

*TENNESSEE DISTRICT*



*CONSTITUTION & BYLAWS*

*2024*



# CONSTITUTION AND BYLAWS of the PENTECOSTAL CHURCH OF GOD TENNESSEE DISTRICT



Revised to Tennessee District Convention 2024

Tennessee District Office  
www.tnpcg.org  
e-mail - [office@tnpcg.org](mailto:office@tnpcg.org)

## EXECUTIVE COUNCIL

Bishop / CEO	.	.	.	.	.	.	Bishop Richard Walsh
Presbyter / COO	.	.	.	.	.	.	Rev. Darrell Garrett
Secretary-Treasurer / CFO	.	.	.	.	.	.	Rev. Scott Long

## EXECUTIVE DIRECTORS

Central	.	.	.	.	.	.	Rev. Joe Page
Regional	.	.	.	.	.	.	Rev. Brian Gelande
Western	.	.	.	.	.	.	Rev. Terry Kesley

## DEPARTMENT DIRECTORS

Men's Ministries	.	.	.	.	.	.	Rev. Tim Shiverdeck
Women's Ministries	.	.	.	.	.	.	Sis. Audra Walsh
Youth Ministries	.	.	.	.	.	.	Rev. James Walsh

## SPECIALIZED DIRECTORS

Editor	.	.	.	.	.	.	Sis. Charlsey Long
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## VESSELS OF HONOR

Honorary Board Member	.	.	.	.	.	.	Asst Bishop Jerry Moore
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**ARTICLE ONE**  
**NAME**

69 **NAME** - Our name shall be: "Pentecostal Church of God, Tennessee District" herein referred to as the "district" or "Tennessee District of the  
70 Pentecostal Church of God," "Tennessee District Pentecostal Church of God," "Tennessee District PCG," "TN District PCG," "TN Dist PCG,"  
71 "TNPCG," etc.

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**ARTICLE TWO**  
**PURPOSE**

75 **PURPOSE** - The purpose of the Tennessee District of the Pentecostal Church of God shall be to build churches and found missions within its  
76 own boundaries. Further, it shall be our purpose to encourage such churches as are new extant and such other agencies and activities which  
77 promote the salvation of souls and the function of the Holy Ghost. It shall be our purpose to further within our own boundaries the general aim  
78 and purpose of the Pentecostal Church of God.

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**ARTICLE THREE**  
**PREAMBLE**

83 **PREAMBLE** - We believe that it is the express purpose of God, our Heavenly Father, to call out of the world a people who shall constitute  
84 the Body, the Church of Jesus Christ, built and established upon the foundation of the Apostles and Prophets, Jesus Christ Himself being the  
85 Chief Cornerstone.

86  
87 We further believe that members of the Body, the Church, are enjoined to assemble themselves together for worship, fellowship and  
88 instruction in the Word of God, the work of its ministry, and for the exercise of those spiritual gifts and offices provided for in the New  
89 Testament; and according to God's Word, the early Christians came together in such fellowship as a representative Body of blood-washed  
90 and Spirit-filled believers, who cooperated with, and sent out, evangelists and missionaries and, under the leadership of the Holy Spirit, set  
91 over the churches, apostles, prophets, evangelists, pastors, teachers, deacons and helpers.

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93 Therefore, we recognize ourselves as a cooperative Fellowship of Christians, endeavoring to keep the unity of the Spirit in the bond of peace,  
94 till we all come in the unity of the faith and the knowledge of the Son of God, unto a perfect man unto the measure of the stature of the  
95 fullness of Christ (Ephesians 4:3-13).

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**ARTICLE FOUR**  
**TENETS**

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**DOCTRINAL STATEMENT**

100 As a Christian constituency of New Testament believers, we, the Pentecostal Church of God, subscribe to the following declaration of the things  
101 which are more surely believed among us (Luke 1:1), praying that there be no harmful nor divisive difference of belief to the injury of any, nor  
102 the disturbance of the peace and harmony of the church, and that we may be all of the same mind and same judgment, speaking the same things in  
103 love (1 Corinthians 1:10; Acts 2:42) and with one voice glorifying God, to the edification of His people, and to give Christian witness to the world.

- 104  
105 1. **The Scriptures:** The Scriptures of the Old and New Testament are the inspired Word of God (2 Timothy 3:16) presenting to us the  
106 complete revelation of His will for the salvation of men, and constituting the Divine and only rule of Christian faith and practice (2  
107 Peter 1:21).
- 108 2. **The Godhead:** We believe there is but one true and living God, who is everlasting, infinite in power, wisdom and goodness; that He is  
109 the Creator of all things, visible and invisible, and preserver of all things (Romans 1:20; Colossians 1:16). In the unity of this  
110 Godhead, there are three Persons of one individual essence, who are co-equal, co-existent and co-eternal; namely, the Father, the Son  
111 and the Holy Ghost (Matthew 3:16, 17; 28:18, 19; 2 Corinthians 13:14; John 1:1, 2, 18; Philippians 2:6; Hebrews 9:14; John 14:26;  
112 15:26 10:33). In eternal relationship as to priority (not superiority) the Father is greater than all (John 14:28; 1 Corinthians 15:28; John  
113 5:18). The Son is the eternally begotten of the Father, and accepted earthly limitations for the purpose of incarnation, being true God  
114 and true man; conceived by the Holy Ghost and born of the Virgin Mary. He died upon the cross, the just for the unjust as a  
115 substitutionary sacrifice, and all who believe in Him are justified on the grounds of His shed blood. He arose from the dead according  
116 to the Scriptures. He is now at the right hand of the Majesty on High as our great High Priest, and He will return again to establish His  
117 kingdom of righteousness and justice. The Holy Spirit is a Divine Person, Executive of the Godhead on earth, the Comforter sent by  
118 the Lord Jesus Christ to indwell, to guide and to teach the believer, and to convince the world of sin, of righteousness and of judgment.
- 119 3. **Man, His Fall and Redemption:** Man is a created being, made in the likeness and the image of God, but through Adam's  
120 transgression and fall, sin came into the world (Romans 5:12). "All have sinned and come short of the glory of God" (Romans 3:23).  
121 Jesus Christ, the Son of God, was manifested to undo the work of the devil, and gave His life and shed His blood to redeem and  
122 restore man back to God (1 John 3:8).
- 123 4. **Salvation:** Salvation is made possible through the meritorious work of Jesus Christ on the cross and through Holy Spirit conviction.  
124 Godly sorrow works repentance and makes possible the experience of the new birth, and Christ formed within us is the gift of eternal  
125 life (Titus 2:11; Romans 10:13-15; Luke 24:47; Titus 3:5-7). Salvation is the gift of God to man, separate from works and the Law,  
126 and is made operative by grace through faith in Jesus Christ, producing works acceptable to God (Ephesians 2:8). Man is a free moral  
127 agent and can at any time after the new birth experience turn away from God and die in a state of sin; with the consequences of hell to  
128 look forward to.
- 129 5. **The Church:** The true Church, built upon the Foundation of Jesus Christ (1 Corinthians 3:11; Ephesians 2:20), is the Body of our  
130 Lord (Romans 12:5; 1 Corinthians 12:27); Christ being the Head (Ephesians 1:22; Colossians 1:18). Its earthly constituents are all true  
131 believers, born again of the Spirit (John 3:6) and of the Word (1 Peter 1:23), who are living an overcoming Christian life (Ephesians  
132 5:27; Revelation 21:27). To the Church, through its members, is delegated the various gifts and offices of the Holy Ghost (1  
133 Corinthians 12:8-11, 27, 28) which are necessary for the successful evangelization of the world and the perfecting of the Body of  
134 Christ (1 Corinthians 12:7; Ephesians 4:11, 12).  
135 This universal, invisible sanctified church is the chaste virgin Bride of Christ (2 Corinthians 11:2; Ephesians 5:26,27; Revelation  
21:9b, 27) and it is for this Bride for whom Jesus Christ returns, just prior to the Great Tribulation, to catch her away and take her to  
heaven (John 14:23; 1 Thessalonians 4:13- 18).

- 136 6. **Ministry:** God, through the Holy Spirit, definitely calls such as He desires to serve as *apostles, prophets*, evangelists, pastors, and  
137 teachers, and specifically endues the one called with the talents and gifts peculiar to the office or offices (Ephesians 4:11-13). Under  
138 no circumstances should anyone be ordained or set apart to any such office unless the calling is distinct and evident.
- 139 7. **Water Baptism:** Baptism in water is by immersion, and is a direct commandment of our Lord (Matthew 28:19), and is for believers  
140 only. The ordinance is a symbol of the Christian's identification with Christ in His death, burial and resurrection (Romans 6:4;  
141 Colossians 2:12; Acts 8:36-39). The following recommendation regarding the water baptism formula is adopted, to wit: "On the  
142 confession of your faith in the Lord Jesus Christ the Son of God, and by His authority, I baptize you in the name of the Father, and of  
143 the Son of God, and of the Holy Ghost. Amen."
- 144 8. **Baptism of the Holy Ghost:** The baptism of the Holy Ghost and fire (Matthew 3:11), is a Gift from God, as promised by the Lord  
145 Jesus Christ to all believers in this dispensation, and is received subsequent to the new birth (John 14:16; Acts 1:8; 2:4, 38, 39; 10:44-  
146 48). The Baptism of the Holy Ghost is accompanied by the speaking in other tongues as the Holy Spirit Himself gives the utterance as  
147 the initial physical sign and evidence (Acts 2:4).
- 148 9. **Sanctification:** The Bible teaches that without holiness no man can see the Lord (Hebrews 12:14). We believe in the doctrine of  
149 sanctification as a definite, yet progressive, work of grace, commencing at the time of regeneration and continuing until the  
150 consummation of salvation (Hebrews 13:12; 2 Thessalonians 2:12; 1 Peter 1:2; Ephesians 5:26; 1 Corinthians 6:11; John 17:17; 1  
151 Thessalonians 5:23).
- 152 10. **Lord's Supper:** The ordinance of the Lord's Supper is a commandment of our Savior; and being a memorial to His death and  
153 resurrection, is strictly limited to Christian believers (1 Corinthians 11:27). The time and frequency of its observance is left to the  
154 discretion of each congregation (1 Corinthians 11:26). Only unfermented grape juice, the fruit of the vine, as recommended by our  
155 Lord (Matthew 26:29; Mark 14:25; Luke 22:18) shall be used in connection therewith.
- 156 11. **Foot Washing:** Foot washing is recognized among many believers as a Christian practice, and the time, manner and frequency of its  
157 observance is left to the discretion of each local congregation (John 13).
- 158 12. **Divine Healing:** Healing is for the physical ills of the human body and is wrought by the power of God, through the prayer of faith,  
159 and by the laying on of hands (Mark 16:18; James 5:14, 15); it is provided for in the atonement of Christ, and is available to all who  
160 truly believe.
- 161 13. **The Resurrection of the Just:** The Bible promises, "This same Jesus shall so come in like manner" (Acts 1:11). His coming is  
162 imminent; when He comes, "The dead in Christ shall rise first; then we which are alive and remain shall be caught up together with  
163 them in the clouds to meet the Lord in the air" (1 Thessalonians 4:16, 17). Following the tribulation, He shall return to earth, as King  
164 of kings, and Lord of lords, and together with his saints, who shall be kings and priests He shall reign a thousand years (Revelation  
165 20:6).
- 166 14. **Setting a Time for the Lord's Return:** It is unwise to teach that the Lord will come at some specific time, thereby setting a date for  
167 His appearing, and it is also unwise to teach, preach or publish visions of numbers and dates which would tend to fix the time of the  
168 second coming of the Lord (Mark 13:32-33).
- 169 15. **The Coming of the Lord:** We believe the Bible presents the coming of Christ as personal, imminent, pre-tribulational and pre-  
170 millennial. We further contend that this position alone admonishes watchfulness, incites holy living, prevents spiritual declension and  
171 provides maximum incentive and motive for urgency and zeal in evangelizing the unsaved. As demonic deception and satanic  
172 darkness deepens, we urge our ministers to maintain and proclaim this doctrinal viewpoint as the "blessed hope" of the Church.  
173 Furthermore, we recommend that should any of our preachers hold to the mid- or post- tribulation doctrine, they refrain from  
174 preaching and teaching it. Should they persist in emphasizing this doctrine to the point of making it an issue, their standing in the  
175 fellowship will be seriously affected.
- 176 16. **Hell and Eternal Retribution:** The one who physically dies in his sins without Christ is hopelessly and eternally lost in the lake of  
177 fire, and therefore has no further opportunity of sharing the gospel or for repentance (Hebrews 9:27). The lake of fire is literal  
178 (Revelation 19:20). The terms "eternal" and "everlasting" used in describing the duration of the punishment of the damned (Matthew  
179 25:41-46) in the lake of fire, carry the same thought and meaning of endless existence, as used in denoting the duration of joy and  
180 ecstasy of saints in the presence of God.
- 181 17. **Relation to War:** Whereas, we believe that our government is ordained of God; and Whereas, We are thankful to the government of  
182 the United States of America for the freedom to worship God according to the dictates of our conscience; and Whereas, There are  
183 those within our church organization who conscientiously object to the bearing of arms in the time of war; be it Resolved, That we as  
184 a church organization affirm their respective right to this conviction as they offer their respective services to our government in any  
185 way consistent with non-combative service.
- 186 18. **Tithes:** We recognize the Scriptural duty of all our people, as well as ministers, to pay tithes as unto the Lord (Hebrews 7:8). Tithes  
187 should be used for the support of the active ministry and for the propagation of the gospel and work of the Lord in general and not  
188 given to charity or used for other purposes (Malachi 3:7-11; Hebrews 7:2; 1 Corinthians 9:7-11; 16:2).

## ARTICLE FIVE OFFICERS

### Section One - District Officers

#### **I. OFFICERS OF THE DISTRICT**

1. The officers of this district shall be District Bishop, District Secretary-Treasurer, District Presbyter, Regional Presbyter, Sectional Presbyters, District Men's Ministries Director, District Women Ministries Director, District Youth Ministries Director, and Sectional Department Directors as specified. No District officer shall hold more than one office when there are others in the District qualified. Specialized Directors include District Editor and Honorary Board Members. Specialized Directors may hold another district office in addition to their specialized office.
2. Personal liability insurance shall be carried on corporation officers, paid for from the general fund.

## II. EXECUTIVE BOARD / DISTRICT BOARD

1. The District Board shall consist of the District Bishop, District Secretary-Treasurer, District Presbyterian, Regional Presbyterian, and Sectional Presbyters. The District Department Directors shall sit on the board for District Department business and business that directly affects their District Department. The District Department Directors shall receive ample notification that their presence is required at the next board meeting when their department business is planned to be discussed.
2. A District Board meeting may be called when a quorum is present.
3. Seeing as a quorum usually consists of a majority, a majority of the District Board will be present; this will include the District Bishop. If the Secretary/ Treasurer is not present, someone will be appointed to take minutes.
4. The Credentials Committee shall be the District Board.
5. The District Board will meet every three (3) months and only emergency and necessary business shall be conducted in phone calls - board arrangements - agreements. This is not intended to discourage the board from being informed of district business.

## III. EXECUTIVE COUNCIL / EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE OF THE DISTRICT BOARD

1. The Executive Committee of the District Board shall consist of the District Bishop, District Secretary-Treasurer, and District Presbyterian. The District Bishop shall serve as the Executive President, Chief Executive Director, and the Chief Executive Officer (CEO) of the District. The District Secretary-Treasurer shall serve as a Co-Executive Vice President and the Chief Financial Officer (CFO) of the District. The District Presbyterian shall serve as a Co-Executive Vice President and the Chief Operations Officer (COO) of the District.
2. The Executive Committee of a District Department shall consist of the District Bishop, District Secretary-Treasurer, and District Department Director.
3. The Executive Committee shall act on such district matters as shall require immediate attention when there is not sufficient time or opportunities to secure a meeting of the entire District Board.

### Section Two - Qualifications and Duties of Officers

#### I. DISTRICT BISHOP

**Qualifications:** The District Bishop shall be not less than thirty-five (35) years of age, an ordained minister who has the baptism of the Holy Ghost and at least ten (10) years' experience in the ministry. The District Bishop shall have at least three (3) years as an ordained minister of the Pentecostal Church of God and one (1) year's residence in this district.

