

CONSTITUTION OF THE



JUNE 1999

Article I (Name)

The name of this organisation shall be "The Evangelical Free Church of Singapore" and its headquarters shall be in 1 Woodlands St 83, Singapore 738488.

Article II (Purpose)

The purpose of this organisation shall be to exalt the Lord Jesus Christ; to save souls; to disseminate Christian truth; to nourish believers and to unite the saints – all in fulfillment of Christ's commission.

Article III (Confession of Faith)

1. We believe the Scriptures, both Old and New Testaments, to be the inspired Word of God, without error in the original writings, the complete revelation of His will for the salvation of men, and the Divine and final authority for all Christian faith and life.
2. We believe in one God, Creator of all things, infinitely perfect and eternally existing in three persons, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.
3. We believe that Jesus Christ is true God and true man, having been conceived of the Holy Ghost and born of the Virgin Mary. He died on the cross a sacrifice for our sins according to the Scriptures. Further, He arose bodily from the dead, ascended into heaven, where, at the right hand of the Majesty on high, He is now our High Priest and Advocate.
4. We believe that ministry of the Holy Spirit is to glorify the Lord Jesus Christ and, during this age, to convict men, regenerate the believing sinner, indwell, guide, instruct and empower the believer for godly living and service.
5. We believe that man was created in the image of God but fell into sin and is therefore lost and only through regeneration by the Holy Spirit and thus become children of God.
6. We believe that the shed blood of Jesus Christ and His resurrection provide the only ground for justification and salvation for all who believe, and only such as receive Jesus Christ are born of the Holy Spirit and thus become children of God.
7. We believe that the Lord's supper and water baptism are ordinances to be observed by the church during this present age. They are, however, not to be regarded as means of salvation.
8. We believe that the true church is composed of all such persons who through saving faith in Jesus Christ have been regenerated by the Holy Spirit and are united together in the body of Christ of which He is the head.

9. We believe that only those who are thus members of the true church shall be eligible for membership in the local church.
10. We believe that Jesus Christ is the Lord and Head of the church, and that every local church has the right, under Christ, to decide and govern its own affairs.
11. We believe in the personal, and imminent coming of our Lord Jesus Christ and that this "Blessed Hope" has a vital bearing on the personal life and service of the believer.
12. We believe in the bodily resurrection of the dead; of the believer to everlasting blessedness and joy with the Lord, of the unbeliever to judgement and everlasting conscious punishment.

Article IV (Objects)

1. To labour for the salvation of souls and for the edification of believers in faith, hope and charity.
2. To organise churches and Sunday Schools and to establish and maintain Christian missionary work.
3. To promote mutual fellowship and harmony among the churches and to unite them for such mutual activities beyond the scope and ability of a local congregation but having no controlling power over the internal affairs of such congregations.
4. To organise, build, administer and support schools and theological seminaries.
5. To educate and ordain ministers and missionaries when necessary, and to assign missionaries to duty, also to recall them when necessary.
6. To build and maintain charitable and benevolent institutions.
7. To publish and distribute Christian literature.
8. To purchase or receive, by gift or grant, title to such land or property as may be deemed necessary for the building and maintenance of said churches, schools, and institutions of charity and benevolence.

Article V (Organisation)

This organisation shall consist of churches affiliated with the Evangelical Free Church of Singapore. Such other churches of like faith and practice as shall recognise this organisation and adopt its principles may also enter the organisation in accordance with the rules and regulations.

For the purpose of conducting the business of this organisation, an Annual Meeting shall be held. Voting rights at this meeting shall be on the following basis.

1. Each member church shall be entitled to send one delegate for the first 10 to 50 members; two delegates for 51 to 100 members; three delegates for 101 to 200 members, etc. The maximum number of delegates from any one church shall be five.

2. Pastors and missionaries sent out by the mother church shall be members of the organisation.
3. Pastors, evangelists and Bible women serving in this organisation shall likewise be members thereof.
4. Shall a member be unable to attend any meeting he may recommend a substitute to serve in his place. If the one who substitutes for another already has a vote, he shall cast two votes.
5. Members of the Conference shall, at each Annual Meeting, present proper credentials not less than one month before the meeting.

Article VI (Meetings):

1. Annual Conference of the organisation:

This meeting shall be held at the beginning of each fiscal year, which begins April 1st. and closes March 31st. The place and date for the Annual Conference shall be announced one year in advance. A special conference may be called by the Chairman, or one-third of the members of the Conference may request the Chairman to call a meeting in case of emergency.

2. Executive Board Meetings:

The organisation shall also elect for a term of two years a Chairman, Vice-Chairman, Secretary and Treasurer to the Executive Board.

The Executive Board shall hold quarterly meetings. The place and date shall be announced ten days in advance by the Chairman. In cases of urgent matters the Chairman may call a special meeting.

3. At all business meetings at least one-half of the eligible members shall constitute a quorum, and a majority of those present must approve in order to pass a motion.
4. In case of any church or other body objecting by a two-thirds vote to any motion passed by the Executive Board requesting reconsideration. Should there still be dissatisfaction, the matter may be referred to the Mother church.

Article VII (Audit)

Two members, not members of the Executive Board, shall be elected as honorary auditors at each Annual Meeting, and will hold office for two years only and may not be re-elected. They will be required to audit each year's accounts and present a report upon them to the Annual Meeting. They may be required by the Chairman to audit the organisation accounts for any period within the tenure of their office at any date and make a report to the Executive Board.

Article VIII (Amendments)

Amendments to these Articles of organisation must be introduced at an Annual Meeting, but cannot be noted upon until the next Annual Meeting, and for adoption must receive the affirmative vote of two-thirds of the membership present and voting. No alteration in the rules and objects of the church shall come into force without the prior sanction of the Registrar of Societies and the Commissioner of Charities. Notwithstanding the above, Article III (Confession of Faith) shall not be amended or revoked.

Article IX (Prohibitions)

1. The organisation shall not indulge in any political activity or allow its funds and/or premises to be used for political purposes.
2. The organisation shall not attempt to restrict or in any manner interfere with trade or prices or engage in any Trade Union activity as defined in any written law relating to trade unions for the time being in force in Singapore.
3. The funds of the organisation shall not be used to pay the fines of members who have been convicted in court.

Article X (Dissolution)

1. The church shall not be dissolved, except with the consent of not less than three-fifths of the members of the church expressed, either in person or by proxy at a General Meeting convened for the purpose, or by postal vote.
2. In the event of the church being dissolved as provided above, all the debts and liabilities legally incurred on behalf of the church shall be fully discharged, and the remaining funds will be divided equally amongst the members.
3. Notices of dissolution will be given within 7 days of the dissolution to the Registrar of Societies.

Article XI (Trustees)

If the society at any time acquire any immovable property, such property shall be vested in Trustees subject to a declaration of trust. Any trustee may at any time resign his trusteeship. If a trustee dies or becomes a lunatic or of unsound mind or moves permanently or is absent from the State of Singapore for a period of one year, he shall be deemed to have resigned his trusteeship. If a trustee is guilty of misconduct of such a kind as to render it undesirable that he continue as a trustee, a General Meeting may remove him from his trusteeship. Vacancies in the trusteeship may be filled at a General Meeting, but the number shall not be greater than five or less than two. Notice of any proposal to remove a trustee from his trusteeship or to appoint a new trustee to fill a vacancy must be given by affixing in the premises of the society a document containing such proposal at least two weeks before the meeting at which the proposal is to be discussed. The result of such meeting shall then be notified to the Registrar of Societies.