

IAM International Association of Ministries, Inc.

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INTERNATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF MINISTRIES, INC.

TABLE OF CONTENTS

FOREWARD	3
CONSTITUTION	5
Preamble	5
Mission Statement	5
Purpose	5
Articles	6
Name	6
Purposes	6
Membership	6
Relationship	6
Meetings of Members	7
Officers	7
Trustee/Advisors	7
Committees	7
Pecuniary Gain or Profits	7
Corporate Debt	7
Corporate Seal	7
Fiscal Year	8
Amendments	8
BY LAWS	
Articles:	9
Purposes & Duties	9
Executive Board	9
Qualifications	10
Membership & Credentials	10
Finances	12
Articles of Faith	12
Discipline	12
Procedures for Business Meetings	12
Local Churches	13
Amendments	14
STATEMENT OF FAITH & ETHICS	
Articles of Faith	15
Church Government	15
Ordination & Licensing Procedures	16
Screening & Membership Requirements	16
Ethical Guidelines	17
Church Discipline	18
Financial Policies	18
GOALS & PURPOSES	19
MEMBERSHIP OPPORTUNITIES	19
GENERAL ORDINATION / LICENSING PROCEDURES	20

FOREWARD

International Association of Ministries, Inc. has been formed that we may be able to assist and encourage each other, as well as all present, merging, and potential ministries.

It is our heart's desire to love and honor the Lord our God with all our redeemed heart, spirit, soul and body; practice genuine love for one another; demonstrate true discipleship; live and walk before all men as exemplary in godliness and integrity; and to preach and teach the Gospel of our risen Lord Jesus Christ throughout all nations of the world for His eternal glory.

Our vision is to establish and reproduce worldwide inter-related churches and ministries as local expressions of Jesus Christ.

Our goal is for each minister, missionary, church and ministry to experience true visitation and revival.

We seek to accomplish this goal through:

- A. Personal and corporate prayer, covenant commitment to each other, and working together effectively in unity through the power of the Holy Spirit.
- B. Personal and corporate repentance of sin and renewal of our first love for Jesus Christ.
- C. Maintaining traditional doctrinal purity and stability while seeking and embracing current revealed truth; thereby staying on the cutting edge of what the Holy Spirit is doing today.
- D. Providing ministerial fellowship and accountability, meeting all legal, local and national requirements for non-profit religious status, duly recognized by state & federal governments.
- E. Building scriptural relationships with other ministers, missionaries, churches and ministries of like faith.
- F. Providing spiritual encouragement, mature counsel, fathering oversight and brotherly accountability for spiritual safety and personal checks and balances.
- G. To provide resources of prayer, financial and practical support.
- H. Building and establishing valid qualified ministry teams to network with established credible ministries and ministerial associations to serve both at home and worldwide.
- I. Providing opportunity for restoration of fallen ministers, missionaries and churches through scriptural correction, counsel and loving fellowship.
- J. Recognizing all functioning ministers and ministries within the body of Christ.
- K. Helping each minister, missionary, church and ministry, identify, recognize and implement their God-given calling.

Based on Romans 16 and Ephesians 4:6, we believe that it is essential as an association to have undivided unity.

Based on Romans 14:1, 4, 12 and 22 in nonessential beliefs, we must grant and practice liberty.

Based on I Corinthians 13:2 and I Peter in all differences of belief, we must demonstrate tolerant charity.

Biblical terms that affect our belief attitudes are:

- A. Cult and cult doctrines
- B. False doctrines
- C. Damnable doctrines
- D. Devilish doctrines
- E. Heathen doctrines and practices
- F. False Christ's, false apostles, false prophets, false teachers and churches
- G. Heresies
- H. Error
- I. Strange doctrines
- J. Divisive doctrines
- K. Traditions of men

INTERNATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF MINISTRIES, INC

CONSTITUTION

PREAMBLE

Recognizing the need of churches and ministers to be actively involved in an edifying and encouraging fellowship, which establishes sound doctrinal local churches according to the Statement of Faith here with attached; be it hereby RESOLVED; we establish ourselves as INTERNATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF MINISTRIES, Inc. In all matters of business the local churches involved in membership of this fellowship will remain autonomous.

MISSION STATEMENT

Our mission is to love and honor the Lord our God with all our human and redeemed heart, spirit, soul and body; to genuinely love one another fervently as brethren and thereby display true discipleship; to live and walk before all men as exemplary disciples of Jesus Christ in godliness, ethics and integrity; to preach and teach the Gospel of our risen Lord Jesus Christ and establish the Kingdom of God throughout all nations of the world for His eternal glory!

