

# **NEW COVENANT INTERNATIONAL MINISTRIES FELLOWSHIP**

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New Covenant International Ministries Fellowship (hereinafter known as NCIMF) is an extension of New Covenant International Inc., a non-profit (eleemosynary) corporation existing and organized according to the laws of the State of Florida, USA. Its purposes are:

- To develop a global fellowship of recognized workers, leaders, evangelistic and missions-oriented organizations, training institutions and local churches who are committed to serving the Body of Christ.
- To provide appropriate certification and formal recognition by way of license to Christian Workers, Probationary Ministers, Ordained Ministers, Missionaries and Evangelists, Associate Corporate Members, and Affiliated Training Providers .
- To provide a vehicle for the voluntary interchange of ministry, cultural experience and education, resulting in the global expansion of the Kingdom of God.
- To foster and promote unity within the Body of Christ through the building of meaningful relationships and practical mutual support in prayer, encouragement and interpersonal development.
- To strengthen and assist the various endeavors being established and in existence, for the fulfillment of the Great Commission of World Evangelism and Mission by active support and participation in fulfilling the challenge of global evangelism.

## **MISSION STATEMENT:**

The Mission Statement of NCIMF is first and foremost an extension of that which is embraced by N.C.I.U. as contained in the current catalogue, wherein it is committed to the following:

- The establishment of suitable training and equipping programs for believers that empower them to be actively involved in fulfilling the Great Commission of worldwide evangelism and discipleship.
- The establishment of culturally relevant, indigenous local churches that are self-governing, self-supporting, and self-propagating.
- The provision of suitable multi-lingual training and instruction from the Word of God for the believers, churches and ministries within those nations wherein the relationships are established.

And further, NCIMF is committed to:

- The development of the personal life of individual believers to enable them to find their fulfillment in service of Christ and His Kingdom through the Christian church and the

global Body of Christ through study, mentoring and opportunities for exposure to ministry experiences.

- The development of personal ministry giftings and functions through voluntary participation in appropriate evangelism and discipleship outreaches, as well as cross-cultural ministry and missions experiences.
- The building of interpersonal relationships by participation in such national, regional and international conferences as may be organized from time to time, to strengthen and enrich the work of the Kingdom of God throughout the Earth.
- The recognition and practical support of individuals who have a proven lifestyle and ministry function that enrich the Body of Christ, especially those who are known and endorsed as Ascension Gift Ministries, irrespective of age, gender or ethnicity, and who in the opinion of the Board of Ministries fulfill these callings and giftings.
- The recognition and practical support of such ministry endeavors and undertakings that facilitate the development of interpersonal growth and relationships to achieve the purposes of NCIMF.

#### **STATEMENT OF FAITH:**

New Covenant International Ministries Fellowship is a Christ-centered organization and is committed to upholding the statement of faith as embraced by the Board of Directors of NCI, and the Faculty of N.C.I.U.. NCIMF is committed to an evangelical interpretation and application of the Christian Faith that fully preaches the Gospel of the Kingdom of God and His Son, Jesus Christ. NCI is closely identified with and participates in the present day renewal movement which emphasizes the fruit, gifts and ministries of the Holy Spirit. It is expected that all who participate and share in the Ministries Fellowship, whether as individuals or as a corporate affiliate will be fully cognizant and comfortable with this position.

NCI adopt the old maxim that "we hold firm on essentials, and practice Christian grace on things nonessential". Our desire is to work together to come to maturity by learning to speak the truth in love, seeking to build up one another by edification and encouragement. We accept and seek to implement the truth of 2 Timothy 3:16-17 in our conduct and relationships with one another, namely that,

*"All scripture is given by inspiration of God, and is profitable for doctrine, for reproof, for correction, for instruction in righteousness, that the man of God may be perfect, thoroughly furnished, unto all good works."*

The following articles of faith are those held by NCI:

**We believe in One God, eternally existent, in three persons, and revealed as Father, Son and Holy Spirit.**

**We believe:**

- That the Holy Bible is the inspired, infallible and authoritative source of Christian

doctrine and conduct, being the Word of God.

