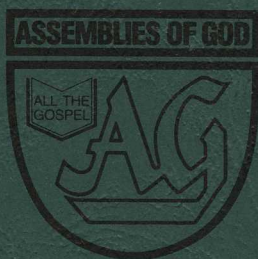


# MINUTES

Revised Constitution and Bylaws

The General Council of the Assemblies of God



THE FORTY-FIFTH GENERAL COUNCIL  
Minneapolis, Minnesota, August 10-15, 1993

**MINUTES**  
of the  
**45th Session of**  
**THE GENERAL COUNCIL**  
of the  
**ASSEMBLIES OF GOD**

**Convened at Minneapolis, Minnesota**  
**August 10-15, 1993**  
with  
**Revised Constitution and Bylaws**

(Incorporated under the laws of the State of Missouri,  
October 13, 1916; amended September 26, 1919, Sep-  
tember 7, 1965, and November 4, 1977)

Printed in U.S.A.

Cost: \$2 (Available from General Secretary's Office)

## **THE GENERAL COUNCIL OF THE ASSEMBLIES OF GOD**

### **EXECUTIVE OFFICERS**

Thomas E. Trask .....	General Superintendent
Charles T. Crabtree .....	Assistant General Superintendent
George O. Wood .....	General Secretary
James K. Bridges .....	General Treasurer

### **EXECUTIVE PRESBYTERY**

Thomas E. Trask, Chairman	
David W. Argue	Charles E. Hackett
Almon M. Bartholomew	Ronald F. McManus
Robert L. Brandt	Armon Newburn
James K. Bridges	Robert K. Schmidgall
Glen D. Cole	Loren Triplett
Charles T. Crabtree	Philip Wannemacher
George O. Wood	

### **ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICES**

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Springfield, Missouri 65802-1894  
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## FOREWORD

At the 45th General Council, which convened August 10-15, 1993, in Minneapolis, Minnesota, a high water mark was reached in several areas.

There was a complete turnover in the Board of Administration officers, the following being elected: Thomas E. Trask, general superintendent; Charles Crabtree, assistant general superintendent; George O. Wood, general secretary; and James Bridges, general treasurer.

In addition, Charles Hackett was elected as executive presbyter of the Division of Home Missions, and seated on the Executive Presbytery.

Three new area executive presbyters were elected: David W. Argue, North Central Area; Armon Newburn, South Central Area; and Ronald F. McManus, Southeast Area.

Seven persons were selected to serve as honorary general presbyters: G. Raymond Carlson, Charles H. Cookman, Joseph R. Flower, Wyndel C. Mangrum, J. Derald Musgrove, Kenzy Savage, and Glenn E. Strickland.

A significant amount of legislation was enacted, including the following:

1. Committee Report Re. Restoration and Rehabilitation.
2. Certified ministers credential to replace Christian worker.
3. New Bylaw Article VIII. Christian Marriage and Family.
4. New Bylaw Article XI. General Superintendent's Office, placing *Spiritual Life-Evangelism*, Office of Public Relations, The *Pentecostal Evangel*, and *Advance* magazines under his administration.
5. New Bylaw Article XVI. Electronic Media Board.
6. New Bylaw Article XXII. Assemblies of God Foundation.
7. Establishment of Seniors Department delegated to Executive Presbytery.

The report of the Spiritual Life Committee was climaxed by a reaffirmation of a commitment made by a group of younger ministers 52 years ago when the General Council was held in Minneapolis. It was a stirring scene as ministers and their spouses who were 35 years and younger came forward to make the same commitment.

The General Superintendent's Medal of Honor was given to David Burdine, president of Bethesda Foundation, and Orville W. Mills, Jr., general auditor of Exxon in the United States.

Words are inadequate to express the impact of this 45th General Council on all who were privileged to attend, especially the anointed and inspiring ministry of speakers and other participants.

JOSEPH R. FLOWER  
GENERAL SECRETARY



MINUTES OF  
THE 45TH GENERAL COUNCIL  
OF THE ASSEMBLIES OF GOD  
CONVENED AT MINNEAPOLIS, MINNESOTA  
AUGUST 10-15, 1993

**TUESDAY EVENING—AUGUST 10**

The opening service of the 45th General Council began at 7:10 p.m. in the Minneapolis, Minnesota, Convention Center. Chairman for the service was Assistant General Superintendent Everett Stenhouse. The service began with a mass choir and orchestra from the Twin Cities, directed by Laurey Berteig, minister of music, Brightmoor Tabernacle, Southfield, Michigan, singing, "Proclaiming His Majesty." The Scripture for the evening was Jeremiah 10:1-7, and was read by Donald Argue, president, North Central Bible College, Minneapolis, Minnesota. Jeffrey Brawner, pastor, First Assembly of God, Erie, Pennsylvania, was the song leader. Ted Groat, Circle Pines, Minnesota, and Kenton Lee, minister of music, First Assembly of God, Tacoma, Washington, served at the organ and piano, respectively. Special music was provided by Janet Paschal, vocalist, Reidsville, North Carolina, and the offertory was presented by Bill Murk, violinist from Geneva, Illinois.

The speaker for the opening service was General Superintendent G. Raymond Carlson. He drew on the vision of Isaiah the prophet (Isaiah 6:1-6) to declare the convention theme, "Live the Word." He focused on "Confession." He pointed out that conviction will be of no avail without contrition. "There can be no forgiveness of sin without repentance." He called Christians as well as sinners to confess personal and national failures. He stated in closing, "My prayer for this Council is that we will turn to God."

**WEDNESDAY MORNING—AUGUST 11**

A time of prayer and praise began at 9:15 on Wednesday morning. Edward Peecher, pastor of New Heritage Christian Center, Chicago, Illinois, led the prayer time. Laurey Berteig, minister of music, Brightmoor Tabernacle, Southfield, Michigan, led the singing. Judy McEachran, minister of music, First Assembly of God, Aberdeen, South Dakota, and Jonathan Faggart, minister of music, Faith Assembly of God, Orlando, Florida, served at the piano and organ, respectively. Special music was provided by Bill Murk, violinist, Geneva, Illinois.

**Business Session**

G. Raymond Carlson, general superintendent, welcomed the ministers and delegates to the opening business session of the 45th General Council, which convened at 9:30 a.m. Everett Stenhouse, assistant general superintendent, was asked to pray for God's guidance upon the business session.

### **Introduction of Executive Presbytery**

Members of the Executive Presbytery were introduced as follows: Everett R. Stenhouse, assistant general superintendent; Joseph R. Flower, general secretary; Thomas E. Trask, general treasurer; Loren Triplett, executive director of the Division of Foreign Missions; Almon M. Bartholomew, Northeast Area; Robert L. Brandt, Northwest Area; Glen D. Cole, Southwest Area; J. Foy Johnson, Southeast Area; Paul Lowenberg, South Central Area; Herman H. Rohde, North Central Area; Robert Schmidgall, Great Lakes Area; and Philip Wannenmacher, Gulf Area.

### **Introduction of Retired Executive Presbyters**

The retired executives were introduced as follows: James E. Hamill, Raymond H. Hudson, J. Philip Hogan, R. D. E. Smith, and Bert Webb. C. W. Hardcastle, Sr., and Dwight H. McLaughlin were unable to be present.

### **Introduction of Headquarters Personnel**

Appreciation was expressed to Headquarters staff, working throughout the building, who make the General Council meeting a success. Special appreciation was expressed to John Ohlin who has served as convention coordinator.

### **Introduction of Fraternal Delegates**

Mention was made of the fraternal delegates representing other fellowships. The chairman welcomed them to the General Council and indicated that they were presented in the Tuesday evening service.

### **Greetings from Newfoundland**

The general secretary read greetings received from Roy King, general superintendent of the Pentecostal Assemblies of Newfoundland. Thomas Trask, general treasurer, was asked to lead in prayer in behalf of Mrs. King, who is ill.

A motion prevailed to reciprocate with greetings to the friends in Newfoundland.

### **General Council Committees**

The chairman expressed appreciation to the following members of the General Council and operational committees. Those who served as members in the respective capacities are as follows:

#### **Budget**

Thomas E. Trask, chairman; Marcus Bakke, Glen D. Cole, David L. Nelson, Joel A. Pavia, Clarence W. St. John, Norman D. Tosten

### **Parliamentary**

William O. Vickery, chairman; Jay Alford, Donald A. Richardson

### **Resolutions**

George O. Wood, chairman; Earl J. Banning, R. Wayne Clark, Saturnino Gonzalez, Donald McManness, Edward Peecher, Wesley W. Smith

### **Roster**

Charles Anderson, James F. Allen, cochairmen; Terry Raburn, liaison; Timothy Adour, Ron Blauvelt, John Bowersock, Steve Brown, David Crabtree, David Crispin, Gary Denbow, Richard Dubose, Ray Fields, Garrol Finch, Bob Fort, Carl Halquist, James E. Hennesy, Brian Koch, Kevin McBurnie, Rick McPherson, Dennis Masters, Dan Miller, Vernon Nybakken, Jeff Ogg, Louis Ortiz, Kurt Richey, Jack Salkil, John Sewell, Michael Sharp, Jerry Snavelly, David Tims, Robert Unterseher, Earl Wetter, Roger Williams

### **Spiritual Life**

Robert K. Schmidgall, chairman; J. Robert Ashcroft, M. Wayne Benson, Warren D. Bullock, Sam Farina, James L. Hennesy, George O. Wood

### **Tellers**

Rollin J. Carlson, chairman; Rick J. Cole, John A. Loper, Johan S. Rockstad, Wesley D. Vagle, captains; David J. Torgerson, liaison; Richard Alber, Frank Alvarado, Steve Badger, Terry Bailey, Rennie Baker, Paul Baldwin, Leonard Barney, Loren Beans, Santos Becerra, Steven Bell, Jim Bennett, Arlen Benson, Everett Bradshaw, Garry Brackett, Dennis E. Clanton, Michael Clarendau, Lowell Clarke, Dan Crabtree, Rodger Cree, Van Cummings, Gregg Detwiler, Stan Drew, Eli Duran, Milton Dykes, Dean Elliott, Cliff Emery, Gary Everett, Bob Fant, Lance Faylor, David Garcia, Frank Goss, Larry Gunther, Greg Hackett, Larry Hale, Raymond Hansen, Warren Harkins, Phil Hilliard, Larry Hodge, Raymond Hoggard, Orvil Holden, Kyu Haeng Huh, Bradley Hunt, Michael Jackson, David Jenkins, David Kent, Mark Klingenberg, Arvle Knight, Tony Legear, Darrel Losing, Howard Loyd, Michael McBride, John McEachran, Bob McFarland, David McFarland, David H. Martinez, Jesus Mendoza, Gary Morton, Samuel Pack, Allen Palm, Clark Peterson, Jerald Poehl, Alan Puccini, Bryan Rainbow, David Raley, Gregory Randall, Tomas Rodriguez, Fred Rogers, Augustine Rubio, William Russell, Steve Savelich, Timothy Schroeder, Marvin Sieler, C. E. Simpson, James Smith, Larry Smith, Ernie Spears, Ken Sperry, David Sutphin, Jimmy R. Swilley, David Tangen, Joel Terragnoli, Robert Ripp, Dwaine Umbel, T. Daniel VanLuven, Alfred Vargas, John A. Vega, Paul Veliquette, Harlan Warntenbee, Michael Wengerd, Ed Wolfard, Michael Zarle, David Zinck

## **Operational Committees**

### *Accounting*

Clyde Hawkins, chairman; Tod Eastlake, Ed Simmons, Ken Tripp

### *Children's Activities*

Dick Gruber, chairman; Sharon Ellard, cochairperson; Judy Clore

### *Communications/Platform* (Program Subcommittee)

Harris Jansen, chairman; Ken Riemenschneider, platform coordinator; Marshall Bruner, platform assistant; Don Upton, sound; Vince Crunk, audio/video equipment

### *Communion*

Stanley Michael, chairman; Robert Bornert

### *Coordinator*

John V. Ohlin (ex-officio on all committees)

### *Equipment*

Arlyn Pember, chairman; Steve Mills, Ernest Rifenburg

### *Exhibits*

Carol Ball, chairperson; David Houghton, Thomas Sanders

### *Hospitality/Information Message Center*

John Maempa, Terry King, cochairmen; David Bowman, Randy Barton

### *Music (Program Subcommittee)*

Dan Crace, chairman; Larry Bach, Cyril McLellan, Merlin Mitchell, John Shows, Roger Thomassen

### *Photos (Promotions Subcommittee)*

Dick Champion, chairman; Randy Clute, Cindy Replogle

### *Printed Materials (Promotions Subcommittee)*

Ann Floyd, chairperson; Sylvia Lee

### *Program Resource*

Harris Jansen, chairman; Richard Champion, Sandra Clopine, Norman Correll, Charles Crabtree, Dan Crace, Ken Riemenschneider, Charles Hackett, Joseph Kilpatrick, John V. Ohlin, Terry Raburn, Juleen Turnage

### *Promotions/Press*

Juleen Turnage, chairperson; Richard G. Champion, Harris Jansen, Rick Knoth

### *Registration*

John V. Ohlin, pre-Council chairman; Terry Raburn, on-site chairman; Jesse Weaver, Dayton Kingsriter

### *Resolutions & Reports Expediter*

David Bundrick, chairman

### *Steering*

G. Raymond Carlson, chairman; Everett Stenhouse, Joseph R. Flower, Thomas E. Trask, John V. Ohlin, convention coordinator

### *Tellers Liaison*

David Bundrick, chairman

### *Transportation*

Lamar Headley, chairman; Merrell Cooper, Gerald Jackson, John Savage

### *Ushers*

Glenn A. Renick, chairman; Efraim Espinoza, Ken Hunt

### *Youth Congress (Program Subcommittee)*

Dick VanHuss, chairman; Brenton Osgood, Jeff Swaim, Jim Wellborn, Tom Young

## **Adoption of Agenda**

The chairman called attention to the agenda, briefly summarizing items to be covered. A motion prevailed that the agenda be adopted as a guide.

## **Procedural Motion**

The following procedural motion was presented:

WHEREAS, The constituency has been notified in advance of the seriousness of the elections before this body; and

WHEREAS, The election of executive officers is of paramount importance to our Fellowship; and

WHEREAS, The counting of the ballots carried a tremendous impact, therefore be it

RESOLVED, That the regular order of business, as prescribed in Article XXIV of the Bylaws be suspended and elections begin at 1:30 p.m., Wednesday, August 11, 1993.

A motion prevailed to adopt this procedural motion.

### **Procedural Motion**

A motion prevailed that in view of the fact that reports have been mailed well in advance, that they be received without the reading thereof.

### **General Superintendent's Report**

Everett Stenhouse, assistant general superintendent, assumed the role of chairman during the general superintendent's report.

General Superintendent G. Raymond Carlson presented the general superintendent's report as printed in the 1991-93 Biennial Report.

A motion prevailed to accept the report of the general superintendent with great appreciation.

The chair was returned to Brother Carlson.

### **Assistant General Superintendent's Report**

Attention was called to the report of the assistant general superintendent as contained in the 1991-93 Biennial Report. A motion prevailed to receive the report with appreciation.

### **General Secretary's Report**

Joseph R. Flower called attention to his report as contained in the 1991-93 Biennial Report and gave opportunity for anyone to ask questions.

A motion prevailed to receive the report with appreciation.

### **General Treasurer's Report**

Attention was called to the report of the general treasurer as printed in the 1991-93 Biennial Report.

A motion prevailed to accept the report of the general treasurer.

### **Roster Committee Report**

Charles Anderson, cochairman of the Roster Committee, gave the following report as of 9:30 a.m., Wednesday, August 11:

Ordained ministers	3,508	
Delegates	847	
Voting constituency		4,355
Licensed ministers	381	
Visitors	4,892	
Nonvoting constituency		5,273
Total registration		9,628

A motion prevailed to accept the first report of the Roster Committee.

### **General Council Audit Report**

Thomas E. Trask, general treasurer, using a summary statement as a companion, presented the General Council Audit Report. He noted that

the report from the audit firm, Baird, Kurtz and Dobson, shows a clean, unqualified opinion. He stated that although the balance of the operating fund of the General Council is small, it is operating in the black.

A motion prevailed to accept the audit report as presented.

### **Maranatha Village Audit Report**

The Audit Report of Maranatha Village was presented for information. The report indicated that although operating expenses showed an increase, they were more than offset by interest income and donations.

A motion prevailed to receive the Maranatha Village Audit Report.

### **Report of Ministers Benefit Association**

Attention was called to the Ministers Benefit Association Report included in the 1991-93 Biennial Report.

A motion prevailed to accept the report as printed.

### **Divisional and Departmental Reports**

A motion prevailed to accept all other divisional and departmental reports as printed in the 1991-93 Biennial Report.

### **Report of Committee To Study**

#### **Provisional License Credential**

#### **(Resolution 36 from 1991 General Council)**

The chairman of the Committee To Study Provisional License Credential, William Vickery, requested J. Donald McManness, secretary of the committee, to present the report. The report as presented follows:

#### **Authority and accountability.**

The committee understands that it is appointed by and is accountable to the General Council Executive Presbytery.

#### **Scope of assignment.**

The committee understands the scope of its assignment is set forth in the motion to refer Resolution 36 of the 1991 General Council to the Executive Presbytery. On reviewing the motion it appears that the committee is to perform three functions:

1. To study Resolution 36 together with the amendments of all matters in the main motion as to age and legal issues; and
2. To consult with legal counsel; and
3. To bring a report to the Executive Presbytery.

#### **1. The Study**

The committee met on March 30 and 31, 1992, at the national headquarters. All members were present except Joseph Beretta who was absent due to illness. Well in advance of the meeting the committee had been provided with copies of excerpts from the tapes of the business sessions when the resolution was under discussion and the complete

committee report which had been submitted to the General Presbytery immediately prior to the General Council.

Having reviewed the background materials the committee began its study and assessment of Resolution 36, the primary purpose of which was to respond to the expressed need for a provisional credential. The findings are:

1. The committee concurs in the findings of the earlier committee as follows:

a. The concept of issuing a provisional credential is worthy of consideration especially in view of the fact that a number of districts have already been faced with serious needs of this nature and have responded as best they could, in a variety of creative ways, in the absence of any standard of guidelines from the General Council Bylaws.

b. That there are times when, due to special circumstances, it is deemed necessary and desirable by district presbyteries to use a person as a pastor, or as a minister in some other approved or affiliated ministry, who has not fulfilled all the basic and graded requirements for a credential, but in whose life there is evidence of the call of God and an aptitude for ministry.

c. That a provisional credential could and would offer a limited window of opportunity for such a deserving person to receive temporary ministerial recognition in order to be able to serve in an approved ministerial capacity while completing the minimum requirements for a Christian Workers Certificate (Certificate of Ministry).

d. That an adequate response to the expressed need for a provisional credential (in most instances to serve as pastor) will not be realized unless the credential holder is authorized to perform the sacerdotal functions of the church.

e. That it is in the best interest of maintaining doctrinal purity and safeguarding our assemblies to require a Christian worker (certified minister) who becomes a pastor to advance to the level of a licensed minister within 2 years.

2. In a further review and evaluation of the logistics involved in issuing credentials the committee believes that a simpler response to the need would be to utilize the existing credential structure rather than to create another credential. Instead of creating a separate and distinct provisional credential a "provisional basis" can be established which will set forth the certain specific and uniform conditions under which a Christian Workers Certificate (Certificate of Ministry) may be issued provisionally. This would satisfy the need for a provisional credential and remove the ambiguity about the ministerial status of authority of the Christian worker (certified minister).

## 2. The Consultation with Legal Counsel

In conferring with Richard Hammar, the legal counsel at national headquarters, it was learned not only that the legal age varies from state to state; but also that the legal age varies within a given state depending upon one's desired activity, e.g., to drive a car, to vote, or to obtain a contractor's license, etc. Obviously, a ministerial credential does not abrogate the law.

It seems to the committee that the problem of legal age can best be resolved by clarifying that a ministerial credential only confers ecclesiastical authority to perform the rites and ceremonies of the church. With regard to legal age or matters of the law, it is the duty and responsibility of every credential holder to be informed and to act in compliance with all the laws applicable to his locale and circumstances.

To provide such a clarification the committee is proposing an amendment to the bylaws in the following recommendations.

## 3. The Recommendations

After careful review of all materials presented to the committee bearing on Resolution 36, much of which was submitted from districts; and in consideration of the consultation with legal counsel the committee submits the following recommendations:

1. That the present credential levels remain intact with the exception that the term(s) Christian worker(s) and Christian Worker(s) Certificate(s) be changed to certified minister(s) and Certificate(s) of Ministry respectively.

2. That the granting of a temporary (provisional) credential be achieved by establishing a provisional basis upon which a Certificate of Ministry may be issued provisionally.

3. That the question regarding legal age and sacerdotal functions be clarified by adding a phrase to paragraph three of Article VII, Section 1, Page 150, which would read "... of the church, in keeping with the laws of the state."

4. That certified ministers be authorized to perform the sacerdotal functions of the church.

5. That in the event a Christian worker (certified minister) becomes a pastor he will be expected to advance his credential to a license to preach within 2 years of the acceptance of the pastorate. Any Christian worker presently serving as a pastor will be expected to advance his credential to a license to preach within 2 years from the date of the adoption of the amendments herein proposed.

The resolution to implement the recommendations contained in this report is found in the resolutions booklet on page 9 and is numbered as Resolution 3.

### Resolution 3. Certificate of Ministry and Provisional Credential

George O. Wood, chairman of the Resolutions Committee, presented and moved the adoption of Resolution 3 which contained the enabling legislation necessary to implement the recommendations contained in the Report of the Committee To Study Provisional License Credential.

A motion prevailed to amend by substituting the word "the" for the word "senior" on page 13, line 4.

A motion prevailed to amend by deleting the word "educational" on page 13, line 14, and substituting the word "credentialing."

It was moved and seconded to amend by deleting the words, "In the event," on page 13, line 3, and the word "he" on line 5 of page 13, and further, that the words on line 23, "he accepts another qualifying assignment," be changed to "another qualifying assignment is accepted." The motion to amend was lost.

The motion to adopt Resolution 3, as amended, carried.

The resolution as amended and adopted follows:

WHEREAS, The 1991 General Council referred Resolution 36, Provisional Credential, to the Executive Presbytery for study and consultation with legal counsel and with the request that a report be given to the next General Council; and

WHEREAS, The Executive Presbytery appointed a study committee which brought its report and recommendations to the 1992 General Presbytery meeting; and

WHEREAS, The General Presbytery approved said report and recommendations; therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That Constitution ARTICLE X. DISTRICT COUNCILS, Section 4. Credentialing authority, which now reads:

#### Section 4. Credentialing authority

The district council shall have the authority to examine and approve candidates who qualify as Christian workers and licensed ministers. The applications of the approved candidates shall be endorsed by the districts and forwarded to the general secretary of The General Council of the Assemblies of God for the issuance of the appropriate credential. The district council shall also have the authority to examine and ordain ministers after having received approval from the General Council Credentials Committee. Any certain extent of academic education shall never be a requirement for credentials, but it shall be required of applicants that they take such reading courses and pass examinations as may be prescribed by respective district councils in agreement with the General Council Credentials Committee.

Be amended to read:

Section 4. Credentialing authority. The district council shall have the authority to examine and approve candidates who qualify as certified

ministers and licensed ministers. [The balance of this section to remain the same, or as amended if Resolution 4 is adopted.]

And, be it further

RESOLVED That Bylaw ARTICLE VII. MINISTRY, Section 1. Ministry Described, which now reads:

#### Section 1. Ministry Described

Christ's gifts to the Church include apostles, prophets, evangelists, pastors, and teachers (Ephesians 4:11), exhorters, administrators, leaders, and helpers (Romans 12:7,8). We understand God's call to these ministry gifts is totally within His sovereign discretion without regard to gender, race, disability, or national origin.

In terms of maturity of ministry, three classifications of ministry are recognized, viz., the ordained minister, the licensed minister, and the Christian worker.

Ministers holding certificates of ordination, license to preach, and specialized ministries licenses are authorized to perform the ordinances and ceremonies (sacerdotal functions) of the church.

Be amended to read:

#### Section 1. Ministry Described

Christ's gifts to the Church include apostles, prophets, evangelists, pastors, teachers (Ephesians 4:11), exhorters, administrators, leaders, and helpers (Romans 12:7,8). We understand God's call to these ministry gifts is totally within His sovereign discretion without regard to gender, race, disability, or national origin.

In terms of maturity of ministry, three classifications of ministry are recognized, viz., the ordained minister, the licensed minister, and the certified minister.

All ministers holding current ministerial credentials are authorized to perform the ordinances and ceremonies (sacerdotal functions) of the church in accordance with applicable federal or state laws.

And, be it further

RESOLVED, That Bylaw ARTICLE VII. MINISTRY, Section 3. Graded Qualifications, be amended to read:

#### Section 3. Specific Qualifications

And, be it further

RESOLVED, That Bylaw ARTICLE VII. MINISTRY, Section 3. Specific Qualifications, be amended by inserting a new paragraph:

a. Residency requirements of applicants. Applicants for all credentials must be residents of or hold credentials in the district where they make application and appear before its credentials committee.

And, be it further

RESOLVED, That Bylaw ARTICLE VII. MINISTRY, Section 3. Specific Qualifications, a. Christian worker, which now reads:

a. Christian worker. Efficient helpers in gospel work who devote a part of their time to Christian service, and whenever possible remain

under the supervision of a pastor, may be recognized as Christian workers. They shall preach at least 12 times a year or be actively engaged in some other aspect of ministry, except in case of ill health or infirmity.

Be amended to read:

b. Certified minister.

(1) General requirements. They shall show promise of usefulness in the gospel work. They shall devote a part of their time to Christian ministry and, at the discretion of the district credentials committee, remain under the supervision of a pastor or a designated supervisor. They shall preach at least 12 times a year or be actively engaged in some other aspect of ministry except in case of ill health or advanced age.

(2) Pastoral requirements. In the event a certified minister is serving in a position as the pastor, he shall be expected to advance to license to preach within 2 years of acceptance of the pastorate. This shall not apply to any minister who has reached the age of 65 or older, or whose certificate has been issued on a provisional basis. Any exceptions shall be at the discretion of the district credentials committee.

(3) Exception for provisional issuance. A Certificate of Ministry may be issued on a provisional basis to a person who has not met all the credentialing requirements but who is deemed by the district credentials committee to be essential to the continuity of a church or a ministry outreach for which a duly credentialed and qualified minister is unavailable. The reason for such a provisional issuance must be ministry driven, and the justification for its use is terminated when the minister ceases to be involved in the ministry for which it was initially granted unless he accepts another qualifying assignment. Other limitations are:

(a) The ministry certificate on a provisional basis will be issued for 1 year and shall not be renewed more than two times.

(b) A person who has been granted the Certificate of Ministry on a provisional basis must meet the qualifications for a ministry certificate within a 3-year period. And, be it further

RESOLVED, That the lead line of Bylaw ARTICLE VII. MINISTRY, Section 3. Specific Qualifications, b. License, be amended to read:

c. Licensed minister. [No further changes to the ensuing wording.]

And, be it further

RESOLVED, That Bylaw ARTICLE VII. MINISTRY, Section 3. Specific Qualifications, c. Ordained minister be amended to read:

d. Ordained minister. [No further changes to the ensuing wording except in (4), as proposed below.]

And, be it further

RESOLVED, That Bylaw ARTICLE VII. MINISTRY, Section 4.

Action of Credentials Committee, a. Christian worker and licensed minister, which now reads:

a. Christian worker and licensed minister. The General Council Credentials Committee delegates to the district councils the authority to approve candidates who qualify as Christian workers and licensed ministers. The applications of the approved candidates shall be endorsed by the districts and forwarded to the office of the general secretary for the issuance of the appropriate credential.

Be amended to read:

a. Certified minister and licensed minister. The General Council Credentials Committee delegates to the district councils the authority to approve candidates who qualify as certified ministers and licensed ministers. The applications of the approved candidates shall be endorsed by the districts and forwarded to the office of the general secretary for the issuance of the appropriate credential.

And, be it further

RESOLVED, That Bylaw ARTICLE VII. MINISTRY, Section 5. Certificates, which now reads:

Section 5. Certificates

The General Council Credentials Committee is authorized to issue Ordination Certificates, Licenses To Preach, Specialized Ministries Licenses, and Christian Workers Certificates, together with the accompanying annual fellowship card, to all properly qualified and approved candidates.

Be amended to read:

Section 5. Certificates

The General Council Credentials Committee is authorized to issue Ordination Certificates, Licenses To Preach, Specialized Ministries Licenses, and Certificates of Ministry, together with the accompanying annual fellowship card, to all properly qualified and approved candidates.

And, be it further

RESOLVED, That the general secretary be authorized to make further editorial changes to replace the term "Christian worker(s)" with "certified minister(s)" and the term "Christian Worker Certificate(s)" with "Certificate(s) of Ministry" wherever these terms appear in the constitution and bylaws.

#### **Report of the Committee To Study Restoration and Rehabilitation**

Glen D. Cole, chairman of the committee, presented the report of the committee as follows:

At the 1991 General Council Resolution 26 was linked with Resolution 17, calling for the Executive Presbytery to commission a study of our total ministerial rehabilitation/restoration process as practiced within our var-

ious districts and the General Council. This committee was to report to the General Presbytery in session in 1993 for whatever implementation or further action may be deemed appropriate and redemptive.

That report, along with a recommended manual for all of our districts on The Restoration and Rehabilitation for Fallen Ministers, was presented to the General Presbytery on Friday, August 6, 1993.

Out of the work of the committee and through the wholesome discussion and dialogue of the General Presbytery, three resolutions were sent to the Resolutions Committee to activate the changes approved by the general presbyters in session.

He indicated that the three resolutions are still being prepared for presentation. A motion prevailed to delay any action on the report until the enabling resolutions are available.

#### **Procedural Motion**

A motion prevailed to reconsider the order of the day concerning casting the first ballot for the office of general superintendent at the opening of the afternoon session, and to instead cast the first nominating ballot during the current Wednesday morning session.

#### **Report of Committee To Study Implementation of 1991 General Council Resolution 24, Status of Position Papers**

Robert L. Brandt, chairman of the committee, presented the report relative to the implementation of 1991 General Council Resolution 24, Status of Position Papers, and moved its adoption. A motion prevailed to adopt the report as follows:

Resolution 24, adopted by the 1991 General Council, authorized the Executive Presbytery to appoint a committee to study the position papers issued by the General Presbytery to clarify their status and to determine which, if any, should be presented to the General Council in session for adoption (See 1991 General Council Minutes, page 60).

In its meeting January 21, 1993, the Executive Presbytery appointed Robert L. Brandt, Paul E. Lowenberg, and Hardy W. Steinberg to look into this matter.

The committee's recommendations, which have also received the endorsement of the 1992 General Presbytery, are as follows:

#### **Committee Report**

The more we try to clarify and explain, the more we find ourselves trying to clarify and explain. Our organization began with a rather simple Statement of Fundamental Truths, which has kept us well on track for all of the passing years. True, we have added position papers to help state our stance, and most of them have General Presbytery endorse-

ment, but we fear it will be an exercise in futility to try to go beyond this practice.

There is no way a position paper can offer an exhaustive treatment of the subject considered. That might require a whole book or a commentary. Thus, even a position set forth in a position paper will eventually need clarifying, and this will go on ad infinitum.

Here are our suggestions:

1. That we continue as in the past;
2. That our Statement of Fundamental Truths be adhered to carefully;
3. That we encourage districts which have certain concerns to seek help from existing position papers, and others which may be forthcoming;
4. That we reemphasize the Scriptures as the sure guide in relation to positions to be espoused;
5. That we encourage the use of other available resource materials;
6. That we encourage cross-district consultation over areas of special interest and concerns.

#### **Roster Committee Report**

The chairman asked that an updated roster report be presented prior to the casting of the nominating ballot for the office of general superintendent. Charles Anderson, cochairman of the Roster Committee, gave the following report as of 11:30 a.m., Wednesday, August 11:

Ordained ministers	3,750	
Delegates	903	
Total voting		4,653
Licensed ministers	396	
Visitors	5,126	
Nonvoting constituency		5,522
Total registration		10,175

#### **Election of General Superintendent**

Ballots were distributed for nominations for the office of general superintendent. In compliance with prior action, the nominating ballot for the office of general superintendent was cast.

#### **Recess**

The meeting recessed at 11:35 a.m. The meeting was closed with prayer.

#### **WEDNESDAY AFTERNOON—AUGUST 11**

The Wednesday afternoon session of the 45th General Council was opened with Jeffrey Brawner, pastor, First Assembly of God, Erie, Penn-



sylvania, leading the congregation in singing. Serving at the piano and organ, respectively, were Dan Wood, pastor, First Assembly of God, Lyndhurst, Ohio, and Jonathan Faggart, minister of music, Faith Assembly of God, Orlando, Florida. The offertory was presented by the trio, Spiritbound, from Nashville, Tennessee, comprised of Rick Brummet, Tim Marshall, Don Pardoe.

Ron Mixer, representative of the American Bible Society, led in prayer and brought greetings to the delegates of the General Council. He expressed appreciation to the Assemblies of God for its support through the years.

#### Business Session

The business session was called to order at 1:40 p.m. by General Superintendent G. Raymond Carlson.

#### Roster Report

James Allen, cochairman of the Roster Committee, gave the following report as of 1:30 p.m., Wednesday, August 11:

Ordained ministers	3,768	
Delegates	908	
Total voting		4,676
Licensed ministers	398	
Visitors	5,140	
Nonvoting constituency		5,538
Total registration		10,214

A motion prevailed to receive this progress report of the Roster Committee.

#### Resolution 1. Appreciation for G. Raymond Carlson

George Wood read Resolution 1 as follows and moved its adoption:

WHEREAS, G. Raymond Carlson, a dedicated servant of the Lord, has given his life unselfishly for over 60 years in faithful ministry to the Lord; and

WHEREAS, He has been an ordained minister of the Assemblies of God for 52 years; and

WHEREAS, He has served with distinction and honor on all levels of our Fellowship—pastor, superintendent of the Minnesota District, president of North Central Bible College, an executive presbyter, assistant general superintendent, and since 1986 as general superintendent; and

WHEREAS, In this office he has provided direction for the ministries and outreach of this Fellowship; and

WHEREAS, Under his leadership the church has grown from about 15 million to 25 million worldwide; and

WHEREAS, His stewardship of office has been characterized by humility, godliness, stability, kindness, and integrity; therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That we express glory and praise to God for raising up this choice servant/leader, G. Raymond Carlson; and, be it further

RESOLVED, That we express grateful appreciation to his wife, Mae, for the wonderful grace of her character, her warmth and goodness as a woman of God, her sterling example of character, and her loyal and untiring support of her husband's ministry as he gave himself, his time, and his talents to this Fellowship; and, be it further

RESOLVED, That this 45th General Council go on record as proclaiming its highest thanks and deepest gratitude to our esteemed Brother G. Raymond Carlson for his exemplary life, his faithful leadership, and his Christlike spirit as our general superintendent; and, be it further

RESOLVED, That the Executive Presbytery present an appropriate gift from the General Council to Brother and Sister Carlson as a symbol of our deepest love and appreciation.

A motion prevailed unanimously to adopt Resolution 1 expressing appreciation to General Superintendent G. Raymond Carlson for his leadership. Delegates stood to applaud.

#### Resolution 2. In Memory of Charles W. H. Scott

George Wood read Resolution 2 as follows, and moved its adoption:

WHEREAS, Our sovereign Lord in every generation raises up leaders that others might benefit from their example, their gifts, their selfless and sacrificial service; and

WHEREAS, In the providence of God, Charles W. H. Scott gave praiseworthy leadership to the Assemblies of God as an assistant general superintendent for 14 years (1957-71); and

WHEREAS, In this office he provided direction for several areas of ministry including higher education, home missions, benevolences, Sunday school, and the men's department; and

WHEREAS, His service to our Fellowship exemplified the highest commitment to his Lord and Savior and to his church; and

WHEREAS, God called unto himself our Brother Charles W. H. Scott on January 3, 1993; therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That we express glory and praise to God for loaning to us this choice servant/leader, Charles W. H. Scott; and, be it further

RESOLVED, That we express grateful thanks to his wife, Gertrude, for her own sterling Christian example and for her faithful and untiring support of her husband's ministry as he gave himself and his talents to the ministries of our Fellowship.

The motion was seconded and carried. It was noted that Mrs. Gertrude Scott was present in the meeting.

**Resolution 12. Honorary General Presbyter—Charles H. Cookman**

George Wood read Resolution 12 as follows, and moved its adoption:

WHEREAS, Charles H. Cookman has served this Fellowship with distinction as an ordained minister for 40 years; and

WHEREAS, He has faithfully served the North Carolina District Council as superintendent for 26 years; and

WHEREAS, He has served with distinction on the Board of Directors of Southeastern College of the Assemblies of God for 28 years; and

WHEREAS, He has served as a member of the General Presbytery for 26 years; and

WHEREAS, Article IX, Section 3, paragraph e, of the General Council Constitution makes provision for persons with such distinctive history to be chosen as honorary general presbyters; therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That Charles H. Cookman be elected by this General Council of the Assemblies of God to the position of honorary general presbyter.

The motion was seconded and carried.

**Resolution 11. General Presbytery Vacancies**

George Wood read Resolution 11 as follows and moved its adoption:

WHEREAS, From time to time, an elected General Presbyter from a district council is unable to attend a General Presbytery session because of illness or emergency; and

WHEREAS, It is desirable for each district to be represented by its full complement of three general presbyters; and

WHEREAS, It has been the practice of the General Presbytery to accept an alternate general presbyter chosen by a district presbytery or district executive presbytery; and

WHEREAS, There is no provision in the bylaws for this procedure; therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That Bylaw ARTICLE II. ELECTION OF OFFICERS, Section 3. Vacancies, c. General presbyters, be amended by making the present paragraph as paragraph (1), and adding a new paragraph (2), so that the entire sub-section will read:

c. General presbyters.

(1) In the event a general presbyter shall move to another district or shall vacate his office for any other reason, the presbytery of the district council shall appoint one to serve as general presbyter until that office is regularly filled at the next meeting of the district council.

(2) In the event an elected general presbyter is unable to attend a duly called session of the General Presbytery, by reason of illness or any other emergency, the district executive presbytery or district presbytery shall have the right to select an alternate, provided he meets the ordinary requirements for general presbyters. He shall have all the rights and privileges of a regularly elected general pres-

byter. The district shall present certification of an alternate to the general secretary not later than the opening session of the General Presbytery.

The motion to adopt Resolution 11 was seconded and carried.

**Resolution 15. Ministry to Persons with Disabilities**

George Wood read Resolution 15 and moved its adoption.

A motion prevailed to amend Resolution 15 by inserting the words, "ministry opportunities," in the place of the word, "ministries," on line 18, and the words, "and their families," after the word, "disabilities," on line 19.

The motion to adopt Resolution 15 as amended carried.

Resolution 15 as amended and adopted follows:

WHEREAS, There are an estimated 43 million people in the United States having a physical or mental disability, affecting one of every five families in our nation; and

WHEREAS, Eighty percent of all families with a disabled member do not attend church; and

WHEREAS, Less than 5 percent of Assemblies of God churches have any kind of ministry specifically targeted for persons with disabilities, even though Jesus commanded us to preach the gospel to every person and set the example by ministering to the lame, the blind, and the deaf; therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That this 45th General Council, in session, recommends our Assemblies of God pastors and church leaders educate themselves on disability awareness and make certain that every facility is accessible; and, be it further

RESOLVED, That every Assemblies of God church strive to minister to, as well as provide ministry opportunities for persons with disabilities and their families.

**Resolution 24. Sunday School Counselor Name Change**

George Wood read Resolution 24 as follows and moved its adoption:

WHEREAS, Need exists to better reflect the new Division of Christian Education and more effectively address topics that are Christian education in focus but are not Sunday school per se (VBS, marriage and family themes, church growth, Christian schools, neighborhood Bible clubs, etc.); and

WHEREAS, A new name for the *Sunday School Counselor* would give this publication a more broadly defined mission as well as a more divisionally aligned name; therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That Bylaw ARTICLE XIII. DIVISION OF CHRISTIAN EDUCATION, Section 2. Sunday School Promotion and Training Department, c. Official publication, which now reads:

c. Official publication. The *Sunday School Counselor* shall be rec-

ognized as an official publication of the Sunday School Training and Promotion Department.

Be deleted and the subsequent paragraph d. District organizations, be relettered as paragraph c.; and be it further

RESOLVED, That a new paragraph be added to Bylaw ARTICLE XIII.

f. Official Publication. The *Christian Education Counselor* shall be recognized as the official publication of the Division of Christian Education and the Sunday School Promotion and Training Department. The motion was seconded and carried.

#### **Resolution 26. Sunday School Literature Sales Department Name Change**

George Wood read Resolution 26 as follows and moved its adoption:

WHEREAS, It is desirable to place emphasis on the word *ministry* rather than exclusively on the word *sales*; and,

WHEREAS, The Board of Christian Education has recommended a name change for the Sunday School Literature Sales Department; therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That Bylaw ARTICLE XIII. DIVISION OF CHRISTIAN EDUCATION, in which reference is made to the Sunday School Literature Sales Department be amended by substituting the name Sunday School Field Ministries and Literature Sales Department wherever the name, Sunday School Literature Sales Department, occurs within Article XIII or any other portion of the bylaws. The motion was seconded and carried.

#### **Resolution 29. Chi Alpha Campus Ministries Department Name Change**

The chairman of the Resolutions Committee read Resolution 29 as follows and moved its adoption:

WHEREAS, An extensive survey was conducted by mail among all of our Chi Alpha campus missionaries during 1991-92 and a presentation made at the national Chi Alpha Campus Ministers Conference in March 1992, regarding national identity and name recognition as a nationwide campus ministry; and

WHEREAS, In the interest of conveying one national identity for our campus ministry by using one name nationally, and the same name locally and at the district level, leadership concluded and agreed to require all local ministries to adopt the name Chi Alpha (Christian Fellowship), and

WHEREAS, Currently the majority of local campus ministries use the name Chi Alpha, and subsequent to the 1991-92 survey and 1992 presentation, all local campus groups are required to adopt the name Chi Alpha to unify our name nationally; and

WHEREAS, Personnel and organizations outside the Assemblies of God know our campus ministry by the name Chi Alpha; and

WHEREAS, The present College Ministries Department by its definition is occasionally mistaken as the Postsecondary Education Department which relates specifically to our Assemblies of God colleges; and

WHEREAS, Establishing one organizational name for national, district, and local Chi Alpha will enhance communications and promotions; therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That all references in ARTICLE XVII. DIVISION OF HOME MISSIONS or any other part of the bylaws to the College Ministries Department be amended by substituting the name of Chi Alpha Campus Ministries Department. The motion was seconded and carried.

#### **Resolution 33. Maranatha Village**

George Wood read Resolution 33 as follows and moved its adoption:

WHEREAS, The General Council of the Assemblies of God owns and operates Maranatha Village as a retirement home and care center; and

WHEREAS, Maranatha Village functions as an institution of the Assemblies of God; and

WHEREAS, It would be advisable for Maranatha Village to be included in the General Council Bylaws as other institutions are; therefore be it

RESOLVED, That Bylaw ARTICLE XX. INSTITUTIONS, be amended by adding the following section:

##### **Section 6. Maranatha Village**

a. Authorization and purpose. Maranatha Village, a retirement home and care center, shall be owned and operated at all times by The General Council of the Assemblies of God. Maranatha Village is forever bound to give Christ preeminence in all things and is bound to the Statement of Fundamental Truths and policies and standards as set forth in the Constitution and Bylaws of The General Council of the Assemblies of God.

b. Board of Directors. The execution of policy and the administration of Maranatha Village shall be delegated to a board of directors in accordance with the provisions of its constitution and bylaws.

c. Amenability. Maranatha Village and its board of directors shall be amenable to the Executive Presbytery and to the General Presbytery. The General Council of the Assemblies of God shall have control over all phases of Maranatha Village.

The motion was seconded and carried.

#### **Resolution 39. Honorary General Presbyter—G. Raymond Carlson**

George Wood read Resolution 39 as follows and moved its adoption:

WHEREAS, G. Raymond Carlson has served this Fellowship with distinction as an ordained minister for 52 years; and

WHEREAS, He faithfully served the Minnesota District as superintendent for 13 years; and

WHEREAS, He has served as a member of the General Presbytery for 45 years; and

WHEREAS, He has served with distinction as the general superintendent of The General Council of the Assemblies of God for nearly 8 years; and

WHEREAS, Article IX, Section 3, paragraph a, of the General Council Constitution makes provision for persons with such distinctive history to be chosen as honorary general presbyters; therefore be it

RESOLVED, That G. Raymond Carlson be elected by this General Council of the Assemblies of God to the position of honorary general presbyter.

The motion was seconded and carried.

**Resolution 40. Honorary General Presbyter—Wyndel C. Mangrum**

The chairman of the Resolutions Committee read Resolution 40 as follows and moved its adoption:

WHEREAS, Wyndel C. Mangrum has served The General Council of the Assemblies of God with distinction as an ordained minister for 40 years; and

WHEREAS, He has served the North Texas District Council with distinction for 34 years as a district presbyter, 24 of which he has served as an executive presbyter; and

WHEREAS, He has served as a member of the General Presbytery for 20 years; and

WHEREAS, Article IX, Section 3, paragraph e, of the General Council Constitution makes provision for persons with such distinctive history to be chosen as honorary general presbyters; therefore be it

RESOLVED, That Wyndel C. Mangrum be elected by this General Council of the Assemblies of God to the position of honorary general presbyter.

The motion was seconded and carried.

**Resolution 41. Honorary General Presbyter—J. Derald Musgrove**

George Wood read Resolution 41 as follows and moved its adoption:

WHEREAS, J. Derald Musgrove has served this Fellowship with distinction as an ordained minister for 40 years; and

WHEREAS, He faithfully served the Kansas District as superintendent for 14 years, as well as secretary-treasurer for 8 years; and

WHEREAS, He has been a member of the General Presbytery for 22 years, and has also served on various committees and boards rep-

resenting many of the General Council departments and our Assemblies of God colleges; and

WHEREAS, Article IX, Section 3, paragraph e, of the General Council Constitution makes provision for persons with such distinctive history to be chosen as honorary general presbyters; therefore be it

RESOLVED That J. Derald Musgrove be elected by this General Council of the Assemblies of God to the position of honorary general presbyter.

The motion was seconded and carried.

**Resolution 42. Honorary General Presbyter—Kenzy Savage**

George Wood read Resolution 42 as follows and moved its adoption:

WHEREAS, Kenzy K. Savage has served this Fellowship with distinction as an ordained minister for 62 years; and

WHEREAS, He has faithfully served the Latin American District Council and the Central Latin American District Council in appointed or elected executive positions for a total of 60 years; and

WHEREAS, He has served as a member of the General Presbytery first in 1939 representing the Latin American District, and since 1973 representing the Central Latin American District; and

WHEREAS, Article IX, Section 3, paragraph e, of the General Council Constitution makes provision for persons with such distinctive history to be chosen as honorary general presbyters; therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That Kenzy K. Savage be elected by this General Council of the Assemblies of God to the position of honorary general presbyter.

The motion was seconded and carried.

**Resolution 43. Honorary General Presbyter—Glenn E. Strickland**

The chairman of the Resolutions Committee read Resolution 43 as follows and moved its adoption:

WHEREAS, Glenn E. Strickland has served this Fellowship with distinction as an ordained minister for 41 years; and

WHEREAS, He has faithfully served the Appalachian District Council for 28 years as a member of the Executive Presbytery, and

WHEREAS, He has also proven his faithfulness to God and willingness to sacrifice for the kingdom of God while pioneering churches both in the Appalachian and North Carolina Districts, and

WHEREAS, He has served as a member of the General Presbytery of The General Council of the Assemblies of God for 23 years, and

WHEREAS, Article IX, Section 3, paragraph e, of the General Council Constitution makes provision for persons with such distinctive history to be chosen as honorary general presbyters; therefore be it

RESOLVED, That Glenn E. Strickland be elected by this General

Council of the Assemblies of God to the position of honorary general presbyter.

The motion was seconded and carried.

### Resolution 25. Boys and Girls Missionary Crusade

George Wood read Resolution 25 and moved its adoption.

A motion prevailed to amend line 14 by adding "Division of Christian Education," before the words, "General Council."

The motion to adopt Resolution 25 as amended carried.

Resolution 25 as amended and adopted follows:

WHEREAS, There has never been official bylaw recognition for Boys and Girls Missionary Crusade; and,

WHEREAS, There has been a call for such recognition by district Sunday school directors, the Board of Christian Education, and the BGMC Missions Committee; therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That a new paragraph be added to Bylaw ARTICLE XIII. DIVISION OF CHRISTIAN EDUCATION, Section 2. Sunday School Promotion and Training Department:

e. Boys and Girls Missionary Crusade. Boys and Girls Missionary Crusade shall be recognized as the children's missions education program of the Division of Christian Education and the children's missions fund-raising program of the Division of Christian Education of the Assemblies of God. The mission of BGMC shall be to multiply the efforts of foreign and home missionaries by providing evangelism and education resources deemed necessary for reaching our world with the gospel of Jesus Christ. There shall be a BGMC constitution and bylaws guiding the program and the disbursement of funds which shall be approved by the Executive Presbytery.

### Report of Spiritual Life Committee

Robert K. Schmidgall, chairman of the Spiritual Life Committee, requested the committee's secretary, George O. Wood, to present the report.

The report was read as follows:

Almost eight decades have gone by since the Holy Spirit launched this Movement, the Assemblies of God, from its point of embarkation in Hot Springs, Arkansas. Are we remaining true to the course laid out for us in the original call which formed our Fellowship?

The 1991 General Council Spiritual Life Committee Report reminded us of the Azusa Street elements of the spiritual experience which birthed the Pentecostal revival:

- (1) A great hunger for God.
- (2) A love for others.
- (3) A commitment to God's Word.
- (4) A dedication to evangelism and missions.
- (5) A commitment to the restoration of the New Testament church.

While Azusa Street calls us to our roots as Pentecostals, Hot Springs calls us back to our roots as Assemblies of God people. Why, in the sovereignty of the Holy Spirit's direction, were we brought into being?

Perhaps the example of the floods in the midwest this summer of 1993 provides a helpful

analogy. A downpour of revival, like natural rain, may produce flood-tide conditions. If the water escapes the boundaries appointed for it—it runs rampant with destructive power. The rains, which were meant as a blessing, become otherwise. In the early rain of Azusa Street and all its companions, it became evident that if the revival was to have long-lasting productive consequences it needed some scriptural order lest it jump the banks of biblical teaching and organization and thereby ruin the very harvest for which the water had been sent.

The Assemblies of God was not begun in a drought. The early pioneers did not say: "Let's dig channels of organization in this dry land in order to contain the rain if God ever sends it." Oh no! God had sent the rain—and our Movement was formed because so much water had come down! We knew the rain would only be useful if it stayed within the confines of biblical teaching and principle.

This analogy is helpful because in many places within our Movement today a spiritual drought exists. The answer to the drought is not more organization—but more rain!

The Azusa Revival continued for but 3 years, 1906-09; this revival called the Assemblies of God is now in its 79th year. The difference in the duration of the two revivals may be attributed to the sovereignty of God and the practical wisdom which guided the Assemblies' forefathers' insistence that organization, by itself, is not an enemy of revival. However, throughout many regions of our Movement today, there is a dearth of rain—early or latter rain. In some places spiritual drought approaches alarming proportions.

For example, almost 7,000 fewer people in our Fellowship received the baptism of the Holy Spirit in 1992 than 10 years earlier in 1982 even though we have almost 400,000 more adherents now than then.

Whenever the experience of the Holy Spirit lessens, the commitment to Christ and His kingdom abates—and that decline is represented by an erosion in evangelism and the enfolded of new converts into the life of the church. Almost one-third of our churches did not report a single convert in 1992. The remaining churches reported almost 320,000 conversions; but, of those, only 92,000 were baptized in water and even fewer—71,000—received the baptism in the Spirit. In other words, about three of every four reported converts never even take the first step of obedience in Christian discipleship—water baptism; and, almost four of every five of our new converts are not receiving the baptism in the Spirit. Persons may walk an aisle, raise a hand, say the sinner's prayer, and thereby be counted as converts; but, the failure to be baptized in water and the Spirit hints powerfully that much seed is springing up for a short time only.

And, in Sunday morning attendance, our churches have averaged a gain of only one person a year per church for each of the past 10 years—while the number of our adherents has increased threefold over our Sunday morning attendance gains. This statistic suggests that genuine commitment to Christ and the work of the Spirit is decreasing among us at the very time more persons are willing to identify themselves as our adherents. But, a world of difference exists between an adherent and a disciple. The Lord never told His church to produce adherents—He told us to make disciples, teaching them to observe whatever He commanded.

There is no need for the Assemblies of God unless an Azusa-like outpouring precedes and accompanies it. This General Council will process many resolutions—most of them having to do with organizational restructure—but, we will only be rearranging the chairs on the spiritual deck of the *Titanic* unless God visits us anew.

In recognition of this reality the 1991 General Presbytery called for a Holy Convocation for the express purpose of seeking God's face for revival with repentance, prayer, and fasting in order to: (1) demonstrate to God that we are most serious about this matter of revival; and (2) that our laity will know we are in dead earnest about the need for a revival in the Assemblies of God. That convocation, to be held March 1-3, 1994, in Springfield, Missouri, summons us as a Movement to hold a Sacred Assembly. How fitting it would be, if all across our Fellowship—among our nearly 12,000 churches and two and a quarter million adherents—there were subsequent local Sacred Assemblies held for the purpose of seeking God's face for revival in our church and spiritual renewal throughout our nation.

We call upon our pastors and churches to set aside time next year for this very purpose: to open the doors of church buildings for 24 hours of continuous prayer, to hold services in the evening hours which focus on the need for revival and a fresh outpouring of the Spirit of God, to utilize the ministry of evangelists to call us to repentance and renewal. Such a response also would be consistent with our Decade of Harvest emphasis on prayer.

But, why wait until next year? Why not go forth from this General Council back to our homes and churches and immediately call our people to intensive prayer and fasting? And, let's restore altar calls to the church. Revivals never happen in an atmosphere where persons are given no chance to respond to the preached Word. We need to deeply probe our hearts and ask whether or not the truths of repentance from sin, sanctification which brings the desire for a holy life, divine healing of spirit and body, and the baptism in the Spirit are Assemblies of God ideas or the doctrines of Scripture. If these are simply Assemblies of God notions or shibboleths—then, there is no need for an altar call or time of prayer where persons are invited to make a physical and concrete response to the Lord; but, if these are Bible doctrines—then, the goal for every service needs to include a means to assist the hungry person to move into an encounter with God, a moment in the needy person's life when the living Lord comes down. Too many people are leaving our churches unchanged, unmoved, unsaved, unfilled, unsanctified, and unmotivated to turn their heart and will over to God completely. We need a new holy fire in the pulpit and pew which sets aside business as usual in the church until Jesus comes!

We cannot get to Hot Springs unless we have come through Azusa Street. There is no use talking about organization unless there is something to organize! God, who began this century with a great early rain outpouring at Azusa, surely would be pleased to send a latter rain outpouring among us in the very final years of this century.

Many of the Azusa pioneers and their progeny did come to Hot Springs. Why? For the same reasons we come today to this General Council. The call made in the December 20, 1913, issue of the Word and Witness established the exact trajectory upon which this Movement was appointed by the Holy Spirit to follow.

#### 1. Unity

First—We come together that we may set a better understanding of what God would have us teach, that we may do away with so many divisions, both in doctrines and in the various names under which our Pentecostal people are working and incorporating. Let us come together as in Acts 15, to study the Word, and pray with and for each other—unity our chief aim.