PURPOSE

Our purpose is to assist and encourage present, emerging and potential ministries through providing:

- A. A ministerial fellowship duly recognized by State and Federal Government and meeting all legal, local and national requirements for non-profit religious status;
- B. Scriptural relationship building possibilities with other ministers, ministries, and churches of like faith, vision, goals, and practices;
- C. Spiritual encouragement, mature counsel, fathering oversight and brotherhood levels of accountability for spiritual safety and personal checks and balances;
- D. Provide resources of prayer, financial and practical support; in teaching, pioneering, planting and maintaining new local churches by building and developing ministry teams through leadership training, evangelistic and missionary opportunities and endeavors in cooperating together in scriptural strategies;
- E. Building and establishing valid qualified ministry teams and networking together with established credible ministries and ministerial associations to achieve global infiltration;
- F. Correcting, loving, restoration of, rebuilding and strengthening wounded fallen ministers, missionaries and churches;
- G. Recognition of all various functioning ministers and ministries regardless of gifting or calling, who seek identity with an existing body of legitimate ministers and choose to be knit together for inclusion but not to the exclusion of those individuals outside official identity with us.
- H. To help each minister, ministry, church and missionary to identify, recognize and implement their God given calling, and thereby fulfill their purpose and destiny.

ARTICLE I - NAME

The name of the corporation shall be "INTERNATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF MINISTRIES, Inc".

ARTICLE II - PURPOSES

The purpose of the INTERNATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF MINISTRIES, Inc shall be:

1. To establish an affiliation of churches and congregations for the purpose of proclaiming the full Gospel of the Lord Jesus Christ.
2. To establish a membership of recommended missionaries, churches, ministers, and ministries.
3. To set apart, license, and/or ordain qualified individuals for the ministry.
4. To provide, promote, and encourage the active support of the local pastors through a series of attended meetings and seminars.
5. To provide encouragement and assistance of new churches and ministries.
6. To provide advice and counsel to local pastors on matters of incorporation, constitutions and by-laws, formulation of necessary church policies, and maintenance of church records.
7. To publish and distribute religious literature.
8. To encourage the establishment, and maintenance of Christian schools, Bible schools, orphanages, and homes for the aged, infirm, and needy.
9. To buy, handle, and sell properties.

ARTICLE III - MEMBERSHIP

Voting membership in this fellowship shall be composed of all those holding current credential certificates.

ARTICLE IV - RELATIONSHIP

Each local church is sovereign in its own right, the policy being one of mutual helpfulness. Each local affiliated church in association or fellowship with, or as a member of International Association of Ministries, Inc. shall be held as entirely sovereign and shall at all times and in all matters endeavor to promote and fulfill the purposes of this Association and shall conduct its work and affairs in compliance with the Constitution and By-Laws and Articles of Incorporation of International Association of Ministries, Inc. Each affiliated church shall have the privilege of making additional rules and regulations for local church administration not otherwise prescribed and which do not conflict with the spirit of the Constitution and By-Laws of International Association of Ministries, Inc.

International Association of Ministries, Inc. shall not hold, enforce, or in any way exercise any prerogative which shall be held by any court or body to be its legal right with the exception of only such prerogatives as shall be specifically delegated to this association by the affiliated church. Such specific prerogatives shall be returned in entirety to the affiliate church upon a two-thirds vote of its membership, providing any and all obligations to International Association of Ministries, Inc. has been dispatched.

The Charter of any affiliate church may be revoked at any time by a resolution of the Executive Board of the fellowship, when the church has been found guilty of failure or refusal to comply with the Constitution and By-Laws and Articles of this association.

ARTICLE V - MEETINGS OF MEMBERS

The annual meeting of the membership of this corporation shall convene annually at the first fellowship meeting of the year.

ARTICLE VI - OFFICERS

The Executive Officers of this corporation shall be:

1. President - Executive Chairman
2. Vice President - Executive Vice President
3. Secretary Treasurer - Executive Secretary Treasurer

ARTICLE VII - TRUSTEE/ADVISORS

The trustees of this corporation shall consist of at least two (2) in number, appointed by the Executive Board from the membership, whose term of office shall run concurrently with their executive term: Chairman, Vice Chairman, and Executive Secretary Treasurer.

ARTICLE VIII - COMMITTEES

The Executive Board shall designate whatever committees are necessary for the function of this fellowship.

