

FULL GOSPEL
CHURCHES INTERNATIONAL
2101 EAST 34TH PL JOPLIN, MO 64804

General Superintendent
Rev. Travis Watkins.
2625 Adams St.
Granite City, IL. 62040
618-975-4713

General Secretary/ Treasurer
Rev. Amy Patrick
2101 East 34th Pl.
Joplin, MO 64804
417-850-1254

Assistant General Superintendent
Rev. William Allen
P.O. Box 1105
Paragould, AR. 72451
870-335-7189

February 15, 2025

Fellow Servants of Jesus Christ,

We have once again started a new year, which brings us to our annual Renewal of Minister's Credentials and Church Charters. As we begin to enter this new year of 2025, we want to encourage you to take a moment and reflect on your ministry and where you see your ministry in the future. This is a good time to sit down with your pastor or mentor and discuss your current for ministry that you are serving in and what is the vision for the next year.

Although April 15th is the date all renewals are to be in my office, I encourage you to renew your membership at your earliest convenience. There are two good reasons to do so. First, early renewals will help ensure that you will receive your new credentials card prior to the expiration date. Secondly, I must remind you that if your renewal form and \$150.00 has not reached the office by the April 15th due date, you will be assessed an additional \$5 fee. If your renewal form has not arrived by June 1st, your membership will be considered delinquent and you will be assessed an additional \$10.00 fee and, will have to appear before the State Board to give account of your delinquency. So, as you can see, the earlier, the better. Please note: If you have been a member for five or more years and have graduated to the age of 70 or above, you are not required to pay the \$150.00 renewal fee. Your fee would just be \$75.00. Also, Renewal forms must be returned to get your new credentials card. This avoids a second processing procedure in our office and will possibly keep you from being assessed additional fees. Regarding ministerial tithes, I will give a minimum of 2% of my ministerial income to support the Fellowship, which is required, if you have no ministerial income, you will only need to pay the \$150.00 renewal fee. This fee includes over 70 Ministers.

As according to our By Laws, we believe our ministers should be in a home church. F.G.C.I. was birthed in the belief that the ministry needs fellowship. Article XV Section 4 of our By-Law Book states, "that we should attend and support the local church where we reside." With that being said, it is our intention to hold our ministers to a high standard. One way of insuring this is making sure we have a Pastor sign our minister's renewal form. If you are currently pastoring, we would like for you to have a Board Member, Elder, or Secretary sign your form showing that you remain in good standing.

This year, we will be giving everyone a picture ID card who renews their Minister's License. Each one will need to send in a picture to the home office, by text or email asap in order to get it processed and sent to the printer. Due to having them printed, it does take longer to get them returned to you. If you chose to not have a picture ID card, you can opt out for our regular card. Please mark the Renewal Form "yes" on picture ID if your desire to have a picture. Please remember a photo must be sent in order to get this ID card.

On behalf of your F.G.C.I. Officials, we want to thank you for all your support and encourage you to become involved in your fellowship. It is our honor to assist and serve you in your ministry.

In His Service,

Rev. Amy Patrick

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General Secretary/Treasurer

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Minister's Code of Ethics

We believe that God has called us and it is our calling, and our function, to lead and facilitate the church in its mission, to obey and serve Christ and to witness to the good news of the gospel of Jesus Christ. We are committed to fulfilling the trust placed in us by maintaining a high standard of Christian conviction, by sincerity of purpose, by nurturing and sharing our gifts, and by integrity of our character. We are dedicated to upholding the dignity and worth of every person who seeks or is reached by our care and proclamation. In order to uphold our standards we, as ministers of the gospel of Jesus Christ, covenant to live out the following Code of Ethics for Ministers:

