

# Growing Faith Homeschool Corporation

## By-Laws

### **Article I – Name, Purpose, Location**

Section 1.1 – The name of this organization shall be Growing Faith Homeschool Co-op (GFHC)

Section 1.2 – The fiscal year of (GFHC) shall begin on the first day of July and end on the last day of the following June.

Section 1.3 – Mission Statement: Growing Faith Homeschool Co-op is rooted in Christ and built on the firm foundation of the Bible and seeks to support homeschool families by providing educational opportunities.

Section 1.4 – The registered office location of GFHC shall be 6912 Greenridge Spa Rd, Lewisburg, KY 42256. The organization may have any number of offices at such places as the Board may determine.

### **Article II – Statement of Faith**

Section 2.1 GFHC welcomes students and families from a variety of backgrounds. To ensure that current and prospective families have a clear understanding of the beliefs that inform and guide our co-op, we have produced the Statement of Faith found below.

#### **Section 2.2 Statement**

1. We believe that the Bible, consisting of 66 books of the Old and New Testaments, divinely inspired, free from error in doctrine, fact and ethic, and inerrant in the original writings, is the Word of God and the only infallible and authoritative rule of faith and practice.<sup>1</sup>
2. We believe in one God eternally existent in three persons - Father, Son, and Holy Spirit - the same in substance, equal in power and glory.<sup>2</sup> We believe that God is the creator of the universe, and that all life is created by God.<sup>3</sup>
3. We believe in the Deity of our Lord Jesus Christ<sup>4</sup>, His virgin birth<sup>5</sup>, His sinless life<sup>6</sup>, His miracles<sup>7</sup>, His vicarious and atoning death<sup>8</sup>, His bodily resurrection<sup>9</sup>, His ascension to the right hand of God the Father<sup>10</sup>, and His personal and physical return in power and glory<sup>11</sup>.

---

<sup>1</sup> 2 Tim. 3:14-17, 2 Pet. 1:20-21, Matt. 5:17-18, John 17:17, Heb. 4:12, Ps. 119:105

<sup>2</sup> 1 John 5:7, Matt. 28:19, Acts 5:1-11, 2 Cor. 3:17, 1 Thess. 4:8

<sup>3</sup> Gen. 1:1-2, John 1:1-3

<sup>4</sup> John 14:9, Rom. 9:5, Phil. 2:5-7, Heb. 1:1-8, 1 John 5:20, Col. 1:15-19

<sup>5</sup> Matt. 1:18-25, Luke 1:26-35, Isaiah 7:14

<sup>6</sup> 2 Cor. 5:21

<sup>7</sup> John 2:1-11, John 4:46-47, Luke 5:1-11, Mark 1:23-28, 30-31, 40-45, Matt. 8:5-13, Luke 7:11-18, Matt. 8:23-27, 28-34, Matt. 9:1-8, 18-33, Matt. 15:32-39, John 11:1-46

<sup>8</sup> John 10:24-25, John 20:30-31

<sup>9</sup> John 19:18, Rom. 6:9-10, 2 Cor. 5:14-15, Acts 5:30, 1 Thess. 4:14, Rom. 14:9, 1 Cor. 15:3-4

<sup>10</sup> Acts 1:1-9, Heb. 1:3, Heb. 10:12, Rom. 8:34, 1 Tim. 3:16

<sup>11</sup> 1 Thess. 4:16, Acts 1:6-11, Rev. 1:7, Heb. 9:28, Titus 2:13, Matt. 24:26-27, Rev. 19:11-16