The first locust which attempts to eat away the vitality of Pentecostal revival is doctrinal instability. Persons will arise who seek to twist the Scripture, or place personal revelation above God's written Word. This 20th century Pentecostal revival has been riven with heretical wave after heretical wave. Against all of these, the Assemblies of God has stood like a doctrinal rock of Gibraltar, anchored to the eternal Word.

We believe that God's Spirit never goes where His Word does not. We believe that the main things in the Bible are the plain things, and the plain things are the main things. We preach Christ and Him crucified. We concentrate on holding Him forth as Savior, Baptizer, Healer, and coming King.

We have been lambasted by elements of the electronic church and charismatic renewal as being backslidden and non-Spirit led when we have not jumped on popular bandwagons of the day loaded with the meringue of personality and spiritual excess rather than the plain meat of God's Word. So be it! If criticism is the price we must pay for asking the question: "What saith the Lord in His written Word?"—then let us wear that criticism gladly as a sign of fidelity to Christ.

The Assemblies of God never set out to be a tent large enough for heresy. Our unity was never based on experience—but upon commitment to God's unchanging and living Word!

In that first General Council, we committed ourselves irrevocably to the understanding that God gave the holy inspired Scriptures "as the all-sufficient rule for faith and practice . . . and we therefore shall not add to nor take from it. . . ."

Let us ever be faithful to that foundation stone of our existence!

#### 2. Conservation

Second—Again we come together that we may know how to conserve the work, that we may all build up and not tear down, both in home and foreign lands.

Those who called for the first General Council to meet bore the brunt of heavy criticism. There were some who felt any organization tolled the death of Pentecostal revival. As one brother put it: "I feel before God that we are on the wrong track. God has brought us out of Popery, and for Jesus' sake, let's not go back in."

But, prior to Hot Springs, our first General Superintendent E. N. Bell, then editor of *Word and Witness*, in an article on March 20, 1914, gave patient and careful explanation for the call to an organizational meeting. He outlined the evils of uncontrolled independence within the

Pentecostal movement: doctrinal instability, cliques grouped around outstanding leaders, chaotic conditions in local assemblies, failure to conform to state laws regarding ownership of property, inequities in monetary support, and unscrupulous persons taking advantage of the simplicity and vulnerability of unorganized congregations.

He argued these abuses of fragmentation could be corrected through unified effort and that positive good would come to the kingdom of God by pooling resources for establishing schools, publishing enterprises, and missionary work.

In his history of the Assemblies of God, William Menzies notes that:

The appeal for organization was based on what advocates called "Bible order." They argued that God, by His nature, was a God of order. First Corinthians 14:40, "Let all things be done decently and in order," an injunction nestled in the heart of a favorite Pentecostal passage, served as a key text in those crucial days. Advocates of organization pointed to the marshaling of Old Testament saints as they journeyed by cloud and fire through the Sinai wilderness. They argued that the arrangement of tribal units around the tabernacle, and in the line of march, was strong testimony to the inherent need for order in human affairs, even though there be divine direction. Through such methodological structure, the ragtag slaves of Egypt were transformed into a terrible army, triumphant as they marched in disciplined columns into the Promised Land.

This "coming together that we may know how to conserve the work" has brought about the sense of cooperative fellowship. Even as a Christian does not live his experience alone—but in fellowship with the body of Christ; so, also we believe that a local church does not function best on its own, but in a condition of interdependence and cooperation with other congregations of like belief.

The early pioneers in our Movement clearly tilted away from the Lone Ranger philosophy of church life. They knew that God's people are always weak and vulnerable when everyone does that which is right in his own eyes.

So, "they came together." Seventy-nine years later, we ask the question: "Is their purpose being achieved? Has the work of God been conserved? Both at home and abroad, has the cause of Jesus Christ been built up rather than torn down?"

We live today in an antiorganizational mentality no less virulent than the go-it-aloners of Pentecost in the early part of this century. Many religious and secular sources are heralding the end of denominations within a generation—that loyalties of baby boomers today attach to local congregations rather than broad movements such as ours.

Let us proceed patiently through this swing of the pendulum because both the Scripture and our history teaches us that our coming together results in the external and internal growth of God's church at home and abroad, bringing conservation rather than destruction to the Lord's work.

Whenever people are gathered in a church around a human personality, that church most often fails when the personality exits. In our Movement, we have called no man "father." We are grouped around tested Bible principles, not human personality. May each local church be built similarly so that together all of us, with common heart and hand, see the work of God advance rather than decline.

#### 3. Foreign Missions

Third—We come together for another reason, that we may get a better understanding of the needs of each foreign field, and may know how to place our money in such a way that one mission or missionary shall not suffer, while another not any more worthy, lives in luxuries. Also that we may discourage wasting money on those who are running here and there accomplishing nothing, and may concentrate our support on those who mean business for our King.

Foreign missions is at the very heart and soul of our Movement. In the early hours of this Fellowship, our spiritual forefathers pledged us to the greatest work of evangelism the world has ever seen.

We associated the baptism in the Spirit not just with an illumined inner spiritual experience—but, with power to bear witness to the whole world. We understood that a local church, by itself, could not do the work of foreign missions. Thus, early on, we established a Division of Foreign Missions to be the funnel through which our finances would flow, and out of which would come a stream of missionaries to sow the seed of the gospel on the soils of nations. God has given us success beyond our wildest dreams: a constituency outside the United States now approaching, by conservative estimates, 25 million persons.

The enemy will do everything he can to destroy this fruitfulness—let us be aware of the tactics he is using among us:

(1) *Deemphasis on foreign missions.* We have so many pressing needs in America, that many of our pastors and people are sizing down their commitment to foreign missions in order to concentrate more on the home front. While we must pay attention to our own Jerusalem and Judeas—the Lord has never lifted the call ordering us into Samaria and the uttermost part of the world. In a day of unparalleled open doors and curtains—we must resist the devil's suggestion that we lighten up on our obedience to the Great Commission.

(2) *Complacency.* Almost one-third of our churches did not contribute even one penny to foreign missions last year. How can a church identify itself as Assemblies of God and be so neglectful? Nevertheless, a record of \$100-plus million was given for foreign missions in 1992. However, when we consider that our United States Fellowship has over two and a quarter million adherents—the per capita giving to foreign missions amounts to only 12 cents per person per day. If our adherents gave the equivalent of a can of Coca-Cola (30 cents) per day for foreign missions, \$246,375,000 would have been received; and, had the per capita daily giving been equivalent to a can of Alpo dog food (50 cents), \$410,625,000 would have produced a missionary effort four times greater than what we actually did! Surely, an Assemblies of God person who believes the empowerment message of Acts 1:8 and 2:4 cannot justify before the throne of God a daily missions commitment equivalent to one-fourth a can of Alpo, or less than half a can of Coca-Cola! Our people are not overburdened with foreign missions giving—they are under-informed, under-challenged, and under-motivated!

One vital reason why the per capita giving to foreign missions is so low is that only 27 percent of our churches hold an annual missions convention. May the Holy Spirit quicken the hearts of all our pastors to realize that a primary reason for our existence is to reach the world for Christ—and that world cannot be reached if we do nothing, or do so little!

(3) *Waste.* Many churches are increasingly reallocating their missions dollars for the sponsoring of lay persons or ministers within the assembly to go overseas on a 1- or 2-week assignment. Such travel can be helpful to the national indigenous church when it occurs with the Division of Foreign Missions knowledge and approval. But, there is no substitute for the effectiveness of placing a missionary in the country who stays to learn the language and culture of the people, ministering to them over the course of years of faithful service. As in 1914, we need to continue to "discourage wasting money on those who are running here and there accomplishing nothing."

Imagine if God gave one of us in this 1993 General Council the ability to travel back in time to the 1914 General Council and testify to those first 300 Assemblies of God charter members, that 79 years later, we are a world-wide fellowship of 25 million believers, with 141,935 churches and outstations beyond United States borders, established in 133 countries other than our own. They would be agog with joy and wonderment at what God had done—although a few of those hardy pioneers might even say, "You could have done better."

If Jesus tarries, what will it be like 79 years from now? What if a delegate from the 2072 General Council stood before us and said: "Your 25 million has become a company of 5 billion souls!" Oh, how we would rejoice—to think that the investment of our prayers, missionaries, and money brought in the harvest of the earth! But, there may never be a 2072. Why wait that long for the whole world to be reached? Let's be the generation which takes the whole gospel to the whole world!

#### 4. Legal Basis

Many of the saints have felt the need of chartering the Churches of God in Christ, putting them on a legal basis, and thus obeying the laws of the land. . . .

Incorporating the local churches seems to be the least spiritual and most mundane of the reasons which called the first General Council to assemble. But, revival movements are called also to be practical and subservient to laws which do not infringe upon obedience to God.

The legal issues facing them were simple—the need for establishing themselves in accordance with state or local statutes. However, the legal concerns pressing upon churches today are far more complex. In our litigious society, lawsuits against churches, pastors, districts, and the General Council are commonplace.

It is imperative that each of our churches recognize the importance legal education plays in reducing (1) the risks of injury to others, and (2) court judgments which could result in great spiritual and financial damage to the church.

We especially urge our churches to carefully screen children and youth workers. Sexual abusers have increasingly infiltrated church programs because they are less rigorous in scrutinizing the backgrounds of volunteers than other organizations in society such as Boy and Girl Scouts. A single case of child abuse by a church worker, whether paid or volunteer, brings great injury not only to the child—but also to the cause of Christ.

We encourage officers and board members of our churches to understand their fiduciary duties of due care and loyalty incumbent upon them as local leaders in the work of God, to increase their awareness of their own legal responsibilities, and to fulfill with diligence all the obligations placed upon them by the government.

#### 5. Education

We may have a proposition to lay before the body for a general Bible Training School with a literary department for our people.

The first General Council did not produce such a school—but, it is clear from the beginning that our Movement recognized the need to prepare the next generation, should Jesus tarry, for Christian service.

Today, the churches in our Fellowship operate 1,053 private schools (preschool through high school) with over 116,000 enrolled.

But, the picture is not all that bright.

The greater bulk of the enrollment comes in the more financially profitable areas of educational enterprise: the preschool (especially) and elementary education. The more advanced the education (high school and beyond), the less the enrollment. At a time when young people most need the integration of faith, learning, and living, the church is letting financial cost dictate an absence of involvement.

This is especially true on the postsecondary level. We now have 18 endorsed institutes, colleges, and seminary with a combined total of about 12,000 students. However, almost 300,000 young people are in our youth groups. Simply put: only about one of every 25 of our young people attend even a semester in one of our postsecondary schools.

What kind of impact is this going to have on the next generation, should Jesus tarry? Where will we draw our next supply of preachers, pastors, ministers, and Christian lay leaders?

Meetings such as the Sacred Assembly next March are short-term events needed to jolt us into a new awareness of who we are and what God wants us to be—but, the spiritual maturation of young people is the long-term process needed if the Pentecostal torch is to be passed on to the next generation.

There is no higher priority for our Movement than mobilizing our resources to prepare our young people for effective ministry in the 21st century, should Jesus tarry.

#### Conclusion

The final call to the first General Council was made in the March 20, 1914, issue of the *Word and Witness*.

The invitation included a warning:

All who can, come prepared to board yourself and pay your own fare to and fro. We will help, as far as God supplies the means, to supply meals and rooms for saints attending who cannot. No deadbeats allowed. . . .

Things have not changed all that much! And deadbeats still are not allowed!

On October 31, 1983, just 10 years ago, the first officer of Korean Airline Flight #007 entered the cockpit of his Boeing 747 to program the flight as it departed from Anchorage, Alaska. He punched into the computer the numbers which engaged the flight navigation system. There's reason to believe he inverted two numbers, thereby causing a routing error of one and a half degrees. Fifty miles out from Anchorage, the deviation was barely noticeable. One hundred miles out—only an expert could have detected the flight was off course. As the 747 jet continued its journey through the Aleutians and out into the Pacific, its flight path veered off course by hundreds of miles taking it on a trajectory of crossing the then Soviet Union. Russian radar picked up Korean Airlines Flight #007 and jet fighters were scrambled. The Korean airliner was shot down, and all aboard were lost.

It seemed at the beginning like only a small mistake of one and a half degrees—a mistake that remained unseen and undetected—but which ended in massive disaster. Had the flight path error been detected and corrected early on, tragedy would have been averted.

Once we get off course, the further we get from our point of departure, the greater degree of mistake can be seen—and the greater the disaster.

In the Spiritual Life Committee reports of 1991 and this General Council, we have looked at our departure point. We began on course. At Azusa, our trajectory was a great hunger for God, a love for others, a commitment to God's Word, a dedication to evangelism and missions, and a commitment to the restoration of the New Testament church. At Hot Springs, our trajectory was to come together for the sake of unity, conservation of the work, the advance of foreign missions, doing things on a legal basis, and preparing the next generation for service to Jesus Christ and His church.

We seek the Holy Spirit's help anew in this General Council that we might stay exactly on the course God appointed for us! During this Decade of Harvest, in these last 7 years of the 20th century, our hearts are hungry to be a part of the greatest revival God has ever sent to the earth!

Fifty-two years ago, 1941, the General Council was held here in Minneapolis. A group of younger ministers got together at that Council and formed an impromptu resolution pledging themselves to pass on to the next generation the standards which formed this Fellowship. Among the 47 then relatively unknown signers of that resolution were these young ministers: Edwin P. Anderson, J. Robert Ashcroft, Paul S. Boyer, C. C. Burnett, Willard T. Cantelon, Lorne F. Fox, U. S. Grant, James E. Hamill, Don Mallough, Stanley P. McPherson, Theodore E. Ness, Paul H. Pipkin, D. Leroy Sanders, Norman T. Spong, and Thomas F. Zimmerman.

Their declaration to the September 9, 1941, session of the General Council—less than 3 months before Pearl Harbor—stated:

Resolved that we the ministers and workers of the younger generation of the Assemblies of God do hereby desire to express our devoted affection to our elder brethren of the Council who through much sacrifice, study, prayer, and spiritual leadership, bound up in expression by the Constitution and Bylaws, have given to us a glorious spiritual heritage: thus creating a glorious spiritual fellowship, which we as a younger generation are now inheriting.

We would further say, by the grace of God, we will endeavor to carry on in like manner as you have set an example for us, to guard by consistent, holy, devoted living the standards of this blessed Fellowship and, should Jesus tarry, pass on to the generation that will follow.

To those 47 ministers who signed this declaration 52 years ago in Minneapolis, we at this General Council, say to you: You have kept your word. You guarded the deposit of faith entrusted to you. You enlarged the sphere of work in God's field. We salute you!

And, at this General Council, we all pledge anew to recommit ourselves to pass down the purity of this Pentecostal revival to the next generation, should Jesus tarry.

We desire to remain on the exact course set by Azusa Street and Hot Springs—that God may be glorified, that His church may be built up, and that the lost of this world will be reached with the glorious gospel of Jesus Christ, God's Son and our Savior!

A time of praise and worship to God followed.

A motion prevailed to adopt the report of the Spiritual Life Committee.

### Reaffirmation of 1941 Commitment

At the 1941 General Council a group of young ministers, desiring to express devoted affection to the elder brethren of the General Council, signed a resolution committing themselves "to carry on in like manner as you have set an example for us, to guard by consistent, holy, devoted living the standards of this blessed Fellowship, and should Jesus tarry, pass on to the generation that will follow."

Those ministers and their spouses who were at that meeting were asked to come forward and stand in front of the platform.

J. Robert Ashcroft read the following reaffirmation of that commitment in behalf of those present:

WHEREAS, Fifty-two years is a long enough time by modern standards for significant changes to have occurred; and

WHEREAS, Wars have a dramatic effect on societal changes; and

WHEREAS, Our country passed through a revolutionary time in the decade of the sixties; and

WHEREAS, We who were present at the 1941 General Council, and now being assembled for the 1993 General Council, wish to reaffirm our strong convictions for the foundational doctrines of the Assemblies of God, and in particular the Pentecostal emphasis on the Baptism, with the initial evidence of speaking in other tongues as the Spirit gives utterance, and continued ministry of the Holy Spirit; therefore

WE RESOLVE, To commit ourselves to continue this emphasis and give enthusiastic prayerful support to our elected leaders. We are committed to a worldwide revival and continued soul-winning effort. Together we await our Lord's return and our gathering together unto Him.

Ministers and their spouses who were 35 years of age and younger who were willing to make this same commitment were asked to come forward as a sign of dedication.

The following resolution was presented, and the younger ministers were asked to sign the resolution:

RESOLVED, that we, the ministers and workers of the younger generation of the Assemblies of God, do hereby desire to express our devoted affection to our elder brethren of the Council who through much sacrifice, study, prayer, and spiritual leadership, bound up in expression by the Constitution and Bylaws, have given to us a glorious spiritual heritage; thus creating a glorious spiritual fellowship, which all we as a young generation are now inheriting.

We would further say, by the grace of God, we will endeavor to carry on in like manner as you have set an example for us, to guard by consistent, holy, devoted living the standards of this blessed fellowship and should Jesus tarry, pass on to the generation that will follow.

Edwin Anderson, Springfield, Missouri, led in singing "Revive Us Again." Loren Triplett spoke on behalf of the large foreign group who represent our Fellowship, and J. Robert Ashcroft, as a representative of the 1941 group of ministers who signed the resolution, led in prayer.

A motion prevailed to incorporate all of this, along with the Spiritual Life Committee Report into the minutes of this General Council.

A request was made that if possible a video of this part of the service be prepared so pastors could take it home with them to share with their congregations.

### Greetings to Fraternal Delegates

#### New Zealand Assemblies of God

R. W. Hughes, representing the Assemblies of God of New Zealand, brought greetings from his Fellowship to the General Council.

A motion prevailed to send greetings to the brethren of the Assemblies of God of New Zealand.



### Assemblies of God of Australia

A motion prevailed that greetings be sent to our friends in the Assemblies of God in Australia.

### Pentecostal Assemblies of Canada

A motion prevailed that greetings be sent to the brethren of the Pentecostal Assemblies of Canada.

### Assemblies of God in Korea

Robert Houlihan, field director for the Asia Pacific Area of the Division of Foreign Missions, introduced the general superintendent of the Korean Assemblies of God, who brought greetings to the General Council. A delegation of 26 members was present with him.

A motion prevailed to send greetings to the brethren of the Assemblies of God in Korea.

### Election of General Superintendent

Rollin J. Carlson, chairman of the Tellers Committee, gave the following report of the nominating ballot for the office of general superintendent:

Total votes cast	2,643
Needed to elect	1,762

No one person received the number required for an election. The following names were read as nominees for the office of general superintendent:

Robert Abbott, Jay Alford, Jim Allen, Charles Anderson, Gordon Anderson, Don Argue, Tommy Barnett, Almon Bartholomew, Wayne Benson, Edward Berkey, Dan Betzer, Philip Bongiorno, Robert Brandt, James Bridges, Kenneth Brown, James Bryan, Warren Bullock, David Bundrick, Fulton Buntain, Howard Burroughs, G. Raymond Carlson, Robert J. Carlson, Rollin J. Carlson, Owen Carr, John Castellani, Fred Chilton, Glen Cole, Philip Combs, Charles Cookman, Charles Crabtree, Robert Crabtree, Charles Crank, Jimmy Davis, Richard Dobbins, Richard Dresselhaus, Tom Fegler, David Flower, Joseph Flower, Richard Foth, Alton Garrison, Don George, John Giannattasio, Don Gifford, Saturnino Gonzalez, Gary Grogan, Delmer Guynes, Dennis Haarer, Charles Hackett, Ian Hall, Doug Hammond, Larry Hatfield, Larry Hodge, Phil Hogan, Bob Houlihan, Gene Jackson, Cecil Janway, Thomas D. Jennings, Bobby Johnson, Foy Johnson, Marlin Kallevig, Charles Kelly, Milton Kersten, Clarence Lambert, Marlin Lambert, Vaudie Lambert, Fred Lawley, Jr., Bill Leach, Maurice Lednicki, Edgar Lee, Bob Lindell, Don Logan, John Loper, Paul Lowenberg, Darrel Madsen, David Markese, Gordon Matheny, Sam Mayo, John McEachran, Ronald McManus, Herb Meppelink, Jesse Miranda, Ernie Moen, Bob Nazarenus, Armon Newburn, Anthony Niger III, Danny Northrup, Ansley Orfila, Brenton Osgood, Charles Pace, John Palmer, John Paproski, Joel Pavia, Terry Raburn, Ray Rachels, Rob-

ert Rhoden, Herman Rohde, Hugh Rosenberg, W. Nelson Sachs, Robert Schmidgall, Reuben Sequeira, Robert C. Slaton, Robert Spence, Clarence St. John, Otis Stanley, Irvin Steiding, Hardy Steinberg, Everett Stenhouse, Dave Stevens, Karl Strader, Dennis Sunderland, Del Tarr, Philip Taylor, Ed Tedeschi, Curtis Thomassen, Paul Thompson, Norman Tosten, Ray Trask, Thomas Trask, Loren Triplett, Wesley Vagle, William Vickery, Philip Wannenmacher, David Wigington, Rich Wilkerson, Bobby Wilson, George Wood.

Since there was no election, the first elective ballot was cast.

The chairman of the Tellers Committee gave the following report on the first elective ballot:

Total votes cast	3,789
Needed to elect	2,526

Votes received are as follows:

Jay Alford 7, Jim Allen 3, Charles Anderson 2, Gordon Anderson 3, Don Argue 15, Tommy Barnett 31, Almon Bartholomew 18, Wayne Benson 13, Edward Berkey 3, Dan Betzer 12, Phil Bongiorno 5, Robert Brandt 10, James Bridges 59, James Bryan 1, Warren Bullock 1, Howard Burroughs 1, Rollin J. Carlson 4, Owen Carr 5, John Castellani 1, Glen Cole 351, Philip Combs 3, Charles Cookman 1, Charles Crabtree 434, Robert Crabtree 5, Charles Crank 24, Richard Dobbins 1, Richard Dresselhaus 22, David Flower 2, Joseph Flower 5, Richard Foth 6, Alton Garrison 1, Saturnino Gonzalez 1, Delmer Guynes 1, Dennis Haarer 1, Charles Hackett 69, Ian Hall 1, Phil Hogan 2, Gene Jackson 3, Cecil Janway 1, Thomas D. Jennings 1, Bobby Johnson 2, Foy Johnson 7, Milton Kersten 1, Clarence Lambert 2, Vaudie Lambert 4, Maurice Lednicki 22, Edgar Lee 2, Paul Lowenberg 6, Gordon Matheny 1, Ronald McManus 1, Jesse Miranda 3, Ernie Moen 9, Bob Nazarenus 1, Armon Newburn 60, Brenton Osgood 2, John Palmer 5, John Paproski 1, Terry Raburn 16, Ray Rachels 13, Robert Rhoden 7, Herman Rohde 2, Hugh Rosenberg 2, W. Nelson Sachs 1, Robert Schmidgall 433, Reuben Sequeira 1, Robert C. Slaton 1, Robert Spence 7, Clarence St. John 6, Irvin Steiding 1, Hardy Steinberg 1, Everett Stenhouse 861, Dave Stevens 2, Karl Strader 6, Del Tarr 2, Ed Tedeschi 3, Ray Trask 14, Thomas Trask 1,046, Loren Triplett 35, Philip Wannenmacher 15, Rich Wilkerson 1, Bobby Wilson 2, George Wood 53.

Since there was no election, a second elective ballot was cast.

The chairman of the Tellers Committee gave the following report on the second elective ballot:

Total votes cast	3,259
Needed to elect	2,173

Votes received by the nominees are as follows:

Don Argue 1, Tommy Barnett 3, Dan Betzer 1, James Bridges 13, Rollin J. Carlson 6, Glen Cole 187, Charles Crabtree 250, Charles Crank 4, Richard Dresselhaus 2, Charles Hackett 18, Cecil Janway 1, Maurice Lednicki 1, Paul Lowenberg 1, Jesse Miranda 1, Armon Newburn 4,

Terry Raburn 1, Robert Schmidgall 491, Robert Spence 1, Clarence St. John 1, Everett Stenhouse 762, Karl Strader 1, Ray Trask 5, Thomas Trask 1,483, Loren Triplett 3, George Wood 18.

Since there was no election, a third elective ballot was cast. It was indicated that only the top 15 candidates were to be considered when voting on this ballot.

The following resolution was moved and seconded with regard to the election process:

WHEREAS, The Bible admonishes us to "know those who labor among us"; and

WHEREAS, Without "vision the people perish"; and

WHEREAS, Many here as voting delegates do not know those who are being nominated for this important office or their vision for leading our Fellowship; therefore be it

RESOLVED, That each of the top five candidates for office present a 3-5 minute summary of their vision for our Fellowship before the Council proceeds with the voting.

The motion to adopt this resolution was lost.

Special prayer for God's guidance and for the will of the Lord to be done in the election process was offered by the chairman.

Rollin Carlson, chairman of the Tellers Committee, gave the following report on the third elective ballot:

Total votes cast	2,901
Needed to elect	1,934

The nominees received the following votes:

Tommy Barnett 1, James Bridges 24, Rollin J. Carlson 23, Glen Cole 63, Charles Crabtree 107, Charles Crank 0, Richard Dresselhaus 1, Charles Hackett 6, Armon Newburn 1, Robert Schmidgall 301, Everett Stenhouse 527, Ray Trask 2, Thomas Trask 1,836, Loren Triplett 1, George Wood 8.

Since there was no election, a fourth ballot was cast. It was indicated that the vote would be for the top three candidates and that all other names would be eliminated.

Rollin Carlson gave the following report from the Tellers Committee on the fourth elective ballot for office of general superintendent:

Total votes cast	3,609
Needed to elect	2,406
Robert Schmidgall	311
Everett Stenhouse	469
Thomas E. Trask	2,829

The chairman, noting that Thomas E. Trask received well in excess of the two-thirds vote required, declared him elected as general superintendent.

Brother Carlson called on Thomas E. Trask to make any comments he wished. Sister Trask was asked to join him on the platform. Brother Trask

responded by thanking the body for their confidence and the executive officers and headquarters people with whom he has worked. He stated, "You have conveyed upon me a tremendous responsibility, and I accept it as a directive and as the will of God. I firmly believe God wants to use the Assemblies of God, and our greater days can be ahead of us. Our dependency lies in the work of the Holy Spirit for it is He who has brought about our accomplishments. If there are to be accomplishments in the days ahead, I'm confident it's going to be as we rely upon the person of the Holy Spirit to endow us with wisdom. We enlist your prayers for a divine outpouring of the Holy Ghost in these days that lie before us."

### Resolution 23. Division of Christian Education

George Wood read Resolution 23 as follows and moved its adoption:

WHEREAS, It is desirable to involve as fully and fairly as possible all the entities of the Division of Christian Education on the Board of Christian Education and on the Executive Committee; and,

WHEREAS, It is also desirable to have the Christian school representative serve with the department secretaries and the editor-in-chief on the Board of Christian Education and the Executive Committee; therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That Bylaw ARTICLE XIII. DIVISION OF CHRISTIAN EDUCATION, e. Board of Christian Education, be amended by changing the number of members from 15 to 16 and adding the Christian school representative as an additional member, so that the paragraph will read:

e. Board of Christian Education. There shall be a Board of Christian Education consisting of 16 members to be constituted as follows: The national director of the Division of Christian Education who shall serve as chairman; the secretary of the Sunday School Promotion and Training Department; the editor-in-chief of the Sunday School Curriculum and Literature Department; the secretary of the Sunday School Field Ministries and Literature Sales Department; the Christian school representative; four pastors of demonstrated support for education (representative of churches of 0-99, 100-299, 300-499, 500-plus, regional distribution); two local church Christian education directors; two district Christian education directors (providing some regional distribution); a professor of Christian education from one of the endorsed colleges; the president of the Association of Assemblies of God Christian Schools; an executive presbyter; and the general superintendent (ex officio). The chairperson shall designate the secretary of the board.

(No changes in subparagraphs (1) Selection of Board, (2) Terms of Office, and (3) Authority and Amenability.)

And, be it further

RESOLVED, That Bylaw ARTICLE XIII. DIVISION OF CHRIS-

TIAN EDUCATION, e. Board of Christian Education, (4) Executive Committee, be amended by changing the number of members from six to seven, and adding the Christian school representative as an additional member, so that the paragraph will now read:

(4) Executive Committee. There shall be an executive committee of the Board of Christian Education which shall meet as needed to carry out the decisions of the Board of Christian Education. The executive committee shall consist of seven members including the national director of Christian Education, the secretary of the Sunday School Promotion and Training Department, the editor-in-chief of the Sunday School Curriculum and Literature Department, the secretary of the Sunday School Field Ministries and Literature Sales Department, the Christian school representative, one pastor, and one district Christian education director. Those not serving by virtue of office shall be selected by the Board of Christian Education.

The motion was seconded and carried.

#### Recess

A motion prevailed to recess the meeting at 4:30 p.m. Herman Fry, Rehoboth Beach, Delaware, closed in prayer.

#### WEDNESDAY EVENING SERVICE—AUGUST 11

The Wednesday evening service was under the direction of Thomas E. Trask, general treasurer. Herman H. Rohde, executive presbyter from the North Central Area, gave the Scripture reading from 2 Timothy 2:14-16 and 2 Timothy 3:14-17. Prayer was offered by Robert L. Brandt, executive presbyter from the Northwest Area. The congregational singing was led by Laurey Berteig, minister of music, Brightmoor Tabernacle, Southfield, Michigan. Roger Sorbo, North Central Bible College, Concoran, Minnesota, and Kathy Strandquist, First Assembly of God Bloomington, Minnesota, served at the piano and organ, respectively. Special music for the service was provided by the choir of the Assembly of God, Bloomington, Minnesota, under the direction of Dave Collins, and soloist Gina Lugo, Campbell, California. The offertory was provided by a male trio, Spiritbound, from Nashville, Tennessee.

Prior to the message of the evening, G. Raymond Carlson presented the General Superintendent's Medal of Honor citation to Orville W. Mills, Jr., of Enid, Oklahoma. He is a certified public accountant and a certified internal auditor and is currently the general auditor of Exxon in the United States. He is the fifth person to receive this award reserved for lay persons.

The speaker for the service was James K. Bridges, superintendent of the North Texas District Council. The theme for the message was "Live the Word in Study." He renewed Paul's challenge of 2 Timothy 2:15 and indicated that his purpose was to call for a new commitment to the Word of God in keeping with the high view historic in our Movement and to

challenge to a new beginning of obedience. He stated, "God's harvest plan is to get His Word firstly into His people and then to anoint His people to spread His Word." He challenged the Fellowship that, "Learning and obeying the Book and the Author of the Book is the answer to any crisis."

#### THURSDAY MORNING—AUGUST 12

A time of prayer and praise began at 9 a.m. on Thursday morning. Edward Peecher led the prayer time. David Ritter, minister of music, First Assembly of God, Phoenix, Arizona, led the singing. Musicians were Bob Geabhart, minister of music, First Assembly of God, Memphis, Tennessee, at the piano, and Shara Engel, First Assembly of God, Phoenix, Arizona, at the organ.

#### Business Session

G. Raymond Carlson called the business session to order at 9:30 a.m. James Biram, superintendent of the Kentucky District, led in prayer asking God's guidance upon the morning session.

#### Roster Report

Charles Anderson, cochairman of the Roster Committee, gave the following report of the Roster Committee as of 9:30 a.m., Thursday, August 12:

Ordained ministers	3,844	
Delegates	931	
Voting constituency		4,775
Licensed ministers	410	
Visitors	6,616	
Nonvoting constituency		7,026
Total registration		11,801

A motion prevailed to receive this progress report.

#### Resolution 6. Term Limits for Executive Officers

George Wood read Resolution 6 as follows and moved its adoption:

WHEREAS, The Assemblies of God has within it many persons capable of assuming the highest leadership positions in our Movement; and

WHEREAS, Without a term limitation, there is little opportunity for a greater number of qualified persons to assume high leadership positions in our Movement; therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That Constitution ARTICLE IX. OFFICERS, Section 1. Executive Officers, a. Officers and terms of office, which now reads:

a. Officers and terms of office. The officers shall consist of the general

superintendent, the assistant general superintendent, the general secretary, and the general treasurer, together with such other officers as may be authorized in the future. Their terms of office shall begin 3 months after the date of election. The term of office for the general superintendent shall continue for 4 years or until his successor qualifies. The terms of office for all other officers shall continue for 2 years or until their successors qualify.

Be amended to read:

a. Officers and terms of office. The officers shall consist of the general superintendent, the assistant general superintendent, the general secretary, and the general treasurer, together with such other officers as may be authorized in the future. Their terms of office shall begin 3 months after the date of election. The term of office for the general superintendent shall continue for 4 years or until his successor qualifies, but shall not exceed more than two 4-year terms. The terms of office for all other officers shall continue for 2 years or until their successors qualify, but shall not exceed four 2-year terms.

It was moved and seconded to amend by changing the word on page 34, line 5, from "two" to "three," and the word "four" on line 8 to "six."

It was further moved and seconded that the entire resolution, including the amendment, be referred to a committee to be appointed by the general superintendent and that the report come back to the next General Council. The motion to refer was lost.

The motion to amend was lost.

After a time of further discussion, the motion to adopt Resolution 6 was lost.

#### **Resolution 7. National Director of Division of Home Missions as Executive Presbyter**

George Wood read Resolution 7 and moved its adoption.

A motion prevailed to amend by deleting the word "national" on page 36, line 17, and substituting the word "executive," and likewise on page 37, lines 6 and 7, deleting the word "national" adding the word "executive," and further, that the general secretary be authorized to edit the remainder of the resolution and the bylaws to bring them into conformity with this action.

The motion to adopt Resolution 7 as amended was carried.

Resolution 7 as amended and adopted follows:

WHEREAS, The district presbytery of the Alaska District Council has proposed a resolution to amend the General Council Constitution and Bylaws by designating the national director of the Division of Home Missions as a General Presbyter; and

WHEREAS, The Ohio District Council, in session on May 14, 1992, endorsed the Alaska resolution, agreeing with the reasons stated; and

WHEREAS, The same Ohio District Council, supported by the Ohio

District presbytery, further moved to recommend that the national director of the Division of Home Missions serve as an executive presbyter; and

WHEREAS, The said director could have opportunity for a greater impact on the policies and decisions affecting the entire General Council by serving as a member of the Executive Presbytery; and

WHEREAS, It would be consistent with membership in the Executive Presbytery to have the office of the national director of the Division of Home Missions as an elected position; therefore, be it

**RESOLVED**, That Constitution ARTICLE IX. OFFICERS, Section 2. Executive Presbytery. a. Composition and terms of office, which now reads:

a. Composition and terms of office. The Executive Presbytery shall consist of the general superintendent, the assistant general superintendent, the general secretary, the general treasurer, the executive director of Foreign Missions, together with eight other brethren to be chosen from the active Fellowship to bring the number to 13. The terms of office for all members of the Executive Presbytery, except as stated in Section 1, shall continue for 2 years or until their successors qualify.

Be amended to read:

a. Composition and terms of office. The Executive Presbytery shall consist of the general superintendent, the assistant general superintendent, the general secretary, the general treasurer, the executive director of the Division of Foreign Missions, the executive director of the Division of Home Missions, together with eight other brethren to be chosen from the active Fellowship to bring the number to 14. The terms of office for all members of the Executive Presbytery, except as stated in Section 1, shall continue for 2 years or until their successors qualify.

And, be it further

**RESOLVED**, That Bylaw ARTICLE II. ELECTION OF OFFICERS, Section 2. Nominations and Elections, be amended by relettering paragraph d. as e., and relettering all subsequent paragraphs; and, be it further

**RESOLVED**, That Bylaw ARTICLE II. ELECTION OF OFFICERS, Section 2. Nominations and Elections, be amended by adding a new paragraph d, to be worded as follows:

d. Executive Director of the Division of Home Missions. The executive director of the Division of Home Missions shall be elected in the following manner: The General Presbytery, serving as a nominating committee, shall be entrusted with the responsibility of making careful investigation concerning the qualifications and general fitness of available candidates for this strategic post and shall select by secret ballot one or more names to be presented to the General Council in

session for election. The General Presbytery shall submit as nominees to the General Council all qualified candidates who have received at least 15 votes in the General Presbytery. A two-thirds vote of the General Council shall be required for election.

And, be it further

RESOLVED, That Bylaw ARTICLE III. DUTIES OF OFFICERS, Section 6. Duties of the Executive Presbytery, be renumbered as Section 7. Duties of the Executive Presbytery, and that all subsequent sections be accordingly renumbered; and, be it further

RESOLVED, That Bylaw ARTICLE III. DUTIES OF OFFICERS, be amended by adding a new Section 6, which shall read as follows:

Section 6. Duties of the Executive Director of Home Missions. He shall be the executive director of the Division of Home Missions under the supervision of the Executive Presbytery. Under his direction the division shall perform the following duties and render the following services:

- a. Keep a record of all official acts of the Home Missions Board and other committees of the division.
- b. Conduct all correspondence with prospective home missionaries and with those already under appointment.
- c. Prepare the home missions material in the *Pentecostal Evangel* from letters and reports.
- d. Represent The General Council of the Assemblies of God in all relationships with governing authorities where home missions work is involved.
- e. Direct the home missions activities of the Fellowship, insofar as such activities are not already directed within and by the respective district councils of the General Council.
- f. Distribute all home missions funds as directed by the donors by agreement with the Home Missions Committee.
- g. Act as a purchasing agent for home missions supplies.
- h. Perform such other functions as may be directed by the Executive Presbytery or the General Presbytery.

And, be it further

RESOLVED, That Bylaw ARTICLE XI. NATIONAL DIRECTORS, Section 2. paragraph b, which now reads:

b. The national directors shall be elected by the Executive Presbytery, subject to the ratification of the General Presbytery. Their terms of office shall continue for 2 years or until their successors qualify.

Be amended to read:

b. The national directors (except for the national director of the Division of Home Missions) shall be elected by the Executive Presbytery, subject to the ratification of the General Presbytery. Their terms of office shall continue for 2 years or until their successors qualify.

(Note: Action of the 1993 General Council upgrading the position of

the national director of the Division of Home Missions to be an Executive Presbyter nullified the above underlined reference which will be eliminated in the revised bylaws.)

And, be it further

RESOLVED, That Bylaw ARTICLE XVII. DIVISION OF HOME MISSIONS, Section 2. Government and organization, a. National director, which now reads:

a. National director. The Executive Presbytery shall elect a national director, subject to ratification by the General Presbytery. He shall be charged with the oversight of the Division of Home Missions.

Be amended to read

a. Executive director. There shall be an executive director of the Division of Home Missions who shall be elected in the manner described in Article II, Section 2, paragraph d, of the bylaws.

And, be it further

RESOLVED, That the general secretary be authorized to change any other wording in the Constitution and Bylaws needed to conform to the amendments proposed above.

#### Greetings from the Assemblies of God of Jamaica

Missionary Erick Kaiser of Jamaica read greetings from Vernon Kinkead, superintendent of the Assemblies of God in Jamaica.

#### World Relief Video

An expression had been made by the General Presbytery that they desired to have a part in ministering to those who are in need as a result of natural disasters. The World Relief organization, which is a part of NAE, had sent a video concerning aiding victims of disasters. The video was shown. An offering was received that will be sent to World Relief on behalf of the Assemblies of God.

#### Recess

The meeting recessed at 11:45 a.m. Joseph Flower led in prayer especially remembering R. D. E. Smith who had become ill during the morning session and was taken to a local hospital.

#### THURSDAY AFTERNOON—AUGUST 12

Jeffrey Bawner opened the Thursday afternoon business session by leading in the singing of several songs. David Pedde, North Central Bible College, was at the piano, and Joan Rosenberg, Fairfield, Ohio, was at the piano. J. Foy Johnson, executive presbyter from the Southeast Area, opened the session with prayer.

#### Business Session

The chairman called the afternoon business session to order at 1:40 p.m.

### Roster Committee Report

The Thursday afternoon report of the Roster Committee was presented by James Allen, cochairman of the Roster Committee. He reported as follows:

Ordained ministers	3,884	
Delegates	937	
Voting constituency		4,821
Licensed ministers	411	
Visitors	6,682	
Nonvoting constituency		7,093
Total registration		11,914

A motion prevailed to receive the report of the Roster Committee as of 1:30 p.m.

### Election of Assistant General Superintendent

The nominating ballot for the office of assistant general superintendent was cast.

Rollin J. Carlson, chairman of the Tellers Committee, reported the results of the nominating ballot for the office of assistant general superintendent as follows:

Total votes cast	2,708
Needed to elect	1,805

There was no election on the nominating ballot. The following names were read as nominees for the office of assistant general superintendent:

Charles Anderson, Gordon Anderson, Don Argue, Paul Baldwin, Ron Barefield, Almon Bartholomew, Wayne Benson, Joe Beretta, Dan Betzer, David Blattner, Phil Bongiorno, Rex Bornman, James Bridges, John Burke, Howard Burroughs, Rollin J. Carlson, Tom Carpenter, Owen Carr, Larry Cederblom, Doug Clay, Lee Cofelt, Glen Cole, Charles Crabtree, Robert Crabtree, Charles Crank, Mark Dalan, John Davis, Ricky Davis, Taylor Davis, Daniel DeLeon, Samuel Di Trolio, Richard Dortch, Richard Dresselhaus, Rick Drury, Russell Eggert, Timothy Ekblad, Rick Enloe, Donald Farmer, Bennie Ferguson, Warren Flattery, Joseph Flower, Paul Freitag, Rick Gail, William Gallaher, Charles Hackett, Ian Hall, George Harden, Mike Henderson, Darwin Heuser, Phil Hogan, Tom Jacobs, Cecil Janway, Terry Johnson, Gordon Kaiser, Paul Keil, Murray Kelley, Robert Lafferty, Maurice Lednický, John Loper, Paul Lowenberg, Louis Marquez, Ronald McManus, Leo Miller, Jesse Miranda, Ernest Moen, Derald Musgrove, John Nehs, Armon Newburn, Harry Olsen, John Palmer, Harry Parsons, Jr., Terry Raburn, Ray Rachels, Robert Rhoden, Carey Robertson, Herman Rohde, Tom Sanders, Robert Schmidgall, Dan Sheaffer, Ralph Snook, Clarence St. John, Everett Stenhouse, Karl Strader, Ray Trask, Ron Traub,

Loren Triplett, Dick Van Huss, Philip Wannenmacher, James Wilkins, Bobby Wilson, Brian Wood, George Wood, Howard Young.

Everett Stenhouse requested the privilege of speaking. He then announced that he was withdrawing his name from consideration for the office of assistant general superintendent.

Robert K. Schmidgall also requested that his name be withdrawn.

The chairman asked that D. V. Hurst lead in prayer for God's guidance before the next ballot is cast.

The first elective ballot for the office of assistant general superintendent was then cast.

Results of the first elective ballot were presented by the chairman of the Tellers Committee as follows:

Total votes cast	2,054
Needed to elect	1,369

Votes received by the nominees are as follows:

Gordon Anderson 2, Don Argue 19, Paul Baldwin 1, Almon Bartholomew 34, Wayne Benson 20, Joe Beretta 3, Dan Betzer 9, David Blattner 1, Phil Bongiorno 7, James Bridges 208, Howard Burroughs 1, Rollin J. Carlson 10, Tom Carpenter 2, Owen Carr 6, Larry Cederblom 2, Doug Clay 1, Lee Cofelt 6, Glen Cole 389, Charles Crabtree 599, Robert Crabtree 33, Charles Crank 58, Mark Dalan 2, Ricky Davis 2, Taylor Davis 1, Daniel DeLeon 10, Samuel Di Trolio 1, Richard Dortch 15, Richard Dresselhaus 17, Timothy Ekblad 1, Bennie Ferguson 1, Warren Flattery 1, Joseph Flower 12, Paul Freitag 1, William Gallaher 1, Charles Hackett 47, Ian Hall 2, George Harden 1, Darwin Heuser 1, Cecil Janway 4, Paul Keil 1, Robert Lafferty 1, Maurice Lednický 27, John Loper 2, Paul Lowenberg 3, Ronald McManus 9, Jesse Miranda 5, Ernest Moen 30, Derald Musgrove 6, Armon Newburn 65, Harry Olsen 1, John Palmer 28, Harry Parsons, Jr. 1, Terry Raburn 16, Ray Rachels 21, Robert Rhoden 10, Herman Rohde 5, Robert Schmidgall 18, Clarence St. John 11, Everett Stenhouse 57, Karl Strader 2, Ray Trask 5, Ron Traub 1, Loren Triplett 25, Philip Wannenmacher 28, Bobby Wilson 4, George Wood 140, Howard Young 1.

Since there was no election on the first elective ballot, a second ballot was distributed and cast.

The Tellers Committee reported the following results of the second elective ballot:

Total votes cast	2,889
Needed to elect	1,926

Votes received by nominees are as follows:

Don Argue 4, Almon Bartholomew 11, Wayne Benson 1, Dan Betzer 2, James Bridges 423, Glen Cole 555, Charles Crabtree 1,581, Robert Crabtree 11, Charles Crank 23, Mark Dalan 1, Richard Dortch 4, Richard Dresselhaus 1, Joseph Flower 1, Charles Hackett 15, Maurice Lednický 7, Ronald McManus 2, Jesse Miranda 1, Ernie Moen 3, Derald Musgrove

1, Armon Newburn 22, John Palmer 10, Ray Rachels 1, Robert Rhoden 4, Robert Schmidgall 11, Clarence St. John 1, Everett Stenhouse 36, Karl Strader 2, Loren Triplett 4, Philip Wannenmacher 3, George Wood 148.

Since there was no election on the second elective ballot, a third ballot was cast.

Rollin J. Carlson reported the following results of the third elective ballot:

Total votes cast	2,537
Needed to elect	1,691
Charles Crabtree received	1,949

Having received well above the required number of votes, the chairman declared Charles Crabtree elected as assistant general superintendent.

The following is the list of all other nominees and votes received: Don Argue 1, James Bridges 224, Glen Cole 281, Robert Crabtree, 3, Charles Crank 3, Charles Hackett 6, Maurice Lednicki 3, Armon Newburn 6, Robert Schmidgall 2, Everett Stenhouse 7, George Wood 52.

The chairman of the Resolutions Committee indicated that Resolution 36, Resolution 37, and Resolution 38 are being presented to implement the recommendations contained in the report of the Committee To Study Restoration and Rehabilitation.

#### **Resolution 36. No Rehabilitation for Second Offense**

George Wood read Resolution 36 as follows and moved its adoption:

WHEREAS, Our present bylaws make provision for potential rehabilitation for a "second" or subsequent offense; and

WHEREAS, The potential legal liabilities to the district council and General Council for approving a second rehabilitation program for the same individual are substantial; therefore be it

RESOLVED, That Bylaw ARTICLE IX. DISCIPLINE, Section 8. Rehabilitation, d, which now reads:

##### **d. Eligibility in Special Circumstances**

(1) *Previous rehabilitation.* In the event a minister has completed a prior rehabilitation program, and is again found to be in violation of Assemblies of God principles, the district shall first obtain permission from the General Council Credentials Committee before recommending a second rehabilitation program as prescribed in Section 8 of this article.

(2) *Previous dismissal.* In the event a minister who has been dismissed requests reinstatement, the district shall first obtain permission from the General Council Credentials Committee before submitting an appropriate rehabilitation program as prescribed in Section 8 of this article. He shall not be eligible for reinstatement until the requirements for rehabilitation have been completed. Consideration may also be given to a minister if in the opinion of the credentials committees

he has satisfactorily fulfilled the remedial requirements of such rehabilitation.

Be amended to read:

d. *Previous dismissal.* In the event a minister who has been dismissed requests reinstatement, the district shall first obtain permission from the General Council Credentials Committee before submitting an appropriate rehabilitation program as prescribed in Section 8 of this article. He shall not be eligible for reinstatement until the requirements for rehabilitation have been completed. Consideration may also be given to a minister if in the opinion of the credentials committees he has satisfactorily fulfilled the remedial requirements of such rehabilitation.

The motion to adopt resolution 36 was carried.

#### **Resolution 37. Transfer of Information**

George Wood read Resolution 37 as follows and moved its adoption:

WHEREAS, The present General Council Bylaws make no provision for the transfer of necessary rehabilitation information when a rehabilitated minister moves from one district to another; and

WHEREAS, Enhanced legal liability attaches to the new and old district councils and the General Council in the event of a second failure of the minister; and

WHEREAS, Our present policy of nondisclosure of necessary information along with the rehabilitated minister's Certificate of Transfer to another district increases the level of legal liability of district councils and the General Council; and

WHEREAS, Some disclosure of necessary information to the new district on the rehabilitated minister is therefore necessary, while at the same time, it is not necessary to transfer the whole rehabilitation record on file from the district in which the offense and/or rehabilitation occurred; therefore be it

RESOLVED, That Bylaw ARTICLE IX. DISCIPLINE, A. District Action, Section 8. Rehabilitation, c. Procedures and Requirements, (4) which now reads:

(4) *Classified information.* The rehabilitation record shall not accompany the Certificate of Transfer to another district. The information shall be preserved for future reference in the files of the district and the General Council Credentials Committee.

Be amended to read:

(4) *Transfer of Information.* A rehabilitation information form for district use, prepared and distributed by the general secretary, shall be completed by the district in which the rehabilitation occurred when the rehabilitated minister requests a transfer to a new district. The completed rehabilitation form shall accompany the Certificate of Transfer to another district. A disciplined minister shall, as a condition

of entering a rehabilitation program, sign a Limited Disclosure Agreement approved by the General Presbytery allowing the basis of his rehabilitation program to be disclosed by the district superintendent or district secretary of a transferring district. The information shall be preserved for future reference in the files of the district in which the rehabilitation occurred and the General Council.

The motion to adopt Resolution 37 was carried.

#### **Resolution 38. Basis for Rehabilitation**

George Wood read Resolution 38 as follows and moved its adoption:

WHEREAS, A rehabilitation program may be available to a minister who is found to have violated any Assemblies of God principles (Bylaw Article IX.A., Section 3); and

WHEREAS, Such a rehabilitation program is not a right accorded to ministers, but discretionary with the district and General Council credentials committees; and

WHEREAS, The primary purpose of the rehabilitation program is to restore the disciplined person first to God, spouse, and family; and after that to possible restoration of ministry; therefore be it

RESOLVED, That Bylaw ARTICLE IX. DISCIPLINE, A. District Action, Section 8. Rehabilitation, a, which now reads:

a. **Basis.** Those found to have violated any of the Assemblies of God principles (Article IX, A, Section 3) may request a program of rehabilitation as an alternative to dismissal. Granting such request shall be at the discretion of the district and General Council credentials committees.

Be amended to read:

a. **Basis:** Those found to have violated any of the Assemblies of God principles (Article IX, A, Section 3) may request a program of rehabilitation as an alternative to dismissal. Rehabilitation is a privilege granted out of mercy and not a right to be expected or demanded: the primary purpose is to restore a person to God, spouse, and family; with the results leading to possible restoration to ministry. Granting such request shall be at the discretion of the district and General Council credentials committees.

The motion to adopt Resolution 38 was seconded and carried.

#### **Resolution 4A. Basic Educational Requirements (Revised)**

George Wood explained that because of revision made to Resolution 4A by the General Presbytery, a revised Resolution 4A is being provided. Robert Rhoden, chairman of the Committee To Study Basic Educational Requirements for Credentials called for by the General Presbytery gave highlights of the report which had been presented to the General Presbytery in session.

George Wood read Resolution 4A Revised and moved its adoption.

It was moved and seconded to amend by substitution of lines 4-20 on page 111 for lines 22-26 on page 111, and lines 1-11 on page 112. The motion was lost.

A motion prevailed to amend line 10 of page 112 by changing "General Council Credentials Committee" to "General Presbytery."

A motion was made and seconded to consider the amendments to the constitution and bylaws seriatim. The motion was lost.

The motion prevailed to adopt Resolution 4A Revised as amended.

Resolution 4A Revised as amended and adopted follows:

WHEREAS, The General Presbytery authorized the appointment of a special committee to further study the entire issue of credentials: the proper relationship of a district council credentials committee recommendation to the General Council Credentials Committee final action, the matter of ascertaining the validity of life experience, and any other issue that pertains to the relationship of the credential applicant, the district and General Council Credentials Committee; and

WHEREAS, This committee met to study the aforementioned matters and concluded that some amendments should be made to the General Council Constitution and Bylaws to bring them into conformity with one another, codify existing practice, and more clearly delineate the relationship between district council credentials committees and the General Council Credentials Committee; and

WHEREAS, The issue before the Council is sufficiently complicated that a one-page flow chart of the credentialing process has been prepared as part of this resolution to illustrate how the following proposed action specifically impacts the credentialing process; therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That General Council Constitution ARTICLE X. DISTRICT COUNCILS, Section 4. Credentialing authority, which now reads:

#### **Section 4. Credentialing authority**

The district council shall have the authority to examine and approve candidates who qualify as certified ministers and licensed ministers. The applications of the approved candidates shall be endorsed by the districts and forwarded to the general secretary of The General Council of the Assemblies of God for the issuance of the appropriate credential. The district council shall also have the authority to examine and ordain ministers after having received approval from the General Council Credentials Committee. Any certain extent of academic education shall never be a requirement for credentials, but it shall be required of applicants that they take such reading courses and pass examinations as may be prescribed by respective district councils in agreement with the General Council Credentials Committee.

Be amended to read:

#### **Section 4. Credentialing authority**

The district council shall have the authority to examine, approve, and



recommend candidates who qualify as certified ministers, licensed ministers, and ordained ministers. The applications of the recommended candidates shall be endorsed by the district and forwarded to the general secretary of The General Council of the Assemblies of God for the final approval and issuance of the ministerial credential by the General Council Credentials Committee. Any level of formal academic achievement (diploma or degree) shall not be a requirement for credentials, but it shall be required of applicants that they take such courses and pass examinations as shall be prescribed by the General Presbytery unless an exception is provided for in the bylaws.

And, be it further

RESOLVED, That General Council Bylaw ARTICLE VII. MINISTRY, Section 2. Basic Qualifications, h. Basic educational requirements, which now reads:

h. Basic education requirements. Any level of formal academic achievement (diploma or degree) shall not be a requirement for credentials; however, it shall be required of applicants that they demonstrate adequate knowledge of (1) the Bible, (2) Assemblies of God doctrines, and (3) ministerial practices by either having completed the prescribed courses of the Berean College of the Assemblies of God as specified by the General Presbytery, or by equivalent training in an approved school, or by being recommended by the district credentials committee who shall interview and investigate the applicant as to having accomplished the same through self-study and ministerial experience, together with such other training as may be required by respective district councils in conformity with such provisions as are made for applicants by the Credentials Committee of The General Council of the Assemblies of God. All applicants are required to take credentials examinations.

Be amended to read:

h. Basic education requirements. Any level of formal academic achievement (diploma or degree) shall not be a requirement for credentials; however, credential applicants shall meet the following criteria:

(1) All applicants are required to be interviewed by the district credentials committee and, in preparation for the interview, pass a standard exam approved by the General Presbytery whereby they demonstrate knowledge of the Bible, Assemblies of God doctrines, and ministerial practices; and either

(2) Successfully complete equivalent training to that indicated in paragraph (3) below, preferably, in an endorsed Assemblies of God postsecondary school; or in a seminary, college, Bible college, or school approved by the district credentials committee consistent with criteria established by the General Council Credentials Committee; or

(3) Successfully complete courses, prescribed by the General Presbytery, offered in correspondence through the Berean College of the Assemblies of God; or

(4) Be recommended by a district credentials committee as qualifying for credentials through self-study and ministerial experience. Such candidates shall have a proven and fruitful ministry of substantial duration. Requests from a district for such a candidate shall be presented to the General Council Credentials Committee and may be granted on a case by case basis.

