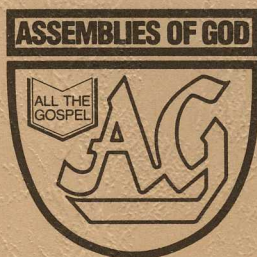


MINUTES

Revised Constitution and Bylaws

The General Council of the Assemblies of God



THE FORTY-SIXTH GENERAL COUNCIL
St. Louis, Missouri, August 8-13, 1995

MINUTES
of the
46th Session of
THE GENERAL COUNCIL
of the
ASSEMBLIES OF GOD

Convened at St. Louis, Missouri
August 8-13, 1995
with
Revised Constitution and Bylaws

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

Printed in U.S.A.

Cost: \$5 (Available from general secretary's office)

THE GENERAL COUNCIL OF THE ASSEMBLIES OF GOD

EXECUTIVE OFFICERS

Thomas E. TraskGeneral Superintendent
Charles T. CrabtreeAssistant General Superintendent
George O. WoodGeneral Secretary
James K. BridgesGeneral Treasurer

EXECUTIVE PRESBYTERY

Thomas E. Trask, Chairman	
David W. Argue	Charles E. Hackett
Tommy J. Barnett	Jesse Miranda
Almon M. Bartholomew	Armon Newburn
C. Dan Betzer	Robert K. Schmidgall
Robert L. Brandt	Loren Triplett
James K. Bridges	Philip Wannenmacher
Charles T. Crabtree	George O. Wood

ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICES

1445 Boonville Avenue
Springfield, Missouri 65802-1894
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FOREWORD

"Pentecost Now!" served as the theme for our 46th General Council in St. Louis, Missouri, August 8-13, 1995. May the experience of Pentecost abide with us daily so we may fully bring the gospel to our generation.

GEORGE O. WOOD
GENERAL SECRETARY

**MINUTES OF
THE 46TH GENERAL COUNCIL OF THE
ASSEMBLIES OF GOD
CONVENED AT ST. LOUIS, MISSOURI
AUGUST 8-13, 1995**

TUESDAY EVENING—AUGUST 8

The opening service of the 46th General Council began at 6:50 p.m. in St. Louis, Missouri, at the Cervantes Convention Center. Chairman for the service was Assistant General Superintendent Charles T. Crabtree. An opening 15-minute musical prelude was presented by Nuevas Alturas (New Heights), a musical ensemble from Southeastern College of the Assemblies of God, Lakeland, Florida.

The congregation then joined in praise and worship led by Paul Ferrin, music minister from the Rocky Mountain District. The Scripture for the evening was Ephesians 1:3-14 and was read by G. Raymond Carlson, former general superintendent. Special music was provided by the Beesleys from Ontario, Canada. Dawn Crabtree, Worcester, Massachusetts, and Marjorie Ferrin, Colorado Springs, Colorado, served at the piano and organ respectively. A presentation on behalf of the Great Commission Trust, Endowment Scholarship, was made by Randall K. Barton, president of the Assemblies of God Foundation honoring G. Raymond Carlson and the late Thomas F. Zimmerman.

The speaker for the opening service was General Superintendent Thomas E. Trask. Prior to his message, he made a presentation to Dr. David Yonggi Cho, pastor of Yoido Full Gospel Church in Seoul, Korea. Trask's keynote message focused on 1 Kings 18:41-46 and Elijah the prophet's prayer for rain. The theme of his message was "Prepare Thy Chariots." He emphasized "the Sound of Pentecost, the Prayer of Pentecost, the Persistence of Pentecost, and the Preparedness of Pentecost." He closed with a call for a time of confession: "Let us first of all confess to the Lord our sins . . . Then we are going to have an anointing." He urged the people to pray for deliverance, healing, and a fresh touch of the Holy Spirit. Following the message, Debbie Kirsch, Springfield, Missouri, sang "Touch Your People Once Again," and the service closed with an extended time of fervent prayer and worship.

WEDNESDAY MORNING—AUGUST 9

The Wednesday session began at 8:15 a.m. with a time of prayer and praise led by Dick Eastman, president of Every Home for Christ, Colorado Springs, Colorado. Tom McDonald, minister of music, Church on the Way, Van Nuys, California, and Delores Eastman, Colorado Springs, Colorado, served at the piano and organ respectively. Prayer was offered by Ron McManus, executive presbyter from the Southeast Area.

Business Session

Thomas E. Trask, general superintendent, welcomed the ministers and delegates to the opening business session of the 46th General Council and called the business session to order at 9:15 a.m.

Introduction of Executive Presbytery

Members of the Executive Presbytery were introduced as follows: Charles T. Crabtree, assistant general superintendent; George O. Wood, general secretary; James K. Bridges, general treasurer; Loren Triplett, executive director of the Division of Foreign Missions; Charles E. Hackett, executive director of the Division of Home Missions; David W. Argue, North Central Area; Almon M. Bartholomew, Northeast Area; Robert L. Brandt, Northwest Area; Glen D. Cole, Southwest Area; Ronald F. McManus, Southeast Area; Armon Newburn, South Central Area; Robert K. Schmidgall, Great Lakes Area; and Philip Wannemacher, Gulf Area.

Introduction of Retired Executive Presbyters

The retired executive presbyters were introduced as follows: G. Raymond Carlson, former general superintendent; Joseph R. Flower, former general secretary; Raymond H. Hudson, former general treasurer; J. Philip Hogan, former executive director of the Division of Foreign Missions; J. Foy Johnson; Dwight H. McLaughlin; Herman H. Rohde; and Everett R. Stenhouse, former assistant general superintendent.

Fraternal Delegates

The chairman recognized fraternal delegates who will be in attendance for the evening service and those who were presently in attendance. He extended a welcome to these friends.

Messages and Greetings

Greetings were received from leaders of other organizations as follows: James MacKnight, Pentecostal Assemblies of Canada; B. E. Underwood, The Pentecostal Holiness Church; James Gee, Pentecostal Church of God; Ray Hughes, Church of God; John Del Turco, Christian Church of North America; Clyde Hughes, International Pentecostal Church of Christ; John Holland, International Church of the Foursquare Gospel; Maurice Hart, Anchor Bay Evangelistic Association; Karl Coke, Evangelistic Association; and Chet Smith, Congregational Holiness Church.

Introduction of Headquarters Personnel

The chairman expressed appreciation to Headquarters staff serving many long hours to make this 46th General Council operate efficiently. Appreciation was expressed to John Ohlin, convention coordinator.

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

James K. Bridges, chairman; James D. Biram, Ignacio Marrero, Ernest J. Moen, Richard H. Peterson, William Nelson Sachs, Manuel V. Shoults

Parliamentary

Jay Alford, chairman; Jesse Miranda, Jr., Jesse K. Moon, Samlall Ramphal

Resolutions

Warren D. Bullock, chairman; Gale Cisneros, George D. Cope, Charles B. Nestor, Edward Peecher, Opal S. Reddin, Gene M. Roncone II, William O. Vickery

Roster

Samuel H. Henning, Wang Gi Choi, cochairmen; Terry Raburn, liaison; Jesse Weaver, coordinator; Ronald Burcham, Ron Carnett, Robert Conner, Bill Enfinger, Erich Frank, Mike Glover, Tom Goins, Isaac Gonzales, Eric Hansen, Stanley Holder, Don Landers, Marcus McClain, Derrell Miles, J. Howard Reynolds, Claudy Spilman, Aaron Victorio, Dan Wansten

Spiritual Life

M. Wayne Benson, chairman; Robert L. Brandt, Jimmy Davis, Richard Dresselhaus, Richard Foth, Saturnino Gonzalez, Delmer Guynes, Thomas E. Trask

Tellers

Rollin J. Carlson, chairman; Paul Coran, Richard Hopping, Terry Johnson, Randall Rogers, co-captains; David J. Torgerson, liaison; Jerry Arduini, Robert Baptiste, David Bazan, Sr., Glenn Beaver, Jerry Beebe, Jerry Bell, Jimmy Bobo, Joshua Botello, Mike Brecheen, S. L. Broadhead, Stanley G. Broadus, Wesley Brooks, O. Douglas Carter, David Childers, Dave Cole, Jarrol Cole, G. Robert Cook, Fred Connell, Donald G. Couch, Cliff Coursey, Joseph Daltorio, Jachin Dardar, Fred Doughty, Philip Dunn, Jerry P. Edwards, Lincoln Engelbert, Paul Ensminger, Tom Fegler, Donald Filbeck, Robert Forehand, Dave Franklin, Stephen Fulks, Ron Goff, Max Graves, Michael Greer, Robert Gruver, Joe Hancock, Jerry Hardison, John E. Harris, Obie Harrup, Frank Hawley, Jack Hembree, Greg Hickman, David Holland, John Holt, Kenneth Horn, Dean Jackson, M. Ray Johnson, Duane Jordan, John Kimball, Jerry A.

King, William Kowalski, Tom Lawrence, Mark A. Little, Rod Loy, Bob Ludolph, John McEachran, Tim McIntyre, Ronald Meador, Dewey Newburn, Bill Newby, Shawn Oberg, Sam Pawlak, Ron Pinc, John Rice, Timothy Rickman, Edwin Rimer, Randy Rowe, John Roy, David Selleck, Bradley Smith, David R. Snodderly, Walt Spradling, Richard M. Stephens, Kirk Strand, Kenneth N. Sullivan, Joe Timberlake, Steve Warriner, Gregory White, Robert Williamson, Jeff Yamashita

Operational Committees

Accounting

Clyde Hawkins, chairman; Jerry Barton, Jim Stalnaker

Children's Activities

Jim Gerhold, Kids Council chairman; Sharon Ellard, early childhood coordinator; Judy Clore, personnel coordinator; Angela Williams, crafts/games coordinator

Communications/Platform

(Program Executive Subcommittee)

Jeff Brawner, chairman; Jeff Nene, assistant chairman; Marshall Bruner, platform coordinator; Clint Davis, platform assistant; Dan Crace, music subcommittee chairman; Brian Roggow, sound

Communion

(Ushers Subcommittee)

Stanley Michael, Mike Clarensau, cochairmen; Robert Bornert

Convention Coordinator's Staff

John V. Ohlin, coordinator, ex-officio of all committees; Kerrie DeVries, coordinator's assistant; Efraim Espinoza, Sharon L. Lee, on-site assistants

Equipment

Arlyn Pember, chairman; Gary Sherman, Steve Turner

Exhibits

Carol Ball, chairperson; Melinda Booze, Rick Griep

Hospitality & Message Center

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

Music

(Program Executive Subcommittee)

Dan Crace, chairman; Ramona Crabtree, Doug Jenkins, Stephen Phifer

Photos

(Promotions Subcommittee)

Melvin Snyder, chairman; J. Derald Musgrove

Printed Materials

(Promotions Subcommittee)

Ann Floyd, chairperson; Sylvia Lee

Program Executive Committee

Michael Messner, chairman; James K. Bridges, Charles T. Crabtree, Charles Hackett, Thomas E. Trask, Loren Triplett, Philip Wannenmacher, George O. Wood

Promotions/Press

Juleen Turnage, chairperson; Hal Donaldson, John Ivaska, Rick Knoth

Registration

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

Reports & Resolutions Expediter

George Edgerly, Mike Clarensau, cochairmen

Teller's Liaison

David J. Torgerson

Transportation

Gerald Jackson, chairman; Larry Bull, Norman Gannon (also coordinated on-site phone service), John Savage

Ushers

Ken Hunt, chairman; Larry Thomas

Youth Congress

(Program Executive Subcommittee)

Doug Clay, chairman; Mark McGrath, Jim Wellborn, Lloyd Ziegler

Expression of Appreciation to the City of St. Louis

Appreciation was expressed to the City of St. Louis for its hospitality and for the kindness it has shown to the General Council delegates.

Adoption of Agenda

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

Roster Committee Report

Samuel Henning, cochairman of the Roster Committee, gave the following report as of 9 a.m., Wednesday, August 9:

Ordained ministers	3,131	
Delegates	<u>740</u>	
Voting constituency		3,871
Licensed ministers	391	
Visitors	<u>8,114</u>	
Nonvoting constituency		<u>8,505</u>
Total		12,376

The total count was the largest initial report ever given by the Roster Committee. A motion prevailed to receive the report.

General Superintendent's Report

Charles Crabtree, assistant general superintendent, assumed the role of chairman during the general superintendent's report.

General Superintendent Thomas E. Trask presented his report as printed in the 1993-95 Biennial Report.

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

The chair was returned to the general superintendent.

Assistant General Superintendent's Report

Attention was called to the report of the assistant general superintendent as contained in the 1993-95 Biennial Report. A motion prevailed to adopt the report with appreciation.

General Secretary's Report

George O. Wood called attention to his report as contained in the 1993-95 Biennial Report and gave opportunity for anyone to ask questions.

A motion prevailed to adopt the report of the general secretary with appreciation.

General Treasurer's Report

Attention was called to the report of the general treasurer as printed in the 1993-95 Biennial Report.

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

General Council Audit Report

James K. Bridges, general treasurer, using a summary statement which was distributed to all delegates, highlighted Assets, Liabilities, and Fund Balances. He noted that the report from the audit firm, Deloitte & Touche, shows a clean, unqualified opinion. He explained that the decrease of General Council assets to \$95,736,000 is due to the transfer of assets to the Assemblies of God Loan Fund which occurred on January 1, 1995.

A motion prevailed to adopt the audit report as presented.

Assemblies of God Foundation Audit Report

The general treasurer presented the Audit Report for the Assemblies of God Foundation indicating a fund balance of \$463,084.

A motion prevailed to adopt the audit report of the Assemblies of God Foundation as presented.

Assemblies of God Loan Fund Audit Report

The general treasurer presented the Audit Report of the Assemblies of God Loan Fund showing net assets of \$12,890,520 as of March 31, 1995. Kert Parsley was introduced as the president of the Assemblies of God Loan Fund.

A motion prevailed to adopt the audit report of the Assemblies of God Loan Fund as presented.

Maranatha Village Audit Report

The audit report of Maranatha Village was presented for information. The report indicated a fund balance of \$4,249,331. Appreciation was expressed to Ken Tripp, administrator, for his excellent leadership.

A motion prevailed to adopt the Maranatha Village Audit Report.

Ministers Benefit Association Audit Report

Attention was called to the Ministers Benefit Association Audit Report indicating a fund balance of \$4,600,729. Appreciation was expressed to Ethel Campbell, executive director of the Ministers Benefit Association.

A motion prevailed to adopt the Audit Report of the Assemblies of God Ministers Benefit Association as presented.

Divisional and Departmental Reports

A motion prevailed to accept the divisional and departmental reports as printed in the 1993-95 Biennial Report.

Resolution 1. Waiver of Oral Reading of Resolutions

Warren Bullock read Resolution 1 as follows and moved its adoption:

WHEREAS, It has been the custom for resolutions to be read orally at the General Council; and

WHEREAS, The oral reading of resolutions does consume, during the course of General Council business sessions, several hours of time; and

WHEREAS, The resolutions, except for those coming directly out of General Presbytery or Executive Presbytery sessions prior to the Council, are mailed at least 30 days prior to the General Council; and

WHEREAS, Voting members of the General Council, thus, have had sufficient time to familiarize themselves with the resolutions so that an oral reading is unnecessarily duplicative; and

WHEREAS, It would seem the better part of wisdom to conserve as much time as possible in the business sessions of the General Council; and

WHEREAS, A motion to suspend the rules, if adopted, would allow for the reading of a particular resolution; therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That the following be adopted as a procedural rule for the 1995 General Council:

That the oral reading of resolutions be waived for those resolutions which have been printed and mailed.

The motion to adopt Resolution 1 carried.

Resolution 3. Specialized Ministries Credential (1993 General Council Resolution 16)

Warren Bullock presented Resolution 3 as follows and moved its adoption:

WHEREAS, The 1993 General Council adopted Resolution 16 which authorized the appointment of a special study committee to examine and evaluate the merits regarding establishing a new credential grade or change in our governing articles which would allow full-time specialized ministers the ability to obtain membership in The General Council of the Assemblies of God (Constitution Article VII); and

WHEREAS, The Executive Presbytery appointed said committee; and

WHEREAS, The committee studied the ramifications of changing the present membership requirements in the General Council Constitution and Bylaws; and

WHEREAS, The 1987 General Council took action not to extend membership in the General Council to any minister other than ordained nor change the preaching requirements for ordination; and

WHEREAS, There are presently slightly more than 850 ministers holding a specialized ministry license; and

WHEREAS, The 850 plus specialized ministers divide into full and part-time and are inclusive of those in a wide variety of specialized ministries; and

WHEREAS, There are approximately 8,500 ministers who are licensed to preach; and

WHEREAS, It would seem likely that extending membership to ministers with a specialized ministry license would be followed by an appeal from ministers with a preaching license to also become members of the General Council; and

WHEREAS, There seems to be wisdom in reserving membership in the General Council to those who have met the qualifications for ordination, said qualifications being more stringent for ordination than any other category of credential; therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That this Special Study Committee recommends that no changes be made in the General Council Constitution and Bylaws regarding requirements for membership in the General Council.

The motion to adopt Resolution 3 carried.

Resolution 2. Senior Adult Ministries

The chairman recognized Derald Musgrove, coordinator of Senior Adult Ministries, who gave an overview of the ministry. Warren Bullock presented Resolution 2 as follows and moved its adoption:

WHEREAS, Those older than 55 years are the fastest-growing population group in America with more senior adults than teenagers for the first time in our history; and

WHEREAS, By the year 2000 this group will be the largest in our population; and

WHEREAS, The present Assemblies of God MAPS/RV ministry demonstrates the value of mobilizing senior citizens; and

WHEREAS, More than 3,000 Assemblies of God local congregations already have established senior adult ministries; and

WHEREAS, Most evangelical denominations have already or are in the process of establishing ministry to and for senior adults on a national level; and

WHEREAS, Retired senior adults represent the largest resource of talent, ability, and finance presently available for our churches; and

WHEREAS, Many senior adults feel a definite call to ministry and are eager to contribute to the kingdom of God locally, nationally, and internationally; and

WHEREAS, There is a need to conserve and utilize the vast treasure of experience, expertise, and excitement within Christian senior adults; and

WHEREAS, The Assemblies of God is in a prime position to serve and be served by senior adults and should, under guidance from the Holy Spirit, respond to this responsibility and opportunity; therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That a Commission on Senior Adult Ministries be established at the General Council Headquarters in Springfield, Missouri, as quickly as reasonably possible through proper procedure involving the executives of the General Council, the Executive Presbytery, and General Presbytery acting in response to Resolution 17 passed at the 1993 General Council in Minneapolis, Minnesota; and, be it further

RESOLVED, That a coordinator of Senior Adult Ministries be placed to administer this new work within the appropriate ministry division of the headquarters structure; and, be it further

RESOLVED, That the coordinator will endeavor to gather and index all existing resources from every source within our Fellowship and identify individuals and groups of senior adults from our clergy and laity who are able and willing to contribute themselves and their resources to the glory and advancement of the work of God; and, be it further

RESOLVED, That the coordinator will strive to create and organize ministry activity to utilize such senior adults.
The motion to adopt Resolution 2 carried.

Resolution 4. Ministerial Discipline Special Cases (1993 General Council Resolution 22. Statue of Limitation)

Background information was given regarding the committee study resulting in this resolution which provides for an option by the district in handling discipline cases. The chairman of the Resolutions Committee presented Resolution 4 as follows and moved its adoption:

WHEREAS, The 1993 General Council referred Resolution 22, with a proposed amendment, to a study committee appointed by the Executive Presbytery; and

WHEREAS, The intent of Resolution 22 was to ensure that ministerial discipline, which offers suspension with rehabilitation, not be punitive in nature; and

WHEREAS, There may exist occasions when a minister's life and ministry have been fully rehabilitated from an earlier failure, but the minister himself did not go through a formal rehabilitation process; and

WHEREAS, Our present disciplinary system leaves no room for discretion by the credentials committees in special situations where the failure occurred years earlier; therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That Bylaw Article X. 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 which may give cause 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.)

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

Notwithstanding the above, when more than 7 years have elapsed from an occurrence which is the cause for disciplinary action, a district credentials committee may recommend to the General Council Credentials Committee that no discipline be administered when, in view of all the circumstances, it would appear that such discipline would only serve as punitive in nature rather than rehabilitative. In all such cases, final determination shall be made by the General Council Credentials Committee.

The motion to adopt Resolution 4 carried.

Resolution 5. Assemblies of God Foundation

Warren Bullock presented Resolution 5 as follows and moved its adoption:

WHEREAS, Article XXIII of the Bylaws of The General Council of the Assemblies of God established an organization known as the Assemblies of God Foundation; and

WHEREAS, Resolution 34 of the 45th General Council of the Assemblies of God was adopted for a period of transition; and

WHEREAS, Pursuant to the substitute motion on Resolution 34, the Executive Presbytery was to prepare a comprehensive article on the Assemblies of God Foundation which is to be presented to the 1994 General Presbytery and to the 1995 General Council; and

WHEREAS, Said comprehensive article has been prepared and approved; therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That Article XXIII of the Bylaws be amended to read as follows:

ARTICLE XXIII. ASSEMBLIES OF GOD FOUNDATION

Section 1. Organization

There shall be an organization known as the Assemblies of God Foundation.

Section 2. Mission

The organization is organized for the exclusive benefit of The General Council of the Assemblies of God and all of its affiliated ministries, including local Assemblies of God churches; district organizations; national, regional, and district Assemblies of God colleges; and national and district ministries.

The organization is formed to establish, promote, fund, extend, and maintain the Christian faith according to the Statement of Fundamental Truths of The General Council of the Assemblies of God.

It shall be the responsibility of the organization in its field of activity to fulfill the threefold mission of the church.

Section 3. Administration

There shall be a Board of Directors appointed by the Executive Presbytery of The General Council of the Assemblies of God, subject to ratification by the General Presbytery.

The Board of Directors shall establish an executive committee and such other standing or ad hoc committees as may be needed to carry out the objectives of the corporation.

There shall be a president, one or more vice presidents, a secretary, a treasurer, and such other officers as may be appointed by the Board of Directors.

The general treasurer of The General Council of the Assemblies of God shall serve as a member of the Board of Directors by virtue of office.

Section 4. Amenability

The organization and Board of Directors shall be amenable to the Executive Presbytery and the General Presbytery of The General Council of the Assemblies of God.

Section 5. Fiscal Affairs

The Board of Directors of the Assemblies of God Foundation shall be authorized to receive and invest the funds of the fund according to its bylaws.

The Board of Directors shall direct the president and treasurer to present at a regular meeting of the Board of Directors an annual report verified by said officers, which shall be filed with the minutes of the meeting of the Board of Directors, and copies shall be transmitted to the Executive Presbytery.

The books of the organization shall be audited annually by a certified public accountant selected by the Board of Directors and reported to the General Presbytery and the General Council in session.

The motion to adopt Resolution 5 carried.

Election of Assistant General Superintendent

Ballots were distributed for the casting of the nominating ballot for the office of assistant general superintendent. The general secretary read Constitution Article IX, Section 1.a. and Bylaws Article II, Section 2.a. pertaining to the election of officers, and prayer was offered by former Assistant General Superintendent Everett R. Stenhouse. The ballots were collected, and the chair declared the voting closed.

***Pentecostal Evangel* Presentation**

The chairman introduced Hal Donaldson, newly appointed editor of the *Pentecostal Evangel*, who greeted the body and spoke of his vision for the publication, expressing that it will continue to carry the Pentecostal message, will be an evangelism tool, and will tie in more closely with the local church. A video highlighting the ministry of the *Pentecostal Evangel* was shown.

Ministerial Enrichment Office Report

The chairman introduced Wayne Goodall, coordinator of the Ministerial Enrichment Office. Wayne Goodall shared his testimony and burden for the local church and pastors. He expressed appreciation to the general superintendent for his vision of an office that will meet the needs of ministers, their spouses, and children. The office of Ministerial Enrichment will offer seminars for the encouragement and healing of ministers. A thoroughly Pentecostal journal for ministers is part of the office portfolio, designed to be used as a resource for the minister. A copy of the first edition of the *Advance/Enrichment* journal was given to each delegate.

Recess

The meeting recessed at 11:40 a.m. G. Raymond Carlson led in the closing prayer.

