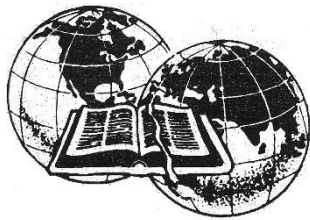

Constitution & By-Laws



General Council
Churches of God,
(Seventh Day), Inc.

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**Constitution and By-laws
of
General Council Churches of God, (Seventh Day), Inc., Headquarters Meridian, Idaho**

**ARTICLE I
Authority**

The Constitution and By-Laws are established and have been adopted by the authority of the Articles of Incorporation in the state of Idaho of General Council Churches of God, (Seventh Day), Inc., Headquarters, Meridian, Idaho.

**ARTICLE II
Name and Location**

The name of this corporation is and shall be General Council Churches of God (Seventh Day) Inc., Headquarters, Meridian, Idaho (Hereinafter called Council) and the headquarters shall be at Meridian, Idaho.

**ARTICLE III
Definitions**

Church = An organization of churches is General Council Churches of God (Seventh Day) Inc., Headquarters Meridian, Idaho.

General Council = The Council consists of all members of the Church who are in good standing.

Members of Good Standing = Members are considered to be in good standing who are baptized into Jesus Christ and devoted to the Christian faith, and who have registered and have either physically been present in a congregation of the Church or who have financially contributed to the Church in the past five years.

Local Autonomy = Is the form of governing authority for accountability and administration of doctrine.

The Board of Directors = The Board of Directors shall be elected by the Council and shall serve as the body responsible for overseeing the daily operation of all Council approved activities and functions when the Council is not in session.

The Board of Education = The Board of Education's responsibility includes overseeing of the activities for Maranatha College. The Board of Education shall be a spiritual advisory part of the Council.

Maranatha College = Is the official name of the Bible College of the Council.

Ministerial Council = The Ministerial Council is the official name of the credentialed ministers' organization of the Council.

Daughters of the King = The Daughters of the King is the official name of the women members' organization of the Council consisting of Sisters of the Council.

The Christian Youth = The Christian Youth is the official name of the young people's organization of the Council.

**ARTICLE IV
Objects and Purposes**

The object of this Council shall be to unite the different state councils, congregations, and isolated members of our faith, into one cooperative group for the purpose of advancing the gospel message and promoting the general welfare of the church as a whole. Such affiliation will not in any way deprive the individual church groups of local autonomy or affect the control of local property or funds.

This Council shall consist of all members of the Church Body who are in good standing in their perspective Congregations. "Good standing" is assumed unless otherwise notified by the local leadership or their Pastor licensed by the Council. Voting privileges shall be restricted to those sixteen years of age or older.

ARTICLE V

Officers

The officers of this corporation shall be those named in Article VI of the Articles of Incorporation; namely, President, Vice President, Secretary, and Treasurer.

The President and Vice President shall be elected by a majority ballot of the qualified members of the Council at the annual meeting. The President shall be elected for a term of three years, he shall automatically become a member of the Board of Directors, and no individual shall hold the office of President for more than two successive terms.

The Vice President shall be elected for a term of three years and shall also automatically become a member of the Board of Directors.

The Board shall be empowered to fill any vacancies among committeemen and board members until the next Council meeting.

It shall be the duty of the President to preside at all meetings of the Council or of the Board of Directors and to exercise such powers and duties as are usual for such an officer when in session. When not in session the President will perform such duties as are necessary for the operation of the Council business. The President is automatically an adviser of all committees and all departments.

It shall be the duty of the Vice President to exercise the powers and duties of the President in the event of his absence or disqualification. The Vice President shall assist the President in the operation of the Council.

The two offices of Secretary and Treasurer can be combined into one person. These offices may be held by non-Board members who should be available during Council meetings. The Treasurer shall keep a faithful account of the business transactions of the Council, and of the Board, shall give a faithful account of all moneys and property of the Council, and make such reports as may be required from time to time by the Council or Board only in accordance with the direction of the Board. The Secretary is to record minutes, both for Board meetings and for the Council in session, and ensure that a printed copy is in the Council records.