And, be it further

RESOLVED, That General Council Bylaw ARTICLE VII. MINISTRY, Section 4. Action of Credentials Committee, which now reads:

Section 4. Action of Credentials Committee

a. Certified minister and licensed minister. The General Council Credentials Committee delegates to the district councils the authority to approve candidates who qualify as certified ministers and licensed ministers. The applications of the approved candidates shall be endorsed by the districts and forwarded to the office of the general secretary for the issuance of the appropriate credential.

b. Ordained minister. The General Council Credentials Committee has the authority to approve candidates who qualify for ordination. The applications of the approved candidates shall be endorsed and recommended by the districts to the General Council Credentials Committee for approval prior to the public ordination. All ordinations shall take place under the auspices of the district councils. Be amended to read:

Section 4. Action of Credentials Committee

The General Council Credentials Committee delegates to the district councils the authority to examine, approve, and recommend candidates who qualify as certified ministers, licensed ministers, and ordained ministers. Final approval and issuance of the ministerial credential shall be made by the General Council Credentials Committee. All ordination services, with the laying on of hands, shall take place under the auspices of the district councils.

#### World Ministries Giving Awards

Thomas E. Trask, general treasurer, presented the World Ministries Giving Awards as follows:

First Place (District)

First Place (District)

(Balance in Participation)

First Place (Church)

Southern California District

T. Ray Rachels, Superintendent

North Dakota District

Marcus Bakke, Superintendent

Capital Christian Center, Sacramento, Calif.

Glen D. Cole, Pastor

First Place (Church)  
(Balance in Participation)

First Calvary Assembly of God, Wayne,  
New Jersey  
Richard Fogel, Pastor

#### Greetings from NAE Representative

Don Argue, president of North Central Bible College, who serves as president of the National Association of Evangelicals, brought greetings to the General Council on behalf of the NAE.

#### Resolution 5. Voting Privileges for Credentialed Ministers

George Wood read Resolution 5 as follows and moved its adoption:

WHEREAS, The General Council now is the issuing agency for all credentials; and

WHEREAS, It would seem fitting that all General Council credentialed ministers have voice and vote in the business and work of the General Council; therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That Constitution ARTICLE VII. MEMBERSHIP, Section 1. The General Council of the Assemblies of God, which now reads:

Section 1. The General Council of the Assemblies of God

The membership of The General Council of the Assemblies of God shall consist of all ordained ministers holding a current fellowship certificate and churches holding a Certificate of Affiliation issued by The General Council of the Assemblies of God.

Be amended to read:

Section 1. The General Council of the Assemblies of God

The membership of The General Council of the Assemblies of God shall consist of all credentialed ministers holding a current fellowship certificate and churches holding a Certificate of Affiliation issued by The General Council of the Assemblies of God.

The motion to adopt Resolution 5 was lost.

#### Resolution 9. General Presbytery Auditors

Prior to reading Resolution 9, George Wood noted editorial changes which need to be made to this resolution as follows: The word "district" should be inserted on lines 17, before auditors, and lines 17 and 18 should be moved to the middle of line 14, following the word "officers." A letter (d) should be added before the word "Auditors," on line 14.

He then read Resolution 9 with the indicated changes and moved its adoption.

A motion prevailed to amend line 15 by inserting the words, "and shall have voice only at the request of the chairman," after the word, "votes."

The motion to adopt Resolution 9 as amended carried.

Resolution 9 as amended and adopted follows:

WHEREAS, A practice has been observed for some time of permitting

the attendance at General Presbytery meetings of one full-time district executive officer as an auditor when that full-time district executive is not a general presbyter; and

WHEREAS, The General Presbytery has deemed it most helpful for the work of the General Council to have such auditors present in General Presbytery meetings; and

WHEREAS, There is no constitution or bylaw provision for the presence of such auditors in a General Presbytery meeting; therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That Constitution ARTICLE IX. OFFICERS, Section 3. General Presbytery, be amended through the addition of the following subsection:

f. Auditors. Duly qualified auditors may attend the sessions of the General Presbytery.

And, be it further

RESOLVED, That Bylaw ARTICLE II. ELECTION OF OFFICERS, Section 2. Nomination and Elections, e. General presbyters, be amended through the addition of the following sub-section:

(4) Auditors.

(a) National directors elected by the Executive Presbytery and ratified by the General Presbytery shall serve as auditors of the General Presbytery.

(b) The legal counsel of the General Council shall be granted the privilege of auditing the General Presbytery meetings.

(c) A district may select no more than one auditor for all duly called sessions of the General Presbytery. Any auditor selected by a district shall be one of its full-time executive presbyters or officers. Expenses for the district auditors shall not be the responsibility of the General Council.

(d) Auditors shall be without vote and shall have voice only at the request of the chairman. They shall absent themselves from any executive session of the General Presbytery.

#### Resolution 10. Honorary General Presbyters

George Wood read Resolution 10 as follows and moved its adoption:

WHEREAS, The constitution makes provision for the General Council to elect honorary general presbyters; and

WHEREAS, It has been the practice of the General Presbytery that honorary general presbyters have both voice and vote; and

WHEREAS, No provision is made in the constitution or bylaws specifically permitting or denying voice and vote to honorary general presbyters; therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That Bylaw ARTICLE II. ELECTION OF OFFICERS, Section 2. Nominations and Elections, e. General Presbyters, be amended through adding the following subsection:

(5) Honorary members. Honorary general presbyters, as provided for

in Constitution, Article IX, Section 3, e, shall have the right of voice and vote at all duly called sessions of the General Presbytery. The motion to adopt Resolution 10 was carried.

#### **Resolution 13. Christian Marriage and Family**

Prior to reading Resolution 13, George Wood indicated some technical changes which were needed in this resolution as follows: Changing line 20 on page 50 to read, "Article VIII. Doctrines and Practices Disapproved." This change should also be made on lines 1 and 2 of page 52. Line 15 of page 51, Article VIII should be changed to IX.

He then read Resolution 13 as corrected and moved its adoption. The motion to adopt Resolution 13 was carried.

Resolution 13 as adopted follows:

WHEREAS, The General Council Bylaws do not set forth a positive doctrinal position of the Assemblies of God on marriage; and

WHEREAS, There is no other official doctrinal statement of the Assemblies of God on this essential biblical subject; and

WHEREAS, We are living in a time when the God-ordained institution of marriage and the home are severely buffeted from every side; and

WHEREAS, The teaching and practice of scriptural marriage are germane to building and maintaining strong families among ministers and laity alike; and

WHEREAS, The strength and effectiveness of the local church are immeasurably enhanced by the stability of families within it; and

WHEREAS, The increasing threat to erode the sanctity and permanence of marriage requires the Fellowship to grant it a more prominent place in our governing documents; therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That Bylaw ARTICLE VIII. DOCTRINES AND PRACTICES DISAPPROVED, and subsequent articles be renumbered; and, be it further

RESOLVED, That new Bylaw ARTICLE VIII read as follows:

#### **ARTICLE VIII. CHRISTIAN MARRIAGE AND FAMILY**

##### **Section 1. Christian Marriage**

Marriage was established by God in the Garden of Eden (Genesis 2:18, 21-25) and confirmed by Jesus Christ to be a permanent relationship between a man and a woman (Matthew 19:4-6). Because marriage is not only a commitment to a spouse, but also to God (Genesis 2:24; Mark 10:9; Ephesians 5:31), a believer should marry only another believer (2 Corinthians 6:14). Christian marriage is a reflection of the love, purity, and permanence between Christ and the Church (Ephesians 5:23-33).

Even though some marriages may fall short of the biblical ideal (see Article VIII, Section 5), husbands and wives who devote themselves to God (Ephesians 5:21) and find nurture and instruction in the body

of Christ (Hebrews 10:25) can realize the strength and blessing of God in their relationship.

##### **Section 2. Children**

Children "are a heritage from the Lord"; therefore, rearing them is to be treated as a sacred trust. God's strength and wisdom are available on a daily basis in order to bring up children to love and obey God (Proverbs 22:6, Ephesians 6:4).

#### **Resolution 14. Position Paper on Christian Marriage and Family**

George Wood read Resolution 14 as follows and moved its adoption:

WHEREAS, We are living in a time when the God-ordained institution of marriage and the home are severely buffeted from every side; and

WHEREAS, The teaching and practice of scriptural marriage are germane to building and maintaining strong families among ministers and laity alike; and

WHEREAS, The strength and effectiveness of the local church are immeasurably enhanced by the stability of families within it; and

WHEREAS, The increasing threat to erode the sanctity and permanence of marriage needs to be countered with clearly focused biblical understanding; therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That the General Council direct the General Presbytery to prepare and publish a position paper on the subject of Christian marriage and family.

The motion to adopt Resolution 14 was carried.

#### **Resolution 16. Committee To Study Specialized Ministries Credential**

George Wood read Resolution 16 as follows and moved its adoption:

WHEREAS, The call to full-time ministry is God given; and

WHEREAS, This call, according to Acts 13:1-3 and Hebrews 5:1-4, is placed on specific lay people who are to be set apart by the Holy Spirit for a specific work or works; and

WHEREAS, According to 1 Corinthians 12:28 and Ephesians 4:11, 12, these works not only differ from one another, but are to be used as a whole to prepare the Church and build up the body of Christ; and

WHEREAS, 1 Corinthians 12:31 does not specifically show us what the greater gifts are that we would desire, and this verse may best be applied to the individual in his fulfilling the call of ministry on his life; and

WHEREAS, The specialized ministries license was established for those who have been called by God to fulfill ministry which may not include full-time preaching; and

WHEREAS, There are specialized ministers who do not feel a call to full-time preaching; and

WHEREAS, Those specialized ministers who follow this calling are

excluded from membership in The General Council of the Assemblies of God (Constitution ARTICLE VII. MEMBERSHIP, Section 1); and,

WHEREAS, This exclusion could cause harm to the body as a whole, according to 1 Corinthians 12:26; therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That the Executive Presbytery of the Assemblies of God appoint a committee to evaluate the present structure for granting ministerial credentials in our Fellowship: appointees and the size of the committee to be determined by the Executive Presbytery; and be it further

RESOLVED, That this committee report and make specific recommendations to the next General Council regarding the merits in establishing a new credential grade or change in our governing articles (constitution and bylaws) which would allow full-time specialized ministers the ability to obtain membership in The General Council of the Assemblies of God.

The motion to adopt Resolution 16 was carried.

#### Recess

The meeting recessed at 4:50 p.m.

#### THURSDAY EVENING SERVICE—AUGUST 12

The Thursday evening service was under the direction of Almon M. Bartholomew, executive presbyter from the Northeast Area. David Ritter, minister of music, First Assembly of God, Phoenix, Arizona, led the congregational singing. Janice Maxwell and Shara Engel, both from First Assembly of God, Phoenix, Arizona, served at the piano and organ, respectively. Maria E. Khaleel, Hollywood, Florida, led in prayer. Paul Lowenberg, executive presbyter from the South Central Area, read the Scripture from Matthew 6:5-15. The offering appeal was made by Marcus Bakke, superintendent of the North Dakota District, and the offertory was presented by Doug Ream, Aurora, Colorado.

The speaker for the evening service was Daniel de Leon, pastor of Templo Calvario, Santa Ana, California. The theme for the evening service and for his message was, "Live the Word in Prayer." The text for his message was 2 Chronicles 7:14. He emphasized that God gave us prayer so we could see the reality of His Word in our daily life. He showed that prayer does make a difference. Prayer changes things! Prayer changes me! And, prayer will change our churches and our nation. He stated, "If we are to have revival, we must come to grips with who we are. Sinful and proud we must learn from Revelation 3. Take off your crown. Bow down before Him and place your crown at His feet."

#### FRIDAY MORNING—AUGUST 13

The Friday morning session was opened with a time of prayer and praise led by Edward Peecher at 9 a.m. David Ritter led the congregational

singing. Judy McEachran, minister of music, First Assembly of God, Aberdeen, South Dakota, and Shara Engel, First Assembly of God, Phoenix, Arizona, served at the piano and organ respectively.

#### Business Session

The chairman called the business session to order at 10:20 a.m. Everett Stenhouse was asked to lead in prayer.

#### Roster Committee Report

Charles Anderson gave the following report of the Roster Committee as of 9:30 a.m., Friday, August 13:

Ordained ministers	3,890	
Delegates	938	
Voting constituency		4,828
Licensed ministers	417	
Visitors	6,730	
Nonvoting constituency		7,147
Total registration		11,975

A motion prevailed to receive this progress report.

#### Election of General Secretary

Prior to the casting of a nominating ballot for the office of general secretary, Joseph R. Flower requested permission to address the body. He expressed his appreciation for the privilege of serving as general secretary over the past 18 years, and requested that his name not be considered as a candidate for reelection to this office.

The nominating ballot for the office of general secretary was cast.

The chairman of the Tellers Committee brought the following report of the nominating ballot for the office of general secretary:

Total votes cast	1,624
Needed to elect	1,083

There was no election on the nominating ballot. The following names were read as nominees for the office of general secretary:

Arden Adamson, Milford Addison, Jay Alford, Gary Allen, Charles Anderson, Gordon Anderson, Don Annas, Don Argue, Ron Barefield, Almon Bartholomew, Wayne Benson, Ed Berkey, James Biram, Phil Bongiorno, Robert Brandt, James Bridges, John Bueno, Warren Bullock, John Bunney, Frank Cargill, Rollin J. Carlson, Owen Carr, John Castellani, Gerald Christiansen, Dave Cole, Glen Cole, David Collins, Robert Crabtree, Charles Crank, Roy Creamer, Tommy Crider, George Cunard, Walter Davis, Richard Dortch, Richard Dresselhaus, Jim Duncan, George Edgerly, Dale Edwards, David Flower, Joseph Flower, Marshall Flowers, Douglas Fulenwider, Marvin Fulks, Don George, Duane Geyer, James

Girkin, Wayne Goodall, Gary Grisham, Larry Griswold, Charles Hackett, Joseph Hardt, Charles Harrison, Jack Hembree, Mike Henderson, Philip Illum, Gene Jackson, Terry Johnson, Charles Kelly, Tom Lakey, Vaudie Lambert, Fred Leader, Maurice Lednicky, Raymond Loven, Paul Lowenberg, Glyn Lowery, Jr., John Maracle, Paul Martin, Sam Mayo, Don McManness, Ronald McManus, William Miller, Jesse Miranda, Ernie Moen, Jack Moore, Derald Musgrove, Bob Nazarenus, Richard Neubauer, Armon Newburn, Brenton Osgood, Thomas Paino, John Palmer, Richard Peterson, Gene Petty, Burton Pierce, Donald Price, Terry Raburn, Ray Rachels, Opal Reddin, Robert Rhoden, Donald Richardson, Carey Robertson, Dave Rogenes, Herman Rohde, Paul Sandgren, Charles Savage, Robert Schmidgall, Harold Scott, Howard Scott, Clayton Sheridan, Manuel Shoults, David Simmons, Robert Sites, Fred Smolchuck, Robert Spence, Edward Spinola, Clarence St. John, Roger Stacey, Otis Stanley, Everett Stenhouse, Karl Strader, Edmund Tedeschi, Larry Tombleson, Norman Tosten, Ray Trask, James Trewern, Loren Triplett, Allan Ullestad, Wes Vagle, Donald Veater, William Vickery, Harold Walls, Philip Wannemacher, Otto Wegner, Les Welk, Marvin Wilber, Bobby Wilson, George Wood, Paul Wright, Ernest Zilch.

The first elective ballot for the office of general secretary was then cast.

Results of the first elective ballot was presented by the chairman of the Tellers Committee as follows:

Total votes cast	1,847
Needed to elect	1,231

Votes received by the nominees are as follows:

Arden Adamson 13, Milford Addison 3, Jay Alford 9, Gary Allen 1, Charles Anderson 4, Gordon Anderson 3, Don Annas 11, Don Argue 14, Almon Bartholomew 50, Wayne Benson 6, Ed Berkey 3, James Biram 1, Phil Bongiorno 4, Robert Brandt 5, James Bridges 248, John Bueno 2, Warren Bullock 6, Frank Cargill 4, Rollin J. Carlson 13, Owen Carr 1, John Castellani 2, Dave Cole 1, Glen Cole 194, Robert Crabtree 12, Charles Crank 57, Roy Creamer 8, Tommy Crider 1, George Cunard 1, Walter Davis 2, Richard Dortch 13, Richard Dresselhaus 9, George Edgerly 6, Dale Edwards 7, David Flower 8, Joseph Flower 45, Douglas Fulenwider 2, James Girkin 2, Larry Griswold 2, Charles Hackett 9, Joseph Hardt 6, Jack Hembree 3, Mike Henderson 1, Gene Jackson 2, Charles Kelly 3, Tom Lakey 5, Vaudie Lambert 2, Fred Leader 7, Maurice Lednicky 20, Raymond Loven 1, Paul Lowenberg 5, Glyn Lowery, Jr. 2, Paul Martin 4, Sam Mayo 3, Don McManness 2, Ronald McManus 7, Jesse Miranda 7, Ernest Moen 16, Jack Moore 18, Derald Musgrove 10, Bob Nazarenus 3, Armon Newburn 12, Brenton Osgood 3, Thomas Paino 1, John Palmer 15, Richard Peterson 2, Gene Petty 2, Burton Pierce 9, Donald Price 2, Terry Raburn 16, Ray Rachels 3, Opal Reddin 21, Robert Rhoden 3, Donald Richardson 8, Herman Rohde 4, Paul Sandgren 3, Charles Savage 3, Robert Schmidgall 19, Harold Scott 2, Clayton Sheridan

4, Manuel Shoults 1, Robert Sites 1, Fred Smolchuck, Sr. 2, Robert Spence 5, Edward Spinola 3, Clarence St. John 4, Otis Stanley 4, Everett Stenhouse 40, Edmund Tedeschi 2, Norman Tosten 5, Ray Trask 5, James Trewern 1, Loren Triplett 6, Wes Vagle 2, William Vickery 15, Harold Walls 9, Philip Wannemacher 16, Otto Wegner 2, Bobby Wilson 5, George Wood 672, Paul Wright 1, Ernest Zilch 5.

Since there was no election on the first elective ballot, a second ballot was distributed and cast.

Rollin Carlson gave the following report of the second elective ballot for general secretary:

Total votes cast	2,656
Needed to elect	1,771
George O. Wood received	1,845

Having noted that George O. Wood received in excess of the two-thirds vote required, the chairman declared him elected as general secretary.

George Wood was asked to come forward and to make any comments he wished. His wife was also asked to join him. Brother Wood stated he felt "honored and humbled and so unworthy of this responsibility which you have thrust upon us. I pledge to you to do my best to serve you, to be accessible to you, and I pledge, with God's help, to be a servant to our new general superintendent and assistant general superintendent and all the team you chose to serve."

The other candidates received the following votes:

Arden Adamson 3, Milford Addison 2, Jay Alford 3, Gordon Anderson 1, Don Annas 2, Don Argue 2, Almon Bartholomew 36, James Bridges 498, Frank Cargill 1, Rollin Carlson 1, Glen Cole 157, Robert Crabtree 2, Charles Crank 25, Walter Davis 1, Richard Dortch 4, George Edgerly 1, Dale Edwards 2, Joseph Flower 4, Charles Hackett 3, Joseph Hardt 4, Charles Kelly 1, Tom Lakey 2, Maurice Lednicky 6, Paul Martin 1, Ronald McManus 1, Jesse Miranda 6, Ernest Moen 1, Jack Moore 2, Armon Newburn 1, John Palmer 1, Terry Raburn 1, Opal Reddin 4, Robert Schmidgall 4, Fred Smolchuck, Sr. 1, Everett Stenhouse 19, Norman Tosten 1, Wes Vagle 1, Harold Walls 2, Philip Wannemacher 4.

#### Resolution 17. Establishment of Senior Department

George Wood read Resolution 17 and moved its adoption.

It was moved and seconded that Resolution 17 be amended on page 57, line 19 by deleting the words "study or," and by substituting the words "Executive Presbytery," for the words, "next General Council." The motion was lost.

A motion to amend by changing the word "senior" to "retirees" was lost.

A motion was made and seconded to delete the last four lines of the resolution. The motion was lost.

It was moved and seconded to amend line 24 by adding the words, "in

conjunction with the present program of the Home Missions Department," after the word, "Department." The motion was lost.

A motion to amend line 24 by changing the word "Department" to "ministry" and insert "and prepare proper documents for the Resolutions Committee to establish a department and bylaws to be presented to the next General Council." The motion was lost.

The motion to adopt Resolution 17 in its original form was carried.

Resolution 17 as adopted follows:

WHEREAS, There is a constantly increasing percentage of people in America and in the Assemblies of God who are age 55 or older; and

WHEREAS, The establishment of a department for youth 50 years ago has proved abundantly that a department geared to the needs and capabilities of a specific age group is productive; and

WHEREAS, Such a department for seniors could be a useful agency as a clearinghouse for ideas for local seniors programs and a means to encourage united effort; and

WHEREAS, A Seniors Department would enable us to utilize to a greater degree the services of many ministers who still have much of the energy, vision, and passion they possessed at a younger age; and

WHEREAS, Many lay people can still contribute much to the cause of Christ in their later years; and

WHEREAS, We should utilize every resource to achieve our goals in the Decade of Harvest; therefore be it RESOLVED, That the Executive Presbytery study or appoint a committee to study this matter and report its findings and recommendations to the next General Council; and, be it further

RESOLVED, That the Executive Presbytery be authorized to begin a Seniors Department prior to the next General Council if it finds that such action is warranted by the study which is conducted.

#### **Assemblies of God Theological Seminary Capital Fund-raising Campaign**

Del Tarr, president of the Assemblies of God Theological Seminary, formally launched the "For Such a Time" Capital Campaign to provide new facilities and long-range financial stability for the seminary. A video presentation was shown. D. V. Hurst, campaign chairman, and members of the cabinet and steering committee were introduced. Everett R. Stenhouse, chairman of the Assemblies of God Theological Seminary Board of Directors, spoke concerning the campaign and led in prayer on behalf of the seminary and the capital campaign.

#### **Resolution 20. Inactive Ministers**

George Wood read Resolution 20 as follows and moved its adoption:

WHEREAS, There are times when a credentialed minister chooses to retire, and his or her spouse being younger and credentialed as well,

may have little opportunity to minister—especially to preach the number of required times, if ordained; and

WHEREAS, There often is a desire on the part of the younger spouse to retain his or her ministerial credential; therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That Bylaw ARTICLE VII. MINISTRY, Section 6. Official List, b. Inactive ministers, (3) Exceptions, which now reads:

(3) Exceptions. This shall not apply to those whose inactivity has been caused by the infirmity of old age or ill health; or those engaged in other aspects of full-time ministry such as headquarters or district workers, educators, ministers of music, ministers of youth, and ministers of Christian education; or those who have reached the age of 60 years; or those ministers who have had 25 years of approved service as credentialed ministers.

Be amended to read:

(3) Exceptions. This shall not apply to those whose inactivity has been caused by the infirmity of old age or ill health; or those engaged in other aspects of full-time ministry such as headquarters or district workers, educators, ministers of music, ministers of youth, and ministers of Christian education; or those who have reached the age of 60 years; or those ministers who have had 25 years of approved service as credentialed ministers, or those whose spouse is disabled or has retired giving them little opportunity for public ministry.

The motion to adopt Resolution 20 was carried.

#### **Resolution 21. Credential Renewal Dates**

George Wood read Resolution 21 as follows and moved its adoption:

WHEREAS, Credential renewals are mailed from the general secretary's office each year in November; and

WHEREAS, All credential renewals are received well over 30 days before renewal deadlines, affording ample time for completion before year end; and

WHEREAS, Confusion exists in the minds of some regarding the minister's contributions and renewal fees required at the end of the year; and

WHEREAS, There would be greater clarity if credentials were issued and expired within the same year, this procedure being a help to both the General and district councils; and

WHEREAS, The long delay from the time ministers receive their renewals to the time they are due results in many renewals being misplaced, forgotten, or lost; and

WHEREAS, It seems more appropriate for credentials to be issued at the beginning of a calendar year and renewed at the end of the calendar year; therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That Bylaw ARTICLE VII. MINISTRY, Section 10. Credential Renewals and Reinstatements, a, b, c, d, which now reads:

## Section 10. Credential Renewals and Reinstatements

### a. Terminology

(1) **Renewed.** The term renewed shall apply to all ministers who have met the annual deadline for renewal including those who are delinquent but who renew by February 15.

(2) **Reinstated.** The term reinstated shall apply to the persons whose names have been deleted from the official ministerial list, who upon application, are approved for restoration of credentials.

b. **Expiration date.** All fellowship certificates are valid only until January 31 of each year and must be renewed annually. The renewing of credentials is the responsibility of the individual minister. In the event a minister does not receive his/her renewal form by January 1, he/she should notify his/her district office.

c. **Grace period until February 15.** All who shall have failed to renew their fellowship certificates by mail postmarked on or before January 31 shall be considered delinquent. They shall be required to pay a late fee of \$25 up until February 15, to be divided equally between the district and General Council offices.

d. **Reinstatement of lapsed minister.** Ministers whose renewal applications are not postmarked by February 15 shall be recorded as lapsed as of the expiration date of January 31. They must make application for reinstatement and pay a nonrefundable fee of \$50, which shall be divided equally between the district and the General Council offices. These ministers shall not be subject to the minimal time-lapse required of those whose credentials have been terminated for other causes.

Be amended to read as follows:

## Section 10. Credential Renewals and Reinstatements

### a. Terminology

(1) **Renewed.** The term renewed shall apply to all ministers who have met the annual deadline for renewal including those who are delinquent but who renew by January 15.

(2) **Reinstated.** The term reinstated shall apply to the persons whose names have been deleted from the official ministerial list, who upon application, are approved for restoration of credentials.

b. **Expiration date.** All fellowship certificates are valid only until December 31 of each year and must be renewed annually. The renewing of credentials is the responsibility of the individual minister. In the event a minister does not receive his/her renewal form by December 1, he/she should notify his/her district office.

c. **Grace period until January 15.** All who shall have failed to renew their fellowship certificates by mail postmarked on or before December 31 shall be considered delinquent. They shall be required to pay a late fee of \$25 up until January 15, to be divided equally between the district and General Council offices.

d. **Reinstatement of lapsed minister.** Ministers whose renewal appli-

cations are not postmarked by January 15 shall be recorded as lapsed as of the expiration date of December 31. They must make application for reinstatement and pay a nonrefundable fee of \$50, which shall be divided equally between the district and the General Council offices. These ministers shall not be subject to the minimal time-lapse required of those whose credentials have been terminated for other causes. The motion to adopt Resolution 21 was carried.

### Procedural Motion

A procedural motion prevailed to establish the effective date for the implementation of Resolution 21 for the 1995 renewal period.

### Greetings from National Religious Broadcasters

David Clark, chairman of the Board of Directors for the National Religious Broadcasters, brought greetings from NRB on behalf of the 700-member organization of which many Assemblies of God churches are members.

### Recess

The meeting recessed at 11:40 a.m. David Clark closed in prayer.

### FRIDAY AFTERNOON—AUGUST 13

The Friday afternoon business session was opened with Laurey Berteig leading in the singing of choruses. Dave and LaDonna Weston, Springfield, Missouri, served at the piano and organ, respectively.

### Business Session

The chairman called the afternoon business session to order at 1:30. Saturnino Gonzalez, superintendent of the Puerto Rico District, led in prayer.

### Roster Report

The report of the Roster Committee as of 1:30 p.m., Friday, August 13, was presented as follows:

Ordained ministers	3,893	
Delegates	940	
Voting constituency		4,833
Licensed ministers	419	
Visitors	6,764	
Nonvoting constituency		7,183
Total registration		12,016

A motion prevailed to receive the report of the Roster Committee.

### Election of General Treasurer

Ballots were distributed for the election of the general treasurer.

Joseph Flower was asked to read the provision in the General Council Bylaws for the election of general treasurer, and to present the slate of names nominated by the General Presbytery for presentation to the General Council. The three names which had received 15 or more votes by the General Presbytery were: James K. Bridges, Glen Cole, and Charles Crank.

Rollin Carlson gave the following report of the first elective ballot for the office of general treasurer:

Total votes cast	2,053
Needed to elect	1,369
James Bridges	896
Glen Cole	718
Charles Crank	439

Since there was no election, a second ballot was cast.

The chairman of the Tellers Committee gave the following report of the second elective ballot for the office of general treasurer:

Total votes cast	2,347
Needed to elect	1,565
James Bridges	1,404
Glen Cole	801
Charles Crank	142

Since there was no election, a third ballot was cast.

The chairman of the Tellers Committee gave the following report of the third elective ballot for the office of general treasurer:

Total votes cast	2,227
Needed to elect	1,485
James Bridges	1,706
Glen Cole	496
Charles Crank	25

Having noted that James K. Bridges had received well over the two-thirds vote required for an election, the chairman declared him to be elected to the office of general treasurer.

Brother Carlson invited Brother and Sister Bridges to the platform, asking Brother Bridges to share a word.

Brother Bridges responded by offering his thanks. He stated, "I pledge you my fullest cooperation, my deepest loyalty, and my utmost of energy. I'm very open and will serve in the office with the same kind of philosophy as my predecessor. We will serve you and serve our Lord to the best of our ability."

### Resolution 22. Ministerial Discipline Statute of Limitations

George Wood read Resolution 22, as follows, and moved its adoption:

WHEREAS, The Bible teaches that every believer is a new creation in Christ Jesus; and

WHEREAS, Scripture teaches that each believer should live his life in holiness, purity, and moral discipline; and

WHEREAS, Scripture teaches that through Jesus Christ men are restored from a life-style or act of sin through the help of godly elders, submission to spiritual authorities, maturation in their knowledge and practice of the Word, and in obedience to Christ; and

WHEREAS, The General Council of the Assemblies of God embraces the standards upheld in Scripture; and

WHEREAS, The Assemblies of God has developed a restoration process used in the rehabilitation of a credentialed minister which imposes a minimum period of 2 years for moral failure; and

WHEREAS, There may be occasions when a credentialed minister has committed an act or acts which would rightfully subject him to disciplinary action, but such act or acts are not discovered or do not result in charges being brought, and subsequent thereto the minister, on his own, deals with the sin or wrong for which disciplinary action could have been brought, completely and thoroughly repenting of the sin or wrong and demonstrating that repentance by a blameless and worthy life for many years; and

WHEREAS, Any action taken by either The General Council of the Assemblies of God or any district council thereof on a charge that stems from an act or acts committed a minimum of 7 years prior to the placement of the charge holds the potential of being punitive in nature rather than rehabilitative; therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That Bylaw ARTICLE IX. DISCIPLINE, A. District Action, Section 3. Causes of Disciplinary Action, which now reads:

Section 3. Causes of Disciplinary Action

Violations of Assemblies of God principles as stated in these Constitution and Bylaws may give cause for disciplinary action by the credentials committees. Among such causes for action shall be:

- a. Any moral failure involving sexual misconduct.
- b. Any moral or ethical failure other than sexual misconduct.
- c. General inefficiency in the ministry.
- d. A failure to represent our Pentecostal testimony correctly.
- e. A contentious or noncooperative spirit.
- f. An assumption of dictatorial authority over an assembly.
- g. An arbitrary rejection of district counsel.
- h. A declared open change in doctrinal views.
- i. A habit of running into debt which brings reproach upon the cause.
- j. A marriage in violation of our stand on marriage and divorce. (See Article VIII, B., Section 5, paragraphs d and e.)



k. Violations of ministerial courtesy. (See Article VIII, B., Section 8.)

l. Ministry without prior approval in a non-Assemblies church. (See Article VIII, B, Section 9.)

m. An improper attitude toward those dismissed from the Fellowship. (See Article VIII, B, Section 10.)

Be amended through adding the following paragraph at the end of the section:

However, no disciplinary action shall be commenced beyond 7 years from the occurrence which is a cause for disciplinary action, as provided above, with the exception that no statute of limitations shall exist for a felonious act or acts, sexual abuse of a child, a moral failure involving sexual misconduct which is homosexual in nature, a marriage which is in violation of our stand on marriage and divorce, or an act which by its very nature would expose The General Council of the Assemblies of God or the district council to the threat of serious legal liability in the event disciplinary investigation or action was not taken.

It was moved and seconded to amend lines 20 and 21 on page 70 by deleting the words, "which is homosexual in nature."

Following discussion, a motion prevailed that Resolution 22, and the proposed amendment, be referred to a committee appointed by the Executive Presbytery for further study with the request that its recommendations be presented to the next General Presbytery in session for further recommendation before presenting a report to the next General Council in session.

#### Greetings from Norway

Greetings to the General Council were extended by Johnny Larring, on behalf of the Pentecostals in Norway. He stated that the brethren in Norway look forward to rich fellowship with the new leadership of the General Council.

#### Election Procedures

There was considerable discussion as to proper election procedures. Opinion was expressed that when only one name is offered in nomination by the General Presbytery, it would seem to permit the General Council the privilege of ratifying, not electing.

A motion prevailed that a committee be appointed to study the wording of this particular area of the constitution and bylaws regarding the elections where one or more names are presented by the General Presbytery to determine whether or not additional names may be added on the floor during the General Council.

#### Resolution 17. National Men's Ministries Committee

George Wood read Resolution 27 and moved its adoption. A motion

prevailed to amend by deleting the word "the" on page 80, line 7, and substituting the word "a."

The motion to adopt Resolution 27, as amended, was carried.

Resolution 27 as amended and adopted follows:

WHEREAS, A change is needed in the description of the national Men's Ministries Committee to make it more attuned to present practice and desired future orientation; therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That Bylaw ARTICLE XIV. DIVISION OF CHURCH MINISTRIES, Section 1. Men's Ministries Department, b. Government and organization, (2) National Men's Ministries Committee, which now reads:

(2) National Men's Ministries Committee. There shall be a national Men's Ministries Committee which shall consist of the national director of the Division of Church Ministries, the secretary of the department, the commander of the Royal Rangers, the secretary of Light-for-the-Lost, and four representatives—a district men's director and one from each of the ministries within the department. They shall be appointed by the Executive Presbytery and shall serve for a 2-year period. The national director of the Division of Church Ministries shall serve as chairman. The committee shall meet annually. Be amended to read:

(2) National Men's Ministries Committee. There shall be a national Men's Ministries Committee which shall consist of the national director of the Division of Church Ministries, the secretary of the department, the coordinator of Light-for-the-Lost, the commander of the Royal Rangers, the coordinator of Lifestyle Evangelism, the president of the national Light-for-the-Lost Council, the president of the national Royal Rangers Council, and the president of the national Lifestyle Evangelism Council. Two additional representatives—a district men's director and a representative of a district Church Construction Corps—shall be appointed by the Executive Presbytery and shall serve a 2-year period. The national director of the Division of Church Ministries shall serve as chairman. The committee shall meet annually.

#### Election of Executive Director of the Division of Foreign Missions

A ballot was distributed for the election of the executive director of the Division of Foreign Missions.

Brother Flower was asked to read the provision in the bylaws for the nomination and election of this office.

The general secretary reported that the nominee being presented by the General Presbytery is Loren Triplett.

Rollin Carlson gave the following report of the first elective ballot for executive director of the Division of Foreign Missions:

Total votes cast	2,220
Needed to elect	1,480
Loren Triplett	2,163

The chairman, having noted that Loren Triplett received well in excess of the two-thirds vote required, declared Loren Triplett reelected as executive director of the Division of Foreign Missions.

Brother Carlson invited Loren Triplett to respond in whatever manner he wished. Sister Triplett joined him on the platform. Brother Triplett stated, "Thank you for this high honor to be able to serve a missionary movement like the Assemblies of God. I feel committed to helping you maintain this identity. God Almighty knows that the distinctives that were bred into us back in our beginnings were that of a missionary movement. I pray God we will always protect it, maintain it, and vigorously pursue it, and that God will help us find a way, should Jesus tarry, to march into His presence having done our very best to tell everyone in the world that Jesus Christ loves them and has offered them His shed blood for their redemption. I thank God for our strong missionary program and take pride with you in it. Let's keep it up until Jesus comes."

#### Election of Executive Director of the Division of Home Missions

Ballots were distributed for the election of the executive director of the Division of Home Missions.

The general secretary reported that the nominee being presented by the General Presbytery is Charles Hackett.

Rollin Carlson gave the following report of the first elective ballot for executive director of the Division of Home Missions:

Total votes cast	2,201
Needed to elect	1,467
Charles Hackett	2,183

The chairman, having noted that Charles Hackett received well in excess of the two-thirds vote required, declared him elected as executive director of the Division of Home Missions.

Brother Carlson called on Brother Hackett to make any comments he wished and asked that his wife join him on the platform.

Brother Hackett stated that he had never felt more in the will of God than in this position the last 2 years. He said, "The desire of the Division of Home Missions is to facilitate, encourage, promote, and unite—never to duplicate, intrude, impose, or divide. We exist only to serve. Our desire is to find a need and meet it. Our focus must be on the local church and how we can help them fulfill the Great Commission. None of us is a separate entity; we are all members of the same body. Thank you for the privilege that is mine to serve you for the next term."

#### Great Commission Partners Program Presentation

Thomas Trask shared the rationale concerning the formation of the Assemblies of God Foundation, which was a restructuring of the former Deferred Giving and Trusts Department. He then introduced the director of the Foundation, Dr. Randy Barton.

Dr. Barton gave brief information as to the fund-raising programs in which the Foundation is involved, and particularly the Great Commission Partners Program. A video was shown which gave more details of the program.

Dr. Barton then introduced Howard Hoskins, a lay person who is the field consultant for the program. He shared the opportunities available from a layman's perspective.

Raymond Hudson received an offering for the General Council expense. An offertory was given by LaDonna Weston, Springfield, Missouri, on the marimba, and her husband, Dave Weston, accompanied her on the piano.

#### Recess

The afternoon session recessed at 4:30 p.m. Donald Richardson, secretary of the New York District, closed the session with prayer.

#### FRIDAY EVENING SERVICE—AUGUST 13

The Friday evening service was under the direction of Philip Wannemacher, executive presbyter from the Gulf Area. J. Foy Johnson, executive presbyter from the Southeast Area, gave the Scripture reading from 2 Peter 3:8-18, and prayer was offered by Robert Harrison, Pittsburg, California.

The congregational singing was led by David Ritter. Janice Maxwell and Shara Engel, both from Phoenix, Arizona, served at the piano and organ, respectively. The offering appeal was made by David Nelson, superintendent of the South Dakota District. Larry Dalton, Tulsa, Oklahoma, played a piano solo for the offertory. Special music was provided by the choir and orchestra from First Assembly of God, Des Moines, Iowa, under the direction of Tom Matrone.

Prior to the message for the evening, General Superintendent G. Raymond Carlson honored David Burdine by presenting him with the General Superintendent's Medal of Honor. Mr. Burdine is president of the Bethesda Foundation and is a 1964 graduate of Evangel College in Springfield, Missouri. Brother Carlson stated that the Fellowship has benefited from this outstanding layman's leadership and dedication in many ways. His exemplary life brings honor to God and to His church.

The speaker for the evening service was Salvatore "Sam" Farina, evangelist from Racine, Wisconsin. The theme for his message was, "Live the Word in Holiness." He stated that the fire of God is the only way to "Live the Word in Holiness." For the evening message he looked to Hebrews 1:7 to challenge the congregation to be the kind of ministers God wants

to make "a flame of fire." He warned, if the fire of God is not satisfying you, you will try to find a flame that does. The service closed with a powerful altar service calling the crowd to be filled with the fire of God that calls us to sacrificial service.

#### SATURDAY MORNING—AUGUST 14 GENERAL COUNCIL PRAYER BREAKFAST

The Prayer Breakfast was held Saturday, August 14, in the Convention Center at 7:30 a.m. G. Raymond Carlson served as chairman. Special music for the breakfast was provided by Harpist Laurie Muirhead, Dunn, North Carolina. The Scripture was read by Mac Carlson, wife of General Superintendent G. Raymond Carlson, from 1 Timothy 2:1-8 and prayer was offered by J. Robert Ashcroft. Prior to the message, Damaris Carbaugh, featured artist with the Brooklyn Tabernacle Singers, sang a solo. The speaker for the breakfast was Peter Kuzmic, faculty member of Gordon-Conwell Theological Seminary, South Hamilton, Massachusetts.

#### Saturday Morning Business

Laurey Berteig opened the business session by leading in singing, "Worthy, He Is Worthy." Ronna Wyant, New Brighton, Minnesota, and Roger Thomassen, St. Paul, Minnesota, were at the piano and organ respectively. Holly Berry, flutist, from Richfield, Minnesota, presented a special number. The chairman called the session to order at 10:10 a.m.

#### Roster Committee Report

Charles Anderson gave the following report of the Roster Committee as of 10 a.m., Saturday, August 14:

Ordained ministers	3,894	
Delegates	940	
Voting constituency		4,834
Licensed ministers	423	
Visitors	6,862	
Nonvoting constituency		7,285
Total registration		12,119

A motion prevailed to receive this progress report of the Roster Committee.

#### Election of Executive Presbyter—Northwest Area

The chairman of the Tellers Committee gave the following report of the first elective ballot for executive presbyter from the Northwest Area:

Total votes cast	1,972
Needed to elect	1,315
Robert L. Brandt	1,022

Duane E. Buhler	48
Warren D. Bullock	207
Dale C. Carpenter	104
Doyle Fulkes	20
William I. Gallaher	106
Paul Goodman	228
Edward Hughes	21
Roland Peretti	77
Larry M. Savage	60
Lewis R. Shelton	79

Since there was no election, a second elective ballot was cast.

The chairman of the Tellers Committee gave the following report on the second elective ballot:

Total votes cast	1,421
Needed to elect	947
Robert L. Brandt	1,012
Duane E. Buhler	8
Warren D. Bullock	102
Dale C. Carpenter	18
Doyle Fulkes	4
William I. Gallaher	32
Paul Goodman	193
Edward Hughes	6
Roland Peretti	18
Larry M. Savage	9
Lewis R. Shelton	19

Having noted that Robert L. Brandt had received well over the two-thirds vote required for an election, the chairman declared him to be reelected executive presbyter from the Northwest Area.

#### Election of Executive Presbyter—Southwest Area

Rollin Carlson gave the following report of the first elective ballot for the Southwest Area executive presbyter:

Total votes cast	2,051
Needed to elect	1,367
Donald E. Annas	42
Glen Cole	989
Richard Dresselhaus	370
Virgil L. Jones	73
Darrel D. Madsen	36
T. Ray Rachels	247
Robert A. Sites	126
Bobby J. Wilson	168

Since there was no election, a second ballot was cast.

The chairman of the Tellers Committee gave the following report on the second elective ballot:

Total votes cast	1,438
Needed to elect	959
Donald E. Annas	9
Glen Cole	978
Richard Dresselhaus	318
Virgil L. Jones	2
Darrel D. Madsen	8
T. Ray Rachels	64
Robert A. Sites	26
Bobby J. Wilson	33

The chairman, noting that Glen D. Cole received over the two-thirds vote required, declared him reelected as executive presbyter from the Southwest Area.

#### Election of Executive Presbyter—North Central Area

Rollin Carlson gave the following report of the first elective ballot for the executive presbyter from the North Central Area:

Votes cast	1,966
Needed to elect	1,311
David W. Argue	338
Marcus Bakke	199
Gary A. Denbow	57
Robert L. Nazarenus	58
David L. Nelson	91
Joel Pavia	149
Herman H. Rohde	614
Clarence St. John	234
Manuel Shoults	88
R. David Simmons	9
Daniel B. Spina	16
Norman Tosten	51
Ronald J. Traub	45
Norman Wenig	17

Since there was no election, a second elective ballot was cast.

The chairman of the Tellers Committee gave the following report on the second elective ballot:

Votes cast	1,416
Needed to elect	944
David W. Argue	428
Marcus Bakke	36
Gary A. Denbow	16
Robert L. Nazarenus	12
David L. Nelson	12

Joel Pavia	20
Herman H. Rohde	765
Clarence St. John	78
Manuel Shoults	16
R. David Simmons	1
Daniel B. Spina	1
Norman Tosten	11
Ronald J. Traub	16
Norman Wenig	4

Since there was no election, a third elective ballot was cast.

Rollin Carlson gave the following report of the third elective ballot:

Votes cast	1,159
Needed to elect	773
David W. Argue	458
Marcus Bakke	4
Gary A. Denbow	1
Robert L. Nazarenus	4
David L. Nelson	5
Joel Pavia	3
Herman H. Rohde	661
Clarence St. John	16
Manuel Shoults	3
R. David Simmons	0
Daniel B. Spina	1
Norman Tosten	3
Ronald J. Traub	0
Norman Wenig	0

Since there was no election, a fourth elective ballot was cast.

The chairman of the Tellers Committee gave the following report of the fourth elective ballot:

Votes cast	915
Needed to elect	610
David W. Argue	379
Marcus Bakke	0
Gary A. Denbow	0
Robert L. Nazarenus	0
David L. Nelson	0
Joel Pavia	0
Herman H. Rohde	529
Clarence St. John	7
Manuel Shoults	0
R. David Simmons	0
Daniel B. Spina	0
Norman Tosten	0
Ronald J. Traub	0
Norman Wenig	0

Since there was no election, a fifth elective ballot was cast.  
The chairman of the Tellers Committee gave the following report of the fifth elective ballot:

Votes cast	819
Needed to elect	546
David W. Argue	330
Marcus Bakke	0
Gary A. Denbow	0
Robert L. Nazarenus	0
David L. Nelson	0
Joel Pavia	0
Herman H. Rohde	488
Clarence St. John	1
Manuel Shoults	0
R. David Simmons	0
Daniel B. Spina	0
Norman Tosten	0
Ronald J. Traub	0
Norman Wenig	0

Since there was no election, a sixth elective ballot was cast.  
Rollin Carlson gave the following report of the sixth elective ballot:

Total Votes Cast	817
Needed to elect	545
David W. Argue	334
Marcus Bakke	0
Gary A. Denbow	0
Robert L. Nazarenus	0
David L. Nelson	0
Joel Pavia	0
Herman H. Rohde	482
Clarence St. John	1
Manuel Shoults	0
R. David Simmons	0
Daniel B. Spina	0
Norman Tosten	0
Ronald J. Traub	0
Norman Wenig	0

Since there was no election, a seventh elective ballot was cast.  
Rollin Carlson gave the following report of the seventh elective ballot:

Total Votes Cast	829
Needed to elect	553
David W. Argue	351

Marcus Bakke	0
Gary A. Denbow	0
Robert L. Nazarenus	0
David L. Nelson	0
Joel Pavia	0
Herman H. Rohde	477
Clarence St. John	1
Manuel Shoults	0
R. David Simmons	0
Daniel B. Spina	0
Norman Tosten	0
Ronald J. Traub	0
Norman Wenig	0

Since there was no election, an eighth elective ballot was cast.  
The chairman of the Tellers Committee gave the following report of the eighth elective ballot:

Total Votes Cast	690
Needed to elect	460
David W. Argue	310
Marcus Bakke	0
Gary A. Denbow	0
Robert L. Nazarenus	0
David L. Nelson	0
Joel Pavia	0
Herman H. Rohde	375
Clarence St. John	5
Manuel Shoults	0
R. David Simmons	0
Daniel B. Spina	0
Norman Tosten	0
Ronald J. Traub	0
Norman Wenig	0

Herman Rohde made a statement to the body thanking them for the faithful support of many of the constituents, but for the good of the Fellowship and this Council, he requested that the body elect David Argue to be the nonresident executive presbyter from the North Central Area.

A ninth elective ballot for executive presbyter from the North Central Area was cast:

Rollin Carlson gave the following report of the ninth elective ballot:

Total Votes Cast	567
Needed to elect	378
David W. Argue	386
Marcus Bakke	0
Gary A. Denbow	0
Robert L. Nazarenus	0

David L. Nelson	0
Joel Pavia	0
Herman H. Rohde	160
Clarence St. John	21
Manuel Shoults	0
R. David Simmons	0
Daniel B. Spina	0
Norman Tosten	0
Ronald J. Traub	0
Norman Wenig	0

The chairman, noting that David W. Argue received more than the two-thirds vote required, declared him elected as executive presbyter for the North Central Area.

#### Election of Executive Presbyter—South Central Area

Prior to the casting of a first elective ballot, Paul Lowenberg asked to make a statement. He requested that his name not be considered as a candidate for the position of executive presbyter from the South Central Area.

Rollin Carlson gave the following report of the first elective ballot for the executive presbyter from the South Central Area:

Votes cast	1,958
Needed to elect	1,305
Earl J. Banning	266
James K. Bridges	14
Howard Burroughs	84
H. Franklin Cargill	44
Gale Cisneros	57
Micheal Dickenson	12
J. Don George	425
R. Kenneth George	80
Thomas D. Lakey	54
Paul Lowenberg	36
Samuel P. Molina	45
Armon Newburn	720
Richard Peterson	77
Robert G. Slaton	44

Since there was no election, a second ballot was cast.

The chairman of the Tellers Committee gave the following report of the second elective ballot for nonresident executive presbyter from the South Central Area:

Votes cast	1,401
Needed to elect	934
Earl J. Banning	19
James K. Bridges	7

Howard Burroughs	6
H. Franklin Cargill	3
Gale Cisneros	14
Micheal Dickenson	1
J. Don George	251
R. Kenneth George	14
Thomas D. Lakey	2
Paul Lowenberg	25
Samuel P. Molina	4
Armon Newburn	1,039
Richard Peterson	4
Robert G. Slaton	12

The chairman, noting that Armon Newburn received well over the two-thirds vote required, declared him elected as executive presbyter from the South Central Area.

#### Election of Executive Presbyter—Great Lakes Area

Rollin Carlson gave the following report of the first elective ballot for the executive presbyter from the Great Lakes Area:

Votes cast	2,003
Needed to elect	1,335
James D. Biram	17
Paul E. Brannan	17
Robert D. Crabtree	121
Charles E. Crank	256
Richard Dobbins	189
William F. Leach	47
Ignacio Marrero	19
Jerry G. McCamey	26
Ernest J. Moen	95
Norman W. Muhling	7
Arturo Santana	11
Robert K. Schmidgall	1,183
Irvin G. Steiding	8
Troy B. Webb	7

Since there was no election, a second elective ballot was cast.

The chairman of the Tellers Committee gave the following report of the second elective ballot:

Votes cast	1,437
Needed to elect	958
James D. Biram	0
Paul E. Brannan	4
Robert D. Crabtree	20
Charles E. Crank	77
Richard Dobbins	27

William F. Leach	8
Ignacio Marrero	1
Jerry G. McCamey	0
Ernest J. Moen	25
Norman W. Muhling	3
Arturo Santana	1
Robert K. Schmidgall	1,270
Irvin G. Steiding	1
Troy B. Webb	0

Since Robert K. Schmidgall had received in excess of the two-thirds vote required, he was declared reelected as executive presbyter from the Great Lakes Area.

#### Election of Executive Presbyter—Gulf Area

Rollin Carlson gave the following report of the first elective ballot for the executive presbyter from the Gulf Area:

Votes cast	1,981
Needed to elect	1,321
Walter L. Davis	41
Gene Jackson	381
Cecil T. Janway	67
Bobby L. Johnson	109
F. L. Langley	13
Don R. Logan	71
Frank E. Martin	178
W. Nelson Sachs	30
Philip Wannenmacher	1,049
E. Joe Wilmoth	42

Since there was no election, a second elective ballot was cast.

The chairman of the Tellers committee gave the following report of the second elective ballot:

Votes cast	1,423
Needed to elect	949
Walter L. Davis	8
Gene Jackson	142
Cecil T. Janway	11
Bobby L. Johnson	28
F. L. Langley	2
Don R. Logan	17
Frank E. Martin	46
W. Nelson Sachs	1
Philip Wannenmacher	1,164
E. Joe Wilmoth	4

Having noted that Philip Wannenmacher had received well over the

two-thirds vote required for an election, the chairman declared him re-elected executive presbyter from the Gulf Area.

#### Election of Executive Presbyter—Northeast Area

The chairman of the Tellers Committee gave the following report of the first elective ballot for executive presbyter from the Northeast Area:

Votes cast	1,950
Needed to elect	1,300
Almon Bartholomew	1,015
Joseph M. Beretta	72
Edward B. Berkey	70
Philip Bongiorno	222
Adolfo Carrion	26
D. Wendel Cover	73
Samuel R. Di Trolio	40
Peter L. Miller	8
James E. Morris	42
Ronald E. Piedmonte	22
H. Robert Rhoden	255
Otto J. Wegner	79
Robert Wise, Jr.	26

Since there was no election, a second ballot was cast.

Rollin Carlson gave the following report of the second elective ballot for the executive presbyter from the Northeast Area:

Votes cast	1,422
Needed to elect	948
Almon Bartholomew	1,128
Joseph M. Beretta	20
Edward B. Berkey	9
Philip Bongiorno	75
Adolfo Carrion	5
D. Wendel Cover	12
Samuel R. Di Trolio	5
Peter L. Miller	2
James E. Morris	2
Ronald E. Piedmonte	4
H. Robert Rhoden	138
Otto J. Wegner	18
Robert Wise, Jr.	4

Having noted that Almon M. Bartholomew had received well over the two-thirds vote required for an election, the chairman declared him re-elected as executive presbyter from the Northeast Area.

#### Election of Executive Presbyter—Southeast Area

The chairman of the Tellers Committee gave the following report on

the first elective ballot for the executive presbyter from the Southeast Area:

Votes cast	1,939
Needed to elect	1,293
Leslie M. Addison	38
J. Edward Blount	80
Robert J. Gatlin	32
Saturnino Gonzalez	85
J. Foy Johnson	598
Charles Kelly	39
Vaudie V. Lambert	169
John A. Loper, Jr.	84
Glyn Lowery, Jr.	56
Gordon H. Matheny	162
Ronald F. McManus	506
Kenneth W. Owen, Sr.	35
Carmen H. Perez	40
Jimmy R. Swilley	15

Since there was no election, a second ballot was cast.

Rollin Carlson gave the following report of the second elective ballot:

Votes cast	1,319
Needed to elect	879
Leslie M. Addison	4
J. Edward Blount	4
Robert J. Gatlin	2
Saturnino Gonzalez	14
J. Foy Johnson	529
Charles Kelly	0
Vaudie V. Lambert	31
John A. Loper, Jr.	8
Glyn Lowery, Jr.	4
Gordon H. Matheny	12
Ronald F. McManus	694
Kenneth W. Owen, Sr.	3
Carmen H. Perez	11
Jimmy R. Swilley	3

Since there was no election, a third elective ballot was cast.

Rollin Carlson gave the following report of the third elective ballot for the executive presbyter from the Southeast Area:

Votes cast	1,155
Needed to elect	770
Leslie M. Addison	0
J. Edward Blount	1
Robert J. Gatlin	1
Saturnino Gonzalez	2

J. Foy Johnson	209
Charles Kelly	1
Vaudie V. Lambert	6
John A. Loper, Jr.	1
Glyn Lowery, Jr.	1
Gordon H. Matheny	9
Ronald F. McManus	920
Kenneth W. Owen, Sr.	3
Carmen H. Perez	1
Jimmy R. Swilley	0

The chairman, noting that Ronald F. McManus received over the two-thirds vote required, declared him elected as executive presbyter from the Southeast Area.

#### Resolution 28. Youth Department

George O. Wood read Resolution 28 as follows and moved its adoption.

A motion was made and seconded to amend lines 13 and 14 on page 82, by a new sequence, listing worshiping God as the first of the sequence, followed by building a body of saints, and evangelization the third item. The motion to amend was lost.

The motion to adopt Resolution 28 was carried.