WEDNESDAY AFTERNOON—AUGUST 9

The Wednesday afternoon business session of the 46th General Council opened with John Hall, musical evangelist, Fort Worth, Texas, leading the congregation in singing. Serving at the piano and organ respectively were Dan Wood, pastor, First Assembly of God, Lyndhurst, Ohio; and Rich Messenger, Akron, Ohio. The offering appeal was made by Manuel V. Shoults, superintendent of the Northern Missouri District; and the offertory was played by Dan Wood and Rich Messenger.

Greetings from International Bible Society

Bill Jefferson, senior vice president of international programs at the International Bible Society, was introduced and brought greetings to the delegates from the International Bible Society.

Business Session

The business session was called to order at 1:55 p.m. by General Superintendent Thomas E. Trask.

Roster Report

Samuel Henning, cochairman of the Roster Committee, gave the following report as of 1:30 p.m., Wednesday, August 9:

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

Ordained ministers	3,356	
Delegates	<u>784</u>	
Voting constituency		4,140
Licensed ministers	413	
Visitors	<u>8,264</u>	

Nonvoting constituency	<u>8,677</u>
Total	12,817

Election of Assistant General Superintendent

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

Ballots cast	1,628
Needed to elect	1,086
Charles T. Crabtree	1,309

Having noted that Charles T. Crabtree received in excess of the two-thirds vote, the chairman declared Charles T. Crabtree reelected as assistant general superintendent.

Brother Crabtree responded by expressing appreciation to the delegates.

The following is a list of all other nominees: Leslie Addison 1, Jay Alford 1, Donald Annas 1, Donald Argue 2, Almon Bartholomew 7, Wayne Benson 2, Edward Berkey 1, Dan Betzer 4, Wayne Blackburn 1, Philip Bongiorno 4, Robert L. Brandt 1, James K. Bridges 13, Warren Bullock 3, J. Rollin Carlson 2, Owen Carr 2, Glen Cole 32, David Crabtree 2, Robert Crabtree 8, Charles Crank 1, George Cunard 1, Daniel DeLeon 1, Richard Dortch 1, Richard Dresselhaus 3, Durwood Dubose 2, Dale Edwards 1, Steven Eutsler 1, Douglas Fulenwider 1, David Gable 1, Alton Garrison 1, George Gianopoulos 1, Charles Hackett 8, Benny Hinn 1, Gene Jackson 19, Virgil Jones 1, Thomas Lakey 1, June LeBredt 1, William Leach 1, Maurice Lednický 2, Ronald McManus 2, Jesse Miranda 4, Ernest Moen 2, Armon Newburn 20, John Palmer 4, Roger Perkin 1, Mike Purkey 1, Terry Raburn 4, T. Ray Rachels 3, Sam Ramphal 2, Robert Rhoden 3, Robert Schmidgall 26, Albert Skinner 1, David Snodderly 1, Clarence St. John 2, Don Stavros 1, Everett Stenhouse 83, Thomas Trask 1, Philip Wannemacher 3, George Wood 19.

Resolution 32. Nominations from the General Council Floor for General Treasurer, Executive Director of DFM, and Executive Director of DHM

Warren Bullock read Resolution 32 as follows and moved its adoption:

WHEREAS, At the 1993 General Council a question was raised as to the possibility of names being submitted from the floor of the General Council for the office of general treasurer and executive director of the divisions of foreign missions and home missions; and

WHEREAS, The Executive Presbytery has given study to this matter; and

WHEREAS, It does appear that *Robert's Rules of Order* does allow for nominations from the floor; and

WHEREAS, Nominations from the floor would negate the selection screening process provided in the bylaws; therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That Bylaw Article II. Election of Officers, Section 2. Nominations and Elections, paragraphs b, c, and d be amended by the addition of the following sentence: "There shall be no further nominations from the General Council floor;" making these paragraphs to read as follows:

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. There shall be no further nominations from the General Council floor. 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. There shall be no further nominations from the General Council floor. 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. There shall be no further nominations from the General Council floor. A two-thirds vote of the General Council shall be required for election.

The motion to adopt Resolution 32 carried.

Resolution 6. Ethnic Representation on the Executive Presbytery

Warren Bullock presented Resolution 6 and moved its adoption, noting that this resolution would add one person to the Executive Presbytery:

WHEREAS, The various language districts and ethnic constituency of the General Council continue to grow and now represent more than 20 per-

cent of the Assemblies of God churches in the United States and Puerto Rico; and

WHEREAS, The General Council should reflect the contributions and interests of these districts in its functions of mission, operations, product, and service at all levels, including decision-making levels which impact language districts; and

WHEREAS, A study committee was appointed to study the addition of a nonresident executive presbyter to represent the needs and growth of the language districts within the General Council; and

WHEREAS, The Executive Presbytery appointed a committee to study the proposed resolution and further moved to amend the General Council Constitution and Bylaws by designating a new area division made up of the language districts within the General Council; 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, the executive director 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.

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 Foreign Missions, the executive director of Home Missions, together with nine other ministers to be chosen from the active Fellowship to bring the number to 15. 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 d. Nonresident executive presbyters, which now reads:

d. 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.

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, Pennsylvania-Delaware, Potomac, Southern New England, Spanish Eastern.

Southeast Area: Alabama, Georgia, North Carolina, Peninsular Florida, Puerto Rico, South Carolina, Southeastern Spanish, West Florida.

Be amended to read:

d. 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 nine 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 nine areas, in the following manner:

Northwest Area: Alaska, Montana, Northwest, Oregon, Southern Idaho, Wyoming.

Southwest Area: Arizona, Hawaii, Northern California-Nevada, Rocky Mountain, Southern California.

North Central Area: Iowa, Minnesota, Nebraska, North Dakota, Northern Missouri, South Dakota, Wisconsin-Northern Michigan.

South Central Area: Kansas, New Mexico, North Texas, Oklahoma, South Texas, West Texas.

Great Lakes Area: Appalachian, Illinois, Indiana, Kentucky, Michigan, Ohio.

Gulf Area: Arkansas, Louisiana, Mississippi, Southern Missouri, Tennessee.

Northeast Area: New Jersey, New York, Northern New England, Pennsylvania-Delaware, Potomac, Southern New England.

Southeast Area: Alabama, Georgia, North Carolina, Peninsular Florida, South Carolina, West Florida.

Language Area: Central Latin American, German, Gulf Latin American, Korean, Midwest Latin American, Pacific Latin American, Puerto Rico, Southeastern Spanish, Spanish Eastern.

The motion to adopt Resolution 6 carried.

Election of General Secretary

Ballots were distributed for the election of general secretary.

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

Ballots cast	1,653
Needed to elect	1,103
George O. Wood	1,533

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

George Wood expressed his appreciation for the vote of confidence by this body.

The following is a list of all other nominees: Jay Alford 1, Don Argue 1, Jack Bailey 1, Marcus Bakke 1, Almon Bartholomew 2, Dan Betzer 1, Wayne Blackburn 1, R. L. Brandt 1, Don Brankel 1, James Bridges 28, Owen Carr 1, Glen Cole 7, Fred Cottriel 1, Charles Crank 18, Walter Davis 1, Dale Edwards 3, Joseph Flower 1, Doug Fulenwider 1, Saturnino Gonzalez 4, D. V. Hurst 1, Gene Jackson 9, Wayne Kraiss 1, Vaudie Lambert 1, Maurice Lednicky 2, Paul Lowenberg 2, Glyn Lowery 1, David McLucas 1, Ernest Moen 2, Armon Newburn 7, T. Burton Pierce 1, T. Ray Rachels 1, Opal Reddin 1, Nelson Sachs 2, Robert Schmidgall 5, Manuel Shoults 2, Wes Smith 1, Everett Stenhouse 2, Hubert Wilder 2, Terry Yancey 1.

Resolution 7. Former Executive Officers as General Presbyters

Warren Bullock presented Resolution 7 as follows and moved its adoption:

WHEREAS, The General Council Constitution makes provision for honorary members of the General Presbytery to be chosen who have served on the General Presbytery 20 years or more and have reached the age of 60; and

WHEREAS, From time to time an executive officer may retire prior to serving 20 years on the General Presbytery; and

WHEREAS, It would be of benefit to the General Presbytery to have the presence of a retired executive officer who has served for at least 8 years in executive office; therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That the General Council Constitution, Article IX. Officers, Section 3, paragraph e, which now reads:

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.

Be amended to read:

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 (1) have reached the age of 60 years and (2) have served on the General Presbytery for 20 years or more or served on the General Presbytery as a General Council executive officer for 8 years or more. The addition of such honorary members shall not disturb the regular number of presbyters granted each district.

The motion to adopt Resolution 7 carried.

Resolution 8. Honorary General Presbyter—D. Fred Leader

Warren Bullock read Resolution 8 in its entirety as follows and moved its adoption:

WHEREAS, D. Fred Leader has served this Fellowship with distinction as an ordained minister for 42 years; and

WHEREAS, He has faithfully served the Indiana District as secretary-treasurer for the past 19 years; and

WHEREAS, He has served the North Carolina District for 3 years on the executive level; and

WHEREAS, He has served a total of 21 years as a member of the General Presbytery; 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 D. Fred Leader be elected by this General Council of the Assemblies of God to the position of honorary general presbyter. The motion to adopt Resolution 8 carried.

Resolution 9. Honorary General Presbyter—Paul E. Lowenberg

Warren Bullock read Resolution 9 in its entirety and moved its adoption as follows:

WHEREAS, Paul E. Lowenberg has served this Fellowship with distinction as an ordained minister for 42 years; and

WHEREAS, He has faithfully served the Kansas District as superintendent for 14 years as well as assistant superintendent for 2 years; and

WHEREAS, He has been a member of the General Presbytery for 31 years, served as a member of the Executive Presbytery for 24 years, and has also served on various committees and boards representing 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 Paul E. Lowenberg be elected by this General Council of the Assemblies of God to the position of honorary general presbyter.

The motion to adopt Resolution 9 carried.

Resolution 10. Honorary General Presbyter—Herman H. Rohde

The chairman of the Resolutions Committee read Resolution 10 in its entirety as follows and moved its adoption:

WHEREAS, Herman H. Rohde, a dedicated servant of the Lord, has given his life unselfishly for many years in faithful ministry in the Assemblies of God; and

WHEREAS, He has served with distinction and honor on all levels of our Fellowship: local, district, and national, including service as a general presbyter for 29 years and a nonresident executive presbyter for 8 years; and

WHEREAS, His vast experience, wisdom, and maturity distinguish him as an elder whose counsel is highly esteemed and sought; and

WHEREAS, He served the Minnesota District for 25 years as district superintendent; 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 Herman H. Rohde be elected by this General Council of the Assemblies of God to the position of honorary general presbyter.

The motion to adopt Resolution 10 carried.

Resolution 39. Honorary General Presbyter—Everett R. Stenhouse

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

WHEREAS, Everett R. Stenhouse has served this Fellowship with distinction as a credentialed minister of the Assemblies of God for over 42 years, having been licensed in 1953 and ordained in 1955; and

WHEREAS, He has served in pastoral ministry for 15 years and spent 6 years under appointment by the Division of Foreign Missions as a missionary to Greece and its islands; and

WHEREAS, He has served the Southern California District as D-CAP for 4 years, assistant superintendent for 1 year, and district superintendent for 6 years; and

WHEREAS, He has served on the General Presbytery and has also served as a nonresident executive presbyter; and

WHEREAS, He has served as the assistant general superintendent for 8 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 an honorary general presbyter; therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That Everett R. Stenhouse be elected by this General Council of the Assemblies of God to the position of honorary general presbyter.

The motion to adopt Resolution 39 carried.

Presentation to Dan Betzer

A presentation was made by the general superintendent to Dan Betzer in honor of the 17 years of service he has given the General Council as speaker for *Revivaltime*. He indicated that more than 800 broadcasts were made during his years of service.

Dan Betzer responded and expressed appreciation for the wonderful years of service that he has been allowed to give this Fellowship as the speaker of *Revivaltime*.

Resolution 11. Assemblies of God Ministers Benefit Association

Warren Bullock presented Resolution 11 as follows and moved its adoption:

WHEREAS, The Bylaws of The General Council of the Assemblies of God, Article XXIV. Ministers Benefit Association, Section 3. Investments of Funds, contains obsolete language; and

WHEREAS, The Ministers Benefit Association Board of Directors has voted to sponsor a resolution to amend Article XXIV, Section 3; therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That Article XXIV, Section 3. Investment of Funds, be amended by the addition of the words "when applicable" to the end of Section 3, so the new paragraph will read as follows:

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 Council or district council officials when applicable.

The motion to adopt Resolution 11 carried.

Resolution 12. Incorporation of the Assemblies of God Loan Fund

Warren Bullock presented Resolution 12 as follows and moved its adoption:

WHEREAS, Article XX, Section 2 of the Bylaws of The General Council of the Assemblies of God established a Church Loan Department as an agency of the church in fulfilling its threefold mission by providing loans and assisting in obtaining financing for churches that need such assistance; and

WHEREAS, The Church Loan Department has established the Church Builders Plan to provide low-interest loans to Assemblies of God churches and other affiliated institutions; and

WHEREAS, The Church Builders Plan involves the issuance of debt securities, including promissory notes and subscription contracts; and

WHEREAS, The issuance of such securities is generally governed by securities laws in the individual states where issued; and

WHEREAS, The North American Securities Administrators Association, Inc., has recently adopted guidelines entitled "Statement of Policy Regarding General Obligation Financing by Religious Denominations"; and

WHEREAS, The guidelines apply to entities such as the Church Loan Department, and the creation of an associated entity to offer and sell said securities will create greater ease in complying with said guidelines; and

WHEREAS, It is not feasible or desirable to duplicate these services by continuing the Church Loan Department; and

WHEREAS, The deletion of the Church Loan Department and the creation of a new associated entity can only be done by amending the bylaws of the General Council, which pursuant to Article XXVIII must be made at any regular meeting of The General Council of the Assemblies of God by a majority vote; therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That the General Presbytery of The General Council of the Assemblies of God recommends that Article XX of the bylaws be amended to delete all reference to the Church Loan Department; that Article XX, Section 2, be deleted from said bylaws; and that subsequent sections be renumbered; and, be it further

RESOLVED, That the General Presbytery of The General Council of the Assemblies of God recommends that Article XXIV and subsequent articles be renumbered; and, be it further

RESOLVED, That the General Presbytery of The General Council of the Assemblies of God recommends the creation of a new bylaw Article XXIV to read as follows:

ARTICLE XXIV. ASSEMBLIES OF GOD LOAN FUND

Section 1. Organization

There shall be an organization known as the Assemblies of God Loan Fund.

Section 2. Mission

The organization is organized for the exclusive benefit of The General

Council of the Assemblies of God and all of its affiliated ministries, including local Assemblies of God churches; district organizations; national, regional, and district Assemblies of God colleges; and national and district ministries.

The organization is formed to establish, promote, fund, extend, and maintain the Christian faith according to the Statement of Fundamental Truths of The General Council of the Assemblies of God.

It shall be the responsibility of the organization in its field of activity to fulfill the threefold mission of the church.

Section 3. Administration

There shall be a board of directors appointed by the Executive Presbytery of The General Council of the Assemblies of God subject to ratification by the General Presbytery.

The board of directors shall establish an executive committee and such other standing or ad hoc committees as may be needed to carry out the objectives of the corporation.

There shall be a president, one or more vice presidents, a secretary, a treasurer, and such other officers as may be appointed by the board of directors.

Section 4. Amenability

The organization and board of directors shall be amenable to the Executive Presbytery and the General Presbytery of The General Council of the Assemblies of God.

Section 5. Fiscal Affairs

The board of directors of the Assemblies of God Loan Fund shall be authorized to receive and invest the funds of the fund according to its bylaws.

The board of directors shall direct the president and treasurer to present at a regular meeting of the board of directors an annual report, verified by said officers, which shall be filed with the minutes of the meeting of the board of directors, and copies shall be transmitted to the Executive Presbytery.

The books of the organization shall be audited annually by a certified public accountant selected by the board of directors, and such audit shall be included with The General Council of the Assemblies of God annual audit report.

The motion to adopt Resolution 12 carried.

Resolution 13. World Ministries Giving

Warren Bullock presented Resolution 13 as follows and moved its adoption:

WHEREAS, The bylaw regarding World Ministries Giving was inadvertently removed from the General Council Bylaws at the 1993 General Council when Article XIX, Section 2, Stewardship Department was deleted and the Assemblies of God Foundation, Article XXIII, was added, and

WHEREAS, World Ministries Giving continues to be a vital part of our Fellowship under the administration of the Division of the Treasury; therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That the paragraph known as World Ministries Giving, formerly in our bylaws, be reinstated as a new paragraph d, under Article XX, Division of the Treasury, Section 1. Finance Department, as follows:

d. World Ministries Giving

(1) *Participation.* In order to support and develop the work and ministries of the Assemblies of God at home and abroad, all its churches shall be encouraged to send offerings at regular intervals.

(2) *Combined report.* A combined report of all offerings which are designated for departments shall be given under the caption of World Ministries Giving. The intent is to provide recognition for contributions to all ministries of The General Council of the Assemblies of God, to place each appeal and ministry on an equal basis, and to lend encouragement to churches and individual contributors to determine the appeal to which they will respond under the leading of the Spirit.

(3) *Credit.* World Ministries Giving recognition shall provide credit to Assemblies of God churches for contributions to the Fellowship Partnership Plan for support of the General Council; the Divisions of Foreign Missions, Home Missions, Christian Education, Christian Higher Education (including educational institutions), Church Ministries (including Men's Ministries, Women's Ministries, Music, and Youth Departments), Media Ministries; the executive and Spiritual Life-Evangelism offices; Benevolences Department; and other General Council, regional, and district-sponsored or approved projects. Contributions from districts other than where a district-approved project is located can only be granted World Ministries Giving credit if the district where the contribution originates gives its approval and if the contribution is channeled through that district or the national headquarters. It is expected that the national division related to a given project will be notified of approved projects. It is also understood that no district or region may receive World Ministries Giving credit for projects specifically disapproved by the General Council.

The motion to adopt Resolution 13 carried.

Resolution 14. Ministerial Support

Warren Bullock presented Resolution 14 and moved its adoption:

A motion prevailed to amend page 2, line 9, by the addition of "from their tithes or as an offering;" following the word "month" so that the sentence will read, "Ordained ministers should recognize their obligation to contribute \$15 per month from their tithes or as an offering."

A standing vote was taken on the adoption of Resolution 14 with the results: 1,069 in favor, and 797 against. The chairman having received the vote from the tellers declared Resolution 14 adopted as amended.

Resolution 14 as amended and adopted follows:

WHEREAS, General Council Bylaw Article XX, Section 1, c. (1) provides that ministers contribute to the work of the General Council at the level of \$10 per month for ordained ministers, \$6 per month for licensed ministers, and \$3 per month for certified ministers; and

WHEREAS, There has been no increase in the specified monthly contributions since 1987; and

WHEREAS, There has been inflationary growth in the economy since 1987; and

WHEREAS, The contribution from ministers is a major source of income for the operating fund of The General Council; and

WHEREAS, The expenses of the General Council have increased regularly since 1987; and

WHEREAS, There is need to fund additional ministries added to the Fellowship such as Ministerial Enrichment and expansion of support for Christian education; therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That General Council Bylaw Article XX, Section 1, paragraph c. (1) (page 218) which now reads:

(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.

[The remainder of the section to remain as it is.]

Be amended to read:

(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 \$15 per month from their tithes or as an offering. Licensed ministers should contribute \$10 per month, and certified ministers should contribute \$5 per month. All who can are strongly urged to give more than the suggested amount, either personally or through the assemblies they pastor.

and, be it further

RESOLVED, That the above action be implemented effective January 1, 1996.

Resolution 15. Men's Ministries Department Purpose

Warren Bullock presented Resolution 15 as follows and moved its adoption:

WHEREAS, One of the highest priorities for the Men's Ministries Department is to develop spiritual character and discipleship in men; and,

WHEREAS, The present bylaw provision dealing with Men's Ministries Department does not include this function; therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That General Council Bylaw Article XV. Division of Church Ministries, Section 1. Men's Ministries Department, a. Authorization and purpose, (2). Functions, be amended by relettering (a) through (i) as (b) through (j), and that the following function be added as (a):

(a) Encouraging, motivating, and discipling men throughout the Fellowship to grow into their full potential of manhood in Christ Jesus. The motion to adopt Resolution 15 carried.

Election of General Treasurer

Ballots were distributed for the election of the general treasurer.

The general secretary read the newly revised bylaw relative to election of the general treasurer and presented the name of James K. Bridges as the nominee from the General Presbytery.

A question was raised as to the possibility of an election by acclamation. The chair ruled that this would not be proper. In light of the ruling by the chair, a motion prevailed that the ballot for general treasurer be a "yes" or "no" vote since only one name had been presented for nomination.

Glen Cole, executive presbyter from the Southwest Area, led in prayer prior to the casting of the ballot.

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

Votes cast	1,667
Needed to elect	1,112
Yes votes	1,541
No votes	126

The chairman, noting that James K. Bridges received well in excess of the two-thirds vote required, declared him reelected as general treasurer.

James Bridges expressed appreciation to the body for its support.

Request for the Executive Presbytery to Take This Matter Under Advisement

A motion prevailed that the Executive Presbytery take the matter of election by acclamation under study, and should a bylaw change be needed to bring clarification in the future, it should bring a recommendation back to the attention of the General Council in 2 years.

Resolution 16. Media Coordinating Committee

Warren Bullock presented Resolution 16 and moved its adoption.

As chairman of the Resolutions Committee, Bullock moved that an amendment be made in Resolution 16 on lines 21-23, page 32, to delete the words

"two national directors and/or national coordinators, plus" along with the word "other," making the sentence to read, "The members shall consist of a minimum of four members who have interest and expertise in media ministries." The motion to amend was seconded and carried.

The motion to adopt Resolution 16 as amended carried.

Resolution 16 as amended and adopted follows:

WHEREAS, The composition of the Media Coordinating Committee as outlined in Bylaw Article XVI. Electronic Media Board, paragraph b. Government and organization, subparagraph (3). *Media Coordinating Committee* is not practical in function and flow of authority; and

WHEREAS, A Media Coordinating Committee is necessary to facilitate the directives and policies of the Electronic Media Board; therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That Bylaw Article XVI. Electronic Media Board, paragraph b. Government and Organization, subparagraph (3) *Media Coordinating Committee* which now reads:

(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 non-legislative 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.

Be amended to read:

(3) *Media Coordinating Committee*. The Executive Presbytery shall appoint members of the Media Coordinating Committee. This committee shall be chaired by a resident executive. The members shall consist of a minimum of four members who have interest and expertise in media ministries. Meetings shall be called at the discretion of the chairman. The basic function of the committee is to serve as a nonlegislative resource committee to facilitate all aspects of media ministry.

Resolution 17. Division of Home Missions

Warren Bullock presented Resolution 17 and moved its adoption:

A motion prevailed to amend on page 32, line 23, by placing a period after the word "settings" and substituting the remainder of the sentence with a new sentence to read, "All such activities shall be conducted through the auspices of, and in full cooperation with, the district councils."

A motion prevailed to amend page 35, line 4, by the addition of the words "and missionaries" after the words "various ministries," making the sentence read, "However, the supervision and administration of the work of the various

ministries and missionaries shall be committed to the districts where they are located."

A further motion prevailed to amend page 35, line 10, by the addition of the phrase, "upon the approval of the work district," to the end of the sentence.

The motion to adopt Resolution 17 as amended carried.

Resolution 17 as amended and adopted follows:

WHEREAS, The Division of Home Missions has expanded its ministries substantially during the years; and

WHEREAS, This has necessitated some changes in operational procedures and day-to-day administration of the division; and

WHEREAS, The missionary field force is now encompassed within all six departments of the Division of Home Missions; and

WHEREAS, The current bylaws do not fully cover the scope of operation and present ministries of the division; therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That Article XVIII. Division of Home Missions, Sections 1, 2, 3, 4, 6, 7, and 8 be amended to read as follows: (Sections 5 and 9 require no changes.)

