



THE ALLIANCE FRAMEWORK • VOLUME TWO • GOVERNANCE

The Fivefold Church Alliance

A Covenant Among Churches

*Officers, meetings and rules: how the churches of the Covenant
decide together and keep their power in balance*

Apostle Anderson

AUTHOR

Read This First

This is the rule book of The Fivefold Church Alliance. It is written to be read by any pastor, delegate or officer in one sitting, and to be opened on the table at a Council meeting when a question comes up.

Three documents, in this order. The **Covenant** (Form J-2) is the promise each church signs. **Volume One: Foundations** explains that promise and the life of the churches. **This volume** sets out who holds which seat, how the Council meets and votes, and how a decision is challenged or a rule is changed. If two of them ever disagree, the Covenant comes first, then Volume One, then this book.

The short names. This book calls The Fivefold Church Alliance *the Fivefold Alliance*, or *FCA* in front of another word, as Volume One does. *The Covenant* is the bond between the churches.

Version: v1.1101 (October 3, 2026). Copyright © 2026 Apostle Anderson. All rights reserved. Churches of The Fivefold Church Alliance may use and copy this book for their own FCA work. Publisher: TeleChurch Live. Self-published by Lighted Candle Church Inc., Atlanta, Georgia. This book is not legal advice; the Fivefold Alliance should consult qualified professionals before it registers as an organization.

Contents

Part I. Who Holds What	3
1. Power Kept in Balance	3
2. The Delegate Council	4
3. The Chairperson	5
4. The President and the Officers	6
Part II. Meetings	8
5. When the Council Meets, and How a Meeting Runs	8
6. How the Council Votes	10
Part III. Rulings, Appeals and Change	11
7. Rulings and Appeals	11
8. Changing the Rules, and When Something Goes Wrong	12
Appendix A: Who Does What	13
Appendix B: The Meeting Sheet	14

PART I OF III

Who Holds What

CHAPTER 1 · WHO HOLDS WHAT

Power Kept in Balance

A body of churches can become something it was never meant to be. One person begins to decide everything, or one church begins to own it. The Fivefold Alliance guards against that by never letting one person, or one church, hold more than one kind of power.



Three seats, kept in balance. The Council decides. The President and the officers carry out. Headquarters hosts. The Chairperson is the point they balance on.

1.1 The Three Seats

SEAT	WHO HOLDS IT	WHAT IT DOES
Deciding	The Delegate Council: every church, one vote	Decides the shared work of the Fivefold Alliance.
Carrying out	The President and the officers	Does what the Council decided, and reports back.
Hosting	Headquarters, the church where the work was born	Provides the place where the churches gather, train and meet.
Keeping the balance	The Chairperson	Holds none of the three. Presides over the Council and keeps them in balance (Chapter 3).

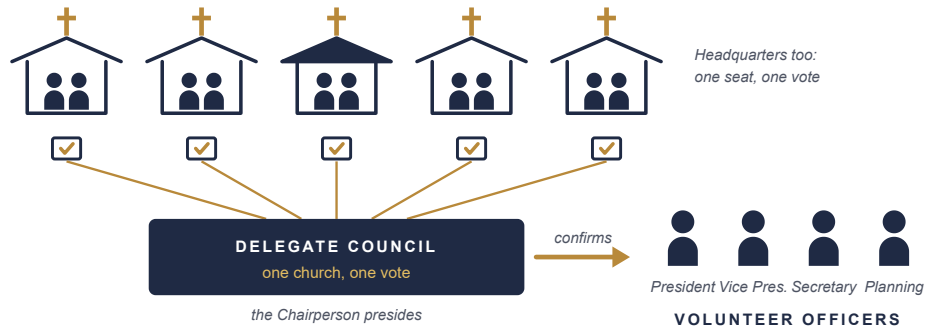
1.2 Four Rules of Balance

- **No one holds two seats.** The Chairperson does not carry out the work, and the President does not preside.
- **Different churches.** The President does not come from the Headquarters church, nor from the Chairperson's church.
- **No one governs a church.** Nothing in this book reaches inside a local church.
- **Everything in writing.** A decision, a ruling, an appointment or an assignment that is not written down has not been made.

