemblies representatives of the church in terms of chapter 2 (2.4.1), registered in terms of chapter 5 (1.1)

3. STANDING AND AD HOC COMMITTEES

3.1 STANDING AND AD HOC COMMITTEES: APPOINTMENT OF

Where necessary, the national executive council may appoint standing and/or ad hoc committees to attend to certain tasks on their behalf.

3.2 CHAIRPERSONS: APPOINTMENTS

The national executive council shall appoint the chairperson for any standing or ad hoc committee, except where the church laws make other provisions.

3.3 SPECIALISED TASKS

The national executive council shall be authorised to appoint full-time and part-time pastors as well as other persons to perform specialised tasks in the church, and to determine the conditions and stipend for such appointment.

4. ADMINISTRATION

The National Office Bearers of the church shall be responsible for the appointment of staff to a National Administrative Office to manage the affairs of the national executive council as defined in the constitution. Such appointments shall be in accordance with a budget as approved by the national executive council.

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CHAPTER 3

1. FUNCTIONS: CHURCH COUNCIL

- 1.1 The church council shall be constituted as follows: The Overseer, Secretary-General, Treasurer-General, additional members, Regional-Overseers, Senior Pastors, directors of the departments, Assembly Pastors, Elders, Deacons, Choir Master's, Assembly Secretaries, Assembly Treasurers, House leaders, Youth leaders, Church Organisers, Women Chairpersons and all other leaders as provided in this constitution.
- 1.2 The main function of the church council is to carry out the decisions and instructions of the national executive council in all the structures, committees, sub-committees, organs, executive boards, deaconship boards, and office subject to the provisions of this constitution.
- 1.3 To conduct the current work of the church and ensure that regions, local assemblies, and all other church structures carry out the decisions of the national executive council.
- 1.4 Submit a report to each of the national executive council meeting.
- 1.5 The members of the church council may not necessarily be full time functionaries of the Church. However, the national executive council shall determine the extent to which the members will be full-time functionaries who may be allocated specific responsibilities.
- 1.5 At any such Special Meeting each member of the church council shall have one vote and a two-thirds majority shall decide any resolution put to the vote.
- 1.6 The church council may invite the General-Overseer or any church member in good standing to attend its meetings. The number of invitees shall be limited by the church council. An invitee can be given a specific assignment by the church council, but cannot speak on behalf of the church council. An invitee may speak and participate at such meeting for the purpose for which he or she was invited, but shall not vote.
- 1.7 The church council shall meet at least once a year and a day to be determined at its previous meeting, and a suitable time arranged in consultation with the Secretary-General. One month notice in writing of place, date and time, with agenda, shall be given to all eligible members by the Secretary-General.

CHAPTER 4

1. FUNCTIONS: REGIONAL COUNCIL

- 1.1 The regional council shall, subject to the powers vested in it as contained in the constitution, perform the following functions:
- 1.2 Facilitate the caring for the temporal and spiritual welfare of all ministries and statutory bodies within its jurisdiction, and to take any action that is deemed to be in the interests of the local assembly and/or the broader church and to make recommendations to the church council on regional matters;
- 1.3 To facilitate fellowship and the ministry of pastors to pastors;
- 1.4 To facilitate church planting in consultation with the broader church;
- 1.5 To facilitate specialised ministries where deemed necessary;
- 1.6 To facilitate "in service" leadership training and development in co-operation with the national executive council.

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2 REGIONAL COUNCIL: CONSTITUTION OF

The Regional Council shall consist of all pastors worshipping at registered assemblies within the region as well as delegates from the aforesaid assemblies.

3 REGIONAL DERMACATION

- 3.1 Regions shall consist of the grouping of local assemblies within specified boundaries as determined by the national executive council after consultation with the church; a region is established by a maximum of (12) twelve local assemblies in a demarcated area.
- 3.2 Application by a local assembly and/or assemblies may be made to the national executive council for the establishment of a region beyond specified boundaries subject to criteria as determined by the national executive council.

4 REGIONAL COMMITTEE: ELECTION OF

- 4.1 Regional Council shall every four (4) years elect a Regional-Overseer, who qualifies in terms of chapter 2 (1.9), from the ranks of the pastors within the region, and
- 4.2 Other members of a Regional Committee from the ranks of the Regional Council. The Regional committee will have the right to appoint from its own ranks or to co-opt other persons to administrative functions from the ranks of the Regional Council.
- 4.3 Any vacancy which may occur in the Regional committee shall be filled at the next Regional Council meeting.

5 REGIONAL COMMITTEE: AGENT

The Regional Council shall use the Regional Committee as its authorised executive, agent and advisory body. This does not deprive the Regional Council the right of appointing other committees to perform specialist tasks.

6 REGIONAL-OVERSEER: REPRESENTATIVE ON NATIONAL EXECUTIVE COUNCIL

The Regional-Overseer elected in terms of chapter 4 (4.1), shall also be the regional representative on the national executive council.