**Elections:** The District Bishop shall be elected by a two-thirds (2/3) majority vote at the District Convention. The District Bishop shall be elected to serve for a period of two (2) years. Should the District Bishop resign, or the office otherwise become vacant, the District Board is empowered to appoint one of its own members to serve as District Bishop until the next District Convention.

1. The District Bishop shall serve as the Executive President, Chief Executive Director, and the Chief Executive Officer (CEO) of the District.
2. The District Bishop shall be the Chairman of the Tennessee District Board, the Chairman of all Tennessee District Executive Committees, and shall represent the Tennessee District on the PCG General Board. If the District Bishop is unavailable, the District Secretary-Treasurer or District Presbyterian may be appointed to take the Bishop's place.
3. The District Bishop shall serve as chairman of all district meetings, shall be the head of the district office, and shall supervise all the work of that office. The District Bishop shall be general overseer of all work in the district, administer discipline in cases where requested to do so by the District Board, and perform any other function usual and customary for the presiding officer, or such as may be directed by the District Board.
4. All legal documents are to be reviewed by the District Board and signed by the District Bishop and District Secretary-Treasurer, and as approved by the District Board.
5. The District Bishop shall be granted a thirty (30) day vacation with salary or tithes to be contributed as usual. Any business matters arising during this time shall be handled by the District Presbyterian or by the District Board member appointed by the District Bishop.
6. The District Bishop shall be encouraged to contact, either in person or by phone, each minister in the district to encourage them or discuss with them any problems they might be facing at least once every other month.
7. The District Bishop shall be encouraged to visit each church in the Tennessee District at least twice a year.
8. The District Bishop shall be allowed to pastor a church.

#### II. DISTRICT SECRETARY-TREASURER

**Qualifications:** The District Secretary-Treasurer shall be not less than thirty-five (35) years of age, an ordained minister who has the baptism of the Holy Ghost and at least ten (10) years' experience in the ministry. The District Secretary-Treasurer shall have at least three (3) years as an ordained minister of the Pentecostal Church of God and one (1) year's residence in this district. The District Secretary-Treasurer shall be qualified to do the tasks required by the District Secretary-Treasurer's office. Seeing as the District Secretary-Treasurer's position requires some computer and accounting knowledge, those ministers desiring the office should submit a resume to the Tennessee District office thirty (30) days prior to the District Secretary-Treasurer's election, and the District Board will present the names of all individuals eligible for this office to the District Convention in session. However, it shall be understood that this process shall not deny the District Convention of the right to cast nominating ballots, if desired.

**Elections:** The District Secretary-Treasurer shall be elected by a two-thirds (2/3) majority vote at the District Convention. The District Secretary-Treasurer shall be elected to serve for a period of two (2) years. The District Secretary-Treasurer shall be elected on the opposite year of the District Bishop. If the office of District Secretary-Treasurer becomes vacant between conventions, the District Board shall have the power to select, from those qualified and capable within the Tennessee District, an individual to fill the unexpired term of office.

1. The District Secretary-Treasurer shall serve as a Co-Executive Vice President and the Chief Financial Officer (CFO) of the District.
2. The District Secretary-Treasurer shall be an Executive Committee Member on the Tennessee District Board, and when the Tennessee District has sixteen (16) or more duly chartered churches the District Secretary-Treasurer shall represent the Tennessee District on the PCG General Board. If the District Secretary-Treasurer is unavailable, the District Presbyterian may be appointed to take the Secretary's place.

3. The District Secretary-Treasurer shall make and keep a true record of all ordained ministers, licensed ministers, exhorters and affiliated churches in the district. The District Secretary-Treasurer shall notify any minister or church not complying with the tithe and assessment requirements. Be it resolved that every minister's tithe report be reviewed by the District Board at every board meeting and that all discipline be left to the discretion of the District Board.
4. The District Secretary-Treasurer shall be the custodian of all the records, documents and archives of the Tennessee District and a bookkeeping system using the same type of books as the present district office shall be established, along with a teaching session for this system. All legal documents are to be reviewed by the District Board and signed by the District Bishop and District Secretary-Treasurer, as approved by the District Board, and the District Secretary-Treasurer will perform such other functions as are customary or directed by the District Board. All records and/or copies thereof shall be in the secretary's offices due to the regular transaction of our monthly business.
5. The District Secretary-Treasurer shall be custodian of all district funds, and the District Secretary-Treasurer shall keep an accurate record of all receipts and disbursements. The District Secretary-Treasurer shall give a report from time to time as requested by the District Board. The books shall be audited once a year. The District Secretary-Treasurer shall deposit all funds in the bank, and all disbursements shall be made by check, and the Secretary-Treasurer shall be the only authorized person to sign checks. If, and only if, the local bank requires two (2) signatures on the signature card (not a check), the District Presbyterian shall sign the card, but is not authorized to sign any checks. This is to be applied to each department: District Office, Home Missions, Youth Ministry, Women's Ministry, Men's Ministry, Christian Education and District Website. The District Bishop's check and other official's checks shall be mailed no later than the fifteenth (15th) of each month.
6. Each minister in the Tennessee District shall receive a quarterly financial cash flow report that would reflect the income and expenses of the district. This report will also list the District Churches & Ministers that have participated in the First Fruits & Tithing programs that quarter.
7. At the next mailing after each District Board meeting the District Secretary-Treasurer shall mail out to all ministers the information concerning all actions taken by the board except those of a personal nature and those that are harmful to the district. No information or minutes from a Board Meeting shall be mailed out or sent out, until there is a motion, seconded, and carried, by the District Board that the information being sent out is correct and properly written. Therefore, the information being received by the District will always be from the previous Board Meeting.
8. Upon the death of any minister or minister's spouse the District Secretary-Treasurer shall send a notice to all ministers and churches requesting that a love offering be sent from them to the district office to be sent to the family.
9. The District Secretary-Treasurer will send to each minister in the Tennessee District the names of all ministers qualified for open offices two (2) weeks prior to District Convention. The resolutions from all District Conventions shall be mailed to each minister.
10. The District Secretary-Treasurer shall serve as the official Secretary-Treasurer & Executive Committee Member for the Youth Department, Women's Department, Men's Department, Home Missions Department, Christian Education Department, District Website and any other department or committee, unless otherwise specified. Furthermore, all District Department Executive Committees may appoint a section representative to also serve as the department secretary/administrative assistant, however all treasurer/financial matters must still be processed through the District Secretary-Treasurer. The District Secretary-Treasurer shall give a report of what money is spent, and why it is spent, to the Department Directors.
11. The District (Youth) Secretary/Treasurer shall keep a true record of all business meetings and of the local Youth Ministry chapters in the district. Secretary-Treasurer shall keep a complete financial record for the District Youth Ministry. Secretary-Treasurer shall keep an accurate record of all receipts and disbursements, and shall give a financial report at each District Convention. Secretary-Treasurer shall keep a record of the minutes of all business meetings of the District Youth Ministry Executive Committee. Secretary-Treasurer shall keep a record of the names and addresses of the officers of each local group and the number of members in the local group. This information will be furnished by the local group.
12. The District (Women's) Secretary-Treasurer shall keep a record of all Women's Ministry meetings at conventions and business sessions. Secretary-Treasurer shall keep a complete financial record of all district Women's Ministry finances. Secretary-Treasurer is to keep an accurate record of all monies received in the Women's Ministry program, such as rally offerings and to receive and disburse same Rally offerings, in cooperation with the Women's Ministry Director. Secretary-Treasurer shall keep secretarial records of Women's Ministries; and keep correspondence of the Women's Ministry office in order.

### III. DISTRICT PRESBYTER

**Qualifications:** The District Presbyter shall be not less than thirty-five (35) years of age, an ordained minister who has the baptism of the Holy Ghost and at least ten (10) years' experience in the ministry. The District Presbyter shall have at least three (3) years as an ordained minister of the Pentecostal Church of God and one (1) year's residence in this district.

**Elections:** The District Presbyter shall be elected by a two-thirds (2/3) majority vote at the District Convention and shall serve for a term of two (2) years which runs concurrently with that of the District Secretary-Treasurer. Should the office become vacant, the District Board is empowered to appoint someone to serve until the next District Convention.

1. The District Presbyter shall serve as a Co-Executive Vice President and the Chief Operations Officer (COO) of the District.
2. The District Presbyter shall be an Executive Committee Member on the Tennessee District Board, and when the Tennessee District has twenty-six (26) or more duly chartered churches the District Presbyter shall represent the Tennessee District on the PCG General Board.
3. The District Presbyter's duties shall be to cooperate with and assist the District Bishop, to open new fields, to organize new sections and to assist the pastors and evangelists.
4. The District Presbyter shall have the responsibility of conducting all District Fellowships/Rallies in the Tennessee District.
5. The District Presbyter shall hold all Section Elections, or if unavailable, shall appoint another qualified District Official to hold Section Elections.
6. In the event of an incapacity in the office of the District Bishop, the District Presbyter shall serve as Chairman of the District Board until the return of the District Bishop, a new District Bishop is appointed by the District Board, or a new District Bishop is elected by the District Convention.
7. In the event of an incapacity in the office of the District Secretary-Treasurer, the District Presbyter, who shall keep their name and signature on all District Bank Accounts, shall serve as a substitute until the return of the District Secretary-Treasurer, a new District Secretary-Treasurer is appointed by the District Board, or a new District Secretary-Treasurer is elected by the District Convention.

8. In the event of an incapacity in the office of any presbyter or department director, the District Presbyter shall serve as a substitute until their return, a new appointment is made by the District Board, or a new election is held by the District Convention.

#### IV. REGIONAL PRESBYTER

**Qualifications:** The Regional Presbyter shall be apt to teach, communicate, and give instruction, an ordained minister of the Pentecostal Church of God, with the baptism of the Holy Ghost. The Regional Presbyter must have at least five (5) years in the ministry, must be more than twenty-five (25) years of age, and must have been a member of the district for one (1) year.

**Elections:** The Regional Presbyter shall be elected by a two-thirds (2/3) majority vote at the District Convention and shall serve for a term of two (2) years which runs concurrently with that of the District Secretary-Treasurer. Should the office become vacant, the District Board is empowered to appoint a qualified minister to serve until the next District Convention.

1. The Regional Presbyter shall represent the entire "region" of the Tennessee District, and shall serve on the District Board as the Executive Director of Home Missions having general supervision over all District Ministry Department Divisions, including the District Youth Ministries, District Women's Ministries, District Men's Ministries, and any other ministries that may be assigned by the District Board, including Editorial Department
2. The Regional Presbyter must be one qualified to establish new churches. No monies for new works shall be allowed without notifying the Regional Presbyter. The Regional Presbyter should be notified of any new work started.
3. The Regional Presbyter shall have the authority to request from and receive monies from Home Missions equal to three (3) months' rent and utility deposits for new works, three (3) months utilities and one-fourth (1/4) of a year PCG literature for new works upon approval of the District Board as long as funds are available.
4. Every month having a fifth Sunday shall be designated Home Missions Sunday and an offering shall be taken for District Home Missions and sent to the district office. The Regional Presbyter will send a letter to each church not later than the Monday of the week preceding the fifth Sunday. Postage will be paid from the Home Missions Fund.
5. The Regional Presbyter may conduct sectional rallies, one (1) per year per section, to raise support for Home Missions, coordinating with the District and Sectional Ministry Department Directors, as needed.
6. The Regional Presbyter shall be responsible for reviewing the Minister's Study Series material, the personal study courses and the specialty modules, completed by ministers pursuing credentials in the TN District PCG. The Regional Presbyter shall record and store a final report of the successful completion of the classes and send a copy to the District Board for consideration in the applicant's credential process. Additionally, the Regional Presbyter shall review all church and/or ministerial applications to ensure that all needed paperwork has been included, that each form has been filled out correctly, and that any application fees have been secured. This process shall be completed before the applicant's interview with the District Board is scheduled.
7. The Regional Presbyter shall direct Christian Education activities, and may conduct teacher-training sessions made available to each section, and may host learning seminars or conferences for teacher-training and enrichment, as needed.
8. The Regional Presbyter shall maintain constant communication with the District Department Directors of each District Ministry Department, and shall serve as a liaison between the Directors and the District Board. This will allow the Directors to run their individual Departments, but will also provide needed communication between the District Board and each of those Departments, as well as keep the District Board up to date on all Departments events and/or activities.
9. The Regional Presbyter shall coordinate with any District Officials who may be hosting a District Event, in order to ensure active awareness, participation, and/or involvement of each of the District Ministry Departments during the appropriate District Events.

#### V. SECTIONAL PRESBYTERS

**Qualifications:** The Sectional Presbyters shall be ordained ministers of the Pentecostal Church of God, with the baptism of the Holy Ghost. They must have at least five (5) years in the ministry, must be more than twenty-five (25) years of age, and they must have been a member of the section for one (1) year.

**Elections:** The Sectional Presbyters shall be elected by a two-thirds (2/3) majority vote and shall serve for a two (2) year term which runs concurrently with that of the District Bishop. Each section shall elect its own sectional Presbyter at the fellowship meeting immediately preceding the District Convention. These presbyters shall be subject to ratification by the entire District Convention. Should any Sectional Presbyter leave office between conventions, or move to a section other than the section in which they have been elected to serve, their office shall immediately become vacant, and the District Board shall appoint a qualified resident of that section to fill the office until the next election.

1. Sectional Presbyters shall serve on the District Board as the Executive Directors of their Section, shall serve as Section Home Missions Directors and by virtue of their office shall serve as Section Department Directors (men, women, youth, etc.) until such time that the Section has an election or the District Department Executive Committees appoint new Section Department Directors.
2. The Sectional Presbyter shall cooperate with and assist the District Bishop in the section which the Sectional Presbyter represents, and the Sectional Presbyter shall be responsible for its development.
3. Each Section Presbyter shall be notified of any vacancy, conflict, or business related to churches in their Section, and is authorized to handle such business. Furthermore, be it resolved that the Sectional Presbyter inform the District Bishop of the outcome of such meetings. In the event the Sectional Presbyter is not available or has a conflict of interest the District Office shall be notified immediately.
4. In sections with less than five (5) churches, the presbyter and Youth Director will be permitted to alternate their rallies or conduct rallies as often as is suitable for that section.
5. Sectional Presbyters may serve as Parliamentarians at District Convention, if needed

#### VI. DIRECTOR OF DISTRICT YOUTH MINISTRY

**Qualifications:** District Youth Ministries Director must be saved and baptized with the Holy Ghost according to Acts 2:4. The Director must be a district minister (exhorter, licensed, ordained) or the spouse of a district minister in good standing with the Tennessee District of the Pentecostal Church of God for at least (1) year and no less than twenty-five (25) years of age.

**Elections:** The Director shall be elected by a two-thirds (2/3) majority vote at the District Convention and serve a two (2) year term to coincide with the District Bishop election. If the office becomes vacant between conventions, the District Board shall have the power to select, from those qualified and capable within the Tennessee District, a youth to fill the unexpired term of office.



1. The Youth Ministry Director, working in harmony with the district shall preside at all Youth Ministry rallies and shall have general oversight of all Youth Ministry activities in the district. The Youth Ministry Director shall have the responsibility for conducting all Youth Ministry rallies and Youth Ministry Conventions in the district. The director shall notify local groups prior to rallies and convention; the director shall be responsible for placing a report of each sectional rally, district rally and District Convention in the Pentecostal Messenger and/or in district publications.
2. The District Youth Ministry Director shall be invited to preach at one meeting of each local Youth Ministry Director group in each three-month period.
3. The Youth Ministries Director shall appoint the chairman and members of any special committees.
4. The Youth Ministries Director shall use their influence to organize and invite new groups into the Youth Ministry and to encourage the extant local groups.
5. The Youth Ministry Director is encouraged to attend all Youth Ministry Central Committee meetings, and to be present and represent the Tennessee District at all Youth Ministry functions at General Convention.
6. The Youth Ministry Director shall be allowed to pastor a church.

#### **VII. SECTION YOUTH MINISTRY DIRECTORS**

**Qualifications:** The Sectional Director shall be a youth of good report, with the baptism of the Holy Ghost, no less than eighteen (18) years of age, and a member of a local group for at least one (1) year in the section they will represent. Any non-credentialed individual elected must provide to the District Board verification of both giving and membership faithfulness to their TNPCG local church before assuming office.