CHAPTER 2 · WHO HOLDS WHAT

The Delegate Council

The Delegate Council is the churches of the Covenant in one room. It is the only body of the Fivefold Alliance that decides.



One church, one vote. Every church, Headquarters included, holds one seat. The Chairperson presides, and the officers serve the Council.

2.1 Who Sits on the Council

Every FCA church holds one seat and one vote. The seat is normally held by the church's stationed delegate. A church whose delegate has retired names who speaks for it, usually the pastor or someone the pastor chooses. The seat belongs to the church, never to the person and never to Headquarters. One person may not hold the seat of two churches.

2.2 What the Council Decides

- Where the people, gifts and resources of the Fivefold Alliance are sent.
- Each church's state, at the yearly state review.
- Whether a church has received the Restoration Mark.
- Recognizing a move of Headquarters, if one is ever declared (Volume One, 3.4).
- Confirming and commissioning the officers, and removing them.
- Receiving new churches into the Covenant, and ending membership.
- Whether to adopt the Financial Addendum, and on what terms.
- Changes to the Covenant and to these rules (Chapter 8).

2.3 What the Council Never Decides

The Council decides the shared work. It does not decide the internal matters of any church: who its pastor is, who its ministers are, how it worships, how it spends its money, or what it does with its property.

CHAPTER 3 · WHO HOLDS WHAT

The Chairperson

The Chairperson's work is to keep everything in balance. When the Fivefold Alliance drifts from the Covenant, the Chairperson is the one who says so and calls the churches back to it.

3.1 What the Chairperson Does

- **Presides.** The Chairperson runs the meetings of the Council.
- **Calls the Council together.** The Chairperson may call a meeting at any time.
- **Rules a decision out of order when it breaks the Covenant.** The ruling is in writing, names the part of the Covenant that is broken, and sends the matter back to the Council to decide again (Chapter 7).
- **Settles what the Covenant means** when two sides read it differently.
- **Hears appeals** from a church or a person who believes they have been wronged (Chapter 7).

3.2 What the Chairperson Does Not Do

- The Chairperson does not vote.
- The Chairperson does not carry out the daily work, and holds no other office.
- The Chairperson does not handle money.
- The Chairperson has no say inside any local church.
- The Chairperson does not replace a decision with one of his own. He sends it back.

The Chairperson is bound by the Covenant like every church and every officer.

3.3 The Founder, and Those Who Follow

The founder of the Fivefold Alliance holds the Chairperson's seat until he lays it down. After him, the Council elects the Chairperson from among its churches for a two-year term, and no one serves more than two terms in a row.

3.4 When the Chairperson Is Away

If the Chairperson cannot be at a meeting, the Council chooses one of its delegates to preside for that meeting only. That person runs the meeting but does not rule on the Covenant or hear appeals; those wait for the Chairperson. If the seat falls empty, the Council elects a Chairperson at its next meeting.

CHAPTER 4 · WHO HOLDS WHAT

The President and the Officers

The officers carry out what the Council decides. They are volunteers, they hold no vote, and they govern no church.



The officers serve the Council. Each one has a single, plain piece of work, and none of them has a vote.

4.1 The Officers and Their Work

OFFICER	WORK
President	Leads the officers. Carries out the Council's decisions, approves each worker assignment and each service time block, speaks for the Fivefold Alliance in public, and reports to the Council at every meeting.
Vice President	Stands in for the President when he is away. Places the workers: matches each request for help to a worker, and brings the assignment to the President for approval.
Secretary	Keeps the signed Covenants, the delegate appointments, the worker assignments, the minutes, the membership record and, in confidence, the references and background-check records. Sends the written notices.
Planning Department Secretary	Assigns the service time blocks for the President's approval, and keeps the FCA Calendar.
Treasurer	Only where the Financial Addendum is adopted. Keeps the fund and reports it to the Council at every meeting. The duties and the checks on money are in that booklet.