Resolution 28 as adopted follows:

WHEREAS, Expanding opportunities and obligations have brought a sharper focus to the mission of youth ministries to win youth to Jesus Christ, build them into disciples, and send them into the harvest; and

WHEREAS, Structure should allow for the accomplishment of the objectives to (1) establish a vigorous youth ministry in every church, (2) train and equip youth leaders, (3) involve every youth in the discipleship process, (4) give every student a clear, personal presentation of the gospel before high school graduation, (5) involve every teen in the cause of world evangelization; and

WHEREAS, There has been significant growth in youth ministries during the last decade (over 100,000 additional youth and over 500 additional paid youth ministers); and

WHEREAS, The Youth Department section of the General Council Bylaws was last updated in the 1971 General Council; and

WHEREAS, The pool of leadership for youth ministries has expanded, requiring more input from a more broadly based national youth committee; and

WHEREAS, Studies have shown 85 percent of those who accept Christ do so before they graduate from high school; and

WHEREAS, Certain areas of the current bylaws require clarification; therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That Bylaw ARTICLE XIV. DIVISION OF CHURCH MINISTRIES, Section 4. Youth Department, be amended in its entirety



by substituting the following: Section 4. Youth Department a. Authorization and purpose.

- (1) Responsibilities. There shall be a national Youth Department which shall have the responsibility of encouraging and promoting ministry to youth in every district, section, and local church.
- (2) Agency to fulfill church's mission. The primary responsibility of this department in its field of activity shall be to act as an agency of the church in fulfilling its threefold mission: evangelization of the world, worshiping God, and building a body of saints being perfected in the image of His Son. In part, it shall fulfill this responsibility by planning and promoting ministry directed toward the youth of the Assemblies of God, encouraging them to fulfill the threefold mission of the church.
- (3) Focus. The primary focus of ministry shall be:
  - (a) to those persons aged 12 through their early 20s (in education, seventh grade through college), and
  - (b) to district youth directors, sectional and local youth leaders.
- (4) Function. The primary function of this department shall be to win youth to Jesus Christ, build them into disciples by training them to be an integral and productive part of the church, and send them into ministry. Additional functions shall include:
  - (a) Encouraging and helping equip district, sectional, and local youth ministries to involve and train youth in the areas of evangelism, worship, fellowship, and discipleship.
  - (b) Coordinating national programs such as Speed-the-Light, Bible Quiz, Youth Alive, Ambassadors in Mission, Discipleship, etc.
  - (c) Preparing and publishing evangelistic, inspirational, training, and promotional materials for youth, youth leaders, and local youth ministries.
  - (d) Ministering to youth and youth leaders through seminars, tours, retreats, conventions, and other feasible and acceptable means.

b. Government and organization

- (1) Department secretary. The Executive Presbytery shall be empowered to appoint a department secretary who shall serve under the national director of the Division of Church Ministries.
- (2) National Youth Committee. There shall be a national Youth Committee which shall consist of the national director of the Division of Church Ministries, the secretary of the department, a representative from each of the eight geographical areas, and a representative from the language districts to be appointed by the Executive Presbytery. The term shall be for 3 years. Each person holding a supervisory level position in the national Youth Department will also serve on the committee. The secretary of the Youth Department shall serve as chairman. The committee shall meet at least once a year.

c. District youth ministries

- (1) It is recommended provision be made for a district youth department in each district of the Assemblies of God. The purpose shall be:
  - (a) To win youth, reaching them with the gospel of Jesus Christ; build youth by training them to be an integral and productive part of the church; and send youth into ministry within the church, community, and world.
  - (b) To design and promote ministries which will involve youth in evangelism, worship, fellowship, and discipleship.
  - (c) To coordinate national, district, sectional, and local youth ministry programs.
- (2) There shall be a district youth director. He shall be chosen in keeping with the district constitution and bylaws.

d. Sectional youth ministries

- (1) It is recommended that provision be made for a sectional youth ministry in each section of the Assemblies of God.
- (2) The purpose of the sectional youth ministry shall be to promote, plan, and implement ministries and events which help the local church fulfill its mission of winning, building, and sending youth.
- (3) The sectional youth ministry shall represent district and national youth ministries.
- (4) The sectional youth representative shall be chosen in keeping with the district constitution and bylaws.

e. Local youth ministries

- (1) All churches are urged to develop a vigorous youth ministry; to give every youth in their community a clear, personal presentation of the gospel of Jesus Christ; to train and equip youth leaders; to involve every youth in the process of discipleship; and to involve every youth in the cause of world evangelization.
- (2) Youth ministries, as any other ministry of the church, will come under the general supervision of the pastor. His counsel, advice, and direction shall be sought and respected.

f. Speed-the-Light offerings (See Article XXIII. World Missions Plan, Section 2.)

A request was made that the Youth Department do further study regarding making the Fine Arts program more of a priority. It was determined that the best way to handle this would be by direct contact with the Youth Department.

**Resolution 30: Chi Alpha Ministries Administrative Committee**

Prior to the reading of Resolution 30 it was noted that in light of the adoption of Resolution 29, all references to "College Ministries" will now read "Chi Alpha Campus." Also noted was the fact that where "national

director" appears it should read "executive director," in compliance with the adoption of Resolution 7.

George O. Wood read Resolution 30 as follows and moved its adoption:

WHEREAS, The Chi Alpha Campus Ministries Administrative Committee originated from a study committee appointed by the general superintendent in 1986 to examine the role of university ministry in our Fellowship and in our world, and subsequently the study concluded in action taken by the General Council to establish a Chi Alpha Campus Ministries Department in the Division of Home Missions; and

WHEREAS, The committee membership consisted of two representatives each from Spiritual Life-Evangelism, the Division of Home Missions, the Division of Foreign Missions, and the Division of Church Ministries, and functioned primarily as an interdivisional resource committee; and

WHEREAS, The Chi Alpha Campus Ministries Department's growth and expansion in personnel and program require daily oversight and decision, and a committee consisting of personnel more directly related to the day-to-day operations of Chi Alpha nationally, and personnel charged with the primary and ongoing responsibility for implementation of these decisions and plans; therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That Bylaw ARTICLE XVII. DIVISION OF HOME MISSIONS, Section 2. Government and organization, d. College Ministries Administrative Committee, which now reads:

d. College Ministries Administrative Committee. The College Ministries Administrative Committee membership shall include two representatives each from Spiritual Life-Evangelism, the Division of Home Missions, the Division of Foreign Missions, and the Division of Church Ministries. The two representatives from the Division of Home Missions shall include the national director of the Division of Home Missions and the secretary of the College Ministries Department. The committee shall be chaired by the Spiritual Life-Evangelism coordinator.

Be amended to read:

d. Chi Alpha Campus Ministries Administrative Committee. The general administrative work of the Chi Alpha Campus Ministries Department shall be conducted by the Chi Alpha Campus Ministries Administrative Committee consisting of the executive director of the Division of Home Missions, the secretary of the Chi Alpha Campus Ministries Department, and residential national staff with national portfolios.

And, be it further

RESOLVED, That Bylaw ARTICLE XVII. DIVISION OF HOME MISSIONS, Section 6. College Ministries Department, c. College Ministries Administrative Committee, which now reads:

c. College Ministries Administrative Committee

(1) Composition. The College Ministries Administrative Committee membership shall include two representatives each from Spiritual Life-Evangelism, the Division of Home Missions, the Division of Foreign Missions, and the Division of Church Ministries. The two representatives from the Division of Home Missions shall include the executive director of the Division of Home Missions and the secretary of the College Ministries Department. The committee shall be chaired by the Spiritual Life-Evangelism coordinator.

(2) Function. The College Ministries Administrative Committee shall provide coordination and resource oversight to the College Ministries Department. Policy or major programming changes in items that have direct implication for other divisions shall be brought before the College Ministries Administrative Committee by the department secretary, with the approval of the executive director of the Division of Home Missions.

(3) Relationships. [No amendment proposed.]

Be amended to read:

c. Chi Alpha Campus Ministries Administrative Committee

(1) Composition. The general administrative work of the Chi Alpha Campus Ministries Department shall be conducted by the Chi Alpha Campus Ministries Administrative Committee consisting of the executive director of the Division of Home Missions, the secretary of the Chi Alpha Campus Ministries Department, and residential national staff with national portfolios.

(2) Function. The Chi Alpha Campus Ministries Administrative Committee shall supervise and direct the work of the department and its personnel in conformity with the established policies and principles of the Division of Home Missions and Chi Alpha Campus Ministries Department. The secretary of the Chi Alpha Campus Ministries Department shall serve as chairman.

(3) Relationships. [No amendment proposed.]

A motion to adopt Resolution 30 was carried.

### Resolution 31. Departmentalization of MAPS

George Wood read Resolution 31 as follows and moved its adoption:

WHEREAS, The Executive Presbytery took action to reassign the management and supervision of the Home Missions aspects of the Mission America Placement Service to the Division of Home Missions; and

WHEREAS, The Home Missions MAPS ministries area functions under the direct supervision of the executive director of the Division of Home Missions in accordance with policies and guidelines established by the Home Missions Board; and

WHEREAS, The MAPS ministry is supported by MAPS volunteers and staff who are appointed home missionaries, no financial burden

being added to the Division of Home Missions or the General Council toward the MAPS operation or program; and

WHEREAS, The MAPS ministry

a. Conducts an RV national convention and eight regional conventions involving as many as 1,500 people annually;

b. Mobilizes large numbers of 1- to 2-year MAPS workers and summer intern workers who assist nationally appointed home missionaries and home missions works;

c. Coordinates church construction teams serving construction needs in multisites across the nation, involving hundreds of skilled craftsmen, saving our pastors and parishioners millions of dollars; and,

WHEREAS, MAPS is one of six primary ministries in the Division of Home Missions and functions like the other five departments with its own programs, conventions, personnel, and publications; and

WHEREAS, The Home Missions MAPS ministries area has already obtained quasi-department level status as of April 1, 1993, to function in a new capacity under the direct supervision of the department secretary of the Mission America Placement Service; therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That the Home Missions Mission America Placement Service be elevated to the status of a department in the Division of Home Missions; and, in order to fulfill this new designation, be it further

RESOLVED, That ARTICLE XVII. DIVISION OF HOME MISSIONS, Section 8. Support, of the Bylaws be renumbered Section 9; and, be it further

RESOLVED, The ARTICLE XVII. DIVISION OF HOME MISSIONS, Section 8, of the Bylaws read as follows:

Section 8. Mission America Placement Service (MAPS)

a. Department secretary. There shall be a department secretary who shall be amenable to and serve under the executive director of the Division of Home Missions in supervising the work of the department. He shall be appointed by the Executive Presbytery.

b. Field representatives. There shall be field representatives who shall be amenable to and serve under the department secretary. Field representatives shall supervise the areas assigned to them.

c. Function. The Mission America Placement Service Department shall coordinate all laypersons' short-term activities of the Division of Home Missions. Its responsibilities shall include:

- (1) Recruit short-term lay volunteers as needed.
- (2) Receive and process all requests for short-term lay ministry, including those for individuals or teams.
- (3) Coordinate all short-term construction efforts.
- (4) Coordinate all summer intern programs.
- (5) Recruit, coordinate, and process all requests for short-term RV Volunteer requests for lay ministry.
- (6) Perform other duties as may be assigned by the executive director,

Home Missions Administrative Committee, or national Home Missions Board.

The motion to adopt Resolution 31 was carried.

#### Reconsideration of Resolution 17. Establishment of Seniors Department

It was moved and seconded that Resolution 17. Establishment of Seniors Department be reconsidered. The motion to reconsider was lost.

#### Resolution 32. Division of Publication Departments

George Wood read Resolution 32 as follows and moved its adoption:

WHEREAS, A rearrangement and renaming of departments is desirable within the Division of Publication; therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That Bylaw ARTICLE XVIII. DIVISION OF PUBLICATION, Section 2. Government and Organization,

b. Departments, which now reads:

b. Departments. The division shall consist of the Marketing and Distribution Department and the Production Department, each of which shall be supervised by a manager selected by the Executive Presbytery.

Be amended to read:

b. Departments. The division shall consist of the Marketing Sales Department, the Marketing Services Department, and the Production Department, each of which shall be supervised by a manager selected by the Executive Presbytery.

The motion to adopt Resolution 32 was carried.

#### Resolution 34. Assemblies of God Foundation

George Wood read Resolution 34 as follows and moved its adoption:

WHEREAS, The Assemblies of God Foundation was created to serve the stewardship and deferred planned giving needs of the Assemblies of God Fellowship; and

WHEREAS, The Assemblies of God Foundation is incorporated and operating; and

WHEREAS, It is not feasible or desirable to duplicate these services by continuing the Stewardship Department and the Deferred Giving and Trusts Department; therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That Bylaw ARTICLE XIX. DIVISION OF THE TREASURY, Section 2. Stewardship Department, and Section 3. Deferred Giving and Trusts Department, be deleted and subsequent sections renumbered; and, be it further

RESOLVED, That Bylaw ARTICLE XXII. MINISTERS BENEFIT ASSOCIATION, and subsequent articles be renumbered; and, be it further

RESOLVED, That new Bylaw ARTICLE XXII read as follows: ARTICLE XXII. ASSEMBLIES OF GOD FOUNDATION

#### Section 1. Organization

There shall be an organization known as the Assemblies of God Foundation.

#### Section 2. Administration

There shall be a board of directors appointed by and amenable to the Executive Presbytery of The General Council of the Assemblies of God.

#### Section 3. Investment of Funds

The Board of Directors of the Assemblies of God Foundation shall be authorized to invest the funds of the Foundation according to its bylaws.

Several questions were answered relative to the Assemblies of God Foundation.

A substitute motion was made and seconded to request that the proposed article be adopted to serve for the period of transition, and that the Executive Presbytery prepare a comprehensive article on the Assemblies of God Foundation, which shall be presented to the 1994 General Presbytery and the 1995 General Council.

A motion prevailed to amend the substitute motion by adding "and that a comprehensive audit report giving full disclosure of all funds involved be provided."

As a point of information, the general treasurer explained that (1) the constitution and bylaws drafted for the Foundation have already become the property of the Executive Presbytery, and are available to any voting member of the Assemblies of God, and (2) There will be, without this action, a full audit—all funds of the General Council and departments are fully audited annually. The cost of all these audits is somewhere in excess of \$100,000. The audits are a procedural matter that happens annually at the General Council Headquarters.

#### Recess

A motion prevailed to recess the business session at 11:35 a.m. James Swanson, Santa Ana, California, closed in prayer.

#### SATURDAY AFTERNOON—AUGUST 14

Jeffrey Brawner opened the afternoon session by leading in the singing of a number of choruses. Obie L. Harrup, Jr., Springfield, Missouri, led in prayer. Dan Wood, pastor, First Assembly of God, Lyndhurst, Ohio, and Roger Thomassen, minister of music, Summit Avenue Assembly of God, St. Paul, Minnesota, served at the piano and organ, respectively.

#### Business Session

The chairman called the business session to order at 1:40 p.m.

#### Roster Committee Report

Charles Anderson brought a report of the Roster Committee as of 1:30 p.m., Saturday, August 14, as follows:

Ordained ministers	3,894	
Delegates	941	
Voting constituency		4,835
Licensed ministers	425	
Visitors	6,878	
Nonvoting constituency		7,303
Total registration		12,138

A motion prevailed to accept the report of the Roster Committee and that the roster remain open until the end of the Sunday evening service, and then be closed.

#### Resolution 34. Assemblies of God Foundation, continued

The substitute motion as amended that Resolution 34 be adopted to serve for the period of transition, and that the Executive Presbytery prepare a comprehensive article on the Assemblies of God Foundation which shall be presented to the 1994 General Presbytery and to the 1995 General Council, and that a comprehensive audit report giving full disclosure of all funds involved be provided, was carried.

#### Resolution 35 (revised). Christian Higher Education

George Wood read Resolution 35 (revised) as follows and moved its adoption.

WHEREAS, General Council Bylaw ARTICLE XII, Section 3 authorizes the establishment of an Office of Development in the Division of Christian Higher Education for the purpose of providing leadership in fund-raising for endorsed Assemblies of God colleges and seminary; and,

WHEREAS, The General Presbytery has established the Assemblies of God Foundation to enhance resource development efforts for Assemblies of God ministries; and

WHEREAS, The Executive Presbytery has authorized the Assemblies of God Foundation to develop the Great Commission Trust, a program which was approved by the 1992 General Presbytery to raise funds for Assemblies of God higher education; and,

WHEREAS, The establishment of an Office of Development in the Division of Christian Higher Education would duplicate effort and expense; and

WHEREAS, The president of the Assemblies of God Foundation and the national director of the Division of Christian Higher Education

desire coordination, cooperation, and good stewardship in development efforts for Christian higher education; therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That ARTICLE XII. DIVISION OF CHRISTIAN HIGHER EDUCATION, Section 3. Office of Development, which now reads:

Section 3. Office of Development

The national director of the division shall also provide leadership in fund-raising and development for all our endorsed colleges and seminary. It shall effect a program for securing funds from foundations and other sources as well as the Movement as a whole. A development representative may be appointed by the Executive Presbytery to function under the national director's supervision.

Be amended to read:

Section 3. Resource Development

The national director of the Division of Christian Higher Education shall work with and encourage the Assemblies of God Foundation in its development efforts for all postsecondary institutions endorsed by the Board of Christian Higher Education. The Division of Christian Higher Education shall provide the Assemblies of God Foundation with the pro rata distribution formulas for the institutions eligible to receive distributions and grants from the Assemblies of God Foundation.

and be it further

RESOLVED, That General Council Bylaws ARTICLE XII. DIVISION OF CHRISTIAN HIGHER EDUCATION, b. Purpose, (3), which now reads:

(3) directing an Office of Development to promote and raise funds for endorsed Assemblies of God institutions.

be amended to read:

(3) directing the national promotion of Assemblies of God higher education and developing resources in cooperation with the Assemblies of God Foundation for all postsecondary institutions endorsed by the Board of Christian Higher Education.

The motion to adopt Resolution 35 revised was carried.

**Resolution 44. Restructure of the Division of Communications**

George Wood read Resolution 44 and moved its adoption pointing out that wherever the term, "secretary of the Michael Cardone Media Center," appears, it should read, "general manager."

A motion prevailed to amend Resolution 44 by changing the wording on page 134, lines 15 and 16 to read, "general manager of the Michael Cardone Media Center, the secretary of Broadcast Ministries, and four other individuals selected for their expertise in the area of media and/or marketing. The board shall meet annually or at the call of the chairman."

The motion to adopt Resolution 44 as amended, was carried.

Resolution 44 as amended and adopted follows:

WHEREAS, The Executive Presbytery appointed a committee to study the structure of the Division of Communications; and

WHEREAS, The committee recommends that the Office of Information become the Office of Public Relations and be transferred from the Division of Communications to the supervision of the general superintendent's office; and

WHEREAS, The committee also recommends that the *Pentecostal Evangel* be transferred from the Division of Communications to the supervision of the general superintendent's office; and

WHEREAS, The committee has also recommended that the *Advance* magazine be transferred from the Division of Communications to the supervision of the general superintendent's office; and

WHEREAS, The committee recommends that the present Radio and Television Department and Media Center be considered as an Electronic Media Board; and

WHEREAS, These recommendations require necessary bylaw amendments pertaining to Article X and Article XV; and

WHEREAS, The Executive Presbytery and the General Presbytery have unanimously endorsed the recommendations of this committee; therefore be it

RESOLVED, That Bylaw ARTICLE X. SPIRITUAL LIFE—EVANGELISM, be amended in entirety by substituting the following:

**ARTICLE X. GENERAL SUPERINTENDENT'S OFFICE**

**Section 1. Spiritual Life—Evangelism**

**a. Authorization and purpose**

There shall be a Spiritual Life—Evangelism planning and coordinating office to assist the general superintendent in implementing the threefold mission of the church. Divisions and departments shall cooperate in this priority effort.

**b. Organization**

(1) *Coordinator*. This office shall be under the direction of the general superintendent and amenable to the Executive Presbytery. A Spiritual Life—Evangelism coordinator shall be nominated by the general superintendent and appointed by the Executive Presbytery.

(2) *Committee on Mission*. There shall be a Committee on Mission to assist in promoting and coordinating efforts to fulfill the threefold mission of the church.

(a) *Function*. The committee shall offer advice, indicate ways in which divisional and departmental resources can be used in fulfilling the mission of the church, and communicate to divisions and departments the emphasis which it or the general superintendent places upon each phase of the threefold mission.

(b) *Composition*. The Committee on Mission shall be appointed by

the Executive Presbytery and shall consist of the Board of Administration and representatives from the various headquarters ministries. The General Superintendent shall serve as chairman of the Committee on Mission. The Spiritual Life—Evangelism coordinator shall serve as secretary.

(c) *Subcommittees.* Subcommittees of the Committee on Mission shall include such committees as may be required to give full emphasis to the mission of the church. They shall be appointed by the Board of Administration.

#### c. Functions

(1) The Spiritual Life—Evangelism office shall serve as an agency to provide leadership and to coordinate efforts through all divisions and departments.

(2) Specific functions shall include:

(a) Providing leadership in coordination of efforts to fulfill the threefold mission of the church.

(b) Planning and promoting special evangelistic and spiritual life emphases.

(c) Serving the evangelists fellowship.

### Section 2. Office of Public Relations

#### a. Authorization and purpose

(1) There shall be an Office of Public Relations to communicate information about the church and its threefold mission to the various publics of the Fellowship, including Assemblies of God publics, such as districts, ministers, Assemblies of God institutions, headquarters' departments and employees; and non-Assemblies of God publics such as media, community, other religious bodies, and nonchurched peoples.

(2) The Office of Public Relations shall serve as an agency for the dissemination of news and information about the Assemblies of God Fellowship through print and electronic media, public relations helps, and other means as deemed necessary in helping the church fulfill its threefold mission.

#### b. Government and organization

(1) *Secretary.* The secretary of public relations shall be nominated by the general superintendent and elected by the Executive Presbytery.

(2) *Amenability.* The Office of Public Relations shall be under the direction of the general superintendent and amenable to the Executive Presbytery.

### Section 3. The *Pentecostal Evangel*

#### a. Authorization and purpose

(1) *Official magazine.* The *Pentecostal Evangel* shall be the official magazine of The General Council of the Assemblies of God.

(2) *Purpose.* The *Pentecostal Evangel* shall be published:

- (a) To fulfill the threefold mission of the church;
- (b) To propagate the gospel of Jesus Christ;
- (c) To give proper emphasis to Pentecostal distinctives, including the baptism in the Holy Spirit and its desired effects in the lives of believers; and
- (d) To strengthen the Fellowship.

#### b. Government and organization

(1) *Editor.* There shall be an editor of the *Pentecostal Evangel* who shall be nominated by the general superintendent and elected by the Executive Presbytery.

(2) *Amenability.* The Executive Presbytery, through the general superintendent, shall have the overall responsibility for the editorial content of the *Pentecostal Evangel* within guidelines set by the policy-making bodies.

(3) *Approval of budget changes.* It is understood that changes in style and format affecting the budget of the Gospel Publishing House shall not be initiated without the approval of the Board of Publication.

### Section 4. *Advance Magazine*

#### a. Authorization and purpose

(1) *Liaison.* *Advance* magazine shall be the principal liaison between Assemblies of God ministers and national headquarters' ministries.

(2) *Purpose.* *Advance* magazine shall be published:

- (a) To fulfill the threefold mission of the church;
- (b) To provide ministerial helps, administration aids, and program promotional materials;
- (c) To serve the pastor with principles and methods that assist in clarifying the mission, objective, and strategies for the local church; and
- (d) To announce and promote emphases and programs of the Assemblies of God.

#### b. Government and organization

(1) *Editor.* There shall be an editor who shall be nominated by the general superintendent and elected by the Executive Presbytery.

(2) *Amenability.* The Executive Presbytery through the general superintendent shall have the overall responsibility for the editorial content of the *Advance* magazine within the guidelines set by the policy-making bodies.

(3) *Budget support and changes.* Funding for *Advance* magazine shall be derived from ministers' contributions to the General Council and revenue from advertising of headquarters' ministries, related institutions, and selected independent suppliers. Changes in style and format affecting the budget of the Gospel Publishing House shall not be initiated without the approval of the Board of Publication. and be it further

RESOLVED, That ARTICLE XV, be deleted in its present form and that a new Article XV be adopted which shall read as follows:

#### **ARTICLE XV. ELECTRONIC MEDIA BOARD**

##### **a. Authorization and purpose**

There shall be an Electronic Media Board which shall be responsible to serve the Fellowship in implementing the threefold mission of the church through television, radio, audiovisuals, and similar media.

##### **b. Government and organization**

(1) *Electronic Media Board.* The Executive Presbytery shall appoint members of the Electronic Media Board. Members shall be appointed for 2 years or until their successors are appointed. Members may be reappointed.

(2) *Electronic Media Board Composition.* The Electronic Media Board shall be chaired by a resident member of the Executive Presbytery, under the direction of the Executive Presbytery, and amenable to the Executive Presbytery and the General Presbytery. Other members of the board shall include two additional resident members of the Executive Presbytery, the general manager of the Michael Cardone Media Center, the secretary of Broadcast Ministries, and four other individuals selected for their expertise in the area of media and/or marketing. The board shall meet annually or at the call of the chairman.

(3) *Media Coordinating Committee.* The Executive Presbytery shall appoint members of the Media Coordinating Committee. This committee would consist of at least one resident executive, two national directors, the secretary of Broadcast Ministries, and the general manager of the Michael Cardone Media Center. The basic function of the committee is to serve as a nonlegislative resource committee serving both the Media Center and Broadcast Ministries. This committee shall be cochaired by the secretary of Broadcast Ministries and the general manager of the Media Center, either of whom shall have the option to call meetings as needed.

#### **Section 1. Media Center**

##### **a. Authorization and purpose**

There shall be a Media Center. Its responsibilities shall include, but not be limited to, the following operations and ministries to assist toward fulfilling the threefold mission of the church:

- (1) Provide audio and video services to departments, ministries, and institutions of the Assemblies of God. The media production center will also initiate, create, and market such products and programs that will further the work of the church;
- (2) Acquire and maintain such equipment as necessary to produce video, audiovisual and audio materials, products, and programs;
- (3) Build and maintain a library of videotapes, films, filmstrips, and other audiovisual resources which will be made available on a sale

and rental basis to Assemblies of God churches and to produce a catalog of these items, including those produced by the Assemblies of God and other producers; and

(4) Provide additional services as authorized by the Executive Presbytery.

**b. General manager.** The Executive Presbytery shall appoint a general manager of the Michael Cardone Media Center who shall be amenable to the Electronic Media Board.

#### **Section 2. Broadcast Ministries Department**

**a. Authorization and purpose.** There shall be a Broadcast Ministries Department which shall be responsible for originating, producing, promoting, and funding the official broadcast ministries of the Fellowship in fulfilling the threefold mission of the church.

**b. Secretary.** The Executive Presbytery shall appoint a Broadcast Ministries secretary who will be amenable to the Electronic Media Board.

#### **Resolution 45. Appreciation for Everett R. Stenhouse**

George Wood read Resolution 45 as follows and moved its adoption:

WHEREAS, Everett R. Stenhouse, a faithful servant of God, has given over 42 years in full-time ministry to God and this Fellowship; and

WHEREAS, His life and ministry have exemplified servant leadership and commitment of obedience to God; and

WHEREAS, His ministry has included service as an evangelist, pastor, foreign missionary, district youth president, superintendent of the Southern California District, a nonresident executive presbyter, and since 1986 as assistant general superintendent of the Fellowship; therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That we express thanks and praise to God for giving to the Assemblies of God this gifted leader; and be it further

RESOLVED, That we offer appreciation and thanks to his wife, Alice, for her faithful and loyal support of his ministry as he has given himself, his time, and his talents to our Fellowship; and be it further

RESOLVED, That this 45th General Council go on record as expressing its deepest love and appreciation to our esteemed Brother Everett R. Stenhouse for his faithful commitment to His Lord and this church in service as our assistant general superintendent for the past 8 years; and be it further

RESOLVED, That the Executive Presbytery present an appropriate gift from the General Council to Brother and Sister Stenhouse as a symbol of our deepest love and appreciation.

The motion to adopt Resolution 45 was carried.

**Resolution 46. Appreciation for Joseph R. Flower**

George Wood read Resolution 46 as follows and moved its adoption:

WHEREAS, One of God's gifts to His church is diligent, Spirit-filled leaders; and

WHEREAS, Joseph R. Flower has exemplified in his life and service one who lives in total obedience and submission to His Savior and Lord; and

WHEREAS, He has served with distinction and honor on all levels of our Fellowship: pastorates, assistant superintendent of the New York/New Jersey District, superintendent of the New York District, a non-resident executive presbyter, and since 1975 as general secretary for the Fellowship; and

WHEREAS, In this office he has provided careful, diligent leadership in keeping and maintaining records of churches and ministers; therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That we express glory and praise to God for giving to us this choice leader, Joseph R. Flower; and be it further

RESOLVED, That we express deep appreciation to his wife, Mary Jane, for her loyal and untiring support of his ministry as he has given himself, his time, and his talents to this Movement; and be it further

RESOLVED, That this 45th General Council go on record as proclaiming its thanks and gratitude to our beloved Brother Joseph R. Flower for his humble commitment to God, his faithful ministry to the church, and his Christlike spirit as our general secretary; and be it further

RESOLVED, That the Executive Presbytery present an appropriate gift from the General Council to Brother and Sister Flower as a symbol of our deepest love and appreciation.

**Resolution 47. Honorary General Presbyter—Joseph R. Flower**

New York District Superintendent Almon Bartholomew requested the privilege of reading Resolution 47 and moving its adoption.

The motion to adopt Resolution 47 was carried.

Resolution 47 as adopted follows:

WHEREAS, Joseph R. Flower has been a member of the General Presbytery of The General Council of the Assemblies of God continuously from 1954 until the present; and

WHEREAS, During this time he has served as assistant district superintendent and presbyter of the New York/New Jersey District for 8 years, superintendent of the New York District for 21 years, a non-resident executive presbyter of the General Council for 10 years, and general secretary of the General Council for 18 years; and

WHEREAS, He has served on the Eastern Bible Institute and Northeastern Bible Institute Board of Regents and Directors, served as a

member or chairman of numerous high-level committees of the General Council; and

WHEREAS, He has been actively engaged in ministry from the time of graduation from Central Bible Institute in 1934, and has been an ordained minister of the Assemblies of God since 1943 serving as evangelist and pioneer pastor in Pennsylvania, Maine, New York, and Grace Assembly of God, Syracuse, New York, for 8 years; and

WHEREAS, He has demonstrated outstanding ability as administrator, author, authentic Pentecostal historian, theologian, wise counselor, and spiritual statesman; and

WHEREAS, We have all reaped the benefits from his leadership, wisdom, ministry, life, and example; and

WHEREAS, Article IX, Section 3, paragraph e, of the General Council constitution makes provision for persons with such distinctive history to be chosen as honorary general presbyters; therefore be it

RESOLVED, That Joseph R. Flower be elected by this General Council of the Assemblies of God to the position of honorary general presbyter.

**Request for Study of Qualifications for Honorary General Presbyter**

A motion prevailed that the Executive Presbytery be requested to give consideration to the possibility of bringing a potential amendment to the constitution at the next General Council which may create the possibility of a former executive officer being elected as an honorary general presbyter.

**Emergency Resolution**

**A Call for Morality in Government**

The chairman of the Resolutions Committee read the following resolution explaining it had been submitted by a delegate who requested that it be presented to the body as an emergency resolution.

WHEREAS, The moral climate in America has degenerated to such a degree that these United States are in the gravest danger of the wrath of God being loosed upon us; and

WHEREAS, The church is called to be the prophetic voice of God in the midst of a perverse and sinful generation; and

WHEREAS, The leaders of our nation are not above the laws, authority, and precepts of God and His Word, but rather are to be subject to them; and

WHEREAS, There exists in the highest levels of government those who openly and flagrantly oppose and/or disregard many of the moral, biblical, and spiritual principles necessary to the continuance of our families and society; therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That we, The General Council of the Assemblies of God, while respecting those who have been duly chosen to lead our



nation, are committed to pray for the wisdom and guidance of God upon their decisions, nevertheless, do hereby call upon those who are promoting the sin of sodomy, the sin of abortion, the abominable practice of fetal tissue research, all anti-Christian, anti-family policies, and all other policies which undermine the biblical foundations of our society, to repent and to begin to promote those policies that are pro-morality, pro-life, pro-family, and "religious friendly"; and be it further

RESOLVED, That we abhor and find offensive the appointments of known anti-Christians and sodomites to public office and would respectfully remind those who make such appointments that they will one day stand before a holy God and give an account for every word, thought, and deed; and be it further

RESOLVED, That we stand in solidarity with all those who affirm this spiritual and moral position and applaud them for their correct resolutions on these matters. We encourage all other religious bodies to join in taking similar stands; and be it further

RESOLVED, That we pray, we preach, and we work to see that this nation returns to its biblical foundations in these matters.

A motion prevailed to consider this item as an emergency resolution.

A substitute motion was made and seconded that the entire resolution be replaced with the following statement:

We encourage in every way in the Assemblies of God, earnest prayer to turn the tide of evil that is characterizing our times—prayer for our leaders, for righteousness, and for biblical morality in this nation and that it begin in the family of God. It should be encouraged at every level of our Fellowship. Prayer is the greatest political weapon at our disposal, therefore, let us pray.

A motion prevailed to refer for action the original resolution and the substitute motion to the Executive Presbytery to properly word the sentiments of this body and to put it out with the proper wording.

It was requested that the Executive Presbytery make this a top priority and that the results of the work be sent immediately in the next ministers letter and that a statement be made through the *Pentecostal Evangel*.

A motion prevailed that the Executive Presbytery be instructed to complete its work in a timely fashion and give its report to the press and other media in the name of the 45th General Council in session.

#### Study of Headquarters Structure

Permission was requested to present an emergency resolution calling for a study of the whole structure of headquarters.

A motion was made and seconded to consider this as an emergency matter.

The motion was lost.

#### Resolution of Appreciation to Headquarters Personnel

Philip Wannenmacher read the following resolution and moved its adoption:

The motion was seconded and carried.

WHEREAS, This has again been a marvelous convention; and  
WHEREAS, The multitudinous details of a convention like this require careful attention; and

WHEREAS, We as delegates cannot attend to these important details; therefore be it

RESOLVED, That as an appreciative body in deliberate assembly we move to express our profound thanks to the scores of our headquarters personnel who have shown their professional talents to take care of us while attending this 45th General Council in Minneapolis.

#### Sacred Assembly

Robert Schmidgall, chairman of the Sacred Assembly Committee, was asked to make a report concerning details of the assembly. He stated that this Sacred Assembly was called for by the General Presbytery as a result of a resolution submitted by our general superintendent in the last General Council. The dates of March 1-3, 1994, have been set aside for this assembly and it will be held at Central Assembly of God in Springfield, Missouri. Further information was shared as to its purpose and those who have been invited to attend.

#### Bible Translations

A motion was offered and seconded that any time Scripture is used in Christian literature, that the King James Version be parallel with the NIV.

The motion to consider this as an emergency matter was lost.

#### Resolution of Appreciation to Herman H. Rohde

A motion prevailed that a resolution of sincere appreciation for his faithful service go from this General Council to Herman H. Rohde.

The resolution of appreciation is as follows:

WHEREAS, Herman H. Rohde has faithfully served the General Council of the Assemblies of God as an executive presbyter from 1986-93; and

WHEREAS, He has been a member of the General Presbytery for 32 years and has also served on various committees and boards representing many of the General Council ministries and colleges; and

WHEREAS, He has served with distinction and honor on many levels of our Fellowship—pastor, district secretary-treasurer, and superintendent of the Minnesota District; therefore be it

RESOLVED, That we express glory and praise to God for raising up this choice servant/leader, Herman H. Rohde; and be it further

RESOLVED, That we express grateful appreciation to his wife, Joy, for her loyal and untiring support of her husband's ministry as he gave himself, his time, and his talents to this Fellowship; and, be it further

RESOLVED, That the 45th General Council go on record as proclaiming its deepest gratitude to our esteemed Brother Herman H. Rohde for his dedicated life, his faithful leadership, and his Christlike spirit as an executive presbyter.

#### Resolution of Appreciation to J. Foy Johnson

A motion prevailed that a resolution of sincere appreciation for his faithful service go from this General Council to J. Foy Johnson.

The resolution of appreciation is as follows:

WHEREAS, J. Foy Johnson has faithfully served the General Council of the Assemblies of God as an executive presbyter from 1976-93; and

WHEREAS, He has been a member of the General Presbytery for 32 years and has also served on various committees and boards representing many of the General Council ministries and colleges; and

WHEREAS, He has served with distinction and honor on many levels of our Fellowship—pastor, evangelist, district youth president, district secretary, assistant district superintendent, and superintendent of the Peninsular Florida District; therefore be it

RESOLVED, That we express grateful appreciation to his wife, Aline, for her loyal and untiring support of her husband's ministry as he gave himself, his time, and his talents to this Fellowship; and, be it further

RESOLVED, That the 45th General Council go on record as proclaiming its deepest gratitude to our esteemed Brother J. Foy Johnson for his dedicated life, his faithful leadership, and his Christlike spirit as an executive presbyter.

#### Resolution of Appreciation to Paul Lowenberg

A motion prevailed that a resolution of sincere appreciation for his faithful service go from this General Council to Paul Lowenberg.

The resolution of appreciation is as follows:

WHEREAS, Paul E. Lowenberg has faithfully served the General Council of the Assemblies of God as an executive presbyter from 1969-93; and

WHEREAS, He has been a member of the General Presbytery for 31 years and has also served on various committees and boards representing many of the General Council ministries and colleges; and

WHEREAS, He has served with distinction and honor on many levels of our Fellowship—pastor, superintendent of the Kansas District, and evangelist; therefore be it

RESOLVED, That we express grateful appreciation to his wife, Bernice, for her loyal and untiring support of her husband's ministry as he

gave himself, his time, and his talents to this Fellowship; and, be it further

RESOLVED, That the 45th General Council go on record of proclaiming its deepest gratitude to our esteemed Brother Paul E. Lowenberg for his dedicated life, his faithful leadership, and his Christlike spirit as an executive presbyter.

#### Resolution of Appreciation

George Wood read the following resolution of appreciation and moved its adoption.

WHEREAS, The 45th General Council of the Assemblies of God has been accorded great kindness and hospitality by officials and agencies of Minneapolis, and the Minnesota District Council of the Assemblies of God and the Midwest Latin American District as the host districts; and

WHEREAS, Numerous persons, committees, and agencies have combined efforts to offer efficient services; and

WHEREAS, Many have given generously of their talents and time in the interest of assuring the well-being of delegates and visitors and the success of this General Council; therefore be it

RESOLVED, That sincere appreciation be expressed to: Our host districts—Minnesota and its superintendent, Clarence W. St. John; the Midwest Latin American and its superintendent, Ignacio Marrero; to North Central Bible College; the City of Minneapolis and Greg Ortale, president and CEO; the staff of The Greater Minneapolis Convention and Visitors Association; Shawn Corwin-Myland, director of the Bloomington Convention and Visitors Bureau; to Gary S. Dorrian, general manager; Jody A. Neubauer, director of sales; Dorothy Rice, event coordinator and director of convention services; to Jeri Heron, catering coordinator; and to the many efficient staff people of the Minneapolis Hilton & Towers and the Hyatt Regency Minneapolis (our two headquarters hotels); and to personnel of all the other cooperating hotels, restaurants, travel parks, and the Minneapolis Police Department; and be it further

RESOLVED, That we express our appreciation to John Peck, account executive of Brede Exposition Services for all the decorating services; to Carmen Ministries for the sound and lighting; to TNT Communications, Inc. for the image magnification; to Media Communications for the video production and equipment; to Schmidt Music for the Rogers organ; and further that we are grateful to the media and press corps who have objectively and thoroughly covered news from the General Council and the management and staff of The Publishing Group, Shakopee Valley Printing, and Merriam One Hour Photo Systems for publishing the *Council Today* newspaper; and be it further

RESOLVED, That appreciation be expressed to General Superin-

tendent G. Raymond Carlson, Assistant General Superintendent Everett Stenhouse, the officers and members of the Executive Presbytery for their leadership; and the other General Council personnel for efficiency in the planning, support, and the implementation of the numerous details for all services rendered; and to all who ministered unto the Lord and edified His people with anointed preaching, inspired songs, and talented music; for a most enjoyable and spiritual Council; and be it further

**RESOLVED,** That we affirm our thankfulness to the Lord for His significant presence and leadership experienced in this 45th General Council. May His name be praised!

#### Adjournment

A motion prevailed that the 45th General Council be adjourned at 5:15 p.m. with thanks to God for His blessing.

#### SATURDAY EVENING—AUGUST 14

The emphasis for the Saturday evening service was "Live the Word in Power." Loren Triplett served as chairman. Ken Benintendi, Northern Asia Area director, read the Scripture from 2 Corinthians 4:1-11, and Charles Osueke, general superintendent, Nigeria, led in prayer.

A special musical was presented by the choir from Bethesda Community Church in Fort Worth, Texas, directed by J. Daniel Smith, entitled, "Let's Be The Generation," which included participation by the youth choir from Central Assembly in Springfield, Missouri. Bob Walker, minister of music, First Assembly of God, Kalamazoo, Michigan, and J. Daniel Smith, minister of music, Bethesda Community Church, Fort Worth, Texas, served at the organ and piano, respectively. A piano solo for the offertory was presented by Barnard Franklin, minister of music, First Assembly of God, Tallahassee, Florida.

The speaker for the evening was Everett Stenhouse, assistant general superintendent. He spoke on the theme, "Live the Word in Power," and called for a fourth generation of Pentecostals to be missionaries. He shared the heart of a missionary as he unfolded his theme. "We must 'Live the Word' in the power of the Great Commission, the power of the great compulsion, and the power of the great compassion." He spoke of the obedience shown by the early apostles. Following his sermon and a powerful altar service, a parade of youth and missionaries carrying flags of the nations of the world climaxed the missionary rally.

#### SUNDAY MORNING—AUGUST 15

Glen Cole, executive presbyter from the Southwest Area, was in charge of the memorial and Communion service, which began at 9:45 a.m. The theme for this serve was, "Live the Word in Anticipation." James MacKnight, general superintendent of the Pentecostal Assemblies of Canada, read the

Scripture from John 5:21 and Philippians 3:7-21, and Raymond H. Hudson, former general treasurer, led in prayer. Tom McDonald, minister of music, Trinity Assembly of God, Lutherville, Maryland, and Gloria Argue, Windsor, California, served at the piano and organ, respectively, as Jeffrey Brawner, pastor, First Assembly of God, Erie, Pennsylvania, led in the congregational singing. Special music for the service was provided by the Singing Parsons from the Wisconsin-Northern Michigan District. Clarence St. John, superintendent of the Minnesota District, made the offering appeal. The offertory was presented by soloist Russ Lee, Mobile, Alabama.

H. Robert Rhoden, superintendent of the Potomac District, was the speaker for the memorial and Communion service. The theme of his message was "Live the Word in Anticipation."

#### In Memoriam

Joseph R. Flower presided during the visual presentation of the names of deceased ministers. The following list includes all whose names had been reported to the general secretary's office from July 2, 1991, to July 2, 1993. The song, "If You Could See Me Now," was sung by Russ Lee, Mobile, Alabama, during the presentation of the memorial scroll.

ADCOCK, ALMA L., Cedar Rapids, Iowa  
AKINO, JOHN, San Jose, Calif.  
ALBER, VIOLET A., Cheyenne, Wyo.  
ALDRIDGE, CLYNELLE E., Fort Smith, Ark.  
ALLEN, CHARLES P., Marshall, Tex.  
ALLEN, J. E., Byron Center, Mich.  
ANDERSON, CARL C., Antioch, Calif.  
ANDERSON, JESSE J., Grapeland, Tex.  
ANDERSON, OTTO B., Clinton, Okla.  
ANDREASEN, ANN, Springfield, Mo.  
ANDREWS, ANNA M., Lakeland, Fla.  
ANGUS, PHYLLIS M., Falling Waters, W. Va.  
ANKARLO, GEORGE O. JR., Maryville, Ill.  
ARAGON, JAMES I., Gallup, N. Mex.  
ARGUE, A. WATSON JR., Rocklin, Calif.  
ARMSTRONG, BILLY D., Yoakum, Tex.  
ASARO, PETER J., Florissant, Mo.  
BALL, JOE L., Orange, Calif.  
BALL, MARY E., Del Valle, Tex.  
BARFOOT, EUNICE A., West Covina, Calif.  
BARNARD, JAMES E., Springfield, Mo.  
BARNES, ELMER W., Miami, Okla.  
BARNETT, EDMONIA L., Fort Worth, Tex.  
BARRON, ARLIN R., Bethany, Mo.  
BARTON, AUSTIN H., Phoenix, Ariz.

BASHFORD, VENNA M., Lathrop, Mo.  
 BATES, LUTHER W., Watson, Ark.  
 BELL, CLYDE E., Tyler, Tex.  
 BEMIS, C. LYLE, Clymer, N.Y.  
 BILBO, LEATHA G., Sapulpa, Okla.  
 BILLS, WILLIAM E., Springfield, Mo.  
 BISHOP, ROBERT H., Orange, Mass.  
 BLACK, MICHAEL F., Orange, Calif.  
 BLACKBURN, ALVA L., Humboldt, Ill.  
 BLACKWELL, J. D., Brady, Tex.  
 BLAKE, FANNIE, Marked Tree, Ark.  
 BLANKENSHIP, HARVEY L., Stockton, Calif.  
 BOARDMAN, ESTHER F., Lincoln, Calif.  
 BOLEN, OSCAR H., Fort Worth, Tex.  
 BONKOWSKI, LARRY J., Fort Lauderdale, Fla.  
 BOSWELL, GARLAND C., Riverside, Calif.  
 BOULWARE, MELVIN J., Springfield, Mo.  
 BOYCE, CARL L., Cotton Plant, Ark.  
 BOZEMAN, WILLIAM, Stamford, Tex.  
 BRADDOCK, WILLIE M., Bonifay, Fla.  
 BRAKER, HARRO J., Cottage Grove, Oreg.  
 BRANNAN, EDNA C., Neosho, Mo.  
 BRANNON, MYRTLE E., Bonifay, Fla.  
 BRASHER, AMAL A., Hobbs, N. Mex.  
 BRATCHER, JOHN P., Live Oak, Calif.  
 BRAY, BILLY R., North Little Rock, Ark.  
 BRELAND, SAMMIE L., Needham, Ala.  
 BREWER, DAVID G., Kirksville, Mo.  
 BRIDGES, FORREST H., Splendora, Tex.  
 BRIDGMAN, HENRY D., Bothell, Wash.  
 BROOKS, ROY L., Springfield, Mo.  
 BROWN, CANDYCE A., Clarendon, Tex.  
 BROWN, GUY F., Arcadia, Fla.  
 BROWN, JAMES D., Waxahachie, Tex.  
 BRUMBELOW, J. B., Pasadena, Tex.  
 BRUMFIELD, WILBUR M., North Richland Hills, Tex.  
 BUCHANAN, MINNIE L., Augusta, Ga.  
 BUCHWALTER, GLADYS I., Lancaster, Pa.  
 BUCHWALTER, LORRAINE, New Port Richey, Fla.  
 BUCK, CLYDE S., Ogden, Utah  
 BURTON, GUY R., Whitney, Tex.  
 BUTTRAM, MILTON J., Stockton, Calif.  
 CAIRNS, JOHN K., Trenton, N.J.  
 CALDERON, JESUS H., Los Angeles, Calif.  
 CAPERTON, JOHN D., Green Cove Springs, Fla.

CARDIFF, J. VERNON, Orlando, Fla.  
 CARLILE, ASA D., Cookeville, Tenn.  
 CARLSON, DAVE, Auburn, Wash.  
 CARLSON, REUBEN J., Salem, Oreg.  
 CARTER, HORACE J., Claymont, Del.  
 CASH, MABEL, Beaumont, Calif.  
 CASTEEL, HOBART, Victorville, Calif.  
 CATLETT, RUFUS M., Citrus Heights, Calif.  
 CHAPMAN, HELEN L., Kansas City, Mo.  
 CHASE, ROSE M., Spartanburg, S.C.  
 CHOATE, JOHN E., Spring, Tex.  
 CINTRON, ANGEL M., Brooklyn, N.Y.  
 CLARK, HENRY W., Silvertown, Tex.  
 CLARK, LORRAINE F., Port Angeles, Wash.  
 CLARK, ORVILLE V., Bothell, Wash.  
 CLEMONS, RAYMOND O., Oswego, Kans.  
 CLOUD, MAXWELL, Orlando, Fla.  
 CLUM, GLENN CLYDE, Hungry Horse, Mont.  
 COCKRELL, HOWARD C. SR., Lindale, Tex.  
 COLE, OLA J., Saint Louis, Mo.  
 COLETTI, ALFRED, Springfield, Mo.  
 COLLARD, LEONARD L., Poplar Bluff, Mo.  
 COLLINS, RAYMOND B., Griffin, Ga.  
 COLLINS, ROY L., Malakoff, Tex.  
 COLSON, ORAH D., Kingston, Okla.  
 COOK, EDCAR R., Longview, Tex.  
 COOK, GRANVAL P., Oklahoma City, Okla.  
 COOKE, C. STANLEY, Rocklin, Calif.  
 COOLEY, DAVID S., Milton, Fla.  
 CORNELL, RICHARD R., Cedar Springs, Mich.  
 CORPANY, B. W., Colorado Springs, Colo.  
 COX, CHARLES E., Pattonville, Tex.  
 COX, JESSE M., Willcox, Ariz.  
 CROY, ERNEST L., Bluefield, W. Va.  
 CURTIS, JOHN SAMUEL, Salem, Oreg.  
 DAGGETT, WALTER E., Columbus, Mont.  
 DALTON, ROBERT C., Xenia, Ohio  
 DANIEL, LEERON A., Columbus, Ga.  
 DAVIS, ANNIE M., Safford, Ariz.  
 DAVIS, BERTIE M., Orlando, Fla.  
 DAVIS, ERVIN W., Shreveport, La.  
 DAVIS, STANLEY G., Red Oak, Tex.  
 DAY, WILLIAM H., Jacksboro, Tex.  
 DECKER, HAROLD J., Anchorage, Alaska  
 DELGADO, OCTABIANA M., Artesia, N. Mex.

DE POLO, ANTHONY, Youngstown, Ohio  
 DEW, HUBERT CLEMONS, Lakeland, Fla.  
 DEYO, R. W., Mabank, Tex.  
 DICKERSON, WILLIAM D., Dothan, Ala.  
 DIEHL, TERRY T., West Salem, Ohio  
 DILLOW, MARIE E., Ranson, W. Va.  
 DIPPOLD, DAVID O., East Petersburg, Pa.  
 DI QUATTRO, ANTHONY, Belleville, N.J.  
 DOLLINS, MILT, Bokchito, Okla.  
 DONELSON, ROY A., Princeton, Mo.  
 DOUGLASS, VERA, Arnold, Md.  
 DRAPER, WINNIE P., Waco, Tex.  
 DRON, HAROLD A., Framingham, Mass.  
 DRURY, WILLIAM E. K., West Hills, Calif.  
 DUCKWORTH, WILLIAM R., Mesquite, Tex.  
 DUNBAR, W. FRANKLIN, Canyonville, Oreg.  
 DUNCAN, LESTER W., Joplin, Mo.  
 DUNCAN, VIOLA, Lancaster, Calif.  
 EAGLE, CLARA S., Murrysville, Pa.  
 EARLS, JAMES, Piqua, Ohio  
 EDWARDS, DAVID J., Boise, Idaho  
 EHLERS, HENRY K., Seymour, Mo.  
 ELDRED, STEPHEN E., Yacolt, Wash.  
 ELDRIDGE, LESLIE C., Orange Park, Fla.  
 ELDRIDGE, SAM E., Garland, Tex.  
 ELLEDGE, DANNY L., Novato, Calif.  
 ELLINGTON, WILLIAM J., Hobbs, N. Mex.  
 ELLIOTT, GRACE M., Lynwood, Calif.  
 ELLIS, IVAN W., King City, Mo.  
 ELLIS, JAMES C., Louisville, Ky.  
 ELROD, JOHN R., Tuscaloosa, Ala.  
 EPKER, C. STANLEY, Ethel, La.  
 EPLER, PAUL M., Boring, Oreg.  
 EPPERSON, JOSEPH O., Morrilton, Ark.  
 ESTEP, EDGAR L., Shady Point, Okla.  
 EYLANDER, R. RUSSEL, Goldendale, Wash.  
 EYLER, BLANCHE, Johnstown, Pa.  
 FAIRBANKS, LELA A., East Tawas, Mich.  
 FALCON, DAVID JR., Rowland Heights, Calif.  
 FALKNER, T. J., Camden, Tenn.  
 FARMER, JAMES E., Deer Park, Tex.  
 FARQUHAR, ROBERT L., Carlinville, Ill.  
 FENNEMA, LOIS E., San Jose, Calif.  
 FINKENBINDER, AURA, Mission, S. Dak.  
 FLOOD, NORMAN W., Springfield, Ill.

FLYNN, DAVID B., Schoolcraft, Mich.  
 FORBES, LOY L., Oklahoma City, Okla.  
 FOURT, THERALL E., Lodi, Calif.  
 FRANCIS, LEE, Anacortes, Wash.  
 FRANKE, MILO W., Sutherlin, Oreg.  
 FRANKS, R. L. SR., Albuquerque, N. Mex.  
 FRATTO, ALBERTA J., Fairview, W. Va.  
 FREELAND, FRED J., Fort Wayne, Ind.  
 FUSTON, GOLDIE, Brownwood, Tex.  
 GARDNER, NORMAN L., Palm Desert, Calif.  
 GARFIELD, MONTY, Beach Haven, N.J.  
 GARZA, GREGORIA P., Delano, Calif.  
 GARZA, JOSUE R., San Antonio, Tex.  
 CASTON, MARCUS T., La Verne, Calif.  
 GERARD, CLIFFORD P., Gilman, Iowa  
 GILLATT, REGINALD, Nampa, Idaho  
 GILLESPIE, NEWTON E., Milford, Ohio  
 GILLISPIE, DARRELL I., Charleston, W. Va.  
 GLEW, MERLE A., Redmond, Wash.  
 GODBEY, KENNETH L., Springfield, Mo.  
 GOGGIN, ROBERT E., Yukon, Okla.  
 GONZALEZ, JOSE, Chicago, Ill.  
 GOODMAN, SAM, Madisonville, Ky.  
 GOODSON, GEORGIE L., Saint Peters, Mo.  
 GOODWIN, AGNES M., Saint Petersburg, Fla.  
 GORS, WILLIAM D., Modesto, Calif.  
 GOTCHER, CHARLES, Carlinville, Ill.  
 GOTTWALD, FRED R., Motley, Minn.  
 GOUDIE, CLARENCE D., Springfield, Mo.  
 GRAF, DUANE M., Mesa, Ariz.  
 GRAVES, CAGLE A., Seminole, Okla.  
 GRAY, HOMER S., Elizabeth City, N.C.  
 GREGG, CLIVE W., Streator, Ill.  
 GREY, WENDELL, Bloomfield, Iowa  
 GRICE, CECIL E., Orting, Wash.  
 GRIFFIN, TINA E., Mooreland, Okla.  
 GROSS, LAWRENCE E., Winter Haven, Fla.  
 GROUNDS, WILSON A., Grapeland, Tex.  
 GUTHRIE, ALVIS V., Livingston, Tex.  
 HAHN, JAMES M., Fort Lupton, Colo.  
 HALL, P. HENRY, Chula Vista, Calif.  
 HALLBERG, GUST L., Lake Nebagamon, Wis.  
 HAMLIN, ALFRED J., Coldwater, Mich.  
 HAMPTON, HARLEN D., Cedar Bluff, Va.  
 HANCOCK, MARJORIE A. L., Laurel, Miss.