ARTICLE IX - PECUNIARY GAIN OR PROFITS

No part of the net earnings, or assets of the fellowship, on dissolution or otherwise, shall inure to be benefit of any private person or individual or any member or director of this corporation, and on liquidation or dissolution all assets of this corporation remaining after paying or providing for all debts and obligations shall be distributed and paid over to such fund, foundation, or corporation organized and operated for charitable, religious or educational purposes, and exempt under Section 501(c) (3) of the Internal Revenue Code which states:

"An organization may qualify for exemption from Federal income tax if it is organized and for such purposes as will best accomplish the general purposes for which International Association of Ministries Inc. was organized."

ARTICLE X - CORPORATE DEBT

The private property of members shall be exempt from any corporate debts.

ARTICLE XI - CORPORATE SEAL

The corporate seal shall bear the following wording " International Association of Ministries, Inc."

ARTICLE XII - FISCAL YEAR

The fiscal year of the fellowship shall begin on the first day of January each year.

ARTICLE XIII - AMENDMENTS

Amendments of the Constitution and By-Laws of International Association of Ministries, Inc. may be amended at the annual meeting of the membership by a two-thirds vote of the members present and in good standing and voting at the annual membership meeting.

Any proposed Constitution and By-Law changes to be voted upon at the annual membership meeting, shall be sent in writing to the membership thirty (30) days preceding the annual business meeting of the fellowship.

The Constitution and By-Laws of the fellowship may be amended by the Executive Board of the fellowship at a special meeting called by the Chairman of the Executive Board for the specific purpose of amending the Constitution and By-Laws.

The amendments of the Constitution and By-Laws by Executive Board shall be by two-thirds vote of the Executive Board.

Any proposed amendment to be voted upon by the Executive Board shall be sent in writing thirty (30) days preceding the special membership meeting of the Executive Board to vote upon amending the Constitution and By-Laws.

INTERNATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF MINISTRIES, Inc

BY-LAWS

ARTICLE I - PURPOSES AND DUTIES

1. The executive officers shall be presented to the general membership either for election or reaffirmation every five years at an annual meeting of the fellowship. They shall hold office until their successors are elected. In the event of death, resignation, or disability of the Executive Chairman, the Executive Vice-Chairman shall succeed.

The officers of this fellowship shall be:

Executive Chairman

Executive Vice-Chairman

Executive Secretary-Treasurer

2. In the event that a vacancy occurs in any other office, the Executive Board shall appoint an immediate successor to fill the office until the Annual Convention.
3. The duties of the Executive Chairman shall be to officially represent the fellowship. He shall preside over all sessions of the Executive Board. He shall preside as the Chairman of the deliberation of the Annual Convention. He shall sign and attest all Charters of Affiliated Churches and all ministerial certificates. He shall be an ex-officio member of all committees. In his absence the Executive Vice-Chairman shall preside.

In addition: He shall be a member of the I.A.M. Apostolic team. He will coordinate regional fellowship meetings. He will assist the Spiritual Overseer on issues of spiritual oversight, doctrine, and all matters related to the oversight of the organization. He will assist in interpreting and reinforcing fellowship policies and disciplinary actions. All these activities will be done in direct communication & oversight of the Spiritual Overseer.

4. The duties of the Executive Vice-Chairman shall be those that are specifically delegated to him by the Executive Chairman and the Executive Board and in the absence of or disability of the Executive Chairman, perform the duties of the Chairman.
5. The duties of the Executive Secretary-Treasurer shall be to maintain a complete membership of ministers, missionaries, and churches. He shall be custodian of all legal documents and be in possession of the corporate seal. He shall have supervision of all financial records of the Fellowship, and any other designated responsibilities by the Executive Chairman. He will act as Chairman of the Finance Committee. And shall deposit and disburse all funds in a manner prescribed by the Executive Board.
6. A majority of votes of cast at the Annual Convention shall be required for an election of these offices.
7. It is required that no person shall hold any office unless they have been a member of the fellowship in good standing for at least two (2) years.

ARTICLE II - EXECUTIVE BOARD

1. The Executive Board shall consist of at least five (5) members. They shall include the Executive Chairman, Executive Vice-Chairman, Executive Secretary-Treasurer and at least two (2) Trustee/advisors from the constituency.