4. We believe that God created man in His own image<sup>12</sup> but that through sin, man brought upon himself and his posterity not only physical death, but also spiritual death which is separation from God; that all human beings by physical birth possess a sinful nature.<sup>13</sup>
5. We believe that the salvation of lost and sinful man is a free gift of God's grace apart from works, based solely upon Christ's vicarious and atoning death, effected by the regenerating work of the Holy Spirit, and received by trusting in Christ's finished work on the cross, and that this salvation is eternally secured to all believers.<sup>14</sup>
6. We believe in the present ministry of the Holy Spirit, by Whose indwelling upon salvation the Christian is enabled to live a godly life; that it is incumbent upon every believer to walk worthy of his calling - to walk after the Spirit and not after the flesh.<sup>15</sup>
7. We believe in the resurrection of the body of both the saved and the lost - they that are saved to the resurrection of life everlasting and they that are lost to the resurrection of eternal damnation.<sup>16</sup>
8. We believe in the spiritual unity of believers in the Lord Jesus Christ.<sup>17</sup>
9. We also believe that it is the responsibility of a parent to teach his or her child a biblical worldview. We believe that the primary responsibility for disciplining a child remains with the parents.<sup>18</sup>
10. We believe the Bible teaches that all humans are created in the image of God<sup>19</sup>, we hold that all human life is sacred and of inestimable worth in all its dimensions, including pre-born babies, babies, the aged, the physically or mentally challenged, and every other stage or condition from conception through natural death. We are therefore called to defend, protect, and value all human life.<sup>20</sup>
11. Statement on Marriage, Gender, and Sexuality - We believe that the Bible has given us a true and valid definition of marriage attendant boundaries of sexuality and moral conduct, and the clear Biblical teaching that gender is both sacred and established by God's design.
  - I. We believe that God wonderfully and immutably creates each person as male or female<sup>21</sup>. These two distinct, complementary genders together reflect the image and nature of God and that rejection of one's biological sex is a rejection of the image of God within that person.<sup>22</sup>
  - II. We believe that the term "marriage" has only one meaning: the uniting of one man and one woman in a single, exclusive union, as delineated in Scripture.<sup>23</sup>

---

<sup>12</sup> Gen. 1:26-27

<sup>13</sup> Ps. 51:5, Eph. 2:2-3, Ps. 14:2-3

<sup>14</sup> John 3:16, Rom. 10:9-10, Eph 2:8-9, John 6:37

<sup>15</sup> Joel 2:28-32, Matt. 3:11, John 14:26, John 15:26, Rom. 8:1-5, Gal. 5:16, Eph. 4:30, 1 Cor. 6:19 Jude 19-20, 2 Cor. 13:141 Peter 1:2 1 John 5:7-8, Matt 28:19-20

<sup>16</sup> Job 19:26, Dan. 12:2, John 6: 40, 11:26, Rom. 6:4-8, 1 Cor. 6:14, 15:20-22, 15:53, 1 Thess. 4:14-16

<sup>17</sup> Rom. 12: 4-5, Gal. 3:28, Eph. 2:16, 4:4, 1 Cor. 12:13

<sup>18</sup> Deut. 6:1-9, Ps. 78:5-6, Prov. 22:6, Eph. 6:4

<sup>19</sup> Gen. 1:26-27

<sup>20</sup> Ps. 139

<sup>21</sup> Gen. 1:26-27

<sup>22</sup> Deut. 22:5, Matt. 16:24, Rom. 1:26-27, 1 Cor. 11:14-15

<sup>23</sup> Gen.2:24, Malichi 2:14, Matt. 19:4-6, Gen.2:18-25

- III. We believe that God intends sexual intimacy to occur only between a man and a woman who are married to each other, and that God has commanded that no intimate sexual activity be engaged in outside of a marriage between a man and a woman.<sup>24</sup>
- IV. We believe that any form of sexual immorality (including adultery, fornication, homosexual behavior, bisexual conduct, bestiality, incest, and use of pornography) is sinful and offensive to God.<sup>25</sup>

Section 2.3 We believe that in order to preserve the function and integrity of the GFHC and to provide a biblical role model to the GFHC members and the community, it is imperative that all persons employed by GFHC in any capacity, or who serve as council members, teachers, or volunteers, agree to and abide by this Statement of Faith.<sup>26</sup>

### **Article III – Membership**

Section 3.1 – The organization will not have voting members. All decisions will be made by the Board of Directors

Section 3.2 – The qualification for (nonvoting) membership (i.e. participation only) will be: Payment of the fees set forth by the Board of Directors and agreeing to respect the mission statement, statement of faith, and policies and procedures.