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. [no change]

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 functions being the establishing of indigenous churches representing all cultural, socioeconomic, and ethnic groups; evangelizing and discipling students on America's secular colleges and universities; assisting persons with life-controlling problems; and ministering to those in military, industrial, institutional, and correctional settings. All such activities shall be conducted through the auspices of and in full cooperation with 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 Department
- [no change]

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. [no change]

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 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 and other key Division of Home Missions personnel as determined by the executive director 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. [no change]

(2) *Term of office.* A term of office shall be for 2 years and so arranged that one-half of the terms expire annually. [no change]

(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 in its area of supervision. It shall be amenable to and under the general supervision of the Executive Presbytery and the General Presbytery.

c. 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, the department secretaries of the division, and other personnel as determined by the executive director. 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 Home Missions Board. The executive director shall meet on a regular basis with the Board of Administration to report the action of the Home Missions Committee.

d. 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.

e. 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 according to the provisions outlined in Section 6.

f. Teen Challenge Board. The general administrative work of the Teen

Challenge Department shall be conducted by the Teen Challenge Board according to the provisions outlined under Section 7.

g. Special committees. Other special committees may be appointed at the discretion of the Executive Presbytery.

h. 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.

i. Functions. The Division of Home Missions shall provide coordination, promotion, assistance to motivate action, and the receiving and disbursing of funds.

j. 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 and missionaries shall be committed to the districts where they are located.

k. 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 upon the approval of the work district.

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. [no change]

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) Seeking to acquire information regarding various methods of financing and making this information available to various districts.

(2) Providing information of available materials such as evangelism literature, Sunday school materials, architectural services, and other helps for the new church and supplying these as funds permit.

(3) Providing promotional materials for districts, colleges, and local churches to impart vision and motivation for the planting and establishing of new churches.

(4) Assisting in the further development of New Church Evangelism programs for the involvement of students and faculty members of Assemblies of God colleges.

(5) Utilizing the personnel resources of our Fellowship in conjunction with Missions America Placement Service to assist in New Church Evangelism.

(6) Assisting districts with church planting by providing trained missionaries to serve in strategic urban areas of the United States.

c. Cooperation with districts. The New Church Evangelism Department shall function in cooperation with the various districts as set forth in Section 2, paragraphs i and j.

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. [no change]

b. Function. The Intercultural Ministries Department shall provide ministry among those groups of people in the United States whose evangelism 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. [no change]

c. Relationship with districts. The Intercultural Ministries Department shall function in cooperation with the various districts as set forth in Section 2, paragraphs i and j. Practical assistance shall be provided by:

(1) Providing literature and other information on the dynamics of cross-cultural ministry, including church planting among ethnic Americans.

(2) Assisting in meeting the needs of ethnic and specialized ministries by providing trained missionaries.

(3) Promoting the indigenous principles of church organization.

(4) Helping to align ethnic congregations with the appropriate language or geographic districts.

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 h and i. 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

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. [no change]

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. [no change]

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. [no change]

(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, the Chi Alpha Campus Ministries Department, and the Home Missions Board. The secretary of the Chi Alpha Campus Ministries Department shall serve as chairman.

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. [no change]

b. 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 churches, and 6 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 chairman of the board and the secretary of the Teen Challenge Department serving as president, both of whom will serve by virtue of office.

c. Function. The Teen Challenge Department shall assist the local centers through the networking of information, national curriculum, available workers, fund-raising, and public relations. Further, the Teen Challenge Department will oversee the national accreditation 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 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. [no change]

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. [no change]

c. Function. The Mission America Placement Service Department shall coordinate all lay persons' 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 requests for short-term lay ministries, including those for individuals or teams.
- (3) Coordinate short-term construction efforts.
- (4) Coordinate summer intern programs.

(5) Recruit, coordinate, and process requests for short-term RV Volunteers 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.

Election of Executive Director of the Division of Foreign Missions

Ballots for the office of the executive director of the Division of Foreign Missions were distributed.

The general secretary read the bylaw provision for the election of the executive director of the Division of Foreign Missions and presented the name of Loren Triplett as the nominee from the General Presbytery.

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

Votes cast	1,017
Needed to elect	679
Yes votes	989
No votes	28

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

Loren Triplett expressed appreciation to the body for its support and for the opportunity to serve this Fellowship.

Recess

The Wednesday afternoon session recessed at 4:35 p.m. Robert L. Brandt, executive presbyter from the Northwest Area, closed the session in prayer.

WEDNESDAY EVENING SERVICE—AUGUST 9

The Wednesday evening service began at 6:40 p.m. with a musical prelude by "The Sound," Houston, Texas, composed of Duane Blease, Kelly Kirschman, Fred Seamans, and John Sommer. Armon Newburn, superintendent of the Oklahoma District, was chairman for the service. A time of praise and worship was led by David Ritter, minister of music, Phoenix, Arizona. Ramona Crabtree and Dixie Hackett, both of Springfield, Missouri, served at the piano and organ respectively. The Scripture reading for the service was Ephesians 6:10-18 read by St. Clair Mitchell, Centreville, Virginia, after which he led in prayer. The offering appeal was made by Ernest Moen, superintendent of the Illinois District, and the offertory was provided by the Praise Choir from Calvary Temple Assembly of God, Indianapolis, Indiana, directed by Dave Divine. Congresswoman Linda Smith brought greetings to the delegates of the General Council.

Prior to the message of the evening, Thomas E. Trask presented the General Superintendent's Medal of Honor citation to Sam Cochran, Santa Ana,

California, a businessman whose vision launched what has become the Light-for-the-Lost literature funding ministry of Assemblies of God men. Thomas Trask awarded Cochran the Superintendent's Medal of Honor "for an exemplary life, bringing honor to God and His church."

The speaker for the service was Jerry McCamey, pastor of Calvary Temple Assembly of God, Indianapolis, Indiana. McCamey spoke from Acts 1:1-8, calling the text a bridge between the gospel accounts of Christ's death and resurrection and the beginning and growth of the church under the ministry of the apostles. He set forth four reasons for "Pentecostal . . . Why?" The Holy Spirit has come to enable us to think what God thinks, feel what God feels, want what God wants, and do what God does. He challenged the Fellowship that God is looking for people whom He can fill with His Spirit, who will listen to His voice, and who will learn the secret of praying in the Holy Ghost. Through such yielded instruments, He will confound the mighty and accomplish His eternal purpose.

THURSDAY MORNING—AUGUST 10

A time of prayer and praise began at 8:15 a.m. Thursday under the leadership of Dick Eastman.

Business Session

Thomas E. Trask called the business session to order at 9:10 a.m.

Roster Report

Samuel Henning, cochairman of the Roster Committee, gave the following report as of 9 a.m., Thursday, August 10:

Ordained ministers	3,468	
Delegates	<u>803</u>	
Voting constituency		4,271
Licensed ministers	425	
Visitors	<u>8,406</u>	
Nonvoting constituency		<u>8,831</u>
Total		13,102

A motion prevailed to receive the report.

Resolution 18 Revised. Ethnic Fellowships

The chairman of the Resolutions Committee read Resolution 18 Revised explaining that it is a replacement for the original Resolution 18 which was included in the Resolutions Booklet. A motion prevailed to adopt Resolution 18 Revised as follows:

WHEREAS, There are at least 125 distinct ethnic groups in the United States that maintain their cultural cohesion; and

WHEREAS, Not all of these groups represent one common language (i.e., Native Americans who represent over 200 different languages and black Americans who are mostly English-only speakers); and

WHEREAS, The only provision in the General Council Bylaws for the formation of an ethnic fellowship of churches is for language groups; and

WHEREAS, Many of these ethnic congregations wish to form fellowship associations but do not wish to form separate district councils; therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That Bylaw Article V be amended through the addition of the following Section 6:

Section 6. Ethnic Fellowships

An ethnic group 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. Although functioning as a fellowship, the ethnic churches shall remain affiliated with the appropriate district.

Resolution 19. Exceptions to Qualifications for Ordination

Warren Bullock presented Resolution 19 as follows and moved its adoption:

WHEREAS, Occasions arise when the district and General Council credentials committees desire to issue an ordination credential to an applicant who does not meet the requirements of 1 year of residency in the district or the 2 years requirement of holding a license; and

WHEREAS, Such situations are rare when district and General Council credentials committees desire for an exception to be made; and

WHEREAS, Present bylaws do not give the district and General Council credentials committees authority to make such exceptions; therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That General Council Bylaw Article VII, Section 3,d,(5) which now reads:

(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 requirement and ordain him upon the request or approval of his former district.

be amended to read:

(5) *Exceptions to requirements.* The General Council Credentials Committee, upon request by a district credentials committee and where exceptional circumstances exist, may waive the requirements for an applicant holding a license to preach for 2 full consecutive years or being a member of the district in which he is seeking ordination for at least 1 year. The motion to adopt Resolution 19 carried.

Resolution 20. License To Preach Name Change

Warren Bullock presented Resolution 20 and moved its adoption.

An amendment was made and seconded to replace "certificates of licensure" with "a preaching ministry license." Following discussion, the amendment lost.

Resolution 20, as presented, follows:

WHEREAS, The pastoral work consists of much more than the ministry of preaching in that it also includes teaching, counseling, administration, and visitation; and

WHEREAS, The term "License To Preach" may be confusing to governmental offices, community representatives, and members of other fellowships; and

WHEREAS, The term "License To Preach" is dissimilar with the other credentials of certified minister and ordained minister; and

WHEREAS, The term "licensed minister" already occurs in Article V, Section 3; Article VII, Section 2; Article VII, Section 3, paragraph c; Article VII, Section 3, paragraph d. (4); Article VII, Section 4; and Article VII, Section 6. (1); therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That Bylaw Article IV, Section 2, which now reads:

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.

Be amended to read:

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, certificates of licensure, 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.

And, be it further

RESOLVED, That Bylaw Article VII. Ministry, Section 3 Specific Qualifications, b. Certified minister, (2). Pastoral requirements, which now reads:

(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.

Be amended to read:

(2) *Pastoral requirements.* In the event a certified minister is serving in a position as the pastor, he shall be expected to advance to licensure 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.

And, be it further

RESOLVED, That 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 Certificates of Ministry, 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, Licensure Certificates, 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 "license to preach" with "licensed minister" and "License To Preach Certificate" with "Licensure Certificates." The motion to adopt Resolution 20 lost.

Election of Executive Director of the Division of Home Missions

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

The general secretary read the bylaw provision for the election of the executive director of the Division of Home Missions and presented the name of Charles Hackett as the nominee from the General Presbytery.

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

Votes cast	1,308
Needed to elect	873
Yes votes	1,241
No votes	67

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

Charles Hackett expressed appreciation to the body for their support and for the opportunity to serve this Fellowship.

Balloting for Nonresident Executive Presbyters

The general secretary read the bylaw provision regarding the voting procedure for the election of nonresident executive presbyters. In addition to the eight area elections, a ballot was distributed for the election of the new Language Area Executive Presbyter. Following prayer by Vaudie Lambert, superintendent of the Alabama District, ballots were collected, and the chairman declared the voting closed.

Resolution 21. Study Committee—Ministers from Other Organizations

The chairman of the Resolutions Committee presented Resolution 20 as follows and moved its adoption:

WHEREAS, In the recent past a number of ministers of different denominations and religious organizations have desired Assemblies of God credentials; and

WHEREAS, The Fellowship needs assurance of maintaining a doctrinal standard; and

WHEREAS, Those who are credentialed from within the Assemblies of God must submit to a rigorous credentialing process; and

WHEREAS, Some of these ministers may have formerly preached doctrinal error; therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That a committee be appointed by the general superintendent, with the approval of the Executive Presbytery, to review our process for credentialing ministers from other denominations and religious organizations; and be it further

RESOLVED, That a report of this committee be brought before the next session of the General Council.

The motion to adopt Resolution 21 carried.

Resolution 22. Ministers from Other Organizations

Warren Bullock presented Resolution 22 as follows and moved its adoption:

WHEREAS, There has been tremendous change in the credentialing process of all levels—certified minister, licensed minister, and ordained minister; and

WHEREAS, Those changes have brought about a uniformity to the credential process throughout the Fellowship for each advancement; and

WHEREAS, There are ministers on a continual basis from outside the Assemblies of God who desire to be credentialed with the Assemblies of God because of the need for accountability and spiritual covering; and

WHEREAS, The transferring of ministers into the Fellowship has been part of our heritage and should be; and

WHEREAS, There is a need for those transferring into the Assemblies of God at least to meet or exceed the basic requirements for current Assemblies of God ministers therefore eliminating any room for discrimination against those Assemblies of God ministers in their pursuit of credentials; and

WHEREAS, There is a need to have a proven ministry as stated in 1 Timothy 3; and

WHEREAS, There is a need to maintain uniformity throughout the Fellowship; and

WHEREAS, There is a need to eliminate the possibility of discrimination against our own ministers following the current credential process, giving time to know them that labor among us; and

WHEREAS, There is a need to eliminate the possibility for discrimination against our own people by appearing to sanction erroneous doctrines; therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That Bylaw Article VII. Ministry, Section 2. Basic Qualification, paragraph 1. Ministers from other organizations, (8), which now reads:

(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.

Be amended to read:

(8) All ministers so approved shall receive recognition as certified or licensed Assemblies of God ministers. Licensed ministers after a minimum of 1-year waiting period can make application for ordination as stated in the current bylaws waiving the 2-year waiting period. Upon completion of the ordination process, they shall receive recognition as ordained Assemblies of God ministers with the laying on of hands by the district presbytery.

A substitute motion prevailed that Resolution 22 be referred to the committee just formed through the adoption of Resolution 21.

Report of Spiritual Life Committee

Wayne Benson, chairman of the Spiritual Life Committee, read the report of the committee as follows:

INTRODUCTION

The members of this committee were chosen from a broad-based spectrum of varied geography, experience, and vocation within the Assemblies of God. We represent pastors, college presidents, evangelists, authors, national and district executives, and home and foreign missionaries in cultural and ethnic diversity. Though we brought to this committee an extensive range of thought and personal interest, it became apparent in our first prayer gathering that we could indeed come to solid agreement on one critical issue: Our beloved Fellowship of the Assemblies of God needs a sovereign move of the Holy Spirit. Do we, however, desire such a move of the Spirit sufficiently to subject ourselves to the spiritual disciplines necessary to enter into this blessing?

This committee did not see its assignment as paternalistic or corrective but rather sought to reflect the desire of our Fellowship for fresh revival and to seek God for a pathway to fulfillment of the hope that lies within us. To this end, we met each time with open and seeking hearts and without premed-

itated agenda. We studied the stats and charts reflecting numerical strength or weakness of our Fellowship; we even walked the pathway of the Azusa street revival in Los Angeles. What dominated our hearts, however, was the sense that all the analysis of statistics and the revisitation of history will not bring about the desired result. They may serve to heighten awareness of the need, and they may even produce a database for correct answers; but in the end, this pursuit may only dull our hunger for God with massive doses of nostalgia or inoculate our awareness with the pride of having "already done it" or a worse presumption, "knowing how to do it." We as a committee have concluded that we need what only God can offer. We will be fulfilled by what only the Holy Spirit can accomplish. We will not find our true Pentecostal identity in the programs of people, the philosophies of the day, the fads of religion, or the strategies of wise men. We need God, and we need Him now.

BACKGROUND

Ours is a movement based upon the sovereign move of the Holy Spirit. At the turn of the century, there was not a single Pentecostal denomination in America, and any Pentecostal evidence around the world was but a flickering shadow of the Early Church. Today, with estimates as high as 150 million Spirit-baptized believers in the world, who can deny the evidence of the sweeping hand of God in the midst of His people? By His grace, the Assemblies of God have been at the crest of the wave in this glorious revival. "From Hot Springs, Arkansas, to the uttermost parts of the world" . . . that was our vision. Truly God has given great empowerment through the Holy Spirit to fulfill His divine commission, and to this day we see glorious signs of revival around the world, largely due to Pentecostal endeavors. The best church analysts say that there are 28,000 conversions to Christ per day in the People's Republic of China; in portions of Africa, 20,000 per day; 10,000 per day in South America with a corresponding 50,000 new churches opening there each year.

CONCERN

What about here in North America? It has given us great concern in the Assemblies of God that we are not seeing the growth of our earlier years. In the most recent statistics from 1993 to 1994, we saw a net gain of only 2 churches added to the 11,762 we recorded in 1993. While those statistics are alarming, it should concern us even more that, in American Christendom, there is a combined total of 50-60 churches of all denominations that close their doors every week. George Barna, the church statistician, estimates that if nothing stops this trend, 100,000 churches out of 375,000 in this country will close within the next 10 years. It would seem as if the Spirit of God is sweeping across the world while passing by North America. If this is true, why? Can the trend be reversed? This committee is convinced that there is an answer and that we as Pentecostals have a unique part to play in restoring America to the heart of God.

THE ANSWER

We in the Assemblies of God are well aware of what one sovereign move of God can accomplish. One season of harvest can "restore the years that the locust have eaten" (Joel 2:25). One marvelous, earthshaking revival will provide a wellspring of blessing and hope to wearied laborers in the harvest. At the local level, revival could resolve the frustrations of pastors over flat or declining attendance patterns by the influx of new converts or the return of backslidden believers who no longer are in the ranks of workers. Crushing financial needs are lifted on the wings of God's blessing. Revival resolves divisive problems, purifies the ranks, cleanses the motives, and ends the weariness of work in the flesh. At the national level, a mighty revival would send an army of workers into a whitened harvest. It would swell the ranks of ministry applicants, and the enrollment in our colleges and seminary would increase proportionately. One sweep of God's holiness during revival can purify the motives for ministry and raise the standards of lifestyle among our leaders. One touch of God's life will silence the "accuser of the brethren" and drown criticism in the praise of God's people.

Surely we all want the blessings of a sovereign move of God. Yet we may not all be aware of the desperate nature of our plight or how truly great is our need. We may be insensitive to the pathway to revival that lies before us or the dangers we face in getting there. We may not be aware of the powerful distractions or of the hindering forces. We may not even see how much God desires to bless us and to move upon His people.

DANGERS

It became the growing conviction of this committee that the dangers faced by our Fellowship are the same as those revealed by the writer of the book of Hebrews. In Hebrews 2:1-4, he warns them

about drifting from God. Perhaps the greatest danger to our Pentecostal movement is that of drifting from our doctrine and dedication to God. The Holy Spirit warns us through the writer to "pay much closer attention to what we have heard" (Hebrews 2:1). The ship that drifts will find itself going nowhere by direction and drifting anywhere by default. If we fail to value our moorings, we will find ourselves neglecting or even making light of things that were once precious to us: the salvation of the lost, the baptism in the Holy Spirit and the supernatural giftings that accompany it, the fruit of the Holy Spirit and the character it produces, the cardinal doctrines of our faith, or the altar as a holy place of total surrender.

The second symptom is described in Hebrews 3:6-4:11 as disbelief in God. God desires that His people rest in His finished work. Busying ourselves in the works of the flesh is a sign that we are no longer entering into that rest and will leave us discouraged, dismayed, disillusioned, and defeated. Unrest is everywhere in our society, but should it find its way into the ranks of the redeemed? Should ministers and wives be so harassed or on the edge of burnout? Is it possible that we are not ministering out of the anointing but out of the flesh? Is it possible that we are not living out our spiritual lives in the true rest of God? One touch of God's hand will bring more life to ministry than all our efforts at the graveside of Lazarus. One word from God is more powerful than 10,000 words of rhetoric. One revelation of the Spirit will give more direction than a host of committee or board meetings.

The third symptom described by the writer to the Hebrews in chapter 5:13-6:8 is departure from God. Our Fellowship was born in the power of the Holy Spirit and in the providence of God. Our greatest numerical growth took place when we emphasized the born-again experience, Bible exposition, and the baptism in the Holy Spirit as the endowment of power for evangelism. Are we now content to trade soul winning for sensationalism, the meat of the Word for the milk of the Word, weeping "between the porch and the altar" for laughing within the courts, purity for popularity? The neglect of the presence of God and of the sound doctrine of the Word may lead to outright rejection of them both.

Symptom number four about which we are warned in Hebrews 10:21-34 is decline before God. The Word of God demonstrates, and our experience tells us, that the fourth generation is the most crucial to the continuation of a movement. The Assemblies of God is now 80 years old, and our future depends upon what this generation will do with the inheritance given it. Furthermore, what we of this generation do with the inheritance will determine whether or not our spiritual progeny will rise up and call us blessed.

The last and most serious warning is that of discipline by God in Hebrews 12:5-29. We must not regard lightly the chastening of the Lord or fail to recognize it as a sign of God's love. His desire is to renew relationship with Him and to cultivate holiness. His discipline is never exercised to destroy but to bring the repentant into the fullness of His grace. Elijah's prayers in James 5:17,18 illustrate this very clearly. Before the man of God could pray for rain and its blessing of fruitfulness, he prayed for a chastening, 3 1/2 year drought. Would the church's leadership of this 20th century dare to pray this kind of prayer in order to prepare for the outpouring of the Holy Spirit?

AWAKENING

Having identified these points of danger, what is the spiritual condition of our Fellowship? The answer to that question may be pretty well summed up by the aggregate answer of the constituents in this room. We, the ministers, leaders, and delegates of our churches, are the representative answer of our Fellowship. Is there any drifting, disbelief, departure, or decline in us personally? Do we see evidence of it in our churches or in the church institutions we represent? If this is our condition or the condition of those we represent, then be assured that the loving but chastening hand of our dear Lord is upon us. There is only one correct response: repentance that is both personal and specific. In 2 Chronicles 7:14, we read God's response toward His repentant people: "If my people, which are called by my name, shall humble themselves, and pray, and seek my face, and turn from their wicked ways; then will I hear from heaven, and will forgive their sin, and will heal their land." (KJV)

Repentance implies profound and immediate change and cannot tolerate "business as usual." In the harmony of the Gospels, we read twice of the cleansing of the temple in Jerusalem by our Lord. It was such a strange scene to see Jesus braid a whip and banish the money changers and animal merchants from the premises of God's house. It seems such a stark contrast from that of the Good Shepherd who searches for the sheep, the loving Savior who delivers the world from its sinfulness and heals the world of its woundedness. Yet Jesus does it both times with such intensity that one cannot escape the importance of the moment. The key to understanding is found in the verse following the incident (Matthew 21:13), "And He said to them, 'It is written, My house shall be called a house

of prayer: but you are making it a robbers den.' " The provision of animals for sacrifice was not in contradiction with God's Word especially since the Jews had long since become a nation of city dwellers who needed to buy their sacrifices, nor was the exchange of money the issue since many had traveled from foreign cities to be in Jerusalem for the Day of Atonement. The issue was that service in the temple had become big business for personal gain. Beyond the price gouging of the people was the offense to God that He was no longer noticed. Those in charge were not only prayerless, but they were also using the ministry as a means for personal benefit and were stealing God's glory. The place of ministry had, in fact, become business as usual in the hearts of those in the service of the temple. The result was that people were not being delivered or healed but instead remained in the squalor of their sickened condition. This is what angered our Lord. What pleases God is when His house is restored in its priority to prayer and in the recognition of His presence so that shackles of bondage are broken and the healing streams flow with life once again. It is no coincidence that the next verse (Matthew 21:14) reads, "and the blind and the lame came to Him in the temple, and He healed them."

FOCUS

We must remain unshakable in our focus: We must be people of prayer. The altar must not give way to seeker-sensitive appeasement or tightly packaged services that allow no time for the birthing of new converts or the tarrying of the saints. Nor should the altar become a showcase for the sensational rather than drawing attention to Christ. Our altars need to be bathed in the prayers of God's people and set on fire with the visitation of the Holy Spirit. If the altar in the church is neglected, beware; the altar at home will be neglected as well. If the priority of prayer is not modeled in the church by its leadership, prayer will not likely be modeled before children in the home. If the private prayer closet of the minister's personal devotional life is shabby, how, from a shallow pulpit, will the spiritual formation of those whom he disciples be shaped? Prayer is critical to our future and must be kept in sharp focus.

Second, we must be people of the Word. There has never been an age of greater uncertainty. There is a quest for rock-solid answers in a world of nebulous, relative values. There is a need for unshakable convictions in a world where easy believism has been promoted as the religion of the day. There is a need for a strong, Bible-centered pulpit where God's Word is uncompromised. There has never been a more critical time for sound Pentecostal theology, practice, and experience. Every great movement and ministry in Christendom has been fueled by sound theology, not by the latest technology or Madison Avenue techniques. The apostles filled all Jerusalem with their doctrine. During the Reformation, reformers were martyred because they would not let loose their grip upon solid theological conviction. The Puritans tenaciously embraced and preached the doctrines of prayer and holy living. It was the great theological truths about the authority of God's Word, the devastation of sin, the wonder of God's grace, the work of the Spirit, and the judgment of heaven and hell that propelled great missionaries like Hudson Taylor, Adoniram Judson, Mark Buntain, and Victor Plymire to the ends of the earth. Our Movement began in a Bible school study group in Topeka, Kansas. In fact, this was the earliest root system of many of our churches. When it is declared that "time shall be no more," may we still be known as people of the timeless, unchanging, everlasting, eternal Word of God.