2. The duties of the Executive Board shall include the administrative responsibility of the fellowship. They shall approve all applications for membership. It shall be their responsibility to take care of all applications for membership. It shall be their responsibility to take care of all business not specifically given to another board or officer.
3. They shall be responsible for the planning of all conventions, seminars, and fellowship meetings.
4. They shall prepare an order of business, a proposed budget, and an agenda for the Annual Convention and handle all legal matters.
5. They shall be authorized to create, establish, or appoint any other necessary boards or committees for proper execution of the business work and ministry of the fellowship.
6. Any Executive Board Office may be declared vacant by an act of the majority of the existing Board at a regular or special business meeting if evidence is sufficiently given for the following reasons:
 - A. Unbecoming and unscriptural conduct.
 - B. Radical departure from the tenets of faith of the Association.
 - C. Radical departure from the constitution, By-Laws, and purposes of this Association.
 - D. Incompetent in office.
 - E. Causing division among members.

ARTICLE III - QUALIFICATIONS

Only those holding valid and current Minister's Certificates with the International Association of Ministries shall be eligible to hold the office of Executive Chairman, Executive Vice-Chairman, Executive Secretary-Treasurer, and Trustees or the Chairmanship of any standing committee of International Association of Ministries, Inc.

ARTICLE IV - MEMBERSHIP AND CREDENTIALS

Section 1 - Definition

A. There shall be three (3) classifications of members and credentials in the International Association of Ministries, Inc.:

(1) Ministers

- a. Ordained
- b. Licensed

(2) Affiliate Church Membership

(3) Affiliate Ministry Membership

Section 2 - Procedure for Membership

Applicants will normally be licensed on a one-year basis prior to ordination and ordination approval will be based on satisfactory performance during the prior year.

A. Application for credentials shall be made in writing upon the standard forms, and submitted to International Association of Ministries, Inc.

- B. Applications will be reviewed by the Executive Board for approval. The Board at their discretion may require the personal examining of candidates.
- C. Credentials must be renewed annually and accompanied by the standard renewal fee.
- D. Credentials shall be valid only when accompanied by a dated affiliation card.
- E. Voting constituency present at the annual meeting shall include all current, credentialed members.

Section 3 - Requirements for Ordination

- A. All candidates for ordination must be of the necessary experience and qualifications, and shall have demonstrated their ability to undertake the responsibility of the ministry.
- B. No minister shall be ordained until he shall have been engaged in the active work of the ministry.
- C. First time applicants shall be ordained by the laying on of hands of a presbytery. It is suggested that at least one member of the Executive Board or a person duly authorized by the Executive Board be present.

Section 4 - Requirements for License

Licenses to Minister may be granted to those who demonstrate a genuine call of God.

Section 5 - Duties of Ordained Ministers

- A. To solemnize marriage according to the laws of the states wherein they minister.
- B. To officiate in funerals.
- C. To administer the sacraments of holy communion and water baptism by immersion.
- D. To perform all other duties consistent with the ministry.
- E. To attend one ministerial fellowship meeting a year.*
- F. If in the event it is impossible for an IAM member to attend at least one fellowship in a year he or she shall be required to contact an IAM Board member, by phone, by paper or by electronic communication and submit to the fellowship a brief annual summary of ministry activities.*

Section 6 - Duties of Licensed Ministers

- A. To officiate in funerals.
- B. To administer the sacraments of holy communion and water baptism by immersion.
- C. To perform all other duties consistent with the Gospel ministry.
- D. To attend one ministerial fellowship meeting a year.*
- E. If in the event it is impossible for an IAM member to attend at least one fellowship in a year he or she shall be required to contact an IAM Board member, by phone, by paper or by electronic communication and submit to the fellowship a brief annual summary of ministry activities.*

Section 7 - Revocation of Credentials

Ordination or License to Minister may be revoked by the Executive Board upon substantiation of any moral charges, serious departure from the faith, a manifest spirit of rebellion or failure to comply with membership requirements.

ARTICLE V - FINANCES

1. The Executive Secretary-Treasurer shall be responsible for all of the financial records that are set up under the authority of the Executive Board.
2. All financial records and books shall be kept at the general office of the association or by the Executive Secretary-Treasurer.
3. The travel and business related expenses for members of the Executive Board should be reimbursed for business relating to the fellowship, providing funds are available.
4. A yearly financial report shall be given at the annual meeting of the fellowship.

ARTICLE VI - ARTICLES OF FAITH

The Articles of Faith shall be attached to the Constitution and By-Laws and shall become a part of both the Constitution and the By-Laws.

ARTICLE VII - DISCIPLINE

Any scriptural charge against a member must be made in writing and signed by the accusing party(s) to the Executive Chairman. Any action taken must be made by the Executive Board.