7 MEETINGS: TIME AND PLACE

Meetings of a Regional Council shall be held at times and places determined by itself.

8 QUORUM

A quorum of the Regional Council shall consist of a representation of more than half of the assemblies in the region.

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9 LEGAL STATUS OF THE REGIONAL COUNCIL

- 1.1 Every Regional Council is a legal persona with perpetual legal succession and the Regional Committee, as constituted in accordance with this constitution, is its agent.
- 1.2 Every Regional Council is an independent legal persona distinct from the church and/or its members and/or the members of the particular Regional Council and shall, subject to the regulations, as separate legal persona:
 - 1.2.1 be entitled to own immovable property, assets and funds distinct from the church or its members or the members of the particular regional council;
 - 1.2.2 be capable of acquiring rights, obligations, privileges, powers and liabilities, distinct from the church or its members or the members of the particular regional council;
 - 1.2.3 be capable of instituting and/or defending legal action in its own name;
 - 1.2.4 be capable of conducting legal transactions of whatever nature in its own name;
 - 1.2.5 be capable of acquiring property and to dispose of, alienate or encumber its property and to in any way deal with its property;
 - 1.2.6 be capable of employing persons in its employ which employment includes the calling and appointment of a pastor or any other minister as envisaged in this constitution.
- 1.3 The Regional Committee has the competency to execute any legal transaction or any other action which might be necessary to fulfill the calling of the church in general and to conduct the business affairs, and to exercise the powers, and to control the operations of its regional council on behalf of such regional council.
- 1.4 The Regional Committee shall receive, administer and account for income, expenditure, assets and liabilities of the regional council in accordance with the provisions of the National Financial Policy which forms part of the regulations.
- 1.5 This Constitution and Regulations shall be the Constitution and Regulations of every Regional Council.

CHAPTER 5

1 THE LOCAL ASSEMBLIES

1.1 CONDITIONS OF ESTABLISHMENT

Separate groups of members who comply with the following conditions, shall be registered as local assemblies by the national executive council on recommendation of the Regional council:

- 1.1.1 Who seek to fulfill the mission of the church, and
- 1.1.2 Who are ministered to by an assembly pastor or an assembly leader as approved by the Regional Council.

1.2 CHURCH PLANTING

A Local assembly and/or a Regional Council shall, after consultation with the relevant assembly executive board and/or Regional Council, be entitled to establish new assemblies with a view to becoming registered assemblies in terms of chapter 5 (1.1)

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1.3 CHURCHES, ASSEMBLIES AND MINISTRIES WHO ARE NOT MEMBERS OF OUR CHURCH

Where an organised group of believers or an assembly of another church, applies to join the Gospel Assembly Ministry, such application will be dealt with in terms of the regulations.

2 THE EXECUTIVE BOARD

2.1 CONSTITUTION

Each local assembly shall, in accordance with the church constitution, determine the membership qualifications, the number of members, appointment procedures and functions of their executive board, in terms of a policy approved by the assembly at a duly convened meeting. A certified copy of such policy and/or amendments shall be submitted to the Regional Council for approval.

2.2 LOCAL PASTOR: LEADER AND MEMBER

The presiding pastor or the person appointed in terms of chapter 5 (3.1.6) will be the leader, vision carrier and member of the executive board

2.3 FUNCTIONS

2.3.1 ASSEMBLY MEMBERSHIP: ADMISSION TO OR TERMINATION OF

The executive board shall in accordance with the church constitution admit members, equip and care for them, discipline them or terminate their membership.

2.3.2 TEMPORAL AND SPIRITUAL MATTERS: RESPONSIBILITY FOR

The executive board shall, subject to any limitation of powers imposed by the church constitution, be responsible for the temporal and spiritual interests of the assembly.

2.2.3 GENERAL

The executive board shall perform any other functions as may be prescribed in terms of the church laws.

2.2.4 POWERS: DELEGATION OF

The Executive Board may, for such periods and on such conditions as it deems fit, delegate to any member of the executive board its powers and duties provided that:

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- 2.2.4.1 The discipline of members, and/or
- 2.2.4.2 the approval of the financial statements shall not be delegated to a single member, and even where this power is temporarily delegated to two or more members, final approval shall be obtained at the following executive board meeting;
- 2.2.4.3 Any delegation of powers granted by the executive board may at any time be withdrawn;
- 2.2.4.4 The executive board may authorise any person to act for or on its behalf.
- 2.2.4.5 The executive board shall approve and appoint the nominated members from among the congregation deacons and deaconess to “serve the church” in the practical, spiritual and temporal matters of the church.
- 2.2.4. The executive board shall meet at least once a month a day to be determined at its previous meeting, and a suitable time arranged in consultation with the Assembly Pastor. One week notice in writing of place, date and time, with agenda, shall be given to all eligible members by the Assembly Secretary.