HAPNER, ALLEN C., Booneville, Miss.  
 HARGRAVE, ANDREW W., Alexandria, Minn.  
 HARJU, EINO, Groveland, Fla.  
 HARRELL, BESSIE, Waxahachie, Tex.  
 HARRINGTON, KENNETH W., Lone Star, Tex.  
 HARRIS, KENNETH O., Catoosa, Okla.  
 HARRIS, LEONARD A., Florence, Oreg.  
 HARRIS, LOWELL W., Poplar Bluff, Mo.  
 HARRIS, WALTER L., Okmulgee, Okla.  
 HARTLEY, O. J., Monroe, N.C.  
 HATCHNER, WALTER D., New Castle, Pa.  
 HELD, HARRY J., Orlando, Fla.  
 HELMER, DAISY M., Lufkin, Tex.  
 HENDRICKSON, GEORGE P., Danvers, Mass.  
 HENDRICKSON, OLA M., Tulsa, Okla.  
 HILBURN, JAMES C., Chandler, Tex.  
 HILDEBRANDT, REINHOLD, San Rafael, Calif.  
 HILLARY, DORCAS, Springfield, Mo.  
 HINECKER, MABEL V., Charlestown, Ind.  
 HOARD, CLEONIA M., Patton, Mo.  
 HODGES, NOEL F., Mesa, Ariz.  
 HOGAN, EVERETT P., Hot Springs, Ark.  
 HOGGARD, RAYMOND SR., Windsor, N.C.  
 HOKANSON, MARGUERITE, Fort Washington, Md.  
 HOLADAY, KENNETH C., Costa Mesa, Calif.  
 HOLDEMAN, RALPH M., Nappanee, Ind.  
 HOLDER, RALPH R., Escondido, Calif.  
 HOLLEN, GILBERT G., Altoona, Pa.  
 HOLLIS, EARL, Salem, Oreg.  
 HOLLIS, HAROLD M., Osborne, Kans.  
 HOLMES, DALE, Woodward, Okla.  
 HUACUJA, ELISA, Brownsville, Tex.  
 HULTGREN, CARL S., Lakeland, Fla.  
 HUNNICUTT, JOHN C., Columbia, S.C.  
 HUNT, DELFA J., West Plains, Mo.  
 HUNTER, GEORGE W., Guerneville, Calif.  
 HUNTER, JOHN E., Spokane, Wash.  
 JACKSON, JESS L., Cloudercroft, N. Mex.  
 JACKSON, LYDIA C., Bellport, N.Y.  
 JAIME, ALEJANDRO, West New York, N.J.  
 JARRELL, PALMER C. SR., Greenwood Springs, Miss.  
 JENNEY, ELICE, Wagner, S. Dak.  
 JENSEN, ARTHUR H., Salem, Oreg.  
 JENSEN, LILLIAN, Abbotsford, Wis.  
 JENSEN, LOUIS P., Stafford, Ohio

JOHNSON, LOUELLA B., Scotts Valley, Calif.  
 JOHNSON, MARTIN E., Des Moines, Iowa  
 JOLLAY, WILLIAM C., Franklin, N.C.  
 JONES, EARL R., Medical Lake, Wash.  
 JONES, J. WESLEY, Price, Tex.  
 JONES, MARGARET E., Sarepta, La.  
 JONES, RUBIN E., Euless, Tex.  
 JUDAH, HENRY C., Newton, Ala.  
 JUERGENSEN, MARIE, Whittier, Calif.  
 JUSTUS, JIMMIE D., McAlester, Okla.  
 KASPARIAN, FREDRICA B., Fresno, Calif.  
 KEELING, TIM, Denver, Colo.  
 KEHR, ROSE, Burlingame, Calif.  
 KENNEY, ROBERT A., Port Angeles, Wash.  
 KETCHAM, MAYNARD L., Springfield, Mo.  
 KILGORE, LILLIE V., Harrison, Ark.  
 KILPATRICK, AUGUST C., Young Harris, Ga.  
 KIM, PETER WON, Cypress, Calif.  
 KIMEL, MILDRED S., Falling Waters, W. Va.  
 KINGSRITER, HARLAND A., Springfield, Mo.  
 KINSLOW, HAZEL B., Okmulgee, Okla.  
 KIRK, NORMAN J., East Brunswick, N.J.  
 KLINGER, PAUL W., Baytown, Tex.  
 KLURE, ALEX H., Riverside, Calif.  
 KNELL, OLIVER S., Mesa, Ariz.  
 KNIGHT, ARVLE L., Konawa, Okla.  
 KNIGHTSTEP, HERBERT R., Lewisville, Tex.  
 KNOWLES, JAMES H., Lakeland, Fla.  
 KOONCE, EDNA L., Falls Church, Va.  
 KUC, LEON, Arcadia, Calif.  
 KVISTAD, DELLA, Okeechobee, Fla.  
 KVISTAD, OLE S., Okeechobee, Fla.  
 LANCASTER, GEORGE H., Okemah, Okla.  
 LANDESS, LEFEE A., Elkhart, Kans.  
 LANDIN, JUAN H., San Jose, Calif.  
 LARSON, EVA L., Stevensville, Mont.  
 LATHIM, GEORGE A., Richland, Wash.  
 LAUGHLIN, DAVID L., Temple, Tex.  
 LAVARNWAY, FLOYE M., Oklahoma City, Okla.  
 LEBSACK, HERMAN W., Fort Collins, Colo.  
 LEE, CLYDE N., Ringgold, Va.  
 LEE, KANG NAM, Harrison, N.Y.  
 LEMLEY, L. LILLIAN, Oceanside, Calif.  
 LESUI, TAUINAOLA I., Sacramento, Calif.  
 LEWIS, DARYL K., Fairbury, Nebr.

LINDSEY, BERLIE B., Crivitz, Wis.  
 LINDVALL, I. PHILLIP, Porterville, Calif.  
 LONDON, RUBY L., Englewood, Colo.  
 LOPEZ, MANUEL, San Antonio, Tex.  
 LOPEZ, RAYMOND, Modesto, Calif.  
 LOTZE, ANNE M., San Bernardino, Calif.  
 LOVE, RALPH, Lake San Marcos, Calif.  
 LOWMASTER, RAYMOND L., Punxsutawney, Pa.  
 LOY, RONALD D., Daytona Beach, Fla.  
 LUNA, CECILIO, Sulphur Springs, Tex.  
 LUNSFORD, BURDEEN, Price, Tex.  
 MAC PHERSON, STANLEY, Columbus, Ind.  
 MADNICK, JAMES E., Patterson, Calif.  
 MADSON, EUGENE L., Spanaway, Wash.  
 MANNING, GEARL B., Fredonia, Kans.  
 MARIN, ELIZABETH, South Pasadena, Calif.  
 MARTIN, GUSONA N., Keota, Okla.  
 MARTIN, JAY A., Bryan, Tex.  
 MARTZ, DAVID L., Tulsa, Okla.  
 MATLOCK, MARY K., Thousand Palms, Calif.  
 MATTER, LORNA L., Oroville, Calif.  
 MAW, DALE M., Poway, Calif.  
 MAYO, DORA, Houston, Tex.  
 MC CALLIE, LEWIS C., Sand Springs, Okla.  
 MC CALLUM, ROBERT M., Garrison, N. Dak.  
 MC CLAY, HELEN F., Pleasant Hope, Mo.  
 MC COMBER, MARGARET J., Laguna Hills, Calif.  
 MC DANIEL, CLAUDE A., Richmond, Va.  
 MC GREGOR, DONALD O., Forest Grove, Oreg.  
 MC INTOSH, FRED, Newton, Ga.  
 MC INTOSH, ROBERT V., Williamsport, Md.  
 MC KAY, FRANK M., Del City, Okla.  
 MC KEEHAN, JAMES B., Houston, Tex.  
 MC KIM, EARL M., Fresno, Calif.  
 MC KINLEY, ARTHUR S., Havana, Ill.  
 MC NEVEN, GEORGE W., Juneau, Alaska  
 MC NUTT, WILLIAM R., Spokane, Wash.  
 MEEKS, JAMES C., Houston, Tex.  
 MELCHING, A. RUTH, Springfield, Mo.  
 MELOY, ELMO L., Oklahoma City, Okla.  
 MELTON, HORACE W., Samson, Ala.  
 MESSNER, MARGIE R., Columbus, Ga.  
 MEYER, EUGENE J. O., Black River Falls, Wis.  
 MILES, LEON L., Liverpool, N.Y.  
 MILLER, EDNA M., Ocracoke, N.C.

MILLER, IDA M., Reno, Nev.  
 MILLER, ROSA E., Killeen, Tex.  
 MILLEY, NORMAN, Norwood, Mass.  
 MILLS, LOTTIE F., Jasper, Tex.  
 MILTON, JOHN L., Vacaville, Calif.  
 MINCEY, E. WILLIAM, San Diego, Calif.  
 MONTES, RAMON, Sparkill, N.Y.  
 MONTIJO, ENRIQUE, Camuy, P.R.  
 MONTOYA, CLIMACO, Grand Junction, Colo.  
 MONTOYA, MINNIE O., Denver, Colo.  
 MORRIS, HERMAN G., Douglasville, Ga.  
 MORRIS, MARJIE, Salem, Oreg.  
 MORRISON, ALMA A., Blue Springs, Mo.  
 MURPHY, HENRY L., Hutchinson, Kans.  
 MYERS, A. CLAYTON, Houston, Tex.  
 NALL, OTHEL W., Saint Louis, Mo.  
 NEGRON, EDUARDO, Fajardo, P.R.  
 NELSON, ALFRED W., Bellingham, Wash.  
 NELSON, DOROTHY M., Fort Worth, Tex.  
 NELSON, HANNAH R., Robinson, Kans.  
 NELSON, JOHN M., Rayville, Mo.  
 NEWTON, JOHN E., Shady Point, Okla.  
 NIEVES, RAMON L., Honduras, Central America  
 NIEVES, RUBEN, Winter Springs, Fla.  
 NIXON, GEORGE B., Lincoln Park, Mich.  
 NORCROSS, SAMUEL H., Evansville, Ind.  
 NORVILLE, LEONARD L., New Braunfels, Tex.  
 OLIVARRI, MANUEL T., San Antonio, Tex.  
 OLSEN, HARRY C., Salem, Oreg.  
 OLSON, N. LAWRENCE, Springfield, Mo.  
 OROZCO, RODOLFO C., Monterrey, Mexico  
 OSGOOD, HOWARD C., Springfield, Mo.  
 OTTESON, ARTHUR M., Hayward, Calif.  
 OTTS, CLARENCE M., Carlsbad, N. Mex.  
 OWENS, THOMAS B. SR., Marietta, Ga.  
 PAEZ, SARAH P., Denton, Tex.  
 PARKINSON, ROBERT, Redway, Calif.  
 PARKS, IRIS D., Springfield, Mo.  
 PAVELOFF, MIKE W., Los Angeles, Calif.  
 PAYNE, W. HERMAN, Gassville, Ark.  
 PEMBERTON, JESSE J., Fort Worth, Tex.  
 PEREZ, CONRADO, Waco, Tex.  
 PERKINS, G. GLENN, Lakeland, Fla.  
 PERKINS, JAMES E., Forest Hill, La.  
 PERRY, ARNOLD L., Colerain, N.C.

PERRY, L. FREDERICK, Berwick, Maine  
 PESCHKE, ELMER W., Bryan, Tex.  
 PETERSEN, DOROTHY, Sacramento, Calif.  
 PHINNEY, NELLIE L., Walla Walla, Wash.  
 PIRAINO, ANTHONY, Clearwater, Fla.  
 PITTS, CHARLIE L., Waynesboro, Miss.  
 POPEJOY, W. WARD SR., Hereford, Ariz.  
 PORTER, MARCUS J., Union City, Tenn.  
 POWELL, HUBBERT L., Clermont, Fla.  
 POWELL, JAMES H., Winter Haven, Fla.  
 PRICE, JAMES M., Fullerton, Calif.  
 PRUITT, HARLEY F., Olney, Tex.  
 PULLEY, LAURA, Collinsville, Ill.  
 QUILLIN, ROY B., Memphis, Tenn.  
 RAMIREZ, MARIO A., Buena Park, Calif.  
 RAMSEY, WILLIAM C., Arvada, Colo.  
 RANKIN, CLIFFORD W., Tacoma, Wash.  
 RASMUSSEN, GEORGE, Bloomington, Minn.  
 REED, HAZELLE E., Grand Junction, Colo.  
 REED, MAGGIE F., Grand Junction, Colo.  
 REINEKER, ROSA M., Port Richey, Fla.  
 RENFROE, LIZZIE J., Billingsley, Ala.  
 RETTINGER, JOHN J., Corinth, Tex.  
 REYNOLDS, DALE F., West Covina, Calif.  
 RHOADS, BOBBY L., Oologah, Okla.  
 RHODES, HELEN D., Riverside, Calif.  
 RIALS, JAMES H., Coffee Springs, Ala.  
 RICE, CHARLES N., Fresno, Calif.  
 RICHARDSON, LYMAN B., Orlando, Fla.  
 RIDENER, ROBERT T., Parma, Idaho  
 RIVERS, WILEY R., Townsend, Ga.  
 RIZZO, FELIX, Oxon Hill, Md.  
 ROACH, EVERETT, Russellville, Ark.  
 ROBERTS, ERNEST H., Oklahoma City, Okla.  
 ROBERTS, EVERETT R., Sapulpa, Okla.  
 ROBERTSON, CHARLES H., Pascagoula, Miss.  
 RODRIGUEZ, MARIA, Lubbock, Tex.  
 RODRIQUEZ, TOMMY RAMOS, Guayanilla, P.R.  
 ROGERS, RUTH A., Turlock, Calif.  
 ROGERS, WANDA S., Selma, Calif.  
 ROGERS, W. J., Vernon, Tex.  
 ROMERO, RUBEN, Chimayo, N. Mex.  
 ROOD, CHARLEY P., Russellville, Ark.  
 ROPER, DAVID A., Comanche, Okla.  
 ROQUE, DORA M., Yakima, Wash.

ROREX, LEHMAN, Hoxie, Ark.  
 ROSS, LILLY A., Malvern, Ark.  
 ROUSU, DARRELL J., Saint Paul, Minn.  
 ROUSU, DONNA W., Saint Paul, Minn.  
 ROWDEN, RAYMOND A., Fenton, Mo.  
 RUIZ, ALFONSO, Mayaguez, P.R.  
 SALAS, GEORGE, Clayton, Calif.  
 SALAZAR, JOSE R., Galt, Calif.  
 SALTER, ROBERT J., Hillsboro, Tex.  
 SANCHEZ, MANUEL T., Brooklyn, N.Y.  
 SANDERS, MABEL F., Martinez, Ga.  
 SANDIDGE, JERRY L., Springfield, Mo.  
 SANDRY, THOMAS F., Belmont, Calif.  
 SANTIAGO, CRESCENCIO, Toa Alta, P.R.  
 SAVIDGE, WILLIAM, Carmichael, Calif.  
 SCHATZLINE, THOMAS L., Cullman, Ala.  
 SCHMIDT, DAVID D., Hungry Horse, Mont.  
 SCHMIDT, KENNETH R., San Jose, Calif.  
 SCOTT, CHARLES W. H., Springfield, Mo.  
 SCRATCH, EDDIE R., Kirkland, Wash.  
 SERRANO, GILBERTO, Hialeah, Fla.  
 SHAFFER, ERVIN E. JR., Humble, Tex.  
 SHANE, HARRIS E., Kirkland, Wash.  
 SHARP, CORNELIUS O., Corsicana, Tex.  
 SHAW, BRADLEY M., Shellman, Ga.  
 SHAW, JOHN W., De Valls Bluff, Ark.  
 SHEARER, LEONARD W., Williamsport, Pa.  
 SHENEMAN, NEALE D., Anchorage, Alaska  
 SHUMWAY, CHARLES W., Wichita, Kans.  
 SHUSS, IDA I., Palo Alto, Calif.  
 SIMONSEN, GEORGE A. M., Bellevue, Wash.  
 SIMPKINS, THELMA, Hilo, Hawaii  
 SIMS, NEAL, Tulsa, Okla.  
 SINGLETON, TED S., Springfield, Oreg.  
 SKOOG, DOROTHY E., Adrian, Mich.  
 SLAPE, LEOTA O., Kansas City, Mo.  
 SLUDER, LEONTEEN, Inola, Okla.  
 SMITH, ALTON M., Santa Ana, Calif.  
 SMITH, ALVIN L., Houston, Tex.  
 SMITH, KENNETH G. SR., Carthage, Mo.  
 SMITH, ROY H., Bonham, Tex.  
 SMULAND, MILDRED T., Springfield, Mo.  
 SNELL, ALBERT, Bakersfield, Calif.  
 SOBEY, REGINALD R., North Bergen, N.J.  
 SOHL, ELFRIEDA W., Wyoming, Pa.



SORBO, ERNEST A., Springfield, Mo.  
 SPARKS, ARTHUR L., Lancaster, Calif.  
 SPEER, PAUL D., Westland, Mich.  
 SPRADLEY, LYLE B., Kirkland, Wash.  
 STAMPS, DON C., Edmond, Okla.  
 STARKS, HAROLD D., Hemet, Calif.  
 STEEN, MERLIN N., Thousand Oaks, Calif.  
 STEMME, HARRY A., Anaheim, Calif.  
 STEPHENS, ANNA S., Wichita Falls, Tex.  
 STEPHENS, DAVID C., Jenks, Okla.  
 STEWART, CARL L., Dallas, Tex.  
 STEWART, L. TROY, Fort Worth, Tex.  
 STEWART, OLGA E., Portland, Oreg.  
 STEWART, RICHARD, Salem, Oreg.  
 STEWART, RUFUS S., Edmond, Okla.  
 STOCKDALE, CLYDE E., Torrance, Calif.  
 STONE, AUGUSTUS, Meridian, Miss.  
 STONEKING, ARTHUR SR., Mesa, Ariz.  
 STOTTLEMYER, JUNE A., Fairfield, Va.  
 STUBBLEFIELD, BESSIE, Porter, Tex.  
 STURGEON, FRANCIS A., Placerville, Calif.  
 SUNDQUIST, EDWARD J., Lathrop, Calif.  
 SVEDIN, LILLIE M., Dover, Del.  
 SYNHORST, GORDON M., Sturgis, S. Dak.  
 TANNER, B. EUGENE, Moreno Valley, Calif.  
 TAXDAHL, ALBERT J., Bakersfield, Calif.  
 TAYLOR, JESSE A., Valdosta, Ga.  
 TAYLOR, REGINALD R., San Antonio, Tex.  
 TERRELL, ALICE B., Bridgeport, Nebr.  
 THARP, WARREN, West Point, Ill.  
 THOMAS, WILLIAM A., Cochran, Ga.  
 THOMPSON, DAVID T., Mililani, Hawaii  
 THOMPSON, RAYMOND M., Fort Worth, Tex.  
 THORNTON, FELIX H., Jonesboro, Ark.  
 TIDWELL, JUANITA, Youngtown, Ariz.  
 TILLITT, GLENN D. SR., Westminster, Calif.  
 TOMLIN, LORA P., Lewisburg, Tenn.  
 TORGERSON, MARY A., Puyallup, Wash.  
 TRANI, VINCENT J., Pico Rivera, Calif.  
 TRAVIS, WILLIAM L., Modesto, Calif.  
 TREVINO, FRANK, Salt Lake City, Utah  
 TRIBBLE, IRA B., Lindsay, Okla.  
 TROWBRIDGE, PERCY L., Costa Mesa, Calif.  
 TRUCKS, NEWTON E., Fresno, Calif.  
 TUMINARO, DOMINICK, Bronx, N.Y.

TUMINARO, PASQUALE, Bronx, N.Y.  
 TURNER, L. WAYNE SR., Bakersfield, Calif.  
 VALDEZ, LILLIAN T., Loveland, Colo.  
 VALENTINE, FELIX R., Hayward, Calif.  
 VALLESPIN, MARCIAL W., Carmel, Ind.  
 VAN ETTEEN, LESTER A., Garnett, Kans.  
 VAN WINKLE, JESSE B. N., Karnes City, Tex.  
 VARNADOE, EVA R., Jacksonville, Fla.  
 VELEZ, CARLOS, Rosario, P.R.  
 VERBONITZ, NORA, Bellwood, Pa.  
 VIRGIN, ODIS H., Fredericktown, Mo.  
 WALKER, ROSIE L., Ocala, Fla.  
 WALKLING, SARAH A., Valentine, Nebr.  
 WALKUP, HOMER B., Kimberly, Idaho  
 WALLACE, ROWENA M., Rolla, Mo.  
 WALLS, JAMES F., Banning, Calif.  
 WARD, DELMER C., Union City, Mich.  
 WATERS, C. V., Lodi, Calif.  
 WATTS, GRACE E., Mineral Wells, Tex.  
 WEAD, LLOYD E., Lakeland, Fla.  
 WEBER, JOHN F., Saint Clair, Mo.  
 WEBSTER, MARY H., Palm Coast, Fla.  
 WEBSTER, ROBERT K., Orting, Wash.  
 WEIDMAN, VIRGINIA M., Springfield, Mo.  
 WEIGEL, ESTHER C., Costa Mesa, Calif.  
 WESTLUND, RUTH E., Minneapolis, Minn.  
 WHEELER, BERNIECE, Atchison, Kans.  
 WHITE, JAMES, Kent, Wash.  
 WHITE, LEONARD R., Wenatchee, Wash.  
 WHITLEY, RICHARD M., Saraland, Ala.  
 WILLEFORD, EARNEST A., Oklahoma City, Okla.  
 WILLIAMS, GLADYS, Malvern, Ark.  
 WILSON, NADINE V., Wister, Okla.  
 WILSON, SAMUEL H., Youngtown, Ariz.  
 WILSON, WILLIAM F., Grand Junction, Colo.  
 WIMBISH, JACK JR., Broken Arrow, Okla.  
 WINCKLER, ERNEST W. SR., Phoenix, Ariz.  
 WOLF, GEORGE W., Riverside, Calif.  
 WONDERS, PAUL D., Dillsburg, Pa.  
 WOOD, GLADNESS V., Turlock, Calif.  
 WOODS, BERTHA M., Kingstree, S.C.  
 WOOTEN, EDGAR, La Junta, Colo.  
 WORSHAM, JAMES R. JR., San Antonio, Tex.  
 WRIGHT, BILLY R., Saint Stephens, Ala.  
 WRIGHT, DELL D. JR., Houston, Tex.

WRIGHT, FRANK P., Potosi, Mo.  
WYMAN, LINCOLN D., Tacoma, Wash.  
YOUNG, DANIEL R., Yakima, Wash.  
YOUNG, RICHARD M., Davenport, Iowa  
ZELLER, G. FRED, Bridgeton, N.J.

The following names of deceased ministers which had been reported to the general secretary's office after July 2, 1993, were also included in the presentation.

ANSEL, EVA F., Wills Point, Tex.  
BERGEN, GENEVA, Waupaca, Wis.  
BONE, ELMER, Mineral Point, Mo.  
BOX, LESTER C., Sulligent, Ala.  
CUTLER, GLADYS Y., Tumwater, Wash.  
DENNY, MARK L., Lake Worth, Fla.  
DOWNS, GEORGE E., Anchorage, Alaska  
GIBSON, ERNEST C., Patterson, Ga.  
GRAHAM, WILLIAM S., Mineral Wells, Tex.  
GREENAWAY, CHARLES E., Enterprise, Ala.  
GREENAWAY, MARY L., Enterprise, Ala.  
HASTIE, ROLAND D., Van Buren, Ark.  
LARSON, MILDRED, Calloway, Nebr.  
LEGGIO, NUNZIO J., West New York, N.J.  
LOFTIN, PRESTLEY C., Hartford, Ark.  
MC DONALD, WILMA L., Shelbyville, Ill.  
MC NEEL, ABY P., Beaumont, Tex.  
MOOBERRY, MERRYLL H., Knoxville, Iowa  
NASH, KENNITH D., Oswego, Kans.  
POPE, ELTA B., Birmingham, Ala.  
RIGGS, PAUL E., Oklahoma City, Okla.  
SCHLOSSMACHER, E. J., Clearwater, Fla.  
SMART, ARTHUR J., Liberty, Tex.  
STEWART, ALICE F., Springfield, Mo.  
ULRICH, HARLEY E., O'Briens, Fla.  
WELLMAN, DAVID W., Chicago, Ill.  
WILSON, RUBEN A., Auburn, Calif.

#### Communion Service

General Superintendent G. Raymond Carlson presided during the Communion service. He was assisted by members of the Executive Presbytery and General Presbytery.

#### SUNDAY EVENING—AUGUST 15

The Sunday evening service began at 5 p.m. with singing by a special choir directed by Laurey Berteig, minister of music, Brightmoor Taber-

nacle, Southfield, Michigan, including The Brooklyn Tabernacle Singers, from Brooklyn, New York, directed by Carol Cymbala. The congregational singing was led by Jeffrey Brawner, pastor, First Assembly of God, Erie, Pennsylvania. Ramona Crabtree, Springfield, Missouri, and Carlton Quattlebaum, minister of music, First Assembly of God, New Castle, Pennsylvania, served at the piano and organ, respectively.

Robert Schmidgall, executive presbyter from the Great Lakes Area, was chairman for the service. Albert Linderman, Minnetonka, Minnesota, read the Scripture from 2 Corinthians 5:11-21, which was signed by Leslie Lawer, St. Paul, Minnesota, and David J. McNaughton, Braintree, Massachusetts, ministered in prayer. The offering appeal was made by Charles Hackett, national director of the Division of Home Missions, and the offertory and special music was provided by The Brooklyn Tabernacle Singers. Special emphasis was given to Home Missions which included a video entitled, "The U.S. Challenge," and special features from each area of Home Missions.

The speaker for the evening was Charles Crabtree, director of the U.S. Decade of Harvest. The theme for the evening service was, "Live the Word in Witnessing." He challenged the congregation that in light of the spiritual and moral condition of America, the Pentecostal church must be at her best. He indicated that the state of the nation is dependent upon the state of the true church. Sadly, the church is not at her spiritual best, but can be through revival. That revival begins with a fresh revelation of Jesus Christ, which will lead to a new repentance before God, resulting in a powerful release of the Holy Spirit.

The 45th General Council concluded with an extended prayer and praise session as people sought God in behalf of America.

It was reported by the Roster Committee that the final registration including preregistration, Kids Council, Youth Congress, Fine Arts Festival, on-site registration, visitors, ordained, and delegates totaled 13,847.

JOSEPH R. FLOWER  
GENERAL SECRETARY

**CONSTITUTION**

**OF  
THE GENERAL COUNCIL OF THE  
ASSEMBLIES OF GOD**

**REVISED AUGUST 10, 1993**

**MINNEAPOLIS, MINNESOTA**

Constitution		
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**Constitution and Bylaws**  
**of**  
**The General Council of the Assemblies of God**  
**in the**  
**United States of America and Foreign Lands**  
**Revised to August 10, 1993**

**CONSTITUTIONAL DECLARATION**

**WE BELIEVE:**

That God's purpose concerning man is (1) to seek and to save that which is lost, (2) to be worshiped by man, and (3) to build a body of believers in the image of His Son.

That these believers, saved and called out of the world, constitute the body or church of Jesus Christ built and established upon the foundation of the apostles and prophets, Jesus Christ himself being the chief cornerstone.

That the members of the body, the church (ecclesia) of Jesus Christ, are enjoined to assemble themselves for worship, fellowship, counsel, and instruction in the Word of God, the work of the ministry and for the exercise of those spiritual gifts and offices provided for New Testament church order.

That it is evident the early apostolic churches came together in fellowship as a representative body of saved, Spirit-filled believers who ordained and sent out evangelists and missionaries, and under the supervision of the Holy Spirit set over the church pastors and teachers.

That the priority reason-for-being of the Assemblies of God is to be an agency of God for evangelizing the world, to be a corporate body in which man may worship God, and to be a channel of God's purpose to build a body of saints being perfected in the image of His Son.

That the Assemblies of God exists expressly to give continuing emphasis to this reason-for-being in the New Testament apostolic pattern by teaching and encouraging believers to be baptized in the Holy Spirit, which enables them to evangelize in the power of the Spirit with accompanying supernatural signs, adding a necessary dimension to worshipful relationship with God, and enabling them to respond to the full working of the Holy Spirit in expression of fruit and gifts and ministries as in New Testament times for the edifying of the body of Christ.

That we are a cooperative fellowship of Pentecostal, Spirit-baptized saints from local Pentecostal assemblies of like precious faith throughout the United States and foreign lands to be known as the General Council of the Assemblies of God whose purpose is neither to usurp authority over the various local assemblies, nor to deprive them of their scriptural and local rights and privileges; but to recognize and promote scriptural

methods and order for worship, unity, fellowship, work, and business for God; and to disapprove unscriptural methods, doctrines and conduct, endeavoring to keep the unity of the Spirit in the bond of peace, "till we all come in the unity of the faith, and of the knowledge of the Son of God, unto a perfect man, unto the measure of the stature of the fulness of Christ" (Ephesians 4:13).

#### ARTICLE I. NAME

The corporate name shall be *The General Council of the Assemblies of God*, which term is reserved for legal use when referring to the legal entity.

The term *General Council* shall be used to refer to sessions of the corporation.

The term *Assemblies of God* shall be used to refer to the entire constituency.

#### ARTICLE II. NATURE

The General Council of the Assemblies of God is a cooperative fellowship based upon mutual agreements voluntarily entered into by its membership.

#### ARTICLE III. PREROGATIVES

The prerogatives of The General Council of the Assemblies of God shall be:

- To encourage and promote the evangelization of the world.
- To encourage and promote the worship of God.
- To encourage and promote the edification of believers.
- To provide a basis of fellowship among Christians of like precious faith.
- To establish and maintain such departments and institutions as may be necessary for the propagation of the gospel and the work of this Pentecostal fellowship.
- To approve all scriptural teachings, methods, and conduct; and to disapprove unscriptural teachings, methods, and conduct.
- To have the right to own, hold in trust, use, sell, convey, mortgage, lease, or otherwise dispose of such property, real or chattel, as may be needed for the prosecution of its work.

#### ARTICLE IV. PRINCIPLES FOR FELLOWSHIP

The Assemblies of God shall represent, as nearly as possible in detail, the body of Christ as described in the New Testament Scriptures. It shall recognize the principles inherent in the body as also inherent in this Fellowship, particularly the principles of unity, cooperation, and equality. It recognizes that these principles will enable it to achieve its priority reason-for-being as an agency of God for evangelizing the world, as a corporate body in which man may worship God, and as a channel of God's purpose to build a body of saints being perfected in the image of His Son.

#### ARTICLE V.

##### STATEMENT OF FUNDAMENTAL TRUTHS

The Bible is our all-sufficient rule for faith and practice. This Statement of Fundamental Truths is intended simply as a basis of fellowship among us (i.e., that we all speak the same thing, 1 Corinthians 1:10; Acts 2:42). The phraseology employed in this statement is not inspired or contended for, but the truth set forth is held to be essential to a full-gospel ministry. No claim is made that it contains all biblical truth, only that it covers our need as to these fundamental doctrines.

##### 1. The Scriptures Inspired

The Scriptures, both the Old and New Testaments, are verbally inspired of God and are the revelation of God to man, the infallible, authoritative rule of faith and conduct (2 Timothy 3:15-17; 1 Thessalonians 2:13; 2 Peter 1:21).

##### 2. The One True God

The one true God has revealed himself as the eternally self-existent "I AM," the Creator of heaven and earth and the Redeemer of mankind. He has further revealed himself as embodying the principles of relationship and association as Father, Son, and Holy Ghost (Deuteronomy 6:4; Isaiah 43:10,11; Matthew 28:19; Luke 3:22).

##### THE ADORABLE GODHEAD

###### (a) Terms Defined

The terms *trinity* and *persons*, as related to the Godhead, while not found in the Scriptures, are words in harmony with Scripture, whereby we may convey to others our immediate understanding of the doctrine of Christ respecting the Being of God, as distinguished from "gods many and lords many." We therefore may speak with propriety of the Lord our God, who is One Lord, as a Trinity or as one Being of three persons, and still be absolutely scriptural (examples, Matthew 28:19; 2 Corinthians 13:14; John 14:16,17).

###### (b) Distinction and Relationship in the Godhead

Christ taught a distinction of persons in the Godhead which He expressed in specific terms of relationship, as Father, Son, and Holy Ghost, but that this distinction and relationship, as to its mode is inscrutable and incomprehensible, because unexplained (Luke 1:35; 1 Corinthians 1:24; Matthew 11:25-27; 28:19; 2 Corinthians 13:14; 1 John 1:3,4).

###### (c) Unity of the One Being of Father, Son, and Holy Ghost

Accordingly, therefore, there is that in the Son which constitutes Him the Son and not the Father; and there is that in the Holy Ghost which constitutes Him the Holy Ghost and not either the Father or the Son. Wherefore the Father is the Begetter; the Son is the Begotten; and the Holy Ghost is the One proceeding from the Father and the Son. Therefore, because these three persons in the Godhead are in a state of unity, there is but one Lord God Almighty and His name one (John 1:18; 15:26; 17:11,21; Zechariah 14:9).

###### (d) Identity and Cooperation in the Godhead

The Father, the Son, and the Holy Ghost are never identical as to person; nor confused as to relation; nor divided in respect to the Godhead; nor opposed as to cooperation. The Son is in the Father and the Father is in the Son as to relationship. The Son is with the Father and the Father is with the Son, as to fellowship. The Father is not from the Son, but the Son is from the Father, as to authority. The Holy Ghost is from the Father and the Son proceeding, as to nature, relationship, cooperation and authority. Hence no person in the Godhead either exists or works separately or independently of the others (John 5:17-30,32,37; 8:17,18).

###### (e) The Title, Lord Jesus Christ

The appellation *Lord Jesus Christ*, is a proper name. It is never applied in the New Testament either to the Father or to the Holy Ghost. It therefore belongs exclusively to the *Son of God*. (Romans 1:1-3,7; 2 John 3).

(f) **The Lord Jesus Christ, God with us**

The Lord Jesus Christ, as to His divine and eternal nature, is the proper and only Begotten of the Father, but as to His human nature, He is the proper Son of Man. He is, therefore, acknowledged to be both God and man; who because He is God and man, is "Immanuel," God with us. (Matthew 1:23; 1 John 4:2,10,14; Revelation 1:13,17).

(g) **The Title, Son of God**

Since the name *Immanuel* embraces both God and man, in the one person, our Lord Jesus Christ, it follows that the title *Son of God* describes His proper deity, and the title *Son of Man*, His proper humanity. Therefore, the title *Son of God* belongs to the order of eternity, and the title *Son of Man* to the order of time (Matthew 1:21-23; 2 John 3; 1 John 3:8; Hebrews 7:3; 1:1-13).

(h) **Transgression of the Doctrine of Christ**

Wherefore, it is a transgression of the doctrine of Christ to say that Jesus Christ derived the title *Son of God* solely from the fact of the Incarnation, or because of His relation to the economy of redemption. Therefore, to deny that the Father is a real and eternal Father, and that the Son is a real and eternal Son, is a denial of the distinction and relationship in the Being of God; a denial of the Father and the Son; and a displacement of the truth that Jesus Christ is come in the flesh (2 John 9; John 1:1,2,14,18,29,49; 1 John 2:22,23; 4:1-5; Hebrews 12:2).

(i) **Exaltation of Jesus Christ as Lord**

The Son of God, our Lord Jesus Christ, having by himself purged our sins, sat down on the right hand of the Majesty on high, angels and principalities and powers having been made subject unto Him. And having been made both Lord and Christ, He sent the Holy Ghost that we, in the name of Jesus, might bow our knees and confess that Jesus Christ is Lord to the glory of God the Father until the end, when the Son shall become subject to the Father that God may be all in all (Hebrews 1:3; 1 Peter 3:22; Acts 2:32-36; Romans 14:11; 1 Corinthians 15:24-28).

(j) **Equal Honor to the Father and to the Son**

Wherefore, since the Father has delivered all judgment unto the Son, it is not only the express duty of all in heaven and on earth to bow the knee, but it is an *unspeakable* joy in the Holy Ghost to ascribe unto the Son all the attributes of deity, and to give Him all the honor and the glory contained in all the names and titles of the Godhead except those which express relationship (see paragraphs b, c, and d), and thus honor the Son even as we honor the Father (John 5:22,23; 1 Peter 1:8; Revelation 5:6-14; Philippians 2:8,9; Revelation 7:9,10; 4:8-11).

### 3. The Deity of the Lord Jesus Christ

The Lord Jesus Christ is the eternal Son of God. The Scriptures declare:

- His virgin birth (Matthew 1:23; Luke 1:31,35).
- His sinless life (Hebrews 7:26; 1 Peter 2:22).
- His miracles (Acts 2:22; 10:38).
- His substitutionary work on the cross (1 Corinthians 15:3; 2 Corinthians 5:21).
- His bodily resurrection from the dead (Matthew 28:6; Luke 24:39; 1 Corinthians 15:4).
- His exaltation to the right hand of God (Acts 1:9,11; 2:33; Philippians 2:9-11; Hebrews 1:3).

### 4. The Fall of Man

Man was created good and upright; for God said, "Let us make man in our image, after our likeness." However, man by voluntary transgression fell and thereby incurred not only physical death but also spiritual death,

which is separation from God (Genesis 1:26,27; 2:17; 3:6; Romans 5:12-19).

### 5. The Salvation of Man

Man's only hope of redemption is through the shed blood of Jesus Christ the Son of God.

(a) **Conditions to Salvation**

Salvation is received through repentance toward God and faith toward the Lord Jesus Christ. By the washing of regeneration and renewing of the Holy Ghost, being justified by grace through faith, man becomes an heir of God according to the hope of eternal life (Luke 24:47; John 3:3; Romans 10:13-15; Ephesians 2:8; Titus 2:11; 3:5-7).

(b) **The Evidences of Salvation**

The inward evidence of salvation is the direct witness of the Spirit (Romans 8:16). The outward evidence to all men is a life of righteousness and true holiness (Ephesians 4:24; Titus 2:12).

### 6. The Ordinances of the Church

(a) **Baptism in Water**

The ordinance of baptism by immersion is commanded in the Scriptures. All who repent and believe on Christ as Saviour and Lord are to be baptized. Thus they declare to the world that they have died with Christ and that they also have been raised with Him to walk in newness of life (Matthew 28:19; Mark 16:16; Acts 10:47,48; Romans 6:4).

(b) **Holy Communion**

The Lord's Supper, consisting of the elements—bread and the fruit of the vine—is the symbol expressing our sharing the divine nature of our Lord Jesus Christ (2 Peter 1:4); a memorial of His suffering and death (1 Corinthians 11:26); and a prophecy of His second coming (1 Corinthians 11:26); and is enjoined on all believers "till He come!"

### 7. The Baptism in the Holy Ghost

All believers are entitled to and should ardently expect and earnestly seek the promise of the Father, the baptism in the Holy Ghost and fire, according to the command of our Lord Jesus Christ. This was the normal experience of all in the early Christian church. With it comes the endowment of power for life and service, the bestowment of the gifts and their uses in the work of the ministry (Luke 24:49; Acts 1:4,8; 1 Corinthians 12:1-31). This experience is distinct from and subsequent to the experience of the new birth (Acts 8:12-17; 10:44-46; 11:14-16; 15:7-9). With the baptism in the Holy Ghost come such experiences as an overflowing fullness of the Spirit (John 7:37-39; Acts 4:8), a deepened reverence for God (Acts 2:43; Hebrews 12:28), an intensified consecration to God and dedication

to His work (Acts 2:42), and a more active love for Christ, for His Word, and for the lost (Mark 16:20).

#### 8. The Initial Physical Evidence of the Baptism in the Holy Ghost

The baptism of believers in the Holy Ghost is witnessed by the initial physical sign of speaking with other tongues as the Spirit of God gives them utterance (Acts 2:4). The speaking in tongues in this instance is the same in essence as the gift of tongues (1 Corinthians 12:4-10,28), but different in purpose and use.

#### 9. Sanctification

Sanctification is an act of separation from that which is evil, and of dedication unto God (Romans 12:1,2; 1 Thessalonians 5:23; Hebrews 13:12). Scriptures teach a life of "holiness without which no man shall see the Lord" (Hebrews 12:14). By the power of the Holy Ghost we are able to obey the command: "Be ye holy, for I am holy" (1 Peter 1:15,16).

Sanctification is realized in the believer by recognizing his identification with Christ in His death and resurrection, and by faith reckoning daily upon the fact of that union, and by offering every faculty continually to the dominion of the Holy Spirit (Romans 6:1-11,13; 8:1,2,13; Galatians 2:20; Philippians 2:12,13; 1 Peter 1:5).

#### 10. The Church and Its Mission

The Church is the body of Christ, the habitation of God through the Spirit, with divine appointments for the fulfillment of her great commission. Each believer, born of the Spirit, is an integral part of the general assembly and church of the firstborn, which are written in heaven (Ephesians 1:22,23; 2:22; Hebrews 12:23).

Since God's purpose concerning man is to seek and to save that which is lost, to be worshiped by man, and to build a body of believers in the image of His Son, the priority reason-for-being of the Assemblies of God as part of the Church is:

- a. To be an agency of God for evangelizing the world (Acts 1:8; Matthew 28:19,20; Mark 16:15,16).
- b. To be a corporate body in which man may worship God (1 Corinthians 12:13).
- c. To be a channel of God's purpose to build a body of saints being perfected in the image of His Son (Ephesians 4:11-16; 1 Corinthians 12:28; 14:12).

The Assemblies of God exists expressly to give continuing emphasis to this reason-for-being in the New Testament apostolic pattern by teaching and encouraging believers to be baptized in the Holy Spirit. This experience:

- a. Enables them to evangelize in the power of the Spirit with accompanying supernatural signs (Mark 16:15-20; Acts 4:29-31; Hebrews 2:3,4).

- b. Adds a necessary dimension to a worshipful relationship with God (1 Corinthians 2:10-16; 1 Corinthians 12-14).
- c. Enables them to respond to the full working of the Holy Spirit in expression of fruit and gifts and ministries as in New Testament times for the edifying of the body of Christ (Galatians 5:22-26; 1 Corinthians 14:12; Ephesians 4:11,12; 1 Corinthians 12:28; Colossians 1:29).

#### 11. The Ministry

A divinely called and scripturally ordained ministry has been provided by our Lord for the threefold purpose of leading the Church in: (1) evangelization of the world (Mark 16:15-20), (2) worship of God (John 4:23,24), and (3) building a body of saints being perfected in the image of His Son (Ephesians 4:11,16).

#### 12. Divine Healing

Divine healing is an integral part of the gospel. Deliverance from sickness is provided for in the Atonement, and is the privilege of all believers (Isaiah 53:4,5; Matthew 8:16,17; James 5:14-16).

#### 13. The Blessed Hope

The resurrection of those who have fallen asleep in Christ and their translation together with those who are alive and remain unto the coming of the Lord is the imminent and blessed hope of the Church (1 Thessalonians 4:16,17; Romans 8:23; Titus 2:13; 1 Corinthians 15:51,52).

#### 14. The Millennial Reign of Christ

The second coming of Christ includes the rapture of the saints, which is our blessed hope, followed by the visible return of Christ with His saints to reign on the earth for one thousand years (Zechariah 14:5; Matthew 24:27,30; Revelation 1:7; 19:11-14; 20:1-6). This millennial reign will bring the salvation of national Israel (Ezekiel 37:21,22; Zephaniah 3:19,20; Romans 11:26,27) and the establishment of universal peace (Isaiah 11:6-9; Psalm 72:3-8; Micah 4:3,4).

#### 15. The Final Judgment

There will be a final judgment in which the wicked dead will be raised and judged according to their works. Whosoever is not found written in the Book of Life, together with the devil and his angels, the beast and the false prophet, will be consigned to everlasting punishment in the lake which burneth with fire and brimstone, which is the second death (Matthew 25:46; Mark 9:43-48; Revelation 19:20; 20:11-15; 21:8).

#### 16. The New Heavens and the New Earth

"We, according to His promise, look for new heavens and a new earth, wherein dwelleth righteousness" (2 Peter 3:13; Revelation 21,22).

### ARTICLE VI. RELATIONSHIPS

The General Council of the Assemblies of God shall prosecute its activities through its general offices and district councils.

## ARTICLE VII. MEMBERSHIP

### Section 1. The General Council of the Assemblies of God

The membership of The General Council of the Assemblies of God shall consist of all ordained ministers holding a current fellowship certificate and churches holding a Certificate of Affiliation issued by The General Council of the Assemblies of God.

### Section 2. Assemblies of God

The membership of the Assemblies of God shall consist of all ministers of the Assemblies of God and all other persons who are members of churches affiliated with The General Council of the Assemblies of God and its district councils.

### Section 3. Voting Constituency

The voting constituency at a General Council shall be composed of all members of The General Council of the Assemblies of God holding a current fellowship certificate who are present and registered; and of such delegates present and registered, as may be chosen by the churches affiliated with The General Council of the Assemblies of God, each church being entitled to one delegate.

## ARTICLE VIII. MEETINGS

### Section 1. Regular sessions

Regular sessions of The General Council of the Assemblies of God shall be held biennially, pursuant to a call by the Executive Presbytery.

### Section 2. Special sessions

Special sessions of The General Council of the Assemblies of God may be arranged by the Executive Presbytery if agreed to by a majority of the general presbyters.

### Section 3. Right of initiative

The right of initiative in the matter of calling special sessions shall be granted to any ordained minister of The General Council of the Assemblies of God when occasion demands. A statement setting forth the reasons for a special session of the Council, signed by not less than 15 ordained ministers, may be considered sufficient reason for the call of a special session, such statement to be filed with the Executive Presbytery, which may, if it shall be deemed advisable, respond to the summons and issue the call for a special session.

## ARTICLE IX. OFFICERS

### Section 1. Executive Officers

a. **Officers and terms of office.** The officers shall consist of the general superintendent, the assistant general superintendent, the general secretary, and the general treasurer, together with such other officers as may be authorized in the future. Their terms of office shall begin 3 months after the date of election. The term of office for the general superintendent

shall continue for 4 years or until his successor qualifies. The terms of office for all other officers shall continue for 2 years or until their successors qualify.

b. **Board of Administration.** The executive officers shall constitute a Board of Administration.

### Section 2. Executive Presbytery

a. **Composition and terms of office.** The Executive Presbytery shall consist of the general superintendent, the assistant general superintendent, the general secretary, the general treasurer, the executive director of the Division of Foreign Missions, the executive director of the Division of Home Missions, together with eight other brethren to be chosen from the active Fellowship to bring the number to 14. The terms of office for all members of the Executive Presbytery, except as stated in Section 1, shall continue for 2 years or until their successors qualify.

b. **A Board of Directors.** The Executive Presbytery shall constitute a Board of Directors, performing such functions as usual and customary in the use of the term. Executive Presbytery and Board of Directors shall be interchangeable terms and wherever used shall be inclusive one of the other.

### Section 3. General Presbytery

a. **Representation, qualifications, and responsibilities.** The General Presbytery shall be composed of representative men of mature experience and ability whose lives and ministry are above reproach, who shall represent the Fellowship in all phases of its work and interest in their respective fields. The General Presbytery shall be the official policy-making body of the General Council when the General Council is not in session. Each district shall have the privilege of representation on the General Presbytery by three members, the district superintendent together with two others who shall be elected by the district council, one of whom shall be an ordained pastor of a church located in the district. They shall take office immediately.

b. **Executive presbyters ex officio members.** All members of the Executive Presbytery shall be ex officio members of the General Presbytery.

c. **Foreign missions representation.** The foreign fields shall be represented on the General Presbytery by the field directors of the Division of Foreign Missions and by two others from each of the overall areas which the field directors represent.

d. **College representation.** The duly endorsed colleges of the Assemblies of God shall be represented on the General Presbytery by three college presidents.

e. **Honorary general presbyters.** Upon the approval of the General Presbytery, honorary members may be chosen by the General Council from among those ministers who have served on the General Presbytery for 20 years, or more, and have reached the age of 60. The addition of



such honorary members shall not disturb the regular number of presbyters granted each district.

**f. Auditors.** Duly qualified auditors may attend the sessions of the General Presbytery.

## ARTICLE X. DISTRICT COUNCILS

### Section 1. Membership

Membership of the district councils shall consist of all ordained and licensed ministers of the district, and such delegates as may be elected by assemblies to represent them in the meetings of the district council. Delegates shall be elected upon a basis of representation as may be agreed upon by council.

### Section 2. Area of supervision

The district council shall have supervision over all the activities of the Assemblies of God in its prescribed field, except such as are agreed upon by a district council and the officials of The General Council of the Assemblies of God.

### Section 3. Language districts

A language group may be recognized as a district of the Assemblies of God in accordance with the provision for district councils in the bylaws. The territory of such a district is confined to ministry among certain language groups, and its geographical areas of operation may therefore overlap or coincide with that of one or more district councils. (See Article V of the bylaws.)

### Section 4. Credentialing authority

The district council shall have the authority to examine, approve, and recommend candidates who qualify as certified ministers, licensed ministers, and ordained ministers. The applications of the recommended candidates shall be endorsed by the district and forwarded to the general secretary of The General Council of the Assemblies of God for the final approval and issuance of the ministerial credential by the General Council Credentials Committee. Any level of formal academic achievement (diploma or degree) shall not be a requirement for credentials, but it shall be required of applicants that they take such courses and pass examinations as shall be prescribed by the General Presbytery unless an exception is provided for in the bylaws.

### Section 5. Areas of authority

The district council shall elect its own officers and arrange for its own meetings.

### Section 6. Amenability to General Council

The district council, being the creature of The General Council of the Assemblies of God and subordinate thereto, cannot be authorized, in any way, to violate the principles of The General Council of the Assemblies of God constitutional agreements or bylaws. In the prosecution of the work

in its prescribed field the district council shall be expected to keep vigilant watch against any violation of the principles of spiritual unity and cooperative fellowship to which the Assemblies of God fellowship is especially and unalterably dedicated. It shall be amenable to The General Council of the Assemblies of God in matters of doctrine and the personal conduct of all ministers who are permitted to have district endorsement.

## ARTICLE XI. LOCAL ASSEMBLIES

### Section 1. General Council Affiliated Assemblies

A General Council affiliated assembly is one which has applied for and has received a Certificate of Affiliation from The General Council of the Assemblies of God.

**a. Requirements for affiliation.** Churches desiring to be affiliated with The General Council of the Assemblies of God shall meet the following requirements. They shall:

- (1) Accept the tenets of faith of the Assemblies of God.
- (2) Adopt a standard of membership which may be determined either by the local assembly or by agreement with the district council.
- (3) Have a minimum active voting membership of 20 persons who shall accept their full share of responsibility for the maintenance of scriptural order in the local body.
- (4) Adopt a constitution and bylaws compatible with those recommended by the district council.
- (5) Have an adequate number of spiritually qualified members to fill the offices of the church called for in its constitution and bylaws.
- (6) Make provision for a pastor who is a credentialed minister in good standing with the General Council and/or a district council.

**b. Relationship to and support of the General Council and district councils.** A General Council affiliated assembly should cooperate in the work and support the programs of the General Council and district councils and may send delegates to the General Council and district councils.

**c. Right of self-government (sovereign rights).** Each General Council affiliated assembly has the right of self-government under Jesus Christ, its living Head, and shall have the power to choose or call its pastor, elect its official board, and transact all other business pertaining to its life as a local unit. It shall have the right to administer discipline to its members according to the Scriptures and its bylaws. It shall have the right to acquire and hold title to property, either through trustees or in its corporate name as a self-governing unit. The fact that it is affiliated with The General Council of the Assemblies of God shall in no wise destroy its rights as above stated or interfere with its sovereignty.

**d. Subordinate in matters of doctrine and conduct.** A General Council affiliated assembly shall recognize that a district council or The General Council of the Assemblies of God has the right to approve scriptural doctrine and conduct and to disapprove unscriptural doctrine and conduct

and the authority to withdraw its Certificate of Affiliation if deemed necessary.

**c. Right of appeal.** When in need of counsel or advice, the General Council affiliated assembly may appeal to the district officary for help. It may appeal from a decision by the district officary to the Executive Presbytery of The General Council of the Assemblies of God when there is a question whether or not the assembly has received proper help from the district. When exceptions are taken to the decisions of the Executive Presbytery, either by the General Council affiliated assembly or by the district presbytery, appeal may be made to the General Presbytery.

#### **Section 2. District Council Affiliated Assemblies**

Provision shall be made by the district councils for district council affiliated assemblies which shall be under the supervision of the district council, in accordance with the provisions of the district council constitution and bylaws. These assemblies shall be encouraged to proceed to the status of sovereign General Council affiliated assemblies.

#### **Section 3. World Ministries Participation**

All assemblies are expected to have an interest in the world ministries of the Assemblies of God and to plan for regular contributions for its support.

### **ARTICLE XII. DISSOLUTION**

The assets of The General Council of the Assemblies of God, a Missouri corporation, are irrevocably dedicated to religious and/or charitable purposes, the same being stated fully in its Articles of Agreement and heretofore in the articles of this constitution. In the event of liquidation, dissolution, or the revocation of its charter or abandonment of its stated purposes, after providing for the payment of debts and obligations of the corporation, the remaining assets will not inure to the benefit of any private person or persons but all such remaining assets will be distributed to a nonprofit organization, or to nonprofit organizations, which are organized and operated exclusively for religious and/or charitable purposes which are exempt under Section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code, under which section the organization or organizations shall have established tax exempt status.

### **ARTICLE XIII. AMENDMENTS**

Amendments to the constitution may be made at any regularly called session of the General Council provided that the proposed amendments shall have been submitted at least 6 months prior thereto in writing to the Executive Presbytery. Before the Executive Presbytery may submit such proposed amendments for consideration by a session of the General Council, it shall cause notice thereof to be provided by mail to the office of each district superintendent and each district secretary, and by insertion

in the Assemblies of God Minister, sent periodically to ministers of The General Council of the Assemblies of God, not later than 60 days prior to said session. Amendments to the constitution shall require a two-thirds vote of all members present and voting.

**BYLAWS**  
**OF**  
**THE GENERAL COUNCIL OF THE**  
**ASSEMBLIES OF GOD**

REVISED AUGUST 10, 1993

MINNEAPOLIS, MINNESOTA

## Bylaws

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## BYLAWS

### ARTICLE I. PARLIAMENTARY ORDER

The work of the General Council shall be governed by parliamentary procedure as set forth in the current edition of *Roberts' Rules of Order Newly Revised*, in keeping with the spirit of Christian love and fellowship.

### ARTICLE II. ELECTION OF OFFICERS

#### Section 1. Officers

The officers of The General Council of the Assemblies of God shall be elected at one of its regular meetings, according to the manner of election as provided. They shall be chosen from the membership of The General Council of the Assemblies of God and shall be men of mature experience and ability, whose life and ministry are above question, and such qualities alone shall determine their eligibility.

#### Section 2. Nominations and Elections

a. **General superintendent, assistant general superintendent, and general secretary.** All candidates for the offices of general superintendent, assistant general superintendent, and general secretary shall be nominated by secret ballot. A two-thirds vote of all votes cast shall be necessary to constitute an election. In the event two-thirds of the votes cast are received by a qualified candidate on the nominating ballot, an election shall be declared. If no election has been declared after the second elective ballot has been cast, the 15 candidates having the highest number of votes in the last ballot cast shall be nominees to be further voted upon, and all other names shall be eliminated. If no election has been declared after the third elective ballot has been cast, the three candidates having the highest number of votes in the last ballot cast shall be nominees to be further voted upon, and all other names shall be eliminated.

b. **General treasurer.** The general treasurer shall be elected in the following manner: The General Presbytery, serving as a nominating committee, shall be entrusted with the responsibility of making careful investigation concerning the qualifications and general fitness of available candidates for this strategic post and shall select by secret ballot one or more names to be presented to the General Council in session for election. The General Presbytery shall submit as nominees to the General Council all qualified candidates who have received at least 15 votes in the General Presbytery. A two-thirds vote of the General Council shall be required for election.

c. **Executive director of foreign missions.** The executive director of foreign missions shall be elected in the following manner: The General Presbytery, serving as a nominating committee, shall be entrusted with the responsibility of making careful investigation concerning the qualifications and general fitness of available candidates for this strategic post and shall select by secret ballot one or more names to be presented to

the General Council in session for election. The General Presbytery shall submit as nominees to the General Council all qualified candidates who have received at least 15 votes in the General Presbytery. A two-thirds vote of the General Council shall be required for election.