Section 3.3 – GFHC is a membership organization. Membership is open for all families interested in homeschool and who desire to raise their children in a Christian atmosphere. Members are required to adhere to the Policy and Procedures of the group. Homeschooling parents or guardians may obtain membership in GFHC by remitting annual membership dues and an annual membership form. Members join with the understanding that any GFHC sponsored activity will be in keeping with the group's Statement of Faith.

### **Article IV – Meetings**

Section 5.1 – The date of the regular annual meeting shall be determined by the Board of Directors who will also set the time and place.

Section 5.2 – Regular meetings of the Board may be held at such place and time as shall be designated by the standing resolution of the Board.

Section 5.3 – Special meetings may be called by any Board member.

Section 5.4 – Notice of all meetings shall be provided to each voting member, by phone, text message, email, or other electronic means at least 24 hours prior to the meeting.

Section 5.5 - Members of the Board may participate in a meeting through use of conference telephone or similar communications equipment, so long as members participating in such meeting can hear one another. Members of the Board may vote by e-mail, text, or other electronic means.

### **Article V – Board of Directors**

Section 5.1 – The business of the organization shall be managed by a Board of Directors comprised of at least 5 (five) Board members. The Board is responsible for maintaining the overall policy and direction of the organization. The Board shall delegate responsibility of day-to-day operations to the Chair and appropriate committees. Board members shall receive no compensation (other than reasonable

---

<sup>24</sup> Heb. 13:4, Matt. 19:2, 1 Cor. 6:18, 7:2-5, Matt. 15:18-20, 1 Cor. 6:9-10

<sup>25</sup> Heb. 13:4, Matt. 19:2, 1 Cor. 6:18, 7:2-5, Matt. 15:18-20, 1 Cor. 6:9-10

<sup>26</sup> Matt. 5:16, Phil. 2:14-16, 1 Thess. 5:22

expenses) for their service on the Board.

Section 5.2 – The Board shall meet at least 2 (two) times per year at an agreed upon time and location.

Section 5.3 – All Board members shall serve a term of 2 years, and may serve an indefinite number of terms, as determined by the Board.

Section 5.4 – Any Director may be removed from office without assigning any cause by the vote of the Board at any meeting of the Board.

Section 5.5 – Any Director may resign at any time by giving notice to the organization.

Section 5.6 – In the event of a vacancy on the Board (including situations where the number of Board members has been deemed necessary to increase), the directors shall fill the vacancy.

Section 5.7 – A quorum must be attended by at least 51% percent of the Board members before business can be transacted or motions made or passed.

Section 5.8 - The Board of Directors shall hire and fix the compensation of any and all employees which they in their discretion may determine to be necessary for the conduct of the business of the organization.

## **Article VI – Officers**

Section 6.1 – The officers of the organization shall be Chair, Vice Chair, Treasurer, and Secretary. The Board of Directors shall appoint each of these officers. The Board may also appoint other officers it deems necessary.

Section 6.2 – The Board of Directors shall appoint officers for a term established by the Board.

Section 6.3 – Any officer may be removed from office without assigning any cause by the vote of the Board at any meeting of the Board.

Section 6.4 – Officers of the Board will not be compensated via salary or other benefits for their service as an officer of the Board.

Section 6.5 – Board Chair/President

The Chair shall convene regularly scheduled Board meetings and shall preside or arrange for other members of the Board to preside at each meeting in the following order: Vice Chair, Secretary and Treasurer.

Section 6.6 – Vice Chair

The Vice Chair will chair committees on special subjects as designated by the board. In addition, the Vice Chair will facilitate meetings in the absence of the Board Chair.

Section 6.7 – Secretary

The Secretary shall be responsible for keeping records of Board actions, including overseeing the taking of minutes at all board meetings, sending out meeting announcements, distributing copies of minutes and the agenda to each Board member, and assuring that corporate records are maintained.

Section 6.8 – Treasurer

The Treasurer shall make a report at each Board meeting. The treasurer shall chair the Finance Committee, assist in the preparation of the budget, help develop fund raising plans, and make financial information available to Board members and the public.

## **Article VII – Committees**

Section 7.1 – The Board may create committees as needed, such as fund raising, public relations, and program committees. The Board Chair shall appoint all committee chairs.