ARTICLE VI

Directors

The Board of Directors of this corporation shall consist of seven members, two of whom shall be the President and the Vice President as detailed by Article V. The remaining five members of the Board of Directors shall be elected by a majority ballot of the qualified members of the Council, and shall serve terms of three years which shall be staggered so that no more than two Directors shall be elected each year.

The Council Directors shall exercise all powers and duties of the Council when the Council is not in session, except for changing the Articles of Incorporation or By-laws of the Council. Acts 6:2-3 "Then the twelve called the multitude of the disciples unto them, and said, it is not reason that we should leave the word of God, and serve tables. Wherefore, brethren, look ye out among you seven men of honest report, full of the Holy Ghost and wisdom, whom we may appoint over this business." KJV shall be read at each Council session immediately prior to the election of the Board.

ARTICLE VII

Impeachment

Any officer or Director of the Council may be impeached for malfeasance in office, or moral turpitude, but he shall be tried in open council and, if and when found guilty, shall be dismissed from office. It shall require a two-thirds vote of those voting to convict in cases of impeachment. Impeachment charges may be brought only at a meeting of the members of the Council.

ARTICLE VIII

Directors' Meetings

Directors shall meet at least semi-annually, with the annual meeting taking place at the same time or during the meeting of the general membership. The President shall call the other semi-annual meeting, and in addition, special meetings may be held at any time upon the call of the President or any three Directors.

ARTICLE IX

Annual Meeting

There shall be an annual meeting of the Council each year, the date of such annual meeting shall be fixed at least six months in advance of the date thereof by the Board of Directors, and notice to the members shall be given by regular mail or electronically. In the event such a meeting is not held in any one year, then arrangements shall be made to hold said meeting at the earliest possible date, and the officers shall in that event continue to exercise their duties until their successors shall be duly elected and qualified. Additional meetings of the general membership may be held at any time upon call by the Board of Directors.

ARTICLE X

Powers of Council

The Council, when convened, shall have the power, by majority vote, to make plans and arrangements for the progress of the work, and to promote the general welfare of the Church, elect members of the Board of Directors, elect members of the License and Credential (Hereinafter L&C) Committee, and appoint special committees.

The Council authorizes the Board of Directors to issue licenses and credentials to ministers properly recommended in unorganized states and territories under its jurisdiction, and to issue credentials to ministers in organized states and territories, upon recommendation of the local organization having jurisdiction, and subject to the license and credential procedures described in Article XII below.

ARTICLE XI

Procedures for the Annual Meeting

Section 1. The President shall open the Council with Scripture reading and prayer.

Section 2. He shall appoint a committee who shall register, and present to the Board of Directors prior to first session, the names of all members of the Council who desire to be voting members of the Council. The current Board of Directors members present shall automatically be considered registered and approved as voting members of the Council and with a two-thirds majority vote of Board of Directors shall vote on acceptance of registered names collected. They shall keep the books open for further registration and they shall report at the beginning of each session thereafter additional names that have been registered. Additional names must be approved by majority vote of previously approved members. Only registered members who have physically been present within the last five years, or have financially contributed, may participate in the deliberation and voting of the Council.

Section 3. The president shall report on the work of the executive committee for the year just closed.

Section 4. The License and Credential Committee shall consist of five members, and shall be elected by a majority ballot after the Council is organized with a working membership. Members shall serve terms of two years which shall be staggered so that no more than three committeemen are elected each year.

Section 5. Minutes of the preceding session shall be read at the beginning of each session. The minutes of each Council meeting shall be published in a supplement to the official publication of the church, and a printed copy, together with a copy of the constitution and the by-laws shall be presented to each member of the Council at the succeeding Council meeting at the time of registration.

Section 6. A resolutions committee may be appointed by the chair or elected from the floor as may be determined by the Council.