ARTICLE VIII - PROCEDURES FOR BUSINESS MEETINGS

Being a fellowship whose emphasis is on being led by the Holy Spirit in accordance with the principles laid down in the Holy Scriptures, it becomes us to conduct our business and all transactions in the same manner. We will, first of all, in a spirit of prayer and humility, ask God to give us the mind of the Spirit, believing that He can still speak to the hearts of the people, giving them a spirit of wisdom and understanding. For this reason, meetings will not necessarily follow parliamentary procedure, with nominations and voting, but matters will be presented and the fellowship will make its will known by consensus, thus enacting the procedure established by the Church Council of Acts 15, which provides a Scriptural model, with these general principles to be followed:

1. A need or problem arose and was brought to the attention of the Elders. (Acts 15:1 - 5)
2. The Apostles and Elders came together to consider the matter. (Vs. 6)
3. A chief respected Elder gave an analysis of the situation. (Vs. 7, 8)
4. The multitude (church body) came together to hear the matter. (Vs. 12)
5. The Pastor (James, head Elder) rendered a judgment based on God's Word and the discussion of the other Elders and Apostles. (Vs. 13-21)
6. The saying pleased the Elders and the whole church. (Vs. 22)

7. Conclusion (on such a major matter) was written and made public for the whole church. (Vs. 23-29)
8. The decision made "seemed good to the Holy Ghost and us". (Vs. 28)
9. They continued the work of the Lord, based on this conclusion and decision. (Vs. 30-35)
10. God added His blessing, directing future activities, as Elders and Prophets continued to exhort, teaching and preaching the Word. (Vs. 32-35)

These ten points will be the pattern for decision-making and the general principles upon which this assembly will conduct its business meetings.

Thus, accepted standards of Parliamentary procedure will be used only as the Chairman may deem necessary to insure order and efficiency. This is in keeping with honoring Christ as the Head of the Church and submitting to His will and direction as revealed through the ministry of the Holy Spirit and Scriptures.

Democracy, a time-honored institution in America, is perhaps the best system of government in the secular world, if not the most efficient. It works well in a natural world when men do not trust one another and need representation with checks and balances, where men are not divinely called to their office and where there is no better, higher or more noble system available. However, we believe God has given a plan for His people which allows Him to still direct the affairs of men through the leadership of the Holy Spirit, by people chosen for their office and ministry.

ARTICLE IX - LOCAL CHURCHES

1. Local churches who qualify for affiliation with the International Association of Ministries, Inc., according to the provisions of Article (6) (c) will receive a membership certificate identifying them as "Affiliated with the International Association of Ministries, Inc." These certificates are annually renewable on a calendar year basis.
2. Local churches should conform to the fellowship principles and procedures as set forth in the constitution, particularly those procedures for receiving, accounting and disbursing of all funds. A secretary shall take and preserve minutes from all business meetings. A treasurer shall keep records of finances received and disbursed. (These two officers can be combined into one if necessary.)
3. Affiliated churches shall be recognized as tax-exempt non-profit organizations with the United States Internal Revenue Department. It is required that their Constitution and By Laws contain the following provisions:
 - A. The church is a member of the International Association of Ministries, Inc.
 - B. All church properties are the property of the local church, not individually owned, and are irrevocably devoted to church work.
 - C. No part of the net income may inure to the benefit of any private individual.
 - D. This local church is organized according to the General Non-Profit Laws of this State. The property of the church organization is irrevocably dedicated to religious and charitable purposes, and upon liquidation, dissolution or abandonment, after all financial liabilities have been paid in full, all assets shall be distributed to an organization, foundation or fund, organized and operated for religious or charitable purposes and qualified for tax exemption purposes according to the National Tax Exempt Code. At the time of dissolution the Board of this Assembly shall decide upon a recipient non-profit organization whose principles agree in general with this constitution and doctrinal statements, and the proceeds shall not accrue to the benefit of any private person or individual.

- E. Provision for accurate keeping of minutes of business meetings and financial records, by authorized or elected officers of the church.
4. The church shall provide the National Office of the International Association of Ministries, Inc., with two (2) copies of their constitution and By-Laws and two (2) copies of the State Charter. The local church shall have the privilege of making additional rules and regulations for the local church administration, but it must contain the vital provisions of Article IV (of Constitution) to have group coverage.
 5. The fellowship desires to encourage all men called of God to fulfill their ministry. It does not sit in judgment on those who have made mistakes, but leaves them with God. It is strongly recommended that when situations requiring discipline arise that ministers and churches follow the biblical method laid down by Christ and that every effort be put forth to secure reconciliation.
 6. Sovereignty and ethics: The sovereignty of the local church must not be violated as noted in Article IV of the constitution, "Relationship". Ministers and evangelists shall be perfectly free to go to all cities and places where God may lead them. Churches are perfectly free to cooperate, or not to cooperate, in special meetings. Churches and evangelists will be free to carry on their own missionary endeavors as God may lead them. It should be understood that all ministers are free to hold meetings in communities or cities as God may lead them. All ministers however, are obligated to function with ministerial courtesy and ethics. Their conduct should at all times exemplify a minister of Christ.