**Elections:** Sectional Youth Ministries Directors will be elected in each section at the sectional fellowship meeting immediately preceding the District Convention. Election will be by a two-thirds (2/3) vote of any district minister (exhorter, licensed, ordained) or district minister's spouse in the section, the YM Director from each local group and two (2) delegates from each church. The Director shall serve for a two (2) year term which runs concurrently with that of the District Bishop. If the office becomes vacant between conventions the District YM Executive Committee shall have the power to select, from those qualified and capable within the Section, a youth to fill the unexpired term of office.

1. The Sectional Youth Ministry Director shall keep Youth Ministry supplies to sell at rallies and fellowship meetings. These supplies will be furnished on consignment by the district Youth Ministry office. They shall represent their section at all District Fellowships, Conventions, Camp Meetings, and Youth Board Meetings. In the event of the absence of the District Youth Ministry Director from any of their duties in the local section, the Sectional Youth Ministry Director of that local section shall be responsible for fulfilling the director's place.

#### **VIII. DIRECTOR OF DISTRICT WOMENS MINISTRY**

**Qualifications:** District Women's Ministries Director must be saved and baptized with the Holy Ghost according to Acts 2:4. The Director must be a district minister (exhorter, licensed, ordained) or the spouse of a district minister in good standing with the Tennessee District of the Pentecostal Church of God for at least (1) year and no less than twenty-five (25) years of age.

**Elections:** The Director shall be elected by a two-thirds (2/3) majority vote at the District Convention and serve a two (2) year term to coincide with the District Bishop election. If the office becomes vacant between conventions, the District Board shall have the power to select, from those qualified and capable within the Tennessee District, a woman to fill the unexpired term of office.

1. Duties of the Women's Ministry Director are to meet with the local groups, where invited, and send notices as to Women's Ministry rallies and to hold other meetings or rallies as approved by the sections where the meeting or rally is held.
2. She shall have the oversight of the local Women's Ministry groups and shall work in harmony with these groups. It shall be her duty to help organize a Women's Ministry chapter in any local church which desires a chapter.
3. The Women's Ministry Director of the Tennessee District should, if at all possible, attend all Women's Ministry Central Committee meetings and, if at all possible, be present and represent the Tennessee District at all Women's Ministry functions at General Conventions.

#### **IX. SECTION WOMEN'S MINISTRY DIRECTORS**

**Qualifications:** The Sectional Director shall be a woman of good report, with the baptism of the Holy Ghost, no less than eighteen (18) years of age, and a member of a local group for at least one (1) year in the section they will represent. Any non-credentialed individual elected must provide to the District Board verification of both giving and membership faithfulness to their TNPCG local church before assuming office.

**Elections:** Sectional Women's Ministries Directors will be elected in each section at the sectional fellowship meeting immediately preceding the District Convention. Election will be by a two-thirds (2/3) vote of any district minister (exhorter, licensed, ordained) or district minister's spouse in the section, the WM Director from each local group and two (2) delegates from each church. The Director shall serve for a two (2) year term which runs concurrently with that of the District Bishop. If the office becomes vacant between conventions the District WM Executive Committee shall have the power to select, from those qualified and capable within the Section, a woman to fill the unexpired term of office.

1. Duties of the Sectional Director are to promote the Women's Ministry program in the section she represents under the supervision of the District Women's Ministry Director. She will be a member of the Women's Ministry Board and attend the board meetings every three (3) months.

#### **X. DIRECTOR OF DISTRICT MEN'S MINISTRY**

**Qualifications:** District Men's Ministry Director must be saved and baptized with the Holy Ghost according to Acts 2:4. The Director must be a district minister (exhorter, licensed, ordained) or the spouse of a district minister in good standing with the Tennessee District of the Pentecostal Church of God for at least (1) year and no less than twenty-five (25) years of age.

**Elections:** The Director shall be elected by a two-thirds (2/3) majority vote at the District Convention and serve a two (2) year term to coincide with the District Bishop election. If the office becomes vacant between conventions, the District Board shall have the power to select, from those qualified and capable within the Tennessee District, a man to fill the unexpired term of office.

1. (a) He shall work in harmony with the divisional representative, the National Men's Director, and National Home Missions Director. (b) He shall inform the above of all District activities. (c) All programs and events shall be approved by the District Board. (d) When possible, he shall attend training seminars and retreats to better equip him for his outreach. (e) He shall encourage all the churches in the District to participate in the Men's Ministry program and keep a current record of each group's registration.

## **XI. SECTION MEN'S MINISTRY DIRECTORS**

**Qualifications:** The Sectional Director shall be a man of good report, with the baptism of the Holy Ghost, no less than eighteen (18) years of age, and a member of a local group for at least one (1) year in the section they will represent. Any non-credentialed individual elected must provide to the District Board verification of both giving and membership faithfulness to their TNPCG local church before assuming office.

**Elections:** Sectional Men's Ministries Directors will be elected in each section at the sectional fellowship meeting immediately preceding the District Convention. Election will be by a two-thirds (2/3) vote of any district minister (exhorter, licensed, ordained) or district minister's spouse in the section, the Men's Director from each local group and two (2) delegates from each church. The Director shall serve for a two (2) year term which runs concurrently with that of the District Bishop. If the office becomes vacant between conventions the District Men's Executive Committee shall have the power to select, from those qualified and capable within the Section, a man to fill the unexpired term of office.

1. Duties of the Sectional Director are to promote the Men's Ministries program in the section he represents under the supervision of the District Men's Director. He will be a member of the Men's Board and attend the board meetings every three (3) months.

## **XII. DISTRICT EDITOR / TECHNOLOGY DIRECTOR**

**Qualifications:** The District Board shall elect a qualified, technically savvy individual who can manipulate specific programs in order to compile, edit, publish, and manage a comprehensive and attractive district website for informational purposes. The editor shall have been a member of the district at least one (1) year, and shall have the baptism of the Holy Ghost.

**Elections:** The editor shall be elected by a two-thirds (2/3) majority vote and shall serve for a term specified by the District Board at the time of election. If the office becomes vacant, the District Board shall have the power to select, from those qualified and capable within the Tennessee District, an individual to fill the unexpired term of office.

1. The District Editor shall publish a district website including any needed social media accounts in order to keep the district ministers and churches informed of all Tennessee District related news and events.
2. The District Editor will work in conjunction with the TNPCG Board to approve active TNPCG ministers as MEMBERS of the website, as well as remove inactive TNPCG ministers, and will update the MINISTERS PERKS and MEDIA as needed.
3. The District Editor shall send a copy of all receipts to the District Secretary for reimbursements.
4. The District Editor may perform such other functions as are directed by the District Board.

## **XIII. HONORARY DISTRICT BOARD MEMBER / VESSEL OF HONOR / ASSISTANT BISHOP**

In order that we might honor those who have dedicated their lives in service to the Lord as leaders in the Tennessee District of the Pentecostal Church of God, we hereby establish the office of "**Honorary Tennessee District Board Member**"

**Qualifications:** Honorary Tennessee District Board Members shall be nominated and approved by the Tennessee District Board, and shall include former TN District Board Executive Committee Members (former TN District Bishops/Superintendents, former TN District Secretary-Treasurers, and former TN District Presbyters) provided they are not currently holding any of these TN District Board Executive Committee Member positions, and the following qualifications are maintained.

1. Must be a minister currently in good standing with the General Headquarters and the TN District PCG
2. Must be a minister currently on the membership rolls of the TN District PCG for the last 5 consecutive years
3. Must be a minister with a minimum of 10 years' experience as a Board Member of the TN District PCG
4. Must be a minister with a minimum of 15 years' experience as a Pastor, or approved equivalent, in the TN District PCG
5. Must be a minister with a minimum of 20 years' experience as a Credentialed Minister in the TN District PCG
6. Must be a minister with a minimum of 25 years' experience as an Ordained Minister with the PCG

### **A. PRIVILEGES**

Honorary Tennessee District Board Members shall have the following privileges.

1. Shall be given the honorary position "**Vessel of Honor**" and "**Assistant Tennessee District Bishop**"
2. Shall be added to the rolls of the Honorary Board at TN District Convention during the Ordination service
3. Shall be given TN District Board Meeting privileges, under the following conditions, after having been retired from all offices of the TN District Board for a minimum of two (2) years.
  - a. Shall be allowed, by invitation, to attend TN District Board Meetings at their own expense
  - b. Shall be allowed a voice when attending TN District Board Meetings, however they will not have a vote
  - c. Shall be allowed mileage reimbursement if requested to attend a TN District Board Meeting or if requested to conduct official business on behalf of the TN District Board

### **B. GUIDELINES**

Honorary Tennessee District Board Members shall always conduct themselves with a proper attitude, shall submit themselves to the authority of the TN District Board, and shall set an example in governing themselves by the following guidelines.

1. Any who refuse to work in harmony and cease to act as a minister in good standing with the General Headquarters and/or the TN District will be removed from their position
2. Any who refuse to work in harmony with the current leadership of the TN District and who cause a disruption at a TN District Board Meeting will be required to remove themselves and leave the meeting
3. Any who transfer to another district in the PCG will be removed from their position until they return to the TN District, and then they must wait 5 years until they are again eligible for an honorary board position
4. Any who take a position as a current TN District Board Member, and again retire, must wait 2 years before they are again eligible to participate in TN District Board Meeting privileges
5. Any holding this office must always remember that this is an honorary and not elected position, therefore the current TN District Bishop in consultation with the current TN District Board may, at any time, and without explanation, ask that one or all Honorary Board Members excuse themselves from a given board meeting if the current TN District Board deem that a situation merits their absence
6. Any recipient's spouse, who has served in active ministry with the recipient for a minimum of 25 years, maybe given similar honorary recognition and privileges as it relates to the department of Women's Ministries or Men's Ministries, assuming they conduct themselves by the same guidelines.

**ARTICLE SIX  
MINISTRY**

**I. MINISTERIAL CREDENTIALS**

**A. EXHORTER, LICENSE, ORDAINATION**

1. Minister's Study Series - The *Minister's Study Series* shall consist of the *Exhorter's Study Series*, *License Study Series*, and *Ordination Study Series* and shall be the official study course for ministers of the Pentecostal Church of God. This shall be the process for credentials for all new ministers and those advancing from exhorters to license and from license to ordination. Those ministers who believe they have completed equivalent studies shall be required to pass the final examination for the appropriate credential, in which case the requirement for completing the *Study Series* for that credential shall be waived. If equivalency is sought, the exam and either the transcript of classes taken or the *Minister Study Series* Equivalency Form shall be submitted with the minister's application to the office of the General Secretary. Upon the completion of the *Minister's Study Series*, a comprehensive test, provided by the general office, will be given to the minister by the respective district. Said minister must receive a seventy percent (70%) score on the test in order to receive a certificate of completion. Should said minister fail to achieve a score of at least seventy percent (70%), they must repeat the test until the satisfactory score is achieved. No series will be deemed completed until satisfactory score is achieved. A certificate of completion shall precede acceptance for ordination. Although this is a national program, it shall be processed through the district office.  
For ministers transferring to PCG from another organization, a questionnaire shall be established from this series for exhorter, license and ordination. If passed and everything else is cleared, the minister shall be granted the desired credential. If the minister does not pass, they shall be asked to take the course from whatever level was failed.
2. Exhorter Credential - Exhorter status is considered the first step toward the goal of ordination.
  - a. Upon acceptance as an exhorter, by completing the *Exhorter's Study Series*, the minister shall hold this first step credential for a minimum of one (1) year. During this time the minister may exercise spiritual ministries as their gifts may be.
  - b. During this one-year period the minister may complete the *License Study Series* and complete the reading of the whole Bible, but this must be completed within two (2) years.
  - c. Within a two-year period, the exhorter shall submit to their district board an application for advancement to licensed status. The district board shall then determine if the exhorter is granted licensed status. If the district board does not grant licensed status at this time, the exhorter may apply again within another two-year period. If after that time the district board does not grant licensed status, the exhorter shall no longer hold ministerial credentials.
3. Ministerial License - The license credential is considered a second step toward the goal of becoming an ordained minister.
  - a. Within a two-year period, the licensed minister shall submit to their district board an application for ordination. The district board shall then determine if the licensed minister is approved for ordination. If the district board does not approve ordination at this time, the licensed minister may apply again within another two-year period. If after that time the district board does not approve ordination, the licensed minister shall no longer hold ministerial credentials.
  - b. Upon completion of the *Ordination Study Series*, a licensed minister may apply to the district board to be approved for ordination.
  - c. In the district board's consideration, the following questions should be noted:
    - Has the licensed minister read the whole Bible?
    - Has the licensed minister given evidence of definite plans to be active in the ministry?
  - d. Licensed ministers are at liberty to exercise their gifts as the Spirit leads and the doors open.
4. Certificate of Ordination - Ordination is considered the eventual goal of PCG ministers
  - a. The potential ordination candidate shall give clear evidence of the intention to remain in active ministry. The district shall notify the general office of new ordinations.
  - b. Any licensed minister desiring ordination in any district other than the district in which licensed status was granted, shall present a recommendation from the District bishop of the district that issued the license.
  - c. Applicants for credentials or promotions may be denied, even though all the required criteria are met, if it is deemed that the acceptance of the applicant for other reasons would be detrimental to the well-being of the church as a whole.
  - d. Annual credential renewal shall be attested by the district office and issued by the general office.
  - e. Any minister holding credentials with the Pentecostal Church of God cannot hold credentials in any other church organization or religious fellowship that issues credentials to preach the gospel.
  - f. The place of women in ministry relates to the principle that the Holy Spirit divides upon each as He will. "In the last days our sons and daughters shall prophesy" (Joel 2:28, 29; Acts 2:17, 18). When called of God and anointed by the Spirit, our women may freely serve as helpers, pastors and evangelists,
  - g. No credentials shall be approved for any candidate nor any minister be given annual renewal of ministerial status who attended Messenger College and still has outstanding amounts payable to the college unless a letter is presented from the college indicating that proper arrangements have been made for payment. Each district office shall be notified by the college not later than December first of each calendar year of any delinquency of payments by the respective student.
5. Credential Fees - Each minister shall participate financially for the maintenance of the General offices by paying the sum of \$30.00 each month, two dollars of which shall go to support Messenger College, six dollars for the support of the department of youth ministries, one dollar to the national missions department, with five dollars being placed in the benevolent death benefit fund to be applied to death benefits only.
  - a. Included in the monthly contributions shall be the following:
  - b. The usual application or renewal fee for credentials.
  - c. The subscription to *The Pentecostal Messenger*.
  - d. Only current gratis ministers (as of 12/31/2007) will be covered with the \$4,000 death benefit (payable to the beneficiary upon death).
  - e. Where both husband and wife are ministers, either ordained or licensed, or licensed to exhort, the following option is available: One minister shall pay \$30.00 monthly, which is the usual application or renewal fee for ministers, and the other shall pay half the regular rate (\$15.00 monthly) and would not be entitled to a separate subscription to *The Pentecostal Messenger*.

- f. If said fees are not paid for a period of thirty (30) days, the minister will receive a letter of delinquency with a copy to the district office. If the minister is still delinquent after sixty (60) days, the credentials will be dropped by the General office and the district office will be notified. Any minister who is dropped by the General office must make an application for reinstatement and meet with the District Board
- g. The following ministers shall have their credential fees and their subscription to the *Pentecostal Messenger* waived for one of the following three conditions; (1) When credentialed ministers reach the age of seventy (70) and have carried ordination with the Pentecostal Church of God for at least twenty (20) years or (2) if they are totally disabled with a terminal illness/physically debilitating condition and are not pursuing active ministry, or (3) if they are seventy (70) year of age with twenty (20) years of continuous service and who do not qualify for gratis status and cannot pursue active ministry. In order for ministers to begin receiving this waiver, their credential fees must be paid up to date.
- h. All ministers shall pay their tithe/dues as required by the district.