2.2.5 COMPETENCY: LIMITATIONS OF

All actions and decisions of the executive board shall be subject to and in accordance with the constitution and the regulations.

3 LEGAL STATUS OF THE LOCAL ASSEMBLY

Every registered local assembly is a legal persona with perpetual legal succession and the executive board, as constituted in accordance with this Constitution, is its agent.

- 3.1 Every registered local assembly is an independent legal persona distinct from the church and/or its members and/or the members of the particular local assembly and shall, subject to the regulations, as separate legal persona:
 - 3.1.1 To be entitled to own immovable property, assets and funds distinct from the church or its members or the members of the particular local assembly;
 - 3.1.2 To be capable of acquiring rights, obligations, privileges, powers and liabilities, distinct from the church or its members or the members of the particular local assembly;
 - 3.1.3 To be capable of instituting and/or defending legal action in its own name;
 - 3.1.4 To be capable of conducting legal transactions of whatsoever nature in its own name;
 - 3.1.5 To be capable of acquiring property and to dispose of, alienate or encumber its property and to in any way deal with its property;
 - 3.1.6 To be capable of employing persons in its employ which employment includes the calling and appointment of a pastor or any other minister as envisaged in this constitution.
- 3.2 The executive board has the competency to execute any legal transaction or any other action which might be necessary to fulfill the calling of the church in general and to conduct the business and affairs, and to exercise the powers, and to control the operations of its local assembly on behalf of such local assembly.
- 3.3 The Assembly Treasury shall receive, administer and account for income, expenditure, assets and liabilities of the local assembly in accordance with the provisions of the Executive Board which forms part of the regulations.
- 3.4 This Constitution and Regulations shall be the Constitution and Regulations of every registered local assembly.

John 15:12, This is the commandment: that you love one another (just) as I loved you



4 THE ASSEMBLY TREASURY

- 4.1 The Assembly Treasury in accordance with the wishes of the Treasurer-General and the executive board shall administer the financial matters of the local assembly. The Assembly Treasury shall consist of the local Assembly Treasurer and two other persons appointed by the executive board.
- 4.2 The Assembly Treasury may determine fair and reasonable remuneration for services rendered to be paid to its members and other employees of the local church, and may, in addition, authorise the reimbursement to any person of any expenses actually incurred and necessarily incurred in their capacities as members of the assembly treasury or employees of the local assembly whilst performing duties for and on behalf of the branch.
- 4.3 Every member of the assembly treasury may at the discretion of the Assembly Treasury, be indemnified by this church against expenses actually, necessarily and reasonably by such person arising out of the defense of any action, suite or proceeding where such person is made a party, provided that:
- 4.4 Such action, suit or proceeding arises out of the performance and is within the scope of such person's employment by this church.
- 4.5 Such action, suit or proceeding does not arise out of negligence or misconduct on the part of such person.
- 4.6 The Assembly Treasury may require that legal costs arising out of such action, suit or proceeding be taxed by the appropriate revenue authority prior to payment thereof by this church may pay, in addition, the cost of such taxation.
- 4.7 The Assembly Treasury may meet together for the dispatch of business, adjourn and otherwise regulate their meetings as they deem fit.
- 4.8 The Assembly Treasurer or a member of the assembly treasury appointed by executive board shall act as Chairperson of the meeting. Should he or she fail to attend the meeting within thirty minutes after the time advertised therefore, the persons present shall appoint a member of the assembly treasury to act as Chairperson.
- 4.9 The Assembly Treasury shall appoint a person to act as Secretary at such meetings and the Secretary shall record the Minutes of the meeting. Such minutes shall be deemed to be an accurate record of the proceedings of the relevant meeting.
- 4.10 Meeting shall be convened upon such notice, or in such manner, at such a time; the assembly treasury shall determine date and place as from time to time.
- 4.11 A quorum shall be constituted by 50 plus majority of the members of the assembly treasury provided that:
- 4.12 If any person is unwilling to attend such meeting, or fails to attend within thirty minutes after the time specified for such a meeting to begin, such meeting shall be deemed properly constituted without such member should a quorum present.
- 4.13 Non-receipt of notice by any person entitled thereto shall not invalidate the proceedings of any meetings.
- 4.14 Further, attendance of a member at a meeting shall constitute a waiver of such notice of such meeting unless such attendance is for the express purpose of objecting to the transaction of any business by the assembly treasury because a meeting has been unlawfully convened.
- 4.15 At any meeting, a resolution put to the vote shall be decided by a show of hands and a majority of those members present shall constitute an adoption by the assembly treasury of any resolution proposed, provided that:
- 4.16 Every member shall have one vote.
- 4.17 In the event of a deadlock, the chairperson shall exercise the casting vote.