- A. We will be true to the Judeo-Christian scriptures* in our preaching, teaching and manner of living.
- B. We will be true to Christian convictions as revealed in the Holy Bible* as interpreted, taught to, and nurtured in us by the church, under the guidance of the Holy Spirit.
- C. We will live lives of integrity, upholding the commitments we make to God, to others, to the church and to ourselves.
- D. We will exercise lifestyles consistent with the teachings of Christ, giving serious attention to relevant statements of the General Convention of Full Gospel Churches International.
- E. We will assume responsibility for our physical and emotional health and for our spiritual growth and enrichment. We will strive to maintain ourselves and not allow others' expectations for us to endanger our well being.
- F. We will treat members of our family with Christian love and respect.
- G. We will treat our congregation with Christian love and respect.
- H. We will not misuse the trust placed in us, nor the unique power, inherent in our role by exploiting in any way those who seek our help or care.
- I. We will not engage in any use of our role within the church to take advantage of the vulnerability of any person by causing that person to engage in sexual activity or contact with us.
- J. We will not engage in any form of child abuse*, sexual, physical or emotional.
- K. We will not use our office or authority to apply influence upon others in order to get bequests, gifts or loans that would personally benefit us.
- L. We will endeavor to manage our affairs in order to live within our income and neither expect, nor specify financial favors or gratuities because of our position.
- M. We will be responsible and honest in the management of all resources and funds entrusted to our care in the course of our position.
- N. We will give credit for all sources quoted or extensively paraphrased in sermons and prepared papers. We will endeavor to honor all copyrights**.
- O. We will respect the privacy of individuals and will not divulge information obtained in confidence without expressed permission

- P. We will neither exchange, entertain, nor tolerate scandalous, malicious or inaccurate information with or about other persons.
- Q. We will maintain a friendly, courteous, and cooperative relationship with other ministers, both within our fellowship and in the larger Christian community. We will not proselytize people from other congregations. We will not render professional service in the congregation being served by another pastor without the knowledge and consent of that pastor, except in emergencies.
- R. We will not perform professional services in former congregations, unless invited to do so by the present pastor. We consider it unethical to be involved in the pastoral affairs of a congregation after leaving it or upon retirement, or to cultivate such relationships with former parishioners as may hinder the ministry of the new pastor.
- S. We believe professional growth is a lifelong process, and we will seek out opportunities to continue to grow spiritually and in ministry skills.
- T. We will report all cases of suspected child abuse. We will be knowledgeable of and act in accordance with the mandated reporting requirements of similar professionals within our state.
- U. We will not engage in pastoral counseling which leads us beyond the limits of our training and experience. We will make appropriate use of both consulting and referral services in our community.
- V. In the event an allegation is brought against us, we will participate in the organization's process for dealing with allegations of ministerial misconduct.
- W. We believe that in order to preserve the function and integrity of the church as the local Body of Christ, and to provide a biblical role model to the church members and the community, it is imperative that all members, employees or volunteers who serve the church in any capacity should abide by and agree to FRCI's Doctrinal Statement and By-laws and conduct themselves accordingly.
- X. In our effort to keep purity in our purpose, doctrinal statement, by-laws and code of ethics, anyone choosing not to keep these will be subject to discipline, even the revocation of their credentials.

*As is set forth in the authorized 1611 King James Version of the Holy Bible.

**CCLI (Christian Copyright Licensing, Inc., 17201 NE Sacramento St., Portland, Oregon 97230) is an organization that assists churches in being compliant with copyrights.

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CREDENTIALS RENEWAL FORM

(TYPE OR PRINT ONLY)

Name _____ Birth Date _____ / _____ / _____

Address _____ City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Home Telephone () _____ - _____ Work Telephone () _____ - _____

Cell Telephone () _____ - _____ Email Address _____

Spouse's Name _____ Has your marital status changed during the last year? _____

If yes, give explanation: _____

Have you attended a State or General Convention in the last year? _____ 2 years? _____ 5 years? _____

Have you filed bankruptcy in the past year? _____ Have you been arrested or convicted of any crime in the last year? _____

If yes, give explanation: _____

Present Credentials: Ord _____ Lic _____ Exh _____ CW _____ Full Time? _____ Desire a Pastorate? _____

Church you attend _____

Church Address _____

Pastor's Name & Telephone Number _____

Present Ministry? _____

Do you carry credentials with another organization? If yes, give name, address and telephone of organization: _____

I would like to have our monthly news letter, "the Echoes" to be emailed: yes or No. Email: _____

Convention Fee (helps to fund our General Convention) \$25 _____

I agree and fully abide by the Code of Ethics, Doctrine and By-laws of FGCI. I will give a minimum of 2% of my ministerial income to support the Fellowship, which is required

I affirm that the information I have given is correct to the best of my knowledge.

\$150 renewal fee + Convention Fee of \$25=\$175 paid _____

If you are 70 and over your Renewal Fee is \$75.00. Signed _____

Pastor's Signature _____ Phone # _____

(must have Pastor's signature or Board Member Signature)

(Failure to answer all questions may cause delay in renewal process.)

(Tests available on www.fgci.us)