



Society of Women in Theology Inc. (SWT)  
**Membership Agreement**

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Nonprofit 501(c)(3)

Initial Edition - April 2024

Society of Women in Theology Inc. Membership Agreement

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*Welcome*

Greetings!

You are in the right place.

Since inception, SWT has been a safe space for sharing, caring and daring to dream. It is my sincere prayer that as you engage others, you learn more, see more, and appreciate more about yourself. That as you listen to the authentic stories of the dynamic world-class women around you, that you become sisters and draw buckets of wisdom from each other's deep wells of experience. May you find purpose in your own testimony, refine your own voice, and walk in your own God-given power.

I am excited that you are here.

God is up to something. Lets go!

*Iria L. Abram*

Dr. Iria Loraine Abram, Founder & CEO



## *Vision*

A safe space providing platforms that empower women to be and do what God has called them to be and do.

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## *Mission*

To empower women to engage in theological dialogue and scholarship that intentionally identifies the voices of women and includes those voices in the creation of quality contributions to global academia, ministry, and society.

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## *Purpose*

The Society of Women in Theology (SWT) is an organization designed for those who desire to substantiate their academic, ministerial, social, or professional experience within a society offering education services and practicum focusing on the many unique experiences of women in the twenty-first century through the lens of theology.

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## *Values*

SWT is primarily made up of women whose “steps” are divinely ordered by God. There are five core values at the heart of SWT that reflect this concept. SWT believes in:

- S. Sisterhood – Bonding through sisterhood.
- T. Theology – Performing theological research and making contributions to ecclesia.
- E. Exposure – Exposing the world to SWT, and exposing SWT to the world.
- P. Platforms – Creating platforms for member practicum and for guest invitation.
- S. Scholarship – Contributing fresh and relevant scholarship to academia.

## Scripture

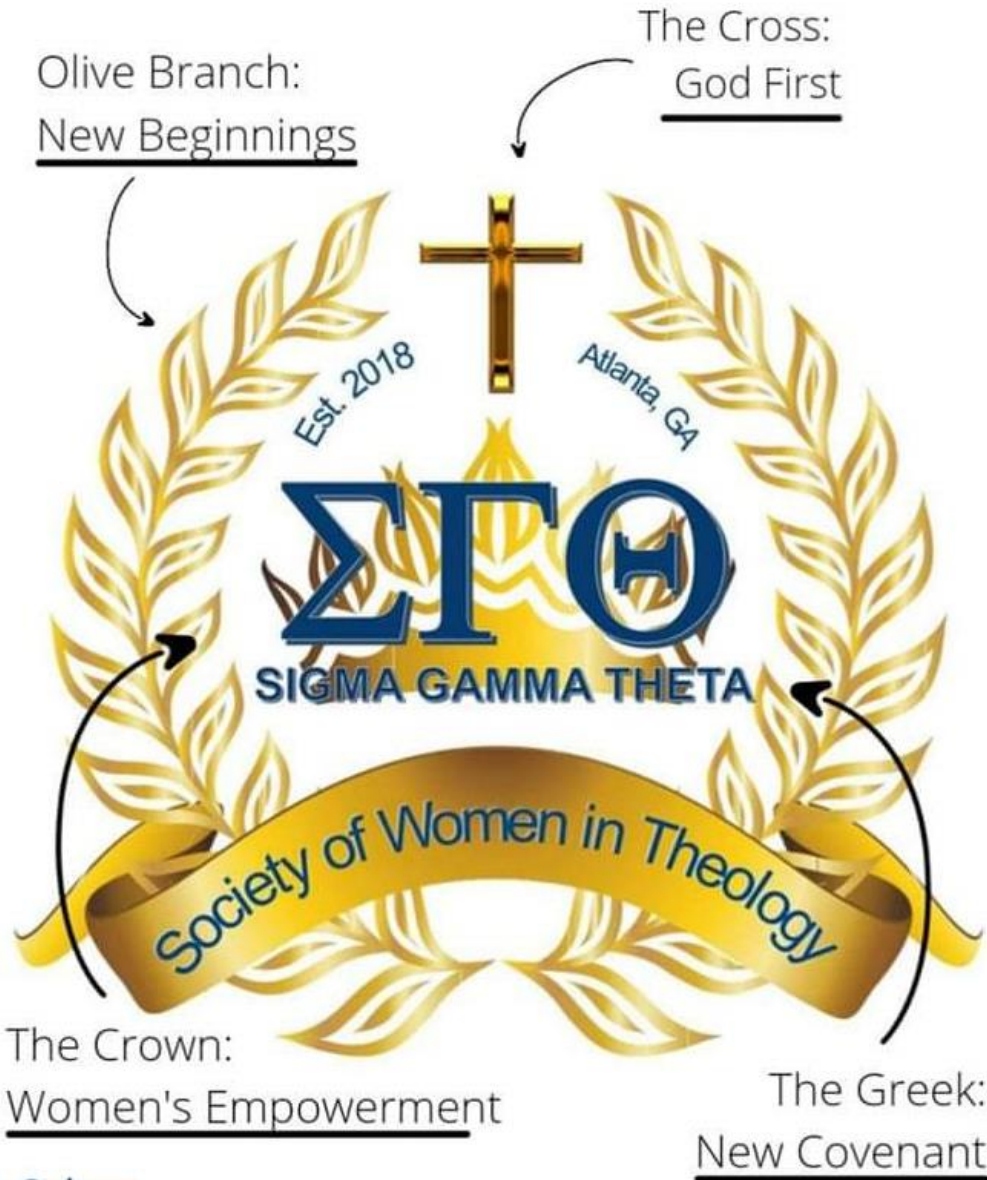
Psalm 37:23, "The Lord makes firm the steps of the one who delights in him." [NIV]