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- 4.18 A resolution in writing signed by all the members of the assembly treasury for the time being entitled to attend and vote at assembly treasury meeting, shall be valid and effective as if the same had been passed at assembly treasury meeting duly convened and held.
- 4.19 The Assembly Treasury shall appoint a person to act as the Administrator, who shall perform all the administrative duties allocated to him or her.
- 4.20 All payment shall be made by the electronic payment which must be authorised by any three of the following:
The Assembly Treasurer two members appointed by the executive board or, the Treasury-General and two other members of the national executive council and the payments must be approved by the Treasurer-General.

5. THE DEACONSHIP BOARD: QUALIFICATIONS

The deacon's life and character must pass certain criteria before qualifying one to serve. The scriptures dictate qualifications as follows:

- 5.1 The deacon must be chosen from "among you" (Acts 6:3), a lay member of the congregation at least one year. The deacon must be of good reputation, "of honest report" (Acts 6:3). The confidence and trust of the congregation and community are essential.
- 5.2 the deacon is in a spiritual ministry, full of the spirit" (Acts 6:3) , according to (Acts 2:4) , and continuing to be "filled" (Ephesians 5:18)
- 5.3 The deacon is required to make decisions in practical and temporal matters as well as giving support to the pastor in spiritual matters, so sound direction and wise counsel need "wisdom" (Acts 6:3).
- 5.4 The deacon must be willing to be involve in the work of God through the church; the deacon is to "serve" (Acts 6:2).
- 5.5 The deacon is to be "sincere" (1 Timothy 3:8), i.e. steadfast and serious.
- 5.6 The deacon is "not double tongued" (1 Timothy 3:8) i.e., must be as good as one's word, dependable.
- 5.7 The deacon is "not indulging in much wine" (1 Timothy 3:8), but is temperate, not depending on physical stimulants.
- 5.8 The deacon is "not pursuing dishonest gain" (1 Timothy 3:8), but faithfully with tithe, generous and not motivated by money.
- 5.9 The deacon is proper, keeping "hold of the deep truths of the faith with a clear conscience" (1 Timothy 3:9), fully subscribing to the tenets of faith to the gospel Assembly Ministry.
- 5.10 The deacon is a mature believer, "and let these also first be proved" (1 Timothy 3:10)
- 5.11 The deacon has not experienced matrimonial mix-ups, but is in a faithfully, monogamous marriage (1 Timothy 3:12)
- 5.12 Deacon lead their homes in Christ, ruling their children and their own houses well" (1 Timothy 3:12).
- 5.13 Spouses of deacons (or deaconess) must be an example of the Christian life, not malicious talkers but temperate and trustworthy in everything" (1 Timothy 3:11).
- 5.14 At the discretion of the local congregation, a female other stated qualifications may be selected to serve as deaconess.

6 DISCIPLINE

A member shall not ignore or disregard the Assembly Pastor of the Assembly to which the member belongs, and seek instructions or guidance in the will of God from a Pastor of another Assembly.

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Should an Elder, Deacon or member have an accusation brought against him or her, it shall be dealt with by the executive board. Until this has taken place the person concerned must obey the ruling of the Assembly Pastor. In the event of the accused Officer or member desiring to appeal, the appeal may be heard by the regional council. Failing a satisfactory settlement, an appeal may be referred to an Adhoc national executive council appeals committee, if the matter is still not resolved satisfactory by all the sides, it can then be referred to the General-Overseer office of whose decision shall be final.

7 THE HOUSE CHURCH

The house church shall be the house of the church member that is used by the church for the weekly church meetings, the executive board shall authorize the meetings or dismiss such meetings only on reasons of spiritual matters of a house church.

- 7.1 The house church is a house or a place provided by a church member for the purpose of weekly church meetings.
- 7.2 The house church shall be used as a meeting place where prayers, teachings, equipping of the saints, worshiping, and for caring for one another shall be conducted. (Ephesians 4:11-12).
- 7.3 The house church shall be a place where a church meet the needs of the communities, neighbours, and all those who need God's intervention in their lives can be easily accessible by the church.
- 7.4 The house church shall be led by a house church leader appointed by the executive board of an assembly, an appointee must be member who has been with the church for more than a year.
- 7.4.1 The executive board shall follow the abovementioned spiritual qualifications stated under "deaconship board qualifications"
- 7.4.2 The house leader shall be one who faithfully supports the local assembly in attendance and finances "tithes, and offerings"
- 7.4.3 The appointee should understand the Gospel Assembly Ministry church government and the church doctrine.
- 7.4.4 Before the house church leader is presented in the congregation, the executive board should discuss the philosophy and vision and determine the appointee willingness to serve.
- 7.5 The house leader shall work together with his or her co-workers in the house church to do the work of the ministry in evangelism, teaching, exhortations, prophecy, practical services etc, (Romans 12: 3-8)

8 GOSPEL ASSEMBLY CHOIR, GOSPEL GROUPS, AND GOSPEL ARTISTS

- 8.1 The church recognizes the gospel assembly choirs, gospel assembly groups and individual gospel artists that shall be organized exclusively to minister to the congregation with gospel songs and hymns. Such choirs and groups must be under the leadership of choir masters or group leaders.
- 8.2 When the choir master or a group leader nominates the church choir members, he or she shall follow the following procedure to qualify the interested church members;
 - 8.2.1 The spiritual qualifications shall be considered as stated under "deaconship qualifications."
 - 8.2.2 The nominated individual shall be one who faithfully supports the local assembly in attendance and finances "tithes, and offerings, the local executive board shall verify this process and finally approve it.
 - 8.2.3 The nominated individual shall be with church, gospel assembly ministry at least six months and be a baptized member, and a member of a house church.