- That man was created in the image of God, but as a result of sin, is lost and powerless to save himself.
- That the only hope for man is to believe on the Lord Jesus Christ, the virgin-born Son of God, who died to take upon Himself the punishment for the sins of mankind, and who rose from the dead, so that by receiving Him as Savior and Lord, man is redeemed by His blood.
- That Jesus Christ will personally return to earth in power and glory.
- That the Holy Spirit indwells and empowers those who by faith receive Christ as Lord, for the purpose of enabling them to live righteous and holy lives.
- That believers are required to demonstrate their obedience to the Lordship of Christ through water baptism by immersion and walking in godly living.
- The Church is the Body of Christ and is comprised of all those who through belief in Christ have been regenerated by the Holy Spirit. The mission of the Church is the worldwide evangelization of every nation and race and the discipling and building up of Christians through the manifestation of His Kingdom.
- That God in His eternal wisdom has made of one blood all men upon the face of the earth, and has committed unto the Church the worldwide mission of reconciliation between man and God. To this end we believe in the equality of all men irrespective of race or ethnic origin, and the indigenous nature of the Church in each nation.

#### **MEMBERSHIP BENEFITS:**

All current members, whether by personal contribution or missionary sponsorship shall receive the following:

- Certificate of membership and enrollment
- Annual Membership Status Certificate
- Certificate of License and Ordination (if applicable)
- A listing in the directory of members, international ministries and organizations
- Annual subscription to all NCIMF publications and journals as made available
- Connection to other believers with same desire for growth, development and relationships, both nationally and internationally
- Invitations to participate in global ministry and mission opportunities
- Invitations to participate in such national, regional and international conferences as are arranged

## **MEMBERSHIP:**

Membership within NCIMF is open to all believers and organizations who are able to embrace the Vision and Mission Statements and agree to the Statement of Faith, who submit an application on the forms prescribed in Appendix A, B, C, and D, and are acceptable to the Board of Ministries.

The Board of Ministries reserves the right to accept or exclude all or any applications that in their opinion will be at variance with, or not in accord with the overall vision and mission statement of the Fellowship.

Membership shall be available in four categories:

### **1. Associate Members/Christian Workers, etc.:**

Available for students in Biblical and theological training, Christian Workers, Missionaries, Evangelists, Pastors and Ministers already licensed or ordained by another organization, Teachers, Trainers, and Leaders involved in extending the Kingdom of God throughout the Earth.

### **2. Ordained (Licensed) Members:**

Available to NCI ordained or licensed individual members, and also individuals who are seeking ordination and/or licensing as Christian Workers, Probationary Ministers, Ordained Ministers, Missionaries and Evangelists through NCIMF.

### **3. Associate Corporate Members:**

Available for individual local churches, missions training centers, Bible schools and other theological institutes, educational institutes and Christian organizations that exist for the furtherance of the Gospel.

### **4. Affiliated Training Providers:**

Available for organizations who desire to avail themselves of the educational facilities provided through N.C.I.U. and who are able to complete the Agreement of Affiliation as a Training Provider.

## **MEMBERSHIP REQUIREMENTS:**

**Note** - membership within the Fellowship is open to all students in training for Christian service, all Christian Workers, Missionaries, Evangelists, Teachers, Ministers, and organizations involved in the training, equipping, sending and serving of workers for the task of the Great Commission, whether at home or abroad, and is not restricted by reason of race, gender, age, marital status or nationality. The general parameters covering membership are:

- Applicants must be in good relationship within their local church and or their base organization.
- Applicants may be in training, active in field work or partaking of furlough, but must

demonstrate commitment to the Great Commission.

