



Confraternidad de
Iglesias Cristianas U.S.A.
5642 Monterey St. San Antonio, Texas 78237

CONSTITUTIONAL DECLARATION

Whereas, it is express purpose of God to call out of, and set forth in this world, a saved people who shall constitute the body of church of Jesus Christ, built and established upon the apostles and prophets, Jesus Christ Himself being the chief cornerstone; and

Whereas, the members of the body, the church (ecclesia) , are enjoined to assemble themselves together for worship, counsel, and instruction in the word of God, and the work of the ministry, and for the exercise of those spiritual gifts and offices provided for in the New testament; and Old Testament.

Whereas, it is evident that are early apostolic churches came together in such fellowship as a representative body of saved, Holy Ghost filled believers, who ordained and sent out evangelists and missionaries, and teachers; therefore be it.

Resolved, that for the purpose of establishing and maintaining a place for worship of the almighty God, to provide for Christian fellowship for those of like faith, were Jesus Christ the son of God and the Holy Ghost may be honored, to promote worship, unity, fellowship, work and business for God; an to disprove unscriptural methods, doctrines, and conduct, endeavoring to Keep the unity of the spirit in the bond of peace, “till we all come in the unity of the faith, and of the knowledge of the Son of God, unto a perfect man, unto the measure of the stature of the fullness of Christ” Ephesians 4:13. We of CONFRATERNIDAD DE IGLESIAS CRISTIANAS HISPANA do hereby recognize ourselves as a sovereign Christian assembly, and adopt the following articles of faith and church order for the regulating of procedure, activities, and business matters pursuant to this organization, and submit ourselves to be governed by them.



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Articles of Faith

ARTICLE I. NAME

**The name of this corporation shall be
CONFRATERNIDAD DE IGLESIAS CRISTIANAS HISPANA U.S.A.**

ARTICLE II. HEADQUARTERS ADDRESS:

**5642 Monterey St.
San Antonio, TX 78237**

ARTICLE III. PREROGATIVES:

Sec. 1. This assembly shall have the right to govern itself according to the standards of the New Testament Scriptures. Ephesians 4:3-13.

Sec. 2. In connection therewith, or incidental thereto, it shall have the right to purchase or acquire by gift, bequest or otherwise, either directly or as trustees, and to own, hold in trust, sell, convey, mortgage, lease or otherwise dispose of any real state or chattels as may be necessary for the furtherance of its purpose; all in accordance with its constitution and by-laws or as the same may be thereafter modified or amended.

ARTICLE IV. ORDER OF BUSINESS

The regular Order of Business for the Conference and Annual Conventions shall be as follows:

- 1. Devotional**
- 2. Roll Call**
- 3. Reading of the previous minutes by the Secretary.**
- 4. Report of the Treasurer.**



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- 5. Report of the Committees**
- 6. Unfinished Business.**
- 7. Election of Officers.**
- 8. New Business.**
- 9. Adjournment**

ARTICLE V. DUTIES OF THE PASTOR

Section 1. SPIRITUAL LEADER.

- a) His first preoccupation should be to win soul for Christ, caring for the spiritual well-being of the church, faithfully preaching the Word of God, visiting the sick, administering the Sacraments of the Church, promote the influence of the church in the community, city or area.**
- b) He shall furthermore motivate and train lay members in personal evangelism and to the ministry of the local church.**

Section 2. DIRECTOR: He shall be the director of the local church committee, and is director ex officio in all auxiliary committees.

Section 3. PLANNING: He shall be responsible for planning and presenting a program to the church, designed to lift it spiritually, numerically, and financially.

Section 4. REPORTS: He shall make sure that all reports of the church are sent to the General Conference and shall sign them.

Section 5. ESTABLISHING DEPARTMENTS: He shall use his influence to obtain the cooperation of the church to establish extensions of Sunday school and missions according the plan given in the New Testament and in full cooperation of the Evangelist program of the General Conference.

Section 6. PROMOTIONS: He shall cooperate with Executive Officers in the promotion of the various faces and programs of the Organization and the Local Church.



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ARTICLE VII . DUTIES OF MINITERS

Section 1. It shall be the obligation of all Ministers to participate in all faces of our programs-general or local.

Section 2. All Ministers that are not serving as Officials or Pastors shall help in lifting the church through personal evangelism. When possible full time service to Evangelism should be considered.

Section 3. When assigned by the President of the Conference Ordained Ministers shall have the authority to organize churches for CONFRATERNIDAD DE IGLESIAS CRISTIANAS HISPANA U.S.A.

Section 4. Ministers should assist to all Annual Conventions and Conferences, and should report monthly with the proper forms.

Section 5. Ministers shall preach the Word of God consistently with their calling and credentials.