Third, we must be people of relationship. It was our awareness of 1) relationship to God, 2) relationship to the world, and 3) relationship to one another that fostered our need to form this Fellowship called the Assemblies of God. All ministry flows out of relationship. Pastors must cultivate intimacy with God and closeness with the people they serve. Church life must foster a level of fellowship that will draw people together in meaningful ways. Unity must characterize the quality of life together in the Body. Furthermore, our firm personal convictions and denominational loyalties must not prevent us from reaching out to other Christian groups who stand solidly with us in the confession that Jesus is Lord. And, in terms of our mission, how will we evangelize the world apart from relating to the lost? How can we reach them without touching them? And how will we disciple them as new converts without loving them as our spiritual children? The Azusa street revival may well serve as a guiding star for our quest for renewal of spiritual life and purpose. There it was that, through the Holy Spirit, people found relationship with the Father and the Son in the previously unknown dimensions. There, also, God's passion for the salvation of all men was generated in the hearts of the renewed to a degree not known since the first Pentecostal outpouring.

Finally, we must be people of the Holy Spirit. There is a grave temptation for us now to rely upon our growing body of experience and the momentum of our previous successes to carry us through our mission. The kingdom of God is not a matter of sitting around the campfire patting ourselves on

the back, spinning yarns about yesterday's victories. As 1 Corinthians 4:20 says, "... the kingdom of God does not consist in words, but in power." Neither is the Kingdom merely eating and drinking but "righteousness and peace and joy in the Holy Spirit" (Romans 14:17). While the Kingdom may be seen in righteousness and peace and joy, it will always find expression in the Holy Spirit. The Assemblies does not need a revival of religious activity. We have had enough of the ebb and flow, the rise and fall, and the pendulum swings from extreme to extreme. We need the constancy of the kingdom of God in the Holy Spirit as Jesus proclaimed it. Jesus gave us the keys to the kingdom of the Spirit. It is in this Kingdom where the will of God is done, by the Holy Spirit, and not just contemplated. It is in this Kingdom where, by the Spirit, we know forgiveness as we forgive others. It is this Kingdom where we, by the Spirit, run from temptation and do not toy with it, where we know that our King has dealt the fatal blow to the evil one and we are delivered by the power of the Spirit from Satan's snare. It is this Kingdom where we rely solely upon the Spirit for our resources and where God can never become obsolete. Oh Church, having begun in the Spirit, will we now rely upon the flesh to bring us to the end of our mission? (Galatians 3:3) We will always cherish the roots of our historical past, whether they reach to Topeka, Kansas; Azusa Street; or Hot Springs, Arkansas. A tree must grow up from its roots and never apart from them. Nevertheless, the root system from which we have drawn our life down through the years is much greater than our historical past. It is a root system which transcends time and will sustain us through all eternity. Our roots are the kingdom of God in the Holy Spirit. We will praise God for the glories of our past and weep with God for our failures in the past. But by the grace of God, we will get our heads and hearts wrapped up in Him who has triumphed and gone on to His glory throne from which He pours out upon His church an unlimited and unending fresh supply of His blessed Holy Spirit. It is the kingdom of the Spirit which transforms us from glory to glory until we, in a burst of spiritual transformation that will thrust us forever into the presence of God, finally become what He has destined us to be.

SIGNS OF SOVEREIGN WIND

It is this committee's observation that, while we as a Fellowship may do good things and ask God to bless them, it behooves us with greater wisdom to know and do what God is blessing. Is it possible that God has for His people, and in particular His people in North America, another wave of great revival on the horizon? Yes! Can we hear the sound of a sovereign wind blowing? Yes! Then how do we enter into the blessing? Dare we ask the great wind of God to "blow upon us" when the Bible clearly tells us "the wind blows where it wishes"? (John 3:8)

There are indeed signs of revival that should encourage us:

1. There are increasing reports of spontaneous outbreaks of revival on both secular and religious campuses in North America, including all-night prayer vigils and repentance for sin (2 Chronicles 7:14).
2. There is a Spirit-directed unification of pastors and God's people, within our Fellowship and beyond, for the purpose of prayer (John 17:20-23).
3. There is evidence of a spiritual stirring in Israel and among the Jews (Romans 11:12,15).
4. There exists a national awakening of men, moving them to repentance and to make covenant with God for their future as godly husbands and fathers (Joshua 24:15; 1 Samuel 22:1,2).
5. There is evidence of a spiritual awakening among leaders in Washington, D.C., as well as among state and local officials to the reality that our country's problems will not be resolved by anything less than national repentance and intercessory prayer (1 Timothy 2:1-5).
6. There is an awakening of the church to the spiritual and material needs of our major cities, recognizing them as precious pockets of humanity rather than a blight (Acts 18:9-11; Jonah 4:11).
7. There is a Spirit-led movement toward the reconciliation of old racial animosities which have weakened the church in her efforts to carry out the Great Commission and demonstrate love to the world (Ephesians 2:14-18).
8. There is evidence of a deepening hunger for the Word, for worship, and for the things of God (Jeremiah 31:7-14).
9. There are unusual signs and wonders confirming the Word of God, including healings and miracles of remarkable significance, clearly from the hand of God (Acts 2:19-21; 19:11,12).
10. There is a renewed focus to bring back the spiritual POWs, the multitudes of casualties who could literally fill our churches, those once wearing the colors of the redeemed but who are now captives behind enemy lines (Psalm 102:19,20).

What is our part in moving with the sovereign wind of God? How do we find ourselves in the place of blessing when the next wave of revival crests? In Ezekiel 37, we find a classic picture of revival as

God sweeps through the valley of dry bones with the wind of His Spirit and resurrects a great army. We readily recognize this as a prophetic picture of Israel and make application to the people of God of every generation. Do we need the prophetic Word to be spoken over the parched, bleached bones of what was once alive and vibrant? Do we long to hear the noise of members of the Body coming together under His leadership? Do we need the ligaments of loving relationship to hold together that which is fragmented or dismembered so that the skeletal structure may be endued with muscle and sinew to bear the weight of ministry? How we long to see a powerful army of God whose feet tread upon evil serpents and scorpions. (Luke 10:19)

THE PATHWAY TO THE PROMISE

The pathway to the revival pictured in Ezekiel 37 is found in the preceding chapter (Ezekiel 36) where, 48 times, God declares His sovereign intention to bring about this revival of His people.

- Six times, He says He will defeat our enemies (vv. 7b, 12a,b, 14, 15a,b).
- Six times, He says He will cleanse us (vv. 15c, 25a,b,c, 29a, 31a).
- Seven times, He says He will restore us (vv. 10c, 24, 33a,b, 34, 35, 38c).
- Twice, He says He will renew us (vv. 26a,b).
- On seven occasions, He declares He will love us (vv. 8b, 9a, 11d,e, 28a,b,c).
- Eleven times, He says He will make us fruitful (vv. 8a, 9b, 10a,b, 11a,b,c, 29b,c, 30, 37b).
- Three glorious times, He declares He will make us like himself (vv. 27a,b, 31b).

There is not an Assemblies of God constituent, hungry for God, who would not covet these promises of revival. These are sovereign directives, however, beyond our ability to achieve, exceedingly beyond our merit. This is a sovereign intervention of God on behalf of His people, promises not deserved by them but provoked by God's own faithfulness to His Word. God has spoken His will.

Nevertheless, we find in Ezekiel 36:37 the pathway to the promise. It is an invitation from God to become partners with Him. He says, "This also I will let the house of Israel ask Me to do for them. ..." In the KJV it reads, "I will yet for this be inquired of by the house of Israel, to do it for them. ..." In the NIV it says, "This is what the sovereign LORD says: Once again I will yield to the plea of the house of Israel and do this for them...."

Our intercessions and our prayer petitions before the throne release the fulfillment of God's promise. How foolish it would be to sit back in ease waiting for the promise of God when He clearly declares that we are to seek Him earnestly for that sovereign act. Why would He desire us to partner with Him in something that only He can do? It seems that the timing of God may be hastened so that His name may be glorified. Lest we think that God will squander revival to glorify the name of the Assemblies of God, listen to God's clear statement of purpose no less than five times in Ezekiel 36: "It is not for your sake, O house of Israel, that I am about to act, but for My holy name...." (22); "I will vindicate the holiness of My great name...." (23a); "...the nations will know that I am the Lord...." (23b); "...you will know that I, the Lord, have rebuilt....and planted...." (36a); "...then they will know that I am the Lord" (38d).

The Spiritual Life Committee urges that we focus singularly on one great priority: seeking God. In every place where God is at work, His people are focused on prayer and waiting in His presence. We urge that all of us, regardless of station or status, set ourselves to seek God by prayer and fasting, by confession of sin and departure from it, and by total surrender to Him until there is a breakthrough from heaven to earth. Pray...Pray...Pray!

[Note: All Scripture references are taken from New American Standard Version of the Bible unless otherwise noted.]

Following the reading of the report the congregation sang "Let It Breathe on Me" and spent time in prayer. In conclusion, the following offered prayer for specific areas of ministry: Delmer Guynes for college campuses, Richard Dresselhaus for pastors, Loren Triplett for Israel/Jews, Robert Brandt for men, Dick Foth for government leaders, Jimmy Davis for the cities of America, Spencer Jones for reconciliation, Saturnino Gonzales for the hunger, Gene Jackson for signs and wonders, and Dave Roevers for spiritual POW's.

Recess

The meeting recessed at 12:05 p.m.

THURSDAY AFTERNOON-AUGUST 10

The Thursday afternoon business session was opened with singing led by John Hall. Dan Wood, Lyndhurst, Ohio; and Rich Messenger, Akron, Ohio, served at the piano and organ respectively. The offering appeal was given by Richard Peterson, superintendent of the Kansas District. The offertory was presented by Dan Wood and Rich Messenger.

Business Session

The chairman called the afternoon business session to order at 1:45 p.m.

Presentation from National Coalition for the Protection of Children and Families Against Pornography

Jerry Kirk, president of the National Coalition for the Protection of Children and Families Against Pornography, spoke concerning the work of the coalition. He mentioned that pornography on the Internet is worse than in any adult bookstore. He urged the congregations to help make a difference. A brochure was distributed relative to sending mailgrams to Washington urging the president to enforce the laws and to sign legislation which will criminalize all of the different kinds of illegal pornography on the Internet.

The general superintendent prayed for God's blessing upon this project.

A motion prevailed to request the general secretary to draft a statement on behalf of the 46th General Council in session stating that we as a body want legislation enacted by those in Washington that would stamp out pornography.

Assemblies of God Delta Alpha Distinguished Educator Award Presentation

The general superintendent introduced the three recipients of the Assemblies of God Delta Alpha Distinguished Educator Award. This award has been established by the Board of Christian Higher Education to honor outstanding faculty members who have distinguished themselves on our Assemblies of God college campuses. Recipients must meet specific criteria set by the board in the areas of service, scholarship, teaching, and character. The three recipients of this award are: Opal Reddin, Springfield, Missouri; J. Calvin Holsinger, Springfield, Missouri; and Lewis F. Wilson, Laguna Hills, California. These three represent a total of 97 years of service to Assemblies of God higher education.

World Ministries Giving Awards

World Ministries Giving Awards were presented by James K. Bridges, general treasurer, as follows:

First Place (Church)
(Dollars Given)

First Assembly of God, Phoenix, Arizona
Tommy Barnett, pastor

First Place (Church)	First Assembly of God, Akron, Ohio
(Balance in Participation)	Eugene Meador, pastor
First Place (District)	Southern California District Council
(Dollars Given)	T. Ray Rachels, superintendent
First Place (District)	German District Council
(Balance in Participation)	David Rueb, superintendent

Roster Committee Report

Samuel Henning, cochairman of the Roster Committee, gave the following report as of 1:30 p.m., Thursday, August 10:

Ordained ministers	3,504
Delegates	<u>808</u>
Voting constituency	4,312
Licensed ministers	434
Visitors	<u>8,474</u>
Nonvoting constituency	<u>8,908</u>
Total	13,220

A motion prevailed to receive the report of the Roster Committee as of 1:30 p.m., Thursday, August 10.

Statement to Washington Re. Legislation Against Pornography

The general secretary read the following statement which had been prepared to send to the President and members of Congress encouraging enforcement of legislation to protect children and adults from pornography:

In it biennial meeting in session at St. Louis, Missouri, the 46th General Council of the Assemblies of God, acting on behalf of our 1½ million members in the United States, urgently requests the President and Congress of the United States for enactment and enforcement of legislation to protect the children and adults of America from the social cancer of pornography; we implore you to enact and enforce laws against obscenity and child pornography including total prohibition of such heinous material from the Internet. We urge you to legally prohibit pornography and thereby protect the children and families of our great country.

A motion unanimously prevailed to adopt the proposed statement.

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	1,848
Needed to elect	1,233
Robert L. Brandt	1,010

Ted Britain	24
Duane E. Buhler	23
Warren D. Bullock	321
Dale C. Carpenter	102
William I. Gallaher	59
Paul Goodman	107
Edward Hughes	34
Roland Peretti	50
Larry M. Savage	57
Lewis R. Shelton	26
Daniel York	35

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	1,887
Needed to elect	1,259
Robert L. Brandt	1,436
Ted Britain	9
Duane E. Buhler	11
Warren D. Bullock	258
Dale C. Carpenter	23
William I. Gallaher	26
Paul Goodman	52
Edward Hughes	10
Roland Peretti	19
Larry M. Savage	20
Lewis R. Shelton	16
Daniel York	7

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	1,918
Needed to elect	1,280
Donald E. Annas	45
Tommy Barnett	637
Glen Cole	583
Richard Dresselhaus	292
Virgil L. Jones	30
James D. Marocco	13
Phillip S. Neely	40
Dary R. Northrop	33

T. Ray Rachels	227
Woodrow S. Yasuhara	18

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	1,875
Needed to elect	1,251
Donald E. Annas	27
Tommy Barnett	1,081
Glen Cole	450
Richard Dresselhaus	184
Virgil L. Jones	6
James D. Marocco	3
Phillip S. Neely	9
Dary R. Northrop	6
T. Ray Rachels	10
Woodrow S. Yasuhara	8

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

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

Total votes cast	1,833
Needed to elect	1,223
Donald E. Annas	13
Tommy Barnett	1,464
Glen Cole	206
Richard Dresselhaus	97
Virgil L. Jones	2
James D. Marocco	1
Phillip S. Neely	2
Dary R. Northrop	1
T. Ray Rachels	41
Woodrow S. Yasuhara	6

The chairman, noting that Tommy Barnett received over the two-thirds vote required, declared him elected 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:

Total votes cast	1,852
Needed to elect	1,236
David W. Argue	678
Marcus Bakke	52
Gary A. Denbow	36
Robert L. Nazarenes	37

David L. Nelson	79
John Palmer	495
Joel Pavia	66
Clarence St. John	160
Manuel Shoults	98
R. David Simmons	15
Daniel B. Spina	24
Edmund L. Tedeschi	49
Norman Tosten	35
Ronald J. Traub	28

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	1,855
Needed to elect	1,238
David W. Argue	986
Marcus Bakke	25
Gary A. Denbow	22
Robert L. Nazarenes	13
David L. Nelson	25
John Palmer	653
Joel Pavia	29
Clarence St. John	42
Manuel Shoults	28
R. David Simmons	6
Daniel B. Spina	2
Edmund L. Tedeschi	13
Norman Tosten	2
Ronald J. Traub	9

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

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

Total votes cast	1,291
Needed to elect	862
David W. Argue	821
Marcus Bakke	5
Gary A. Denbow	5
Robert L. Nazarenes	2
David L. Nelson	4
John Palmer	440
Joel Pavia	2
Clarence St. John	5
Manuel Shoults	3
R. David Simmons	0
Daniel B. Spina	1

Edmund L. Tedeschi	2
Norman Tosten	1
Ronald J. Traub	0

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

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

Total votes cast	1,830
Needed to elect	1,221
David W. Argue	1,343
Marcus Bakke	6
Gary A. Denbow	11
Robert L. Nazarenus	3
David L. Nelson	4
John Palmer	433
Joel Pavia	3
Clarence St. John	12
Manuel Shoults	6
R. David Simmons	0
Daniel B. Spina	3
Edmund L. Tedeschi	6
Norman Tosten	0
Ronald J. Traub	0

The chairman, noting that David W. Argue received over the two-thirds vote required, declared him reelected as executive presbyter from the North Central Area.

Election of Executive Presbyter—South Central Area

Rollin Carlson gave the following report of the first elective ballot for the executive presbyter from the South Central Area:

Total votes cast	1,851
Needed to elect	1,235
Earl J. Banning	282
Howard Burroughs	40
H. Franklin Cargill	43
Micheal Dickenson	18
Derwood W. Dubose	89
R. Kenneth George	144
Jonathan M. Hollis	46
Thomas D. Lakey	44
Armon Newburn	994
Richard Peterson	83
Robert G. Slaton	31
Thomas E. Wilson	37

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

The chairman of the Tellers Committee gave the following report of the sec-

ond elective ballot for nonresident executive presbyter from the South Central Area:

Total votes cast	1,884
Needed to elect	1,257
Earl J. Banning	204
Howard Burroughs	22
H. Franklin Cargill	6
Micheal Dickenson	5
Derwood W. Dubose	37
R. Kenneth George	51
Jonathan M. Hollis	25
Thomas D. Lakey	11
Armon Newburn	1,471
Richard Peterson	23
Robert G. Slaton	13
Thomas E. Wilson	16

The chairman, noting that Armon Newburn received well over the two-thirds vote required, declared him reelected 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:

Total votes cast	1,904
Needed to elect	1,270
Jay Alford	95
M. Wayne Benson	106
James D. Biram	16
Paul E. Brannan	14
Robert D. Crabtree	127
Charles E. Crank	267
William F. Leach	44
Jerry G. McCamey	200
Ernest J. Moen	110
Robert K. Schmidgall	907
Irvin G. Steiding	10
Troy B. Webb	8

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:

Total votes cast	1,905
Needed to elect	1,271
Jay Alford	39
M. Wayne Benson	68
James D. Biram	4

Paul E. Brannan	5
Robert D. Crabtree	63
Charles E. Crank	185
William F. Leach	10
Jerry G. McCamey	110
Ernest J. Moen	19
Robert K. Schmidgall	1,398
Irvin G. Steiding	3
Troy B. Webb	1

The chairman, noting that Robert K. Schmidgall received well over the two-thirds vote required, declared him reelected as executive presbyter from the Great Lakes Area.

Election of Executive Presbyter—Gulf Area

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

Total votes cast	1,875
Needed to elect	1,251
John Bosman	37
Walter L. Davis	34
Douglas Fulenwider	64
N. E. Hartshorn	9
Gene Jackson	506
Bobby L. Johnson	194
J. D. Middlebrook	88
W. Nelson Sachs	58
Philip Wannenmacher	848
E. Joe Wilmoth	37

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:

Total votes cast	1,896
Needed to elect	1,265
John Bosman	5
Walter L. Davis	8
Douglas Fulenwider	28
N. E. Hartshorn	1
Gene Jackson	567
Bobby L. Johnson	66
J. D. Middlebrook	35
W. Nelson Sachs	12
Philip Wannenmacher	1,168
E. Joe Wilmoth	6

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 Gulf Area:

Total votes cast	1,590
Needed to elect	1,061
John Bosman	9
Walter L. Davis	7
Douglas Fulenwider	7
N. E. Hartshorn	0
Gene Jackson	374
Bobby L. Johnson	21
J. D. Middlebrook	19
W. Nelson Sachs	6
Philip Wannenmacher	1,144
E. Joe Wilmoth	3

Having noted that Philip Wannenmacher had received well over the two-thirds vote required for an election, the chairman declared him reelected 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:

Total votes cast	1,835
Needed to elect	1,224
Almon M. Bartholomew	890
Joseph M. Beretta	62
Edward B. Berkey	74
Philip Bongiorno	144
D. Wendel Cover	93
Samuel R. DiTrollo	30
Gary A. Pierson	27
James E. Morris	49
Ronald E. Piedmonte	42
H. Robert Rhoden	271
Otto J. Wegner	104
Robert Wise, Jr.	49

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:

Total votes cast	1,892
Needed to elect	1,262
Almon M. Bartholomew	1,405
Joseph M. Beretta	29
Edward B. Berkey	25
Philip Bongiorno	94
D. Wendel Cover	22
Samuel R. DiTrollo	8
Gary A. Pierson	8

James E. Morris	10
Ronald E. Piedmonte	12
H. Robert Rhoden	230
Otto J. Wegner	41
Robert Wise, Jr.	8

Having noted that Almon M. Bartholomew had received well over the two-thirds vote required for an election, the chairman declared him reelected 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:

Total votes cast	1,887
Needed to elect	1,259
Leslie M. Addison	34
Dan Betzer	840
M. Wayne Blackburn	62
Steven R. Brown	15
Robert J. Gatlin	19
Charles O. Kelly	24
Vaudie V. Lambert	167
John A. Loper, Jr.	36
Glyn Lowery, Jr.	59
Ronald F. McManus	604
Kenneth W. Owens, Sr.	12
Jimmy R. Swilley	15

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 for the executive presbyter from the Southeast Area:

Total votes cast	1,893
Needed to elect	1,263
Leslie M. Addison	5
Dan Betzer	1,250
M. Wayne Blackburn	10
Steven R. Brown	3
Robert J. Gatlin	1
Charles O. Kelly	3
Vaudie V. Lambert	62
John A. Loper, Jr.	13
Glyn Lowery, Jr.	23
Ronald F. McManus	522
Kenneth W. Owens, Sr.	1
Jimmy R. Swilley	0

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

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

Total votes cast	1,632
Needed to elect	1,089
Leslie M. Addison	1
Dan Betzer	1,350
M. Wayne Blackburn	11
Steven R. Brown	2
Robert J. Gatlin	2
Charles O. Kelly	1
Vaudie V. Lambert	24
John A. Loper, Jr.	4
Glyn Lowery, Jr.	17
Ronald F. McManus	219
Kenneth W. Owens, Sr.	1
Jimmy R. Swilley	0

The chairman, noting that Dan Betzer received over the two-thirds vote required, declared him elected as executive presbyter from the Southeast Area.

Election of Executive Presbyter—Language Area

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

Total votes cast	1,788
Needed to elect	1,193
Adolfo Carrion	87
Gale Cisneros	132
Daniel DeLeon	597
Saturnino Gonzalez	114
Ignacio Marrero	20
Jesse Miranda	662
Samuel P. Molina	113
Jose M. Quiles	18
Arturo N. Santana	45

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:

Total votes cast	1,854
Needed to elect	1,237
Adolfo Carrion	21
Gale Cisneros	43
Daniel DeLeon	631
Saturnino Gonzalez	49
Ignacio Marrero	14
Jesse Miranda	1,052
Samuel P. Molina	36
Jose M. Quiles	4
Arturo N. Santana	4

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

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

Total votes cast	1,823
Needed to elect	1,216
Adolfo Carrion	2
Gale Cisneros	2
Daniel DeLeon	341
Saturnino Gonzalez	15
Ignacio Marrero	7
Jesse Miranda	1,432
Samuel P. Molina	20
Jose M. Quiles	0
Arturo N. Santana	4

The chairman, noting that Jesse Miranda received over the two-thirds vote required, declared him elected as executive presbyter from the Language Area.

Resolution 23. Safeguarding Assemblies

Warren Bullock presented Resolution 23 and moved its adoption.

A motion prevailed to amend page 53, line 2, by deleting the word "minister" and replacing it with the words "have recognized ministry."

A motion prevailed to amend page 53, line 3, by deleting the words "be subject to losing" and replacing them with the word "place."

A motion also prevailed to amend page 53, line 4, by deleting the words "as an Assemblies of God church" and replacing them with the words "of affiliation in jeopardy."

A motion prevailed to amend page 53, lines 5 and 6, by deleting the words "unknown persons" and replacing them with the words "dismissed ministers known to be."