- Applicants must be willing to accept the Word of God as final authority on all matters pertaining to faith and conduct.
- Probationary membership shall be granted for a period of two years to all new members unless granted membership and/or ordination prior to December 1994.
- Full membership rights shall be accorded to all members who in the opinion of the Board of Ministries, have maintained satisfactory relationships throughout the probationary period.
- All members are required to work at and maintain satisfactory relationships with other brethren within the Fellowship, and with other Fellowships and Associations as well, to ensure that they accord one another the observance of Scriptural standards in all matters to their conduct as becomes servants of the Lord Jesus Christ and as Ministers of the Gospel.
- All members will be encouraged to participate in such local, regional, national and international Fellowship events as are deemed by the Board of Ministries to be beneficial for the personal growth and maturation of the members.
- All members must be able to give affirmation to the Doctrinal Statement as espoused by N.C.I.U. with good conscience.
- All members will be encouraged to seek and accept the counsel of such mature ministries as are recognized by the Fellowship as constituting a Presbytery of Ministries.
- Those brethren recognized as engaging in mobile ministries to the global church such as Apostles, Prophets, and other Ascension Gift (fivefold) or Governmental ministries, shall be encouraged to assist with the oversight of local churches and training centers within the Fellowship, insofar as they build effective relationships with the individual members.
- The recognition or acceptance of those brethren and ministries acknowledged as being the Presbytery shall not in any way convey a right, or a determination of authority, to supersede or replace existing relationships with other fivefold ministries and local church affiliations granted by constitutional and legal structure, unless specifically granted, but it is merely to provide voluntary assistance and an additional dimension of ministry where requested and/or needed.
- If it is determined by the Board of Ministries that a member is in violation of the standards and vision upheld by the Fellowship, then the scriptural standards relating to offenses shall be applied, namely, the individual shall have the right to make explanation and defense of his or her position and actions in the presence of witnesses. If after counsel and entreaty, a member continues in such conduct, the Board reserve the right to request the member to meet with the Board of Ministries and/or their appointed representatives, to have adjudication on the matter. If after such meeting, following counsel and deliberation, the member does not want to make changes, or refuses to heed counsel given, the Board may suspend the member, or terminate the membership by

giving 30 days notice in writing.

**1. Associate Members (for individuals):**

This is for individuals with a demonstrated calling to serve the Body of Christ in Christian Ministry, either as a student in training, a Christian worker, a missionary, an evangelist, an Ascension Gift ministry, a pastor or minister. The applicant may be ordained or licensed through another organization, without prejudice. Applicants are required to:

- (a) Show evidence of proven faithfulness of Christian service in a local assembly or missionary organization for a minimum period of at least two years under acceptable supervision, which can be supported by testimonial or personal referrals.
- (b) Be able to produce at least two testimonials from either local church leaders, elders, or other ministering brethren in good standing, as to ministry function or status.
- (c) Be able to submit a reference from an individual within the business community but outside the candidate's local church, attesting to the conduct and character of the candidate.
- (d) Be willing to have an interview with representatives of the Board of Ministries which shall include the applicant's spouse and/or family.
- (e) Be able to give evidence of financial integrity from a recognized agency or qualified professional, showing that the applicant is able to manage personal finances, thereby maintaining a sound testimony in the community.
- (f) Be willing to work at building meaningful relationships for mutual growth and development within the Fellowship and especially with those brethren who serve as members of the Presbytery.
- (g) Be able to confirm their personal acceptance of the Doctrinal Statement of Faith as upheld by N.C.I.U. with a clear conscience, and seek to uphold the lifestyle and conduct of the Lord Jesus Christ as their own personal standard.
- (h) Be willing to share in the expenses of the Fellowship by payment of an annual membership fee, as specified in the application and agreed to from time to time by the Board of Ministries, and by contributing to the work and ministry of the Fellowship as led by the Holy Spirit when requests are made for the advancement of the Fellowship on a global basis.
- (i) Complete and accept the terms of the Membership Application.

**2. Ordained (Licensed) Member:**

NCIMF recognizes that the Scriptural right of ordination is to be held by the local church assembly and those elders appointed therein. NCIMF also recognizes that in this present age there are many organizations that are named as churches that do not provide for the issuance of ordination certificates for Christian Ministries, even though many governmental agencies require them for specified purposes. NCIMF therefore seeks to assist those and such other persons so desirous of being afforded the recognition granted by possession of a legally authorized Certificate of Ordination and Licensure as a Christian Ministry.