## **B. MINISTERIAL CERTIFICATION**

*NOTE: With the exception of the following concerning Certified Ministers, all places in these bylaws referring to district ministers, shall be an understood reference to Exhorter, Licensed, or Ordained ministers*

*State of Tennessee Law 36-3-301. Persons who may solemnize marriages. (a) (1) All regular ministers, preachers, pastors, priests, rabbis and other spiritual leaders of every religious belief, more than eighteen (18) years of age, having the care of souls*

Certified Ministers shall be recognized as ministers, called by God to the ministry of the local churches in the Tennessee District of the Pentecostal Church of God, who have met the approval of the TN District Board, and are presently maintaining a godly life and a Scriptural standard of teaching as it relates to the doctrine of the TN District. Certified Ministers shall have all the responsibilities, rights, and privileges of other TN District ministers. However, because all Pentecostal Church of God, General Headquarters bylaws, policies, procedures, and practices dictate that ministers must be credentialed directly with the PCG in order to have a voice or a vote in PCG business, and because the TN District has no power to circumvent the PCG General Headquarters, and in order to define the specific requirements of this credential, the following shall be understood.

1. The Certified Ministers credential/certification does not infringe on the rights of the PCG General Credentials Committee or circumvent the TN District Credential Committee as it relates to the process. This credential/certification applies to local church ministry and does not infringe on PCG General or TN District matters.
2. Certified Ministers that keep membership, and pay tithe on (100%) one-hundred percent of their ministerial and secular income into a local church in the TN District, shall pay a (\$10.00) ten-dollar monthly credential/participation fee into the TN District General Fund, and shall be accountable to their Senior Pastor. Certified Ministers that keep membership, and/or pay tithe on their ministerial and secular income into a local church or ministry not affiliated with TN District as defined by the TN District Board, shall pay a (\$25.00) twenty-five dollar monthly credential/participation fee into the TN District General Fund, shall provide proof to the district of their faithfulness in monthly tithing to their local church, and shall be accountable and must give a report to their Sectional Presbyter a minimum of once per month. These credential/participation fees shall be paid by the tenth (10<sup>th</sup>) of each month, and will help to cover the cost of a certified minister's inclusion in the ministry of the TN District, and shall be paid regardless of income.
3. Certified Ministers may not hold TN District Offices, (including but not limited to, a TN District Board Member, a TN District Department Director, a TN District Senior/Lead Pastor of a Chartered PCG local church in the TN District, etc.), because TN District Officers are representatives of the PCG General Headquarters, and the TN District has no authority to circumvent the PCG General Headquarters. Election or Appointment to the position of a Sectional Representative (youth, women, men, etc.) shall be considered on a case-by-case basis as determined by the TN District Board, and based on their specific position, they shall maintain the attendance and financial requirements prescribed by the TN District Board.
4. Certified Ministers may not vote on TN District Business unless they are registered as a PCG local church delegate, a spouse of a TN District minister, or they are voting on business that they have been appointed to vote on, and then they may only vote on the business directly related to their appointed position. Again, the TN District cannot grant Certified Ministers the authority to vote, because TN District Business that relates to the PCG General Headquarters or its representatives cannot be circumvented by the TN District.
5. Certified Ministers shall be encouraged to complete the PCG Minister's Study Series, and any minister seeking credentials with the Pentecostal Church of God through the TN District may begin the process as a Certified Minister.

## **C. MINISTERIAL APPRENTICESHIP PROGRAM**

The Tennessee District of the Pentecostal Church of God does hereby establish a Ministerial Apprenticeship Program for the youth of our district ages seven (7) to seventeen (17.) A Ministerial Apprentice shall not be recognized as a minister, but shall be recognized as a potential minister, called by God to the ministry of the local churches in the Tennessee District of the Pentecostal Church of God, who has met the approval of the TN District Board, and is presently maintaining a godly life and a Scriptural standard of teaching as it relates to the doctrine of the TN District.

1. A Ministerial Apprentice credential/certification does not infringe on the rights of the PCG General Credentials Committee or circumvent the TN District Credential Committee as it relates to the process. This credential/certification applies to local church ministry and does not infringe on PCG General or TN District matters. Applications will be processed by the TN District Youth Department and the TN District Youth Director will be present when an applicant meets the TN District Board.
2. A Ministerial Apprentice shall be fully accountable to their Senior Pastor, and shall be given opportunity to learn, grow, and serve, as needed, at the discretion of their Senior Pastor.
3. A Ministerial Apprentice shall not have a specific credential fee, but instead they shall participate in the youth ministries "I'm Involved" program every year.
4. A Ministerial Apprentice may not hold TN District Offices, and may not vote on TN District Business unless eligible in some other capacity.
5. A Ministerial Apprentice shall be encouraged to complete the PCG Minister's Study Series.
6. A Ministerial Apprentice shall be encouraged to participate in Youth Ministries activities such as Youth Talent Expo, Youth Impact Bible Quizzing, Youth Camps, and Youth Rally's

## II. MINISTERIAL PEROGATIVES

1. All ministers who desire license shall be well recommended. Those who desire ordination should have at least two (2) years of active ministry as a licentiate.
2. At the discretion of the Credentials Committee, any acceptable ordained minister who has made, in person, a properly completed and signed application, may be given full fellowship in this district.
3. Licensed ministers are expected to spend as much time in the active ministry as possible.
4. All granting of license and ordination shall be limited to the Credentials Committee at any district meeting. At other times, applicants shall make application to the District Bishop, who will notify the applicant of the time when the District Board will meet in their section. The applicant will appear in person before the District Board.
5. Every minister who desires license, ordination or acceptance of ordination from some other Pentecostal church shall appear before the District Board, and shall declare their belief in the doctrines as set forth in the Constitution and Bylaws of the Tennessee District and the General Constitution and Bylaws of the Pentecostal Church of God. They shall promise to preach this doctrine and no doctrine which does not conform to this statement. This rule of doctrine shall apply to all ministers holding credentials with the Tennessee District of the Pentecostal Church of God. Further, no ministers whose known doctrinal belief is contrary to the doctrinal statement of the Pentecostal Church of God shall be elected to an office.
6. Any minister going from this district to another shall upon arrival notify the officials of the district into which they enter. Unless they are actively engaged in extensive evangelism, they shall be required to transfer to the district into which they have moved after they have been in that district for a period of six (6) months.
7. The Tennessee District shall adopt the standardized ministerial training curriculum established by the 1979 General Convention of the Pentecostal Church of God. The administration of this curriculum comes under the direction of the District Board.
8. Any minister whose marital status changes, that minister must fill out a Change in Marital Status Form for the district office.
9. Any minister coming to the Pentecostal Church of God from other organizations shall be investigated by the District Board, which must receive a recommendation from the organization from which the minister comes. If it is impossible to secure such a recommendation for a minister, they shall not be accepted into the district membership until they have proven their ministry in one of the following ways:
  - a. After having been a faithful member of a Pentecostal Church of God, they shall have their application signed by the pastor of their local church and one (1) other minister who is in good standing with the Tennessee District of the Pentecostal Church of God.
  - b. They shall conduct at least six (6) revivals in the Tennessee district, after which the pastors of the participating churches shall be interviewed by the District Board as to the applicant's doctrine and deportment.
  - c. Persons coming into the ministry from the laity shall be subject to the procedure set forth in paragraph (a) above. Those who enter the ministry from the laity will first be issued exhorter's credentials. After one (1) year as an exhorter, the applicant becomes eligible for license. After (2) two years as a Licensed Minister in good standing, having proven their ability as a capable Minister, Pastor, Assistant Pastor, full time Evangelist, full time Teacher in a Christian School or Bible College or, having pastored two years prior to their application for Ordination, be in full time ministry, having a certificate of completion of the Ministers Study Series and show reasonable proof of desire to continue in full time ministry or derives at least 70% of their income from the ministry, may apply to the District Board for Ordination. (This is General Board policy). No person shall pass through the Ordination Ceremony without the approval of their application for Ordination by the General Office.

## III. MINISTERIAL RELATIONS

1. Pentecostal Church of God ministers are privileged to use the services of other ministers as evangelists, provided that their faith is in harmony with Pentecostal Church of God doctrine. Pentecostal Church of God ministers are privileged to labor among other churches, provided that they do not injure the Pentecostal Church of God in that place.
2. Pentecostal Church of God ministers should cultivate mutual fellowship and work in harmony. No Pentecostal Church of God minister shall build a church within two (2) miles of a sister church in cities of 10,000 or less population. In rural areas, no Pentecostal Church of God minister shall build a church within five (5) miles of a sister church unless they have the consent of the pastor of the nearest Pentecostal Church of God or the District Bishop. No minister shall lend themselves to any disgruntled element in any church, nor be involved in any effort to depose an incumbent pastor or cause dissension or strife. Any minister involved in such activities shall be liable to drastic action.
3. Pentecostal Church of God ministers and workers must not interfere with those having charge of a church or mission. A minister desiring to labor in a church must see or correspond with the church board or the District Bishop. Credentials with the Pentecostal Church of God does not give free access to the pulpit of the Pentecostal Church of God churches.
4. Each Pentecostal Church of God minister shall place and keep membership with some local church of the Tennessee District Pentecostal Church of God. Ministers shall maintain an active membership status by fulfilling both the attendance policy of the church and the financial requirements of the district. Ministers who have a commute of fifty (50) miles or greater, and/or who have a personal hardship or special circumstance, shall meet with the District Board, and shall maintain an active membership status by fulfilling both the attendance policy prescribed by the District Board and the financial requirements of the district.
5. Each minister of this district shall contact the district office by correspondence, or in person, at least once each month.
6. All ministers shall supply the Tennessee District Office with a Cell Phone Number for texts and an Electronic Mail (e-mail) address as their primary means of communication, helping to save time (*single action ability to contact multiple individuals instead of a single individual, etc.*) and money (*paper, ink, envelopes, labels, stamps, etc.*) so that wherever and whenever possible, all of our Tennessee District Officials and ministers can utilize an electronic means for their communication. Furthermore, any minister unable to receive texts or e-mail must contact the Tennessee District Office for an exemption and explain their hardship to the District Board in order to continue communicating by land-line phone and postal mail.
7. Each pastor shall cooperate with district workers by providing information necessary to complete the district workers report and to establish district-wide programs.
8. Any minister who is not in the full-time ministry must fill out a monthly report of their activities, and send to the district office. Form reports to be prepared by the district office.

- 762 9. Any Pentecostal Church of God minister who does not work in harmony and for the best interest of the Tennessee District shall be  
763 subject to disciplinary action.  
764 10. The Pentecostal Church of God is opposed to homosexuality and all forms of sex perversion, sorcery and witchcraft, and appropriate  
765 questions concerning these areas shall be included on the applications for ministerial credentials.  
766  
767

#### 768 IV. MINISTERIAL DISCIPLINE

- 769 1. All charges against a minister shall be in writing and in triplicate. All charges shall be over the signatures of at least two (2) accusers  
770 who are licensed members or who are members in good standing of a church which is affiliated with the Tennessee District of the  
771 Pentecostal Church of God. Two copies of the charges shall be sent to the District Bishop, who will keep the one copy and deliver the  
772 other copy to the defendant. The District Bishop shall appoint a suitable place and time, and the charges shall be brought before a  
773 court of inquiry for resolution; in the event that the court of inquiry cannot resolve the problem, the case should be presented to the  
774 District Board and any other national official.  
775 2. No questions may be asked, nor any evidence that has no direct bearing upon the charges already filed. It is the explicit duty of the  
776 chairman to enforce this procedure.  
777 3. A court of inquiry shall consist of the District Bishop, the local Sectional Presbyter and any other district or national officers present.  
778 Should either party be dissatisfied with the decision rendered, they may bring the case before the District Board at the next District  
779 Convention. The decision of the District Board is final except in the case of ordained ministers, who may appeal to the General Board  
780 for a final decision. The defendant shall be considered innocent until proven guilty.  
781 4. If the defendant truly confesses and repents and shows a contrite heart, recommendation is made for leniency and, if possible, a full  
782 restoration after a suitable time of probation.  
783 5. If charges are brought against a District Bishop, the procedure shall be the same, except that the District Secretary shall act as  
784 chairman.  
785 6. If charges are proven to be true and of a sufficiently serious nature, the District Board may order the defendant's name to be removed  
786 from the ministerial list. If restoration is possible, the District Board may temporarily suspend a defendant's credentials for a  
787 determined period of time, during which all the defendant's ministerial duties shall be restricted at the discretion of the District Board.  
788 In addition to any suspension, the defendant will be placed on probation by the District Board for an additional determined period of  
789 time, where the defendant may be assigned an appropriate counselor and/or accountability partner. Any minister placed on probation  
790 shall be ineligible to vote in district business or hold district office.  
791 7. If the defendant is proven innocent and the charges are proven false, the accusers shall be deemed guilty of malicious slander, trouble-  
792 making and causing division, and they may be disciplined even to the extent of having their names removed from the ministerial list.  
793 8. Anyone who has once been tried and proven innocent of a charge, or who has repented and made proper restitution, shall not be tried  
794 the second time on the same charge. Anyone referring to the former charge either by word of mouth or in writing shall be subject to  
795 discipline. "Where there is no talebearer, strife ceases" (Proverbs 26:20).  
796 9. Any minister or applicant proven to be a user of tobacco, alcohol or any controlled substance shall immediately be subject to  
797 disciplinary action. In an effort to uphold the standards of the Pentecostal Church of God, the District Board may require that the user  
798 of such a substance be dropped from the fellowship of the Tennessee District.  
799  
800

#### 801 V. MINISTERIAL TITHE

##### 802 A. MINISTER'S TITHING REQUIREMENTS

- 803 1. All ministers (Exhorter, Licensed, Ordained) of the Tennessee District of the Pentecostal Church of God shall pay ten percent (10%)  
804 tithe on one-hundred percent (100%) of all ministerial and secular income by the tenth (10<sup>th</sup>) of each month.  
805 a. Exhorter Ministers shall pay twenty-five percent (25%) of their tithe into the general fund of the TN District PCG and seventy-  
806 five percent (75%) of their tithe into the general fund of their PCG local church.  
807 b. Licensed Ministers and any Exhorter Ministers who have had a PCG credential for three (3) or more combined years shall pay  
808 fifty percent (50%) of their tithe into the general fund of the TN District PCG and fifty percent (50%) of their tithe into the  
809 general fund of their PCG local church.  
810 c. Ordained Ministers and any Licensed or Exhorter Ministers who are in full-time ministry or who have had a PCG credential for  
811 five (5) or more combined years shall pay seventy-five percent (75%) of their tithe into the general fund of the TN District PCG  
812 and twenty-five percent (25%) of their tithe into the general fund of their PCG local church.  
813  
814 • **Exhorter Ministers**  
815 **Step 1 - Income x .10 = Tithe**  
816 **Step 2 - Tithe x .25 = District Percentage**  
817 **Step 3 - Tithe x .75 = Local Church Percentage**  
818 • **Licensed Ministers and any Exhorter Ministers who have had a PCG credential for three (3) or more combined years**  
819 **Step 1 - Income x .10 = Tithe**  
820 **Step 2 - Tithe x .50 = District Percentage**  
821 **Step 3 - Tithe x .50 = Local Church Percentage**  
822 • **Ordained Ministers and any Licensed or Exhorter Ministers who are in full-time ministry or who have had a PCG**  
823 **credential for five (5) or more combined years**  
824 **Step 1 - Income x .10 = Tithe**  
825 **Step 2 - Tithe x .75 = District Percentage**  
826 **Step 3 - Tithe x .25 = Local Church Percentage**  
827  
828 2. All ministers (Exhorter, Licensed, Ordained) shall support the general fund of the TN District PCG with a ten dollar (\$10) minimum  
829 monthly participation fee. These participation fees are to be paid regardless of income by the tenth (10<sup>th</sup>) of each month, and may be  
830 included as a part of the minister's monthly tithe to the TN District PCG.  
831

3. No minister (Exhorter, Licensed, Ordained) shall be required to pay more than a maximum of three-hundred (\$300.00) dollars per month in tithe into the General Fund of the TN District PCG, and any tithe that exceeds this amount shall be paid into the General Fund of their TN District PCG local church. This maximum limit shall not pertain to situations where ministers, who are past due, are paying their last month's tithe in addition to their current month's tithe.
4. Any ministers who pay tithe to their own church may at no time use their own tithe to pay their own salaries.
5. Pastor of new works in the Tennessee District shall be allowed to pay up to one hundred percent (100%) of their tithe into the general funds of that new work for the period of twelve (12) months. New works will be considered the startup of a new church. The pastor will be required to make a financial report to the District Secretary-Treasurer each month showing the amount of their contribution to the church's general fund. At the end of the initial twelve (12) month period, the pastor can appeal to the District Board for a six-month extension if needed. The classification of a new work will be at the discretion of the Tennessee District Board and no verbal statement made by anyone outside the District Board will be considered.
6. In the case of the pastor of a local church, the spouse is not a minister, and they pay tithe separately, that the minister's spouse's tithe goes to the general fund of the local church. In the case of a District Bishop, who receives tithe, the spouse is a minister, and they pay tithe separately, the bishop's spouse's tithe goes to the general fund of the district.
7. Church finance. Any church with an income of less than one hundred fifty dollars (\$150.00) per month (not including the pastor's tithe), the pastor shall be allowed to pay fifty percent (50%) of their tithe into the church's general fund to help pay the bills. A report must be filed with the District Secretary-Treasurer so that the District Board can be assured of all church income.
8. Tennessee District Ministers who, due to special circumstances and with the permission of the district board, have voluntarily chosen to separate themselves from conventional district ministry by placing their church membership into an approved ministry not affiliated with the district, shall be given permission to pay their specified percentage of local church tithe into the general fund of their non-affiliated local church. However, as a result of this decision, they shall be required to relinquish the right to hold office or vote in any district matters. – Furthermore, it shall be understood that this ruling shall not interfere with a minister's status as it relates to the General Headquarters; it will not exempt a minister from regularly reporting to their assigned sectional presbyter; it will not excuse a minister from paying their specified percentage of district tithe into the general fund of the district; nor will it represent a minister who, with the permission of a district local pastor, maintains active membership in a district local church while also pursuing ministerial opportunities outside of said district local church.
9. Tennessee District Ministers who have been placed on gratis status with the PCG General Headquarters may additionally be placed on gratis status with the Tennessee District, having all participation fees waived by the Tennessee District Board, and tithe being contributed in accordance with the district bylaws only as income is generated.
10. TNPCG Ministers who are unable to join a district local church but desire to participate in district business will, with the permission of the District Board, report to an assigned presbyter and pay one-hundred percent (100%) of their tithe to the district general fund.