A motion prevailed to amend page 53, line 21, by the addition of the words "holding certificates of affiliation" following the word "churches."

A final motion prevailed to amend page 53, line 23, by deleting the words "The offenders" and replacing them with the words "Those who fail to support said verdict."

The motion to adopt Resolution 23 as amended carried.

Resolution 23 as amended and adopted follows:

WHEREAS, The Assemblies of God has a history of guarding against intrusion into local church ministry by those who lack integrity or do not qualify in other ways to ministers in our pulpits; and

WHEREAS, Lay leaders, during the interim a church is without a pastor, decide who will minister and who will candidate for the pastorate; and

WHEREAS, Our bylaws do not specifically prohibit a dismissed minister from either ministering in or pastoring an Assemblies of God church; and

WHEREAS, No sanctions are called for in the bylaws in the event a minister or a local church should allow a dismissed individual to minister in the church; therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That General Council Bylaw Article VI. Assemblies, Section 3. Safeguarding the Assemblies, which now reads:

Section 3. Safeguarding the Assemblies

Pastors and leaders of assemblies should make proper investigation of 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.

Be amended to read:

Section 3. Safeguarding the Assemblies

Pastors and leaders of assemblies should make proper investigation of persons who seek to gain entrance to teach, minister, or pastor. 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. No dismissed minister may be allowed to pastor or have recognized ministry in an Assemblies of God church. Any church persisting in retaining a dismissed minister shall place its certificate of affiliation in jeopardy. Pastors and district officials should maintain a reciprocal exchange of information relative to dismissed ministers known to be seeking ministry in our assemblies.

And be it further

RESOLVED, That General Council Bylaw Article IX. Doctrines and Practices Disapproved, Section 10. An Improper Attitude Toward Those Removed from the Fellowship, which now reads:

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.

Be amended to read:

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

and local churches holding certificates of affiliation 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. Those who fail to support said verdict shall be subject to reprimand or, if persisted in, appropriate discipline.

Resolution 24. Ecumenism

Warren Bullock presented Resolution 24 and moved its adoption.

A motion was made and seconded to refer this resolution to a committee. The motion lost.

A motion prevailed to amend Resolution 24 by the deletion of the last 2 resolves, beginning on line 19 to the end of the resolution.

The motion to adopt Resolution 24 as amended carried.

Resolution 24 as amended and adopted follows:

WHEREAS, The ecumenical movement seems to be gaining momentum in the Christian community; and

WHEREAS, This increased emphasis on ecumenism seems to be making inroads into evangelical circles; and

WHEREAS, Several evangelical leaders and theologians recently signed a document entitled "Evangelicals and Catholics Together for Missions"; and

WHEREAS, This document states that evangelicals should not evangelize Roman Catholics; and

WHEREAS, Such inroads may have a tendency to bring intense pressure upon the leadership of the Assemblies of God to bring our Fellowship in line with the ecumenical movement; and

WHEREAS, Ecumenism requires compromise on essential biblical doctrine; therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That we reaffirm the historic position of the Assemblies of God as stated in our General Council Bylaws, Article IX, Section 11 (page 171), which reads as follows:

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.)

Presentation of Excellence in Education Award to Billie Davis

The general superintendent presented the first annual Excellence in Christian Education Award to Billie Davis for her life-long dedication to education. Billie Davis began her ministry with the Assemblies of God as the assistant editor of a new magazine called *Our Sunday School Counselor*. The award for Excellence in Christian Education was initiated by the Division of Christian Education as a part of the new vision for Sunday school. It was indicated that hereafter this award be known as the Billie Davis Award for Excellence in Christian Education. The general superintendent commended Billie Davis for her outstanding contribution to the Fellowship in the area of education.

Following the presentation, a brief video was shown giving the vision of the Sunday School Promotion and Training Department.

Resolution 36. Authorization To Join the New Pentecostal/Charismatic Churches of North America (PCCNA)

Warren Bullock read Resolution 32 and moved its adoption.

A motion prevailed to amend Resolution 32 by the addition of the word "predominately" at the beginning of line 2.

The motion to adopt Resolution 32 as amended carried.

Resolution 32 as amended and adopted follows:

WHEREAS, In 1992 the Pentecostal Fellowship of North America, a group of about 24 predominately white Pentecostal denominations, voted to pursue the possibility of reconciliation with our African-American brethren; and

WHEREAS, Ten representatives from both the African-American and Euro-American Pentecostal movements began discussion on this vital matter; and

WHEREAS, After several meetings, a larger meeting was called for October 17-19, 1994, in Memphis, Tennessee, where 100 black leaders and 100 white leaders were invited to participate, and some 1,000 persons were invited to attend as observers; and

WHEREAS, At the Memphis meeting, the 46-year-old Pentecostal Fellowship of North America voted to dissolve, and a new organization, the Pentecostal/Charismatic Churches of North America, was formed; and

WHEREAS, There have been inquiries regarding the relationship of the General Council of the Assemblies of God and the new Pentecostal/Charismatic Churches of North America; therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That The General Council of the Assemblies of God become a member of the new Pentecostal/Charismatic Churches of North America.

Recess

The meeting recessed at 4:30 p.m. Bradley Trask, pastor, Brighton, Michigan, closed in prayer.

THURSDAY EVENING SERVICE—AUGUST 10

The Thursday evening service was under the direction of James K. Bridges, general treasurer, and began with a musical prelude from 6:40 to 6:55 p.m. by Phillips, Craig, and Dean, a trio from Goodlettsville, Tennessee. Praise and worship was led by Steve Phifer, Springfield, Missouri. Freeda Phifer, Springfield, Missouri; and Marjorie Ferrin, Colorado Springs, Colorado, served at the piano and organ respectively. Wang Gi Choi, pastor, Full Gospel Church of St. Louis, St. Louis, Missouri, read the Scripture and led in prayer. The offering appeal was made by W. Nelson Sachs, superintendent of the Southern Missouri District, and the offertory was presented by a combined choir from Evangel Assembly of God and New Heritage Christian Center, Chicago, Illinois, under the direction of Lemont Lenox and Tony Powell.

The general superintendent presented the General Superintendent's Medal of Honor to Cleve Howard of Sacramento, California. Mr. Howard has had a ministry to inmates since 1976 and has seen more than 1,000 men saved. He also works to encourage and motivate inmates to change their lives prior to release. He was honored as the Folsom Prison Volunteer of the Year in 1994.

The speaker for the evening service was Gilbert E. Patterson of the Church of God in Christ. Prior to his message, he asked Rance Allen, pastor of Bethel Church of God in Christ, Toledo, Ohio, to sing and lead the congregation in worship. Patterson preached from John 20:19-22, focusing upon the resurrected Jesus who breathed upon the disciples and commanded, "Receive ye the Holy Ghost." He stated that Jesus breathed on them as a symbol to help them understand. He used the experience of Ezekiel and the dry bones. He closed with the testimony of his mother's healing. A great altar service followed.

FRIDAY MORNING—AUGUST 11

The Friday morning session was opened at 8:15 a.m. with a time of prayer and praise led by Dick Eastman. Tom McDonald, Van Nuys, California, led the congregational singing and played the piano. Delores Eastman served at the organ. James Biram, superintendent of the Kentucky District, made the offering appeal; and Delores Eastman and Tom McDonald provided the offertory.

Business Session

The chairman called the business session to order at 9:35 a.m.

Roster Report

Samuel Henning, cochairman of the Roster Committee, gave the following report as of 9 a.m., Friday, August 11:

Ordained ministers	3,529	
Delegates	<u>812</u>	
Voting constituency		4,341
Licensed ministers	438	
Visitors	<u>8,551</u>	
Nonvoting constituency		<u>8,989</u>
Total		13,330

A motion prevailed to receive the report of the Roster Committee as of 9 a.m., Friday, August 11.

Resolution 25. Use of Black Ministries

Warren Bullock read Resolution 25 and moved its adoption.

It was moved and seconded to amend by substituting the words "to reach out to others without regard to race or ethnic background that we may all be one body in Christ" in place of the wording currently on lines 12 through 18. The motion lost.

The motion to adopt Resolution 25 carried.

A motion was made and seconded to amend the resolution by substituting a new whereas which would read: "Whereas, There seems to be an active working of the Holy Spirit in the direction of their inclusiveness, and," on lines 5 and 6. The motion carried.

Following a time of discussion and due to the importance of this issue, a motion prevailed to table the motion on the floor until the general secretary and the makers of the main resolution and the substitute motions could rewrite an appropriate resolution to bring back to the body the following morning.

Presentation to Fory and Cindi VandenEinde

Fory and Cindi VandenEinde were recognized as assisting our Fellowship far beyond the call of duty in the ministry of helps through the MAPS program. They were honored with a certificate of recognition presented by General Superintendent Thomas Trask.

Resolution 26. Use of King James Version

Warren Bullock presented Resolution 26 as follows and moved its adoption:

WHEREAS, There are numerous translations and versions of Scripture available for study and reference; and

WHEREAS, The King James Version has been accepted and extensively used throughout our Fellowship through the years; and

WHEREAS, In recent months Gospel Publishing House has changed the manner of presentation of Scripture text in Sunday school curriculum; therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That Gospel Publishing House and Radiant Life curriculum will not discontinue the use of the King James Version text in our printed Sunday school curriculum without prior approval by the General Council in session; and be it further

RESOLVED, That if this resolution passes, it be referred to the Executive Presbytery for implementation.

After considerable discussion, a standing vote was taken which showed 832 in favor and 813 in opposition. The chairman declared that Resolution 26 was adopted.

Greetings from NAE Representative

Don Argue, president of the National Association of Evangelicals, brought greetings to the General Council on behalf of the National Association of Evangelicals. He indicated that the NAE provides leadership for a networking of over 55,000 churches, 48 member denominations, and 197 parachurch ministries. Assistant General Superintendent Charles T. Crabtree offered prayer for Don Argue in his new assignment as president of NAE and for the ministry of NAE.

Resolution 27. Allegiance to Sound Doctrine

The chairman of the Resolutions Committee presented Resolution 27 as follows and moved its adoption:

WHEREAS, It is the fervent desire of Christians everywhere to desire and seek for the genuine working of the Holy Spirit that will lead us to true revival where multiplied millions will be brought into the kingdom of God—saved by the blood of Jesus—as a result of the outpouring of the Holy Spirit; and

WHEREAS, The identifying characteristic of this endtime revival will be the diminishing of man and the exaltation of God as Lord of all; and

WHEREAS, In our zeal to see the revival of God and His accompanying signs and wonders, we are reminded of the natural tendency of man to be influenced by fleshly works that cater to prurient human desires; and

WHEREAS, The sacrifice of biblical doctrines for the sake of manifestations is ill-advised as was discovered by Nadab and Abihu (Numbers 3:4) who chose to worship and serve God on their own terms; and

WHEREAS, The signs and wonders and the powerful manifestations and workings of God will be released as God's people and God's ministers give themselves without reserve to the Lord; therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That the members of this General Council repudiate the bent toward accommodating ecumenism, that we shall be watchmen who will vigorously oppose the trendy teachings of our time, and that we will not compromise with world philosophies which are nothing more than carnal wisdom that is spiritually bankrupt; and be it further

RESOLVED, That it shall be the collective cry of this General Council to reaffirm our allegiance to sound doctrine and the sacred Scriptures and our own desiring of God's Spirit to work fully in our lives as we submit ourselves to Him; and be it further

RESOLVED, That we must never substitute human doctrine or methods or rational interpretation for the "faith once delivered to the saints" in our own effort to achieve some type of manifestation. The attempt to do so would be an insult to the Spirit and to the Lord who is head of the Church; and be it further

RESOLVED, That in our effort to "contend for the faith," that we exhibit not an exclusive spirit or posture, but we desire to include those who will walk in agreement and who will shun questionable doctrines and practices; and be it further

RESOLVED, That the examination and credentialing process as outlined by the bylaws of The General Council of the Assemblies of God be strictly adhered to in an effort to maintain the biblical standards that mark and distinguish this Movement.

A motion prevailed to amend line 22 by reversing the wording so the line will read, "allegiance to sacred Scriptures and to sound doctrine."

It was moved and seconded to amend Resolution 27 by deleting the third resolve. By a standing vote, the chair declared the motion to amend lost.

A motion prevailed to refer Resolution 27 to the Executive Presbytery with the request that a report be brought back after review was given.

Resolution 28 Revised. Commission on Local Church Autonomy

Warren Bullock presented Resolution 28 and moved its adoption.

The chairman of the Resolution Committee referred to the revised Resolution 28 as printed in the additional resolutions that were distributed and moved that Resolution 28 as revised be adopted as a substitute resolution.

Recess

A motion prevailed to recess. George Wood read a fax received from Peter Kuzmic and Dale McClellan requesting prayer for those who are ministering in Bosnia and Herzegovina, and he offered prayer for their safety and for their ministry. The meeting recessed at 12 noon.

FRIDAY EVENING—AUGUST 11

The Friday evening service combined the youth congress with the General Council. Prior to the service, Frontline, a musical ensemble from Evangel

College directed by Nate Carter, sang. The chairman for the evening rally was Ronald McManus, executive presbyter from the Southeast Area. Praise and worship was led by Tom Matrone, minister of music, First Assembly of God, Des Moines, Iowa. Warren Dobson, minister of music, Calvary Temple Assembly of God, Wayne, New Jersey; and Bob Walker, First Assembly of God, Kalamazoo, Michigan, served at the piano and organ respectively. Eric Treuil, Chi Alpha director, Lafayette, Louisiana, read the Scripture and led in prayer. The offering appeal was presented by Everett R. Stenhouse, and the offertory was provided by Judy Gipson Knapp & Mission, Shingle Springs, California.

Music was provided by the Fine Arts Festival Choir and Orchestra and by Judy Gipson Knapp & Mission. Prior to the message, Thomas Trask interviewed Doug Clay, Ohio District youth director, relative to the street witnessing in which the Youth Congress had been involved during the week. He gave a glowing report of the results.

Speaker for the evening was Alton Garrison, pastor of First Assembly of God, North Little Rock, Arkansas. He emphasized that God has given countering, overcoming power in the Holy Spirit. He told the youth, "Your weapon against lies is the inspired Word of God, your weapon against immorality is the imparted grace of God, your weapon against pride is the indwelling Spirit of God, and your weapon against accusation is the interceding Son of God." The altar call was marked by a strong response from young people.

SATURDAY MORNING—AUGUST 12 GENERAL COUNCIL PRAYER BREAKFAST

The Prayer Breakfast was held Saturday, August 12, in the Cervantes Convention Center at 7:30 a.m. Thomas E. Trask served as chairman. Sandra Clopine, coordinator of the National Prayer Center, gave the invocation and read Scripture from Psalm 27:1-14. The worship leader was Paul Ferrin. Randy Quackenbush, Sacramento, California, served at the piano. Recognition was given to the National Prayer Center volunteers.

Prior to the message, music was provided by Judy Gipson Knapp, Shingle Springs, California.

The speaker for the breakfast was Huldah Buntain, missionary to Calcutta, India. She and her husband, the late Mark Buntain, have served as missionaries to Calcutta since 1954. She thanked the people for their prayers offered during her years as a missionary. She stated, "It has only been the prayers of God's people that have kept me in Calcutta for 40 years." Following Buntain's presentation, Trask asked different leaders to come forward and lead the audience in prayer for different areas of need: ethnic groups, inner cities, Assemblies of God churches, and the nation and its leaders.

Saturday Morning Business

The chairman opened the Saturday morning, August 12 business session by

leading in singing. Glen D. Cole made the offering appeal and led in prayer. The offertory was presented by Tom McDonald and Delores Eastman on the piano and organ respectively.

Greetings from American Bible Society

Fred Allen, vice president of U.S. Distribution, brought greetings from the American Bible Society. He thanked the churches and pastors for supporting ABS and noted that during the past year, 72 million copies of Scripture were distributed in America. A leather-bound Contemporary English Version Bible was presented to Thomas Trask on behalf of ABS.

Business Session

The chairman called the business session to order at 9:10 a.m.

Roster Report

Samuel Henning, cochairman of the Roster Committee, gave the following report as of 9 a.m., Saturday, August 12:

Ordained ministers	3,541	
Delegates	<u>813</u>	
Voting constituency		4,354
Licensed ministers	451	
Visitors	<u>8,623</u>	
Nonvoting constituency		<u>9,074</u>
Total		13,428

A motion prevailed to adopt the report of the Roster Committee. The chairman requested that registration remain open until Sunday.

Resolution 28 Revised.

Commission on Local Church Autonomy (continued)

The chairman explained that at the time of recess, Resolution 28 Revised was before the house for adoption.

A motion prevailed to refer Resolution 28 Revised to the Executive Presbytery for study and that a report be brought back to the next General Council.

Resolution 28 Revised and referred follows:

WHEREAS, The autonomy of the local church has been a foundational principle of our Fellowship, predating even our Statement of Fundamental Truths; and

WHEREAS, History shows that precious principles can often be lost if not purposefully protected; and

WHEREAS, The 1979 General Council in its good wisdom saw fit to form the Commission on Doctrinal Purity to "prevent the proliferation of

unscriptural teachings" even though most of the papers produced represented near unanimous positions within our Fellowship; and

WHEREAS, There should be careful deliberation and attention given to (1) preserving and strengthening autonomy of the local church while (2) supporting the efforts of national and district leadership to see increasing efficiency and effectiveness in our cooperative efforts; therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That the 1995 General Council establish a Commission on Local Church Autonomy; and be it further

RESOLVED, That Bylaw Article VI. ASSEMBLIES be amended by the addition of a division A. entitled Local Church Autonomy to read as follows:

A. LOCAL CHURCH AUTONOMY

Section 1. Authorization and purpose

A Commission on Local Church Autonomy shall be established for the purpose of giving careful attention to the guarding of the autonomy of the local church. The commission shall receive its assignments from the General Council, the General Presbytery, or the Executive Presbytery and make its reports to the General Presbytery.

Section 2. 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 local church leadership and advocates of congregational and/or Presbyterian forms of church government. Their terms of office shall be for 4 years.

Section 3. 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 a vacancy may be made at any meeting of the Executive Presbytery and ratified at any subsequent meeting of the General Presbytery.

And be it further

RESOLVED, That present Article VI become division B entitled Affiliation of Local Churches and that the wording of this section remain unchanged.

Resolution 25 Revised. Use of Black Ministries

The chairman noted that at the last session Resolution 25 was laid on the table, and a committee had been formed to draft a revised resolution.

A motion prevailed that the action to add language to the WHEREAS portion of Resolution 25 be removed from the table. A further motion prevailed to rescind the adoption of Resolution 25.

The general secretary read Resolution 25 Revised as follows and moved its adoption:

WHEREAS, The gospel of Jesus Christ declares God so loved the world He gave His only begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in Him should not perish, but have everlasting life; and

WHEREAS, The Scriptures have promised that in the last days God would pour out His Spirit upon all flesh; and

WHEREAS, The world for whom Jesus died and the flesh upon which the Spirit is poured out is without regard to ethnicity, class, economic distinction, or gender; and

WHEREAS, The foremost exemplary model of Pentecostal community in the 20th century is the Azusa revival where leadership and people joined together without regard to ethnicity, providing a divine rebuke against the Jim Crow laws and racial discrimination of this worldly age and throwing a shining light of God's intention for His church where the blood of Christ washes out the color line; and

WHEREAS, Because of the deep stain and sin of racism following the Azusa revival, predominately black and white Pentecostal denominations went their separate ways for a season; and

WHEREAS, The Assemblies of God was established during that time of separation so that our Fellowship became one from which black persons were mostly absent; and

WHEREAS, Our testimony to the world has suffered as a result of this separation and our Fellowship has been deprived of the rich blessings which could have been made by our black brothers and sisters; and

WHEREAS, In the goodness of the Lord and in the fullness of time, the Holy Spirit prompted us as a body in our 1989 General Council to repent of and denounce racism as a sin; and

WHEREAS, Across this Fellowship, congregations are opening their hearts to become multiethnic communities which bear witness to Jesus Christ who told us that the world will know us by our love for one another; and

WHEREAS, It is right that we repent of racism and ask our black brothers and sisters for forgiveness for failing to keep and treasure the shining ideal of Jesus and the 20th century Azusa revival; and

WHEREAS, We are committed to removing every last vestige of racism from our midst and restoring to the work of the Lord the blessing of an integrated Fellowship; and

WHEREAS, Toward this end, we encourage from our hearts the full participation of black persons within the Assemblies of God in fellowship and leadership; and

WHEREAS, Action by this General Council is needed to give impetus to our districts, ministers, and people for the full inclusion of black brothers and sisters throughout our Fellowship; therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That this General Council ask the general superintendent and Board of Administration, the executive and general presbyteries, the executive officers and presbyteries of districts, pastors and ministers, local

church boards and congregations to take whatever actions are necessary or advisable to enhance and accelerate the progress being made in our Fellowship for the inclusion of black brothers and sisters throughout every aspect of the Assemblies of God; and be it further

RESOLVED, That this Council request the general superintendent to issue a public statement speaking to the spirit of this resolution before the Council adjourns.

The motion to adopt Resolution 25 Revised carried.

There was a time of discussion concerning the possibility of adding a black representative on the Executive Presbytery. The chairman stated that could be done only through an amendment to the Constitution. In fulfillment of the request made in Resolution 25 Revised, the general superintendent made the following comments:

General Superintendent's Statement

"This 46th General Council has adopted a resolution calling upon our Fellowship to enhance and accelerate efforts toward inclusiveness of our black brothers and sisters throughout the General Council. I pledge that, with the Spirit's enablement, I will do all within my power to fulfill what this General Council has called for. I support this action with all my heart."

He further explained that the General Presbytery has approved the appointment of a committee to study how we can bring about representation of what this Fellowship really is to the level of the General Presbytery and the Executive Presbytery.

It was requested that a copy of the resolution and the statement be included in the quarterly letter so pastors could read it to congregations.

Resolution 29. Right of Sponsor

Warren Bullock presented Resolution 29 and moved its adoption.

A motion prevailed to amend Resolution 29 on line 4, page 62, by changing the word "shall" to "should."

The resolution as amended reads as follows:

WHEREAS, The Bible declares that "in the multitude of counselors there is safety" (Proverbs 11:14); and

WHEREAS, The possibility exists of a General Council Resolutions Committee exercising undue authority over properly submitted resolutions by deeming said resolutions as inappropriate; and

WHEREAS, Personal contact can be made with the author through the technological advances in communication with relative ease and minimal expense; and

WHEREAS, At times it would be impossible to pick up the intent, let alone the heartbeat, of the author of which his signature is required; therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That Article IV, Section 4, paragraph d, page 150, which now reads:

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.

Be amended to read:

d. Right of sponsor. Before the Resolutions Committee determines that a resolution is inappropriate, it shall discuss the resolution with the author to determine the intent of the resolution. If the resolution is still deemed inappropriate by the Resolutions Committee, the author shall be advised of his right to present the proposed resolution to the house for determination as to its appropriateness.

And be it further

RESOLVED, That Article IV, Section 4, paragraph d, page 150, be amended by adding the following three statements:

1. The Resolutions Committee is required to contact the author personally before it can rule on a correctly submitted resolution's inappropriateness.

2. If the Resolutions Committee makes changes in the substance of the preamble or the resolves, the signature required shall be as follows: Revised by Resolutions Committee: Originally presented by (author's name).

3. After proper procedures have been followed, the said resolution should be placed in logical sequence so that business would not become redundant or cause the resolution to become ineffective.

The motion to adopt Resolution 29 lost.

Resolution 30. Prayer for Civic Leaders

The chairman of the Resolutions Committee presented Resolution 30 as follows and moved its adoption:

WHEREAS, The 1971 General Council in session passed a resolution on "Prayer for Civil Leaders"; and

WHEREAS, A reaffirmation of that prayer commitment by our Fellowship is timely for our nation; therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That Resolution 10 from the 1971 General Council be reaffirmed as follows:

WHEREAS, We live in times that are especially perilous; and

WHEREAS, All of our officials of government, of whatever party, need godly wisdom to do that which is just, honest, and in the best interests of a peaceable and orderly society; and

WHEREAS, Holy Scriptures request that "supplications, prayers, intercessions be made for all that are in authority that we may lead quiet and peaceable lives in godliness and honesty"; and

WHEREAS, It has not become a firmly established custom among our assemblies to regularly carry out this clear biblical injunction; therefore, be it

RESOLVED, As an essential resolution that the General Council in session encourage all of our pastors and assemblies to pray frequently in public service for all leaders of the executive, legislative, and judicial branches of the government and all those in authority that we "may live quiet and peaceable lives"; and be it further

RESOLVED, That provision be made periodically, through various publications, to remind our constituency of this scriptural injunction. The motion to adopt Resolution 30 carried.