Section 6. It is required of all Ministers to report and give their tithes monthly to the conference treasury or the local church according to their credentials.

- (a) Full tithes means ten percent of all income. Those who do not receive a salary should pay tithes over a projected monthly income, adjusted to inventory.**
- (b) It is allowed to deduct expenses accrued in the Ministry and tithes on the rest of the income.**
- (c) The Minister that does not comply to the rules of tithing shall be treated in the following fashion:**
 - 1. If he has not reported or given tithes for three months, the President of the Conference will talk to him personally.**
 - 2. If he has not reported or given his tithes for a period of six months the Minister will be called to a hearing with the Executive Committee.**



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3. **In case he does not comply after having talked to the Executive Board or does not make satisfactory correction he shall turn in his credentials.**

Section 7. Retired Ministers may continue their Ministry through Revivals, planting new churches, replacing or assisting Pastors, Teaching in Sunday School, visitation, etc..., as the opportunity arises. Conferential Committees, Evangelism Directors, and Pastors shall be alert as the presence of these Ministers and shall use this experience and Knowledge to make their own Ministries more significant.

ARTICLE VIII. LICENSING AND ORDINATION OF MINISTERS

Section 1. CONFRATERNIDAD DE IGLESIAS CRISTIANAS HISPANA U.S.A. shall have five (5) forms of credentials: Exhorter, Christian Education and Music License, Ministerial License, Missionary Certificate, and Ordination Certificate.

- (a) **A certificate of Recognition may be given by the local church to a Minister associated full time, of Minister of Christian Education, Youth, Music, Children's ministries, Visitation, or of Evangelism, etc.**
- (b) **This certificate shall be signed by the Pastor and the Secretary of the church, and shall be recognized by CONFRATERNIDAD DE IGLESIAS CRISTIANAS HISPANA and its affiliates.**

Section 2. The Conference can at their own discretion give the licenses of Christian Education or Music to those Ministers associated full time, and have completed a prescribed study course in an accepted Bible college or Institute and/or have been rightfully examined by the Nominating Committee. They will be eligible to participate in all the benefits of the Conference to which they belong.

Section 3. The Executive Committee shall have the authority to extend or revoke a license to lay workers, (Exhorters). These things shall be considered.

- (a) **Those who wish to receive Exhorters license shall be recommended by the local church. The recommendation shall be in writing and signed by the Pastor and the Secretary.**
- (b) **The Candidate shall be sure of a definite calling to Christian service and shall have read the Bible at least once. He will be subject to an interview by the Executive Board.**



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- (c) **They will report to the Conference in writing at least twice a year, a failure to do this in one year, shall mean the termination of their licenses.**
- (d) **They will report to the conference in writing at least twice a year, a failure to do this in one year, shall mean the termination of their licenses.**
- (e) **Any Exhorter Pastoring a church will pay his tithes to the Conference and a vote will be given him in organizational Conferences or Conventions.**

Section 4. The Conference through the review of the Executive Board shall have the power to extend Ministerial Licenses and Certificates of Ordination.

- (a) **To qualify Ministerial License the Candidate must have been graduated in an CONFRATERNIDAD DE IGLESIAS CRISTIANAS HISPANA U.S.A. or the equivalent study in an accepted Bible College or Institute, and/or subject to approval of Executive Board.**
- (b) **To qualify for a Ministerial Licensee the Candidate must have been an Exhorter for at least two years, and to qualify for a Certificate or Ordination the Candidate must have been a Licensed minister for at least two years and/or subject to approval of the Executive Board.**

Section 5. The Missions Committee in accordant with the Executive Board will extend the Missionary Certificate's.

Section 6. The President will organize an appropriate service of Ordination in connection with the Conference sessions.

ARTICLE IX. MINISTERS REPLACEMENT

Section 1. MINISTERIAL REVIEW:

- (a) **Annually but not later than January 31, the church board shall meet with the Pastor to discuss the relationship between the Pastor church board, and the congregation.**



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- (b) **On or before, January 31, of each minister shall express in writing to the president his desire regarding his field or service for the next Conference year. If the Pastor thinks that a change of Pastors is advisable, he shall inform the President at this time.**

Section 2. VOTE OF CONFIDENCE:

- (a) **The Pastor or a church board may request a vote of Confidence by the local church. Such a vote will be taken the first Sunday in February, or at such a time as the Church Board may deem necessary. The day of the voting shall be announced two Sundays in advance. Absentee votes are not permitted in Pastoral vote of Confidence.**
- (b) **The President will be informed of the vote at the same time as the members of the church.**
- (c) **All the Ministers and members of the church will be subject to the naming power of the Conference. The church, however, may still submit a preference for a certain candidate, to be considered seriously by President and the Executive Board.**
- (d) **This vote of confidence applies if the founding Pastor gives the conference his vote of confidence. Any matter shall reach a prior agreement with the Pastor.**

Section 3. CANDIDATE SEARCH: The candidate(s) shall have a personal interview with the President and the Executive Board, before he is presented for final approval as a Pastor. Each newly appointed Pastor shall have a time of orientation with the President, regarding the functions and resources of CONFRATERNIDAD DE IGLESIAS CRISTIANAS HISPANA U.S.A.