#### **B. MINISTER'S FAILURE TO TITHE**

1. Any minister who has not tithed for each month during the twelve (12) months preceding a meeting shall not be allowed to vote in the meeting. The minister's spouse shall also be denied the right to vote.
2. The minister described in item #1 shall not vote in any business meeting or election of the Tennessee District as a church delegate or minister's spouse. This shall also include any minister with any outstanding balance due the district or general headquarters.
3. The District Board will ensure that all ministers are consistent in their tithe paying. A notice will be sent to all ministers failing to comply, and those failing to pay tithe should meet the disciplinary action as deemed appropriate by the District Board.
4. When any minister becomes delinquent in their tithe, they shall be notified by the District Secretary-Treasurer. If the situation is not resolved within thirty (30) days, the minister shall be relieved of their duties and their ministerial credentials shall be revoked. THIS ACTION SHALL BE ENFORCED WITHOUT FAIL OR FAVOR BY THE TENNESSEE DISTRICT BOARD.

#### **VI. MINISTERIAL REMITTANCES**

1. All remittances (except missionary offerings, merchandise and literature orders) shall be sent through the office of the District Secretary-Treasurer. Such practice keeps each account current.
2. Any designated funds, property of any kind, received by the Tennessee District shall be accompanied by a letter as to the designation, and shall be entered in the district file.

#### **VII. MINISTERIAL MARRIAGES**

##### **Marriage, Divorce and Remarriage**

We only recognize the Biblical definition of the marriage union as follows: A marital union is only a monogamous marriage between a natural born man and a natural born woman. Based on the principle of covenant initiated by God, marriage is the relationship through which sexuality can fulfill its potential to bless human lives. The covenant of marriage stresses fidelity to one's spouse. It promotes love, respect, trust, companionship, intimacy, spirituality, and peace. (Ephesians 5:21-33)

1. Affirmation of Marriage. The Pentecostal Church of God affirms that marriage is between one natural born man and one natural born woman. Homosexuality is not compatible with Christian ministry.
2. Designed by God. Marriage is a covenant designed by God and is a sacred covenant relationship between husband and wife for a lifetime. The sanctity of marriage and family is upheld in Scripture. It is understood, therefore, that divorce is the breaking of the marriage covenant and represents less than the ideal. We further understand that sin has disrupted marriage and family relationships. Divorce is not encouraged in Scripture, for the grace of God encourages reconciliation. Yet because of the hardness, stubbornness, and perversity of the human heart, reconciliation is not always possible. The New Testament does reflect a higher standard for the ministry because of the responsibility of leadership in the Church and that the minister's life must model their message. We seek to comprehend and practice a balance between God's grace and holding the standard set forth in God's Word.
3. Divorced and Remarried Ministers. No divorced and remarried Christian shall be granted Credentials with the Pentecostal Church of God except in the following cases:
  - a. The divorce occurred prior to the applicant's initial understanding and acceptance of salvation evidenced by faith in Jesus Christ as Savior and further the applicant did not demonstrate a lifestyle consistent with devotion to Biblical principles. We recognize annulment as a marriage that never legally occurred. (2 Corinthians 5:17).

- b. The divorce was for the cause of fornication or sexual immorality on the part of the applicant's former spouse (Matthew 5:32; 19:9), where the applicant was faithful to the marriage vows during the marriage.
- c. The divorce occurred when an unbeliever departs from a believer (1 Corinthians 7:15). It must be determined that every effort was made personally and legally to save the marriage, and said divorce occurred against the will of the applicant.
- d. The divorce occurred because of spousal abuse (Eh 5:25, 28-29).
4. Same Sex Marriage. Whereas, we are facing insurmountable inroads of same sex agendas on television, the news, education and in general society, Whereas, we are continually having to courageously stand against a wave of acceptance of same sex couples in the name of tolerance, divergence and equal rights, Whereas, the attitude and moral level of the world encroaches gravely upon the Holy Bible and its teachings on marriage being of "male and female", Whereas, the State of Tennessee, along with other states, as a trend, are continually being forced by the Supreme Court to accept same sex marriage, Whereas, our Pastors, Churches and Ministry individuals are to be protected by an umbrella of unified conviction and biblical stand from the assembly... Be it Resolved; those who carry credentials with the Tennessee District of the Pentecostal Church of God will not be allowed to perform same sex marriages, Be it further Resolved; while all are welcome to attend, homosexuals, lesbians, bisexual and transgender persons cannot knowingly be allowed to serve in leadership positions in church functions or services, whether volunteer or paid; Be it further Resolved; credentialed ministers risk losing their license with these infractions.

#### **VIII. MINISTERIAL WITHDRAWALS**

1. The District Secretary shall keep a correct record of the case of any minister withdrawing from fellowship with the Tennessee District of the Pentecostal Church of God. This record shall state the cause for withdrawal. No person who surrenders parchments shall be restored to fellowship until they have appeared before the District Board and satisfactorily answered any question pertaining to the case under consideration. No money shall be refunded to any minister who has paid into the district treasury.

#### **IX. MINISTERIAL AFFILIATION & STARTING NEW WORKS**

1. Any minister affiliated with the Tennessee District of the Pentecostal Church of God shall seriously endeavor to affiliate their church with this district as expeditiously as possible.
2. Any minister who wants to start a new work must contact the District Bishop. Then a special board meeting shall be called as soon as possible to discuss the potential of a new work.
3. Any potential new work shall not be given serious consideration without definite plans to join the full membership of the Pentecostal Church of God; and they shall not be entitled to register a local church delegate to conduct official district business until the church has been set in order with a pastor in full membership with the Pentecostal Church of God.
4. Any potential new work may, with the approval of the District Board, be granted "Church Fellowship Status" giving them recognition and encouraging affiliation with our district ministers and churches. However, any and all membership rights shall be reserved for churches chartered directly with the Pentecostal Church of God.

#### **X. MINISTERIAL CANDIDACY FOR PASTORATE**

1. No local minister shall become a candidate for a local church except by recommendation of the District Bishop or Sectional Presbyter in charge of the church.
2. No minister shall be allowed to try out for any church in the Tennessee District that is not current with their tithe.
3. Any minister who becomes a candidate for any church in the Tennessee District Pentecostal Church of God must be properly licensed with the Pentecostal Church of God, and in good standing with their respective district.

### **ARTICLE SEVEN MEETINGS**

#### **I. DISTRICT MEETINGS**

1. Until such time that the Tennessee District has a campground, all district events, including the District Convention, shall be held at a place decided by the District Board. The District Board shall attempt to schedule District Convention the last Wednesday through Friday of July, being extended as needed.
2. All district meetings shall be announced well in advance of the meeting, and the district office shall send written notice of the meeting to all ministers and churches in the Tennessee District. Such written notice should be sent no later than two (2) weeks before the meeting. Such meetings shall be announced by the pastors, and the notices shall be posted in the churches.
3. All district meetings and activities shall be centrally located if possible.
4. Inasmuch as holidays are a time when many family members and friends are visiting, and also, they are a time of heavy traffic, there will be no district meeting or fellowship meeting scheduled on a holiday or holiday weekend.

#### **II. SECTIONAL MEETINGS**

1. Each section may have one (1) fellowship meeting each month. The time and place for each fellowship meeting shall be decided by the Sectional Presbyter, and a two-week written notice for sectional meetings shall be sent to all ministers in that section and to all district officials.
2. Sectional fellowship meetings shall be scheduled at the discretion of each Sectional Presbyter, not to interfere with District fellowship meetings or any other District meetings, with holiday or weekend optional at the discretion of the Sectional Presbyter.
3. An offering shall be taken at each fellowship meeting and that offering will go to the Sectional Presbyter or to the person or speaker of their choice.

#### **III. DISTRICT CONVENTION**

##### **A. CONVENTION COMMITTEES**

1. All committees from District Convention shall be appointed by the District Board. The Department Directors shall make recommendations for their committees to be considered by the District Board.



- 969 2. Eligibility for committee membership of the district convention shall be based upon active participation of all district and section  
970 activities. No Minister shall be considered for a committee position unless they have participated in a majority of the district functions  
971 and a majority of their own section functions for the year (convention to convention).  
972 3. The District Presbyterian shall be responsible for a sign-in record of the attendance of all ministers at District functions and the host  
973 section Presbyterian shall be responsible for a sign-in record of the attendance of all ministers at section functions. These sign in records  
974 shall be sent to the Secretary-Treasurer and be part of a criteria used by the District Board in the appointment of committee  
975 membership.  
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#### 978 **B. CONVENTION VOTING CONSTITUENCY**

- 979 1. The voting constituency at the District Convention shall consist of all accredited members present and registered. This number shall  
980 include ordained ministers and their spouses, licensed ministers and their spouses, exhorter ministers and their spouses, and the  
981 spouses of deceased ministers who continue to maintain active membership in TN District PCG churches. Only individuals who  
982 maintain active membership in this district shall be registered. In order to provide increased representation without any monopolies,  
983 the voting constituency shall further include two (2) delegates from each one of the district's affiliated churches. The voting  
984 constituency shall be segregated for the business session of the District Convention. No absentee ballots will be received by the  
985 District Convention unless that person is duly registered or in the hospital.  
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#### 988 **C. CONVENTION FINANCE**

- 989 1. Financial arrangements for the District Convention shall be decided by the District Board.  
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#### 992 **D. CONVENTION RESOLUTIONS**

- 993 1. All potential resolutions shall require the endorsement of a minimum of three (3) credentialed ministers, and anyone having a  
994 resolution to be presented to the District Convention shall send the resolution to the district office no later than thirty (30) days prior to  
995 convention. The Resolutions Committee will meet thirty (30) days prior to convention to review all resolutions, and a copy of same  
996 shall be mailed to each minister in the Tennessee District prior to convention. The only resolutions accepted by the Resolutions  
997 Committee after the (30) day deadline will be those presented by the District Board, and those potential resolutions must be deemed  
998 urgent, and agreed upon unanimously by the District Board before being presented.  
999

#### 1000 **E. CONVENTION REPORTS**

- 1001 1. All District Convention reports shall be brief, yet thoroughly written, and they shall be given to the District Secretary to be kept at the  
1002 district office for further reference. Reports shall cover the preceding fiscal year.  
1003 2. The District Secretary-Treasurer shall prepare a complete itemized financial report of all receipts and disbursements, and present a  
1004 copy of it to each member of the voting constituency at each District Convention.  
1005 3. All and part-deeded churches must fill out the annual questionnaire and a report of the district net worth and liabilities shall be  
1006 included in the district report.  
1007  
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#### 1010 **F. CONVENTION STANDING RULES OF ORDER**

- 1011 1. District Convention (Business Meetings) shall be subject to parliamentary law (*Robert's Rules of Order*) in all instances in which  
1012 parliamentary law does not conflict with the Constitution and Bylaws of the Tennessee District of the Pentecostal Church of God.  
1013 2. All elections of the District Convention (Business Meeting) shall be by closed ballot.  
1014 3. All resolutions shall be accompanied by a motion made and seconded by members of the voting constituency.  
1015 4. Only one (1) question shall be before the District Convention (Business Meeting) at any time.  
1016 5. There shall be no discussion of a resolution until a motion is made, seconded and stated by the chair.  
1017 6. Only by a two-thirds (2/3) majority vote may a resolution be withdrawn after it has been discussed.  
1018 7. No resolution may be discussed for more than thirty (30) minutes before a vote is taken.  
1019 8. All resolutions presented to the District Convention (Business Meeting) must first be processed by the Resolution Committee.  
1020 9. Any individual who desires to comment upon any subject shall rise to their feet, address the chair, confine their remarks to the  
1021 questions under discussion, and avoid all unkind or disrespectful language.  
1022 10. Any speaker who does not conform to the rules of order is to be called to order by the chair. After being called to order, the speaker  
1023 will conform to the regulations of the District Convention (Business Meeting) or take their seat.  
1024 11. Each speaker shall have the privilege of the floor three (3) times on any one subject. They may speak for five (5) minutes the first  
1025 time, three (3) minutes the second time, and two (2) minutes the third time. A timekeeper shall be appointed by the chair.  
1026 12. When a member has the floor or is rising to speak, calls for the question cannot deprive them of their right to comment. No one may  
1027 call for the question when a member has the floor.  
1028 13. No more than three (3) members who hold the same opinion about a motion may speak consecutively. If after three such members  
1029 have spoken, there is no dissenting speaker, question must be called.  
1030 14. The author of a resolution is asked to speak first.  
1031 15. Anyone wishing to speak about a resolution must state whether they are for or against.  
1032 16. All officers shall be elected by a two-thirds (2/3) vote. These elections shall be conducted using a secret ballot. The first three ballots  
1033 shall be nominating ballots. After three ballots have been cast with no election, only the two (2) highest names shall remain on the  
1034 ballot to be voted upon in future balloting. Any votes for anyone other than the two highest nominees shall not be counted in the total  
1035 votes cast. After the fourth (4th) ballot, if one of the two remaining nominees withdraws, or an office has only a single nominee, a yes/  
1036 no vote shall be taken on the lone remaining nominee. A two-thirds (2/3) vote is still required in such a situation for election. Not  
1037 more than ten (10) ballots, including nominating ballots, shall be cast upon any group of nominees. In the event that no election has  
1038 been reached after the tenth ballot, the nominations shall be reopened and new ballots shall be cast. No office shall be filled by

- acclamation. As it relates to Directors and Officers of the District, after nine (9) ballots, if no election has been reached, then on the tenth (10) ballot, a simple majority shall determine an election. As it relates to Officers of the District Board, after nineteen (19) ballots, if no election has been reached, then on the twentieth (20) ballot, a simple majority shall determine an election. As it relates to the District Bishop, after twenty-nine (29) ballots, if no election has been reached, then on the thirtieth (30) ballot, a simple majority shall determine an election. Any election failing to obtain the required number of votes shall be determined by the District Board.
17. Under no circumstances shall personal or slurring remarks or accusations be permitted on the floor of any District Convention (Business Meeting).