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- 8.3 Under circumstances shall none gospel assembly member be allowed to participate in the church choir or group rehearsals and performances, however, the executive board shall periodically invite none gospel assembly gospel artists to perform in the church.
- 8.4 At any gatherings each member of the choir shall have one vote and a two-thirds majority shall decide any resolution put to the vote.

CHAPTER 6

1 THE THEOLOGICAL INSTITUTION

1.1 ANTIOCH BIBLE INSTITUTE

- 1.1.1 The Antioch Bible Institute is a registered Theological Bible Institute and an entity of the church Gospel Assembly Ministry, Antioch Bible Institute is strategically placed under the Directorate of Equipping and Education of the church.
- 1.1.2 Antioch Bible Institute is registered with an international accredited Team Impact Christian University with a Reference Number TI813, Team Impact Christian University is also registered with the Board of Regents (BoR) which is required by the Louisiana R.S. 17:1808 for all religious institutions operating in the State of Louisiana USA. Team Impact Christian University is exempt from licensure,
- 1.1.2.1 Team Impact Christian University is required to be registered annually with the Board of Regents.
- 1.1.3 The Director appointed to manage the Directorate shall serve in the national executive council of the church as a representative of the institute.
- 1.1.4 Antioch Bible Institute shall manage its own finances independently from the church treasury but shall account directly to the national executive council.
- 1.1.5 Antioch Bible Institute shall be open for church leaders, ordinary church members and members of the public at large, certain requirements shall be in place to protect the image of the institution.

1 THE EVANGELISTIC MOVEMENT

1.1 GOSPEL ANCHORS EVANGELISTIC MINISTRIES

The Gospel Anchors Evangelistic Ministries was established on the 10th March 2005, this evangelistic movement gave birth to the church Gospel Assembly Ministry that was later established on the 8th August 2005.

- 1.1.1 The movement is strategically managed by the national director, an additional member of the national executive council and all regional evangelistic chairpersons are under the discipline of the national director of outreach and evangelism.
- 1.1.2 The movement is organised and operated exclusively for evangelism, branch establishment, educational purposes and interdenominational support.
- 1.1.3 To support missionary work, to establish churches, Christian schools and the like.

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- 1.1.4 To spread the Gospel through religious services, house to house evangelism, seminars, tent crusades, open air, radio, television, audio and videocassettes, establishment of church literature and the like.
- 1.1.5 The regional chairperson of the movement shall coordinate and organise the guest speakers and the whole evangelistic team during the revivals, open airs and seminars.
- 1.1.6 The offerings, donations and fundraisings received from the movement shall be administered separately from the church and the regional chairperson shall decide on how to utilize the funds.
- 1.1.7 The regional chairperson shall disband the evangelistic team after every revival, send back all the church members to their respective assemblies and churches.

1 THE ELECTORAL COMMISSION

The national executive council shall appoint an Electoral Commission of not fewer than five (5) members whose task it will be:

- 1.1 To prepare the ballot papers
- 1.2 To make provision for ballot boxes or other means of secret voting
- 1.3 To create machinery for the counting of ballot papers and the effective supervision of the counting of votes.
- 1.4 To announce the results of all ballots and make known the number of votes received by each successful candidate
- 1.5 To establish procedures for voting and to determine any dispute raised in regard to elections and election procedures, and to determine how any tied vote should be resolved
- 1.6 The names of the Electoral Commission whose work is to commence before national or regional conference opens shall be submitted to the conference for endorsement and they will then be reinforced by a representative appointed by each regional delegation.

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CHAPTER 7

1 THE CHURCH FELLOWSHIP

- 1.1 The church fellowship shall constitute the congregation. These are those persons, irrespective of race or colour who comply with the purposes, structure and statement of the Gospel Assembly Ministry and to whom the Right Hand of fellowship has been extended by the Executive Board.
- 1.2 The Executive Board may, if necessary, amend the procedure of accepting persons into fellowship from time to time.
- 1.3 The fellowship of this church is established pursuant to the scriptures of Romans 12:5 and 1 Corinthians 3:9 and is intended to further those principles.
- 1.4 Anyone may, at any time, relinquish his fellowship with the church provided that notice of such cancellation is addressed to the Executive Board in writing. Such cancellation shall be deemed to take effect upon receipt and ratification thereof by the Executive Board.
- 1.5 The Executive Board reserves the right to withdraw the Right Hand of fellowship of any one for serious, unrepentant misconduct or similar cause, or for continued non-attendance.
- 1.6 No rights or privileges of fellowship shall be transferable or transmissible in any way. All rights and privileges shall cease upon the death, resignation or cessation of fellowship, for any reason.