ARTICLE XII - AMENDMENTS

Amendments of the By-Laws of International Association of Ministries, Inc., may be amended at the annual meeting of the membership by two-thirds vote of the members present and in good standing.

Any proposed By-Law changes to be voted upon at the annual meeting must be presented to the membership 30 days preceding the annual business meeting of the fellowship.

All portions of the By-Laws that in any way conflict with the Articles of Incorporation or the Constitution of the International Association of Ministries, Inc., are hereby null and void.

INTERNATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF MINISTRIES, INC

STATEMENT OF FAITH and ETHICS

I. ARTICLES OF FAITH - Principles of Faith

- A. The Unity of the Godhead and the Trinity of the Persons therein. Num 6: 22 - 27; Isa 6:3; Matt 3:16, 28:19; Jn 15:26; I Jn 5:7
- B. The Divine Inspiration and Authority of the Holy Scriptures. II Tim 3:16; II Pet 1:21
- C. The Depravity of Human Nature. The Necessity of Repentance and Regeneration. The Eternal Doom of the Impenitent.
1. Depravity - Jn 3:3 - 6; Gen 3:1 - 19; Psa 51:5; Jer 13:23; Rom 3:10 - 18; Eph 2:1 - 3; I Jn 5:19
 2. Repentance - Acts 2:38, 17:30; Matt 3:2; Mk 1:15, 6:12
 3. Regeneration - Jn 1:13, 3:3; I Jn 3:9, 5:1 - 2; II Pet 1:4
 4. Eternal Punishment - Lk 20:35 - 36; Acts 24:15; Mk 9:45 - 46; Rev 14:10 - 11, 19:20, 20:10, 21:8
- D. Christ's Virgin Birth, Sinless Life, Atoning Death, Resurrection, Abiding Intercession, His Second Coming and Millennial Reign on Earth.
1. His Birth - I Tim. 3:16; Jn. 1:1; Col. 1:15; Heb 1:3; Rev 1:8
 2. His Life - Jn 8:46, 14:30; Lk 1:35; Phil 2:6 - 8; Heb 4:15, 7:26; I Pet 2:22
 3. His Death - II Cor 5:18; Eph 1:17; Rom 3:25
 4. His Resurrection - Matt 28:5 - 6; Mk 16:6; Lk 24:6 - 7 & 15; Jn 20:3 - 8; Rom 1:4, 6:9; I Cor 15:4
 5. His Ascension and Abiding Intercession - Acts 2:36; Eph 1:20, 21; Phil 2:9 - 11; Heb 2:17, 9:11 & 24
 6. His Return and Reign - I Thes 4:16 - 17; II Thes 4:8; Tit 2:11 - 15; I Jn 3:2 - 3; Heb 12:14; Matt 23: 39, 24:42 - 51; I Cor 3:11 - 15; II Cor 5:10; Rev 19:7 - 9, 20:7 -15, 22:20; Mk 13:26; Lk 21:27; Acts 1:11, 3:19 - 21; Zech 14:4; Isa 9:7
- E. The Believers Justification and Sanctification.
1. Justification - Rom 5:1 - 3
 2. Sanctification - I Cor 1:2 & 30; I Thes 5:23 - 24; Heb 4:12, 6:1; I Pet 1:16
- F. Baptism of the Holy Spirit. Acts 2:4, 10:46, 19:6
- G. Ordinances of Baptism by Immersion and the Lord's Supper.
1. Baptism - Mk 16:16; Acts 8:12, 19:5; Rom 6:3 - 11; Col 2:12; I Pet 3:21; Matt 28:19
 2. Lord's Supper - Matt 26:20 - 29; I Cor 2:23 - 24

II. CHURCH GOVERNMENT - Principles of Government

- A. God has given His Son the Lord Jesus Christ, to be Head over all things for the church, "which is His body." The Holy Spirit has been given, not to set up a democracy, but to maintain the Lordship of Christ. Eph. 1:22 - 23; Acts 2:36, 13: 1 - 4