#### **G. CONVENTION ORDER OF BUSINESS**

1. The District Board shall determine one of the following options for the "Order of Business" at each annual Tennessee District Convention

CALL TO ORDER (Friday)  
Report of the Registration Committee  
Report of the Rules of Order Committee  
Report of the District Bishop  
Report of the District Secretary/Treasurer  
Report of the District Presbyter  
Report of the Regional Presbyter  
Report of the Sectional Presbyters (alphabetically)  
Report of the Central Section Presbyter  
Report of the Eastern Section Presbyter  
Report of the Western Section Presbyter  
Report of the Director of Youth Ministry  
Report of the Director of Women's Ministry  
Report of the Director of Men's Ministry  
Report of the District Editor  
Report of the Auditor/Audit Committee  
Report of the District Finances from Sec/Tres  
Other Reports/Presentations/Acknowledgements  
Unfinished Business  
Report of the Resolutions Committee  
Election of District Officers  
Ratification of Section Officers  
New Business (other than resolutions or bylaw amendments)  
ADJOURN

CALL TO ORDER (Thursday)  
Report of the Rules of Order Committee  
Report of the Regional Presbyter  
Report of the Sectional Presbyters (alphabetically)  
Report of the Central Section Presbyter  
Report of the Eastern Section Presbyter  
Report of the Western Section Presbyter  
Report of the Director of Youth Ministry  
Report of the Director of Women's Ministry  
Report of the Director of Men's Ministry  
Report of the District Editor  
Report of the Auditor/Audit Committee  
Other Reports/Presentations/Acknowledgements  
RECESS  
RE-CONVENE (Friday)  
Report of the Registration Committee  
Report of the District Bishop  
Report of the District Secretary/Treasurer  
Report of the District Presbyter  
Report of the District Finances from Sec/Tres  
Unfinished Business  
Report of the Resolutions Committee  
Election of District Officers  
Ratification of Section Officers  
New Business (other than resolutions or bylaw amendments)  
ADJOURN

#### **IV. ATTENDANCE AT MEETINGS**

1. Every district officer, as well as every pastor, shall make an effort to have a representative from their church as a delegate to attend District Convention each year and also General Convention every two (2) years. Also, every minister in the district shall be encouraged to make plans to attend both District and General Convention.
2. To ensure that the Tennessee District shall be well represented at General Headquarters, the District Board shall be authorized to appoint a qualified substitute to fill in for any district official who is unable to attend their specific General Board or Department Central Committee Meeting.

### **ARTICLE EIGHT RULING BODY**

#### **I. CONVENTION POLICY**

1. Beginning with the 1975 Tennessee District Convention, the District Convention of the Tennessee District of the Pentecostal Church of God, convening in regularly or specially called business session, shall be the highest ruling and policy-making body in the district. The action taken by said District Convention shall be binding upon the district in every respect, and all district officials, as well as all boards and committees, shall be bound by this action. A vote taken at a District Convention shall not be altered, changed or ignored by any district official, board or committee, but it can be changed only by a two-thirds (2/3) majority vote of a succeeding District Convention.
2. The above limitations shall apply only to policy which has been laid down by a District Convention and which has become part of the Constitution and Bylaws of the Tennessee District. Such limitations shall interfere neither with administrative decisions nor purchases.

#### **II. BOARD POLICY**

1. The Tennessee District Board may, when necessary, establish administrative policy in order to conduct district business. "Tennessee District Board Policy", or simply "Policy", must be printed and made available, if requested, to all Tennessee District Ministers. Policy, while just as binding, does not supersede, must not be in conflict, and cannot circumvent the Tennessee District Bylaws. It must also be understood that the Tennessee District Bylaws have the sole power to create, set, and define our rules of order, while policy, which must always operate within the scope of our bylaws, may only act as a guide to the procedures used to enforce our rules of order. Any policy may be challenged by any group of three (3) or more district ministers and must then be brought to the next immediate Tennessee District Convention for consideration by the convention. The policy will then become a resolution and must be accepted as a new bylaw, or be discontinued to represent the wishes of the convention.

**ARTICLE NINE  
FINANCE**

**I. SALARIES & DISBURSEMENTS**

1. TN District Salaries and Disbursements shall be set annually by the District Board, and paid as funds are available from their designated departments. Furthermore, the Tennessee District Board shall be kept accountable to the ministers and churches which they represent, by means of a detailed financial report of all income and expenditures used in district business. Finally, the Tennessee District Board shall be encouraged to produce a yearly budget in an effort to project all income and expenditures for the fiscal year, and regardless of bylaw or policy, shall endeavor to maintain a surplus in the general operating fund.
  - a. The District Bishop shall be put on a salary of up to two thousand five-hundred dollars (\$2,500.00) per month with the District Secretary-Treasurer receiving a salary equal to  $\frac{3}{4}$  or 75% of the District Bishop salary. These salaries are to be taken from the general fund, as funds are available, and may be supplemented by the Home Missions Fund as needed when considered appropriate by the District Board. These salaries are to be inclusive of their expenses, except postage and stationery. A portion of their salary shall be designated as housing allowance and insurance (according to IRS guidelines), such amount to be set annually by the District Board.
  - b. The District Presbyterian shall receive a salary of up to three hundred dollars (\$300.00) per month to be taken from the general fund, as funds are available. As the District Presbyterian must often fill vacancies, the District Presbyterian salary may be paid from either the general fund or home missions fund as the district board considers appropriate.
  - c. The Regional Presbyterian shall receive up to two hundred dollars (\$200.00) monthly from the Home Missions Fund, as funds are available.
  - d. The Youth Ministry Director shall receive a salary of up to two hundred fifty dollars (\$250.00) a month from the Youth Ministry General Fund, as funds are available.
  - e. Pay our District Editor up to two-hundred fifty dollars (\$250.00) monthly from the Home Missions Fund, as funds are available.
2. Be it resolved that all District officers' salaries, (District Bishop, District Secretary-Treasurer, District Presbyterian, District Regional Presbyterian, District Youth Director, and the District Editor) be increased each year to coincide with Federal government cost of living index. This will also include mileage increase according to the IRS reimbursement regulations for all District officers and District Board members. This will also include mileage rates according to IRS mileage reimbursement regulations for all district officers and District Board members. However, no increase in salaries, insurance, mileage or other benefits will be given until first recommended by the TN District Board, reviewed by the TN District Finance Committee, and approved by the TN District Convention
3. The TN District Bishop and any TN District Department Director, who's Department carries a minimum balance of two-thousand (\$2,000.00) dollars per month, may be issued by the TN District Board, a TN District Credit Card to use for their ministry purchases. These Credit Cards will each carry a set spending limit based on available department funds. To avoid any interest fees, all bills will be sent to the District Office every month for payment. All Officers will send their receipts to the District Office every month, so that their purchases may be accounted for. Any Officer who is found to be in violation of this process will have their Credit Card privileges revoked by the District Board.

**II. FISCAL YEAR**

1. The fiscal year for the Tennessee District of the Pentecostal Church of God shall begin July 1st, and it shall end the following June 30th. A twelve (12) month report beginning July 1st through June 30th, the financial report for the fiscal year will be given at the District Convention.
2. The term of office for all elected officers will start August 15th. The last pay for any old officers shall be August 15th and the pay for the new officer shall begin September 15th.

**III. AUDIT**

1. The secretary-treasurer of each department of the Tennessee District shall submit their financial report to the District Auditing Committee no later than July 10th of each year, and the Auditing Committee shall return said books on or before July 20th of the same year.

**IV. MILEAGE REIMBURSEMENT**

1. Mileage allowance shall be reimbursable up to fifty cents (50¢) per mile from the district treasury, as funds are available.
2. The District Board members shall receive mileage allowance to attend District Board meetings from the district treasury. The TN District Board will not be reimbursed mileage for unscheduled, impromptu TN District Board Meetings that take place at TN District Events where the TN District Board Members are already assembled.
3. The Tennessee District Committees shall be paid appropriate mileage each time they attend General Board meetings or General Convention, the amount to be set by the District Board.
4. As funds are available, up to one hundred dollars (\$100.00) district mileage fund monthly from the tithe shall be to provide mileage reimbursement both ways to any minister who at the request of the Tennessee District office travels to one of the Tennessee churches on church business, or in a mission work within the Tennessee District boundaries and on district business sent by the district office, and not to exceed one thousand (1000) miles per month and any unused portion to be returned to the general fund.

**V. AMENITIES**

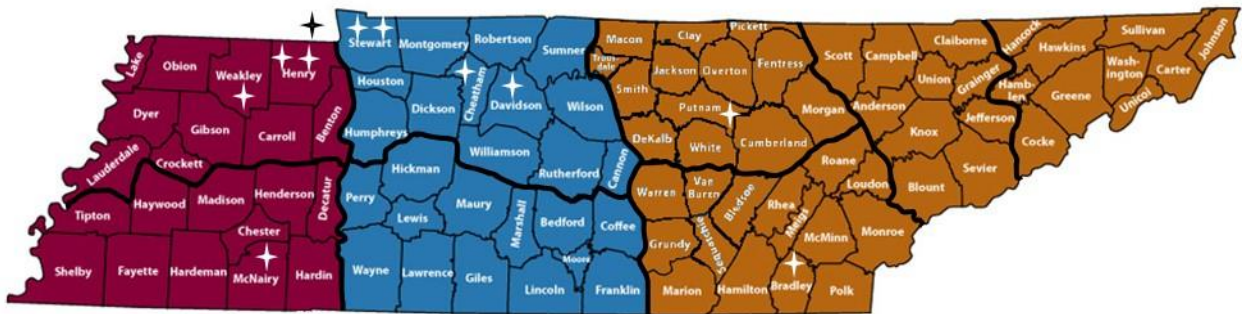
1. The TN District Board may provide appropriate coverage for our TN District General Board Member's food, travel, and lodging, while attending General Board and General Convention, as funds are available. They shall be paid as long as funds are available.
2. The TN District Board may provide an appropriate bonus for our District Officials on special occasions, such as Christmas. It is recommended that the District Bishop's bonus not exceed \$500, the District Secretary's bonus not exceed \$300, and other District Official's bonus not exceed \$100. However, the amount of each District Officials bonus will be determined by the District Board, as funds are available.

3. The TN District Board may provide needed amenities, such as internet access, to District Officials whose position requires their constant and frequent use, as funds are available.
4. The TN District Board may provide for our District Officials meals while they are conducting business on behalf of the District, as funds are available.
5. The TN District Board may provide an appropriate amount to be used as a form of Life Insurance for our TN District Ministers in good standing with the TN District, and these funds will be paid from the TN District Home Missions Fund, as funds are available.
6. The TN District Board may provide flowers and/or gifts for our District Ministers on appropriate special occasions, such as weddings, hospitals, or funerals, as funds are available.
7. The District Bishop's credential fee may be paid from the district treasury and the TN District Board may provide an appropriate Pastor Appreciation for our Bishop, as funds are available.

## ARTICLE TEN TERRITORY

### I. TERRITORY COVERED

1. The Tennessee District of the Pentecostal Church of God shall be all of the state of Tennessee; Murray, Kentucky.
2. The Tennessee District Board will assign every Tennessee District Church to a Section within the Tennessee District, and because our Sections do not have official boundaries or borders, Church Membership, not home address, will determine which Section a constituent represents



Western Section - 21+1

Central Section - 26

Eastern Section - 48

*(Unofficial section boundaries for visual reference only, actual boundaries & church section assignment based upon district ministry needs)*

## ARTICLE ELEVEN PROPERTY

### I. DISTRICT PROPERTY

1. In order to protect the property of the district or of the local church, and to keep such from ever falling into the hands of others, the following clause should be incorporated into the property deed of all district owned properties and churches:  
 "Having granted, sold, and conveyed and by these present do grant, sell, and convey, unto the said (name(s) of Grantee) all that certain lot, tract, or parcel of land situated, lying and being in the City of..... County of ..... State of ....., and described as follows, to-wit: (Compete legal description of property), upon the following condition to-wit: Should the premises and property herein for any reason, cease to be used as a Pentecostal Church of God (church), said premises and all of said property shall immediately vest, in fee simple, in the Pentecostal Church of God, Tennessee District Inc. This limitation on the use of said property is a part of the consideration for the conveyance, and is made herein for the express purpose of protecting said property from being diverted from its original intended use, which is for the benefit and welfare of the Pentecostal Church of God, Tennessee District, Inc."
2. Property owned, paid for or partly paid for by, or given to, the Pentecostal Church of God or one of its districts may be deeded to the local church (or its trustees), provided the following reversionary clause is a part of the deed:  
 "(property or local church name), is a Pentecostal Church of God. In the event of either an attempted conveyance of church property, or disaffiliation with the Pentecostal Church of God, or the dissolution of the local church, the property will revert to the Tennessee District of the Pentecostal Church of God."
3. The local church which has been granted title to the local church (or its trustees) with the reversionary clause as an integral part of the deed shall have full right, power and authority to sell, exchange, transfer and convey said property, or to borrow money and pledge the said real estate for the repayment of the same and to exercise all necessary deeds, conveyances, etc.; provided the proposition shall first be presented to a regular or special called meeting of the local church where proper notice is given and a quorum (majority) of the members are present, chaired by the district bishop of Tennessee District Pentecostal Church of God or one the district bishop may appoint, and the project is approved by two-thirds (2/3) of all members of the said church present and voting; and, provided the project is approved by a majority of the members of district board, who shall authorize the necessary "waiver" or "subordination agreement" to facilitate the action.

### II. DISTRICT CAMPGROUND

1. The District Board has the authority to make necessary decisions relative to developing the district campground.
2. If and when a decision is reached concerning the campground, a campground director shall be appointed by the District Board.

**ARTICLE TWELVE  
PEROGATIVES**

**I. OPPOSITION TO THE EQUAL RIGHTS AMMENDMENT**

1. The Tennessee District of the Pentecostal Church of God goes on record as being opposed to the ratification of the Equal Rights Amendment.

**II. INDEMNIFICATION**

1. The district shall, to the extent legally permissible, indemnify each person who may serve or who has served at any time as an officer, director, or employee of the corporation against all expenses and liabilities, including, without limitation, counsel fees, judgments, fines, excise taxes, penalties and settlement payments, reasonably incurred by or imposed upon such person in connection with any threatened, pending or completed action, suit or proceeding in which they may become involved by reason of their service in such capacity; provided that no indemnification shall be provided for any such person with respect to any matter as to which they shall have been finally adjudicated in any proceeding not to have acted in good faith in the reasonable belief that such action was in the best interests of the corporation; and further provided that any compromise or settlement payment shall be approved by a majority vote of a quorum of directors who are not at that time parties to the proceeding.
2. No amendment or repeal of the provisions of this article which adversely affects the right of an indemnified person under this article shall apply to such person with respect to those acts or omissions which occurred at any time prior to such amendment or repeal, unless such amendment or repeal was voted by or was made with the written consent of such indemnified person.
3. This article constitutes a contract between the society and the indemnified officers, directors, and employees. No amendment or repeal of the provisions of this article which adversely affects the right of an indemnified officer, director, or employee under this article shall apply to such officer, director, or employee with respect to those acts or omissions which occurred at any time prior to such amendment or repeal.

**III. DISSOLUTION**

1. Exclusively for Religious and Charitable Purposes. The assets of the Tennessee District Pentecostal Church of God, a Tennessee corporation, are irrevocably dedicated exclusively for religious, charitable and/or education purposes. In the event of dissolution of the corporation, the general board shall, after paying or making provisions for the payment of all of the liabilities of the corporation, dispose of all the assets of the corporation, so as to insure that the remaining assets will not inure to the benefit of any private person or persons, but that all remaining assets will be distributed to a non-profit organization or organizations, which are exempt under Section 501 (c) (3) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1954 (or corresponding provision of any future United States Internal Revenue Law as the general board shall determine).
2. Transfer of Assets Upon Dissolution. In the event of the dissolution of the Tennessee District Pentecostal Church of God, the assets of the district corporation will be transferred to the general corporation. In the event of the dissolution of any local church, the assets of the local church will be transferred to the district corporation in which the church is located.

**IV. PARLIAMENTARY AUTHORITY**

1. The rules contained in the current edition of *Robert's Rules of Order Newly Revised* shall govern this corporation in all case to which they are applicable and in which they are not inconsistent with these bylaws and any special rules of order or standing rules adopted for the meetings of the district convention, district board, district committees, or district churches by those respective bodies for their own meetings. Unless specified otherwise, the Standing Rules of Order and/or other criteria used for district convention shall govern all business meetings of this corporation.