**d. Executive director of home missions.** The executive director of home missions shall be elected in the following manner: The General Presbytery, serving as a nominating committee, shall be entrusted with the responsibility of making careful investigation concerning the qualifications and general fitness of available candidates for this strategic post and shall select by secret ballot one or more names to be presented to the General Council in session for election. The General Presbytery shall submit as nominees to the General Council all qualified candidates who have received at least 15 votes in the General Presbytery. A two-thirds vote of the General Council shall be required for election.

**e. Nonresident executive presbyters.**

(1) *Nominations and elections.* The General Council shall have the right to elect additional officers to serve on the Executive Presbytery as provided in Article IX, Section 2, of the constitution. The nominations for eight nonresident executive presbyters shall be made as follows: Each district council at its annual meeting prior to the General Council session shall nominate two ministers from its district, one of whom is not an elected full-time district official, to be presented to the General Council as nominees from its area. These nominees shall be presented to and be balloted upon by the General Council in session. A two-thirds vote shall be required to nominate and to elect.

(2) *Area divisions for electing nonresident executive presbyters.* For the purpose of electing nonresident executive presbyters, The General Council of the Assemblies of God shall be divided into eight areas, according to district boundary lines in the following manner:

**Northwest Area:** Alaska, Montana, Northwest, Oregon, Southern Idaho, Wyoming

**Southwest Area:** Arizona, Hawaii, Korean, Northern California-Nevada, Pacific Latin American, Rocky Mountain, Southern California

**North Central Area:** Iowa, Minnesota, Nebraska, North Dakota, Northern Missouri, South Dakota, Wisconsin-Northern Michigan

**South Central Area:** Central Latin American, Gulf Latin American, Kansas, New Mexico, North Texas, Oklahoma, South Texas, West Texas

**Great Lakes Area:** Appalachian, German, Illinois, Indiana, Kentucky, Michigan, Midwest Latin American, Ohio

**Gulf Area:** Arkansas, Louisiana, Mississippi, Southern Missouri, Tennessee

**Northeast Area:** New Jersey, New York, Northern New England, Penn-

sylvania-Delaware, Potomac, Southern New England, Spanish Eastern

**Southeast Area:** Alabama, Georgia, North Carolina, Peninsular Florida, Puerto Rico, South Carolina, Southeastern Spanish, West Florida

**f. General presbyters.**

(1) *District representatives.* In addition to the district superintendent of each district, who shall serve on the General Presbytery by virtue of his office, two others shall be elected by the district council in session, one of whom shall be an ordained pastor of a church located in the district. They shall take office immediately upon election.

(2) *Foreign Missions representatives.* Field directors of the Division of Foreign Missions, representing the missionaries from their respective areas, are members of the General Presbytery by virtue of office. Two additional representatives on the General Presbytery from each field fellowship shall be chosen in the following manner: The Foreign Missions Board shall nominate four missionaries from each general area represented by the field directors, including international ministries. Nominees will be selected from missionaries who will be in the United States at the time of the General Presbytery meeting and who preferably have had administrative experience in the field fellowship. Ballots shall be sent to all missionaries in each area who shall by vote select two to represent them on the General Presbytery. These shall be mailed to the general secretary who shall prepare a report to the Executive Presbytery. A simple majority vote shall be required to elect.

(3) *College representatives.* College representatives, as provided for in Constitution Article IX, Section 3, paragraph d, shall be nominated by the Executive Presbytery and elected by the General Presbytery for a 2-year term on a rotating basis. A two-thirds vote shall be required. Two years shall elapse after a term is completed before a president shall be eligible for reelection to the General Presbytery.

**(4) Auditors.**

(a) *National directors* elected by the Executive Presbytery and ratified by the General Presbytery shall serve as auditors of the General Presbytery.

(b) The legal counsel of the General Council shall be granted the privilege of auditing the General Presbytery meetings.

(c) A district may select no more than one auditor for all duly called sessions of the General Presbytery. Any auditor selected by a district shall be one of its full-time executive presbyters or officers. Expenses for the district auditors shall not be the responsibility of the General Council.

(d) Auditors shall be without vote and shall have voice only at the request of the chairman. They shall absent themselves from any executive session of the General Presbytery.

(5) *Honorary members.* Honorary general presbyters, as provided for

in Constitution, Article IX, Section 3, e, shall have the right of voice and vote at all duly called sessions of the General Presbytery.

**g. Board of Christian Higher Education and foreign missions Laymen's Advisory Committee members.** For the purpose of selection by the General Presbytery of the members of the Board of Christian Higher Education in compliance with Bylaw Article XIII, paragraph e, and the Laymen's Advisory Committee of the Division of Foreign Missions as provided for in Article XVII, Section 2, paragraph e, members of language districts shall vote with the area in which the district office is located. Foreign missionaries on furlough shall vote with their home districts.

### Section 3. Vacancies

**a. Executive officers.** In the event any of the executive offices of The General Council of the Assemblies of God shall become vacant through death or other cause, the Executive Presbytery shall fill the office by appointment until the next meeting of the General Council, with the exception that in the event of death or incapacity of the general superintendent the assistant general superintendent shall succeed to the office of general superintendent until the next General Council.

#### b. Nonresident executive presbyters.

(1) In the event a vacancy shall occur, for any reason, in the office of a nonresident executive presbyter, the general secretary shall request each district council within that area (See Bylaw Article II, Section 2, e.) to submit two nominees for the office. The General Presbytery shall, at its next meeting, elect one minister from among the nominees submitted, to fill the vacancy until the next meeting of the General Council. (See Bylaws Article II, Section 1, for qualifications.)

(2) Should a vacancy occur so close to the time of the meeting of the General Presbytery that insufficient time remains for district councils to select and submit nominees in the above manner, then nominees shall be obtained by a caucus of the general presbyters of the area involved. Such caucus to be held during the meeting of the General Presbytery.

(3) Nominees shall be voted upon by the entire General Presbytery until one receives two-thirds of the votes cast.

(4) In the event a nonresident executive presbyter moves to a location outside of the boundaries of the area, it shall be incumbent upon the Executive Presbytery to declare a vacancy in that office.

#### c. General presbyters.

(1) In the event a general presbyter shall move to another district or shall vacate his office for any other reason, the presbytery of the district council shall appoint one to serve as general presbyter until that office is regularly filled at the next meeting of the district council.

(2) In the event an elected general presbyter is unable to attend a duly called session of the General Presbytery, by reason of illness or

any other emergency, the district executive presbytery or district presbytery shall have the right to select an alternate, provided he meets the ordinary requirements for general presbyters. He shall have all the rights and privileges of a regularly elected general presbyter. The district shall present certification of an alternate to the general secretary not later than the opening session of the General Presbytery.

## ARTICLE III. DUTIES OF OFFICERS

### Section 1. Duties of the General Superintendent

a. The general superintendent shall emphasize and implement the threefold mission of the church: the evangelization of the world, the worship of God, and the building of a body of saints being perfected in the image of His Son; and promote and coordinate efforts directed toward the fulfilling of that mission.

b. He shall be general superintendent of all work on the field conducted in behalf of The General Council of the Assemblies of God.

c. He shall supervise all the work of the general office, act as president of the corporation in all legal matters, and be an ex officio member of all committees and boards.

d. He shall preside at the sessions of the General Presbytery and the General Council.

e. He shall preside at all meetings of the General Council Credentials Committee and sign all credentials.

f. He shall preside at all sessions of the Executive Presbytery and the Board of Administration and receive all communications directed to these bodies.

g. He shall administer discipline in all cases when requested to do so by the General Council Credentials Committee.

h. He shall be authorized to sign all official and legal documents.

i. He shall be authorized to perform any other functions usual and customary as presiding officer or such as may be directed by the General Council, the General Presbytery, or by the Executive Presbytery.

### Section 2. Duties of the Assistant General Superintendent

a. The assistant general superintendent shall assist the general superintendent.

b. He shall serve as vice-president of the corporation and preside at meetings of the Executive Presbytery and the Board of Administration in the absence of the general superintendent.

c. He shall perform any other functions under the supervision of the general superintendent, or such as may be directed by the General Council, the General Presbytery, or the Executive Presbytery.

### Section 3. Duties of the General Secretary

a. The general secretary shall make and keep true records of the proceedings of the General Council and shall publish the same as approved and directed by the Executive Presbytery.

b. He shall be the custodian of the official seal and shall issue credentials under the direction of the General Council Credentials Committee and shall keep a record of all ordained, licensed, and certified ministers, and assemblies of the Fellowship.

c. He shall be authorized to sign all official and legal documents.

d. He shall serve as secretary of the General Presbytery, Executive Presbytery, the General Council Credentials Committee, and the Board of Administration and shall keep accurate minutes of the deliberations of these bodies.

e. He shall be authorized to edit and prepare for distribution the minutes of the meeting of the General Presbytery after examination and approval thereof by the Executive Presbytery.

f. He shall perform such other functions as are customary or as may be directed by the General Council, the General Presbytery, or the Executive Presbytery.

#### Section 4. Duties of the General Treasurer

a. The general treasurer shall be the executive director of the Division of the Treasury.

b. He shall be custodian of all funds.

c. He shall keep an accurate record of all receipts and disbursements, conducting the work of his office according to accepted business methods.

d. He shall give a report from time to time as may be requested by the General Council or the Executive Presbytery.

e. He shall give bond to the amount of \$50,000. The treasurer's books shall be audited annually by competent auditors.

f. He shall perform such other functions as are customary to his office or as may be directed by the General Council, the General Presbytery, or the Executive Presbytery.

#### Section 5. Duties of the Executive Director of Foreign Missions

He shall be the executive director of the Division of Foreign Missions under the supervision of the Executive Presbytery. Under his direction the division shall perform the following duties and render the following services:

a. Keep a record of all official acts of the Foreign Missions Board and other committees of the division.

b. Conduct all correspondence with prospective missionaries and with those already on the field.

c. Prepare the home missions material in the *Pentecostal Evangel* from missionary letters and reports.

d. Represent The General Council of the Assemblies of God in all relationships with governments or authorities where our foreign missions work is involved.

e. Direct the foreign missions activities of the Fellowship.

f. Distribute all foreign missions funds as directed by the donors by agreement with the Foreign Missions Committee.

g. Keep such records of all funds received and disbursed as will safeguard the funds from loss en route to the field.

h. Act as a purchasing agent for foreign missions supplies.

i. Perform such other functions as may be directed by the Executive Presbytery or the General Presbytery.

#### Section 6. Duties of the Executive Director of Home Missions.

He shall be the executive director of the Division of Home Missions under the supervision of the Executive Presbytery. Under his direction the division shall perform the following duties and render the following services:

a. Keep a record of all official acts of the Home Missions Board and other committees of the division.

b. Conduct all correspondence with prospective home missionaries and with those already under appointment.

c. Prepare the home missions material in the *Pentecostal Evangel* from letters and reports.

d. Represent The General Council of the Assemblies of God in all relationships with governing authorities where home missions work is involved.

e. Direct the home missions activities of the Fellowship, insofar as such activities are not already directed within and by the respective district councils of the General Council.

f. Distribute all home missions funds as directed by the donors by agreement with the Home Missions Committee.

g. Act as a purchasing agent for home missions supplies.

h. Perform such other functions as may be directed by the Executive Presbytery or the General Presbytery.

#### Section 7. Duties of the Executive Presbytery

a. The executive presbyters shall serve as trustees of The General Council of the Assemblies of God. They shall be empowered to supervise and have general oversight of all departments. They shall be authorized to act for the corporation in all matters that affect its interests while the General Council is not in session, subject to the provisions of paragraph h and j of Section 7 and paragraph a of Section 9 of this article.

b. The Executive Presbytery shall have the right and duty of interpreting policy originating in the legislation of the General Council or the General Presbytery. Such interpretations shall stand as final unless reversed at the next meeting of the body in which the legislation originated.

c. They shall have the right to buy, take, lease or otherwise acquire, own, hold in trust, use, sell, convey, mortgage, lease or otherwise dispose of real property, personal and mixed, tangible and intangible of whatsoever kind; to borrow monies as deemed necessary and to issue bonds of what-

soever kind, trust deeds, mortgages, debentures, and notes; and to enter into contracts; all as may seem expedient and proper in the furtherance of the work of The General Council of the Assemblies of God.

d. To hold in trust such funds as may be committed to them as trustees, or to dispose of the same as may be directed.

e. To issue annuity bonds or contracts, and to protect the same by judicious investments.

f. They shall be authorized to purchase or dispose of securities as need requires in an effort to strengthen the financial position of the corporation.

g. All properties of the corporation shall be bought, taken, held, sold, transferred, mortgaged, leased, assigned or conveyed in the corporate name upon authorization by the Executive Presbytery, as trustees thereof, and the president and the general secretary shall be authorized and they hereby are authorized to execute all documents pertaining to such transactions.

h. In all matters of great importance, the Executive Presbytery shall communicate with the members of the General Presbytery before final action shall be taken. The Executive Presbytery shall be amenable to the General Presbytery.

i. The executive presbyters shall be empowered to arrange for and announce the meetings of the General Council, with consideration for the interests of the Fellowship as a whole. The decision of time and place for such meetings shall rest in their hands.

j. The executive presbyters shall also at their discretion call business meetings of the General Presbytery when deemed advisable.

k. The executive presbyters shall make a report to the General Council of their activities in behalf of the Fellowship as may be directed.

#### Section 8. Duties of the Board of Administration

a. The Board of Administration shall be the executive arm of the Executive Presbytery.

b. The Board of Administration shall not originate or interpret policy but shall be confined to the administration of those matters delegated to it by the Executive Presbytery.

c. The Board of Administration shall provide for general services as required for the various operations at general headquarters.

d. It shall be responsible to the Executive Presbytery.

#### Section 9. Duties of the General Presbytery

a. The General Presbytery shall be empowered to act in all matters pertaining to foreign missionary and ministerial relationships, and all matters which pertain to the proper functioning of divisions, departments, and institutions in the Fellowship. Should an irreconcilable difference arise between the General Presbytery and the Executive Presbytery, the decision of the General Presbytery shall prevail until such time as the issue may be submitted to the General Council. All decisions pertaining to

constitutional order or fundamental doctrines shall be referred to the General Council for ratification in the manner provided in the constitution.

b. Any 12 members of the General Presbytery shall have the prerogative of calling a special session of the General Presbytery by presenting a signed request to the general superintendent who shall determine the time of such meeting in consultation with the Executive Presbytery.

c. Any district council by the action of its district presbytery or any three or more general presbyters may have a matter added to the General Presbytery agenda at any time during any duly called General Presbytery meeting.

d. The General Presbytery shall also act as a Court of Appeal for the reviewing of testimony given in missionary and ministerial trials. Its decisions shall be final.

e. The General Presbytery shall determine the salaries and/or allowances of all elected officers of the General Council. A committee of five general presbyters shall be appointed annually by the Executive Presbytery for the purpose of making a review of such salaries and allowances. It shall report its recommendations to the General Presbytery for final action.

### ARTICLE IV. COMMITTEES

#### Section 1. Standing Committees

Standing committees shall be appointed as necessity may require. They shall serve for the designated time or until their purpose is accomplished. In the event a vacancy shall occur in a standing committee, the Executive Presbytery shall be authorized to fill such vacancy.

#### Section 2. Credentials Committee

The Executive Presbytery shall constitute the Credentials Committee of The General Council of the Assemblies of God, hereinafter referred to as the General Council Credentials Committee. It shall have the authority to issue certificates of ordination, licenses to preach, specialized ministries licenses and certified ministers certificates, and to issue annual fellowship cards to those persons whose renewal questionnaires have received district endorsement. It may delegate the routine work of the Credentials Committee to the Board of Administration.

#### Section 3. Roster Committee

A Roster Committee shall be appointed by the Executive Presbytery prior to each meeting of the General Council. This committee shall be expected to open the roster on the morning of the day preceding the convening of the General Council. It shall be entrusted with the responsibility of examining credentials of all ministers and delegates. Ordained ministers shall identify themselves by fellowship cards of the current year; delegates from assemblies shall obtain letters from their church secretary or pastor certifying to their appointment by the assembly to represent it in the General Council. Suitable badges shall be issued by the committee



to all qualified delegates and ministers, such badges to indicate the classification of ordained ministers, licensed ministers, delegates from assemblies, visitors, etc.

#### Section 4. Resolutions Committee

a. **Procedure for presentation of resolutions.** A Resolutions Committee shall be appointed by the Executive Presbytery. All resolutions for presentation to the General Council, except emergency measures, shall be presented to the general secretary's office at least 100 days prior to a General Council session. The Resolutions Committee shall prepare the resolutions in printed form and mail them to the General Council ministers and churches 30 days prior to the General Council, with the understanding that this does not apply to business growing out of Executive Presbytery and General Presbytery meetings just prior to the General Council; and that resolutions of an emergency nature shall be decided by a two-thirds vote of the council.

b. **Sponsorship policy.** All resolutions presented to the Resolutions Committee shall be signed by the author or sponsor. When a resolution is presented for the consideration of the General Council in session the author, sponsor, or a spokesman therefor shall be expected to be the first speaker on behalf of the resolution.

c. **Appropriateness of resolutions.** The Resolutions Committee shall, by a two-thirds vote, determine the appropriateness of a proposed resolution, including the following criteria in its decision:

- (1) Possible conflict with the corporate charter, constitution, or by-laws.
- (2) Those proposals absurd in substance.

d. **Right of sponsor.** If the Resolutions Committee determines that a resolution is inappropriate, it shall so advise the author and shall apprise him of his right to present the proposed resolution to the house for determination as to appropriateness.

e. **Format of presentation.** The Resolutions Committee shall:

- (1) Put resolutions in proper form.
- (2) Eliminate duplication where similar resolutions relating to a specific subject will be offered in a logical sequence.

#### Section 5. Spiritual Life Committee

A Spiritual Life Committee shall be appointed by the general superintendent in conjunction with the Executive Presbytery, selected from a cross section of the Fellowship. The committee shall function for a 2-year period and report to the biennial meeting of the General Council and to the Executive Presbytery as feasible.

#### Section 6. Other Committees

Other committees may be appointed by the General Presbytery or the Executive Presbytery.

### ARTICLE V. DISTRICT COUNCILS

#### Section 1. Formation of New Districts

a. **Conference status.** In isolated geographical areas where there is a growth and development potential, the first step may be the establishing of a conference status which would provide the supervision and assistance of an existing established district until the new district is capable of an aggressive program.

b. **Guidelines.** Guidelines for the establishing of new districts shall include:

- (1) Number of General Council affiliated churches.
- (2) Size and maturity of the churches as to membership, leadership, and program ministries.
- (3) The location, the size, and the potential growth of the geographical area under consideration.
- (4) The effect the establishing of the proposed new district will have on the district or districts involved.

c. **Boundaries.** The boundaries of the new district shall be determined or rearranged by cooperative agreement between the district or districts involved and the Executive Presbytery of The General Council of the Assemblies of God.

#### Section 2. Officers

Each district council shall be authorized to elect a superintendent, secretary-treasurer, and presbyters, together with such other officers as may be deemed advisable by the district membership.

#### Section 3. Voting Constituency

The voting constituency shall consist of all accredited members present and registered, including ordained and licensed ministers and accredited delegates from affiliated churches.

#### Section 4. Language Districts

a. **Recognition qualifications.** In order to become a district of the Assemblies of God, a language group must have a minimum number of 40 churches. Any language group consisting of less than 40 Assemblies of God churches may be authorized by the Executive Presbytery to form a fellowship of churches. The fellowship shall exist for the purpose of exchanging information and facilitating evangelism and the establishing of churches within its group. Until such time as they are qualified to form a district(s), they shall be part of the geographic or language district. Leadership for fellowship groups shall be approved by the Executive Presbytery.

b. **Decrease of churches.** Recognized language districts with less than 40 churches whose number of churches decrease for 2 consecutive years shall move to a fellowship status.

c. **Equality with geographical districts.** A language district shall have

the same privileges and responsibilities which are accorded district councils within the framework of these constitution and bylaws.

**d. Cooperative relationship.** Both the language district and the geographical district shall seek to promote a spirit of fellowship and cooperation. The language district officers and the geographical district officers should inform and/or consult together concerning the opening of new language works or institutions of any kind, in a given area. The language churches, whether members of a geographical or language district, are encouraged to unite where possible, in fellowship activities.

**e. Sponsorship and affiliation of a language group.** Should an English-speaking church desire to initiate sponsorship of a language group, it shall consult with its district officials for counsel and guidance. The geographical district should inform and/or consult with language district officers concerning the beginning of a language group within churches belonging to the geographical district. The sponsoring church may provide facilities and/or support to such a work through its district home missions department. Such an effort may be initiated with the objective in mind that it will develop into an Assemblies of God church. When such a church reaches as many as 20 adult members, it may then seek affiliation with a district of its choice following prescribed guidelines as outlined in these bylaws.

**f. Church transfer procedure.** When a church desires to transfer from a language district to the district in which it is located, a church business meeting shall be properly called and the minutes of said meeting shall reflect the action authorized by the congregation. This action shall be submitted to the officers of the language district and the geographical district. If either district has objections, the church shall have the right of appeal to the Executive Presbytery of The General Council of the Assemblies of God, in accordance with the provisions of the constitution (Article XI).

#### Section 5. Dissolution of District

**a. Loss of recognition.** In the event an existing district (language or geographical) shall be reduced to less than 40 churches, General Council or district affiliated, its recognition shall cease.

**b. Language districts guidelines.** Guidelines for dissolution of language districts are provided for in Section 4, paragraphs a and b, of this article.

**c. Geographical districts guidelines.** Dissolution of geographical districts shall be the prerogative of the Executive Presbytery of The General Council of the Assemblies of God in cooperation and consultation with the original district or districts involved.

### ARTICLE VI. ASSEMBLIES

#### Section 1. Procedure for Affiliation

It shall be the responsibility of the district presbytery to determine

when an assembly has reached a state of growth, stability, and maturity qualifying it for affiliation with The General Council of the Assemblies of God. Qualifications shall include a minimum active voting membership of 20 persons. The assembly shall have matured to a point where a sufficient number of qualified persons are available for the offices called for in its constitution and bylaws.

The procedure for affiliation shall be:

**a.** A church desiring affiliation shall forward its request to the office of the district in which it is situated. The district council shall provide an approved application form and procedural instructions.

**b.** The meeting in which an assembly shall be set in order shall be presided over by an officer of the district who shall assist the assembly in the adoption of a constitution and bylaws acceptable to the district.

**c.** An existing, mature church which desires to affiliate with The General Council of the Assemblies of God shall apply to the office of the district council for guidance and assistance.

**d.** Upon approval by the district presbytery, the application for affiliation shall be forwarded to the general secretary of The General Council of the Assemblies of God. Recognition of affiliation shall be regarded as completed upon receipt by the assembly of an official Certificate of Affiliation to be issued by the general secretary.

#### Section 2. Annual Report from Assemblies

Each church of the Assemblies of God shall be requested to keep an up-to-date record of its membership and a report of the same shall be sent annually, on forms provided, to the office of the district secretary and the General Council secretary.

#### Section 3. Safeguarding the Assemblies

Pastors and leaders of assemblies should make proper investigation regarding persons who seek to gain entrance to teach or minister. Use of the platform should be denied until spiritual integrity and reliability have been determined. Since the use of non-Assemblies of God ministers may bring confusion and problems detrimental to the Fellowship, it is recommended that Assemblies of God churches use Assemblies of God ministers. Pastors and district officials should maintain a reciprocal exchange of information relative to unknown persons seeking ministry in our assemblies.

#### Section 4. Relationships Between Churches, District Councils, and the General Council

**a. Nature.** General Council affiliated churches are deemed to be sovereign, autonomous, self-governing, and self-determining bodies which have, by their sovereign, self-determining action in making application for and receiving recognition as a General Council affiliated church, entered into an agreement with the Fellowship to be amenable to the General

Council and district council in matters of doctrine and conduct. (See Article XI, Section 1, paragraph d, of the constitution.)

**b. Relationships.** *Cooperative fellowship* describes both the relationship that exists between local churches and their relationships with the district councils and the General Council.

**c. Organizational assistance.** The services of both the General Council and district council are available to assist the General Council affiliated church in dealing with any of its problems, either internal or external, when requested by the pastor and/or a majority of the official board of the church or a petition signed by 20 percent of the voting members.

**d. Preservation of affiliation.** In the event the termination of affiliation with The General Council of the Assemblies of God is under consideration by an affiliated assembly, the pastor and/or the board shall invite the district officer to participate in a specially called business meeting for the express purpose of giving the district officer the opportunity to present the case for continued General Council affiliation. Final disposition of the matter may then proceed in accordance with the constitution and bylaws of the local church.

#### **Section 5. Guidelines for Minimal Membership for General Council Affiliated Assemblies**

When the membership of a General Council affiliated church falls below 20 active voting members, it shall seek the assistance of the district officer for help in maintaining the minimal requirement for General Council affiliation. If after 1 year the minimal number of 20 members is not attained the church shall revert to district affiliated status. The church shall remain in a district council affiliated status until it again meets the standard for affiliation as a General Council affiliated church as provided for in Article XI, Section 1, of the constitution. An application for same shall be filed with the district secretary and approved by the district presbytery.

#### **Section 6. New Assemblies Resulting From a Division**

**a. Status of assembly.** When efforts to maintain unity and harmony in an assembly have failed, and a division results in a new congregation being formed, the district should exercise strong and wise leadership in ascertaining the facts and seek to preserve Assemblies of God adherents for the Fellowship. Within the bounds of ethical principles, sound doctrine, and district policy, all districts should seek to retain any meritorious group within the Assemblies of God.

**b. Status of minister.** Circumstances of the occasion would determine whether the minister should be disciplined or denied ministry in either the original church or the dissident group, or even residency in the area where the division occurred. If a minister is guilty of wrong conduct and wrong attitudes resulting in a split, the district presbytery shall deal appropriately with him as provided in Article X, A, Section 3, of the bylaws.

#### **Section 7. Transfer of Local Church Membership**

**a. Letter of introduction.** It is recommended that the member shall request a letter of introduction from the church of which he is a member to be sent by mail to the church with which he wishes to affiliate.

**b. Acknowledgment of transfer.** It is recommended that the receiving church shall give an acknowledgment of transfer to the former church.

#### **ARTICLE VII. MINISTRY**

##### **Section 1. Ministry Described**

Christ's gifts to the Church include apostles, prophets, evangelists, pastors, and teachers (Ephesians 4:11), exhorters, administrators, leaders, and helpers (Romans 12:7,8). We understand God's call to these ministry gifts is totally within His sovereign discretion without regard to gender, race, disability, or national origin.

In terms of maturity of ministry, three classifications of ministry are recognized, viz., the ordained minister, the licensed minister, and the certified minister.

All ministers holding current ministerial credentials are authorized to perform the ordinances and ceremonies (sacerdotal functions) of the church in accordance with applicable federal or state laws.

##### **Section 2. Basic Qualifications**

The following qualifications pertain to all applicants for ministerial recognition:

**a. Salvation.** Testimony to having experienced the new birth (John 3:5).

**b. Baptism in the Holy Spirit.** Testimony to having received the baptism in the Holy Spirit with the initial physical evidence of speaking in other tongues according to Acts 2:4. The Spirit-filled life will enable him to fulfill the threefold mission of the church (Article V, paragraph 10, of the constitution).

**c. Evidence of call.** Clear evidence of a divine call to the ministry, evidenced by a personal conviction, confirmed by the work of the Spirit and the testimony of fellow ministers.

**d. Christian character.** A blameless Christian life and a good report of those who are without (Titus 1:7; 1 Timothy 3:7).

**e. Doctrinal position.** A thorough understanding of and agreement with our doctrinal position as contained in the Statement of Fundamental Truths.

**f. Assemblies of God polity.** A satisfactory working knowledge of the principles, practices, and purposes of the Fellowship through a study of the General Council and district council constitution and bylaws.

**g. Commitment to the Fellowship.** An active loyalty to our constitutional agreements, a cooperative spirit, and a readiness to seek and receive the counsel of older brethren and those in positions of authority.

**h. Basic education requirements.** Any level of formal academic achieve-

ment (diploma or degree) shall not be a requirement for credentials; however, credential applicants shall meet the following criteria:

(1) All applicants are required to be interviewed by the district credentials committee and, in preparation for the interview, pass a standard exam approved by the General Presbytery whereby they demonstrate knowledge of the Bible, Assemblies of God doctrines, and ministerial practices; and either

(2) Successfully complete equivalent training to that indicated in paragraph (3) below, preferably, in an endorsed Assemblies of God post-secondary school; or in a seminary, college, Bible college, or school approved by the district credentials committee consistent with criteria established by the General Council Credentials Committee; or

(3) Successfully complete courses, prescribed by the General Presbytery, offered in correspondence through the Berean College of the Assemblies of God; or

(4) Be recommended by a district credentials committee as qualifying for credentials through self-study and ministerial experience. Such candidates shall have a proven and fruitful ministry of substantial duration. Requests from a district for such a candidate shall be presented to the General Council Credentials Committee and may be granted on a case by case basis.

i. **Marriage status.** We disapprove of any married persons holding ministerial credentials with the Assemblies of God or district councils granting credentials to such, if either marriage partner has a former companion living, except as hereinafter provided.

j. **Annulments and marriage dissolutions.** The Executive Presbytery shall have the authority to determine whether an applicant's annulment of a former marriage is consistent with the scriptural position of the Fellowship relating to the granting or holding of ministerial credentials; or, in the case of a divorce or a dissolution whether the circumstances would more appropriately be classified as calling for an annulment. The application must be accompanied by clear and satisfactory evidence of an illegal marriage through deception or fraud. Appeals from the decisions of the Executive Presbytery may be made to the General Presbytery.

k. **Eligibility of women.** The Scriptures plainly teach that divinely called and qualified women may also serve the church in the ministry of the Word (Joel 2:29; Acts 21:9; 1 Corinthians 11:5). Women who have developed in the ministry of the Word so that their ministry is acceptable generally, and who have proved their qualifications in actual service, and who have met all the requirements of the credentials committees of the district councils, are entitled to whatever grade of credentials their qualifications warrant and the right to administer the ordinances of the church when such acts are necessary.

1. **Ministers from other organizations.** If a minister from another reputable body desires to affiliate with the Assemblies of God, the credentials committees of both the General Council and the district councils are under no obligation to accept the applicant's previous ministerial status, but will judge each candidate on his or her own merits as to the level of credentials to be granted. Such applicants shall be required to:

(1) Conform to Assemblies of God criteria for recognition.

(2) Complete an application for ministerial recognition.

(3) Submit a recommendation for ministerial recognition.

(4) Submit a recommendation from the body with which he/she was formerly affiliated. If such is not available, letters of recommendation should be sought from three reputable ordained ministers who are familiar with the applicant's ministry.

(5) Take the credential examination.

(6) Meet with the credentials committee.

(7) Be recommended by the district credentials committee for the approval of the General Council Credentials Committee.

(8) All previously ordained ministers so approved shall receive recognition as ordained Assemblies of God ministers with the laying on of hands by the district presbytery.

(9) Ministers who receive Assemblies of God recognition will relinquish their ministerial credentials with any other organization.

### Section 3. Specific Qualifications

a. **Residency requirements of applicants.** Applicants for all credentials must be residents of or hold credentials in the district where they make application and appear before its credentials committee.

#### b. Certified minister.

(1) **General requirements.** They shall show promise of usefulness in the gospel work. They shall devote a part of their time to Christian ministry and, at the discretion of the district credentials committee, remain under the supervision of a pastor or a designated supervisor. They shall preach at least 12 times a year or be actively engaged in some other aspect of ministry except in case of ill health or advanced age.

(2) **Pastoral requirements.** In the event a certified minister is serving in a position as the pastor, he shall be expected to advance to license to preach within 2 years of acceptance of the pastorate. This shall not apply to any minister who has reached the age of 65 or older, or whose certificate has been issued on a provisional basis. Any exceptions shall be at the discretion of the district credentials committee.

(3) **Exception for provisional issuance.** A Certificate of Ministry may be issued on a provisional basis to a person who has not met all the credentialing requirements but who is deemed by the district credentials committee to be essential to the continuity of a church or a ministry

outreach for which a duly credentialed and qualified minister is unavailable. The reason for such a provisional issuance must be ministry driven, and the justification for its use is terminated when the minister ceases to be involved in the ministry for which it was initially granted unless he accepts another qualifying assignment. Other limitations are:

(a) The ministry certificate on a provisional basis will be issued for 1 year and shall not be renewed more than two times.

(b) A person who has been granted the Certificate of Ministry on a provisional basis must meet the qualifications for a ministry certificate within a 3-year period.

c. **Licensed minister.** Qualifications for license shall be in two categories:

(1) *Preaching ministry.* Clear evidence of a divine call, a practical experience in preaching, together with an evident purpose to devote one's time to preaching the gospel. They shall preach at least 15 times a year, except in case of ill health or infirmity.

(2) *Specialized ministry.* An evident purpose to devote one's time to a specialized ministry such as Christian education, music, church-related ministry by a minister's spouse, or other full-time ministries. The same qualifications as outlined in Section 2 of this article shall apply.

d. **Ordained minister.** Qualifications for ordination are outlined in the New Testament Scriptures (1 Timothy 3:1-7; Titus 1:7-9). In addition:

(1) Applicants must be 23 years of age or older.

(2) They must have met all the requirements in making application and in completing the prescribed application form.

(3) No person may be ordained to the ministry until he shall have held a license to preach and shall have been engaged in active work as a pastor, evangelist, or some other recognized and proven full-time preaching ministry for at least 2 full consecutive years immediately prior thereto.

(4) *Residency requirements of applicants.* Applicants must be residents of or hold credentials in the district where they make application and appear before its credentials committee. District councils are required to refrain from approving any applicant for ordination who may have been licensed in another district, until such licensed minister shall have been a member of the district in which he is seeking ordination at least 1 year. If the applicant has not been a member of the district where he applies for ordination for 2 full consecutive years, he must meet the requirements and secure the endorsement of the officary of the district in which he was previously licensed, as well as the district of his residence.

(5) *Exceptions to residency requirements.* In the event that an applicant has qualified and been approved for ordination by the district of his former residence before being publicly ordained, the district

where he resides may waive the 1-year residency requirement and ordain him upon the request or approval of his former district.

(6) In order to maintain active status, ordained ministers must preach at least 15 times each year.

#### Section 4. Action of Credentials Committee

The General Council Credentials Committee delegates to the district councils the authority to examine, approve, and recommend candidates who qualify as certified ministers, licensed ministers, and ordained ministers. Final approval and issuance of the ministerial credential shall be made by the General Council Credentials Committee. All ordination services, with the laying on of hands, shall take place under the auspices of the district councils.

#### Section 5. Certificates

The General Council Credentials Committee is authorized to issue Ordination Certificates, Licenses to Preach, Specialized Ministries Licenses, and Certificates of Ministry, together with the accompanying annual fellowship card, to all properly qualified and approved candidates.

#### Section 6. Official List

a. **Active ministers.** The official list of all credential holders shall be compiled by the General Council Credentials Committee and published for the convenience of the Fellowship, with the understanding it is not to be used for purposes of solicitation. This official list shall be revised annually and shall contain the names of those who are engaged in active ministry and whose credentials have been renewed by the issuance of a fellowship card for the current year.

b. **Inactive ministers.** All credentialed ministers who shall withdraw from active ministry or shall cease to engage in pastoral, evangelistic, or other full-time ministry shall be expected to notify the district office, which shall inform the general secretary. He shall then be authorized to transfer the names of such persons to the inactive list, unless the district of which said person is a member specifically requests otherwise.

(1) *Definition.* All ordained and licensed ministers who shall have preached less than 15 times and certified ministers who shall have preached less than 12 times within a period of 1 year or have not been actively engaged in some other aspect of ministry shall have their names placed upon the inactive list for the following year.

(2) *Removal of inactive ministers from ministerial list.* When a minister is definitely inactive for 2 consecutive years, his name shall be eliminated from the ministerial list, unless the credentials committee of the district of which said person is a member specifically requests otherwise by letter.

(3) *Exceptions.* This shall not apply to those whose inactivity has been caused by the infirmity of old age or ill health; or those engaged in other aspects of full-time ministry such as headquarters or district workers,

educators, ministers of music, ministers of youth, and ministers of Christian education; or those who have reached the age of 60 years; or those ministers who have had 25 years of approved service as credentialed ministers, or those whose spouse is disabled or has retired giving them little opportunity for public ministry.

(4) *Disabled ministers.* A permanently disabled or permanently ill minister whose illness prevents him or her from engaging in active ministry shall be indicated as inactive. The credential status of the disabled minister shall remain unchanged. The annual renewal of his or her credentials shall take place in the regular manner. Disabled ministers thus approved by their district shall not have further obligation of financial support to the General Council.

c. *Restoration to active status.* Should the minister at any time return to active ministry, his or her name may be restored to the active list upon application bearing endorsement by the district officer.

#### Section 7. Senior Ministers

In respect and honor to those ministers who have given years of service to the Fellowship, senior status shall automatically be given to all credential holders who have reached the age of 65, whether they continue in full-time ministry or not.

##### a. Terminology

(1) The term *senior-active* shall be used for credential holders who continue to serve three-quarters to full-time in the ministry.

(2) The term *senior-semiretired* shall be used for credential holders who continue to be active, but for half-time or less.

(3) The term *senior-retired* shall be used for those who have ceased to engage in any regular appointed ministry.

b. *Application for retired category.* Senior-semiretired and senior-retired status shall be granted only to those ministers who filed a request for such status with their district office. The district secretary shall forward annually to the general secretary a list of those ministers who have made these requests.

##### c. Guidelines

(1) *Reports.* Senior-active and senior-semiretired ministers shall continue to file their annual reports and pay the General Council portion of their tithes in the regular manner. Senior-retired ministers shall file an abbreviated report to maintain a correct address file for mail and insurance purposes.

(2) *Sources of income.* These designations and guidelines shall apply regardless of whether the senior minister's income is from his ministry, from retirement plans or Social Security payments, or from investments or other employment.

(3) *Designation in publications.* No distinguishing mark shall accompany the listing of senior-active in the official publications of the As-

semblies of God, but may be so indicated in the working lists used for insurance and retirement purposes. Senior-semiretired and senior-retired ministers shall have this status appropriately indicated in the Official List of Assemblies of God Ministers.

(4) *Support of General Council headquarters.* Senior-active and senior-semiretired ministers shall continue to designate the required amount of support to the General Council headquarters as set forth in Bylaw Article XX, Section 1, c, (1). Senior-retired ministers shall be free to distribute as they desire the portion of their tithes previously paid to the General Council.

#### d. Limitations of this Section 7

(1) *For General Council usage only.* The definitions and decisions included in Section 7 apply only to General Council usage and are not binding upon the various districts, nor to the official legislation under which their members serve.

(2) *Other financial responsibility not circumvented.* No part of Section 7 is intended to modify the responsibility of ministers to their districts nor to terminate the biblical responsibility for tithing.

#### Section 8. Ministerial Relations

a. *Amenability.* All ministers holding credentials shall be amenable to both the district council and The General Council of the Assemblies of God in matters of doctrine and conduct.

b. *Affiliation with district of residence.* All credential holders shall be expected to affiliate with the district council within the boundaries of which they reside and work in cooperation with the same.

(1) *Exception.* In the case where a minister resides in one district but pastors a church located in another district, he shall be required to be a member of the district in which the church is located.

(2) *Nationally appointed home missionary.* A nationally appointed home missionary shall become a member of the district in which he/she serves and shall be listed on the ministerial roster of that district by the office of the general secretary. He/she may also retain honorary membership in his/her home district, be listed as a missionary under national appointment in the home district's yearbook, and be extended voice and vote in his/her home district while on official furlough.

(3) *Church-planting ministries.* A minister who serves in a trans-district ministry related to church-planting efforts may do so provided:

(a) He has a scope of ministry which reaches beyond district boundaries; and

(b) Both districts agree to the assignment; and

(c) That in the case the assignment involves a language group, he follow the guidelines provided by the Executive Presbytery of the General Council and adhere to the bylaw governing interdistrict relations. (See Article V, Section 4.)

A church planter holding credentials may obtain affiliation with the district he intends to serve and retain honorary membership in the home district, be listed in the district's yearbook, and be extended voice and vote for such time as he serves in another district. The financial responsibilities shall be the same as those of a nationally appointed home missionary. [See Article VII, Section 8, paragraph c, subparagraph (3).]

**c. Cooperation with other districts.** Ministers shall be expected to cooperate with other district councils in which they may labor temporarily. It is recommended as a standard of proper practice that all ministers conform to the financial policy of the district with which they are affiliated with the following exceptions:

(1) *Financial responsibility of foreign missionaries.* Foreign missionaries will be obligated to pay \$25 per month to their home district when resident in the U.S. and \$10 per month when resident on their fields.

(2) *Financial responsibility of chaplains.* All chaplains, military and institutional, will be obligated to their home district in the amount of 10 percent of their tithes from income earned from the chaplaincy. All chaplains are also encouraged to make voluntary contributions to the district in which they fulfill their assignments.

(3) *Financial responsibility of nationally appointed and/or approved home missionaries.* Nationally appointed and/or approved home missionaries shall contribute 25 percent of their tithe to their member district where they serve and 25 percent of their tithe to their home district if they are listed as honorary members. The missionary who ministers in his home district shall contribute a minimum of 50 percent of his/her tithe to that district.

#### **Section 9. Transfer of Credentials**

**a. Certificate of transfer.** When a member minister takes up residence in another district, a certificate of transfer shall be issued within 60 days by the district of which he/she is a member, unless there are definite charges pending against him/her. The certificate of transfer shall be accepted by the district into which he/she moves. Exceptions may be made for the following:

- (1) Ministers moving to serve at general headquarters.
- (2) Those who have attained the age of 60 and are no longer engaged in active ministry and those who have attained the age of 65 and are not pastoring a church.
- (3) Those who are in the Armed Forces currently on active duty.
- (4) Those who are serving on the staffs of schools affiliated with the General Council and district council or nonaffiliated schools acceptable to the General Council and the district council in which the school is located.
- (5) Those who are appointed home missionaries or foreign mission-

aries who are on furlough or on temporary assignment in the United States and reside in a district other than their home district.

(6) Ministers having membership in one district and a mailing address only in another district.

(7) Students in schools outside their home districts.

(8) Those who are serving in a non-Assemblies of God institution providing:

(a) They have a regular scope of ministry which reaches beyond district boundaries.

(b) Both districts agree to the exception.

(c) The institution is acceptable to both districts.

(9) Church planters involved in transdistrict ministry.

**b. Transcript.** In order to assist a member who is transferring into another district, a transcript giving helpful information concerning him/her and his/her spouse should accompany the certificate of transfer.

#### **Section 10. Credential Renewals and Reinstatements**

##### **a. Terminology**

(1) *Renewed.* The term *renewed* shall apply to all ministers who have met the annual deadline for renewal including those who are delinquent but who renew by January 15.

(2) *Reinstated.* The term *reinstated* shall apply to the persons whose names have been deleted from the official ministerial list, who upon application, are approved for restoration of credentials.

**b. Expiration date.** All fellowship certificates are valid only until December 31 of each year and must be renewed annually. The renewing of credentials is the responsibility of the individual minister. In the event a minister does not receive his/her renewal form by December 1, he/she should notify his/her district office.

**c. Grace period until January 15.** All who shall have failed to renew their fellowship certificates by mail postmarked on or before December 31 shall be considered delinquent. They shall be required to pay a late fee of \$25 up until January 15, to be divided equally between the district and General Council offices.

**d. Reinstatement of lapsed minister.** Ministers whose renewal applications are not postmarked by January 15 shall be recorded as lapsed as of the expiration date of December 31. They must make application for reinstatement and pay a nonrefundable fee of \$50, which shall be divided equally between the district and the General Council offices. These ministers shall not be subject to the minimal time-lapse required of those whose credentials have been terminated for other causes.

**e. Reinstatement of other than dismissed minister.** When a minister who is a member of our Fellowship shall have been removed from our rolls for any cause, except failure to renew and dismissal, and shall apply for reinstatement, he/she shall in no case be eligible for reinstatement

until at least 6 months shall have elapsed after his/her name has been stricken where he/she resides and be accompanied with a nonrefundable fee of \$50 which will be divided between the national and district offices. (See Bylaw Article X, A, Section 12, paragraph b, for reinstatement of dismissed minister.)

The district of residence shall seek a letter of clearance from the district which processed the termination and, upon receipt of the clearance, may add its endorsement and forward the application, together with the letter of clearance, to the General Council Credentials Committee for its action.

#### **Section 11. Nondisciplinary Credential Terminations**

##### **a. On the initiative of the minister.**

(1) *Lapsed.* A minister who does not elect to renew his credentials, providing there is no cause for disciplinary action, shall be listed as having lapsed. His name shall be published as lapsed in the Assemblies of God Minister, hereinafter referred to as the ministers letter.

(2) *Resigned.* A minister who has elected to remove himself from the Fellowship shall submit a letter of resignation to the district with which he is affiliated. If there is no cause for disciplinary action, his resignation shall become effective after having been approved by both the district council and General Council credentials committees. His termination shall be listed in the ministers letter as resigned.

##### **b. On the initiative of the district. (See Article X, A, Section 4)**

(1) *Inactive.* When a minister becomes inactive for 2 consecutive years, according to the stipulations set forth in Article VII, Section 6, paragraph b, of the bylaws, his name shall be published as inactive in the ministers letter.

(2) *Not renewed.* If in the opinion of the credentials committees a minister's credentials should not be renewed short of disciplinary action, his name shall be published as not renewed in the ministers letter.

**c. As a result of affiliation with another church organization.** In the event a minister shall identify himself with another organization granting ministerial credentials, and shall have received such credentials, his credentials with The General Council of the Assemblies of God shall be terminated. An investigation shall be made to determine the proper category of termination.

**d. Surrender of credentials.** In all cases the minister shall be requested to surrender his credential (Certificate of Ordination, License to Preach, Specialized Ministries License, Certificate of Ministry) and his current fellowship card to the district office. The district shall forward these to the office of the general secretary of The General Council of the Assemblies of God. Refusal to surrender his credential and current fellowship card shall be considered insubordination and may result in placing a charge against the minister.

#### **Section 12. Ministerial Status Changes**

All changes in a minister's status are to be reported immediately to his/her district office, which in turn is to report this information to the office of the general secretary of the General Council, on the Ministerial Status Report form provided by that office.

#### **Section 13. Privileged Communications**

Assemblies of God ministers are encouraged to respect as sacred and confidential information confided to them while they are functioning in their ministerial capacities as spiritual counselors and are encouraged not to disclose such confidential information except with the permission of the confidant or to prevent the commission of a crime.

### **ARTICLE VIII. CHRISTIAN MARRIAGE AND FAMILY**

#### **Section 1. Christian Marriage**

Marriage was established by God in the Garden of Eden (Genesis 2:18, 21-25) and confirmed by Jesus Christ to be a permanent relationship between a man and a woman (Matthew 19:4-6). Because marriage is not only a commitment to a spouse, but also to God (Genesis 2:24; Mark 10:9; Ephesians 5:31), a believer should marry only another believer (2 Corinthians 6:14). Christian marriage is a reflection of the love, purity, and permanence between Christ and the Church (Ephesians 5:23-33).

Even though some marriages may fall short of the biblical ideal (see Article IX, Section 5), husbands and wives who devote themselves to God (Ephesians 5:21) and find nurture and instruction in the body of Christ (Hebrews 10:25) can realize the strength and blessing of God in their relationship.

#### **Section 2. Children**

Children "are a heritage from the Lord"; therefore, rearing them is to be treated as a sacred trust. God's strength and wisdom are available on a daily basis in order to bring up children to love and obey God (Proverbs 22:6, Ephesians 6:4).

### **ARTICLE IX. DOCTRINES AND PRACTICES DISAPPROVED**

#### **A. COMMISSION ON DOCTRINAL PURITY**

**a. Authorization and purpose.** A Commission on Doctrinal Purity shall be established for the purpose of giving careful attention to preventing deviations from the Statement of Fundamental Truths and proliferation of unscriptural teachings. The commission shall receive its assignments from and make its reports to the Executive Presbytery.

**b. Appointments and terms of office.** The commission shall be appointed by the Executive Presbytery and shall consist of 10 members representing, insofar as possible, the geographic area divisions of the Assemblies of God. Members shall be recognized authorities in biblical knowledge. Their terms of office shall be for 4 years.



c. **Vacancies and terminations.** The Executive Presbytery shall be empowered to declare the office of any commission member vacant should it deem such action advisable. A decision to declare a vacancy and to fill such vacancy may be made at any meeting of the Executive Presbytery.

#### B. LIST OF DOCTRINES AND PRACTICES DISAPPROVED

In accord with its constitutional prerogatives, The General Council of the Assemblies of God has declared itself pertaining to disapproval of certain matters as follows:

##### Section 1. Unconditional Security

In view of the biblical teaching that the security of the believer depends on a living relationship with Christ (John 15:6); in view of the Bible's call to a life of holiness (1 Peter 1:16; Hebrews 12:14); in view of the clear teaching that a man may have his part taken out of the Book of Life (Revelation 22:19); and in view of the fact that one who believes for a while can fall away (Luke 8:13); The General Council of the Assemblies of God disapproves of the unconditional security position which holds that it is impossible for a person once saved to be lost.

##### Section 2. Legalism

a. **Matters of conscience.** The Assemblies of God disapproves of those who hold to matters of conscience, such as the eating or not eating of meats, who press their personal opinions on others.

b. **Adding conditions to salvation.** The Assemblies of God also disapproves of those who hold to issues which seem to add conditions to salvation, such as the keeping of the seventh day, who press their opinions on others.

##### Section 3. Eschatological Errors

a. **The restitution of all things.** The Assemblies of God understands the teaching of Acts 3:21 to limit the restoration to that of which the prophets have spoken, thus denying the universal redemption theory. We are opposed to all forms of universalism (Matthew 25:46; Revelation 20:10).

b. **Setting a date for the Lord's return.** It is unwise to teach that the Lord will come at some specified time, thereby setting a date for His appearing (Mark 13:32,33; Luke 12:37-40; 1 Thessalonians 5:2). It is also unwise to give out from the platform, or publish, visions of numbers and dates fixing the time of the second coming of the Lord.

c. **Post-Tribulation Rapture.** The General Council of the Assemblies of God has declared itself in the Statement of Fundamental Truths that it holds to the belief in the imminent coming of the Lord as the blessed hope of the Church; and since the teaching that the Church must go through the Tribulation tends to bring confusion and division among the saints, it is recommended that all our ministers teach the imminent coming of Christ, warning all men to be prepared for that coming, which may occur at any time, and not lull their minds into complacency by any

teaching that would cause them to feel that specific Tribulation events must occur before the rapture of the saints.

d. **Amillennialism.** The General Council of the Assemblies of God disapproves of the amillennial teaching and its attendant erroneous philosophy which denies the fact of a literal 1,000 years' reign of Christ on the earth, and substitutes for it the theory that this Christian or Church dispensation is the spiritual Millennium of which, its proponents say, the Bible writers prophesied.

e. **Credentials jeopardized if made an issue.** We recommend that should any of our ministers embrace any of the foregoing eschatological errors, they refrain from preaching or teaching them. Should they persist in emphasizing these doctrines to the point of making them an issue, their standing in the Fellowship will be seriously affected (Luke 21:34-36; 1 Thessalonians 5:9,10; 2 Thessalonians 1:4-10; Revelation 3:10,19,20).

##### Section 4. Membership in Secret Orders

Ours is a last-day message in preparation for the coming of the Lord (Matthew 24:14), leaving us no alternative but wholehearted devotion to the cause of spreading the gospel (Luke 9:62), and it is well known that the various secret orders require much valuable time and interest, thus diverting the servant of the Lord out of the way (Ephesians 5:16).

The nature of such organizations demands secrecy (John 18:20; Acts 26:26) reinforced by religious oaths (Matthew 5:34) and strong attachment by binding obligations to persons who are for the most part unregenerated (2 Corinthians 6:14). The spirit, philosophy, and general influence of such secret orders aim at the improvement of the natural man only (1 Corinthians 2:14; Colossians 2:8), thus wrongly channeling by incorrect interpretation important spiritual truths (2 Peter 3:16).

Confidence in these secret orders and their teachings has always tended toward the embracing of a false hope of salvation through good works and improved moral service (Ephesians 2:8,9).

In consideration of the foregoing, all ministers affiliated with us should refrain from identifying themselves with any of the secret orders which we recognize as essentially of the world, worldly, and we advise any who may have identified themselves with such orders to sever their connections therewith (2 Corinthians 6:17). Furthermore, our ministers are requested to use their good influence among our lay members to dissuade them from such fraternal affiliations (1 Timothy 4:12; 2 Timothy 2:24-26).

##### Section 5. Divorce and Remarriage

###### a. Membership

(1) *Marriage entanglements before conversion.* There are now among Christian people those who became entangled in their marriage relations in their former lives of sin and who do not see how these matters can be adjusted. We recommend that these people be received into the

membership of local assemblies and that their marriage complications be left in the hands of the Lord (1 Corinthians 7:17,20,24).

(2) *Common-law marriage.* We recommend that in no case shall persons be accepted into membership who are known to be living in a common-law state of matrimony.

**b. Remarriage.** Low standards on marriage and divorce are very hurtful to individuals, to the family, and to the cause of Christ. Therefore, we discourage divorce by all lawful means and teaching. We positively disapprove of Christians getting divorces for any cause except fornication and adultery (Matthew 19:9). Where these exceptional circumstances exist or when a Christian has been divorced by an unbeliever, we recommend that the question of remarriage be resolved by the believer as he walks in the light of God's Word (1 Corinthians 7:15,27,28).

**c. Local church leadership**

(1) *Standard for offices of bishop, or elder, and deacon.* Since the New Testament restricts divorced and remarried believers from the church offices of bishop, or elder, and deacon, we recommend that this standard be upheld by all our assemblies (Titus 1:5-9; 1 Timothy 3:12). However, we recommend that all other opportunities for Christian service for which these believers may be qualified be made available to them.

(2) *Prerogative of local assemblies.* It is understood that recommendations are not binding, but local assemblies shall maintain the prerogative of setting their own standards (in accord with provisions of Article XI of the constitution).

**d. Performing marriage ceremonies**

(1) *Ministerial guidelines.* We disapprove of any Assemblies of God minister performing a marriage ceremony for anyone who has been divorced and whose former companion is still living, unless his case is included in the exceptional circumstances described in Article IX, B, Section 5, paragraph b. Any minister of our Fellowship who performs a ceremony for a disapproved marriage (indicated above), unless he has been innocently deceived into doing so, may be dismissed from the Fellowship. An Assemblies of God minister is required to counsel applicants for marriage ceremonies with scriptural guidelines for Christian marriage prior to the performing of the ceremony. He may not perform ceremonies for persons who, in the minister's opinion, approach marriage without proper forethought, wisdom, and sobriety.

(2) *Violation of conscience not required.* We realize that the remarriage of such persons included in the exceptive circumstances in Article IX, B, Section 5, paragraph b, could violate the conscience of a minister, and if this should be the case, the minister should not be expected to perform such ceremonies.

**e. Ministerial credentials.** We disapprove of any married minister of

the Assemblies of God holding credentials if either minister or spouse has a former companion living. (See also Article VII, Section 2, paragraphs i and j.)