Resolution 31. Ministerial Opportunities

Warren Bullock presented Resolution 31 as follows and moved its adoption:

WHEREAS, Active ordained ministers of The General Council of the Assemblies of God are the highest level of ministerial trust, cooperation, responsibility, and leadership; and

WHEREAS, There is obvious difference of disclosure of ministerial opportunities within districts to those ordained ministers outside said district; and

WHEREAS, The Assemblies of God is by its own character a cooperative Fellowship of recognized ministers and churches; and

WHEREAS, There is a need for a central agency to coordinate information of nationwide church openings for ordained ministers and listing of ministers seeking pastorates; therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That General Council Bylaw, Article V, District Councils be amended by the addition of a new Section 5 to read as follows:

Section 5. District Cooperation Regarding Ordained Ministers

Every district office shall be required to make it known semimonthly (15th/30th) to the General Council all pastoral openings for a listing that shall be available to all current ordained ministers in good standing with the General Council. This list shall be available by mail upon request of such minister. Information as to church size, benefits, pay package, etc., shall not be required from the districts. Ordained ministers can add their name to a list of those seeking staff positions.

And be it further

RESOLVED, That present Section 5 be renumbered as Section 6.

A motion prevailed to refer Resolution 31 to the Executive Presbytery for further study as to the ramifications of implementation that might be involved and that a report be brought back to the next General Council.

Resolution 33. National Directors' 2-Year Term Limits

The chairman of the Resolutions Committee read Resolution 33 as follows and moved its adoption:

WHEREAS, The General Council Bylaws authorize the appointment of national directors to serve as heads of the various divisions of the General Council; and

WHEREAS, It would be advisable to have national directors serve an indefinite term rather than the 2-year term as now specified in the General Council Bylaws; therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That Bylaw Article XII, Section 2, paragraph b [page 186, 1993 General Council Minutes] 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 shall be elected by the Executive Presbytery, subject to the ratification of the General Presbytery. Their terms of office shall be indefinite but reviewed periodically by the General Presbytery.

The motion to adopt Resolution 33 carried.

Resolution 34. General Council Statement of Fundamental Truths

Resolution 34 was read by the chairman of the Resolutions Committee. A motion was made and seconded to adopt Resolution 34. The general secretary stated that this resolution is simply a request that by common consent a correction be made of an omission in the General Council Constitution which occurred some 68 years before. The motion to adopt Resolution 34 carried.

Resolution 34 as adopted follows:

WHEREAS, Research has indicated that in 1927 an inadvertent printing error omitted a clause from our constitutional Statement of Fundamental Truths regarding the Adorable Godhead [Constitution Article V, 2. (c)]; and

WHEREAS, This error has not been corrected; and

WHEREAS, The pre-1927 wording in the Constitution was never removed by action of the General Council itself; therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That the 1995 General Council act by consensus to correct Constitution Article V, Statement of Fundamental Truths, 2. The One True God, (c), which now reads:

(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; 17:11,12; Zechariah 14:9).

Be corrected to read as originally approved by the General Council:

(c) Unity of the One Being of Father, Son, and Holy Ghost

Accordingly, therefore, there is that in the Father which constitutes Him the Father and not the Son; 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; 17:11,12; Zechariah 14:9).

Resolution 35. Changes in *Advance* Magazine

Warren Bullock read Resolution 35 and moved its adoption.

A motion prevailed to amend line 12 under (2a) by adding the word "help" so that it would read: (a) To help fulfill the threefold mission of the church. The motion to adopted Resolution 35 as amended was seconded and carried. Resolution 35 as amended and adopted follows:

WHEREAS, The General Council Executive Presbytery has made recommendation to change the format and rename the *Advance* magazine; and

WHEREAS, Changing the name of *Advance* magazine would necessitate the adoption of an amendment to the General Council Bylaws; therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That Bylaw Article XI, Section 4, be amended by substituting the following language:

Section 4. *Enrichment* – A Journal for Pentecostal Ministry

a. Authorization and purpose

(1) *Liaison.* *Enrichment* journal shall be a principal liaison between Assemblies of God ministers and national headquarters ministries.

(2) *Purpose.* *Enrichment* journal shall be published:

(a) To help fulfill the threefold mission of the church;

(b) To serve as a ministerial resource tool, provide ministerial helps and administration aids, and provide information about program promotional materials;

(c) To serve the minister 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) *Executive editor.* There shall be an executive editor who shall be nominated by the general superintendent and elected by the Executive Presbytery.

(2) *Editor/managing editor.* There shall be an editor and/or a managing editor who shall be nominated by the general superintendent and elected by the Executive Presbytery.

(3) *Amenability.* The Executive Presbytery through the general superintendent shall have the overall responsibility for the editorial content of the *Enrichment* journal within the guidelines set by the policy-making bodies.

(4) *Budget support and changes.* Funding for *Enrichment* journal shall be derived from ministers' contributions to the General Council and revenue

from advertising of headquarters' ministries, related institutions, and select 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.

Media Ministries Presentation

Jeffery Brawner, coordinator of Media Ministries, presented by video five television spots and four radio spots that have been prepared for local churches to use. He also explained about an 800 phone number which is being set up in conjunction with the spots. In every spot there will be an 800 number where people call to find a church that declares that message of hope and life.

Along with the spots are billboards, tracts, bumper stickers, outdoor banners, and door bags for canvassing. These materials can be personalized with the church's name.

Procedural Motion

A procedural motion prevailed that in the interest of saving time Resolutions 37 and 38 not be read.

Resolution 37. Commission on Christian Higher Education

Warren Bullock presented Resolution 37 and moved its adoption.

Following a time of explanation and answering questions concerning the commission, its board of directors, terms of office, the financial impact, etc., a motion was made to postpone Resolution 37 indefinitely. The motion to postpone lost.

A motion was made and seconded to refer Resolution 37 to a committee to study the full impact of the resolution to the overall cause of Christian higher education in our Movement and that this committee, chaired by the general secretary, report back to the 1997 General Council the results of the study along with any recommendations and/or resolutions it would make. The motion to refer Resolution 37 for study lost.

The motion to adopt Resolution 37 carried.

Resolution 37 as adopted follows:

WHEREAS, The Assemblies of God has demonstrated a strong commitment to Christian higher education for many years; and

WHEREAS, It is incumbent upon leadership to seek ways and means to respond efficiently and effectively to growing demands and opportunities in Christian higher education; and

WHEREAS, There is a genuine desire by present leadership to raise the visibility of Christian higher education in the Assemblies of God; and

WHEREAS, A Commission on Christian Higher Education would be more consistent with our structure and could effectively address itself to the needs of the Assemblies of God Christian higher education now and in the future; and

WHEREAS, The General Presbytery has endorsed the concept of a Commission on Christian Higher Education; therefore, be it
RESOLVED, That the present Bylaw Article XIII be deleted and replaced by the following new Bylaw Article XIII:

ARTICLE XIII. COMMISSION ON CHRISTIAN HIGHER EDUCATION

a. **Sphere of authority.** There shall be a Commission on Christian Higher Education which shall have general oversight of the Christian Higher Education Department.

b. **Purpose.** The purpose of the commission is to fulfill the Great Commission which mandates seeking to fulfill the threefold mission of the Assemblies of God through:

(1) Guiding in the development of a higher education system and structure, both traditional and nontraditional;

(2) 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 Commission on Christian Higher Education.

c. **Commission chairman.** The Executive Presbytery shall elect a chairman subject to the ratification of the General Presbytery. He shall be charged with the operation of the Commission on Christian Higher Education and the Christian Higher Education Department.

d. **Amenability.** The commission and all of its departments shall be amenable to and under the general supervision of the Executive Presbytery and the General Presbytery.

e. **Composition of Commission on Christian Higher Education.** There shall be a Commission on Christian Higher Education which shall consist of 25 members to be constituted as follows: the chairman of the Commission on Christian Higher Education, who shall serve as chairman; the secretary of the Christian Higher Education Department, who shall serve as secretary; the general superintendent (ex officio); 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; and a representative from each of the endorsed colleges of the Assemblies of God. The representatives from the colleges shall be configured in such a way as to have six presidents of endorsed colleges, a minimum of three lay members of college boards, and a minimum of three chairpersons of college boards at any one time.

(1) **Selection of commission.** Those members of the commission not serving by virtue of office shall be selected as follows: The members of the commission shall be nominated by the Executive Presbytery and elected by the General Presbytery in their annual meeting. Care shall be taken to maximize rotation among the college presidents.

(2) **Terms of office.** The members of the commission who do not serve by virtue of office shall serve for terms of 3 years or until their successors qualify. Members may be appointed for one succeeding term, except the presidents who may serve only a 3-year term and will be replaced. The commission chairman and ex officio members will have no term limitations.

(3) **Authority and amenability.** The commission is responsible for the government and work of the Christian Higher Education Department. There shall be an annual meeting of the commission. Special meetings shall be at the call of the commission chairman. The presidents of endorsed colleges and institutions who are not members of the commission are invited to the meetings of the commission at their own expense, with the privilege of the floor but without the privilege of voting. The commission shall be amenable to and under the general supervision of the Executive Presbytery and the General Presbytery. The authority of the commission shall include:

(a) Supervision of the activities of the Christian Higher Education Department as well as the committees functioning under it in fulfilling the departmental mission.

(b) Review of the endorsement of Assemblies of God postsecondary schools on the basis of endorsement criteria developed by the commission 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 commission shall establish for this purpose.

(c) Disbursement and apportionment of whatever funds shall come into its possession to the various educational institutions of the Assemblies of God under guidelines approved by the Executive Presbytery.

(d) Developing the Assemblies of God education structure through advice and counsel, includ-

ing recommendations concerning forming, merging, or the continuation of Assemblies of God postsecondary schools as determined by the needs of the Fellowship.

(e) Promoting current educational technology in appropriate distance education programs as may be needed in the ministries of the Fellowship.

(4) **Executive committee.** There shall be an executive committee of the commission that shall meet if necessary to conduct business when the commission is not in session. The executive committee shall consist of five members including the commission chairman, the secretary of the Christian Higher Education Department, two college presidents, and one pastor. The general superintendent shall serve as an ex officio member of the executive committee. Those not serving by virtue of office shall be selected by the commission.

Section 1. Christian Higher Education Department

a. Authorization and purpose

(1) **Responsibility.** There shall be a Christian Higher 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 commission and comprised of soundly conceived, strong institutions which are equal in status before the commission and equal in support by the entire Fellowship. The commission, 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 educational 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, graduate schools, and seminaries.

(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 commission chairman shall be empowered to appoint a department secretary who shall serve under the commission chairman.

c. **Duties and functions.** It shall be the responsibility of the Christian Higher 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.

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) **Theological integrity.** It shall be charged with the maintaining of theological integrity and spiritual vitality of all endorsed Assemblies of God institutions.

(2) **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.

(3) **Expansion of school services.** It may recommend broadening the scope of individual school services.

(4) **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 qualification of the faculty and staff, the required subject of the curriculum, the requirements of admission and for graduation, and the general regulations of school life.

(5) **General service to all schools.** The Christian Higher 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.

(6) **Distance education technologies.** It may facilitate utilization of current educational technology in both traditional and distance education programs in the postsecondary schools of the Fellowship.

d. Rights and prerogatives

(1) **Certificates of endorsement.** The Christian Higher Education Department shall issue certi-

cates of endorsement to postsecondary schools meeting the standards for endorsement established by the commission 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 commission. 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 commission and has been officially endorsed by the commission.

(2) *Equality of endorsed schools.* In the discharge of its duties and functions and the exercise of its rights and prerogatives, the Christian Higher 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 Christian Higher Education Department shall enjoy equal rights of publicity and emphasis in Assemblies of God publications and in the promotional work of the Christian Higher Education Department.

(3) *Textbooks.* It shall be the prerogative of the Christian Higher Education Department to seek to provide textbooks for our schools reflecting the Assemblies of God doctrine and polity.

Section 2. Resource Development

The commission chairman shall work with and encourage the Assemblies of God Foundation in its development efforts for all postsecondary institutions endorsed by the Commission on Christian Higher Education. The Commission on 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 Bylaw Article II, Section 2, paragraph g be amended to read as follows:

g. Commission on 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 Commission on 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 in the area in which the district office is located. Foreign missionaries on furlough shall vote with their home districts.

Resolution 38. Change of Name of Berean College to Berean University of the Assemblies of God

Warren Bullock presented Resolution 38 as follows and moved its adoption: WHEREAS, The Executive Presbytery and the General Presbytery have adopted and ratified the replacement of Berean College with Berean University of the Assemblies of God; and

WHEREAS, This change will not jeopardize in any way the important role of nondegree ministerial courses currently used in the credentialing process; and

WHEREAS, The presidents of the five General Council schools have signed an *Affirmation of Cooperative Effort*; and

WHEREAS, Cooperative efforts in distance education will conserve valuable resources, especially in high-cost technology; and

WHEREAS, Future plans call for making the cooperative activities available to regional schools who wish to participate; therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That Bylaw Article VII, Section 2. Basic Qualifications, paragraph h. Basic education requirements, subparagraph (3), which now reads:

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

Be amended to read:

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

And be it further

RESOLVED, That Bylaw Article XXI, INSTITUTIONS, Section 5. Berean College of the Assemblies of God, paragraph a. Authorization and purpose, which now reads:

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.

Be amended to read:

Section 5. Berean University of the Assemblies of God

a. Authorization and purpose. Berean University, a nontraditional distance education university of Bible and general Christian service training, providing for ministers and lay persons accredited distance education based on a Christian worldview; utilizing current technologies to facilitate the evangelization of the world, the nurture of the church, and improvement of society shall be owned and operated at all times by The General Council of the Assemblies of God. The university 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.

And be it further

RESOLVED, That the word "college" in paragraphs b. Board of Directors and paragraph c. Amenability be amended to read "university," making these paragraphs to read as follows:

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

c. Amenability. The university 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 university.

The motion to adopt Resolution 38 carried.

Assemblies of God Theological Seminary Capital Campaign

Del Tarr, president of the Assemblies of God Theological Seminary, presented a video relative to the AGTS Capital Campaign to raise \$5.5 million to build a new facility and for endowment, etc. It was noted that the seminary is \$150,000 away from reaching its goal.

Envelopes were distributed and pledges were taken to help raise the remaining amount needed to reach the capital campaign goal. A total of \$63,300 was pledged. (It was noted that contributors would have 3 years in which to pay the pledge.)

Resolution of Appreciation

Warren Bullock read the following Resolution of Appreciation and moved its adoption:

WHEREAS, The 46th General Council of the Assemblies of God has been accorded great kindness and hospitality by the officials and agencies of the City of St. Louis and the Southern Missouri District Council as the host district; and

WHEREAS, Numerous persons, committees, and agencies have combined efforts to provide efficient services; and

WHEREAS, Many have given generously of their time and talents 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: the host district, Southern Missouri, and its superintendent, William N. Sachs; the City of St. Louis and its mayor, Freeman R. Bosley, Jr.; Robert Bedell, CEO, Mark Cahill, sales manager, and Anita Davis, convention service manager of the St. Louis Convention and Visitors Commission; John Vinkenbrink, general manager of the Adam's Mark Hotel; and the St. Louis media; and be it further

RESOLVED, That we express appreciation to the America's Center personnel: Melanie Hooch, building manager; Marie Portell, contract and booking coordinator; Sue Nickrent, director of convention and trade shows; Paige Millard, senior event manager; and Nancy Tinker of America's Center catering; and to the Regal Riverfront, the Marriott Pavilion, and the St. Louis University for housing and assisting with youth activities; and be it further

RESOLVED, That great appreciation be expressed to General Superintendent Thomas E. Trask, Assistant Superintendent Charles T. Crabtree, the executive officers and members of the Executive Presbytery for their leadership; to all other General Council personnel for efficiency in planning, support, and coordination of the numerous details essential to all services rendered; and to all who ministered unto the Lord and edified His church with anointed preaching, inspirational worship, and anointed music

by the talented singers and musicians; for a most encouraging and uplifting Council; and be it further

RESOLVED, That we affirm our thankfulness to the Lord for His significant presence and leadership in this 46th General Council and that "Pentecost Now" be the consuming cry of our hearts as we go forth to the fields of harvest. His name be praised!

The motion carried.

Adjournment

A motion prevailed to adjourn the business meeting of the 46th General Council at 12 noon, Saturday, August 12, 1995. Assistant General Superintendent Charles T. Crabtree closed in prayer.

SATURDAY EVENING—AUGUST 12

The emphasis for the Saturday evening service was missions. The service opened with a parade of nations with missionaries in native costume bearing flags representing more than 140 nations served by Assemblies of God missionaries. The parade was narrated by George O. Wood. The chairman for the service was Glen Cole, executive presbyter from the Southwest Area. Dan Smith, Fort Worth, Texas, led the congregation in singing and worship. Ramona Crabtree and Dixie Hackett served at the piano and organ respectively. The prayer and Scripture reading was by Calvin Olson, missionary to southern Asia. The offering for the evening was designated for the World Assemblies of God Relief Fund, and the appeal was made by David Grant, missionary evangelist. The offertory was presented by Robert Solomon, Mission of Mercy, Calcutta, India. The offering and pledges received for the World Assemblies of God Relief Fund was some \$700,000.

Prior to the evening message, the missionary musical, *It's Pentecost*, was presented featuring Dan Betzer, Fort Myers, Florida, as narrator and Robert Solomon as soloist.

The speaker for the evening was Loren Triplett, executive director of the Division of Foreign Missions. He emphasized that Pentecost is the secret to the Great Commission. He stated that when Peter preached a 435-word sermon and 3,000 people were saved, he knew the secret of the Great Commission and it was working in his life. He was full of the Holy Ghost. "Every generation must accept responsibility for the Great Commission as its very own. Every generation must accept the authority of the Great Commission as it very own, and every generation must know the absolute necessity of the baptism in the Holy Spirit, the secret of the enablement."

The evening rally closed with a missionary recessional to the hymn, "We've a Story To Tell to the Nations." At Triplett's urging, young people in the service fell in with the missionaries to signify their willingness to go to the ends of the earth with the gospel.

SUNDAY MORNING—AUGUST 13

David Argue, executive presbyter from the North Central Area, was in charge of the memorial and Communion service which began at 9:45 a.m. Saturnino Gonzalez, superintendent of the Puerto Rico District, read the Scripture and led in prayer. Dawn Crabtree, First Assembly of God, Worcester, Massachusetts, and Hazel Hoskins, Deerfield, Florida, served at the piano and organ respectively as Tom McDonald led the congregation in a time of praise and worship. James K. Bridges made the offering appeal. The offertory was presented by Janet Paschal, music evangelist, Nashville, Tennessee.

George O. Wood, general secretary, was the speaker for the memorial and Communion service. The theme of his message was "Crossing the Finish Line." His text was from Hebrews 12:1-2 which presents the Christian life as a race—a marathon. He emphasized: 1. Let us throw off every weight or hindrance and sin that so easily entangles; 2. Let us run; and 3. Let us fix our eyes on Jesus. If we are to cross the finish line in the marathon of Christian life and ministry, we must fix our eyes on Jesus. We must never look behind us or look at those beside us, but we must concentrate on Him who is waiting at the finish line.

In Memoriam

Prior to the morning message, a video scroll was presented containing the names of deceased ministers. The following list includes all whose names had been reported to the general secretary's office from July 3, 1993, to June 30, 1995, and was included in the video presentation. Janet Paschal provided special music during the presentation of the memorial scroll.

Abney, Blanche M., Savanna, Illinois
 Acott, Stephen R., Portland, Oregon
 Ahalt, Cecil W., Manteca, California
 Alarcon Jr., Joe, Glendale Heights, Illinois
 Alexander, William L., Muskegon, Michigan
 Alford, Olive W., Woodland, California
 Allgood, Pearl S., Decatur, Georgia
 Anderson, Alice K., San Bernardino, California
 Anderson, Ed W., Tacoma, Washington
 Andrews, Lillian G., Poteau, Oklahoma
 Ansel, Eva F., Wills Point, Texas
 Arce, Efrain, Margate, Florida
 Archuleta, Adelina, Oakland, California
 Argue, Hazel, Windsor, California
 Ashcroft, J. Robert, Springfield, Missouri
 Atkins, Michael, Williamston, Michigan
 Aulds, C. A., Edgewood, Texas
 Avila, Cleofas M., Harlingen, Texas

Aviles, Wilson C., Orlando, Florida
 Baber, James A., Woodstown, New Jersey
 Baggs, Thelma, Falling Waters, West Virginia
 Baird, Buddy, New Albany, Indiana
 Balimbin, Solomon E., Long Beach, California
 Ball, Sunshine L., San Antonio, Texas
 Barker, Fred, Mesquite, Texas
 Barnard, Otis T., Alamogordo, New Mexico
 Barnes, Anna L., Seattle, Washington
 Barnes, Harold W., Ontario, Canada
 Barnett, Billy G., Buffalo, Texas
 Barnett, Cecil R., Fort Worth, Texas
 Bates, Alvan D., Hot Springs, Arkansas
 Bates, Leonard A., Sulphur Springs, Arkansas
 Baum, Clyde C., Vancouver, Washington
 Bayless, Bunian G., Granbury, Texas
 Beard, Ann M., Springfield, Missouri
 Beauford, Leona, Seminole, Oklahoma
 Belbin, William J., Elm, New Jersey
 Benitez, Francisca, Tampa, Florida
 Bentley, Pansy A., Leesburg, Florida
 Bergen, Geneva, Waupaca, Wisconsin
 Bergstrom, Sara M., Ventura, California
 Bethume, Roscoe L., Crystal, Michigan
 Blackburn, David, Victoria, Texas
 Blakeley, Roy C., Modesto, California
 Bone, Elmer, Mineral Point, Missouri
 Bonilla, Jennie, Porterville, California
 Bonkowski, Larry J., Fort Lauderdale, Florida
 Boteler, Orel A., Phoenix, Arizona
 Box, Lester G., Sulligent, Alabama
 Bradley, Wayne H., Redding, California
 Brandt, M. F., Omaha, Nebraska
 Brengle, Oneida F., Lakeland, Florida
 Bresson, Bernard L., Springfield, Missouri
 Brewster, L. Paul, Birmingham, Alabama
 Brinley, L. T., Alford, Florida
 Brown, Carl W., Lake Havasu City, Arizona
 Brown, Elbert W., Yakima, Washington
 Brown, Marjorie, Springfield, Missouri
 Brown, Maudie M., Clovis, California
 Brumback, T. Dale, Luray, Virginia
 Buck, Luverne H., Springfield, Missouri
 Bueno, Elmer T., Laguna Hill, California
 Bulaon, Richard L., Ranson, West Virginia

Burkhalter, Joseph E., Claude, Texas
 Burris, W. Glen, Thermopolis, Wyoming
 Burrows, Will A., Natrona Heights, Pennsylvania
 Butler, Harold W., Savannah, Georgia
 Butterfield, Gladys M., Perris, California
 Caballero, Jose C., San Antonio, Texas
 Cadenhead, Isaac A., Crestview, Florida
 Cadwalder, Mary B., Sugarland, Texas
 Calcagno, Stephen S., San Leandro, California
 Calcote, Iylene, Plainview, Texas
 Campbell, Gladys, Mountain View, Missouri
 Campbell, Mary A., Alpine, California
 Campbell Sr., Ray R., Sperryville, Virginia
 Cannon, James, Bullard, Texas
 Cantelon, Lorena, Pocatello, Idaho
 Cargal, Gene, Travelers Rest, South Carolina
 Carlton, Curtis, Live Oak, Florida
 Carlton, Truman W., Modesto, California
 Carothers, Timothy M., Delta, Colorado
 Carpenter, Leonard L., Kansas, City, Missouri
 Carrillo, Teodoro, Luquillo, Puerto Rico
 Carroll, Paul O., Houston, Texas
 Cashel, William W., Mesa, Arizona
 Catterson, Oran A., Scranton, Pennsylvania
 Chaffin, Dwight F., Greeley, Colorado
 Champion, Richard G., Springfield, Missouri
 Chance, Dorothy J., Cleveland, Texas
 Chaney, Paul, Phelan, California
 Chaney, Sue E., Lakeland, Florida
 Cherry, William J. B., Oildale, California
 Chico, Marcos A., Lakeland, Florida
 Childress, Alfonzo, Benton, Arkansas
 Chittim, C. Ross, Puyallup, Washington
 Clark Sr., Elroy M., Fullerton, California
 Clark, Lucile D., Rock Hill, South Carolina
 Clark, Veny L., West Columbia, South Carolina
 Clarke, George E., Russellville, Arkansas
 Clay, Alvin, Springfield, Missouri
 Cleckler, Grady, Clanton, Alabama
 Clutter, Samuel G., Lakeland, Florida
 Cohn, Ossie A., Conway, South Carolina
 Collier, Oliver D., Fort Myers, Florida
 Colon, Santos, Aguirre, Puerto Rico
 Colter, Maude E., Sacramento, California
 Colvin, William A., San Augustine, Texas