**V. POSITION ON MARRIAGE, HOMOSEXUALITY & GENDER**

We find in view of such misunderstanding in our nation and in the Church, world concerning marriage, homosexuality and gender; that we the Tennessee District Pentecostal Church of God must set forth our Biblical belief and position concerning these matters; this has been our beliefs and practice from the foundation of our Fellowship. We must not be alarmed that unbelievers do not honor God and will not allow the Bible to be their guide in life and conduct (I Cor. 1:18).

**1. OUR DEFINITION OF MARRIAGE**

- a. A Divine institution, set in order by God, the uniting of one man and one woman; having the Divine charge to reproduce and have dominion over the earth (Gen. 1:27-28).
- b. Gen. 2:18, "And the LORD God said, It is not good that the man should be alone; I will make him an help meet for him. 22, And the rib, which the LORD God had taken from man, made he a woman, and brought her unto the man. 23, And Adam said, This is now bone of my bones, and flesh of my flesh: she shall be called Woman, because she was taken out of Man. 24, Therefore shall a man leave his father and his mother, and shall cleave unto his wife: and they shall be one flesh."
- c. Jesus Christ bears witness of the same in Mat. 19:4-6, "... Have ye not read, that he which made them at the beginning made them male and female, And said, For this cause shall a man leave father and mother, and shall cleave to his wife: and they twain shall be one flesh? Wherefore they are no more twain, but one flesh."
- d. Therefore the Divine charge to male and the female was to "Be fruitful, and multiply, and replenish the earth". If this was to be done there must be the uniting of the man and woman in a relationship that the Bible refers to as "one flesh" according to Scriptures. This matter of being "one flesh" is referred to seven times in Bible. Gen. 2:24; Mat. 19:5 & 6; Mk. 10:8 (2); I Cor. 6:16; and Eph. 5:31.
- e. This union God brought about in uniting a man and a woman together in a Christian marriage is a revelation of the union between Christ and His Church; therefore a Christian wedding is worship unto God who created this Divine institution. Eph. 5:29-33

- f. God's Law affirms the role of a man and a woman in the family relationship by commanding the children: "Honor thy father and thy mother: that thy days may be long ..." Ex. 20:12
- g. The New Testament reaffirms this marriage relationship between a man and a woman, and of the family in a definite way, as being a father, a mother and children. Eph. 5:21-6:4 & Col. 3:18-21
- h. Therefore, we the Tennessee District Pentecostal Church of God, without reservation define and declare that Christian marriage is a covenant relationship between a man and a woman, and we reject and condemn all attempts to redefine marriage in any other terms, as stated in our bylaws.
2. OUR POSITION CONCERNING HOMOSEXUALITY
- a. Webster's New World Dictionary, copyright, 1968; defines it as: "(1) sexual desire for those of same sex. (2) sexual relations between individuals of the same sex. Opposed to *heterosexuality*."
- b. It is important that we as the Tennessee District Pentecostal Church of God declare our Biblical position on this matter. Normally we would treat this sin just as we would adultery and fornication. But the importance is based on the fact that its legalization gives it more influence on the public, the Church world and especially on our children. Because of this we declare that homosexuality is clearly unbiblical and sinful, regardless of what laws are passed.
- c. The sin of homosexuality is seen in both in the Old and New Testaments. We find in the Old Testament where God's judgment is pronounced. Lev. 20:13 "If a man also lie with mankind, as he lieth with a woman, both of them have committed an abomination: they shall surely be put to death; their blood shall be upon them." Lev. 18:22; Judges 19:1-30
- d. The more common one is Sodom and Gomorrah in Gen. 19:4-25. This judgment of God that came upon them was of such severity that this particular sin was labeled as sodomite several places in the Bible. In Old Testament: Deut. 23:17 There shall be no whore of the daughters of Israel, nor a sodomite of the sons of Israel. "The Interpreter's Dictionary of the Bible", copyright 1962 gives meaning of sodomite as, "a male person who engages in sexual relations with another male." I Ki. 14:24; 15:12; 22:46 and II Ki. 23:7 Apostle Peter used it as an illustration I Pet. 2:6, Jude also used it in vs. 7.
- e. The Apostle Paul seeking to help the Church at Rome to deal with those who had rejected God, tells them in Rom. 1:24 "Wherefore God also gave them up to uncleanness through the lusts of their own hearts, to dishonor their own bodies between themselves: 25, Who changed the truth of God into a lie, and worshipped and served the creature more than the Creator... 26, For this cause God gave them up unto vile affections: for even their women did change the natural use into that which is against nature: 27, And likewise also the men, leaving the natural use of the woman, burned in their lust one toward another; men with men working that which is unseemly, and receiving in themselves that recompence of their error which was meet. 28, And even as they did not like to retain God in their knowledge, God gave them over to a reprobate mind..." The sin of homosexuality is clearly seen of both men and women, and the judgment that is passed upon such.
- f. The Apostle Paul speaks to the Church at Corinth. The city was a sinful city, like others; but it was noted for their sexual immorality. The Apostle realized how important it was for the new Christians to understand God's moral order. And those that committed such sins would not make it to heaven. I Cor. 6:9 "Know ye not that the unrighteous shall not inherit the kingdom of God? Be not deceived: neither fornicators, nor idolaters, nor adulterers, nor effeminate, nor abusers of themselves with mankind, 6:10 ... shall inherit the kingdom of God." Notice the Apostle doesn't want them to be deceived, regardless how accepted it was by the world. Joseph Thayer, Greek Lexicon, 19<sup>th</sup> copyright 1978 states that "effeminate" is, "of a catamite, a male who submits his body to unnatural lewdness". Catamite, is a boy used in a form of sodomy. Thayer states meaning of "nor abusers of themselves with mankind" is, "one who lies with a male as with a female, a sodomite". It is also used in I Tim. 1:10. A.T. Robertson, Greek scholar 1931 says, "late compound for sodomites."
- g. Such Scriptures Rom. 1:24-28 and I Cor. 6:9-10 not only condemn the more scandalous examples of homosexual behavior, but they also condemn the more modern-day life styles. That which is proclaimed as a loving and committed relationship.
- h. Homosexual behavior is a sin because it is contrary to God's created order for human relationships and the family unit. "Gen. 2:18 And the LORD God said, It is not good that the man should be alone; I will make him an help meet for him. 2:22 And the rib, which the LORD God had taken from man, made he a woman, and brought her unto the man. 2:24 Therefore shall a man leave his father and his mother, and shall cleave unto his wife: and they shall be one flesh." The message could not be any clearer of what God's order is for a man and a woman.
- i. Jesus reaffirms this established order that was from the beginning as was stated under (marriage above) Mat. 19:4-6 and Mk. 10:6-9
- j. As was stated homosexuality is sin; but it is not an unpardonable sin. It is just as other sins, whether fornication, adultery or all other transgressions of God's Law. Our only hope is repentance and forgiveness of sin through the blood of Jesus Christ. Which produces a regenerated heart and transformed and changed life and conduct. I Cor. 6:11 was speaking to those who had been partakers of such sins stated in vs. 9 and 10. Notice how the Apostle states it, "And such were some of you: but ye are washed, but ye are sanctified..."
- k. Therefore, we the Tennessee District Pentecostal Church of God stand opposed to any and all forms of homosexual lifestyles and behavior. We believe it is directly opposed to God's Word, and it is sinful.
3. OUR POSITION CONCERNING GENDER
- a. We believe that biological sex at birth is God's gift and part of God's glory in creation. The consequences that have come upon the human race after the fall of man into sin was and is devastating. The disorder, malfunction, evil, brokenness and pain have corrupted God's "good" creation. Gen. 3:1-24; Eph. 2:2; Rom. 8:20-21
- b. We believe that gender identity must be determined by biological sex according to God's good design and not by one's self-perception. Such perception comes from a heart that has not been created anew by Jesus Christ. Jer. 17:9 The heart is deceitful above all things, and desperately wicked: who can know it? Gen. 6:5; Prov. 14:12 (16:25); Eph. 4:17-18
- c. We believe that male and female roles are ordained by God, and this being part of His created order. Gen. 2:18, 21-24; I Cor. 11:7-9; Eph. 5:22-33
- d. Therefore, we believe for a person to seek to live contrary to their birth sex, whether by behavior, medical or surgical therapy is rebelling against the gift of God. And God's design He has for the person.
- e. We also condemn the efforts of a person to change one's bodily identity, whether it be cross-sex hormone therapy, gender reassignment surgery, or any other method whereby one seeks to attain this change. That is to bring themselves in line with their perceived gender identity rather than their biological birth gender identity.

- f. Therefore, we the Tennessee District Pentecostal Church of God believe that a person must respect and remain true to their biological birth gender. And that it is sinful to seek to alter or change this created order of their being.
4. **OUR CONCLUSION ON MARRIAGE, HOMOSEXUALITY, AND GENDER**
- a. All churches and their properties that are chartered with the Tennessee District Pentecostal Church of God must not be used by any individual, group, or organization that advocate, endorse or promote homosexuality as an alternative lifestyle. This policy also applies to birthday parties, reunions, anniversaries, weddings or baby showers, etc. Furthermore, under no circumstances is the pastor, one of our ministers or church members to officiate, participate or endorse any wedding ceremony or render any other services that are prohibited in the policy above. Furthermore, there will be no open promotion or contradictions to Biblical Beliefs and/or Bylaws of the Tennessee District
- b. All the Tennessee District Pentecostal Church of God churches must adhere to this course of action on marriage, homosexuality and gender, and make this one of the qualifications for ministry leaders, ministry participants, and be one of the qualifications for their Church membership. And that these individuals will read the Constitution and Bylaws of the church, and sign an appropriate form stating they will adhere to its beliefs and doctrines.
- c. We reaffirm that all of our churches which are chartered with the Tennessee District Pentecostal Church of God are subject to our Statement of Faith, Constitution and by-laws.
- d. The pastor of the Tennessee District Pentecostal Church of God churches shall be the interpreter of Scriptural matters concerning our doctrines and faith, and to be the final decision-maker on allowing the use of the Church's facilities.

## **ARTICLE THIRTEEN DEPARTMENTS**

### **Section One – Home Missions**

#### **I. HOME MISSIONS OFFERINGS**

1. Each local church in the Tennessee District shall be expected to send a monthly offering for the Home Missions Fund which shall be sent to the Secretary/Treasurer by the tenth of each month. The Home Missions fund shall be disbursed for the purpose of new works, lending to District churches for the building projects as may be deemed worthy causes, said loans shall be scheduled for repayment (time and amount) by the District Board.
2. All pastors of the district churches should encourage their congregation to contribute monthly to Home Missions, and every month having a fifth Sunday to be designated Home Missions Sunday, and an offering be taken for District Home Missions and sent to the district office. The Regional Presbyter/Home Missions Director will send a letter to each church no later than the Monday of the week preceding the fifth Sunday. Postage will be paid from the Home Missions Fund.
3. Be it resolved that after the distribution of the District monthly first fruits program is paid to General Headquarters that up to fifteen percent (15%) of the remainder may be placed in the District Home Missions fund, as funds are available.

#### **II. HOME MISSIONS LOANS**

1. No loan will be issued without a copy of the minutes, a financial statement and the consent of the local membership, after a called business meeting with a minimum of a quorum of the membership present.
2. All loans will be on secured property, deeded to the Pentecostal Church of God. Any and all property, furniture, instruments etc., purchased from said loan become the property of the Tennessee District and the church responsible for the loan.
3. The District Board, at its discretion, in the event of a disaster, may disburse funds from the Home Missions Fund to assist any District PCG church, with the amount to be determined upon review of each individual disaster.
4. Furthermore, the District Board may, at its discretion, donate Home Mission loans without provision for repayment, only if a District PCG church is determined to be in such financial need that repayment would impose undue hardship or threaten the continuance of said church.
5. The District Board, after much consideration, with a definite repayment agreement assured, with interest rates compatible with what we receive from our bank, shall see that loans be made to our churches to build and remodel as funds are available.
6. In that there is a definite need in obligating the district in church loans, we submit the following: Sign no loan unless the church deeded Pentecostal Church of God, there is a resolution from the church congregation requesting the loan, the congregation and church income is in line to take care of the repayment of the loan, and the church property is of sufficient value to be security for the loan.
7. Tennessee District Home Missions Loans to our local churches shall be set at a two percent (2%) interest rate unless otherwise specified at the time of the loan. All Principle from these loans will return to the Home Missions Fund. Interest shall be split with one percent (1%) returning to the Home Missions Fund and one percent (1%) returning to the District General Operating Fund. The District Board shall make every effort to maintain at least ten-thousand (\$10,000.00) dollars in Liquid Assets in the Home Missions Bank Account at all times.

#### **III. HOME MISSIONS CHURCHES**

1. All new Home Missions' pastors in the Tennessee District will receive a church start up kit developed by the Home Missions Committee and approved by the District Board.
2. When the church is declared a needy church, a church assessment team consisting of, but not limited to, the Regional Presbyter/Home Missions Director, Sectional Presbyter and the Pastor will meet monthly to develop a working church growth plan for that church until the church is no longer under a struggling status. Needy church is defined as any church that is unable to meet its financial obligations or does not have sufficient ministries or means to support new growth.
3. The Tennessee District Board will actively pursue planting a new church in a new city every spring. This pursuit will include actively soliciting for new ministers from outside the Tennessee District, if there are no ministers either qualified or willing from within the District. A church plant report will be presented at every District Convention.
4. The Tennessee District Board will quarterly target a section to advertise the PCG by billboard, newspaper, television, and radio media where feasible. The amount of advertising will be determined by the availability of funds.



- 1442 5. No minister of a potential "New Work" shall be eligible to receive Home Missions Funds unless it is determined that the potential  
1443 "New Work" has a sufficient number of prospective members and resources to set the "New Work" in order and sustain a continuing  
1444 ministry.  
1445 6. Any church, not deeded to this district, that requests Home Missions Funds shall sign a legally binding financial agreement  
1446 guaranteeing loyalty and assuming all membership responsibilities in the TN District PCG for a minimum of four (4) years, with a  
1447 penalty of full repayment plus two percent (2%) of any funds received if the agreement is broken, and shall be paid in full by a time  
1448 set by the District Board.  
1449

## **Section Two – Youth Ministries**

### **I. YOUTH - NAME & MOTTO**

- 1451  
1452 1. Whereas, it has pleased God in these last days to call through His Son Jesus Christ, the youth of our land into His service, and has  
1453 witnessed the same by the outpouring of the Holy Spirit upon all flesh; and Whereas, we, as organized individual groups of Youth  
1454 Ministry, desire more intimate fellowship and interest, which organizing with other local groups will supply, and desire the  
1455 encouragement and blessing which is derived from fellowshiping with other groups of Pentecostal young people; therefore be it  
1456 RESOLVED, that we, organized Youth Ministry groups, shall with mutual agreement, enter ourselves into groups known as  
1457 TENNESSEE DISTRICT YOUTH MINISTRIES.  
1458 2. This organization shall be known as the YOUTH MINISTRY ASSOCIATION OF THE TENNESSEE DISTRICT.  
1459 3. The motto of the Youth Ministry shall be: "NOT BY MIGHT, NOR BY POWER, BUT BY MY SPIRIT, SAITH THE LORD OF  
1460 HOSTS."  
1461

### **II. YOUTH - PURPOSE**

- 1462  
1463 1. The purpose of the Youth Ministry shall be to encourage one another in the work of the Lord; to develop our talents and abilities in  
1464 order that souls shall be converted to the Lord Jesus Christ and believers baptized in the Holy Ghost through our work for Him; and  
1465 through our activities and contests, to work to promote fellowship among Christian young people; to promote the Sunday school,  
1466 church and young people's work of the local churches; and to further the progress of the Tennessee District and general Youth  
1467 Ministry program.  
1468  
1469

### **III. YOUTH - COVENANT**

- 1470  
1471 1. THEREFORE, WE THE YOUTH MINISTRY OF THE PENTECOSTAL CHURCH OF GOD, do hereby pledge ourselves to a  
1472 complete commitment to our Lord; and recognizing the severity of our times, we hereby unite ourselves to do battle against Satan and  
1473 his snares, and we will not be found in places of immoral entertainment and exhibitions, that brings dishonor to the Kingdom of God;  
1474 and,  
1475 2. KNOWING that Satan will do all he can to hinder us, we will keep ourselves free from all forms of gambling, from tobacco, from  
1476 alcoholic beverages, from drugs that are physically and mentally harmful to the body; and we will avoid malicious talk and/or vulgar  
1477 communications; and we will keep ourselves from the influence of, and personal involvement in, witchcraft, astrology and the occult,  
1478 from types of music which suggest behavior not conducive to wholesome Christianity, and from involvement in premarital and impure  
1479 or unnatural sex; and,  
1480 3. SINCE our bodies are the temples of the Holy Ghost, we hereby pledge to clothe them with apparel which is neither suggestive nor  
1481 provocative, but which attracts others to our Lord rather than to our persons; and,  
1482 4. WE DO FURTHER AGREE to cooperate with our ministers and leaders, and with both our general and district officials, for the glory  
1483 of God and the furtherance of the gospel.  
1484  
1485

### **IV. YOUTH - DOCTRINAL STATEMENT**

- 1486  
1487 1. The Bible shall be the rule and guide of faith, according to the doctrinal statement of the Pentecostal Church of God.  
1488  
1489

### **V. YOUTH - OFFICERS**

- 1490  
1491 1. The officers of the Tennessee District Youth Ministry shall be a District Youth Ministry Director, and a Sectional Youth Ministry  
1492 Leader in each section.  
1493

### **VI. YOUTH - EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE**

- 1494  
1495 1. The Youth Ministry Executive Committee shall consist of the District Youth Ministry Director, the District Secretary-Treasurer and  
1496 the District Bishop of the Tennessee District of the Pentecostal Church of God.  
1497 2. The Youth Ministry Executive Committee shall be subject to the call of the District Youth Ministry Director in council with the  
1498 Tennessee District Bishop to decide all matters of legislative importance. Their decision will stand in force until it is ratified or  
1499 rejected by the next District Convention.  
1500

### **VII. YOUTH - FINANCE**

- 1501  
1502 1. At a regular meeting of the group, all local groups shall take a monthly offering to be sent to the District Youth Ministry Secretary-  
1503 Treasurer (District Secretary-Treasurer) for the support of the District Youth Ministry Director. The local director and pastor should  
1504 attempt to see that this offering is no less than fifteen dollars (\$15.00).  
1505 2. The District Youth Ministry Director shall be given up to one hundred dollars (\$100.00) for Central Committee meeting, or Youth  
1506 Ministry business at General Convention. Each time the DYD attends, the DYD shall be paid mileage in accordance with the district  
1507 mileage provisions. These allowances are to be taken from the Youth Ministry treasury as long as funds are available.