**Section 6. Worldliness**

In view of the alarming erosion of national moral standards, we reaffirm our intention of holding up Bible standards against all forms of worldliness. We urge all believers to "Love not the world, neither the things that are in the world.... For all that is in the world, the lust of the flesh, and the lust of the eyes, and the pride of life, is not of the Father, but is of the world" (1 John 2:15,16).

In its teaching regarding worldliness, the Scripture warns against participation in activity which defiles the body, or corrupts the mind and spirit; the inordinate love of or preoccupation with pleasures, position, or possessions, which lead to their misuse; manifestation of extreme behavior, unbecoming speech, or inappropriate appearance; any fascination or association which lessens one's affection for spiritual things (Luke 21:34,35; Romans 8:5-8; 12:1,2; 2 Corinthians 6:14-18; Ephesians 5:11; 1 Timothy 2:8-10; 4:12; James 4:4; 1 John 2:15-17; Titus 2:12).

**Section 7. Abuses of Stewardship**

**a. Tithing**

(1) According to the Scriptures, tithes should be used for the support of the active ministry and for the propagation of the gospel and work of the Lord and not be given to charity or used for other purposes. In tithing, the ministers ought to be examples.

(2) We recognize the duty of tithing and urge all our people to pay tithes to God. It is recommended that arrangements satisfactory to the pastor and the church be made by all pastors and churches, so that the pastor may receive regular and adequate support. We disapprove, however, of the teaching that all tithes necessarily should belong to the pastor for his support.

**b. Solicitation of funds**

(1) It is considered improper and unethical for ministers or missionaries to solicit funds, by letter or otherwise, for anything or any reason whatsoever without proper authorization.

(2) The purpose of this section is not to hinder or discourage legitimate projects but to protect the Fellowship from those who employ methods not in harmony with Assemblies of God principles or policies.

Leaders in local projects shall have unquestioned freedom in local churches or communities.

Projects of general interest to the district must have authorization of the district officer.

Projects or institutions of national scope must have the authorization of the Executive Presbytery of The General Council of the Assemblies of God.

Promotion of all projects of a missions character must have the authorization of the Executive Presbytery.

(3) The obtaining and use of mailing lists for promotional purposes not having proper authorization or which are not in keeping with policies of The General Council of the Assemblies of God shall be considered improper and unethical, whether it be under the name of a prayer chain beyond a local scope, chain letters, or appeals to the constituency for the support of ventures of strictly local or personal character. All offenders guilty of the practices expressed in the foregoing paragraphs shall be subject to discipline.

**c. Private ownership of religious institutions.** The General Council of the Assemblies of God approves the holding of title to all church buildings, schools, or other institutions that are supported by funds solicited for the work of God by properly constituted corporations. It disapproves the holding title to such properties by the ministers of the Assemblies of God, through private ownership, corporation of sole, closed corporation or any other type of ownership where initiative of action or final authority is not vested in a corporation of the whole. In the event a local congregation is not incorporated or set in order by the district council, title should be vested in properly qualified trustees. Where private ownership exists, a properly incorporated body shall be formed and title to the property shall be transferred to the corporation, taking into consideration equity that the title holder may legitimately have.

A disregard of this principle and recommendation shall seriously affect the relation of the Assemblies of God members involved in such ownership.

#### **Section 8. Violations of Ministerial Courtesy**

All discourteous conduct is disapproved, and all ministers are advised against interfering with pastors in charge of assemblies, whether it be by going in upon their work without consent or by such correspondence with members of the assembly as will hurt the influence of the leader. All correspondence which concerns the whole assembly shall be addressed to the one in charge and not to individual members. Where there is no pastor, letters concerning the work shall be addressed to the officers of the assembly.

Any minister who so offends shall be subject to scriptural discipline as an offender by the district officary or by the Executive Presbytery. Such discourtesy will seriously affect the granting of annual fellowship cards and may be the basis for their recall.

#### **Section 9. Ministry in a Non-Assemblies Church**

Ministers shall not be limited or restrained from entering open doors to preach this Pentecostal message, so long as they retain Assemblies of God doctrine, standards of holiness, proper attitudes, and proper ministerial conduct without compromise.

Inasmuch as unity is a vital principle for growth and spiritual devel-

opment of the Assemblies of God fellowship, it is essential that we recognize our relationship to each other and that we practice Christian cooperation in all our pastoral, evangelistic, missionary, and local church work.

We recommend therefore that our ministers confer with district council officials before engaging in ministry in any church group or organization not affiliated with the Assemblies of God so as to ascertain whether such ministry might result in confusion or misunderstandings. If the minister does not have district approval, he shall be expected to refrain from conducting services for the church. Ministers who violate this principle shall be considered as having opened the door for censure or charge which may necessitate the recall of their credentials.

#### **Section 10. An Improper Attitude Toward Those Removed From the Fellowship**

In order to render effective decisions made in the interest of proper discipline and for the protection of our assemblies, all who hold credentials shall refrain from taking any attitude toward offenders that would tend to nullify or set at naught the solemn verdict of the brethren entrusted with this responsibility. The offenders shall be subject to reprimand or, if persisted in, appropriate discipline.

#### **Section 11. The Ecumenical Movement**

The General Council of the Assemblies of God disapproves of ministers or churches participating in any of the modern ecumenical organizations on a local, national, or international level in such a manner as to promote the Ecumenical Movement, because:

a. We believe the basis of doctrinal fellowship of said movement to be so broad that it includes people who reject the inspiration of Scripture, the deity of Christ, the universality of sin, the substitutionary atonement, and other cardinal teachings which we understand to be essential to biblical Christianity.

b. We believe the emphases of the Ecumenical Movement to be at variance with what we hold to be biblical priorities, frequently displacing the urgency of individual salvation with social concerns.

c. We believe that the combination of many religious organizations into a world superchurch will culminate in the religious Babylon of Revelation 17 and 18.

(This is not to be interpreted to mean that a limitation may be imposed upon any Assemblies of God minister regarding his Pentecostal witness or participation on a local level with interdenominational activities.)

### **ARTICLE X. DISCIPLINE**

#### **A. DISTRICT ACTION**

#### **Section 1. The Nature and Purposes of Discipline**

Discipline is an exercise of scriptural authority for which the church is responsible. The aims of discipline are that God may be honored, that the

purity and welfare of the ministry may be maintained, and that those under discipline may be brought to repentance and restoration.

Discipline is to be administered for the restoration of the minister, while fully providing for the protection of the spiritual welfare of our local assemblies. It is to be redemptive in nature as well as corrective and is to be exercised as under a dispensation of mercy.

#### Section 2. The Relationship Between the District and General Council Credentials Committees

The Executive Presbytery of the General Council is the Credentials Committee of The General Council of the Assemblies of God (Constitution Article X, Sections 4 and 6). It shall have the final authority in matters of doctrine and the personal conduct of all ministers. District actions related to the termination of credentials or the remedial discipline of rehabilitation are to be in the form of recommendations to the General Council Credentials Committee.

#### Section 3. Causes of Disciplinary Action

Violations of Assemblies of God principles as stated in these Constitution and Bylaws may give cause for disciplinary action by the credentials committees. Among such causes for action shall be:

- a. Any moral failure involving sexual misconduct.
- b. Any moral or ethical failure other than sexual misconduct.
- c. General inefficiency in the ministry.
- d. A failure to represent our Pentecostal testimony correctly.
- e. A contentious or noncooperative spirit.
- f. An assumption of dictatorial authority over an assembly.
- g. An arbitrary rejection of district counsel.
- h. A declared open change in doctrinal views.
- i. A habit of running into debt which brings reproach upon the cause.
- j. A marriage in violation of our stand on marriage and divorce. (See Article IX, B, Section 5, paragraphs d and e.)
- k. Violations of ministerial courtesy. (See Article IX, B, Section 8.)
- l. Ministry without prior approval in a non-Assemblies church. (See Article IX, B, Section 9.)
- m. An improper attitude toward those dismissed from the Fellowship. (See Article IX, B, Section 10.)

#### Section 4. Right of Initiative

a. **Authority.** Occasions sometimes arise which make it necessary to deal with ministers who for some reason seem to have reached the place where, in the opinion of the brethren, endorsement can no longer be given. Credentials committees which have the authority to ordain ministers and to recommend them for credentials also have the right to withdraw their approval and to recommend the recall of credentials.

b. **Prior right of district.** The officary of the district in which an alleged

offense is reported to have occurred shall be recognized as having the prior right of initiative in matters of discipline.

c. **Responsibility of district of affiliation.** If the district in which an alleged offense is reported to have occurred for some reason cannot take action, the General Council Credentials Committee shall refer the matter, together with the facts and supporting instruments, to the district with which the minister is affiliated.

d. **Responsibility of General Council Credentials Committee.** In the event a district fails to take action within 90 days after a matter has been referred to it, it shall be the responsibility of the General Council Credentials Committee to see that action is initiated.

#### Section 5. Investigation of Reports or Complaints of Alleged Violations or Confessions of Violations of Assemblies of God Principles

a. **Within the Districts of The General Council of the Assemblies of God.** Reports or complaints of alleged violations of Assemblies of God principles (Article X, A, Section 3) or confessions of such by a minister shall be investigated. The superintendent of the district in which the alleged offense is reported to have occurred, and/or an appointed representative(s) shall conduct the investigation to determine their source and validity. It is the responsibility of the district superintendent to safeguard the church, the minister, the district, and the Fellowship. In the event such reports or complaints against a minister are filed with the General Council Credentials Committee, they shall be referred to the district in which the offense occurred for investigation. A copy shall be sent to the district with which the minister is affiliated.

(1) **Interview with complainant(s).** The persons involved shall be interviewed in order to ascertain the facts in the case and the reasons underlying the persistence of the reports or complaints.

(2) **Interview with accused minister(s).** The accused minister(s) shall be given an opportunity to be interviewed to discuss the complaints received in the hope that the matter can be resolved.

(3) **Signed complaints.** In the event the investigation so warrants, signed complaints shall be filed with the district office by the complainant(s) describing the alleged violation(s).

(4) **Conditions for ministry during investigation.** Conditions of continuing ministry may be subject to restriction during the time of investigation at the discretion of the appropriate district officers on the basis of evidence at hand and the nature of the alleged offense. Such conditions are subject to review in 3-month intervals until such investigation has been completed resulting in either clearing the person of the allegations or the filing of formal charges.

b. **Outside United States.** In case the alleged misconduct occurs outside the United States in an area under the general oversight of the Division

of Foreign Missions, that division shall take the initiative to file complete data with the district of the minister's affiliation. Any hearing or trial affecting that individual's ministerial credentials shall be held in the district of the minister's affiliation. The Division of Foreign Missions shall convey all information available to the said district as follows:

(1) *Report to district of affiliation.* At the earliest date after the Division of Foreign Missions receives a report of misconduct, such report shall be conveyed by telephone and by letter to the superintendent of the district with which the minister is affiliated.

(2) *Confidential file.* A confidential file shall be submitted to the superintendent, conveying to him all information as it becomes available to the division. A final complete file shall be prepared under the direction of the field director of the field involved and shall be presented to the district superintendent for use in any action the district may take.

(3) *Additional information.* When in the judgment of the Division of Foreign Missions or the district involved, basic information is lacking (which information may be available at the site of the alleged misconduct), arrangements may be made for the gathering of such.

#### Section 6. Preparation and Filing of Charges

If after due investigation it is determined that charges should be made, proper charges shall be prepared and filed in the district office. If no one appears to sign the charges, members of the district officary making the investigation may file charges based on the evidence in their possession. The person against whom charges have been filed shall be informed in writing by certified mail of the charges made in keeping with Article X, B, Section 3.

#### Section 7. District Hearing and Discipline

a. *District hearing.* In the event the reports or complaints cannot be dealt with privately to the satisfaction of all concerned, the superintendent of the district in which the alleged offense is said to have occurred, or the superintendent of the district with which the minister is affiliated, shall arrange for a hearing by the district credentials committee for the accused minister. The minister shall be required to appear at the hearing in the hope the matter can be resolved.

b. *Forfeiture of rights of accused.* A hearing shall not be considered as final disposition of the case until the accused be present and be allowed all rights and privileges granted herein. However, an accused member may be found guilty of charges and disciplined if he refuses to appear at the hearing, or if proof is found of willful neglect on his part to take advantage of his rights and privileges.

#### c. Discipline

(1) *Cause for discipline.* A minister who has been found guilty of violating any of the Assemblies of God principles set forth in Article X, A, Section 3, either by a confession of the minister involved or by

deliberation of the district presbytery, shall be subject to disciplinary action.

(2) *Determination of discipline.* It shall be the responsibility of the credentials committees to determine whether the circumstances of the case merit rehabilitation or dismissal. The credentials committees shall weigh decisions on: (a) the basis of the offense itself, (b) the manner and thoroughness of repentance, (c) the attitude of the offending minister toward the discipline, and (d) the willingness manifested to cooperate.

(3) *Administering discipline redemptively.* If the district determines that guilt has been established, discipline shall be administered prayerfully and in the fear of God, in accordance with the Scriptures, and as set forth in the constitution and bylaws of this ecclesiastical body (Bylaw Article X, A, Sections 8 and 9).

d. *Surrender of credentials.* The disciplined minister shall be required to surrender his ministerial credentials and his current fellowship card to the district office. In the event of rehabilitation the credentials shall be held in the district office. In the event of dismissal the district shall forward the credentials to the general secretary of The General Council of the Assemblies of God. Refusal to surrender his ministerial credentials and current fellowship card may result in placing an additional charge against the minister.

#### Section 8. Rehabilitation

Recognizing that the underlying principle involved in discipline is redemptive, and that man's conscience frequently brings him to judgment and confession, and that justice can sometimes be best served with mercy, an effort should be made to lead the offending minister through a program of rehabilitation, administered in brotherly love and kindness. The following provisions for rehabilitation shall apply.

a. *Basis.* Those found to have violated any of the Assemblies of God principles (Article X, A, Section 3) may request a program of rehabilitation as an alternative to dismissal. Rehabilitation is a privilege granted out of mercy and not a right to be expected or demanded: the primary purpose is to restore a person to God, spouse, and family; with the results leading to possible restoration to ministry. Granting such request shall be at the discretion of the district and General Council credentials committees.

b. *Period of time.* The program for rehabilitation shall continue for not less than 1 year except when the violation involves misconduct defined in Article X, A, Section 3, paragraph a, in which case it shall continue for not less than 2 years.

c. *Procedure and requirements.* The following procedure shall be used by the district presbytery in determining the specific requirements to rehabilitation for the individual minister.

(1) *Rehabilitation requirements.* The specific terms and conditions of the rehabilitation program as recommended by the district credentials

committee are to be forwarded to the General Council Credentials Committee for approval. After such approval they shall be given to the minister.

(a) *Suspension.* The minister shall be considered to be under suspension during the entire period of rehabilitation.

(b) *Extent of ministry.* The extent to which ministry may be permitted, if any, shall be determined by the district presbytery, subject to the approval of the General Council Credentials Committee. Certain offenses may not require complete cessation of ministerial activities, although some restrictions or limitations may be warranted.

(c) *District membership.* The minister shall not be permitted to transfer his membership to another district during the period of rehabilitation.

(d) *Publication.* While the minister's credentials are in a state of suspension, his name shall not be removed from the ministerial roster, nor shall his disciplinary status be published in either the General Council or district council official publications.

(e) *Credentials renewal.* He shall renew his credentials annually in the regular manner.

(f) *Supervision.* In the event his ministerial activity has been terminated, the minister must become established in a local church working under the supervision of a pastor or presbyter.

(g) *Reports.* The minister must submit reports quarterly to the district superintendent.

(h) *Ministerial benefits.* During the program of rehabilitation the minister shall continue to be eligible for benefits such as the ministers group insurance and Ministers Benefit Association.

(i) *Program administration.* The approved rehabilitation program shall be administered by the district presbytery.

(2) *District progress reports.* The credentials committee of the district shall submit to the General Council Credentials Committee on February 1 and August 1 of each calendar year a progress report relative to the rehabilitation of ministers under discipline.

(3) *Completion of rehabilitation.* When the rehabilitation program has been satisfactorily completed the suspension shall be lifted and the minister shall be restored to good standing.

(4) *Transfer of Information.* A rehabilitation information form for district use, prepared and distributed by the general secretary, shall be completed by the district in which the rehabilitation occurred when the rehabilitated minister requests a transfer to a new district. The completed rehabilitation form shall accompany the Certificate of Transfer to another district. A disciplined minister shall, as a condition of entering a rehabilitation program, sign a Limited Disclosure Agreement approved by the General Presbytery allowing the basis of his rehabilitation program to be disclosed by the district superintendent or district sec-

retary of a transferring district. The information shall be preserved for future reference in the files of the district in which the rehabilitation occurred and the General Council.

d. *Previous dismissal.* In the event a minister who has been dismissed requests reinstatement, the district shall first obtain permission from the General Council Credentials Committee before submitting an appropriate rehabilitation program as prescribed in Section 8 of this article. He shall not be eligible for reinstatement until the requirements for rehabilitation have been completed. Consideration may also be given to a minister if in the opinion of the credentials committees he has satisfactorily fulfilled the remedial requirements of such rehabilitation.

#### Section 9. Referral for Action to the General Council Credentials Committee

##### a. District recommendation

(1) *Rehabilitation.* When a minister is to be placed in a rehabilitation program in accordance with Section 8 of this article, the district shall forward to the General Council Credentials Committee the specific charges and recommended terms of rehabilitation. The district shall inform the minister involved of its action and, where applicable, the superintendent of the minister's district of affiliation.

(2) *Dismissal.* When a minister has been found guilty of violating any of the Assemblies of God principles as set forth in Article X, A, Section 3, and it is determined that rehabilitation is not feasible or fails, a minister's credentials are to be terminated by dismissal. The district shall forward to the General Council Credentials Committee the specific charges and its recommendation for dismissal. The district shall inform the minister involved of its action and, where applicable, the superintendent of the minister's district of affiliation.

b. *General Council Credentials Committee action.* The General Council Credentials Committee shall consider the recommendation of the district and shall concur if in its judgment the district was justified in the action taken. If the General Council Credentials Committee does not concur, it may remand the case, together with its recommendations, back to the district for review and reconsideration. The district shall report the results of its recommendation to the General Council Credentials Committee for final disposition.

c. *General Council to hold information.* All pertinent information relating to the disciplinary action taken against a minister shall be preserved for future reference in the office of the General Council Credentials Committee.

d. *Final disposition.* The general secretary shall notify the minister and the district(s) involved of the final disposition of the case.

#### Section 10. Right of Appeal for a Trial

The right of appeal applies to all actions of discipline and termination

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of credentials other than lapsing or resigning on the initiative of the minister. An accused minister shall have 30 days from the date notification of the General Council Credentials Committee decision was received to request a trial. He shall be apprised officially of this right at the time of the decision of the General Council Credentials Committee. The appeal is to be sent to the office of the general superintendent, with copies sent to the superintendent of the minister's district of affiliation and any other districts involved. The procedure to follow in appeals for and the granting of a trial are outlined in Bylaw Article X, B, Section 1.

### Section 11. Publication of Dismissal

No publication of a dismissed minister's name shall be made until the district has been advised by the office of the general secretary that such has been authorized by the General Council Credentials Committee. An additional 30 days from the date of the notification shall be given the dismissed minister to exercise his right of appeal.

### Section 12. Reinstatement of Credentials

a. **Authorization.** Application for reinstatement may be made through the district council within which territory the applicant resides. The application shall be considered subject to the approval of the district in which the termination was made.

b. **Minimal time-lapse for dismissed ministers.** The minimal time-lapse required before a minister who has been dismissed is eligible for reinstatement shall be 1 year, except it shall be 2 years for a minister who has been dismissed because of charges as stated in Article X, A, Section 3. paragraph a. The time-lapse shall be computed from the date of the district presbytery action as it appears on the ministerial status report filed with the General Council Credentials Committee. (See Bylaw Article VII, Section 10, for other renewals and reinstatements.)

c. **Rehabilitation obligatory.** When a minister has been dismissed from our Fellowship and applies for reinstatement, he shall comply with the procedures for rehabilitation outlined in Section 8, paragraph d, of this article.

d. **Option to refer to General Presbytery.** The General Council Credentials Committee may also hold the reinstatement of a minister's credentials in abeyance until the next session of the General Presbytery in order that the General Presbytery may have the opportunity to review the case, in which event the matter of reinstatement of such minister may be left entirely with that body.

e. **Reinstatement fee.** When applying for reinstatement the minister must include a \$50 reinstatement fee with his application which shall be divided equally between the district council and the General Council.

## B. TRIAL BY JURY

### Section 1. Right of Appeal and Authorization for a Trial

## ARTICLE X

a. **Filing of appeal.** If a disciplined minister desires to appeal from the decision that has been rendered, his request shall be filed by him with the office of the general superintendent within 30 days of his notification. A copy of his appeal must be sent to the superintendent of the minister's home district, and copies filed with other districts involved.

b. **Record of proceedings.** The district shall be expected to furnish a record of the proceedings leading up to the district action.

c. **Remanding of case to district.** If in the judgment of the General Council Credentials Committee, justice has not been served, the case shall be remanded to the district presbytery for review and reconsideration.

d. **Authorization for a trial.** In the event there is no change of viewpoint by the district, a trial by jury may be authorized by the General Council Credentials Committee.

#### c. Denial of appeal.

(1) **Forfeiture of right of appeal.** No trial shall be granted if proof is found of willful neglect on the part of the accused to take advantage of his rights and privilege of trial.

(2) **Insufficient grounds for appeal.** The General Council Credentials Committee shall have the prerogative to determine whether there is sufficient cause to authorize a trial.

f. **Surrender of credentials.** The accused minister shall be required to surrender his current fellowship card, to be retained by the district until the case has been tried and judgment has been rendered. Refusal to surrender his credentials shall be considered insubordination and may result in the placing of an additional charge against the minister.

g. **Right to appeal to General Presbytery.** A disciplined minister who has been denied a trial may appeal to the General Presbytery for that right. The decision of the General Presbytery shall be final.

### Section 2. Responsibility for Arrangements and Expenses of Trial

The appointed judge shall be responsible for making arrangements in the trial of members, as outlined in subsequent sections of this article. In the event it should appear to the General Council Credentials Committee, after consultation with the district, that it would not be feasible to conduct a trial within the bounds of the district where the alleged offense may have occurred, the said Credentials Committee shall designate a more suitable location.

The defendant shall be responsible for the expenses of his own witnesses and counsel.

### Section 3. The Judge

The district executive officers, or the district presbytery, shall select a presiding judge, who shall be approved by the General Council Credentials Committee. The judge shall be a mature, ordained minister in good

standing in fellowship with The General Council of the Assemblies of God. Any person known to be prejudiced toward the case shall be disqualified to serve as judge. The judge shall be authorized and instructed to conduct a fair trial.

#### Section 4. The Jury

The jury shall be chosen by the presiding judge, subject to agreement both by the plaintiff and the defendant. The jury shall be composed of six ordained ministers who are mature men in good standing in fellowship with the Assemblies of God. There shall be one or more qualified alternates present. The plaintiff and defendant must present valid reasons for the disqualification of a juror prior to the time of trial.

#### Section 5. Time and Place

The time and place for the trial shall be determined by the judge, with the convenience of the principals fully considered in connection therewith. Trials shall be held at a place convenient to the location where the facts of the case are available.

#### Section 6. Notice of Trial

Preceding the trial the accused shall be notified by the judge of the time and place of trial by registered or certified mail, with a return receipt requested. Up to 30 days shall be allowed to make all necessary arrangements for the trial. An extension of time may be granted at the discretion of the judge upon request by the defendant, or upon a request by the plaintiff. Such notice of trial shall be accompanied by a copy of the charges in writing, which shall be provided by the district.

Refusal of the defendant to appear for trial may be interpreted as an admission of guilt and shall result in forfeiture of his right to appeal any decision rendered and any discipline administered.

#### Section 7. Conduct of Trial

Trials shall be conducted in all fairness to all concerned as brethren in the ministry and in accordance with Assemblies of God principles and rules for trial by jury as herein defined. Considering the nature of such a trial only participants shall be permitted to attend. No discourtesy to anyone shall be allowed. Counsel in the case must conduct the trial subject to the rulings of the presiding judge. When objections to such rulings are made, they shall be written into the record, but the ruling shall stand for the trial.

Any person involved in or attending a trial, who shall engage in discourteous action or misbehavior, or who shall disregard the rulings of the court, may be held in contempt of court by the judge. The judge shall then order that the record of the court proceeding shall show such ruling. Charges or penalties may be placed against the offender. Should the defendant be found in contempt and refuse to comply with the ruling of the court, the judge may adjourn the court and submit his report to the credentials committees of the district and The General Council of the

Assemblies of God. In this event the previous rulings in the case shall stand. Such decision will not jeopardize the defendant's right to appeal.

#### Section 8. Counsel

A mature, ordained minister, resident in the district, and in good standing in The General Council of the Assemblies of God, shall be chosen by the district to conduct the case for the plaintiff. The accused may conduct his own case or be represented by another ordained minister. Counsel for the defendant must be in good standing in The General Council of the Assemblies of God and in his respective district.

Both the counsel for plaintiff and defendant shall recognize the spiritual implications of their trust. They shall be obligated to present only pertinent material relating to the case.

#### Section 9. Record and Report of Trial

Provision shall be made by the plaintiff, with the approval of the judge, for making a true and accurate record of the trial. This shall be the official record and shall be kept on file in the district office for future reference. A certified copy of all records shall be forwarded to the General Council Credentials Committee. If the offense shall have occurred in any district other than the one in which the accused is a member, a report of the findings of the trial shall be filed with the superintendent of his district. These records, as certified, are the sole property of the district council and of The General Council of the Assemblies of God and are to be held in their respective files.

#### Section 10. Witnesses

Witnesses shall be free to testify under the direction of counsel. They shall not be required to answer questions asked by anyone other than the one presiding or the counsel who is at the time conducting the inquiry. Interrogation of witnesses and the taking of testimony from them shall be conducted in a Christlike manner, for the purpose of establishing the facts of the case.

No undue influence or unfair means shall be allowed to affect the testimony of witnesses. Opportunity for cross-examination of witnesses shall be given as the case proceeds.

#### Section 11. Order of Trial

a. **The plaintiff.** The counsel for the plaintiff shall first present all testimony and exhibits intended to prove the charges made against the defendant. No testimony except such as is relevant to the charges shall be allowed. The counsel for the defendant shall have opportunity to examine all exhibits and cross-examine all witnesses.

b. **The defendant.** Counsel for the defendant shall be allowed time and opportunity to present his side of the case and shall be granted all due respect and consideration.

Defense testimony shall be confined to disproving the charges and must not include countercharges against anyone, or use the attitude or conduct



of others as reason or excuse for the alleged misconduct. This shall not exclude the right to impeach a witness.

Counsel for the plaintiff shall have opportunity to examine all exhibits and cross-examine all witnesses.

c. **Review.** When the defense has rested, the case may be reviewed by counsel for each side, beginning with the defense.

d. **Instructions to the jury.** The case shall be given to the jury with proper instructions by the presiding judge. Such instructions shall be confined to setting forth the true basis of judgment in the case as represented by the evidence and shall in no wise be intended to prejudice the jury.

Accusation does not imply guilt, but may imply a misunderstanding or wrong information. The purpose of a trial is to arrive at all available facts relative to the case and to render a verdict based upon the evidence submitted. Judgment in the case shall be rendered in accord with the provisions of the Constitution and Bylaws of The General Council of the Assemblies of God.

The jury shall be instructed to choose one of its number to serve as foreman when it retires to the jury room. The foreman shall lead the jurors in the review of the case and shall poll the jurors until a decision is reached.

Should there seem to be no possibility of reaching a decision of a two-thirds majority after repeated ballots, the foreman shall so apprise the judge. It shall be the prerogative of the judge to determine whether the balloting shall continue. Should the jury be unable to reach a verdict, the judge shall dismiss the jury and declare a mistrial. In the event of a mistrial because the jury cannot reach a verdict, the judge shall set the date for a new trial and a new jury will be selected.

#### **Section 12. The Verdict**

The verdict shall be reached by a two-thirds vote of the jury, and when presented to the court, the judge shall announce the verdict and adjourn the court, advising the defendant if found guilty that his counsel will inform him of his further rights of appeal. It shall then be the responsibility of the counsel for the defense to advise the defendant of his rights and privileges of appeal from the decision of the court.

The judge shall file his report with the district involved and with the General Council Credentials Committee. The district shall take appropriate action in accordance with the verdict rendered.

#### **Section 13. New Trials**

a. **Right of appeal.** The defendant may appeal from the decision of a court. Appeal shall be filed with the Executive Presbytery of The General Council of the Assemblies of God, and notice of such appeal shall be made in writing addressed to the general superintendent. A copy of notice of appeal shall be given and appeal made within 30 days following the date of notification of the verdict.

In the event the trial occurred in a district other than the one in which the defendant is a member, a copy of the appeal shall also be filed with the superintendent of his home district.

b. **Bases for appeals.** Appeals from the decision of the court affecting the minister's standing in the Assemblies of God fellowship as a result of a trial may be made only upon the following grounds:

(1) **Mistrial.** When there has been error either in arrangement for trial or method of conducting the same, or in the case of a verdict unsupported by sufficient evidence;

(2) **New evidence.** After final decision has been rendered, in the event new evidence is presented to the Executive Presbytery of The General Council of the Assemblies of God, such new trial shall be authorized and conducted as herein defined.

c. **Review by the Appeals Board.** The Executive Presbytery on notice of an appeal shall appoint an Appeals Board of seven impartial ordained ministers of The General Council of the Assemblies of God to hear the case and render a decision. Appeal from a trial cannot result in a retrial at the Assemblies of God national headquarters. It shall be the duty of the Appeals Board to review the case, carefully examining the official record of trial.

All appeals shall be considered on the basis of the record of trial. No person or persons shall have the right to introduce testimony of new evidence at a review of a trial case. All such evidence or testimony must be presented in new trials. The parties involved shall not be present at a review of an appeal, but may file a written brief in summation of trial material with the general secretary.

In case the Appeals Board shall rule a mistrial, it shall be the right of that body to which appeal has been made to nullify the decision of the court and to authorize a new trial. The Executive Presbytery shall outline proper procedure.

#### **Section 14. Review by the General Presbytery**

When exceptions are taken to the decision of the Appeals Board, either by the defendant or by the district presbytery, appeal may be made to the General Presbytery. This appeal shall be addressed to the office of the general secretary. Procedure in such cases shall conform to that in making appeal from a district credentials committee action or a jury trial, and must be made within 30 days following the notification of the decision of the Appeals Board.

#### **Section 15. Reinstatement**

a. A disciplined minister shall have the right to apply for reinstatement of his credentials, according to the provisions for such set forth in Article X, A, Section 12. This provision shall apply to disciplinary action taken by either the General Council Credentials Committee or the General Presbytery, and also to action sustained by a trial.

b. A minister shall not be considered to have exhausted the avenues of remedy provided by the constitution and bylaws of this ecclesiastical body until application for reinstatement has been acted upon by both the district officer and the General Council Credentials Committee.

c. No publication of the action of the district shall be made until such time as action has been taken and authorization given by the General Council Credentials Committee.

## ARTICLE XI. GENERAL SUPERINTENDENT'S OFFICE

### Section 1. Spiritual Life—Evangelism

a. **Authorization and purpose.** There shall be a Spiritual Life—Evangelism planning and coordinating office to assist the general superintendent in implementing the threefold mission of the church. Divisions and departments shall cooperate in this priority effort.

#### b. Organization

(1) *Coordinator.* This office shall be under the direction of the general superintendent and amenable to the Executive Presbytery. A Spiritual Life—Evangelism coordinator shall be nominated by the general superintendent and appointed by the Executive Presbytery.

(2) *Committee on Mission.* There shall be a Committee on Mission to assist in promoting and coordinating efforts to fulfill the threefold mission of the church.

(a) *Function.* The committee shall offer advice, indicate ways in which divisional and departmental resources can be used in fulfilling the mission of the church, and communicate to divisions and departments the emphasis which it or the general superintendent places upon each phase of the threefold mission.

(b) *Composition.* The Committee on Mission shall be appointed by the Executive Presbytery and shall consist of the Board of Administration and representatives from the various headquarters ministries. The general superintendent shall serve as chairman of the Committee on Mission. The Spiritual Life—Evangelism coordinator shall serve as secretary.

(c) *Subcommittees.* Subcommittees of the Committee on Mission shall include such committees as may be required to give full emphasis to the mission of the church. They shall be appointed by the Board of Administration.

#### c. Functions

(1) The Spiritual Life—Evangelism office shall serve as an agency to provide leadership and to coordinate efforts through all divisions and departments.

(2) Specific functions shall include:

(a) Providing leadership in coordination of efforts to fulfill the threefold mission of the church.

(b) Planning and promoting special evangelistic and spiritual life emphases.

(c) Serving the evangelists fellowship.

### Section 2. Office of Public Relations

#### a. Authorization and purpose

(1) There shall be an Office of Public Relations to communicate information about the church and its threefold mission to the various publics of the Fellowship, including Assemblies of God publics, such as districts, ministers, Assemblies of God institutions, headquarters departments and employees; and non-Assemblies of God publics such as media, community, other religious bodies, and nonchurched peoples.

(2) The Office of Public Relations shall serve as an agency for the dissemination of news and information about the Assemblies of God Fellowship through print and electronic media, public relations helps, and other means as deemed necessary in helping the church fulfill its threefold mission.

#### b. Government and organization

(1) *Secretary.* The secretary of public relations shall be nominated by the general superintendent and elected by the Executive Presbytery.

(2) *Amenability.* The Office of Public Relations shall be under the direction of the general superintendent and amenable to the Executive Presbytery.

### Section 3. The Pentecostal Evangel

#### a. Authorization and purpose

(1) *Official magazine.* The *Pentecostal Evangel* shall be the official magazine of The General Council of the Assemblies of God.

(2) *Purpose.* The *Pentecostal Evangel* shall be published:

(a) To fulfill the threefold mission of the church;

(b) To propagate the gospel of Jesus Christ;

(c) To give proper emphasis to Pentecostal distinctives, including the baptism in the Holy Spirit and its desired effects in the lives of believers; and

(d) To strengthen the Fellowship.

#### b. Government and organization

(1) *Editor.* There shall be an editor of the *Pentecostal Evangel* who shall be nominated by the general superintendent and elected by the Executive Presbytery.

(2) *Amenability.* The Executive Presbytery, through the general superintendent, shall have the overall responsibility for the editorial content of the *Pentecostal Evangel* within guidelines set by the policy-making bodies.

(3) *Approval of budget changes.* It is understood that changes in style and format affecting the budget of the Gospel Publishing House shall not be initiated without the approval of the Board of Publication.

### Section 4. Advance Magazine

#### a. Authorization and purpose

(1) *Liaison.* Advance magazine shall be the principal liaison between Assemblies of God ministers and national headquarters ministries.

(2) *Purpose.* *Advance* magazine shall be published:

- (a) To fulfill the threefold mission of the church;
- (b) To provide ministerial helps, administration aids, and program promotional materials;
- (c) To serve the pastor with principles and methods that assist in clarifying the mission, objective, and strategies for the local church; and
- (d) To announce and promote emphases and programs of the Assemblies of God.

**b. Government and organization**

(1) *Editor.* There shall be an editor who shall be nominated by the general superintendent and elected by the Executive Presbytery.

(2) *Amenability.* The Executive Presbytery through the general superintendent shall have the overall responsibility for the editorial content of the *Advance* magazine within the guidelines set by the policy-making bodies.

(3) *Budget support and changes.* Funding for *Advance* magazine shall be derived from ministers' contributions to the General Council and revenue from advertising of Headquarters' ministries, related institutions, and selected independent suppliers. Changes in style and format affecting the budget of the Gospel Publishing House shall not be initiated without the approval of the Board of Publication.

**ARTICLE XII. NATIONAL DIRECTORS****Section 1. Purpose and Scope**

National directors shall be selected to serve as the heads of the various divisions of The General Council of the Assemblies of God as need may require. They shall be responsible to the Executive Presbytery and supervised by the general superintendent within guidelines set forth by the policy-making bodies.

**Section 2. Selection**

a. The Executive Presbytery shall make a careful survey of the Movement for potential candidates when seeking to fill national director positions.

b. The national directors shall be elected by the Executive Presbytery, subject to the ratification of the General Presbytery. Their terms of office shall continue for 2 years or until their successors qualify.

c. All national directors shall be members of the Assemblies of God.

d. The Executive Presbytery shall determine the salaries of the national directors.

**Section 3. Duties**

The duties of a national director shall include the following:

- a. He shall be charged with the operational function of the division in accordance with the job description provided by the Executive Presbytery.
- b. He shall have the prerogative of presenting the programs and budgets of the division in person to the Executive Presbytery for approval.
- c. He shall coordinate the various functions of the departments in such a manner as to provide needed services and ministries for the constituency with efficiency and economy.

**ARTICLE XIII. DIVISION OF CHRISTIAN HIGHER EDUCATION**

a. *Sphere of authority.* There shall be a Division of Christian Higher Education which shall have general oversight of the Department of Postsecondary Education, development, and nontraditional aspects of our educational endeavors.

b. *Purpose.* The purpose of the division is to fulfill the Great Commission which mandates reaching and winning the lost, and teaching and training for life and service through:

- (1) guiding in the development of a higher education system and structure;
- (2) guiding in the development of programs in nontraditional and continuing education; and in its sphere of activity seeking to fulfill the threefold mission of the Assemblies of God;
- (3) directing the national promotion of Assemblies of God higher education and developing resources in cooperation with the Assemblies of God Foundation for all postsecondary institutions endorsed by the Board of Christian Higher Education.

c. *National director.* The Executive Presbytery shall elect a national director subject to the ratification of the General Presbytery. He shall be charged with the operation of the Division of Christian Higher Education.

d. *Amenability.* The division and all of its departments shall be amenable to and under the general supervision of the Executive Presbytery and the General Presbytery.

e. *Board of Christian Higher Education.* There shall be a Board of Christian Higher Education which shall consist of 20 members to be constituted as follows: the national director of the Division of Christian Higher Education, who shall serve as chairman; the secretary of the Postsecondary Education Department, who shall serve as secretary; an executive presbyter; four pastors who have demonstrated zeal and support for Assemblies of God higher education, nominated by the Executive Presbytery subject to election by the General Presbytery, (not associated with the internal administration of an Assemblies of God college, and distributed equally across the United States); three lay members of college boards, three chairpersons of college boards, six presidents of endorsed colleges; and the general superintendent (ex officio).

- (1) *Selection of board.* Those members of the Board of Christian Higher Education not serving by virtue of office shall be selected as

follows: The executive presbyter shall be selected by the Executive Presbytery. The four pastors shall be elected by the General Presbytery during its annual meeting; the three lay members, three chairmen, and six presidents shall be appointed to the board by the Executive Presbytery in such a way that all endorsed institutions are represented in rotation. The presidents shall be nominated on a rotating basis with at least 2 years elapsing before a president can be returned to the board.

(2) *Terms of office.* The members of the Board of Christian Higher Education who do not serve by virtue of office shall serve for terms of 3 years or until their successors qualify. Terms shall be so arranged that approximately one third expire each year. Members may be appointed for one succeeding term, except the presidents and the chairperson of college boards who may serve only a single 3-year term and will then be replaced.

(3) *Authority and amenability.* The government and work of the Division of Christian Higher Education shall be vested in and committed to the Board of Christian Higher Education. It shall conduct its own meetings annually. The presidents of endorsed colleges and institutions who are not members of the board are invited to the meetings of the Board of Christian Higher Education at their own expense, with the privilege of the floor but without the privilege of voting. The board shall be amenable to and under the general supervision of the Executive Presbytery and the General Presbytery. The authority of the Board of Christian Higher Education shall include:

(a) To supervise the activities of the Division of Christian Higher Education and the department(s) within it as well as the committees functioning under it in fulfilling the division and departmental mission.

(b) To review the endorsement of Assemblies of God postsecondary schools on the basis of endorsement criteria developed by the Board of Christian Higher Education and approved by the Executive Presbytery, and taking appropriate action with regard to the renewal of such endorsement as recommended by a subcommittee which the board shall establish for this purpose.

(c) As determined by the needs of the Fellowship, developing the Assemblies of God education structure through advice and counsel, including recommendations concerning forming, merging, or the continuation of Assemblies of God postsecondary schools.

(4) *Executive committee.* There shall be an executive committee of the Board of Christian Higher Education that shall meet if necessary to conduct business when the Board of Christian Higher Education is not in session. The executive committee shall consist of seven members including the general superintendent, the national director of Christian Higher Education, the secretary of the Postsecondary Education Department, one pastor, one college president, one layman, and one chair-

man of a college board. Those not serving by virtue of office shall be selected by the Board of Christian Higher Education.

## Section 1. Postsecondary Education Department

### a. Authorization and purpose

(1) *Responsibility.* There shall be a Postsecondary Education Department which shall have as its purpose working toward and facilitating the development of a coordinated system of higher education in the Assemblies of God endorsed by the Board of Christian Higher Education and comprised of soundly conceived, strong institutions which are equal in status before the Board of Christian Higher Education and equal in support by the entire Fellowship. The Board of Christian Higher Education, working through the department, may encourage the taking of intermediate steps on a regional or cross-regional basis to achieve this general objective. The department shall be responsible for supervising and promoting those education activities of the Assemblies of God which do not usually occur as part of the congregational life of the local church or which have not been constitutionally assigned to other departments of The General Council of the Assemblies of God. Such promotion and supervision shall not infringe upon the sovereignty of the various districts and churches. This responsibility shall include junior colleges, senior colleges, Bible institutes, Bible colleges, and graduate schools.

(2) *Purpose.* The primary responsibility of this department in its field of activity shall be to act as an agency of the church in fulfilling its threefold mission.

### b. Government and organization

(1) *Department secretary.* The Executive Presbytery in consultation with the national director shall be empowered to appoint a department secretary who shall serve under the national director of the Division of Christian Higher Education.

(2) *Committee on postsecondary education.* There shall be a committee on postsecondary education which shall consist of the presidents of all endorsed Assemblies of God postsecondary institutions, one of whom shall serve as chairperson. The secretary of the Postsecondary Education Department shall be a member by virtue of office and shall serve as resource person and secretary of the committee. The national director of the division shall be an ex officio member. The chairperson shall be chosen by the committee. The committee shall report to the board through the chairperson.

c. *Duties and functions.* It shall be the responsibility of the Postsecondary Education Department to seek to maintain a high level of spirituality in all the schools and to guard against any departure from the doctrines set forth in our Statement of Fundamental Truths. This department shall also encourage educational and administrative efficiency in the various schools.

It shall also be responsible to stimulate and encourage interest in Christian postsecondary education and to promote enrollment at the various Assemblies of God schools.

It shall be the duty of the Postsecondary Education Department to conduct a continuous study of the educational institutions and services of the Assemblies of God with the view of their increased effectiveness. The department shall seek to correlate all educational efforts into a unified program. To this end, it shall have the following specific rights and functions:

(1) *New schools.* It may offer guidance and counsel in the opening of new schools and may take the initiative in guiding and encouraging the establishment of such schools.

(2) *Expansion of school services.* It may recommend broadening the scope of individual school services.

(3) *Standard of endorsement.* It may develop standards to which all schools of the Assemblies of God shall be required to conform in order to receive endorsement. These standards may include the qualifications of the faculty and staff; the required subjects of the curriculum; the length of class periods, semesters, and terms; the requirements of admission and for graduation; and the general regulations of school life.

(4) *General service to all schools.* The Postsecondary Education Department shall serve the various schools of the Assemblies of God as a faculty placement bureau. It may supply to school staffs and faculties ideas and suggestions for more efficient operation and may publish an interschool periodical to this end. It may publish an educational directory. It may also promote and conduct faculty seminars.

#### **d. Rights and prerogatives**

(1) *Certificates of endorsement.* The Postsecondary Education Department shall issue certificates of endorsement to postsecondary schools meeting the standards for endorsement established by the Board of Christian Higher Education after careful evaluation of said schools, with special consideration given to responsiveness to the church's mission, and shall be valid for 1 to 5 years, at the discretion of the Board of Christian Higher Education. No postsecondary school operated by or patronized by members of the Assemblies of God shall be recognized as approved unless or until it conforms to the standards established by the Board of Christian Higher Education and has been officially endorsed by the board.

(2) *Supervision of funds.* It shall be the prerogative of the Postsecondary Education Department to disburse and apportion whatever funds shall come into its possession to the various education institutions of the Assemblies of God in the way it shall consider equitable and right.

(3) *Equality of endorsed schools.* In the discharge of its duties and functions and the exercise of its rights and prerogatives, the Postsecondary Education Department shall consider all endorsed Assemblies

of God schools as on an equal basis, regardless of origin, ownership, or control. All schools which are endorsed by the Postsecondary Education Department shall enjoy equal rights of publicity and emphasis in Assemblies of God publications and in the promotional work of the Postsecondary Education Department.

(4) *Textbooks.* It shall be the prerogative of the Postsecondary Education Department to seek to provide textbooks for our schools reflecting the Assemblies of God doctrine and policy.

### **Section 2. Nontraditional Education**

#### **a. Authorization and purpose**

(1) The Division of Christian Higher Education shall give oversight to the nontraditional aspects of our educational endeavors. This shall include extension education, external studies, weekend programs, intensive ministers institutes and seminars, and credit for life experience for development of the Assemblies of God in general. The division shall develop criteria for nontraditional education programs to insure integrity.

(2) The primary responsibility of this field of activity shall be to act as an agency of the church in fulfilling its threefold mission.

#### **b. Government and organization**

(1) The national director of the Division of Christian Higher Education shall administer this field of activity with the provision that as growth appears, a representative may be appointed by the Executive Presbytery to function under his direction.

(2) There shall be a committee on nontraditional education that shall be constituted as follows: The national director of the Division of Christian Higher Education; the president of Berean College; two representatives from other endorsed schools with nontraditional education programs; the national director of the Division of Communications representing the Media Center; a district secretary; and a pastor. The committee members not serving by virtue of office shall be selected by the Executive Presbytery.

### **Section 3. Resource Development**

The national director of the Division of Christian Higher Education shall work with and encourage the Assemblies of God Foundation in its development efforts for all postsecondary institutions endorsed by the Board of Christian Higher Education. The Division of Christian Higher Education shall provide the Assemblies of God Foundation with the pro rata distribution formulas for the institutions eligible to receive distributions and grants from the Assemblies of God Foundation.

## **ARTICLE XIV. DIVISION OF CHRISTIAN EDUCATION**

**a. Sphere of authority.** There shall be a Division of Christian Education which shall have general oversight of the Sunday School Promotion and

Training Department, the Sunday School Curriculum and Literature Department, the Sunday School Field Ministries and Literature Sales Department, and Christian school representative.

**b. Purpose.** The purpose of the division is to fulfill the Great Commission, which mandates reaching and winning the lost, and teaching and training for life and service through:

- (1) promoting the development of Sunday schools, Christian schools (K-12), and lay education at the local church level;
- (2) providing curricular materials and services for Sunday schools, Christian schools (K-12), and adult lay education.

**c. National director.** The Executive Presbytery shall elect a national director subject to the ratification of the General Presbytery. He shall be charged with the operation of the Division of Christian Education.

**d. Amenability.** The division and all of its departments shall be amenable to and under the general supervision of the Executive Presbytery and the General Presbytery.

**e. Board of Christian Education.** There shall be a Board of Christian Education consisting of 17 members to be constituted as follows: The national director of the Division of Christian Education who shall serve as chairman; the secretary of the Sunday School Promotion and Training Department; the editor in chief of the Sunday School Curriculum and Literature Department; the secretary of the Sunday School Field Ministries and Literature Sales Department; the Christian school representative; four pastors of demonstrated support for education (representative of churches of 0-99, 100-299, 300-499, 500-plus, regional distribution); two local church Christian education directors; two district Christian education directors (providing some regional distribution); a professor of Christian education from one of the endorsed colleges; the president of the Association of Christian Teachers and Schools (ACTS); an executive presbyter; and the general superintendent (ex officio). The chairperson shall designate the secretary of the board.

(1) *Selection of board.* Those members not serving by virtue of office shall be selected as follows: the members shall be elected by the Executive Presbytery and ratified by the General Presbytery. Effort shall be made to provide general geographical distribution in these nominations.

(2) *Terms of office.* The members of the Board of Christian Education who do not serve by virtue of office shall serve for terms of 3 years or until their successors qualify. Terms shall be so arranged that approximately one third of them expire each year. Members may be appointed for one succeeding term.

(3) *Authority and amenability.* The government and work of the Division of Christian Education shall be vested in and committed to the Board of Christian Education. It shall conduct its own meetings an-

nually. The board shall be amenable to and under the general supervision of the Executive Presbytery and the General Presbytery. The authority of the Board of Christian Education shall include: supervising the activities of the Division of Christian Education and the departments within it, as well as the committees functioning under it, in fulfilling the divisional and departmental mission.

(4) *Executive Committee.* There shall be an executive committee of the Board of Christian Education which shall meet as needed to carry out the decisions of the Board of Christian Education. The executive committee shall consist of seven members including the national director of Christian Education, the secretary of the Sunday School Promotion and Training Department, the editor in chief of the Sunday School Curriculum and Literature Department, the secretary of the Sunday School Field Ministries and Literature Sales Department, the Christian school representative, one pastor, and one district Christian education director. Those not serving by virtue of office shall be selected by the Board of Christian Education.

#### Section 1. Sunday School Curriculum and Literature Department

##### a. Authorization and purpose

(1) There shall be a Sunday School Curriculum and Literature Department which shall be charged with the responsibility of preparing all literature, curriculum, and educational materials provided by The General Council of the Assemblies of God for Sunday schools, Christian schools (K-12), and adult lay education in the local church.

##### b. Government and organization

(1) *Editor in chief.* There shall be an editor in chief who shall serve under the national director of the Division of Christian Education in supervising the work of the department. He shall be appointed by the Executive Presbytery.

(2) *Responsibility of Executive Presbytery.* The Executive Presbytery shall have the overall responsibility for the editorial and curricular content of all publications and periodicals within the guidelines set by the policy-making bodies.

(3) *Approval for budget changes.* New materials or changes in style or format which affect the budget of the Gospel Publishing House must have the approval of the Board of Publication before being initiated.

#### Section 2. Sunday School Promotion and Training Department

##### a. Authorization and purpose

(1) There shall be a Sunday School Promotion and Training Department which shall be responsible to encourage and promote the development of Sunday schools and local church adult lay education.

(2) The primary responsibility of this department in its field of activity shall be to act as an agency of the church in fulfilling its threefold mission.

(3) The functions of the Sunday School Promotion and Training Department further shall include:

- (a) To assist districts and local churches in setting up effective programs in Sunday school, adult lay education, and other educational activities of the local church, such as vacation Bible school.
- (b) To promote and conduct Sunday School conventions on a national and regional basis.
- (c) To encourage and conduct training programs for teachers and workers.
- (d) To produce manuals, handbooks, brochures, and promotional literature.

**b. Government and organization**

(1) *Department secretary.* The Executive Presbytery in consultation with the national director shall be empowered to appoint a department secretary who shall serve under the national director of the Division of Christian Education.

**c. District organization(s)**

(1) Provision shall be made for a district Sunday school department in each district of the Assemblies of God. The purpose shall be:

(a) To coordinate national, district, sectional, and local efforts for Sunday school, Christian school (K-12), and adult lay education efficiency, growth, and development.

(b) To encourage every Sunday school in the district to establish written operational policies based on "Directions—For the Decade of Harvest."

(c) To promote Sunday school, church school, and adult lay education efficiency through seminars, tours, conventions, or by any other acceptable means.

(2) There may be a district Sunday school director. He shall be chosen in keeping with the district constitution and bylaws.

(3) There may be a district constitution and bylaws which shall be presented to the district council for approval.

(4) Time may be given throughout the year for the advancement of all phases of the district and national Sunday school calendar.

**d. Boys and Girls Missionary Crusade.** Boys and Girls Missionary Crusade shall be recognized as the children's missions education program of the Division of Christian Education and the children's missions fundraising program of the Division of Christian Education of the Assemblies of God. The mission of BGMC shall be to multiply the efforts of foreign and home missionaries by providing evangelism and education resources deemed necessary for reaching our world with the gospel of Jesus Christ. There shall be a BGMC constitution and bylaws guiding the program and disbursement of funds which shall be approved by the Executive Presbytery.

**e. Official Publication.** The *Christian Education Counselor* shall be

recognized as the official publication of the Division of Christian Education and the Sunday School Promotion and Training Department.

**Section 3. Sunday School Field Ministries and Literature Sales Department**

**a. Authorization and purpose**

(1) There shall be a Sunday School Field Ministries and Literature Sales Department which shall be responsible for the promotion and sale of all material produced by the Division of Christian Education.

(2) The primary responsibility of this department in its field of activity shall be to act as an agency of the church in fulfilling its threefold mission.

**b. Government and organization**

(1) *Department secretary.* The Executive Presbytery in consultation with the national director shall be empowered to appoint a department secretary who shall serve under the national director of the Division of Christian Education.

(2) The department shall include regional field representatives who shall be responsible for promoting sales of all Division of Christian Education materials and shall act as Christian education consultants to the churches and districts.

**Section 4. Christian Schools**

**a. Authorization and purpose.** There may be a Christian School representative who shall be responsible:

(1) To encourage and promote the development of Christian schools (K-12).

(2) To assist districts and local churches in setting up effective Christian school (K-12) programs.

(3) Within his/her field, to assist the church in fulfilling its threefold mission.

**b. Government and organization.** The Executive Presbytery, in consultation with the national director, shall be empowered to appoint the Christian school representative who shall serve under the national director of the Division of Christian Education.

**ARTICLE XV. DIVISION OF CHURCH MINISTRIES**

**a. Sphere of authority.** There shall be a Division of Church Ministries which shall have general oversight over the following departments: Men's Ministries, Music, Women's Ministries, and Youth.

**b. Purpose.** The purpose of the division is to coordinate and correlate local church programs on the national level.

**c. National director.** The Executive Presbytery shall elect a national director of the division, subject to the ratification of the General Presbytery. He shall be charged with the operation of the Division of Church Ministries.

**d. Amenability.** The division and all of its departments shall be ame-

nable to and under the general supervision of the Executive Presbytery and the General Presbytery.

### Section 1. Men's Ministries Department

#### a. Authorization and purpose

(1) *Agency to fulfill church's mission.* There shall be a Men's Ministries Department which shall have as its primary responsibility in its field of activity to act as an agency of the church in fulfilling its threefold mission.

(2) *Functions.* The functions of this department shall include:

(a) Encouraging development of the work of the men at the local, district, and national levels of the constituency.

(b) Promoting the participation of men in the ministries of the local church.

(c) Developing the interest of men in supporting all programs of the Assemblies of God.

(d) Coordinating the efforts of the men in local and district organizations within the Assemblies of God.

(e) Encouraging and teaching men to engage in personal witnessing for Christ.

(f) Organizing and promoting a program for boys.

(g) Participating in sponsoring world missions evangelistic literature crusades and such other programs as may be approved in the future.

(h) Preparing and publishing handbooks, manuals, and such literature as may be needed to further the fulfilling of the mission of the church by the men of the Assemblies of God.

(i) Publishing the work of the Assemblies of God men.

#### b. Government and organization

(1) *Department secretary.* The Executive Presbytery shall be empowered to appoint a department secretary who shall serve under the national director of the division.

(2) *National Men's Ministries Committee.* There shall be a national Men's Ministries Committee which shall consist of the national director of the Division of Church Ministries, the secretary of the department, the coordinator of Light-for-the-Lost, the commander of the Royal Rangers, the coordinator of Lifestyle Evangelism, the president of the national Light-for-the-Lost Council, the president of the national Royal Rangers Council, and the president of the national Lifestyle Evangelism Council. Two additional representatives—a district men's director and a representative of a district Church Construction Corps—shall be appointed by the Executive Presbytery and shall serve a 2-year period. The national director of the Division of Church Ministries shall serve as chairman. The committee shall meet annually.