Connert, Steve, Mobile, Alabama
 Cook, Dee, Blountstown, Florida
 Cooke, S. Douglas, Oak Grove, Louisiana
 Cooke, Stanley L., Collinsville, Illinois
 Copeland, Moses E., Augusta, Kansas
 Copeland, Ruth E., Belleville, Illinois
 Cordero, Manuel A., Bayamon, Puerto Rico
 Cordova, Eliud A., Alcalde, New Mexico
 Correa, Jose T., Huntington Park, California
 Correll Sr., Bernard F., Bridgeport, Nebraska
 Craig, Olen T., Okmulgee, Oklahoma
 Cressley, George E., La Monte, Missouri
 Crosson, M. Leslie, Sacramento, California
 Crouse, Kenneth, Franklin, North Carolina
 Crowder, Herbert W., Pueblo, Colorado
 Crowell, Harold V., Caldwell, Idaho
 Cruse, Lloyd E., Franklin, North Carolina
 Cuppetelli, Ambrose, Roseville, Michigan
 Curtis, R. F., Santa Ana, California
 Cutler, Gladys Y., Tumwater, Washington
 Dabney, Delmar M., Beaumont, Texas
 Daggett, May L., Spokane, Washington
 Daily, James M., Pasadena, Texas
 Dainty, Gladys, Springfield, Missouri
 Daves, John M., Dayton, Texas
 Davis, J. T., Bullard, Texas
 Davis, John A., Manning, South Carolina
 Davis, Manuel R., South Wellfleet, Massachusetts
 Davis, Thelma E., Doddridge, Arkansas
 Deal, Otties, Harrison, Arkansas
 Dean, Opal O., Charlottesville, Virginia
 Dektor, Harold I., Downey, California
 Delgado Sr., John, Irving, Texas
 Denny, Mark L., Lake Worth, Texas
 Denton, Charles W., Charlotte, North Carolina
 De Sha, Joseph R., Stormville, New York
 Devereaux, William L., Pasadena, California
 Devore, Hazel M., Durant, Florida
 Dewey, Willis L., Pampa, Texas
 Dikes, Woodrow, Somerville, Texas
 Dilly, Maude E., San Antonio, Florida
 Di Nicola, Mario A., Portland, Oregon
 Diprima, Nino J., New Iberia, Louisiana
 Doepke, Irene P., Bellevue, Kentucky
 Donald, Thomas F., Corsicana, Texas

Dorsey, Randall E., North Little Rock, Arkansas
 Downs, George E., Anchorage, Alaska
 Dubose, Howard, Columbus, Georgia
 Dunn, James W., Dexter, Missouri
 Edwards, Oleta, Winter Haven, Florida
 Eide, Frederick D., Mountainhome, Pennsylvania
 Elder, Preston, Aztec, New Mexico
 Erickson, Margaret, Maywood, California
 Espinoza, Bernardino, San Antonio, Texas
 Espinoza, Robert, San Fernando, California
 Esterline, Raymond T., Felton, California
 Estes, Wilson G., Abilene, Texas
 Ezell, Clyde B., Lemon Grove, California
 Farmer, Violet C., Orange, California
 Farris, Ray G., Alamo, Texas
 Fennell, Robert L., East Dublin, Georgia
 Ferguson, Goldie A., Springfield, Missouri
 Fegeley, Vaughn L., Houston, Texas
 Finley, Sceborn J., Sheridan, Arkansas
 Fischer, Harold A., Hot Springs, Arkansas
 Fleming, Wesley W., Walla Walla, Washington
 Floreck, Helen M., Dade City, Florida
 Flores Sr., Ben S., Stockton, California
 Foley, Herman F., Nevada, Missouri
 Forrest, Gene, Lodi, California
 Foster, Pearl M., Phoenix, Arizona
 Fouts Sr., James M., Booneville, Arkansas
 Foxworth, Limuel G., Bonifay, Florida
 Frady, Gladys M., Norman, Oklahoma
 Franz, Leonard J., Corona, California
 Fredrikson, Rose V., Sanford, Maine
 Freeman, David L., San Jose, California
 Freese, Artford W., Springfield, Missouri
 Friestad, Sydney O., Rialto, California
 Fulford, L. Eloise, Clearwater, Florida
 Fulton, Robert B., Avonmore, Pennsylvania
 Galligan, Meredith L., Hood River, Oregon
 Garcia, Fred B., San Jose, California
 Garner, L. May, Springfield, Missouri
 Gentry, Ross S., Tecumseh, Oklahoma
 Gibson, Ernest C., Mulberry, Arkansas
 Gilbert, Ernest C., Patterson, Georgia
 Gilbert, Iva S., Columbus, Georgia
 Giles, James O., Robertsdale, Alabama
 Gilman, Leo G., Show Low, Arizona

Glendening, Verl H., Stockton, Kansas
 Glenn, Emmett L., Chesterfield, Missouri
 Golliher, F. Gene, Oklahoma City, Oklahoma
 Gonzales, Pedro A., Rialto, California
 Gonzalez, Crisoforo, Edinburg, Texas
 Goodwin, Mrs. J. R., Tulsa, Oklahoma
 Gordon, Raymond, Greenfield, Massachusetts
 Grady, James C., Winchester, Illinois
 Graham, Virginia W., Lakeland, Florida
 Graham, William S., Mineral Wells, Texas
 Granados, Jose I., San Francisco, California
 Greenaway, Charles E., Enterprise, Alabama
 Greenaway, Mary L., Enterprise, Alabama
 Greer, H. T., Ben Wheeler, Texas
 Gregg, George R., Spring Valley, California
 Grell, Dwain L., Carlinville, Illinois
 Griffin, Russell E., El Sobrante, California
 Griffith Sr., Bernard R., Fort Worth, Texas
 Guerin, Leo, Gretna, Louisiana
 Guevara, Emiliano V., San Diego, California
 Gustafson, Carl J., Eugene, Oregon
 Gustavson, Helen I. A., Roseville, Minnesota
 Hale, Everett G., Kirkland, Washington
 Hamar, Leo W., Port Townsend, Washington
 Hamill, James E., Memphis, Tennessee
 Hamlin, Augusta M., Bourbon, Missouri
 Hammond, Hattie P., Hagerstown, Maryland
 Hampton, Lorraine K., Riverton, Wyoming
 Hannah, Howard E., Gravois Mills, Missouri
 Hardcastle, George W., Oklahoma City, Oklahoma
 Harris, Turner E., Winona, Texas
 Hasley, Ray B., Waterford, California
 Hastie, Roland D., Van Buren, Arkansas
 Hathcock, Frankie M., Wynne, Arkansas
 Hazel, Grover C., Weatherford, Oklahoma
 Heatter, Florence M., Richton Park, Illinois
 Heck Jr., Jacob B., Manassas, Virginia
 Helms, Dewey N., Klondike, Texas
 Helms, Elisabeth, Lakeland, Florida
 Hembree, Charles F., Goodyear, Arkansas
 Henin, William O., Silsbee, Texas
 Henley, Ruth J., Olathe, Kansas
 Hestand, Robert L., Grandview, Missouri
 Hibdon, I. R., Bartlett, Tennessee
 Hicks, Stanley G., Apache Junction, Arizona

Hines, Forrest H., Palisade, Colorado
 Hines, Viola, Mountainburg, Arkansas
 Hinton, Elroy G., Wilmore, Pennsylvania
 Hirschy, Charles O., Westminster, California
 Hollister, Lola C., Decatur, Illinois
 Hontz, Priscilla, Drums, Pennsylvania
 Horton, Alva T., Cottondale, Florida
 Horton, Jimmie J., Calera, Alabama
 Hudak, Mary I., Fairview Park, Ohio
 Hugh, Ivor H., Brookings, Oregon
 Hunt, Everett C., Vienna, Virginia
 Hurst, Lois L., Bainbridge, Georgia
 Hutchison, David O., Coeur D' Alene, Idaho
 Hyatt, C. H., Chicota, Texas
 Ivie, J. R., Houston, Texas
 Jackson, Doris, Englewood, Colorado
 Jackson, Harvey J., Florence, Oregon
 Jackson, R. Rex, Parachute, Colorado
 Jacobson, Veronica J., Springfield, Missouri
 Jackson Sr., William O., Ada, Oklahoma
 James, Marie B., Columbus, Nebraska
 Jamison, John R., Oviedo, Florida
 Jenkins, Henry H., Stanley, Virginia
 Jett, Matthew W., Franklin, Louisiana
 Johnson Jr., Bernhard, San Jose, California
 Johnson, Doyle L., Van Buren, Arkansas
 Johnson, Willie B., Enterprise, Alabama
 Jones, Howard D., Des Moines, Iowa
 Jones, Robert S., Fort Dodge, Iowa
 Jordan, Eula V., Miami, Oklahoma
 Kaufmann, Edna M., Clarkdale, Arizona
 Keller, Gladys R., Rancho Cordova, California
 Kendrick, Hersell, Clarkton, Missouri
 Kennedy, Enola C., Rison, Arkansas
 Kenney, Lester S., Issaquah, Washington
 Kett, Lyle J., Cedartown, Georgia
 Keys, Leland R., San Jose, California
 Kidd, Daniel B., Brantley, Alabama
 Kiddy, Orval F., Irvine, California
 King, J. Wesley, Painesville, Ohio
 King, Inga, Detroit Lakes, Minnesota
 Klein, M. J., Weatherford, Texas
 Knoester, Gerald, Pasadena, California
 Kreiss, V. Inez, Walnut Creek, California
 Kroll, John A., Hancock, Maryland

Lacy, W. J., Monticello, Arkansas
 Lagmay, E. C., Philippines
 Lancaster, Marguerite, Owasso, Oklahoma
 Land, Sallie Z., Mountain Home, Arkansas
 Langley, Gayle M., Leakesville, Mississippi
 Larson, Mildred, Calloway, Nebraska
 Lawrence, Elizabeth K., Mount Vernon, Washington
 Lawrence, Lloyd A., Mount Vernon, Washington
 Layman, Shirley M., Benton, Louisiana
 Lee, Parvin C., Grass Lake, Michigan
 Lefotu, Tupusala T., Carson, California
 Leggio, Nunzio J., West New York, New Jersey
 Lemons, T. J., Las Cruces, New Mexico
 Levang, Raymond K., Hibbing, Minnesota
 Lewis, Esther C., Everett, Washington
 Lewis, Golda E., Plains, Montana
 Linn, Wilson, Elizabethtown, Pennsylvania
 Litke, Arnold, Mariposa, California
 Litsinger, Gilbert M., Baltimore, Maryland
 Locher, Robert F., Moosup, Connecticut
 Lockett, Lee C., Roaring Spring, Pennsylvania
 Lofdahl, Alver E., Ferndale, Washington
 Loftin, Prestley C., Hartford, Arkansas
 Long Sr., Melvin C., Collinsville, Oklahoma
 Lotridge, Ralph, Bakersfield, California
 Lucky, Byron T., Phillipsburg, Kansas
 Lunde, James F., LaCenter, Washington
 Luse, Jeffrey C., Kirkland, Washington
 Lusk, Deward F., Wills Point, Texas
 Lutz, Orion W., Portland, Oregon
 Lyon, James M., Wadsworth, Ohio
 Mack, Norman A., Pomona, California
 Madden, Harold J., Lewisville, Texas
 Maddox, Carrie B., Clarkton, Missouri
 Mader, Ralph E., Pullman, Washington
 Magby, Walter H., Houston, Texas
 Malone Jr., Charles W., Laurel, Mississippi
 Mangum, Larry G., Montgomery, Alabama
 Marsh, Edna M., Portland, Oregon
 Martin, Asa C., Camp Hill, Pennsylvania
 Martin, Dorothy M., Oklahoma City, Oklahoma
 Martinez, Gilbert, Oklahoma City, Oklahoma
 Martinez, Gregorio, Paramount, California
 Mask, Edna, Roswell, New Mexico
 Masters, Wayne E., Rapid City, South Dakota

Mathews, Hasford D., Rogers, Arkansas
 Matlock, Naomia, Owasso, Oklahoma
 Matson, Mary E., Bellingham, Washington
 Mattox, Emma J., Mount Olivet, Kentucky
 May, Hugh A., Harrison, Arkansas
 Mayfield, Robert R., Tacoma, Washington
 McCall, Clarence D., Tulsa, Oklahoma
 McCaskill, Etta L., Laurel, Mississippi
 McClellan, Sue, Kingwood, Texas
 McCormick, Ellen M., Irving, Texas
 McCutchen, Ellis B., Waxahachie, Texas
 McCutchen, Norman, Lakeland, Florida
 McDonald, Wilma L., Shelbyville, Illinois
 McGaughy, Roy J., Lincoln, Arkansas
 McGlothlin, Robert, Nokesville, Virginia
 McNeel, Aby P., Beaumont, Texas
 McPheeters, W. C., Lower Lake, California
 McPherson, John T., Sacramento, California
 McQueary, Cecil R., Plymouth, California
 McRee, Roy L., Chowchilla, California
 Mead, Willard E., Marine City, Michigan
 Meeks, Willie E., Garden City, Georgia
 Merrill, Samuel A., Atwater, California
 Meyer, Harry C., Taft, California
 Middleton, Gilbert N., Vulcan, Missouri
 Militello, Leo, Edwardsville, Illinois
 Millen, Darrel L., Boon, Michigan
 Miller, C. H., Collinsville, Oklahoma
 Miller, Daisy J., Canton, Ohio
 Miller, Joseph W., Farmington, Missouri
 Miramontes, Adolfo A., Pacoima, California
 Mitchell, Raymond V., Snellville, Georgia
 Mitchell, Eathan C., Malvern, Arkansas
 Mobley, Richard D., Empire, California
 Modder, James, Waupaca, Wisconsin
 Mohr, Gregory L., Derby, Kansas
 Montano, Ponciano, Redlands, California
 Mooberry, Merryl H., Knoxville, Iowa
 Moore, Ira A., Ridgeley, West Virginia
 Moore, Pearl I., Alta Loma, California
 Morar, John T., Springfield, Missouri
 Morris, Ulysses G., Salem, Oregon
 Morris, Wilfred H., Salem, Oregon
 Muela, Antonio, Livingston, California
 Murray, James E., Silver Lake, New York

Nace, Paul L., Bartlesville, Oklahoma
 Nash, Kenneth D., Oswego, Kansas
 Neal, Lester M., Jackson, Mississippi
 Nevarez, Rafael M., Ajo, Arizona
 Nicholson, Herman E., Port Charlotte, Florida
 Nicodemus, Waldo, Anacortes, Washington
 Niles, Bernice E., Lakeland, Florida
 Nipper, Leonard M., Twin Peaks, California
 Nodal, S. Reyes, Santa Maria, California
 Noland, Elton E., Memphis, Tennessee
 Norton, Nellie M., Sardinia, Ohio
 Nowell, Bernice G., Wallace, Michigan
 Okuhara, Yuzuru, Makaweli, Hawaii
 Olson, Alice M., Largo, Florida
 Olsson, Olga V., Downey, California
 Ortiz, Frank, Kaneohe, Hawaii
 Overstreet, Stephen L., San Mateo, California
 Owens, Gayle, Odessa, Texas
 Palmer, Leonard, Fairfield, California
 Parham, Nettie L., Stockbridge, Georgia
 Paris, Marylydia, Elm Springs, Arkansas
 Park, May H., San Diego, California
 Parker, James R., Wake Village, Texas
 Parks, Ray, Paradise, California
 Parmer, Neil P., Clovis, California
 Parris, Meyrel L., Claremore, Oklahoma
 Partin, Robert E., Willard, Missouri
 Parton, James, Spartanburg, South Carolina
 Pavlovich, Cveta, Lorain, Ohio
 Payne, Wilhelmine, Boxford, Massachusetts
 Pechacek, Vance B., Independence, Missouri
 Perry, Wallace A., Northport, Alabama
 Petersen, Eileen M., Maple Grove, Minnesota
 Pettijohn, Roger S., Grinnell, Iowa
 Peugh, Cecil C., Mansfield, Texas
 Phare, Pamela S., Ispheming, Michigan
 Piantine, Daniel J., Mundelein, Illinois
 Pilot, Peter, Turlock, California
 Plake, Dorothy C., Lincoln, Illinois
 Polk, Howard W., Lovell, Wyoming
 Pope, Elta B., Birmingham, Alabama
 Prather, Fred W., Salinas, Kansas
 Pratt, Berta L., Black River Falls, Wisconsin
 Prellwitz, Lester E., Tacoma, Washington
 Price, Vassie, Columbus, Georgia

Price, Virgil G., Russellville, Arkansas
 Prince, Violette E., Columbus, Georgia
 Prinzing, Kelsey C., Whittier, California
 Pritchett, N. Lorene, Wynne, Arkansas
 Procter, Bernice L., San Jose, California
 Pugh, Paul, McPherson, Kansas
 Quackenbush, Russell, Bloomington, Indiana
 Ragsdale, Arden, Escalon, California
 Ramos, David, Greeley, Colorado
 Ramos, Hector, Orlando, Florida
 Ramsey, Kenneth R., Arkadelphia, Arkansas
 Ratter, Arnold, Bridgman, Michigan
 Ray, Arthur E., Slocumb, Alabama
 Rayner, James M., LaVale, Maryland
 Reb, James M., Jacksonville, Oregon
 Redding, J. Randall, Durham, North Carolina
 Redmon, Charles V., Orosi, California
 Reese, Leon M., Gainesville, Georgia
 Reeves, Effie, Jacksboro, Texas
 Reeves, Horace M., Plainview, Texas
 Reves, Orlandis P., Beaumont, Texas
 Reynolds, Glen, Shawnee, Oklahoma
 Rich, Lee R., Hope, Arkansas
 Richardson, Donald B., Phoenix, New York
 Richey, Donald B., Bridge City, Texas
 Rico, Jose M., Othello, Washington
 Riggs, Paul E., Oklahoma City, Oklahoma
 Ringness, Ruth A., Highland, California
 Rivera, Lala, Bronx, New York
 Roberts, Arley M., Hillsboro, Missouri
 Roberts, Clinton A., Highland City, Florida
 Robeson, Harold D., Lebanon, Oregon
 Robinson, Willard D., Youngstown, Ohio
 Rocha, Julian M., Fresno, California
 Rogers, Earl J., McKinney, Texas
 Rogers, John C., Mobile, Alabama
 Roork, Kenneth S., Chouteau, Oklahoma
 Roper, John B., Oregon City, Oregon
 Rose, Genevie I., Turner, Oregon
 Royals, James E., Hampton, Georgia
 Roybal, Carlos L., Everett, Washington
 Roybal, Fred, Aztec, New Mexico
 Rutledge, Arnold, Apple Valley, California
 Sadler, Ethridge E., Perry, Oklahoma
 Salas, Josephine V., Clayton, California

Salazar, Jose I., Albuquerque, New Mexico
 Salisbury, Freddie N., Wynne, Arkansas
 Sanchez, Isaac, Rio Grande City, Texas
 Sander, Leota D., Indianapolis, Indiana
 Sandfort, Stella C., Carlinville, Illinois
 Satterfield, Robert L., Stockton, California
 Savidge, Mary, Carmichael, California
 Schaefer, Emma J., Falling Waters, West Virginia
 Schaumburg, Edward H., Hialeah, Florida
 Schlossmacher, E. J., Clearwater, Florida
 Schmidt, Anna K., Amarillo, Texas
 Schmidt, Carl E., Amarillo, Texas
 Schneemann, Helen, Novi, Michigan
 Schoneman, Anna E., Colorado Springs, Colorado
 Schroer, Victor, Evansville, Indiana
 Scott, David T., Mesa, Arizona
 Searles, Milton R., Springfield, Missouri
 Sedeno, Jensen P., Ewa Beach, Hawaii
 Senf, Grove E., Trenton, Missouri
 Sequeira, Flora M., Petaluma, California
 Serdahl, Walter L., Wolf Point, Montana
 Serna, Alfredo, Poth, Texas
 Shamp, Ray O., Tustin, California
 Shaw, Charles W., Salem, Oregon
 Shelton, V. Lois, Mattoon, Illinois
 Sherrod, Claud E., Muldrow, Oklahoma
 Shiner, Alta E., Luzerne, Pennsylvania
 Simokat, Hilda A., Lakeland, Florida
 Sims, Clarence E., Collinsville, Mississippi
 Sites, Robert A., Phoenix, Arizona
 Smart, Arthur J., Liberty, Texas
 Smith, Elbert E., Tecumseh, Oklahoma
 Smith, George W., Springfield, Missouri
 Smith, Goldie, Vestal, New York
 Smith, H. G., Price, Texas
 Smith, Homer L., Lakeview, Oregon
 Smith, Joseph O., Gainesville, Texas
 Smith, Marvin L., Mobile, Alabama
 Smith, R. D. E., Vestal, New York
 Smith, Ruth G., Mounds, Oklahoma
 Sondeno, Fredolf B., Oakland, California
 Sorrells, Fred N., Franklin, North Carolina
 Sorrells, Oral A., Greenville, Alabama
 Soto, Diego, Juncos, Puerto Rico
 Spears, Joseph R., Skipperville, Alabama

Spence, D. C., Mobile, Alabama
 Spence, Paul D., Stevensville, Michigan
 Spencer, Margel M. K., Knoxville, Maryland
 Spicer, William M., Dayton, Ohio
 Stanphill, Ira F., Overland Park, Kansas
 Stark, Elva E., Dallas, Texas
 Stark, Joseph B., Capitola, California
 Stark, Taylor W., Tucson, Arizona
 Steinberg, Hardy W., Springfield, Missouri
 Stephens, Wilbur O., Westminster, Colorado
 Stephenson, Luther M., Pensacola, Florida
 Stevens, John W., Dover, Arkansas
 Stevison, Walter, Waynesboro, Mississippi
 Stewart, Alice F., Springfield, Missouri
 Stewart, Helen B., Lakeland, Florida
 Story, E. S., Russellville, Arkansas
 Story, Myrtle, Russellville, Arkansas
 Stover, Donald E., Farmington, New Mexico
 Strange, R. S., Oklahoma City, Oklahoma
 Stubblefield, Lydia L., Brice, Oklahoma
 Suarez, Jesus, Canovanas, Puerto Rico
 Sumrall, Ernest C., Spanish Fort, Alabama
 Suter, I. Pauline, Sacramento, California
 Swanson, Sheldon O., Winter Park, Florida
 Swicegood, Leo, Tulsa, Oklahoma
 Taber, Raymond, Dearborn Heights, Michigan
 Tabor, Helen A., Portland, Oregon
 Tarkington, Homer A., Mexia, Texas
 Tarpley, Ivery E., Jacksboro, Texas
 Teuber, Andrew S., Springfield, Missouri
 Thollander, Dixie P., Modesto, California
 Thomas, Erie A., Bonifay, Florida
 Tichinel, George S., Swanton, Maryland
 Tiger, Phillip, Anaheim, California
 Toczek, Ruth N., Hot Springs, Arkansas
 Townsend, G. Carlon, Fresno, California
 Triplett, Gladys R., Vancouver, Washington
 Trowbridge, Edna J., Costa Mesa, California
 Tumlinson, Clara W., Bryan, Texas
 Turner, Robert L., Costa Mesa, California
 U'U, Alele, Suisun City, California
 Ulrich, Harley E., O'Brien, Florida
 Valentin, Manuel, Miami Beach, Florida
 Van Der Merwe, Travers, Holly, Michigan
 Vanzant, Clinton E., Kissimmee, Florida

Vaughn, Doyle S., Taylor, Michigan
 Vaughn, James A., Bethalto, Illinois
 Vernon, William C., Guthrie, Oklahoma
 Volk, Ralph J., Jeanette, Pennsylvania
 Wade, Alpha R., Granite Bay, California
 Wagner, Daniel, Evans, Colorado
 Wagner, Frances E., Lexington, Nebraska
 Walker, Graham, Reseda, California
 Walker, Clifford S., Arlington, Texas
 Walther, Grace, Springfield, Missouri
 Ward, Callie A., Riverdale, California
 Warner, Charles S., Sherwood, Arkansas
 Warren, Clarissa C., Russellville, Arkansas
 Watts, Jack R., Silsbee, Texas
 Webb, Bert, Springfield, Missouri
 Welch, Leland A., Licking, Missouri
 Wellman, David W., Chicago, Illinois
 Wertz, Paul H., LaConner, Washington
 West, Ivan Elbert, Sonora, California
 Whisman, Reba E., Springville, California
 White, Albert A., Anchorage, Alaska
 White, Joseph A., Jacksonville, Florida
 White, Merle J., Chariton, Iowa
 Whitlock, James W., Noel, Missouri
 Whitney, Mildred, Waukesha, Wisconsin
 Whittaker, Patricia A., Green Forest, Arkansas
 Wigfield Sr., Hartley L., Cumberland, Maryland
 Wilcox, Elmina A., Grass Valley, California
 Wiles, J. Burdette, Houston, Texas
 Wilkins, Johanna, Rochester, Indiana
 Williams, Mary A., Tulsa, Oklahoma
 Williams, Theodore A., Niceville, Florida
 Wilson, Albert L., El Paso, Texas
 Wilson, Ruben A., Auburn, California
 Wilson, Thelma S., Springfield, Missouri
 Womack, Lealia K., Zephyrhills, Florida
 Woods, James H., Sun City, Arizona
 Worthy, Charles E., Winfield, Texas
 Wulf, Fred, Berkeley, California
 Wunderlin, Thelma, Hot Springs, Arkansas
 York, Melville M., Quincy, California
 Young, R. Dean, Centralia, Washington
 Youngman, Hazel M., Lodi, California
 Zellers, James T., Otho, Iowa

Communion Service

General Superintendent Thomas E. Trask presided during the Communion service. He was assisted by members of the Executive Presbytery and General Presbytery. Ramona Crabtree and Dixie Hackett served at the piano and organ during the Communion service.