2 CHURCH SERVICE

- 2.1 Prayers shall be conducted once a week in stationed venues.
- 2.2 Bible studies shall be conducted for approximately 2 hours fourth night.
- 2.3 The praise and worship shall be done (psalms 100 vs. 1-5 and psalm 98 vs. 4 – 6)
- 2.4 This is what God accept in our praise (approval to him)
- 2.5 Hand clapping (psalms 47-2, 2 kings 11 vs 12 psalms 98vs 8, Isaiah 55 vs 12)
- 2.6 Noise (Ps 95: 1-2, 98vs 4, 6)
- 2.7 Dance (eccl 3:4 and Ps 149: 3; Jer 31:1 2 Samuel 6:14)
- 2.8 Leaping (Luke 6:23, Acts 3:8; Ps 18:29)
- 2.9 Musical instrument shall be used ps 98:5
- 2.9.1 When prophesying by the Holy Spirit. (1 Sam 10:5; 1 Chr 25:1-7)
- 2.9.2 When worshipping God (Ps 33-1-5; 98:4-9; 147:7-11 150; 1-6)
- 2.9.3 It is law of God to used them (Ps 81:1-4; 2 Chr 29:25)
- 2.9.4 When you declare to be Good (Ps 92:1-5)
- 2.9.5 When you want to be bless by God (2 Sam 6:1-16; 1 Chr 13:1-14; 15:14-29; 16:1-6; 2Chr 20:26-29; 30:21, Neh 12:27)
- 2.9.6 God's glory came down when they used with singing (2 Chr 5:11-12)
- 2.9.7 Testimony and offerings

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- 2.9.8 Worship by Gospel Assembly Ministry Worshippers
- 2.9.9 Worship is devotional service, a dedication service; you give in to God's will.
- 2.10 We accept God to speak to the outreach at this stage in any of his ways. Some people may:
 - 2.10.1 Weep (Ps 42:30; Luke 6:21)
 - 2.10.2 Shaking (Jer 23:9)
 - 2.10.3 Falling prostrate (Acts 9:4; Dan 8:17)
 - 2.10.4 Laughing (Ps 126:2; Genesis 21:6; Luke 6:21)
 - 2.10.5 Hands upraised (Ps 134:2; Ps 63:4; Tim 2:8)
 - 2.10.6 Praying together (Acts 4:23-24; 1 Tim 2:8 Mark 11:17)
 - 2.10.7 Speaking in tongues (I Cor 14:39; Acts 2:4, Acts 10:44-46) tongue like prophecy should come by inspiration.
- 2.11 The Gospel Assembly Choir or Group and gospel assembly ministry worshippers may lead singing to the Lord
- 2.12 Brethren with healing gift shall do so Mark 16:15-18
- 2.13 We shall follow the guidance of the Holy spirit in ever service Titus 2:11-12
- 2.14 Worship shall followed by word of God
- 2.15 This is not the structure, but serves as an inspirational guidance to fully serve the Lord in Gospel Assembly Ministry.

2 SPECIAL GENERAL MEETING

- 2.1 Special General Meeting of the Church shall be held only after public notice has been give thereof, which notice shall state the whole of the business to be transacted there at. For the purpose of the article public notice shall be defined to be a notice which is intimated at divine service both in the morning Sundays preceding the day appointed for the Meeting; or which is published by means of a printed or written notice affixed to the door or the notice board of the Church Building, during the Sundays aforesaid.
- 2.2 At Special General Meeting, only such persons who are in present fellowship with the Church, having been duly admitted into fellowship at least six months prior to such meeting, and who have at the date of such meeting attained the age of eighteen years, shall be entitled to vote.
- 2.3 Special General Meeting may be convened at any time by the leadership of an assembly.

3 AUTONOMY

- 3.1 This Church shall be an independent body, free from control by or interference from any denomination or other church professing the same principles. The Gospel Assembly Ministry shall manage its own affairs without reference to any outside authority.

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4 AMENDMENTS

- 4.1 Section A and Section C of this Constitution or a portion thereof may only be amended or repealed by a resolution of the national executive council passed at a Special Meeting convened for that purpose.
- 4.2 The meeting shall be convened and constituted in the manner prescribed in this Constitution.
- 4.3 Amendments shall only be ratified by unanimous decisions.
- 4.5 Amendments to Section A should not contradict any Clause in Section B and note must be taken of the preamble in Section B.