Section 4. TENURE: The first call of a Pastor shall be for two Years. The ensuing call may be for an indefinite period.

Section 5. VACATION: Pastors shall be granted at least a two week vacation with pay each year exclusive of Organizational Conferences, Conventions and activities.

ARTICLE X. ORGANIZATION OF NEW CHURCHES

Section 1. Where there are ten (10) or more persons including at least six adults in one place, wishing to be organized as a church of CONFRATERNIDAD DE IGLESIAS CRISTIANAS HISPANA U.S.A. The President or his appointee shall go and organize it, along with the persons responsible for the creation of the church.



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- (a) **Prior to organizing the church all candidates shall be familiarized with the Tenets of Faith and the Constitution, with the By-Laws of CONFRATERNIDAD DE IGLESIAS CRISTIANAS HISPANA U.S.A. After they have agreed to the spirit and laws of the organization a prayer will be made and a list of members will be written.**
- (b) **Afterwards the President or this appointee will nominate a Secretary-Treasurer to be elected by the church.**
- (c) **All new churches will be under the supervision of the Executive Board until they reach and maintain a membership of at least fifteen (15) adults, or they demonstrate the ability to function satisfactorily as a local church entity. (Whichever comes first) At this time the local church Committee will be completed.**
- (d) **Guides for programs and financial rules will be adopted by the local church under the supervision of the Executive board.**

Section 2. Ministers of independent churches and organized corporation's are invited to unite itself to CONFRATERNIDAD DE IGLESIAS CRISTIANAS HISPANA U.S.A, and bring their churches in the following terms:

- (a) **When an independent church decides to be become a member of CONFRATERNIDAD DE IGLESIAS CRISTIANAS HISPANA U.S.A. it may choose one of the following methods;**
 - 1. **Vote to constitute itself a full-member church of CONFRATERNIDAD DE IGLESIAS CRISTIANAS HISPANA U.S.A.**
 - 2. **Become an "Affiliated" church with the privilege of voting to become a full-member church within two years or before. At the end of two years, or before, they would vote to become full-member and title their property in accordance with the Constitution of CONFRATERNIDAD DE IGLESIAS CRISTIANAS HISPANA U.S.A. Where progress is being made and more time is required those in power will have the privilege to extend the time.**
 - 3. **In certain churches, or board of trustees, they may ask for covering:**
 - (b) **If the Pastor of the church decides not to become a Minister of the Organization, the church may as its own request put a Minister from CONFRATERNIDAD DE IGLESIAS CRISTIANAS HISPANA U.S.A.**



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ARTICLE XI. MEMBER AND AFFILIATE CHURCHES.

Section 1. A CONFRATERNIDAD DE IGLESIAS CRISTIANAS HISPANA. Church in the meaning of this Constitution of CONFRATERNIDAD DE IGLESIAS CRISTIANAS HISPANA U.S.A. And which has been recommended for membership by the Executive Board after proper review and has been received and chartered officially by the Conference.

Section 2. It shall be the duty of a CONFRATERNIDAD DE IGLESIAS CRISTIANAS HISPANA U.S.A church to administer its affairs in accordance with this Constitution: to earnestly contend for the faith as held by this society; to recognize and cooperate with the duly appointed officers of the organization; to support the benevolences and enterprises which are assumed jointly by the churches and the Conference: to send delegates to the Conference or Conventions insofar as is reasonably possible.

Section 3. Any local church which fails to live up to the spirit of this Constitution, or which for some other sufficient reason disrupts the fellowship of the organization, shall be admonished by the President or by other persons appointed for the purpose by the Conference and the Executive Board; and if the churches fail to comply to the demands allied before it, it may after full investigation and on recommendation of the Executive Board by a 2/3 vote, be dismissed by a 2/3 vote of the Conference.

Section 4. AFFILIATE CHURCHES: Any body of people served by a Minister under the direction of the organization, yet not fully recognized as a fullmember church according to the fore-going article, may have the standing of an “affiliate” church. As such it may bear the name CONFRATERNIDAD DE IGLESIAS CRISTIANAS HISPANA U.S.A but it shall not be entitled to representation at the Conferences or Conventions apart from its Pastor *nor shall our Conferences or Conventions have no liability of said affilates. Our covering will be limited and subject to our convience.*

ARTICLE XII. LOCAL CHURCH OFFICIALS.