SUNDAY EVENING—AUGUST 13

The Sunday evening service began at 5 p.m. Prior to the service, a 15-minute musical prelude was presented by the Crandall Brothers, Robert Park, California. The congregation was led in praise and worship by Randy Quackenbush, *minister of music*, Capital Christian Center, Sacramento, California. Tom McDonald, Van Nuys, California, and Marjorie Ferrin, Colorado Springs, Colorado, served at the piano and organ respectively.

Robert Schmidgall, executive presbyter from the Great Lakes Area, was chairman for the service. William Lee, Native American representative, read the Scripture from 2 Corinthians 5:17-20. Jimmy Davis, evangelists representative, ministered in prayer. The offering appeal was made by Charles Hackett on behalf of home missions. The offertory was provided by The Crandall Brothers.

A musical feature prior to the ministry of the Word was provided by Carman, musical evangelist, Tulsa, Oklahoma; and a mass choir and orchestra from the St. Louis area.

The speaker for the evening was Donald L. Brankel, evangelist, Texarkana, Arkansas. The text for his message was taken from 2 Kings 16:10-18. His emphasis was on Pentecost Then, Pentecost Now, and Pentecost When.

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 14,296.

GEORGE O. WOOD
GENERAL SECRETARY

CONSTITUTION OF THE GENERAL COUNCIL OF THE ASSEMBLIES OF GOD

REVISED AUGUST 8, 1995

ST. LOUIS, MISSOURI

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 8, 1995

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

CONSTITUTION

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:

- a. To encourage and promote the evangelization of the world.
- b. To encourage and promote the worship of God.
- c. To encourage and promote the edification of believers.
- d. To provide a basis of fellowship among Christians of like precious faith.
- e. 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.
- f. To approve all scriptural teachings, methods, and conduct; and to disapprove unscriptural teachings, methods, and conduct.
- g. 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.,

ARTICLE V

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 Father which constitutes Him **the Father** and not the Son; 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:

- (a) His virgin birth (Matthew 1:23; Luke 1:31,35).
- (b) His sinless life (Hebrews 7:26; 1 Peter 2:22).
- (c) His miracles (Acts 2:22; 10:38).
- (d) His substitutionary work on the cross (1 Corinthians 15:3; 2 Corinthians 5:21).
- (e) His bodily resurrection from the dead (Matthew 28:6; Luke 24:39; 1 Corinthians 15:4).
- (f) 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 nine other brethren to be chosen from the active Fellowship to bring the number to 15. 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 (1) have reached the age of 60 years and (2) have served on the General Presbytery for 20 years or more, or served on the General Presbytery as a General Council executive officer for 8 years or more. 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 pre-

scribed 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

CONSTITUTION

and conduct and to disapprove unscriptural doctrine and conduct and the authority to withdraw its Certificate of Affiliation if deemed necessary.

e. 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

ARTICLE XIII

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 8, 1995

ST. LOUIS, MISSOURI

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. There shall be no further nominations from the General Council floor. 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. There shall be no further nominations from the General Council floor. 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. There shall be no further nominations from the General Council floor. 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 nine 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 nine areas, according to district boundary lines in the following manner:

- Northwest Area:* Alaska, Montana, Northwest, Oregon, Southern Idaho, Wyoming
- Southwest Area:* Arizona, Hawaii, Northern California-Nevada, Rocky Mountain, Southern California
- North Central Area:* Iowa, Minnesota, Nebraska, North Dakota, Northern Missouri, South Dakota, Wisconsin-Northern Michigan
- South Central Area:* Kansas, New Mexico, North Texas, Oklahoma, South Texas, West Texas
- Great Lakes Area:* Appalachian, Illinois, Indiana, Kentucky, Michigan, Ohio
- Gulf Area:* Arkansas, Louisiana, Mississippi, Southern Missouri, Tennessee
- Northeast Area:* New Jersey, New York, Northern New England, Pennsylvania-Delaware, Potomac, Southern New England

Southeast Area: Alabama, Georgia, North Carolina, Peninsular Florida, South Carolina, West Florida

Language Area: Central Latin American, German, Gulf Latin American, Korean, Midwest Latin American, Pacific Latin American, Puerto Rico, Southeastern Spanish, Spanish Eastern

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, paragraph e, shall have the right of voice and vote at all duly called sessions of the General Presbytery.

g. Commission on 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 Commission on 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, paragraph 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 proceed-

ings 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 foreign 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

ings 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 foreign 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 whatsoever 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 bylaws.
- (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.

Section 6. Ethnic Fellowships

An ethnic group 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. Although functioning as a fellowship, the ethnic churches shall remain affiliated with the appropriate district.

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 of persons who seek to gain entrance to teach, minister, or pastor. 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. No dismissed minister may be allowed to pastor or have recognized ministry in an Assemblies of God church. Any church persisting in retaining a dismissed minister shall place its certificate of affiliation in jeopardy. Pastors and district officials should maintain a reciprocal exchange of information relative to dismissed ministers known to be 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 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 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 Berean University 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 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.

l. 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 committees 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 credentialled 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 requirements.* The General Council Credentials Committee, upon request by a district credentials committee and where exceptional circumstances exist, may waive the requirements for an applicant holding a license to preach for 2 full consecutive years or being a member of the district in which he is seeking ordination for at least 1 year.

(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 min-

ister 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 officary.

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 Assemblies 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, paragraph 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 transdistrict 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 missionaries 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 from our list of ministers. The application must be made in the district 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 remarrying 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 officary.

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 development 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, and local churches holding certificates of affiliation, shall refrain from taking an attitude toward offenders that would tend to nullify or set at naught the solemn verdict of the brethren entrusted with this responsibility. Those who fail to

support said verdict 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 courtesies. (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.)

Notwithstanding the above, when more than 7 years have elapsed from an occurrence which is the cause for disciplinary action, a district credentials committee may recommend to the General Council Credentials Committee that no discipline be administered when, in view of all the circumstances, it would appear that such discipline would only serve as punitive in nature rather than rehabilitative. In all such cases, final determination shall be made by the General Council Credentials Committee.

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, A, 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 sus-

pension, 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 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.

d. Eligibility of previous dismissed. 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 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**

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.

e. 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 tried 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 official 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 direc-

tion 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. *Enrichment*—A Journal for Pentecostal Ministry

a. Authorization and purpose

(1) *Liaison.* *Enrichment* journal shall be a principal liaison between Assemblies of God ministers and national headquarters ministries.

(2) *Purpose.* *Enrichment* journal shall be published:

(a) To help fulfill the threefold mission of the church;

(b) To serve as a ministerial resource tool, provide ministerial helps and administration aids, and provide information about program promotional materials;

(c) To serve the minister 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) *Executive editor.* There shall be an executive editor who shall be nominated by the general superintendent and elected by the Executive Presbytery.

(2) *Editor/managing editor.* There shall be an editor and/or a managing editor, who shall be nominated by the general superintendent and elected by the Executive Presbytery.

(3) *Amenability.* The Executive Presbytery through the general superin-

tendent shall have the overall responsibility for the editorial content of the *Enrichment* journal within the guidelines set by the policy-making bodies.

(4) *Budget support and changes.* Funding for the *Enrichment* journal 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 be indefinite but reviewed periodically by the General Presbytery.

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. COMMISSION ON CHRISTIAN HIGHER EDUCATION

a. *Sphere of authority.* There shall be a Commission on Christian Higher Education which shall have general oversight of the Christian Higher Education Department.

b. *Purpose.* The purpose of the commission is to fulfill the Great Commission which mandates seeking to fulfill the threefold mission of the Assemblies of God through:

(1) Guiding in the development of a higher education system and structure,

both traditional and nontraditional;

(2) 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 Commission on Christian Higher Education.

c. *Commission chairman.* The Executive Presbytery shall elect a chairman subject to the ratification of the General Presbytery. He shall be charged with the operation of the Commission on Christian Higher Education and the Christian Higher Education Department.

d. *Amenability.* The commission and all of its departments shall be amenable to and under the general supervision of the Executive Presbytery and the General Presbytery.

e. *Composition of Commission on Christian Higher Education.* There shall be a Commission on Christian Higher Education which shall consist of 25 members to be constituted as follows: the chairman of the Commission on Christian Higher Education, who shall serve as chairman; the secretary of the Christian Higher Education Department, who shall serve as secretary; the general superintendent (ex officio); 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; and a representative from each of the endorsed colleges of the Assemblies of God. The representatives from the colleges shall be configured in such a way as to have six presidents of endorsed colleges, a minimum of three lay members of college boards, and a minimum of three chairpersons of college boards at any one time.

(1) *Selection of commission.* Those members of the commission not serving by virtue of office shall be selected as follows: The members of the commission shall be nominated by the Executive Presbytery and elected by the General Presbytery in their annual meeting. Care shall be taken to maximize rotation among the college presidents.

(2) *Terms of office.* The members of the commission who do not serve by virtue of office shall serve for terms of 3 years or until their successors qualify. Members may be appointed for one succeeding term, except the presidents who may serve only a 3-year term and will be replaced. The commission chairman and ex officio members will have no term limitations.

(3) *Authority and amenability.* The commission is responsible for the government and work of the Christian Higher Education Department. There shall be an annual meeting of the commission. Special meetings shall be at the call of the commission chairman. The presidents of endorsed colleges and institutions who are not members of the commission are invited to the meetings of the commission at their own expense, with the privilege of the floor but without the privilege of voting. The commission shall be amenable to and under the general supervision of the Executive Presbytery and the

General Presbytery. The authority of the commission shall include:

(a) Supervision of the activities of the Christian Higher Education Department as well as the committees functioning under it in fulfilling the departmental mission.

(b) Review of the endorsement of Assemblies of God postsecondary schools on the basis of endorsement criteria developed by the commission 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 commission shall establish for this purpose.

(c) Disbursement and apportionment of whatever funds shall come into its possession to the various educational institutions of the Assemblies of God under guidelines approved by the Executive Presbytery.

(d) 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 as determined by the needs of the Fellowship.

(e) Promoting current educational technology in appropriate distance education programs as may be needed in the ministries of the Fellowship.

(4) *Executive committee.* There shall be an executive committee of the commission that shall meet if necessary to conduct business when the commission is not in session. The executive committee shall consist of five members including the commission chairman, the secretary of the Christian Higher Education Department, two college presidents, and one pastor. The general superintendent shall serve as an ex officio member of the executive committee. Those not serving by virtue of office shall be selected by the commission.

Section 1. Christian Higher Education Department

a. Authorization and purpose

(1) *Responsibility.* There shall be a Christian Higher 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 commission and comprised of soundly conceived, strong institutions which are equal in status before the commission and equal in support by the entire Fellowship. The commission, 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 educational 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 col-

leges, graduate schools, and seminaries.

(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 commission chairman shall be empowered to appoint a department secretary who shall serve under the commission chairman.

c. *Duties and functions.* It shall be the responsibility of the Christian Higher 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.

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) *Theological integrity.* It shall be charged with the maintaining of theological integrity and spiritual vitality of all endorsed Assemblies of God institutions.

(2) *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.

(3) *Expansion of school services.* It may recommend broadening the scope of individual school services.

(4) *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 qualification of the faculty and staff, the required subject of the curriculum, the requirements of admission and for graduation, and the general regulations of school life.

(5) *General service to all schools.* The Christian Higher 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.

(6) *Distance education technologies.* It may facilitate utilization of current educational technology in both traditional and distance education programs in the postsecondary schools of the Fellowship.

d. Rights and prerogatives

(1) *Certificates of endorsement.* The Christian Higher Education Department shall issue certificates of endorsement to postsecondary schools meeting the standards for endorsement established by the commission 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 commission. 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 commission and has been officially endorsed by the commission.

(2) *Equality of endorsed schools.* In the discharge of its duties and functions and the exercise of its rights and prerogatives, the Christian Higher 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 Christian Higher Education Department shall enjoy equal rights of publicity and emphasis in Assemblies of God publications and in the promotional work of the Christian Higher Education Department.

(3) *Textbooks.* It shall be the prerogative of the Christian Higher Education Department to seek to provide textbooks for our schools reflecting the Assemblies of God doctrine and polity.

Section 2. Resource Development

The commission chairman shall work with and encourage the Assemblies of God Foundation in its development efforts for all postsecondary institutions endorsed by the Commission on Christian Higher Education. The Commission on 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 annually. 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 amenable 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, motivating, and discipling men throughout the Fellowship to grow into their full potential of manhood in Christ Jesus.
- (b) Encouraging development of the work of the men at the local, district, and national levels of the constituency.
- (c) Promoting the participation of men in the ministries of the local church.
- (d) Developing the interest of men in supporting all programs of the Assemblies of God.

(e) Coordinating the efforts of the men in local and district organizations within the Assemblies of God.

(f) Encouraging and teaching men to engage in personal witnessing for Christ.

(g) Organizing and promoting a program for boys.

(h) Participating in sponsoring world missions evangelistic literature crusades and such other programs as may be approved in the future.

(i) 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.

(j) 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, 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 XXVI. 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 shall be chaired by a resident executive. The members shall consist of a minimum of four members who have interest and expertise in media ministries. Meetings shall be called at the discretion of the chairman. The basic function of the committee is to serve as a nonlegislative resource committee to facilitate all aspects of media ministry.

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 deputational 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 XXVI. 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 XXVI. 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 functions being the establishing of indigenous churches representing all cultural, socioeconomic, and ethnic groups; evangelizing and discipling students on America's secular colleges and universities; assisting persons with life-controlling problems; and ministering to those in military, industrial, institutional, and correctional settings. All such activities shall be conducted through the auspices of and in full cooperation with 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 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 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 mem-

bers 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 and other key Division of Home Missions personnel as determined by the executive director 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 in its area of supervision. It shall be amenable to and under the general supervision of the Executive Presbytery and the General Presbytery.

c. 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, the department secretaries of the division, and other personnel as determined by the executive director. 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 Home Missions Board. The executive director shall meet on a regular basis with the Board of Administration to report the action of the Home Missions Committee.

d. 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.

e. 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 according to the provisions outlined in Section 6.

f. Teen Challenge Board. The general administrative work of the Teen Challenge Department shall be conducted by the Teen Challenge Board according to the provisions outlined under Section 7.

g. Special committees. Other special committees may be appointed at the discretion of the Executive Presbytery.

h. 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.

i. Functions. The Division of Home Missions shall provide coordination, promotion, assistance to motivate action, and the receiving and disbursing of funds.

j. 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 and missionaries shall be committed to the districts where they are located.

k. 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 upon the approval of the work district.

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) Seeking to acquire information regarding various methods of financing and making this information available to various districts.

(2) Providing information of available materials such as evangelism literature, Sunday school materials, architectural services, and other helps for the new church and supplying these as funds permit.

(3) Providing promotional materials for districts, colleges, and local churches to impart vision and motivation for the planting and establishing of new churches.

(4) Assisting in the further development of New Church Evangelism programs for the involvement of students and faculty members of Assemblies of God colleges.

(5) Utilizing the personnel resources of our Fellowship in conjunction with Missions America Placement Service to assist in New Church Evangelism.

(6) Assisting districts with church planting by providing trained missionaries to serve in strategic urban areas of the United States.

c. Cooperation with districts. The New Church Evangelism Department shall function in cooperation with the various districts as set forth in Section 2, paragraphs i and j.

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 evangelism 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. Relationship with districts. The Intercultural Ministries Department shall function in cooperation with the various districts as set forth in Section 2, paragraphs i and j. Practical assistance shall be provided by:

- (1) Providing literature and other information on the dynamics of cross-cultural ministry, including church planting among ethnic Americans.
- (2) Assisting in meeting the needs of ethnic and specialized ministries by providing trained missionaries.
- (3) Promoting the indigenous principles of church organization.
- (4) Helping to align ethnic congregations with the appropriate language or geographic districts.

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 h and i. 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

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 five 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, the Chi Alpha Campus Ministries Department, and the Home Missions Board. The secretary of the Chi Alpha Campus Ministries Department shall serve as chairman.

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. 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 churches, and 6 of whom shall be proven ministers or laymen from other evan-

gelical 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 chairman of the board and the secretary of the Teen Challenge Department serving as president, both of whom will serve by virtue of office.

c. Function. The Teen Challenge Department shall assist the local centers through the networking of information, national curriculum, available workers, fund-raising, and public relations. Further, the Teen Challenge Department will oversee the national accreditation 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 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. 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 lay persons' 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 requests for short-term lay ministries, including those for individuals or teams.
- (3) Coordinate short-term construction efforts.
- (4) Coordinate summer intern programs.
- (5) Recruit, coordinate, and process requests for short-term RV Volunteers 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 XXVI. 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 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 \$15 per month from their tithes, or as an offering. Licensed ministers should contribute \$10 per month and certified ministers should contribute \$5 per month. All who can be 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.

d. World Ministries Giving

(1) *Participation.* In order to support and develop the work and ministries of the Assemblies of God at home and abroad, all its churches shall be encouraged to send offerings at regular intervals.

(2) *Combined report.* A combined report of all offerings which are designated for departments shall be given under the caption of World Ministries Giving. The intent is to provide recognition for contributions to all ministries of The General Council of the Assemblies of God, to place each appeal and ministry on an equal basis, and to lend encouragement to churches and individual contributors to determine the appeal to which they will respond under the leading of the Spirit.

(3) *Credit.* World Ministries Giving recognition shall provide credit to Assemblies of God churches for contributions to the Fellowship Partnership Plan for support of the General Council; the Divisions of Foreign Missions, Home Missions, Christian Education, Christian Higher Education (including educational institutions), Church Ministries (including Men's Ministries, Women's Ministries, Music, and Youth Departments), Media

Ministries; the executive and Spiritual Life-Evangelism offices; Benevolences Department; and other General Council, regional, and district-sponsored or approved projects. Contributions from districts other than where a district-approved project is located can only be granted World Ministries Giving credit if the district where the contribution originates gives its approval and if the contribution is channeled through that district or the national headquarters. It is expected that the national division related to a given project will be notified of approved projects. It is also understood that no district or region may receive World Ministries Giving credit for projects specifically disapproved by the General Council.

Section 2. 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 3. 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 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 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 University of the Assemblies of God

a. Authorization and purpose. Berean University, a nontraditional distance education university of Bible and general Christian service training, providing for ministers and lay persons accredited distance education, based on a Christian worldview, utilizing current technologies to facilitate the evangelization of the world, the nurture of the church, and improvement of society, shall be owned and operated at all times by The General Council of the Assemblies of God. The university 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 university shall be delegated to a board of directors in accordance with the provisions of its constitution and bylaws.

c. Amenability. The university 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 university.

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. Mission

The organization is organized for the exclusive benefit of The General Council of the Assemblies of God and all of its affiliated ministries, including local Assemblies of God churches; district organizations; national, regional, and district Assemblies of God colleges; and national and district ministries.

The organization is formed to establish, promote, fund, extend, and maintain the Christian faith according to the Statement of Fundamental Truths of The General Council of the Assemblies of God.

It shall be the responsibility of the organization in its field of activity to fulfill the threefold mission of the church.

Section 3. Administration

There shall be a Board of Directors appointed by the Executive Presbytery of The General Council of the Assemblies of God, subject to ratification by the General Presbytery.

The Board of Directors shall establish an executive committee and such other standing or ad hoc committees as may be needed to carry out the objectives of the corporation.

There shall be a president, one or more vice presidents, a secretary, a treasurer, and such other officers as may be appointed by the Board of Directors.

The general treasurer of The General Council of the Assemblies of God shall serve as a member of the Board of Directors by virtue of office.

Section 4. Amenability

The organization and Board of Directors shall be amenable to the Executive Presbytery and the General Presbytery of The General Council of the Assemblies of God.

Section 5. Fiscal Affairs

The Board of Directors of the Assemblies of God Foundation shall be authorized to receive and invest the funds of the fund according to its bylaws.

The Board of Directors shall direct the president and treasurer to present at a regular meeting of the Board of Directors an annual report verified by said officers, which shall be filed with the minutes of the meeting of the Board of Directors, and copies shall be transmitted to the Executive Presbytery.

The books of the organization shall be audited annually by a certified public accountant selected by the Board of Directors and reported to the General Presbytery and the General Council in session.

ARTICLE XXIV. ASSEMBLIES OF GOD LOAN FUND

Section 1. Organization

There shall be an organization known as the Assemblies of God Loan Fund.

Section 2. Mission

The organization is organized for the exclusive benefit of The General Council of the Assemblies of God and all of its affiliated ministries, including local Assemblies of God churches; district organizations; national, regional, and district Assemblies of God colleges; and national and district ministries.

The organization is formed to establish, promote, fund, extend, and maintain the Christian faith according to the Statement of Fundamental Truths of The General Council of the Assemblies of God.

It shall be the responsibility of the organization in its field of activity to fulfill the threefold mission of the church.

Section 3. Administration

There shall be a board of directors appointed by the Executive Presbytery of The General Council of the Assemblies of God subject to ratification by the General Presbytery.

The board of directors shall establish an executive committee and such other standing or ad hoc committees as may be needed to carry out the objectives of the corporation.

There shall be a president, one or more vice presidents, a secretary, a treasurer, and such other officers as may be appointed by the board of directors.

Section 4. Amenability

The organization and board of directors shall be amenable to the Executive Presbytery and the General Presbytery of The General Council of the Assemblies of God.

Section 5. Fiscal Affairs

The board of directors of the Assemblies of God Loan Fund shall be authorized to receive and invest the funds of the fund according to its bylaws.

The board of directors shall direct the president and treasurer to present at a regular meeting of the board of directors an annual report, verified by said officers, which shall be filed with the minutes of the meeting of the board of directors, and copies shall be transmitted to the Executive Presbytery.

The books of the organization shall be audited annually by a certified public accountant selected by the board of directors, and such audit shall be included with The General Council of the Assemblies of God annual audit report.

ARTICLE XXV. 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 Council or district council officials when applicable.

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 XXVI. 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 official.

ARTICLE XXVII. 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 XXVIII. 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 XXIX. 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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