SECTION B

REQUIREMENT REGARDING THE FINANCIAL MATTERS AT CHURCH AND / OR MINISTRY AS PRESCRIBED BY THE COMMISSIONER FOR INLAND REVENUE

PREAMBLE

In order not to affect its tax exemption status, the following requirements as laid down by the Commissioner for Inland Revenue must be adhered to by the local church and these cannot be changed without the prior written consent from the Commissioner for Inland Revenue.

1. FINANCIAL CONTROL

- 1.1 Under no circumstances will financial control be vested in the Overseer or any person on his own.
- 1.2 The financial control of the church shall be vested with the national executive council consisting of a minimum of three members appointed in the manner prescribed in this Constitution.
- 1.3 The Treasury is to administrate the finances of the church in accordance with good, sound accounting practices. The Treasury shall consist of a minimum of three persons appointed in the manner prescribed in this Constitution.

2. REMUNERATION

The Executive Board, Treasury Personnel, Staff and / or their relatives may not derive any benefit from funds or income of the church, other than what has been formally decided upon by the Finance committee inclusive of the normal salaries payable in respect of services rendered.

3. CHURCH PROPERTY

- 3.1 All properties that the church may acquire, whether movable or immovable, shall be held and administered solely for the furtherance of its objectives and principles.
- 3.2 The church will also not be entitled to enter into any speculative transaction.

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4. REGISTRATION OF IMMOVABLE PROPERTY

All immovable property owned by the church and thereafter acquired by the church shall be registered in the name of the church. The national executive council will have the power to lease or sell immovable property subject to the provision of clause 3.1 of this section and chapter 2 (1.5.12) of Section A hereof.

5. REGISTRATION OF ACTIVITIES

In this mission endeavour, the church shall not use in excess of R50 000.00 per annum outside the borders of the Republic of South Africa including the territories, which formerly formed part of the Republic of South Africa without the prior written consent of the Commissioner for Inland Revenue.

6. DISSOLUTION

In the event of the church at any time ceasing to exist, all property owned by it, and all the right to property which may have vested in or been acquired by it at such time, shall be given to an organisation that is propagating likeminded principles. The Treasury, under the direction of the national executive council, shall be responsible for carrying out of such dissolution.

The Church shall be deemed to have ceased to exist should the principles of the church no longer be adhered to. Should the church cease to exist as a church for any reason whatsoever or be dissolved, then all the movable and immovable property shall be given and transferred to another church or organisation with the same objectives within the Republic of South Africa provided that such church or organization also qualifies for exemption from payment of income and donations tax.

7. TRADING ACTIVITIES

7.1 The local assembly will allow selling religious material on its premises as a service to its members and occasional visitors.

7.2 In the event of the church selling books, tapes or miscellaneous goods at an outlet in a commercial business centre, such outlet would operate as a separate legal entity and thus could become taxable.

8. ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

An Annual General Meeting of the church members shall be held within six months after the financial year-end of the church. At such Annual General Meeting the Treasury shall submit a report of the financial position of the church as follows:

8.1 The financial statements of the church shall be available to those currently in fellowship with this church two weeks before the intended Annual General Meeting for their perusal.

8.2 A person with a thorough knowledge of accountancy shall draw up the financial statements.

8.3 The final year-end date of Gospel Assembly Ministry is on the 31 March.

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SECTION C

STATEMENT OF FAITH:

The programmes and activities governing the form of worship of Gospel Assembly Ministry shall be based upon and at all times be consistent with the following creed and beliefs:

1. THREE DIMENSIONS OF ONE GOD (John 5 : 7; Mathew 28 : 19; I Tim 3 : 16) We believe in one God who is eternal in His existence, Triune in His manifestation, being both Father, Son and Holy Ghost AND that He is Sovereign and Absolute in His authority.

We believe in the Father who is God Himself, Creator of the universe. {Gen 1:1; John 1:1}

We believe that Jesus is the Son of God. (Col 2:9) He suffered, died, was buried, and rose from the dead for our total salvation (Luke 3:21-22; Philippians 2:5-11). We believe that Jesus is the Way, the Truth, and the Life. No one comes to the Father except through Him (John 3:36; John 3:31-32; John 14:6).

We believe in the Holy Spirit who is God indwelling, empowering and regenerating the believer. This Holy Spirit is called the Comforter. The Spirit of Truth (John 14:17, 14:26)

We believe that the blood of Jesus Christ atones for our sins and iniquity. It is through His shed blood that we are saved, healed and set free from bondage and the forces of darkness (Romans 5:9-11; Ephesians 1:7; Revelation 12:11).

We believe that every believer must have a personal and intimate relationship with Jesus Christ, for apart from Him we can do nothing. Each person has a ministry from God that no one else can fill. We are to instruct, teach, exhort, and admonish believers in the ways of God (John 15:1-5; Hebrews 13:5-6).