Qualification for receiving a Certificate of Ordination is therefore predicated upon the observance and evidences of upholding and practicing those Scriptural standards commonly held, as set out in the Word of God, for the conduct of a Minister of the Gospel, which shall include but not be limited to the following:

- (a) Be a recognized individual with a demonstrated calling to serve the Body of Christ in Christian Ministry.
- (b) Have an adequate knowledge and understanding of Scriptural truth that can be sustained by examination or attested to by demonstration or evidence.
- (c) Show evidence of proven faithfulness of Christian service in a local assembly or missionary organization for a minimum period of at least three years under acceptable supervision, which can be supported by testimonial or personal referrals.
- (d) Be able to produce at least two testimonials from either local church leaders, elders, or other ministering brethren in good standing, as to ministerial suitability.
- (e) Be able to submit two references from individuals within the business community, who are not members of the candidate's local church, attesting to the good conduct and character of the candidate.
- (f) Be willing to have an interview with representatives of the Board of Ministries which shall also include the candidate's spouse and family.
- (g) Be able to produce a current credit report from a recognized agency or give evidence of financial integrity.
- (h) Be willing to share in the expenses of the Fellowship by payment of the Annual Membership Fee and by contributing as led by the Holy Spirit when requests are made for the advancement of the Fellowship on a global basis.
- (i) Be willing to work at building meaningful relationships for mutual growth and development within the Fellowship and especially with those brethren who serve as members of the Presbytery.
- (j) Be able to confirm their personal acceptance of the Doctrinal Statement upheld by NCI with a clear conscience, and to seek to uphold the conduct and lifestyle of the Lord Jesus Christ as their own personal standard.

### **3. Associate Corporate Member (for organizations):**

Those organizations desiring membership shall provide the following:

- (a) Satisfactory completion and acceptance of the Membership Application.
- (b) A statement from the Director/Principal setting out the history of the organization and including the vision statement currently espoused by the organization.
- (c) A sample of the organization's current brochures and catalogs used in advertising (new organizations will need to discuss this matter with N.C.I.U. to gain assistance in advertising

planning).

(d) A statement of purpose in becoming a member with NCIMF.

(e) Be willing to build meaningful relationships with other members and/or organizations, who are co-workers in the Great Commission, and especially of those within the Fellowship.

(f) Be willing to participate in the voluntary exchange of students, ministries, and resource personnel when opportunities avail themselves, or as arranged by mutual agreement with other Fellowship members.

(g) Be willing to share in the expenses of the Fellowship by payment of an annual membership fee, and by contributing as led by the Holy Spirit when requests are made for the advancement of the Fellowship on a global basis.

(h) Be able to confirm their acceptance of the Doctrinal Statement of N.C.I.U. and to seek to uphold these tenets within their own organization with clear conscience.

(i) To accord such courtesies as are expected of "sister organizations" when involved in joint field activities by refraining from seeking to exert uninvited financial pressure or making solicitations for support from others, and straining relationships.

(j) To recognize that all Christian organizations exist by faith, and to take opportunities to sow into other ministries with liberality as directed by the Holy Spirit, without creating financial embarrassment.

#### **4. Affiliated Training Providers (Bible Colleges, Training Centers etc.):**

NCIMF recognizes that many ministries acknowledge a call to pioneer, plant and establish new churches, missions works or training centers, or that they are granted oversight and responsibility for an existing work. NCIMF seeks to assist such individuals and organizations to become established and fully functional as part of their vision and mission statement.

NCIMF does not provide such organizations with tax exemption facilities or legal protection through the N.C.I.U. affiliation, but will assist where possible for such individuals and organizations to gain their own legal identity and tax exempt status in accordance with the laws of the State.

NCIMF seeks to recognize and support organizations who have as their prime focus the training, equipping and education of members of the Body of Christ to fulfill the Great Commission, by the provision of an Agreement of Affiliation as a Training Provider.

This agreement gives privileges and responsibilities to those organizations and their student bodies which are not obtainable through other means.

NCIMF will require the following documentary evidence from organizations seeking to be an Affiliate Training Provider:

(a) A certified copy of the Constitution, By-laws, and or Articles of Incorporation of the organization.