- B. We respect and submit to the democratic form of government insofar as it's laws do not conflict with the Divine Principles set forth in God's Word. Rom 13:10; Acts 5:29
- C. We consider it the privilege and responsibility of the church to respect and submit to the theocratic form of government, i.e. Divine Government. I Sam 8:7; Lk 19:14; Rom 8:14
- D. God's Divine Order and Government is established among His people:
 - 1. Ministry gifts of Christ - Eph 4:7 - 14; Acts 14:23
 - a. Apostles - Lk 6:15; Eph 4:11
 - b. Prophets - Eph 4:11; Acts 13:1
 - c. Evangelists - Eph 4:11; Acts 21:8
 - d. Pastors - Eph 4:11; Jer 3:15
 - e. Teachers - Eph 4:11; Acts 13:1; I Cor 12:28
 - f. Elders - Acts 14:23; Tit 1:5
 - g. Deacons - Phil 1:1
 - 2. Gifts of the Holy Spirit- I Cor 12:8 - 11
 - a. The word of wisdom
 - b. The word of knowledge
 - c. Faith
 - d. Healing
 - e. Miracles
 - f. Prophecy
 - g. Discerning of spirits
 - h. Various kinds of tongues
 - i. Gift of interpretation of tongues
 - 3. Body Ministry - Rom 12:4 - 8; I Cor 12:11 - 25, 14:26
 - a. The church must receive and respect the ministries of each individual in the body, as well as each gift given with leadership responsibilities.
 - b. The work of God appointed and anointed leadership is to equip the saints for the work of the ministry.
 - c. God's purpose is to have a FUNCTIONING BODY. He has set both the ministries and the members in the body of Christ. I Cor 12:18 - 28
 - d. Each individual member is to be encouraged to know his or her ministry and be helped to function accordingly.

III. ORDINATION AND LICENSING PROCEDURES - Principles of Procedures

- A. Spiritual requirements - Acts 13:3; I Tim 4:14; Heb 6:2
 - 1. Ordination must be by a local body of believers.
 - 2. A certificate of ordination should be presented to the individual ordained at the end of the service.
- B. Legal requirements
 - 1. The ordination certificate must be registered at the County Court House.

IV. SCREENING AND MEMBERSHIP REQUIREMENTS - Principles of Qualification

- A. A member of the ministries fellowship must be:
 - 1. A person with strong convictions. Acts 2:42; Lk 1:1 - 4; II Tim 1:15, 4:12; Heb 5:12 - 14; James 1:8

2. Sound in doctrine. Titus 1:9
 3. A person of proven character. The character of the church is to a large extent determined by the character of her ministers. Isa 52:11
- B. Worthy of the Gospel:
1. In personal life. Tit. 1:7; Eph 1:4
 2. In home life. I Tim 3:4 - 5; Tit 1:8; I Pet 3:7
 3. In public life. I Tim 3:7; Acts 24:16; Eph 6: 5 - 9
 4. In church life. I Cor 4:2; I Tim 4:12, 3:15
- C. A person commended by the local church. Rom 16:17; Acts 8:14, 13:3, 15:2; I Thes 5:12
- D. A person whose ministry has been accompanied with divine confirmation. Acts 13:2; II Tim 4:5; I Cor 9:2; Matt 7:20
- V. ETHICAL GUIDELINES - Principles of Conduct
- A. Mature in love. Matt 7:20; I Jn 4:16 - 19; Jn 15:12
 - B. Remain humble. I Pet 5:5 - 6
 - C. Respect authority. I Pet 5:5
 - D. Seek to serve. I Pet 5:3
 - E. Does not dominate, gives preference to others. Rom 12:10
 - F. Is courteous. I Pet 3:8
 - G. Guards against presumption. Jas 4:15; I Cor 7:20
 - H. Follows peace with all men and holiness. Heb 12:14
 - I. Avoids strife. II Tim 2:24
 - J. Controls own spirit. Prov 16:32
 - K. Does not covet. I Pet 5:2
 - L. Forgives, because has been forgiven. Eph 4:32
 - M. Maintains unity of the Spirit. Eph 4:3
 - N. Abstains from the appearance of evil. I Thes 5:22
 - O. Has respect for the labor of others. Rom 15:20
 - P. Militant toward evil. Heb 1:9
 - Q. Willing to suffer for righteousness. I Pet 3:15
 - R. Walks worthy of the Lord. Eph 4:1