Section 7. A report of committees may be called for at any time.

Section 8. Any special committees that may be found to be necessary to the proper functioning of the work of this Council may be created in a manner and for such purpose as may be deemed necessary.

Section 9. Election of officers may be held at any time the Council may decide after it is organized with a working membership.

Section 10. Rules common to the accepted parliamentary practice shall govern the procedure of this Council.

Section 11. The Board shall appoint a program committee of at least three who shall arrange a program for campmeeting services.

ARTICLE XII

License and Credentialing Procedure

Anyone desiring to affiliate with the Council, with headquarters at Meridian, Idaho, as a licensed minister, may request an application form. Any man may apply for one of two types of ministerial licenses: (1) pastoral minister, namely, the candidate is actively serving in a pastoral role in a congregation; and (2) lay-minister, namely, the candidate is serving in a layperson capacity, for example: prison ministry, itinerant teacher/preacher, evangelism/outreach, etc. While the general requirements, adherence to the Code of Conduct, and duties of a minister apply to both types of licenses, an individual serving in a pastoral role is deemed to have a wider scope of duties, carry more responsibility and thus have a higher expectation of knowledge, maturity and accountability.

Copies of the completed application shall be sent by the Chairman of the L&C Committee to each of the members of the committee for review. Eligibility for licensing will be based on the following: (1) the responses in the application; (2) recommendation by a minister currently licensed or credentialed by the Council, who is able to vouch for the character and ministry qualifications of the applicant; and (3) Any additional information received during due diligence.

Applications will be considered as they are received. The L&C Committee shall post a list of eligible applicants in two consecutive issues of the ACTS magazine, allowing ample opportunity for any individual to voice their recommendation or disapproval of any applicant under consideration. The L&C Committee will consider any recommendations or disapprovals so voiced as part of the final assessment of applicants. All applicants approved by the L&C Committee shall be recommended to the Board of Directors for final approval. Each applicant must receive a majority vote of the Council Board for approval.

Licenses issued by the Council shall be honored for a maximum of five years and may be revoked by the General Council Board at any time for just cause. The L&C Committee shall review all licenses and credentials every five years for renewal at the annual campmeeting starting in 2026.

A licensed minister is an associate member of the Ministerial Council and not a voting member. Licensed ministers may participate in all discussions and debates, serve on committees, present reports to the Ministerial Body, and act in an advisory capacity.

A licensed minister is eligible to become a credentialed minister after being licensed for five years. Only credentialed ministers are eligible for leadership positions and have voting privileges in the Ministerial Council.

In the event a local congregation or an isolated small group submits for consideration the name of a person not normally considered qualified for full recommendation as a licensed minister, but who is the recognized leader of their group, a "provisional license" may be granted which shall be valid only when working with the group designated on the license. Provisional licenses shall be issued for two years, renewable upon recommendation of the L&C Committee and approval by the Council Board. Provisional licensees will not be considered members of the Ministerial Council and would not be eligible to become a credentialed licensed minister.

ARTICLE XIII

Amendment

These By-laws may be amended at any regular session of the Council by a two-thirds vote of those voting, subject to advance notification. Advance notification will be made by:

- Discussion at the previous annual business meeting.
- Printed notice in two (2) issues of the ACTS magazine prior to campmeeting, to be printed and mailed within 3 months of campmeeting.

ARTICLE XIV

Young People's Organization

The official name of the Young People's Department of General Council Churches of God (Seventh Day) Inc., Headquarters Meridian, Idaho with headquarters at Meridian, Idaho, is The Christian Youth.

The Christian Youth shall be recognized as a permanent part of the Council, to be directed by a committee of seven, with a Secretary-treasurer. Their committee shall be elected to serve terms of two years, which shall be staggered so that no more than four committee members shall be elected each year.

The members of the Christian Youth shall consist of all members of the Church of God between the ages of thirteen and thirty. The committee of seven shall be elected by the qualified members of the Christian Youth at their annual meeting to be held in conjunction with the Council.

