# The

# **ARTICLES OF FELLOWSHIP**

of the

# SoCAL WOMEN IN MINISTRY FELLOWSHIP

of the

Southern California District Council of the Assemblies of God

Adopted on: November 16, 2006

Revised on: November 18, 2010

### WOMEN IN MINISTRY FELLOWSHIP

#### ARTICLES OF FELLOWSHIP

#### **PREAMBLE**

- WHEREAS, the District Presbytery of the Southern California District Council of the Assemblies for a Women in Ministry fellowship group which was formed for the purpose of meeting, exchanging information and networking with other women in ministry, and
- WHEREAS, there is a desire expressed by a number of women ministers in the Southern California District Council of the Assemblies of God to form a district fellowship, and
- WHEREAS, regular meetings have been conducted to move toward this goal, and
- WHEREAS, it was requested by the District Superintendent as well as some of the Women In Ministry Fellowship Group's ministers that a meeting be convened through the office of the District Superintendent for the purpose of officially forming the SoCal Women in Ministry Fellowship Group of the Southern California District Assemblies of God; therefore, be it

RESOLVED that we agree to adopt and be governed by the following Articles of Fellowship.

#### ARTICLE I. NAME

The name shall be the SoCal Women in Ministry Fellowship of the Southern California District of the Assemblies of God.

# ARTICLE II. TERRITORY

The Women in Ministry Fellowship of the Southern California District of the Assemblies of God shall include the entire Southern California District.

## ARTICLE III. NATURE

The Women in Ministry Fellowship of the Southern California District of the Assemblies of God is a voluntary cooperative fellowship based on mutual agreements voluntarily entered into by its members.

ARTICLE IV. GOALS

- 1. To establish a grass root network of women ministers that will serve as both a resource and support net for women in the ministry.
- 2. To promote mentoring among women holding credentials, newly credentialed women and women seeking credentials.
- To increase the visibility of women ministers, thereby promoting open doors for women in ministry and providing role models for young women in our fellowship who feel the call of God on their lives.

## ARTICLE V. TENETS OF FAITH

The SoCal Women in Ministry Fellowship of the Southern California District of the Assemblies of God adopts the Statement of Fundamental Truths adopted by the General Council of the Assemblies of God, U.S.A.

## ARTICLE VI. RELATIONSHIPS

The SoCal Women in Ministry Fellowship as an integral part of the Southern California District Council of the Assemblies of God, a non-profit, religious corporation with headquarters in Irvine, California is subordinate and amenable to the District Presbytery. Its officers shall be amenable to the District Superintendent and shall conduct themselves in a manner that shall contribute to the harmonious development of the whole Southern California District Council Fellowship. The SoCal Women in Ministry Fellowship will be recognized upon approval of the District Presbytery.

#### ARTICLE VII. MEMBERSHIP

### **Section 1. Individual Members**

All credentialed women ministers holding accredited fellowship certificates from the General Council, including those holding Ordained, License to Preach, Specialized Ministries License, and Certified Minister credentials from the Southern California District Council may be members of the SoCal Women in Ministry Fellowship of the Southern California District Council of the Assemblies of God.

#### **Section 2.** Associate Members

All women who are seeking credentials with the Southern California District Council of the Assemblies of God, as well as women who are actively involved in Assemblies of God churches or ministries, may be Associate Members of the SoCal Women in Ministry Fellowship of the Southern California District of the Assemblies of God.

## **Section 3. Voting Members**

a. All Assemblies of God credentialed women ministers as described in section 1 who choose to belong to the SoCal Women in Ministry Fellowship of the Southern California District of the Assemblies of God shall have the privilege of voice and vote in the official business meetings of the SoCal Women in Ministry Fellowship of the Southern California District council of the Assemblies of God.

### **ARTICLE VIII. MEETINGS**

#### **Section 1. Biennial Business Meeting.**

There shall be a Biennial business meeting of the fellowship, at which time the election of officers shall take place and the reports of all officers shall be read. The time and place shall be announced by the officers and approved by the District Superintendent. Due notice shall be given 30 days immediately prior to the date of said meeting. The meeting shall be chaired by the District Superintendent or his representative.

## Section 2. Special Business Meetings.

Special business meetings of the Fellowship may be called when necessary after notice has been given 30 days prior to the date of the meeting by the President or by the Secretary of the Fellowship, provided the meeting has been agreed upon by a majority of the elected officers and approved by the District Superintendent. Special meetings may also be called by a petition having been signed by not less than one-third of the active membership of the Fellowship provided the meeting has been approved by the District Superintendent. The petition is to be placed in the hands of the District Superintendent, President, or the Secretary and announcement made at least one month prior to the date of the meeting. The meeting shall be chaired by the District Superintendent or his representative.

# Section 3. Quorum.

All those officers and members who are present at any special or regular business meeting which has been duly called shall constitute a quorum.

# **Section 4. Fellowship Meetings**

The SoCal Women in Ministry Fellowship will hold regular meetings.