VI. CHURCH DISCIPLINE - Principles of Correction

- A. Discipline, the churches responsibility. Matt 18:15 - 18; I Cor 5:12 - 13, 2:15; I Pet 5:5; Heb 13:17
- B. Those who need to be disciplined:
 - 1. Those guilty of immoral practices. I Cor 5:1 - 13
 - 2. Those involved in false doctrine. Tit 3:10
 - 3. Those who are unruly. I Thes 5:14
 - 4. Those entertaining cult and occult practices. Eph 5:11 - 12; I Tim 3:1
- C. Guidelines for discipline:
 - 1. Discipline in a spirit of firmness. II Tim 4:2
 - 2. The discipline should fit the sin. Tit 1:13; I Cor 5:13
 - 3. Break fellowship with the individual only when they refuse to be restored, but do not count them an enemy. II Thes 3:14 - 15; Matt 18:17
 - 4. Excommunication an extreme form of discipline. I Cor 5:1 - 7, 13; I Jn 5:16
 - 5. The ultimate end of all discipline is peace and restoration, not the meeting out of justice. II Cor 10:8, 13:10; Rom 12:19
- D. Purpose of discipline:
 - 1. To protect the local body of believers. I Cor 5:6
 - 2. To promote spiritual growth and development. Heb 12:10 - 11
 - 3. To effect repentance. II Cor 7:8 - 16
 - 4. To effect cleansing and healing of the inner man. Gal 6:1; I Jn 2; Psa 51
 - 5. To recommission the restored believer. Lk 22:54 - 62; Acts 2:14; Col 1:27
- E. Those qualified to exercise discipline:
 - 1. An individual of spiritual maturity. I Cor 2:15
 - 2. An individual who has judged himself or herself. Matt 7:1 - 5
 - 3. An individual of good report from without. I Tim 3:7
 - 4. An individual of proven character from within. I Tim 3:1 - 7; I Pet 5:3
 - 5. An individual with capacity to empathize with those who have fallen. Gal 6:1 - 2
 - 6. An individual who lives without partiality. Jas 2: 7 - 13

VII. FINANCIAL POLICIES - Principles of Support

- A. Registration fee
- B. Support of fellowship expenses
- C. Free will offerings
- D. Annual renewal

INTERNATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF MINISTRIES, Inc.

GOALS & PURPOSES

- A. Provide spiritual covering for present ministry.
- B. Provide strong spiritual fellowship base for encouragement.
- C. Provide presbytery for counsel and decision-making.
- D. Provide defense and protection through prayer and godly identification without dictatorship.
- E. Provide opportunity for intern ministry with seasoned ministry.
- F. Develop, encourage and maintain fellowship meetings and seminars.
- G. Provide information and guidelines for church structure, etc.
- H. Build strong local churches and assist struggling church bodies.
- I. Provide reputable organization and ministries through which funds can be sent for promotion of the Kingdom of God.
- J. To provide a clearinghouse for tax deductible funds and equipment.
- K. To recruit and encourage potential ministry.
- L. To promote overseas ministry and fellowship.
- M. Provide licensing and ordination program.
- N. To assist in Pastor - Missionary placement.
- O. Provide recommendations for legitimate ministry, such as musicians as well as preachers.
- P. Solicit materials and products to be channeled to Missionary projects and to the needy.
- Q. Stimulate Evangelism.
- R. Build strong family relationships among ministries.

MEMBERSHIP OPPORTUNITIES

- A. Ordination
- B. General Licensing
- C. Ministry Affiliation
- D. Church Affiliation

INTERNATIONAL ASSOCIATION of MINISTRIES, INC.

ORDINATION AND LICENSING PROCEDURES

Because the goal of this Ministerial Fellowship is to cooperate with and support the local church and pastor, we normally ordain or license an individual upon the recommendation of the pastor and local church leadership. The ordination then takes place within and through the structure of the local church. There are some special circumstances where we would ordain or license someone who is not currently functioning within the structure of a local church, for example an individual or couple transferring credentials from another ministerial group.

It is our purpose to make these Ordination and Licensing procedures simple and uncomplicated. Your cooperation is greatly appreciated as we endeavor to serve you and the body of Christ.

General Procedure:

1. Make an application to the International Association of Ministries, Inc. and provide all requested information along with letters of recommendation from the pastor and two other individuals.
2. When the application and information have been received by the Secretary, they will then be reviewed by the Ordination and Licensing Committee. During this process, phone calls may be made to the applicant, the pastor and the references.
3. In most cases, the applicant will receive verification of acceptance or denial within a two-week time period. We may also require an official Ordination or Licensing Service where hands are laid upon the applicant for public recognition before certificates are given. If all is in order, the credentials are sent out as soon as possible.