The selection of the committee shall be subject to the approval of the Council Board.

The seven committeemen shall select one member to act as Chairman and to preside over all business meetings of the Christian Youth for one year.

The minutes of the business sessions of the Christian Youth shall be the property of the Council and shall be filed with the Secretary of the Council at the close of the annual meeting. The seven committeemen shall be voting members, but the Secretary shall act in an advisory capacity only.

This department shall have and exercise such powers and duties as may hereafter be approved by the Council or the Board of Directors, together with such other powers and duties as may properly be assumed in the process of their meetings when not conflicting with the Articles or By-laws of the Council. The National Youth Organization shall encourage each local assembly to organize their own local Christian Youth Organization with officers. As in the Council belief and practice such affiliation will not in any way deprive the individual church groups of local autonomy or affect the control of local property or funds.

ARTICLE XV

Daughters of the King

The Daughters of the King shall be recognized as a permanent part of the Council, to be directed by officers consisting of a President, Vice President, and three Committeewomen. The President and Vice President shall be elected concurrent with that of the President of the Council. The remaining 3 Committeewomen will be elected for 3-year terms in the years following the election of the President and Vice President. The duties of Secretary and Treasurer may be fulfilled by one person. These duties may be fulfilled by one of the committeewomen or a non-Board member appointed by the DOK board who should be available during DOK meetings. The members of the Daughters of the King shall consist of all Sisters of the Church of God sixteen and older. The officers shall be elected by the active members of the Daughters of the King at their annual meeting to be held in conjunction with the Council meeting. The officers shall be voting members throughout the year.

This organization shall have and exercise such powers and duties as may hereafter be provided by the Council or the Board of Directors, together with such other powers and duties as may properly be assumed in the process of their meetings when not conflicting with the articles of by-laws of the Council.

ARTICLE XVI

Maranatha College

The official name of the Bible College of the Council shall be Maranatha College. The purpose of the Maranatha College is to train ministers to promote the gospel within the Council. Maranatha College shall be recognized as a part of the Council, to be directed by the Board of Education.

ARTICLE XVII

Board of Education

The Board of Education shall have one member from the Board of Directors and two members from the Ministerial Council who shall serve as the administrators. The Board of Education members shall be appointed by the board of directors to serve terms of two years, staggered to prevent no more than two appointed in one year. The Board of Education shall have all authority to hire personnel, set budgets, set enrollment performance, graduation standards, raise funds, and otherwise determine the direction of the College. They are expected to obtain advice from the Dean of Instruction, as well as the Council and Board of Directors.

Performance of the College shall be the responsibility of the Board of Education. It shall have and exercise such powers and duties as are normal for such a board, and should leave the everyday running of the college up to skilled individuals who are hired for that purpose. Protocols and Procedures for the Board of Education shall be in a separate document.

ARTICLE XVIII Ministerial Council

The Ministerial Council shall be comprised of ministers licensed by the Council and its affiliates. The Ministerial Council is to be established in accordance with biblical principles in order to formulate its vision and foundation. It is to work in conjunction with the Council board and to effectively pursue unity in spirit within the church itself. The Ministerial Council shall be recognized as a permanent part of the Council to be directed by officers consisting of President, Vice President and Secretary-Treasurer. The Ministerial Council is to develop tools to assist affiliated churches and individuals to fulfill spiritual needs and to make disciples of their members. This would include sharing historical values held by the members of the church.

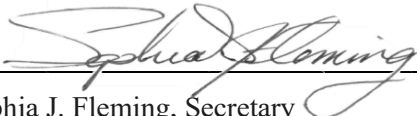
The By-Laws and Constitution was updated and approved by the Council on July 7, 2023 and the signatures of the Council Board President and Secretary attest to the accuracy of the amendments as adopted.



07/21/2026

Steve Boone, President

Date



07/21/2026

Sophia J. Fleming, Secretary

Date

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