#### Section 5. Order of Business.

The regular order of business for the biennial meeting of the Fellowship shall be as follows:

- 1. Devotional
- 2. Reading of previous minutes by Secretary
- 3. Reports of:
  - a. President
  - b. Vice President
  - c. Treasurer
- 4. Reports of Committees
- 5. Unfinished business
- 6. Election of officers
- 7. New business
- 8. Adjournment

## ARTICLE IX. OFFICERS

The Executive Committee of the Women in Ministry Fellowship of the Southern California District of the Assemblies of God shall consist of a President, Vice President, Secretary, and Treasurer. The officers shall be chosen from the membership. The President shall hold a certificate of ordination with The General Council of the

Assemblies of God, in good standing, of spiritual maturity and ministerial experience who shall be knowledgeable of the workings of the General Council of the Assemblies of God. The other officers may be ordained or shall hold a certificate of licensure, specialized ministries licensure or certificate of ministry with The General Council of the Assemblies of God, in good standing, of spiritual maturity and ministerial experience who shall be knowledgeable of the workings of the General Council of the Assemblies of God. Other officers may be appointed as needed by the SoCal Women in Ministry Fellowship Executive Committee. All elected officers and appointees must be ratified by the Executive Presbytery.

## **Section 1. Elections**

- a. The President shall be elected to serve for two years, or until her successor qualifies. She shall be nominated by Fellowship members by secret ballot at the annual business meeting of the Fellowship or at a special meeting called for that purpose. A simple majority vote of all votes shall be required to constitute election. She shall be an Ordained Assemblies of God minister in good standing. She may only serve two consecutive terms as President.
- b. The Vice President shall be elected from the membership of the Fellowship. She may be nominated from the floor and shall be elected by a simple majority vote at the annual business meeting. Her term of office shall be for two years from the time of election or until her successor qualifies. She shall be an ordained Assemblies of God minister in good standing. She may only serve two consecutive terms as Vice-President.
- c. The Secretary and the Treasurer shall be chosen from the membership of the Fellowship. They may be nominated from the floor and shall be elected by a simple majority vote at the annual business meeting. Their terms of office shall be for two years from the time of election or until their successors qualify. They shall be ordained, or hold a certificate of licensure, specialized ministries licensure or certificate of ministry with The General Council of the Assemblies of God. They may only serve two consecutive terms in the same position

#### **Section 2. Duties of Officers**

- a. The President shall be considered as the spiritual overseer of the Fellowship and shall direct all of its activities. She shall be the President of the Fellowship and shall lead the regular meetings of the Fellowship. She shall be an ex-officio member of all committees or departments. She shall provide for all the services of the Fellowship and shall arrange for all special meetings. No person shall be invited to speak in the Fellowship without her approval. She shall be amenable to the District Superintendent.
- b. The Vice President is chosen to serve the Fellowship and therefore shall act in an advisory capacity with the President in all matters pertaining to the Fellowship in its spiritual life and in the ministry of its ordinances. The Vice President shall act as President in her absence. She shall be amenable to the District Superintendent.
- c. The Secretary shall read the minutes of the official meetings of the Fellowship at the annual and special business meetings of the Fellowship. She shall keep a record of the membership of the Fellowship and perform other clerical functions necessary to the proper discharge of her duties. She shall be the custodian of minutes and documents. She shall be amenable to the District Superintendent.
- d. The Treasurer shall be entrusted with all the finances of the Fellowship which may be committed to it. She shall deposit all funds with the Finance Office of the Southern California District Council in the name of the Fellowship and shall disburse the same by requesting checks as authorized by the Fellowship officers. She shall make an itemized report annually at the business meeting. She shall be amenable to the District Superintendent.

#### Section 3. Vacancies

In the event that the office of President becomes vacant for any reason, a special election will be scheduled. The new elected President will be ratified by the Executive Presbytery. For all other officers, in the event that the office becomes vacant for any reason, the Executive Committee of the Women in Ministry Fellowship in consultation with the District Superintendent will appoint a member of the Fellowship to fill the unexpired term.

Any office may be declared vacant by an act of the majority of the membership at any special business meeting called for that purpose. Grounds for such action shall be: (1) unscriptural conduct, (2) doctrinal departure from the tenets of faith, (3) incompetency in office or (4) for any good and sufficient cause. Any incumbent under charges shall have opportunity for a fair and impartial hearing of her case before the Fellowship if she so desires.

## ARTICLE X. FINANCES

All funds for the maintenance of the Fellowship shall be provided by voluntary contributions, and offerings of the members and friends of the organization. Dues for individual and congregational members shall be determined at the biennial business meeting of the Fellowship. Offerings shall be received by the Fellowship at such time and in such ways as agreed upon by the President and other officers; and shall be administered by the Treasurer under the direction of the Fellowship officers.

## ARTICLE XII. AMENDMENTS

These articles may be amended at any regular or special meeting by a two-thirds vote, provided the members have been informed about the amendment at least one month prior to the meeting and must be approved by the District Presbytery.

President's Signature	Date
Vice-President's Signature	Date
Secretary's Signature	Date
Treasurer's Signature	Date