We believe that the Bible is the true infallible Word of God, which cleanses our souls. It holds the words of eternal life and the keys of the Kingdom of God. The Bible shows us God's principles and standards for living; and it is the food that sustains us in all circumstances (John 1:14; 2 Timothy 3: 16-17; 1 John 2:5-6).

We believe that we are to wash and renew our minds daily by the Word of God. We must learn His ways and exchange our way of thinking for His. We are to be conformed to the Kingdom of God by the molding and shaping of His Hands (Romans 12:1-2; Ephesians 4:23-29; Philippians 4:8).

We believe in justification by faith. We believe that salvation is free and apart from any work of man is a result of the sovereign grace of God. (Eph 2:8-9, Gal 5:5, Rom 5:1)

We believe in worshipping the Lord in spirit, song, dance and with the raising of our hands. We believe that we are to praise and worship Him with our whole being (Psalms 150:1-6; John 4:24).

We believe that in Godly living and the pursuit of a holy life should be the goal of every believer. (Heb 12:14, Phil 3:14)

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We believe that believers should be water baptized by immersion for the circumcision of our hearts. It is through baptism that we publicly identify with the death, burial and resurrection of Jesus Christ (Romans 6:3-6; Colossians 2:11-14; Acts 2:38).

We believe that all Christians need to partake of the communion elements which represent the Lord Jesus' body and blood. It is by participating in the Lord's Supper that we proclaim His death until His return (John 6:53-58; 1 Corinthians 11:23-30).

We believe in the Baptism of the Holy Spirit with the sign of speaking in other tongues. We believe that Christians must be filled daily by using our prayer language, but the evidence of the Holy Spirit's indwelling presence is a changed life (Acts 2:4; Ephesians 5:18-21).

We believe in the manifestation of the gifts of the Holy Spirit. He ministers to His people through tongues, interpretation of tongues, prophecy; words of knowledge and wisdom, discerning of spirits, faith, working of miracles, and healing (Mark 16:15-18; Acts 5:16; 2 Corinthians 12:1-11).

We believe that it is God's will to heal and deliver His people today as He did in the days of the first Apostles. It is by the stripes of Jesus that we are healed, delivered and made whole. We have authority over sickness, disease, demons, curses, and every circumstance in life (Luke 10:19; 2 Corinthians 10:4-5; 1 Peter 2:24).

We believe that it is God's will to provide welfare support to the orphans and the widows in their financial problems (James 1: 27; Acts 6:1)

"Go into all the world and preach the gospel to every creature... And these signs will follow those who believe: In My name they will cast out demons; they will speak with new tongues; they will take up serpents; and if they drink anything deadly, it will by no means hurt them; they will lay hands on the sick, and they will recover." (Mark 16:15-18)

2. We believe in the Scriptures of the Old and New Testaments in their original writing as fully inspired of God and accept them as the supreme and final authority for faith and life.

3. We believe that Jesus Christ was begotten of the Father, conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the Virgin Mary and is true God and true man.

4. We believe in the bodily resurrection of the Lord Jesus, His ascension into Heaven, and His present life as our High Priest and advocate.

5. We believe in the personal return of the Lord Jesus Christ.

6. We believe that all who repent of their sin and receive the Lord Jesus Christ by faith are born again of the Holy Spirit and thereby become children of God.

7. We believe in the divinely ordained ministries of Apostle, Prophet, Evangelist, Pastor and Teacher.

8. We believe in the resurrection of both the just and the unjust, the eternal blessedness of the redeemed, and the eternal banishment of those who have rejected the offer of salvation.

9. We believe that Divine healing was provided for in the Old Testament and is an integral part of the Gospel.

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10. We believe the Bible teaches that without holiness no man can see the Lord. We believe in the doctrine of sanctification as a definite, yet progressive work of grace, commencing at the time of the new birth and continuing until the consummation of salvation.

11. The Church is open to any further truth that the Holy Spirits may illuminate from Scriptures.

12. We believe in applying church discipline as taught in the scriptures: Hebrews 12 : 5 – 11, Matthew 18 : 15 – 17, I Corinthians 5 : 1-

13, 2 Corinthians 2 : 3 – 11.

The Gospel Assembly Ministry holds these truths and many others to be precious and dear. Our purpose for our doctrine, however, is not for endless doctrinal disputes, but to be a place of ministry and healing for those in need. Christians have always had diversity in their theology and will continue to do so until the great return of the Master teacher himself. In the meantime, we want to provide healing and encouragement to the body of Christ at large. What we believe may divide us, but in whom we believe should unite us.

I, the undersigned, hereby certify that the above Constitution was accepted at a special meeting convened for that purpose, as the Constitution of Gospel Assembly Ministry.

Mr. Mziwethu Henry Hlengwa
Founder: General-Overseer & Chief Bishop
Date: 28, 09, 2005

John 15:12, This is the commandment: that you love one another (just) as I loved you