

Life House Fellowship Church Constitution

Our purpose is to translate the good news of Jesus Christ into terms that everyone can understand, and then embrace through the celebration of Christ's presence, the revelation of God's Word and the liberation of the Body of Christ. We believe the Bible is the Holy Spirit-inspired Word of God and is the only source of truth. It is profitable for correction and instruction in righteousness. We believe no man should add any word to or take any word away from the Word of God. We believe that everything we need to live abundant lives is contained in the Word of God. In Him we live and breathe and have our being, therefore we exist to worship Him and to build up the Body of Christ by serving God in the ministry He has gifted us for.

Life House Fellowship Church is only one small part of the body of Christ worldwide which consists of many denominations and no divisions. We count as brothers and sisters in Christ any church which believes that Jesus Christ is Lord and the Bible as the only source for truth and life. In addition to Life House Fellowship Church's Doctrinal Statement, we believe the biblical principles outlined in The Baptist Faith and Message.

Life House Fellowship Church is governed by Elders who are elected by the congregation. Duration of the term is to be determined by the Pastor and Elders. When a new Elder is to be elected, the biblical standards for Elders are to be studied by the members of the Church. Then after studying those passages of Scripture which apply to Elders, the church members are to join themselves together in prayer, seeking whom God would have to serve in this position. After Scripture has been studied, and the church has prayed, election will take place with sealed ballots. There will be no nominations but only each member of the body of Christ voting for the name that God has laid on their heart. After writing the name on a piece of paper provided, those ballots will be collected and counted by the existing Elders. The man who received the most votes is the man who will serve as Elder, upon verification by the Senior Pastor. The governing board ("Board") of Life House Fellowship Church will consist of the Senior Pastor, the Elders, and the Staff of the church authorized by the Senior Pastor and Elders and affirmed by the church.

Any Staff of Life House Fellowship Church serving with the Elders on the governing body must meet the same biblical requirements as the Elders.

The Board must operate unanimously. If after prayer and Bible study on any given issue, any member of the Board doesn't clearly see the Lord's leadership in that issue, the Board may not proceed until everyone agrees to move forward.

The Board of Life House Fellowship Church is empowered by the body of Christ at Life House Fellowship Church to provide spiritual leadership, to guide the body of Christ, and to make certain decisions governing the future of this church. The body of Christ empowers the governing board to make decisions and purchases which involve \$5000 or less without having to come back to the church.

Decisions requiring ownership by the entire body of Christ must come back to the body of Christ in special assembly. These decisions would be, calling, removing, or vacating the position of a senior pastor, decisions involving building or real estate, purchases of more than \$5000, or

anything the Board believes should be brought back to the body of Christ. No changes shall be made to the constitution, bylaws, or the doctrinal and purpose statement of Life House Fellowship Church without the approval of the body of Christ.

The Senior Pastor is empowered by the church, in accordance with the Senior Pastor Job Description, to lead the Board, to teach, to preach, and to facilitate ministry in the church. He is empowered to make financial decisions of \$1000 or less without having to come back to the board. The Senior Pastor is accountable to the Lord first, and then, to the Board. The Board is accountable to the Lord first, and then to the Senior Pastor and then the other Board members.

All ministries and teams of Life House Fellowship Church are developed and maintained by the Board under the Spiritual Leadership and direction of the Senior Pastor.