4.2 How Officers Are Chosen

At the founding. The Fivefold Alliance is born in an order: Headquarters, then the Chairperson, then the officers, then the delegates and their Council. The first officers arise from Headquarters. They are leaders of the founding churches who agree to serve there, and each of them sends a delegate from their own church. They begin to serve when Headquarters is born, and the Council confirms them at its first meeting.

After the founding. A person applies for the office they wish to serve in. The Council reviews the applications, confirms each officer by vote and commissions them. An officer must be a member in good standing of an FCA church, sign the Code of Conduct, and provide three references, or pass a background check if they will work with children or youth.

4.3 Terms and Limits

- Officers serve two-year terms and may apply again. No one holds the same office for more than two terms in a row.
- Terms are staggered, so that not every office changes hands in the same year.
- An officer does not hold a church's vote on the Council while in office.
- The President does not come from the Headquarters church, nor from the Chairperson's church. No church holds more than one office at a time unless there are too few churches to fill them.
- While the Fivefold Alliance is small, one person may hold two offices, but never two that check each other: not President and Secretary, and not President and Treasurer.

4.4 When an Office Falls Empty

If the President cannot serve, the Vice President serves until the Council confirms a new President. Any other empty office is filled at the next Council meeting; until then the President names a member in good standing to carry the work. The Council may remove an officer by two-thirds of the votes cast (Chapter 6).

4.5 Jobs the Council Gives

Much of the work needs a person for a season, not an office for life: leading the year's training, visiting a church to verify its Restoration Mark, standing with a church through the loss of its pastor. For these the Council names a person, a job and a length of time, in writing. When the job ends, the role ends. No standing rank is created.

PART II OF III

Meetings

CHAPTER 5 · MEETINGS

When the Council Meets, and How a Meeting Runs

The Council meets at Headquarters, where the delegates already gather. It meets often enough that no church waits long for help, and never so often that meeting becomes the work.

5.1 The Three Kinds of Meeting

MEETING	WHEN	WHO CALLS IT
Regular meeting	Monthly or quarterly, as the work requires	The Chairperson
Yearly state review	Once a year	The Chairperson
Special meeting	Whenever it is needed	The Chairperson at any time, or one-third of the churches in writing

The Secretary sends written notice of a regular meeting or the yearly review at least fourteen days ahead, and of a special meeting at least three days ahead, saying what it is for. A church that cannot be present in the room may take part by telephone or video, and is counted as present.

5.2 The Agenda

The Chairperson prepares the agenda. So that no matter can be kept off it, any church, with one other church agreeing, may put a matter before the Council. It sends the matter to the Secretary in writing at least seven days before the meeting.

5.3 When a Meeting Can Decide

A meeting can decide when more than half of the FCA churches are present. If fewer are present, those who came may talk and pray together, but nothing is decided.

5.4 The Order of a Meeting

1. Prayer, and the reading of a Scripture.
2. The roll: the Secretary names the churches present and says whether the meeting can decide.
3. The minutes of the last meeting, read and agreed.
4. Reports: the President, the Vice President on workers placed, the Secretary, the Planning Department Secretary, and the Treasurer where there is one.
5. Matters carried over from the last meeting.
6. Requests for help, and where help will be sent.

7. New matters on the agenda.
8. Any ruling or appeal the Chairperson has to report.
9. The date of the next meeting, and prayer.

5.5 How Matters Are Discussed

The Chairperson gives every church that wishes to speak the chance to speak before a vote is taken. Officers may speak to explain their work. Pastors of FCA churches may attend and listen. Matters that touch a person's safety or a confidential record are discussed with only the delegates and the officers concerned in the room.

