

THE CONSTITUTION OF FAITH

(Families Active in Teaching at Home)

ARTICLE I

Name

The name of the organization shall be Families Active in Teaching at Home (FAITH), a non-profit organization.

ARTICLE II

Purpose

As Christian home educating parents, our goal is to train our children such that they possess the Godly character and academic skills necessary to fulfill God's calling and live for His glory.

We believe that all knowledge should have at its beginning the fear of God and its end, the glory of God

The purpose of this organization is to provide support to parents who educate their children at home. Support will include field trips; small group meetings for fellowship and encouragement; regularly scheduled large group meetings for information on curricula, special speakers, workshops, and political and legal concerns; and a newsletter.

Statement of Faith

- We believe the Bible is inspired by God without error and has authority for our lives.
- We believe God created the earth and mankind.
- We believe that God eternally exists, in three persons: God the Father, God the Son, Jesus Christ, and God the Holy Spirit, all being equal in Power and Glory.
- We believe that Jesus Christ is fully God and fully man, born of a virgin, lived a sinless life, was crucified, died, and buried, rose bodily from the grave, and now reigns with the Father.
- We believe that mankind is sinful by nature, but can be forgiven and changed by faith in Jesus as Savior who gives us eternal life.
- We believe that salvation is received as a free gift from God.
- We believe the Holy Spirit convicts men of their need of salvation, gives them new life and continues to direct their lives.

ARTICLE III

Membership

1. A member is a family who is actively or has actively in the past home educated at least one child.

2. Membership is not guaranteed. The Board may, by a majority vote, deny or terminate membership at any time for non-compliance with the Constitution or By-Laws. Dues may be refunded on a pro-rated basis.

3. Families may become members after completing an application form, signing the Statement of Faith and paying their dues.
4. All members must reapply yearly.
5. Families no longer desiring membership in the organization may notify the Secretary and request removal of membership
- 6.No homosexual or co-habiting individuals in an unmarried domestic partner relationship are eligible for membership.

Rights and Responsibilities of Membership

1. Members shall receive a copy of the By-Laws, newsletter, be placed on the e-mail loop, receive a copy of the directory, be allowed to participate in FAITH sponsored activities, and be allowed one vote per family. Members must pay their dues and must participate in at least one FAITH activity. This activity may be a field trip, service on a special committee, planning and hosting a meeting or some other Board approved activity.
2. Loss of membership may result from not meeting the requirements of membership.
3. First year actively home educating families may be exempt from activity participation. Any further exceptions to these rights and responsibilities are at the discretion of the Board.

Dues

1. Membership dues shall be paid as a condition of membership and shall be effective for the fiscal year from September 1 to August 31. Dues amount shall be set by the board in accordance with the By-Laws.

ARTICLE IV

Officers

1. The officers of this organization shall consist of President, Vice-President, Secretary, Treasurer, and Newsletter Coordinator.
2. The President shall preside over all meetings of this organization at which he is present; call Board meetings; call special meetings; set the agenda for each meeting; represent the organization to the community; appoint ad hoc committees; and create, appoint and supervise special positions, political liaison and contact person for information regarding home educating.
3. The Vice-President shall assist the President in the performance of his duties and chair special or ad hoc committees set up by the President. He shall be responsible for obtaining speakers or activities for each general meeting. He shall report to the President the activities of those committees. In the absence of the President, the Vice-President will preside at any meetings.

4. The Secretary shall keep the minutes of each business and board meeting of the organization; keep on file all committee reports; conduct the general correspondence of the organization; mail notice of special meetings; make minutes and records available to members upon request; maintain a book containing the By Laws, minutes and any amendments to these documents, and any organizational correspondence. This current record book should be on hand at every meeting. In the absence of the President and Vice-President, the Secretary will preside at any meetings.
5. The Treasurer shall collect dues; report delinquent dues to the President; keep a current ledger; keep a copy of the budget; maintain current organizational bank account; report fiscal activity at board and business meetings, including, but not limited to any deposits, withdrawals, and current balance; and disburse funds as determined by the Board and maintain the organization's official membership roll. In the absence of the President, Vice-President, and Secretary, the Treasurer will preside at any meetings.
6. The Newsletter Coordinator shall compile and distribute the monthly newsletter, maintain a file of all newsletters, and coordinate all communication distributed to the entire group via e-mail.
7. A couple or single parent filling an office on the Board shall be subject to censure or dismissal from office by a two-thirds vote of the members of the organization present at a specially called meeting or by a unanimous vote of the other officers of the organization.
8. Officers must be members of the organization actively home educating at least one child and must have been a member of FAITH in good standing for at least 12 months.
9. Term of office for the officers shall be one year more or less.
10. General elections shall be held at the last spring business meeting. The elected officers will take office at the adjournment of that business meeting.
11. A Nominating Committee as appointed by the Board shall provide a list of qualified and willing candidates for each office at the election meeting.

Nominations will be accepted from the floor provided the nominee is qualified and accepts the nomination.

Voting will be written, secret ballot and election will be determined by simple majority.

12. If an officer position becomes vacant in an unexpired term, the position shall be filled by appointment of the Board.

ARTICLE V

Board of Organization

1. The President, Vice-President, Secretary, Treasurer, and Newsletter Coordinator shall constitute the Board of the organization. Each office of the Board shall be entitled to one vote if present at a Board meeting. Three-fifths of the Board must be present

before a meeting can be held and a majority vote of members present is required for approval of an action or choice.

2. The duties of the Board include setting the time, date, place and frequency of general and business meetings; reviewing application for membership; filling vacant officer positions; approving FAITH activities with regard to membership requirements; providing exemptions to the rights and responsibilities of membership; approving disbursement of funds; enacting and amending By-Laws; and conducting other business of the organization.

ARTICLE VI

Types of Meetings

The types of meetings shall be:

1. General Meetings which are attended by general membership for the purpose of providing support and information.
2. Business Meetings which are attended by general membership for the purpose of conducting the business of the organization.
3. Board Meetings which are attended by members of the Board and called by the President or by two other officers for the purpose of planning and directing the business of the organization.
4. Special Meetings which are attended by general membership and held at a time different from that of any regular meeting and convened only to consider one or more items specified in the call of the meetings.

Notice of special meeting should be mailed at least one week prior to that special meeting.

ARTICLE VII

Amendment

This constitution shall become effective upon approval by two-thirds vote of the members present and voting at a business meeting called for that purpose. This Constitution may be amended by a three-fourths vote of the members present and voting at a special meeting of the organization. Written notice of the proposed amendment(s) shall be mailed to all members at least one week in advance of the meeting. The amendments may be altered during discussion at that meeting and may still be voted upon.

ARTICLE VIII

Parliamentary Authority

The rules contained in the current edition of Robert's Rules of Order Newly Revised shall govern the organization in all cases to which they are applicable and in which they are not inconsistent with the By-laws and any special rules of order and the organization may adopt.