### Section 2. Music Department

#### a. Authorization and purpose

(1) *Functions.* There shall be a Music Department which shall be responsible for the preparation of music publications and for the encouragement of the ministry of music in the local church. It shall provide music seminars as may be needed.

(2) *Agency to fulfill church's mission.* The primary responsibility of this department in its field of activity shall be to act as an agency of the church in fulfilling its threefold mission.

#### b. Government and organization

(1) *Department secretary.* The Executive Presbytery shall be empowered to appoint a department secretary who shall serve under the national director of the Division of Church Ministries.

(2) *National Music Committee.* There shall be a national Music Committee which shall consist of the national director of the Division of Church Ministries, the secretary of the department, and three others appointed by the Executive Presbytery, who shall serve for a 2-year period. The national director of the Division of Church Ministries shall serve as chairman. The committee shall meet annually.

(3) *Approval for budget changes.* The preparation of new materials or changes in style and format which affect the budget of the Gospel Publishing House must have the approval of the Board of Publication before being initiated.

### Section 3. Women's Ministries Department

#### a. Authorization and purpose

(1) *Agency to fulfill church's mission.* There shall be a Women's Ministries Department which shall have as its primary responsibility in its field of activities to act as an agency of the church in fulfilling its threefold mission.

(2) *Functions.* The functions of this department shall include:

(a) Encouraging development of the work of women at the local, district, and national levels of the Fellowship.

(b) Correlating the work of the women with the needs represented by foreign missions, home missions, and benevolences in such a way that the needs may be met quickly and equitably, with each district and local group carrying its proportionate share of service.

(c) Encouraging district and local groups to view their service as a spiritual ministry and stewardship in which faithfulness is important.

(d) Encouraging the women of the Fellowship to engage in the ministry of personal witnessing and the ministry of intercessory prayer.

(e) Offering encouragement and assistance to district leaders and local groups for organization and operation.

(f) Conducting conventions, seminars, and rallies concerning Women's Ministries and its program.



- (g) Organizing and promoting a program for girls.
- (h) Preparing and publishing handbooks and manuals and issuing such bulletins as may be needed to implement the department program.
- (i) Publicizing the Women's Ministries through the media of the *Pentecostal Evangel* and other periodicals as opportunity affords.

#### b. Government and organization

(1) *Department secretary.* The Executive Presbytery shall be empowered to appoint a department secretary who shall serve under the national director of the Division of Church Ministries.

(2) *National Women's Ministries Committee.* There shall be a national Women's Ministries Committee which shall consist of the national director of the Division of Church Ministries and the secretary of the department by virtue of office; two other persons from within the department recommended by the department secretary to represent Women's Ministries and its auxiliary, and four representatives from the field who represent the areas of Women's Ministries, all of whom shall be appointed by the Executive Presbytery, to serve for a 2-year period. The national director of the Division of Church Ministries shall serve as chairman. The committee shall meet annually.

#### c. Funds

(1) *National Women's Ministries Day offerings.* An annual National Women's Ministries Day shall be observed at which time the ministry of the department shall be promoted. It is recommended that an offering be received in each church which shall be sent to the national Women's Ministries Department for use in support of the national office and to aid in costs of services it offers to district and local units.

(2) *Tithing of income to district and national offices.* To aid further in support of the work at both district and national levels, it is urged that each local Women's Ministries group shall be faithful in tithing its income into the district Women's Ministries office and the district Women's Ministries office in turn to tithe to the national office.

### Section 4. Youth Department

#### a. Authorization and purpose.

(1) *Responsibilities.* There shall be a national Youth Department which shall have the responsibility of encouraging and promoting ministry to youth in every district, section, and local church.

(2) *Agency to fulfill church's mission.* The primary responsibility of this department in its field of activity shall be to act as an agency of the church in fulfilling its threefold mission: evangelization of the world, worshipping God, and building a body of saints being perfected in the image of His Son. In part, it shall fulfill this responsibility by planning and promoting ministry directed toward the youth of the Assemblies of God, encouraging them to fulfill the threefold mission of the church.

(3) *Focus.* The primary focus of ministry shall be:

- (a) to those persons aged 12 through their early 20s (in education, seventh grade through college), and
- (b) to district youth directors, sectional and local youth leaders.

(4) *Function.* The primary function of this department shall be to win youth to Jesus Christ, build them into disciples by training them to be an integral and productive part of the church, and send them into ministry. Additional functions shall include:

- (a) Encouraging and helping equip district, sectional, and local youth ministries to involve and train youth in the areas of evangelism, worship, fellowship, and discipleship.
- (b) Coordinating national programs such as Speed-the-Light, Bible Quiz, Youth Alive, Ambassadors in Mission, Discipleship, etc.
- (c) Preparing and publishing evangelistic, inspirational, training, and promotional materials for youth, youth leaders, and local youth ministries.

(d) Ministering to youth and youth leaders through seminars, tours, retreats, conventions, and other feasible and acceptable means.

#### b. Government and organization

(1) *Department secretary.* The Executive Presbytery shall be empowered to appoint a department secretary who shall serve under the national director of the Division of Church Ministries.

(2) *National Youth Committee.* There shall be a national Youth Committee which shall consist of the national director of the Division of Church Ministries, the secretary of the department, a representative from each of the eight geographical areas, and a representative from the language districts to be appointed by the Executive Presbytery. The term shall be for 3 years. Each person holding a supervisory level position in the national Youth Department will also serve on the committee. The secretary of the Youth Department shall serve as chairman. The committee shall meet at least once a year.

#### c. District youth ministries

(1) It is recommended provision be made for a district youth department in each district of the Assemblies of God. The purpose shall be:

- (a) To win youth, reaching them with the gospel of Jesus Christ; build youth by training them to be an integral and productive part of the church; and send youth into ministry within the church, community, and world.
- (b) To design and promote ministries which will involve youth in evangelism, worship, fellowship, and discipleship.
- (c) To coordinate national, district, sectional, and local youth ministry programs.

(2) There shall be a district youth director. He shall be chosen in keeping with the district constitution and bylaws.

**d. Sectional youth ministries**

(1) It is recommended that provision be made for a sectional youth ministry in each section of the Assemblies of God.

(2) The purpose of the sectional youth ministry shall be to promote, plan, and implement ministries and events which help the local church fulfill its mission of winning, building, and sending youth.

(3) The sectional youth ministry shall represent district and national youth ministries.

(4) The sectional youth representative shall be chosen in keeping with the district constitution and bylaws.

**e. Local youth ministries**

(1) All churches are urged to develop a vigorous youth ministry; to give every youth in their community a clear, personal presentation of the gospel of Jesus Christ; to train and equip youth leaders; to involve every youth in the process of discipleship; and to involve every youth in the cause of world evangelization.

(2) Youth ministries, as any other ministry of the church, will come under the general supervision of the pastor. His counsel, advice, and direction shall be sought and respected.

**f. Speed-the-Light offerings**

(See Article XXV. World Missions Plan, Section 2.)

**ARTICLE XVI. ELECTRONIC MEDIA BOARD**

**a. Authorization and purpose.** There shall be an Electronic Media Board which shall be responsible to serve the Fellowship in implementing the threefold mission of the church through television, radio, audiovisuals, and similar media.

**b. Government and organization**

(1) *Electronic Media Board.* The Executive Presbytery shall appoint members of the Electronic Media Board. Members shall be appointed for 2 years or until their successors are appointed. Members may be reappointed.

(2) *Electronic Media Board Composition.* The Electronic Media Board shall be chaired by a resident member of the Executive Presbytery, under the direction of the Executive Presbytery, and amenable to the Executive Presbytery and the General Presbytery. Other members of the board shall include two additional resident members of the Executive Presbytery, the general manager of the Media Center, the secretary of Broadcast Ministries, and four other individuals selected for their expertise in the area of media and/or marketing. The board shall meet annually or at the call of the chairman.

(3) *Media Coordinating Committee.* The Executive Presbytery shall

appoint members of the Media Coordinating Committee. This committee would consist of at least one resident executive, two national directors, the secretary of Broadcast Ministries, and the general manager of the Media Center. The basic function of the committee is to serve as a nonlegislative resource committee serving both the Media Center and Broadcast Ministries. This committee shall be cochaired by the secretary of Broadcast Ministries and the general manager of the Media Center, either of whom shall have the option to call meetings as needed.

**Section 1. Media Center**

**a. Authorization and purpose.** There shall be a Media Center. Its responsibilities shall include, but not be limited to, the following operations and ministries to assist toward fulfilling the threefold mission of the church:

(1) Provide audio and video services to departments, ministries, and institutions of the Assemblies of God. The media production center will also initiate, create, and market such products and programs that will further the work of the church;

(2) Acquire and maintain such equipment as necessary to produce video, audiovisual and audio materials, products, and programs;

(3) Build and maintain a library of videotapes, films, filmstrips, and other audiovisual resources which will be made available on a sale and rental basis to Assemblies of God churches and to produce a catalog of these items, including those produced by the Assemblies of God and other producers; and

(4) Provide additional services as authorized by the Executive Presbytery.

**b. General manager.** The Executive Presbytery shall appoint a general manager of the Media Center who shall be amenable to the Electronic Media Board.

**Section 2. Broadcast Ministries Department**

**a. Authorization and purpose.** There shall be a Broadcast Ministries Department which shall be responsible for originating, producing, promoting, and funding the official broadcast ministries of the Fellowship in fulfilling the threefold mission of the church.

**b. Secretary.** The Executive Presbytery shall appoint a Broadcast Ministries secretary who will be amenable to the Electronic Media Board.

**ARTICLE XVII. DIVISION OF FOREIGN MISSIONS**

**Section 1. Authorization and Purpose**

**a. Sphere of authority.** The General Council of the Assemblies of God shall assume responsibility and do all within its power for the spread of the gospel in foreign lands. In keeping with this objective, there shall be a Division of Foreign Missions to which shall be committed all the foreign missions interests of the Fellowship.

**b. Agency to fulfill church's mission.** The primary responsibility of this

division in its field of activity shall be to act as an agency of the church in fulfilling its threefold mission.

c. **Strategy.** The missions strategy of the division shall be:

(1) The widest possible evangelization of the spiritually lost through every available means.

(2) The establishment of indigenous churches after the New Testament pattern.

(3) The training of national believers to proclaim the gospel to their own people in an expanding mission to other people.

(4) The showing of compassion for suffering people in a manner representing the love of Jesus Christ.

d. **Indigenous principle.** The Pauline example shall be followed as far as possible by seeking out neglected regions where the gospel has not been preached and by establishing self-supporting, self-governing, self-propagating national churches in all regions.

## Section 2. Government and Organization

a. **Executive director.** There shall be an executive director of the Division of Foreign Missions who shall be elected in the manner described in Article II, Section 2, paragraph c, of the bylaws.

b. **Administrative assistant.** The Executive Presbytery shall elect an administrative assistant who shall serve under the executive director in the administration of the division.

c. **Amenability.** The division and all of its functions shall be amenable to and under the general supervision of the Executive Presbytery and the General Presbytery.

### d. Foreign Missions Board

(1) **Composition.** The activities of the Division of Foreign Missions shall be under the supervision of the Foreign Missions Board which shall consist of the executive director of the division, two executive presbyters, the administrative assistant, four field directors, and eight pastors of proven foreign missions zeal and accomplishments. The pastors shall be appointed by the Executive Presbytery from the eight established geographical areas of the United States and ratified by the General Presbytery.

(2) **Terms of office.** The term of office of the appointed pastors shall be for 3 years, rotated so three will be appointed annually for each of two terms and two will be appointed in the year of the additional term. Upon completion of a term they shall not succeed themselves in office.

(3) **Authority and amenability.** The responsibilities of the Foreign Missions Board shall be to establish and evaluate policies, to offer guidance and counsel in the areas of its supervision, to establish and uphold standards for appointed foreign missionaries and foreign missions candidates for foreign missions appointment. The decisions of the board

shall be subject to review by the Executive Presbytery and the General Presbytery.

(4) **Board of Appeals.** Those members of the Foreign Missions Board who are not members of the Foreign Missions Committee shall sit as a Board of Appeals to act upon any appeal from decisions of the division. In such an appeal, members of the Foreign Missions Committee may present the case for the Division of Foreign Mission's decision to the Board of Appeals, but shall not be present at the time of deliberation or voting. The missionary or Foreign Missions Committee may appeal to the Executive Presbytery or General Presbytery from the decision of the Board of Appeals.

e. **Laymen's Advisory Council.** An advisory council consisting of eight consecrated Spirit-filled laymen from among our Fellowship, known for their spirituality, good judgment, and faithfulness, shall be appointed by the General Presbytery. They shall work in cooperation with the Foreign Missions Board in the promotion of world missions. They shall be selected from the eight areas of the nation and shall meet with the Foreign Missions Board at least once annually or as often as deemed necessary by the executive director of the division.

They shall be chosen from churches other than those whose pastors will be serving on the Foreign Missions Board at the same time. They shall have the endorsement of their respective pastors. Their terms of office shall be for 3 years, rotated so three will be elected annually for each of two terms and two will be elected in the year of the additional term. Upon completion of a term they shall not succeed themselves in office.

f. **Field directors.** There shall be four field directors who shall direct the missions activities in their assigned geographical areas. They shall be appointed by the Executive Presbytery on the basis of nominations by the missionaries in the respective areas, subject to the ratification of the General Presbytery.

g. **Foreign Missions Committee.** The general administrative work of the division shall be conducted by a Foreign Missions Committee consisting of the executive director as chairman, the administrative assistant as vice-chairman, the field directors, the heads of major departments of the division, and other personnel as determined by the Executive Presbytery. The responsibilities of this committee shall be the general supervision and direction of the work of the division and its missionaries in conformity with the established policies and principles of The General Council of the Assemblies of God and the Foreign Missions Board.

h. **General Presbytery representatives.** Each of the four fields shall be represented on the General Presbytery by its field director and two others. [See Article II, Section 2, f, (2).]

i. **Foreign missions policies.** All appointed foreign missionaries shall be required to work in accord with the published policies of the division as authorized by the Foreign Missions Board.

**Section 3. Personnel and Family Life Department**

**a. Department secretary.** There shall be a department secretary who shall be amenable to and serve under the executive director of the Division of Foreign Missions in supervising the work of the department. He shall be appointed by the Executive Presbytery.

**b. Function.** The Personnel and Family Life Department shall serve as the primary source for missionary personnel data and shall be responsible for:

- (1) Recruiting and processing prospective missionary candidates.
- (2) Physical and mental health care of the missionaries and their dependents.
- (3) Family and children's programs.
- (4) Supervision of continuing education programs for missionary personnel.
- (5) Coordination of the missionary-in-residence program of Assemblies of God colleges.
- (6) Other duties as may be assigned by the executive director of the division or the Foreign Missions Board.

**Section 4. U.S. Relations Department**

**a. Department secretary.** There shall be a department secretary who shall be amenable to and serve under the executive director of the Division of Foreign Missions in supervising the work of the department. He shall be appointed by the Executive Presbytery.

**b. Function.** The U.S. Relations Department shall manage the stateside relationships of the Division of Foreign Missions. Its responsibilities shall be to:

- (1) Coordinate public, district, church, institutional, and parachurch relations.
- (2) Provide for all Division of Foreign Missions-related deputation activities.
- (3) Perform other duties as may be assigned by the executive director or the Foreign Missions Board.

**Section 5. Communications Department**

**a. Department secretary.** There shall be a department secretary who shall be amenable to and serve under the executive director of the Division of Foreign Missions in supervising the work of the department. He shall be appointed by the Executive Presbytery.

**b. Function.** The Communications Department shall manage the promotional aspects of the Division of Foreign Missions. Its responsibilities shall be to:

- (1) Create, direct, and evaluate all promotional and fund-raising strategies and activities.
- (2) Provide for publication services in all media formats.

(3) Perform other duties as may be assigned by the executive director or the Foreign Missions Board.

**Section 6. Finance Department**

**a. Department secretary.** There shall be a department secretary who shall be amenable to and serve under the executive director of the Division of Foreign Missions in supervising the work of the department. He shall be appointed by the Executive Presbytery.

**b. Function.** The Finance Department shall serve the missionary family and the division's administrative function in all matters related to financial processing and accountability. Its responsibilities shall be to:

- (1) Execute and administrate the plans and policies set forth by the Foreign Missions Board with regard to missions finances.
- (2) Provide contact with outside agencies, associated departments, service departments, and districts with regard to the division's finances.
- (3) Perform other duties as may be assigned by the executive director or the Foreign Missions Board.

**Section 7. Research Department**

**a. Department secretary.** There shall be a department secretary who shall be amenable to and serve under the executive director of the Division of Foreign Missions in supervising the work of the department. He shall be appointed by the Executive Presbytery.

**b. Function.** The Research Department shall serve as a resource to other Division of Foreign Missions elements to collect, evaluate, and disseminate information helpful in achieving the purpose of the division. Its responsibilities shall be to:

- (1) Document all assigned major policy and program decisions.
- (2) Provide specialized research and position papers.
- (3) Gather and analyze statistical information of various types.
- (4) Serve as a resource for strategic planning.
- (5) Perform other duties as may be assigned by the executive director or the Foreign Missions Board.

**Section 8. Missions Abroad Placement Service (MAPS) Department**

**a. Department secretary.** There shall be a department secretary who shall be amenable to and serve under the executive director of the Division of Foreign Missions in supervising the work of the department. He shall be appointed by the Executive Presbytery.

**b. Function.** The MAPS Department shall coordinate all laypersons' short-term activities of the Division of Foreign Missions. Its responsibilities shall be to:

- (1) Recruit short-term lay volunteers as needed.
- (2) Receive and process all requests for short-term lay ministry including those for individuals or teams.
- (3) Coordinate all short-term construction efforts.

- (4) Coordinate all summer intern programs.
- (5) Perform other duties as may be assigned by the executive director or the Foreign Missions Board.

#### Section 9. Support of Division of Foreign Missions

The administrative expenses and emergency field needs of the Division of Foreign Missions and its missionaries shall be provided from:

- a. The assigned percentage of World Missions Plan Offerings. (See Article XXV. World Missions Plan.)
- b. Offerings designated for office expense, in keeping with the recommendation that any who do not contribute under the World Missions Plan should designate a portion of their offerings for office expense.
- c. A recommended one-half of the tithes of missionaries under appointment receiving funds through the division.
- d. All undesignated funds.
- e. Five percent of all missionary offerings (with the exclusion of special designations) received directly by the division shall be transferred to the General Emergency Fund to meet the administrative and emergency expenses for which the Division of Foreign Missions is responsible.

#### Section 10. Missionary Candidates

a. **Appointment.** The selection and appointment of missionaries shall be the prerogative of the Foreign Missions Board on recommendation of the Foreign Missions Committee.

b. **Examination criteria.** The Foreign Missions Board shall be governed in its selection and appointment of missionaries by examining each applicant as to:

- (1) Personal experience of full New Testament salvation.
- (2) Definite experience of the baptism in the Holy Spirit according to Acts 2:4.
- (3) Definite call to foreign work.
- (4) Physical, mental, and spiritual fitness to work.
- (5) Christian standing and general qualifications. It is required that each applicant receiving appointment shall have the unqualified endorsement of his/her district council, particularly in regard to effective ministry and Christian character. Applicants shall not be granted general missionary appointment until they have first qualified for ordination by The General Council of the Assemblies of God. Candidates shall prove their ministry and stability of character by a qualifying period of service in the United States.

c. **Specialized service.** Candidates for foreign service of a specialized character such as nurses, teachers, et cetera, may be granted appointment for such types of work, if properly qualified, without the necessity of being ordained. Nevertheless, such candidates shall have the endorsement of

their respective district councils in regard to their Christian experience and local church activity.

#### Section 11. Support of Missionaries

a. **A faith mission.** The foreign missions program of the Assemblies of God is a faith mission. Missionaries are urged to place their faith in God for supplying their needs. Thus missionaries itinerate among the churches to solicit prayer and financial support.

b. **Church support.** Every local church shall be encouraged to assume responsibility for support of duly appointed missionaries and approved ministries in cooperation with the Division of Foreign Missions.

c. **Undesignated and general emergency funds.** Undesignated funds and general emergency funds may be used to meet the emergency needs of missionaries who raise their prescribed pledge and cash support and submit required financial reports to the division.

d. **District support.** It is recommended that districts endorsing candidates for missionary appointment assume responsibility for their support as far as practicable. (See Article XXV. World Missions Plan.)

#### Section 12. Ordination of Missionaries

The ordination of persons for or under appointment of the Division of Foreign Missions shall be determined on the basis of their qualifications for ordination rather than on the basis of their appointment.

#### Section 13. Field Organizations

a. **National church organization.** Missionaries shall make every effort to establish indigenous Assemblies of God national church organizations in the countries they serve. Organizational patterns shall conform to practical, cultural forms acceptable to the body of believers. Close fraternal relationships with Assemblies of God organizations in other countries shall be encouraged without infringement affecting the autonomy of each national organization.

b. **Missionary fellowships.** Missionary fellowships, composed of all appointed missionaries and approved ministers abroad assigned permanently to a field of the Division of Foreign Missions, may be formed in each political or geographical area as circumstances may indicate. These missionary fellowships are to be considered as the direct creation of and amenable to the Division of Foreign Missions since missionary appointment automatically confers membership in the missionary fellowship. The missionary fellowships shall serve in an advisory capacity to the Division of Foreign Missions in matters of policy and missionary personnel relative to their respective fields.

In those fields where there are insufficient personnel to make the organization of a missionary fellowship practical, the Division of Foreign Missions may appoint a representative(s) to act for the missionaries and

the Division of Foreign Missions in matters normally handled by the missionary fellowship.

#### Section 14. Property

**a. Investment principles.** All possible precautions shall be taken to safeguard funds invested in foreign properties so that they shall continue to advance the cause of the Assemblies of God in those countries. No funds shall be made available for the purchase of property until arrangements have been made to comply with the laws of the respective countries concerning the legal holding of the title, and in order to maintain a proper relationship between these missions projects and the Division of Foreign Missions, these principles shall be followed:

(1) *Title to missionary residences.* All missionary residences shall be held in the name of The General Council of the Assemblies of God wherever legally possible.

(2) *Title to institutional properties*

(a) *General policy.* It shall be a general policy to hold institutional properties in the name of The General Council of the Assemblies of God.

(b) *Exceptions.* The Division of Foreign Missions shall be authorized to transfer title to the local national Assemblies of God organization when it deems such action to be in the best interests of the work. Church buildings or pastors' residences which are procured solely for the benefit of the local church with either local or foreign funds shall be held in the name of its national Assemblies of God organization or by a local church which is fully established and competent to hold property in its own name.

(3) *Title policy on General Council loans.* In all cases where the Division of Foreign Missions has advanced funds on a loan basis, The General Council of the Assemblies of God shall hold title to the property or receive other adequate security until the loan is fully paid.

**b. Missionary fellowship project endorsement.** Missionaries contemplating the purchase of property or erection of buildings shall cooperate with the missionary fellowship on the field and must secure its endorsement before requesting the approval of the division.

**c. Legal documents.** A certified copy of the property deeds, titles, and other legal papers relating to all mission properties which have been purchased shall be forwarded to the Division of Foreign Missions for filing.

### ARTICLE XVIII. DIVISION OF HOME MISSIONS

#### Section 1. Authorization and Purpose

**a. Sphere of authority.** The General Council of the Assemblies of God shall assume responsibility and do all within its power for the spread of the gospel to the homeland. In keeping with this obligation, there shall be a Division of Home Missions.

**b. Agency to fulfill church's mission.** The primary responsibility of this division in its field of activity shall be to act as an agency of the church in fulfilling its threefold mission, the essential function being the establishing of new churches through the auspices of the district councils.

**c. Departments.** The work of the division shall include six major departments:

- (1) New Church Evangelism Department
- (2) Intercultural Ministries Department
- (3) Chaplaincy Department
- (4) Chi Alpha Campus Ministries Department
- (5) Teen Challenge Department
- (6) Mission America Placement Service (MAPS) Department

#### Section 2. Government and organization

**a. Executive director.** There shall be an executive director of the Division of Home Missions who shall be elected in the manner described in Article II, Section 2, paragraph d, of the bylaws.

**b. Home Missions Board.** The New Church Evangelism Department, the Chi Alpha Campus Ministries Department, the Intercultural Ministries Department, the Teen Challenge Department, and the Mission America Placement Service (MAPS) Department shall be under the supervision of a Home Missions Board. It shall consist of the executive director, one member of the Board of Administration, two nonresident members of the Executive Presbytery, and eight other ministers selected from each of the eight established geographical areas of the Fellowship. Four of the national board members shall be selected from among those district officials who have assigned to them the portfolio of district home missions director.

The department secretaries of the above-named departments and the Chaplaincy Department shall serve as ex officio members of the Home Missions Board.

(1) *Elections.* The members of the Home Missions Board shall be elected by the Executive Presbytery subject to ratification by the General Presbytery.

(2) *Term of office.* A term of office shall be for 2 years and so arranged that one-half of the terms expire annually.

(3) *Authority and amenability.* It shall be the responsibility of the Home Missions Board to evaluate policies, to offer guidance and counsel in the areas of its supervision, to establish standards for appointed home missionaries and home missions institutions, and to sit as a Board of Appeal in all matters relating to the field and division decisions in its area of supervision. It shall be amenable to and under the general supervision of the Executive Presbytery and the General Presbytery.

**c. Commission on Chaplains.** The Chaplaincy Department shall be under the supervision of a Commission on Chaplains appointed by the

Executive Presbytery according to the provisions set forth in Section 5 of this article.

**d. Chi Alpha Campus Ministries Administrative Committee.** The general administrative work of the Chi Alpha Campus Ministries Department shall be conducted by the Chi Alpha Campus Ministries Administrative Committee consisting of the executive director of the Division of Home Missions, the secretary of the Chi Alpha Campus Ministries Department, and residential national staff with national portfolios.

**e. Teen Challenge Board.** The Teen Challenge Board shall consist of 18 members, 12 of whom shall be Spirit-filled members of the Assemblies of God, and six of whom shall be proven ministers or laymen from other evangelical groups. Its membership shall consist of the executive director of the Division of Home Missions of The General Council of the Assemblies of God, serving as president of the corporation and chairman of the board, and the secretary of the Teen Challenge Department, both of whom will serve by virtue of office.

**f. Home Missions Committee.** The general administrative work of the division shall be conducted by a Home Missions Committee consisting of the executive director as chairman and four others appointed by the Executive Presbytery.

**g. Advisory Committee.** The department secretaries of the Division of Home Missions together with the executive director shall constitute an Advisory Committee.

**h. Special committees.** Other special committees may be appointed at the discretion of the Executive Presbytery.

**i. National representatives.** National representatives to serve in specific areas of home missions work may be appointed by the Executive Presbytery as it becomes advisable and practical.

**j. Mission America Placement Service (MAPS).** The Division of Home Missions MAPS ministries shall function under the direct supervision of the executive director of the division, in accordance with policies and guidelines established by the Home Missions Board.

**k. Functions.** The Division of Home Missions shall provide coordination, promotion, assistance to motivate action, and the receiving and disbursing of funds.

**l. Liaison with districts.** The division and its departments shall maintain a constant liaison with the various districts so that proven programs and innovations in each area may be refined and offered to other districts. However, the supervision and administration of the work of the various ministries shall be committed to the districts where they are located.

### Section 3. New Church Evangelism Department

**a. Department secretary.** There shall be a department secretary who shall be amenable to and serve under the executive director of the Division

of Home Missions in supervising the work of the department. He shall be appointed by the Executive Presbytery.

**b. Function.** The primary function of this department shall be the establishing of new churches in cooperation with the various district councils. Practical assistance shall be provided by:

(1) Developing and promoting a fund from which grants may be provided to the various districts for establishing new churches.

(2) Developing a program to assist in financing the founding and establishing of new churches.

(3) Seeking to acquire information regarding various methods of financing and make this information available to various districts.

(4) Providing information of available materials such as evangelism literature, Sunday school materials, and other helps for the new church and supply these as funds permit.

(5) Providing promotional materials for districts, colleges, and local churches to impart vision and motivation for the planting and establishing of new churches.

(6) Assisting in the further development of programs for the involvement of students and faculty members from the Assemblies of God colleges in New Church Evangelism.

(7) Assisting in the development of curriculum materials related to New Church Evangelism for Assemblies of God colleges.

(8) Utilizing the personnel resources of our Fellowship in conjunction with MAPS (Mission America Placement Service) to assist in New Church Evangelism.

### Section 4. Intercultural Ministries Department

**a. Department secretary.** There shall be a department secretary who shall be amenable to and serve under the executive director of the Division of Home Missions in supervising the work of the department. He shall be appointed by the Executive Presbytery.

**b. Function.** The Intercultural Ministries Department shall provide ministry among those groups of people in the United States whose evangelization involves specialized understanding and preparation. These groups are those having cultural, ethnic, or language distinctiveness; those constituting specialized communications groups such as the deaf and the blind; and those otherwise forming distinguishable groups.

**c. Cooperation with districts.** The Intercultural Ministries Department shall function in cooperation with the various districts as set forth in Section 2, paragraphs k and l.

**d. Representatives.** The following ministries shall be the assigned responsibility of national representatives whose duties shall be in accordance with the provisions of Section 2, paragraphs i and k. The national representatives shall serve under and be amenable to the Intercultural Ministries Department secretary:

- (1) Black Ministry.
- (2) Deaf Culture Ministry.
- (3) Native American Ministry.

**e. National home missionaries.** National home missionaries shall be appointed by the Home Missions Board with the approval of their home districts and the districts in which the missionaries will be working. All missionary appointments and renewals thereof shall be made according to administrative criteria established by the Division of Home Missions.

**f. Home missions policies.** All appointed home missionaries shall be expected to work in accord with the policies of the division as set forth in the Home Missions Manual.

### Section 5. Chaplaincy Department

**a. Department secretary.** There shall be a department secretary who shall be amenable to and serve under the executive director of the Division of Home Missions in supervising the work of the department. He shall be appointed by the Executive Presbytery.

#### b. Commission on Chaplains

(1) *Composition.* The Commission on Chaplains shall consist of the executive director of the Division of Home Missions, a representative of the Military Chaplaincy, and a representative of the Industrial and Institutional Chaplaincy, one of whom shall be the secretary of the Chaplaincy Department, and eight others. They shall consist of two executive presbyters, two active-duty military chaplains, two institutional chaplains (one prison chaplain and one hospital chaplain), and two members at large. The commission shall serve as the endorsing agency for The General Council of the Assemblies of God. Members of the commission and its chairman shall be appointed by the Executive Presbytery.

(2) *Term of office.* A term of office shall be for 2 years and so arranged that one-half of the terms expire annually.

(3) *Authority and amenability.* The government and work of the Chaplaincy Department shall be vested in and committed to the Commission on Chaplains. The commission shall operate within guidelines adopted by the Executive Presbytery. It shall have the responsibility to evaluate policies, to offer guidance and counsel in the area of its supervision, to establish criteria for the appointment of workers in the Military, Industrial, and Institutional Chaplaincies, and to sit as a Board of Appeal in all matters relating to its area of supervision. It shall be amenable to and under the general supervision of the Executive Presbytery and the General Presbytery.

#### c. Industrial and Institutional Chaplaincy

(1) *National representative.* There shall be a national representative for the Industrial and Institutional Chaplaincy (except Veteran's Affairs Hospital Chaplaincy).

(2) *Functions.* The basic functions of this area shall include:

(a) Processing applications of candidates for the Industrial or Institutional Chaplaincy for submission to the Commission on Chaplains for its official endorsement.

(b) Providing supportive ministry for full-time and part-time chaplains.

(c) Supplying Bibles, training courses, and other literature for individuals in industry and institutions.

(d) Working among or directing ministry to individuals and their families in industry and institutions, known as Industrial and Institutional Ministries.

(e) Appointing contact pastors for the major correctional, mental health, and medical health facilities in the United States.

(f) Seeking ministry opportunities for chaplains and encouraging them therein.

(g) Receiving offerings designated for this ministry and support from its various chaplains.

(h) Assisting the districts and local churches in ministry within industrial and institutional settings.

### d. Military Chaplaincy

(1) *National representative.* There shall be a national representative for the Military Chaplaincy.

(2) *Functions.* The basic functions of this area shall include:

(a) Processing applications of candidates for the Military Chaplaincy for submission to the Commission on Chaplains for it to extend ecclesiastical approval and endorsement.

(b) Working among service personnel, known as Military Personnel Ministries, with the understanding that there shall be a proper liaison between the Military Personnel Ministries work and that which is related to the service personnel's ministry overseas under the auspices of the Division of Foreign Missions.

(c) Appointing contact pastors for each of the active military bases in the United States.

(d) Working among veterans, particularly those confined to hospitals.

(e) Seeking opportunities for ministry for chaplains and encouraging them therein.

(f) Receiving offerings designated for these ministries and support from its various chaplains.

(g) Serving as the certifying and approving authority for those applying to the military as directors of religious education.

### Section 6. Chi Alpha Campus Ministries Department

**a. Department secretary.** There shall be a department secretary who shall be amenable to and serve under the executive director of the Division



of Home Missions in supervising the work of the department. He shall be appointed by the Executive Presbytery.

**b. Function.** The Chi Alpha Campus Ministries Department shall direct ministry to the collegiate population of our society (including international students) through the establishment of an evangelizing, reproducing community of believers where students congregate, study, and live. The department provides training for staff and students to be equipped for ministry within campus communities across America.

**c. Chi Alpha Campus Ministries Administrative Committee**

(1) *Composition.* The general administrative work of the Chi Alpha Campus Ministries Department shall be conducted by the Chi Alpha Campus Ministries Administrative Committee consisting of the executive director of the Division of Home Missions, the secretary of the Chi Alpha Campus Ministries Department, and residential national staff with national portfolios.

(2) *Function.* The Chi Alpha Campus Ministries Administrative Committee shall supervise and direct the work of the department and its personnel in conformity with the established policies and principles of the Division of Home Missions and Chi Alpha Campus Ministries Department. The secretary of the Chi Alpha Campus Ministries Department shall serve as chairman.

(3) *Relationships.* The Chi Alpha Campus Ministries Administrative Committee shall be a subcommittee of the Committee on Mission. The secretary of the Chi Alpha Campus Ministries Department shall be a member of the Committee on Mission.

**d. National representatives.** There shall be national representatives appointed by the Executive Presbytery to serve with national portfolios and/or geographical field responsibilities.

**Section 7 Teen Challenge Department**

**a. Department secretary.** There shall be a department secretary who shall be amenable to and serve under the executive director of the Division of Home Missions in supervising the work of the department. He shall be appointed by the Executive Presbytery.

**b. Function.** The Teen Challenge Department shall assist the local centers through the networking of information, national curriculum, available workers, fundraising, and public relations. Further, the Teen Challenge Department will oversee the national certification of every local center. Teen Challenge endeavors to help people become mentally sound, emotionally balanced, socially adjusted, physically well, and spiritually alive.

**Section 8. Mission America Placement Service (MAPS)**

**a. Department secretary.** There shall be a department secretary who shall be amenable to and serve under the executive director of the Division

of Home Missions in supervising the work of the department. He shall be appointed by the Executive Presbytery.

**b. Field representatives.** There shall be field representatives who shall be amenable to and serve under the department secretary. Field representatives shall supervise the areas assigned to them.

**c. Function.** The Mission America Placement Service Department shall coordinate all laypersons' short-term activities of the Division of Home Missions. Its responsibilities shall include:

- (1) Recruit short-term lay volunteers as needed.
- (2) Receive and process all requests for short-term lay ministry, including those for individuals or teams.
- (3) Coordinate all short-term construction efforts.
- (4) Coordinate all summer intern programs.
- (5) Recruit, coordinate, and process all requests for short-term RV Volunteer requests for lay ministry.
- (6) Perform other duties as may be assigned by the executive director, Home Missions Administrative Committee, or national Home Missions Board.

**Section 9. Support**

Financial assistance in meeting the operating expense of the Division of Home Missions shall be provided from:

**a. The assigned percentage of World Missions Plan offerings.** (See Article XXV. World Missions Plan).

**b. Offerings designated for office expense.** Churches which do not contribute under the World Missions Plan should designate a portion of their offering for home missions office expense.

**c. Five percent of all funds contributed through the national Division of Home Missions for nationally appointed and/or approved home missions workers.**

**d. An appropriation of 10 percent of undesignated contributions.**

**e. Five percent of all funds for approved district, regional, or national home missions projects.**

**f. One-half of the tithes of all nationally appointed home missionaries.**

**g. All endorsed and/or approved Assemblies of God chaplains actively serving full- or part-time, reserve chaplains, chaplain trainees, military trainees, and military seminarians shall contribute one-half of their tithe from their income earned from chaplaincy services to the Chaplaincy Department. Industrial and institutional chaplains' contributions shall be placed in the Industrial and Institutional Chaplaincy Fund, and the Military Chaplaincy contributions shall be placed in the Military Chaplaincy Fund.**

**h. Chi Alpha Campus Ministries Department**

- (1) All Chi Alpha campus ministers shall contribute one-half of their tithes to the national Chi Alpha Campus Ministries Department.
- (2) All International Student Ministry missionaries and recognized

international student ministry campus and church staff shall contribute one-half of their tithes to the national Chi Alpha Campus Ministries Department.

(3) All Chi Alpha chapters (groups) and International Student Ministry works (programs) shall contribute 5 percent of their budget to the national Chi Alpha Campus Ministries Department.

i. Teen Challenge Department

(1) All Teen Challenge Centers should contribute a minimum of \$50 monthly to assist in supporting the national Teen Challenge Department.

(2) All Teen Challenge center ministers who are appointed Home Missionaries shall contribute one-half of their tithes to assist in supporting the national Teen Challenge Department.

## ARTICLE XIX. DIVISION OF PUBLICATION

### Section 1. Authorization and Purpose

a. **Responsibilities.** There shall be a Division of Publication which shall serve the Fellowship and to which shall be committed the management and operation of the Gospel Publishing House. The responsibilities of the Gospel Publishing House shall include the publication and distribution of the *Pentecostal Evangel*, curricular material and other literature for church schools, and such other periodicals and publications as may be authorized by the Executive Presbytery.

b. **Agency to fulfill church's mission.** The primary responsibility of this division in its field of activity shall be to act as an agency of the church in fulfilling its threefold mission.

### Section 2. Government and Organization

a. **National director.** The Executive Presbytery shall elect a national director of the division, subject to the ratification of the General Presbytery.

b. **Departments.** The division shall consist of the Marketing Sales Department, the Marketing Services Department, and the Production Department, each of which shall be supervised by a manager selected by the Executive Presbytery.

c. **Board of Publication.** There shall be a Board of Publication which shall have the general oversight over the publishing interests of the General Council. It shall be concerned with the cost and earning factors of all areas affecting publications and shall exercise discretionary powers in the budgetary affairs of the Division of Publication. The Board of Publication shall function within the framework of the guidelines established by the Executive Presbytery for the editorial and curriculum content of all publications and periodicals.

(1) **Composition.** The Board of Publication shall consist of the national director of the Division of Publication, the general superintendent, the

general treasurer, and two additional members from among the Executive Presbytery or the national directors, who shall be elected by the Executive Presbytery. The national director of the Division of Publication shall serve as chairman. The Board of Publication shall meet monthly.

(2) **Amenability.** The Board of Publication shall be amenable to the Executive Presbytery and the General Presbytery.

(3) **Subcommittees.** Subcommittees shall be named as necessary in carrying on the work of the division. They shall be nominated by the national director of the Division of Publication and ratified by the Board of Publication. All committee decisions shall be reported to the Board of Publication for approval and authorization. They shall be amenable to the Board of Publication.

d. **Amenability.** The division and all of its functions shall be amenable to and under the general supervision of the Executive Presbytery and the General Presbytery.

### Section 3. The Gospel Publishing House

The Gospel Publishing House, its plant and equipment, its general business interest, and the promotion and production of all salable periodicals and publications, shall be under the supervision of the Division of Publication and shall be operated in such a manner that it shall make an optimum contribution to the fulfillment of the threefold mission of the church.

## ARTICLE XX. DIVISION OF THE TREASURY

a. **Sphere of authority.** There shall be a Division of the Treasury which shall have general oversight of the Finance Department, the Church Loan Department, the Audit Department, and the Benevolences Department.

b. **Purpose.** The purpose of the division shall be to have the oversight and responsibility of safeguarding, supervising, and investing the finances of The General Council of the Assemblies of God and to oversee its benevolences ministries.

c. **Executive director.** The general treasurer of The General Council of the Assemblies of God shall be the executive director of the division.

d. **Amenability.** The division and all of its departments shall be amenable to and under the general supervision of the Executive Presbytery and the General Presbytery.

### Section 1. Finance Department

#### a. Authorization and purpose.

(1) **Functions.** There shall be a Finance Department which shall have the functions usual and ordinary to a Finance Department, and shall include the processing of mail.

(2) **Agency to fulfill church's mission.** It shall be the responsibility of

this department in its field of activities to act as an agency of the church in fulfilling its threefold mission.

**b. Government and organization**

(1) *Executive director.* The general treasurer of The General Council of the Assemblies of God shall be the executive director of the department.

(2) *Executive Finance Committee.* The Board of Administration shall constitute the Executive Finance Committee.

(3) *Committee on Finance.* There shall be a Committee on Finance, consisting of seven men from the constituency on the field, elected by the Executive Presbytery subject to the ratification of the General Presbytery. This committee shall be charged with the responsibility of studying the budget with the Executive Presbytery and shall serve in an advisory capacity in matters of general finance. They shall give preliminary survey and advice concerning any major project on the denominational or departmental level involving the expenditure of funds. Any project to be submitted for consideration by the General Council which involves the expenditure of funds shall first be submitted to this committee for review and advice.

The terms shall be for 3 years and so arranged that two shall be elected in each of successive years and three in the third successive year.

(4) *Investment Committee.* The Executive Presbytery shall appoint a qualified Investment Committee of no less than four members to approve and make all decisions in regard to the investing, safeguarding, and buying and selling of all investments. This committee shall meet regularly and prepare written detailed minutes. Each and every decision to buy or sell any assets for which the department is responsible shall be signed by no less than three members on a numbered form prepared to record the authorization. These forms shall be kept in a numerical sequence file for review by all controlling and reviewing bodies and auditors. The Investment Committee is hereby charged with the prudent man rule in making its decisions.

**c. Support of headquarters**

(1) *From ministers.* The work of The General Council of the Assemblies of God, in its program of developing the spirit of cooperation and fellowship in home and foreign fields, incurs considerable expense, including the financial support of the executive officers and offices.

Ordained ministers should recognize their obligation to contribute \$10 per month from their tithes, or as an offering. Licensed ministers should contribute \$6 per month and certified ministers should contribute \$3 per month. All who can are strongly urged to give more than the suggested amount, either personally or through the assemblies they pastor.

Compliance with the above requirements shall be a prerequisite for renewal of credentials of all active ministers. If their contributions are in arrears, they shall be given an opportunity to meet this deficit with their renewal.

The general treasurer's office shall submit to the respective district offices a semiannual report of ministers' contributions for the support of headquarters. Each district shall make this information available to its ministers by any of the following methods:

- (a) Collectively, through district publications.
- (b) Individually, through personal letters.
- (c) Through any other media selected by the district.

The districts shall carefully analyze the annual report of each minister and, in their knowledge of local situations, determine if he has been voluntarily cooperating with the General Council financial program.

(2) *From assemblies.* It is recommended that each church send to the General Council at least one offering for each calendar year toward the support of the administrative offices of the General Council. This offering shall be called a Fellowship Partnership offering, and shall be included with the Annual Church Ministries Report. It is suggested that each church's minimal offering be based upon its average Sunday morning attendance. A church averaging less than 50 is asked to send \$25 for the year; less than 100 but more than 50, \$50; less than 250 but more than 100, \$100; less than 500 but more than 250, \$250; less than 1,000 but more than 500, \$500; less than 2,000 but more than 1,000, \$1,000; over 2,000, \$2,000.

**Section 2. Church Loan Department**

**a. Authorization and purpose**

(1) *Function.* There shall be a Church Loan Department which shall provide loans and assist in obtaining financing for churches that need such assistance.

(2) *Agency to fulfill church's mission.* It shall be the responsibility of this department in its field of activities to act as an agency of the church in fulfilling its threefold mission.

**b. Government and organization**

(1) *Executive director.* The general treasurer of The General Council of the Assemblies of God shall be the executive director of the department.

(2) *Secretary.* There shall be a secretary of the department who shall be appointed by the Executive Presbytery. He shall serve as the church loan officer.

(3) *Church Loan Committee.* There shall be a Church Loan Committee which shall act upon all loan applications. The committee shall consist of the general treasurer of The General Council of the Assemblies of God, who shall serve as its chairman, the secretary of the department,

and two other persons appointed by the Executive Presbytery for a 2-year term.

### Section 3. Audit Department

#### a. Authorization and purpose

(1) *Function.* There shall be an Audit Department which shall conduct independent protective and constructive audits and review effectiveness of controls, financial records, and operations.

(2) *Agency to fulfill church's mission.* It shall be the responsibility of this department in its field of activities to act as an agency of the church in fulfilling its threefold mission.

#### b. Government and organization

(1) *Internal auditor.* There shall be an internal auditor who shall be appointed by the Executive Presbytery. He shall be under the supervision of the general treasurer and shall be directly accountable to the Board of Administration and the Executive Presbytery.

(2) *Responsibility.* The internal auditor basically serves management by measuring and evaluating the effectiveness of controls. His work is complementary to the independent auditor, using a similar approach but a different application of auditing techniques, independence, reporting, and interests served.

c. *Annual audit.* There shall be an annual audit of the financial records of The General Council of the Assemblies of God by an independent auditor, prepared in conformity with generally accepted auditing standards.

### Section 4. Benevolences Department

a. *Authorization and purpose.* There shall be a Benevolences Department which shall have the responsibility of administration of the Aged Ministers Assistance Fund, the oversight of Assemblies of God homes for the aged, children's homes, child placement agencies, and the administration of any other benevolent services which may be committed to it.

#### b. Government and organization

(1) *Executive director.* The general treasurer of The General Council of the Assemblies of God shall be the executive director of the department.

(2) *Secretary.* There shall be a secretary of the department who shall be appointed by the Executive Presbytery.

(3) *Administrative Committee.* There shall be a Benevolences Committee to administer the department. It shall consist of the general treasurer, who shall serve as chairman, the secretary of the department, and three other persons appointed by the Executive Presbytery for a 2-year term.

(4) *Amenability.* The department and all of its functions shall be

amenable to and under the general supervision of the Executive Presbytery and the General Presbytery.

c. *Benevolence funds.* The department shall be authorized to solicit regular contributions from the ministers and churches of the Assemblies of God. Each church in the Fellowship is expected to cooperate by sending two special offerings annually for national benevolences, or by placing the Benevolences Department in its monthly budget.

d. *Aged Ministers Assistance.* Assistance shall be made available to ordained ministers (the term includes ordained missionaries) of the Assemblies of God and to their widows, because of age or physical infirmity and for whom no other means of support is available. Eligibility shall be determined on the following bases:

(1) *Ministerial requirement.* The applicant shall have been an ordained minister in good standing and have held credentials for at least 10 years immediately prior to retirement.

(2) *Age requirement.* The applicant shall have reached the age of 65 in the case of an ordained minister, or 60 in the case of a widow of a minister.

(3) *Disability requirement.* Ministers who have been disabled to the extent that they cannot perform their ministerial duties shall also be eligible to make application.

(4) *Financial cooperation requirement.* The record of the applicant shall indicate that he or she has complied with the approved financial plans of the district council and The General Council of the Assemblies of God.

(5) *District endorsement requirement.* Unqualified endorsement must be given by the district officer.

e. *Homes for the aged and children.* Benevolent institutions of The General Council of the Assemblies of God shall be operated by boards of directors nominated by the Benevolences Committee and appointed by the Executive Presbytery. These boards shall be responsible to the Benevolences Department in matters of policy and administration, and their actions shall be reviewed by the Executive Presbytery.

f. *District Council benevolent institutions.* District councils may set up homes for the aged and children's homes and child placement agencies in cooperation with the Benevolences Department. They shall be expected to conform to the standards approved by the department.

## ARTICLE XXI. INSTITUTIONS

### Section 1. Miscellaneous Institutions

a. *Missionary homes.* The General Council of the Assemblies of God shall be in sympathy with the establishment and maintenance of missionary homes.

b. *Missionary schools on mission fields.* It shall also be in sympathy

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with the establishment and maintenance of missionary schools on the various mission fields where practicable for the training of native workers, and schools for the education of the young children of missionaries.

### Section 2. Central Bible College

**a. Authorization and purpose.** Central Bible College, a ministerial training institution providing Bible-centered courses of training to prepare Christian workers for effectual service at home and abroad, shall be owned and operated at all times by The General Council of the Assemblies of God. The college is forever bound to give Christ the preeminence in all things and bound to the Statement of Fundamental Truths and to the policies and standards as set forth in the Constitution and Bylaws of The General Council of the Assemblies of God.

**b. Board of Directors.** The execution of policy and the administration of the college shall be delegated to a board of directors in accordance with the provisions of its constitution and bylaws.

**c. Amenability.** The college and its board of directors shall be amenable to the Executive Presbytery and to the General Presbytery. The General Council of the Assemblies of God shall have control over all phases of the college.

### Section 3. Evangel College

**a. Authorization and purpose.** Evangel College of the Assemblies of God, a Christian college of arts and sciences, shall be owned and operated at all times by The General Council of the Assemblies of God. The college is forever bound to give Christ the preeminence in all things and bound to the Statement of Fundamental Truths and to the policies and standards as set forth in the Constitution and Bylaws of The General Council of the Assemblies of God.

**b. Board of Directors.** The execution of policy and the administration of the college shall be delegated to a board of directors in accordance with the provisions of its constitution and bylaws.

**c. Amenability.** The college and its board of directors shall be amenable to the Executive Presbytery and to the General Presbytery. The General Council of the Assemblies of God shall have control over all phases of the college.

### Section 4. Assemblies of God Theological Seminary

**a. Authorization and purpose.** The Assemblies of God Theological Seminary, a graduate school of theology and missions, providing advanced training beyond the baccalaureate level for ministers, missionaries, evangelists, and other Christian workers for effectual service at home and abroad, shall be owned and operated at all times by The General Council of the Assemblies of God. The Assemblies of God Theological Seminary is forever bound to give Christ preeminence in all things and is bound to

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the Statement of Fundamental Truths and standards as set forth in the Constitution and Bylaws of The General Council of the Assemblies of God.

**b. Board of Directors.** The execution of policy and the administration of the Theological Seminary shall be delegated to a board of directors in accordance with the provisions of its constitution and bylaws.

**c. Amenability.** The Theological Seminary shall be amenable to the Executive Presbytery and to the General Presbytery. The General Council of the Assemblies of God shall have control over all phases of the Assemblies of God Theological Seminary.

### Section 5. Berean College of the Assemblies of God

**a. Authorization and purpose.** Berean College of the Assemblies of God, a nontraditional college of Bible and general Christian service training, shall be owned and operated at all times by The General Council of the Assemblies of God. The college is forever bound to give Christ preeminence in all things and is bound to the Statement of Fundamental Truths and policies and standards as set forth in the Constitution and Bylaws of The General Council of the Assemblies of God.

**b. Board of Directors.** The execution of policy and the administration of the college shall be delegated to a board of directors in accordance with the provisions of its constitution and bylaws.

**c. Amenability.** The college and its board of directors shall be amenable to the Executive Presbytery and to the General Presbytery. The General Council of the Assemblies of God shall have control over all phases of the college.

### Section 6. Maranatha Village

**a. Authorization and purpose.** Maranatha Village, a retirement home and care center, shall be owned and operated at all times by The General Council of the Assemblies of God. Maranatha Village is forever bound to give Christ preeminence in all things and is bound to the Statement of Fundamental Truths and policies and standards as set forth in the Constitution and Bylaws of The General Council of the Assemblies of God.

**b. Board of Directors.** The execution of policy and the administration of Maranatha Village shall be delegated to a board of directors in accordance with the provisions of its constitution and bylaws.

**c. Amenability.** Maranatha Village and its board of directors shall be amenable to the Executive Presbytery and to the General Presbytery. The General Council of the Assemblies of God shall have control over all phases of Maranatha Village.

## ARTICLE XXII. MILITARY SERVICE

As a Movement we affirm our loyalty to the government of the United States in war or peace.

We shall continue to insist, as we have historically, on the right of each member to choose for himself whether to declare his position as a combatant, a noncombatant, or a conscientious objector.

**ARTICLE XXIII. ASSEMBLIES OF GOD FOUNDATION**

**Section 1. Organization**

There shall be an organization known as the Assemblies of God Foundation.

**Section 2. Administration**

There shall be a board of directors appointed by and amenable to the Executive Presbytery of The General Council of the Assemblies of God.

**Section 3. Investment of Funds**

The Board of Directors of the Assemblies of God Foundation shall be authorized to invest the funds of the Foundation according to its bylaws.

**ARTICLE XXIV. MINISTERS BENEFIT ASSOCIATION**

**Section 1. Organization**

There shall be an association known as the Assemblies of God Ministers Benefit Association.

**Section 2. Administration**

There shall be a board of directors elected by the Executive Presbytery of The General Council of the Assemblies of God subject to ratification by the General Presbytery. The board of directors of this association shall be amenable to the Executive Presbytery of The General Council of the Assemblies of God.

**Section 3. Investment of Funds**

The board of directors of the Ministers Benefit Association shall be authorized to invest the funds of this association in good income securities and property of the General and District Councils of the Assemblies of God and local churches of the Assemblies of God, provided that such investments are fully protected by mortgage and by note signed by General or District Council officials.

**Section 4. Contributions and Benefits**

Provisions governing contributions by members and benefits to accrue to members of the Ministers Benefit Association shall be contained in the bylaws of the association.

**ARTICLE XXV. WORLD MISSIONS PLAN**

**Section 1. World Missions Offerings**

It is recommended that all World Missions offerings shall be divided as follows:

- 70 percent foreign missions
- 5 percent foreign missions office expense
- 5 percent national home missions
- 20 percent district home missions

**Section 2. Speed-the-Light Offerings**

Speed-the-Light offerings shall be divided as follows:

- 72 percent foreign missions and home missions—Speed-the-Light
- 18 percent district home missions—Speed-the-Light
- 10 percent national Youth (CA) Department administration costs—Speed-the-Light

The portion returned to the district shall be designated for the purchase and erection of property in pioneer fields, including Chi Alpha ministries, with the exception that up to one-half of the 18 percent returned to district home missions under World Speed-the-Light shall be allowed for the administration of the district Christ's Ambassadors office at the discretion of the district officary.

**ARTICLE XXVI. ORDER OF BUSINESS**

The regular order of business for the General Council meeting shall be:

1. Report of the general superintendent
2. Report of the general secretary
3. Report of the general treasurer
4. Departmental reports
5. Unfinished business
6. Election of officers
7. New business
8. Adjournment

All business sessions of the General Council shall commence with prayer.

**ARTICLE XXVII. QUORUM**

All members registered and voting in any meeting of The General Council of the Assemblies of God shall constitute a quorum, and all general presbyters registered and voting in any meeting of the General Presbytery shall constitute a quorum. The presence of seven executive presbyters at any meeting of the Executive Presbytery shall constitute a quorum. The presence of three members of the Board of Administration shall constitute a quorum.

**ARTICLE XXVIII. AMENDMENTS**

Amendments to the bylaws may be made at any regular meeting of The General Council of the Assemblies of God. Amendments to be adopted shall require a majority of all votes cast.

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