Section 1. LOCAL CHURCH BOARD: The board of the local church shall consist of the Pastor, Deacons and/or Deaconesses, Secretary , and treasurer. The minimum number of the Board shall be three (3).

- (a) The local church will determine the term of its officers.**
- (b) Newly elected Deacons will be ordained at the installation.**
- (c) The Pastor and the Deacons or his board of directors. will nominate a Secretary and or Treasurer to be elected by the church. These person shall have voting rights in the church board.**

ARTICLE XIII. DUTIES OF LOCAL CHURCH OFFICERS

Section 1. The Board shall assist the Pastor in the spiritual and temporal care taking of the church.

Section 2. They shall assist the Pastor and not govern over him in the spiritual and temporal care taking of the church.



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Section 3. They shall see that the elements of the Lord's Supper are provided for, that the Order is maintained in the church, and that no strange or false doctrine is preached.

- (a) No one will be taken off the membership list without getting in touch with the member in person, with the purpose of restoring him to communion of the congregation or if the Pastor makes a Pastoral decision, he may if he sees that that member is in rebellion or conflictive, or has false doctrine.
- (b) The board shall have the authority to take a member off the list after all possible means have been tried to restore that person. This does not deprive the individual of the right to appeal to the president of the Organization.
- (c) When a member moves to new locality, they will be encouraged to transfer to church with the same doctrinal belief.

Section 5. No church board will make any rules of finances that are not in accordance with the Constitution of the Conference

Section 6. The church board shall set and review the Pastor's salary at least semiannually.

Section 7. Where there is no Pastor the church board shall get in touch with the President in order to fill the position.

Section 8. It is the responsibility of the church board to investigate rumors that might be reflected on the church members, listen to complaints against them, and solve the differences without reaching judgment, whenever possible.

Section 9. DUTIES OF THE SECRETARY.

- (a) Maintain and Keep the minutes of the local church board session of business.
- (b) Maintain an up to date list of all the registered members that have joined the church, with the date of their reception and transfer.
- (c) Prepare and send reports, in the proper forms to the Conference, after they have been signed by the Pastor.



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Section 10. DUTIES OF THE TREASURER.

- (a) **Shall maintain a faithful report of all the income and expenses of the church monies.**
- (b) **Shall maintain in deposit all the monies of the local church in a bank, in the name of the church.**
- (c) **Will spend the money as authorized by the Pastor, or the local board. All expenses will be paid by check.**
- (d) **Shall give monthly report to the church and the board.**
- (e) **Failure to give report to the church or the local board shall be sufficient reason for dismissal.**
- (f) **The local church board shall have the privilege and authority of examining the church books at any time. It is recommended that any church with more than a \$20,000.00 income be examined by a Certified Public Accountant, (CPA) Whenever possible.**



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STATEMENT OF FAITH

WE BELIEVE:

HOLY WRITTING

In the Verbal Plenary Inspiration of the Bible

GOD

In One God eternally existing in three persons, the Trinity. Namely, the Father, the son, and the Holy Ghost.

That Jesus is the only begotten Son of the Father, which was conceived of the Holy Ghost and born of the Virgin Mary. That Jesus was crucified, buried, and raised from the dead. That He ascended to heaven and is today at the right hand of the Father, as the Intercessor.

GOD'S PROVISION FOR HUMANKIND

In the divine creation of the earth and humankind, in the image of God. That all have sinned and come short of the glory of God. That Salvation is through repentance and necessary for forgiveness of sins. That Justification, regeneration, and the New Birth are attained through faith in the blood of Jesus. In Sanctification subsequent to the new birth, through faith in the blood of Christ, the Word, and by the Holy Ghost. In the bodily resurrection and eternal life for the righteous, and in eternal punishment for the wicked.

In Divine Healing. All who desire should ask of the Lord and he shall heal the sick and deliver the oppressed.

In the Baptism of the Holy Ghost subsequent to a clean heart, and in speaking in tongues as the Spirit gives utterance, which is the initial evidence of the Baptism of the Holy Ghost.

In the Second Coming of Christ. In the Pre-tribulation Rapture of all believers. In the Great Tribulation that God has prepared for those who stay behind, which will end with the Battle of Armageddon. In the establishment of Christ's Millennial Kingdom and in Eternal New Heaven and New Earth. SACRAMENTS.

In Water Baptism by immersion. All who repent should be baptized in the Name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Ghost.

In the Lord's Supper. All who participate should be conscious of their need for repentance and communion with their neighbor.