5.6 The Yearly State Review

Once a year the Council looks at every church in turn: its strengths and needs across the fivefold ministry, music and practical help; whether its delegate is stationed; and whether it has kept the Covenant. It sets each church's state for the coming year, decides where help will go, asks whether Headquarters is serving every church fairly, and confirms officers whose terms have ended.

CHAPTER 6 · MEETINGS

How the Council Votes

Every church has one vote, whatever its size, its season or its place. Headquarters has one. The Chairperson and the officers have none.

6.1 How Much Agreement Each Decision Needs

DECISION	WHAT IT NEEDS
Ordinary decisions: where help is sent, a church's state, the Restoration Mark, confirming an officer, receiving a church	More than half of the votes cast
Ending a church's membership; removing an officer; adopting, changing or setting aside the Financial Addendum; changing this book or Volume One	Two-thirds of the votes cast
Changing the Covenant; overturning a ruling of the Chairperson	Three-quarters of all the FCA churches, present or not

6.2 Who Casts a Church's Vote

A church's vote is cast by its delegate, or by the person it has named to hold its seat. A church that is absent does not vote, and no one may vote on its behalf.

6.3 Fairness in the Vote

- A church does not vote on a matter that is about itself alone: its own state, its own Restoration Mark, or its own membership. It speaks first, and then the others decide.
- A tied vote does not pass. The matter may be brought again at the next meeting.
- A church that has been sent a written notice for falling behind does not vote until it is current again (Volume One, 13.4).
- Votes are taken openly, church by church, and recorded in the minutes. A vote about a named person is taken by written ballot.

6.4 Minutes and Records

The Secretary writes the minutes of every meeting: which churches were present, each matter decided, and how each church voted. The minutes are sent to every church within fourteen days and are read and agreed at the next meeting. Every church may see the minutes, the membership record and the signed Covenants. References, background-check records and any report of harm are kept in confidence by the Secretary and shown only to those who must act on them.

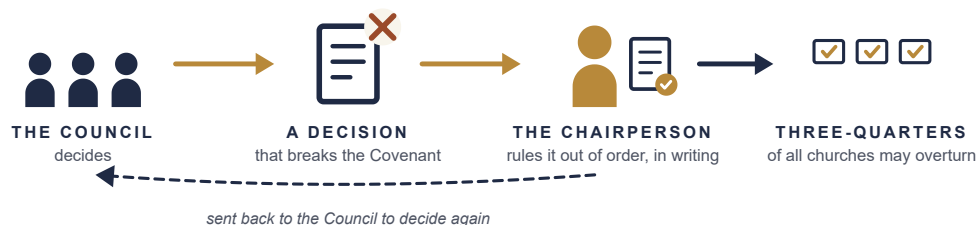
PART III OF III

Rulings, Appeals and Change

CHAPTER 7 · RULINGS, APPEALS AND CHANGE

Rulings and Appeals

A ruling is how the Fivefold Alliance is called back to its Covenant. An appeal is how a church or a person who has been wronged is heard.



How a ruling works. If a decision breaks the Covenant, the Chairperson rules it out of order in writing and sends it back. The Council decides again, or overturns the ruling by three-quarters of all its churches.

7.1 When the Chairperson Rules

The Chairperson rules a decision out of order only when it breaks the Covenant: for example, a decision that would have one church govern another, pass money between churches, take a church's property, or go around its pastor. The Chairperson does not rule against a decision because he would have chosen differently.

7.2 How a Ruling Is Made

1. The Chairperson writes the ruling and names the part of the Covenant that is broken.
2. The ruling is given to every church. It is made within thirty days of the decision.
3. The decision is set aside, and the matter returns to the Council to decide again.

The Chairperson does not put a decision of his own in its place. The Council may overturn a ruling of the Chairperson by three-quarters of all the FCA churches. This is the check on the Chairperson's seat.

