

**Introduction to proposed Declaration of Common Identity
and to changes to the Constitution and Manual of Procedure.**

January 19, 2012

During the winter of 2009/2010, Jeff Bogue presented the "[Path Forward](#)" which included a proposal to begin a process of revising the FGBC Constitution, Manual of Procedure, and Statement of Faith to executives of our National Ministries, the Fellowship Council and 60 leaders across the FGBC. General support for this idea was unanimous.

In 2011, Bob Fetterhoff asked Keith Shearer, Tom Julien, Jim Custer and Keith Minier to draft a proposed document that would better and more accurately describe the Fellowship of Grace Brethren Churches. This group has drafted a "Declaration of Common Identity" in both a long and a short form. The Structures commission has considered those documents, made a few minor changes and is presenting them to the council.

The structures commission is also recommending changes to the Constitution and Manual of Procedure. A summary of changes, documents with changes marked, and documents with changes incorporated are provided.

Courtesy copies of the Declaration and the Constitution and Manual of Procedure will be provided to executives of our national ministries in advance of the council meeting.