Section 7.2 – No committee shall have any power to: fill vacancies on the Board, adopt amend or repeal the by-laws, amend or repeal any resolution of the Board, or act on matters committed by the by-laws or resolution of the Board to another committee of the Board.

### **Section 7.3 – Board of Directors**

The Board of Directors shall be composed of the five (5) officers of the Board and other Board members appointed to the Board of Directors. The Board of Directors shall have the power and the authority of the full Board of Directors in the intervals between meetings of the Board.

### **Section 7.4 – Finance Committee**

The Treasurer shall be the chair of the Finance Committee. The Finance Committee shall be composed of at least 2 (two) but no more than 4 (four) Board members. The Finance Committee is responsible for developing and reviewing fiscal procedures, overseeing the annual audit (if required), and reviewing and explaining the annual budget to the full Board. The budget is approved by the vote of the full Board. Financial reports and updates shall be provided by the Finance Committee to the board twice a year.

## **Article VIII - Indemnification**

Section 8.1 – The organization shall indemnify any agent of the organization including Directors, Officers, Staff, and Volunteers who was or is a party, or is threatened to be made a party to any proceeding, administrative or investigative, as such a person was or is an authorized representative of the organization. This indemnification against expenses, judgments, fines, and amount paid in settlements actually or reasonably incurred by such a representative of the organization is contingent upon the determination that such person acted in good faith and in a manner he/she believed to be in, or not opposed to, the best interests of the organization. With respect to any criminal proceeding, indemnified persons shall have had no cause to believe that their conduct was unlawful.

Section 2 – To satisfy indemnification obligations the organization may maintain insurance, obtain a letter of credit, act as a self-insurer, create a reserve trust, cash collateral, enter into indemnification agreements, or use any other arrangement whatsoever in such amounts, at such costs, and upon other terms and conditions that the Board shall deem appropriate.

Section 3 – This indemnification shall be made only if the organization shall be advised by its Board of Directors acting (1) by a quorum consisting of directors who are not parties to such action or proceeding upon a finding that, or (2) if a quorum under is not obtainable with due diligence, upon the opinion in writing of legal counsel that, the director or officer has met the foregoing applicable standard of conduct. If the foregoing determination is to be made by the Board of Directors, it may rely as to all questions of law, on the advice of independent legal counsel.

## **Article IX – Amendments**

Section 9.1 – These By-laws may be amended when deemed necessary by a  $\frac{3}{4}$  majority vote of the Board of Directors. Proposed amendments must be submitted to Secretary and sent along with regular board meeting notices.

## **Article X - Additional Provisions**

Section 10.1 - Upon the dissolution of GFHC, assets shall be distributed for one or more exempt purposes within the meaning of section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code, or corresponding

section of any future federal tax code, or shall be distributed to the federal government, or to a state or local government, for public purpose.

Section 10.2 - GFHC is organized exclusively for charitable, religious, educational, and/or scientific purposes under section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code. No part of the net earnings shall inure to the benefit of, or be distributable to its members, directors, officers, or other private persons, except that the organization shall be authorized and empowered to pay reasonable compensation for services rendered and to make payments and distributions in furtherance of the purposes set forth in the purpose clause hereof.

Section 10.3 - No substantial part of the activities of GFHC shall be the carrying on of propaganda, or otherwise attempting to influence legislation, and the organization shall not participate in, or intervene in (including the publishing or distribution of statements) any political campaign on behalf of any candidate for public office.

Section 10.4 - Notwithstanding any other provision of this document, the organization shall not carry on any other activities not permitted to be carried on (a) by an organization exempt from federal income tax under section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code, or corresponding section of any future federal tax code, or (b) by an organization, contributions to which are deductible under section 170(c)(2) of the Internal Revenue Code, or corresponding section of any future federal tax code.

Section 10.5 – Whenever a director or officer has a financial or personal interest in any matter coming before the board of directors, the affected person shall a) fully disclose the nature of the interest and b) withdraw from discussion, lobbying, and voting on the matter. Any transaction or vote involving a potential conflict of interest shall be approved only when a majority of disinterested directors determine that it is in the best interest of the corporation to do so. The minutes of meetings at which such votes are taken shall record such disclosure, abstention and rationale for approval.