- (b) A certified copy of the determination of Incorporation and Exemption status if applicable.
- (c) A statement from the president or principal director setting out the history of the organization, and including the current vision statement.
- (d) A profile of the organization showing the governmental structure and management policies.
- (e) A copy of the corporate resolution agreeing to affiliate with N.C.I.U. as an academic institution and NCIMF as a Ministries Fellowship.
- (f) A letter from a Certified Accountant, or evidence by way of audited accounts, that the organization is not in fiscal delinquency and that standard accounting practices are upheld and practiced. We do recognize that most training establishments do not operate on great surpluses (indeed, most are more than happy to have a surplus at all!) However, we desire to ensure that the organization is not in fiscal danger and maintaining a standard of integrity in the community.
- (g) A sample of the current advertising brochures used by the organization.
- (h) Details of any other affiliations held by the organization.
- (i) Satisfactory completion and acceptance of the Agreement to Affiliate with N.C.I.U.

#### **FINANCIAL:**

NCIMF will exist both by payment of the annual membership fees contributed by individual and corporate members, and through the voluntary contribution of funds as solicited from time to time for the purpose of extending the services and work of the Fellowship throughout the world, and for specified needs relating to members.

- All members will be encouraged in accordance with the Biblical principles of giving and stewardship, to lay aside such offerings as directed by the Holy Spirit, and to contribute to the needs as presented by the Fellowship.
- As a division of New Covenant International Incorporated, which is a non-profit (eleemosynary) corporation, the Board of Ministries will seek to raise such additional funds as are needed for general administration of the Fellowship and the extension of the ministry of N.C.I.U. by way of solicitation and endowment from alumni, present students, NCIMF members, like-minded charitable, philanthropic and religious organizations.
- NCIMF does not directly provide financial assistance for the establishment of new Bible colleges, schools, training centers or personal support finances for missionaries and church workers. If a member is desirous of such assistance application must be made to the Director of Global Missions Network, which has as part of its mission statement the coordinating of people, projects and resources to ensure that such specified needs are able to be assisted. Please request information from our offices. It is important to note that GMN will not make recommendations to its Board for new or existing school development unless the applicant is able to embrace the principles of organization,

curricula, faculty etc., of N.C.I.U.

- Scale of Fees - 1996-1997

In accordance with the recognition that NCIMF provides for different classes of membership, the following scale of fees is set for the fiscal years of 1996 -1997.

All fees are based on a calendar year commencing January 1st and concluding December 31st. All fees are payable in US dollars or a US dollar bank draft to NCI as the parent organization. Receipts will be issued upon request.

Membership Class:	<u>US\$</u>
1. Associate Personal Member	\$ 75.00
2. Probationary Licensed Membership	\$150.00
3. Associate Corporate Affiliate Membership	\$200.00
4. Full Ordained (Licensed) Membership	\$200.00
5. Full Corporate Affiliate Membership	\$250.00

#### **BOARD OF MINISTRIES:**

The Board of Ministries shall be comprised of the following:

- (a) The Executive Directors of NCI as appointed.
- (b) Five representatives as chosen by the Directors to represent each of the five global regions that N.C.I.U. is committed to working in, namely; The Americas, UK/Europe; Africa; Asia; the South Pacific.
- (c) The Chairman of the Board shall be one of the Vice Presidents of NCI, or of a suitable ministry. The Chairman shall be appointed by the Board.
- (d) Ministries recognized as Ascension Gift ministries to the Global church shall be invited to assist with the affairs of the Board as needed.
- (e) The Board of Ministries shall be authorized to co-opt such ministries as are required for the needs of specific ethno-linguistic groups.

Responsibilities of the Board:

- (a) To be responsible to ensure that the benefits of membership as set out in this publication shall be available to all members.
- (b) To ensure that each member is linked to another member for encouragement and support.
- (c) To provide opportunities for members and member's constituents to be able to participate in the interchange of ministry and culture experiences as arranged from time to time.

(d) To provide a forum for the accomplishment of the vision and mission statements of NCIMF.