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## History

The Society of Women in Theology (SWT) is an answer to a need that was growing within the Beulah Heights University (BHU) community. Classroom dialogue about women in ministry, in theology, and in leadership poured over into hallway debates and student lounge discussions. Recent advancements of women on the global stage helped to foster this interest, and the concerns of women in regard to inclusion in, and contribution to, the greater theological conversation became a loud cry for a solution. Dr. Iria L. Abram, BHU faculty, responded to this phenomenon by organizing meetings to assess interest in forming an organization that would focus on the voices of these women. The first interest meeting was Tuesday, October 10, 2017 at 4:30 PM in the Student Activity Center and there were ten people, notably women and men alike, who desired to start an organization. The second interest meeting was Wednesday, October 18, 2017 at 11:30 AM, also in the Student Activity Center, and there were fourteen more people who desired to start an organization. These, along with three alumni who expressed their interest in response to emails or Facebook ads about the meetings, made up the original twenty-seven members. The first official meeting of an organized Society of Women in Theology was November 17, 2017 in the BHU Chapel. Dr. Abram drafted a proposal for the establishment of SWT as an academic society within the Department of Religious Studies. The department Chair, Dr. Brian Hodges approved the proposal and it was forwarded on to receive unanimous approval from the University President, Dr. Benson Karanja and the President's Cabinet to be an official student organization beginning with the Spring 2018 semester which was January 8<sup>th</sup> – which we recognize as our Founder's Day.

*Logo*



### Colors

Universal color identifiers are the same as BHU colors:

Blue

Pantone 295 C; HEX 00447c; Red 0, Green 68, Blue 124.



Gold

Pantone 7406 C; HEX ffcf01; Red 255, Green 207, Blue 1.



# Greek

As prepared by Dr. Dennis Malone, BHU Professor of Greek I & 2  
May 18, 2018

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The following are the Greek words (grammatically correct) for the title above. Society can be formed from a number of root words, while women and theology are from single roots.

Society

The familiar term κοινωνία (koinōnia) can refer to a society but more specifically to a fellowship or company.

Other words for society could be –

Association – συνοδος (sunodos)

Company – σονουσια (sonousia)

– όμιλια (homilia)

Society is best portrayed using συνων (sunōn

Of Women (plural) is γύνων (gunōn)

In Theology is έν θεολογώ (en theologō)

The result is as follows:

With capital letters – Σύνων Γύνων έν Θεολογώ (Sunōn Gunōn en Theologō)

Without capitals – σύνων γύνων έν θεολογώ (sunōn gunōn en theologō)



# Information

Name	
Contact #	
Email Address	
Address	
Birthday	
Business/Ministry Name	
Business/Ministry Website	
Emergency Contact Name	
Emergency Contact #	
Anything you want to share or anything you want the administration to know	



# Agreement

## DUES

Membership requires paying dues monthly (10.00 US) or annually (\$99.00 US). A member must adhere to the Dues requirement. Dues must have been paid applicable to last ninety days from the current date of inquiry for a person to be considered an active member. After ninety days of nonpayment of dues, a person is considered a part of the larger community of supporters. Membership may be reestablished with the payment of dues. It will not be necessary to back-pay months or years that were unpaid to be reinstated.

## DISCLAIMERS

Outcomes are not guaranteed. Successful experiences depend on member effort, participation, and cooperation.  
There are no refunds.  
Sessions, workshops, events, and meetings are subject to rescheduling.  
Membership is established by declaring agreement and acceptance of all elements of the official Constitution and Bylaws.

## NON-DISCLOSURE AGREEMENT

The parties mutually agree that they shall hold the terms of this Agreement and all information in connection therewith strictly confidential and shall not disclose such information to third parties. All non-public information disclosed in connection with the Society of Women in Theology Inc. (SWT; also known as “Sigma Gamma Theta”) or this agreement should be construed as Confidential Information. Events, workshops, sessions, conferences, proprietary materials, private business contacts— including but not limited to names, contact numbers, addresses, and email addresses— do not have permission to be shared or disclosed outside of the purpose for which it was provided.

## MEDIA RELEASE

Photographs, video, and audio recordings of SWT events and/or live sessions may include member images in whole or in part and may be published as promotional material, public content, and/or for advertising purposes.

## ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

By signing below, you agree that you have read and agree to the terms of engagement described herein, and that all information you have provided is true and accurate as of the date below. With a signature below, the signer indicates their desire for membership with the Society of Women in Theology Inc.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Member Name – Printed

\_\_\_\_\_  
Member Name – Signature

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

# Connect

Congratulations!  
Welcome to the sisterhood.

Be sure to subscribe to our home site and create your member profile:

<https://www.swt2018.org/>

and connect with our Facebook page:

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/societyofwomenintheology/>