7.3 Who May Appeal

- A church whose membership has been ended, or whose vote has been set aside.
- A person who has been suspended from FCA service under the Code of Conduct.
- A church that believes a decision of the Council or an act of an officer has broken the Covenant toward it.

7.4 How an Appeal Is Heard

The appeal is sent to the Chairperson in writing within thirty days. The Chairperson hears both sides and answers in writing within thirty days more. Where a child's or another person's safety is at risk, a suspension stays in force while the appeal is heard: safety comes first. In the spirit of Galatians 6:1, the aim of every appeal is restoration wherever it is possible.

CHAPTER 8 · RULINGS, APPEALS AND CHANGE

Changing the Rules, and When Something Goes Wrong

Rules must be able to change, or they will be broken. But the deeper the rule, the more churches must agree before it changes.

8.1 How Each Document Is Changed

DOCUMENT	HOW IT IS CHANGED
The Covenant	Three-quarters of all the FCA churches. The change is put in writing and read at one meeting, and voted on at the next, so that every church can take it home first.
Volume One and this book	Two-thirds of the votes cast.
The Financial Addendum	Two-thirds of the votes cast, to adopt it, change its amounts, or set it aside.

8.2 What Is Not Open to Change

Six things are the heart of the Covenant, and no vote may remove them: that no church governs another; that no one recruits another church's members; that no money passes between churches and no church buys help; that no one takes part in another church's internal decisions; that no one claims another church's property; and that every church holds one vote.

8.3 When Something Goes Wrong

IF	THEN
An officer or delegate breaks the Code of Conduct	The concern is brought to the President, who may suspend the person from FCA service until the Council decides. If the concern is about the President, it is brought to the Chairperson.
A church has had no delegate for three months	The Secretary sends a written notice. The church does not vote or receive new worker assignments until it is current. After six months the Council may end its membership.
Two churches are in dispute	When both ask, the Chairperson, or a person the Council names, helps them settle it. Neither church is governed by the other, or by the Council.
A church loses its pastor	Its officers may ask for help under a Pastoral Transition Agreement (Form P-1). The Fivefold Alliance helps, and does not take the church over.
There is a concern about abuse or harm	It is reported at once to the President and to the authorities as the law requires. It is never handled privately.
The Chairperson breaks the Covenant	Any church may bring it before the Council. The Council may set aside the act by three-quarters of all its churches, and the delegate chosen to preside runs that part of the meeting.

Appendix A: Who Does What

WHO	DECIDES	CARRIES OUT	CANNOT
Delegate Council	The shared work; states; officers; membership; the rules	Nothing itself; it works through the officers	Decide any church's internal matters
Chairperson	Whether a decision breaks the Covenant; what the Covenant means; appeals	Presides; calls meetings	Vote; hold office; handle money; replace a decision with his own
President	Each worker assignment and time block, within what the Council has decided	The Council's decisions; leads the officers	Vote; preside; come from the Headquarters church or the Chairperson's church
Vice President	Nothing alone	Places the workers; stands in for the President	Vote
Secretary	Nothing alone	Records, notices, minutes, confidential files	Vote
Planning Department Secretary	Nothing alone	Service time blocks; the FCA Calendar	Vote
Headquarters	Nothing for the Fivefold Alliance; it has one vote like every church	Hosts the training, the delegates and the Council	Govern any church, or require anything of it
Each church	Everything about itself	Its own promises under the Covenant	Govern another church

Appendix B: The Meeting Sheet

The Secretary fills in one sheet for every meeting of the Council and keeps it with the minutes.

Date _____ Place _____ Kind of meeting _____

Presiding _____ Secretary _____

Churches in the Covenant _____ Churches present _____ Can the meeting decide? _____

MATTER	BROUGHT BY	FOR	AGAINST	DECIDED

Help to be sent, and to which church _____

Rulings or appeals reported by the Chairperson _____

Next meeting _____

Chairperson _____ Secretary _____