3. When the District Youth Director is requested to meet with the District Board, the DYD shall be paid mileage in accordance with the District mileage provisions.
4. Each year, as soon after January 1 as possible, each local society shall send the District Youth Ministry Secretary-Treasurer (District Secretary-Treasurer) a special offering for the support of the district office and a registration of all members of the local group.
5. Youth Ministry supplies shall be bought and sold at a profit, and the profit shall be used to further Youth Ministry work.
6. Offerings shall be taken at all meetings of the sectional rallies, district rallies and District Conventions. These offerings are to be used for the district Youth Ministry work.
7. Finances shall be distributed at the discretion of the Youth Ministries Executive Committee
8. Finances of local groups shall be determined by the groups themselves.
9. If the general office raises the Youth Ministry assessment, the church assessment will be raised accordingly.
10. At the District discretion they may consider other possibilities that would bring more interest income than a Certificate of Deposit.
11. All funds generated for Youth Ministries whether it be free will offering or rally offering be deposited in the General Fund of Youth Ministries.
12. Each local youth group will send to the Tennessee District Youth Ministry Secretary-Treasurer (District Secretary-Treasurer) the First Fruits (10%) of their local youth group's income for the support of the District Youth Ministry office prior to registration of all members of the local youth group at District convention.
13. Be it resolved that any profits from youth camp be placed into the District Youth Ministry general fund to include all past youth profits.
14. Be it resolved that after the distribution of the District monthly first fruits program is paid to General Headquarters that up to fifteen percent (15%) of the remainder may be placed in the District Youth general fund, as funds are available.
15. The Bishop Ronnie Kesley Memorial Scholarship fund shall offer up to a minimum of a five hundred-dollar (\$500.00) scholarship, as funds are available, to the Senior curriculum Impact Bible Quiz (IBQ) "Championship Team." Funds will be transferred from the Home Missions Fund and maintained in the Youth Ministry IBQ account until the awarded students graduate high school, which will provide documentation and registration for classes at an approved institute of higher education. The Senior "Championship Team" qualifies each year for the scholarship to be added to their scholarship. The funds will be available for the one year to fall enrollment following high school graduation. If a student chooses not to enroll in classes at an approved institute of higher education, funds will return to the IBQ scholarship fund. The Junior curriculum Impact Bible Quiz (IBQ) "Championship Team" shall receive up to a minimum of a seventy-five-dollar (\$75.00) cash prize, as funds are available, to be used and/or distributed at the discretion of their coach. The Primary curriculum Impact Bible Quiz (IBQ) "Championship Team" shall receive up to a minimum of a twenty-five-dollar (\$25.00) cash prize, as funds are available, to be used and/or distributed at the discretion of their coach.  
As it relates to the distribution of the IBQ Scholarship, a one member team (an individual competition) shall receive 100%; a two member team shall receive 60%, 40%; a three member team shall receive 50%, 30%, 20%; a four member team shall receive 50%, 30%, 15%, 5%; a five member team shall receive 50%, 25%, 15%, 5%, 5%; a six member team shall receive 45%, 25%, 15%, 5%, 5%, 5%; a seven member team shall receive 45%, 25%, 10%, 5%, 5%, 5%, 5%; a eight member team shall receive 45%, 20%, 10%, 5%, 5%, 5%, 5%, 5%.
16. Each local youth group will send a three-dollar (\$3.00) registration fee annually, every January, for each member of their youth group, and this fee shall be placed in the YM General Fund.

#### VIII. YOUTH - MEMBERSHIP

1. The membership of the Youth Ministry shall consist of all local groups who have accepted this constitution and have signified by a vote of the local group that they wish to enter by mutual fellowship into the district Youth Ministry. They must be in accord with the doctrine as set forth by the Pentecostal Church of God.
2. Any local group which desires to become a member of the Youth Ministry shall apply to the District Youth Ministry Secretary Treasurer (District Secretary-Treasurer) or the District Youth Ministry Director for membership. At the time the group is accepted into the association, it shall be presented a certificate of fellowship and shall be received publicly at the following district rally or District Convention.
3. Any local group may withdraw membership by sending notice of withdrawal, together with the fellowship certificate, to the District Youth Ministry Secretary-Treasurer (District Secretary-Treasurer). Both the certificate and notice should be sent sixty (60) days prior to withdrawal. Youth Ministry banners, certificates and other Youth Ministry material must be surrendered to the district Youth Ministry office.
4. Change of pastors does not affect the membership of any local group.
5. Qualifications for individual membership in the local Youth Ministry shall be confession of faith in the Lord Jesus Christ.
6. In order to be in good standing and eligible to vote, a member must be faithful to their church, faithful to their Youth Ministry society and report to that society, either by letter or in person, at least once a month.
7. The Youth Ministry ages shall be eight (8) through eighteen (18). Youth Ministry Directors/Leaders/Workers shall be individuals (18) eighteen and over who display a heart and passion for youth ministry.
8. Duties of the local officers shall be determined by the local groups, except in relation to the district office as follows:
  - a. Officers of the local societies shall be responsible for sending an offering from their group each month for the support of the District Youth Ministry Director.
  - b. In order to assure accurate district records, local Youth Ministry officers shall register every member of the local society with the district office each year.
  - c. The officers of local societies shall notify the district office immediately of any change in the group and shall supply any information requested by the district office.

## IX. YOUTH - ACTIVITIES AND MEETINGS

1. There shall be a Youth Ministry business convention to be conducted in conjunction with the District Convention of the Tennessee District of the Pentecostal Church of God.
2. There may be a District Youth Ministry Rally once or twice each year. The time and place for these rallies should be centrally located.
3. The Tennessee District shall work in harmony with the Youth Ministry Director to promote such Youth Ministry rallies as are commensurate with the needs of the district Youth Ministry. The details and frequency of these rallies shall be decided by the Youth Ministry Director and the District Bishop.
4. The youth camp should be centrally located in the center of the state in order that all churches can participate in the camp. The planning of the youth camp will involve Youth Ministry officers and Youth Ministry Sectional Leaders, and final approval given by the Tennessee District Board.
5. Be it resolved that the District Youth Director should present to the District Board at the January District Board meeting the location and cost for that current year's youth camp.
6. The district shall be divided into sections, and each section may have a rally once each quarter. The Youth Director of that section shall be responsible for organizing and conducting said meetings. The Tennessee District Youth Director shall be invited to all meetings and shall put forth a diligent effort to attend such meetings.
7. The district Youth Ministry shall decide upon any other activities by a vote of the members at the business convention.
8. The activities of local Youth Ministry groups shall be determined by the group and its pastor.
9. Where it is practical, local Youth Ministry groups shall sponsor a junior Youth Ministry work for those too young for the Youth Ministry. This work shall be known as Junior Youth Ministry.
10. The local Youth Ministry shall secure the approval of the pastor before visiting any other assembly as a group. The pastor shall have the privilege of attending all meetings, rallies and Youth Ministry activities.
11. In order to be assured that our good be not evil spoken of, when a local group attends another church or rally at a distance, the group shall be properly chaperoned.
12. The rally point system shall be left to the discretion of the Youth Ministry Director.
13. Youth Ministry rallies shall be specifically planned, dates and places, and other functions included for the coming year, and a copy sent to all ministers and churches.
14. Each pastor and local Youth Ministry Director shall promote the "I'm Involved" program in their local church.

## X. YOUTH - BUSINESS AND ELECTIONS

1. The voting constituency at Youth Ministry business sessions shall be the members of the voting constituency of the District Convention, together with the local Youth Ministry Director, Youth Ministry Secretary-Treasurers (District Secretary- Treasurer), Sectional Leaders, and local Youth Ministry delegates. Youth Ministry delegates shall be members in good standing of their local groups.
2. Elections of local groups shall be determined by the groups themselves.
3. Legislative business and elections of local groups shall be valid only when approved by the local pastor.
4. Before an individual may be accepted as a member of a local Youth Ministry group, they must be familiar with the Youth Ministry covenant.
5. No church Youth Ministry delegate will be allowed to vote at District Conventions if the Youth Ministry general office assessments are not paid in full.

## XI. YOUTH - STANDING

1. The Youth Ministry people of the Tennessee District shall be considered a branch of the Pentecostal Church of God.
2. The Youth Ministry shall support the activities and official publications of the Pentecostal Church of God and the general Youth Ministries Association, as well as those of the Tennessee District.

## XII. YOUTH - PROPERTY

1. The Youth Ministry may own personal property under the name of the Pentecostal Church of God, Tennessee District, of which it is a department.

### Section Three – Women's Ministry

## I. WOMEN'S - NAME, MOTTO, SLOGAN, EMBLEM, AND COLORS

1. This organization shall be known as the Women's Ministry.
2. The motto of the Women's Ministry shall be "Labourers together with God" (1 Corinthians 3:9).
3. The slogan of the Women's Ministry shall be "Jesus, Others, Yourself."
4. The emblem of the Women's Ministry shall be the tilted cup.
5. The colors of the Women's Ministry shall be red, for the blood of Christ, white, for purity.

## II. WOMEN'S - PURPOSE

1. The purpose of the Women's Ministry shall be to minister to the total woman through evangelization; spiritual enrichment; through personally establishing her Christian relationship in the home; and by showing loving concern for children and youth through support of Christian Pathlighters and Messenger College. Other purposes shall be to encourage a missionary zeal and spirit throughout the churches-through visibility of the *Light to the World* program; to assume the responsibility of sponsoring the various missionaries in their respective fields of labor; to carry on home missionary work in the behalf of the needy; to help the orphaned and neglected, homeless and delinquent children; to promote the gospel program in every way through earnest prayer and in regular attendance at all services and in a material way through various fund-raising projects, each of which shall be conducted with the knowledge of, and the approval of, the pastors.

## III. WOMEN'S - COVENANT

1. Whereas, God is calling the ladies of our churches into His vineyard and giving them a zeal for service to others and a burden for the lost; therefore, we, the Women Ministry of the Pentecostal Church of God, do hereby pledge to prepare ourselves by seeking God in a personal Commitment and by building homes with Christian relationships as a top priority; further, we will work together for the advancement of the gospel of Christ around the world. We will not knowingly lend ourselves to any program that would hinder the cause of Christ; we will put forth every effort to keep our meetings free from un-Christ-like conversations and will endeavor to keep uppermost the advancement of Christian Pathlighters and Bible college efforts, benevolences and home, foreign and Native American Ministries to the utmost of our abilities and will band ourselves together to pray unceasingly for our missionaries and their work around the world.

## IV. WOMEN'S - RELATIONSHIP AND DOCTRINAL STATEMENT

1. The Women's Ministry shall be a part of the Pentecostal Church of God, and shall work in cooperation with the general and district officials and local pastors. It shall support the objectives and purposes of the general organization and its official publications.
2. The Bible shall be the rule and guide of faith and life, especially the fundamental truths of salvation (John 3:5), divine healing (James 5:14,15), baptism of the Holy Ghost (Acts 2:4), and the second coming of Christ (Acts 1:11; 1 Thessalonians 4:15- 17), and the blessing of service (Ecclesiastes 9:10; Romans 12:11), and shall be in full accord with the doctrinal statement of the Pentecostal Church of God.

## V. WOMEN'S - OFFICERS

1. The officers of the Tennessee District Women's Ministry shall be the District Women's Ministry Director, a Sectional Women's Ministry Leader in each section, and the spouse of each Tennessee District Board Member, as applicable.

## VI. WOMEN'S - EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

1. The Women's Ministry Executive Committee shall consist of the District Bishop and/or spouse, the District Secretary-Treasurer and/or spouse, and the District Women's Ministry Director.
2. The Women's Ministry Executive Committee shall be subject to the call of the District Women's Ministry Director with approval of the Tennessee District Bishop to decide all matters of legislative importance. Their decision will stand in force until they are ratified by the next District Convention.

## VII. WOMEN'S - FINANCES

1. All Women's Ministry groups shall send in tithe to Secretary-Treasurer on monies made from special Women's Ministry projects for the support of the office. The district Women's Ministry office shall pay tithe from tithe received from the local Women's Ministry fund-raising projects for the district Women's Ministry office fund, this tithe to be sent to the general Women's Ministry office when funds are available.
2. The district Women's Ministry books shall be audited.
3. Each Women's Ministry group shall be assessed twelve dollars (\$12.00) per year for Women's Ministry district office.
4. The District Women's Ministry Secretary-Treasurer (District Secretary-Treasurer) shall receive up to one-hundred twenty dollars (\$120.00) per year coming from ten dollars (\$10.00) per month to be paid from the one dollar (\$1.00) per month sent in from each group.
5. Groups must be registered and all dues paid to be eligible to compete for trophies and banners.
6. Up to one hundred dollars (\$100.00) shall be given to the district Women's Ministries Director for her expenses to each general convention and each general board meeting that she attends. This will be taken from the Women's Ministries General Fund, as funds are available.
7. All special drives, except all missions' money, that go out of the district shall be divided as follows: ninety percent (90%) to the project and ten percent (10%) to the operating fund of the Women's Ministry. The monies received from churches will be given full credit for the project.
8. Be it resolved that the second Sunday of June each local church will have Women's Ministry Day. Ten percent of the total offering will be sent to district to be forwarded to PCG Women's Ministry (Bedford, TX) Seventy-five percent (75%) of the remainder of the offering from this event will be sent to the District for the Women's Ministry general fund. The remaining twenty-five percent (25%) of the offering will be kept by the local church for the support of local Women's Ministry group.
9. All World Missions and Native American Ministries monies go to District Secretary/Treasurer's Office to be dispersed to General Missions Department All returns from World Missions and Native American Ministries be given to the Treasury of the District Women's Ministry.
10. Be it resolved that after the distribution of the District monthly first fruits program is paid to General Headquarters that up to fifteen percent (15%) of the remainder may be placed in the District Women's Ministry general fund, as funds are available.

## VIII. WOMEN'S - MEMBERSHIP

1. The membership of the Women's Ministry of the Tennessee District shall consist of all local groups who have accepted this constitution and have signified by a vote of the membership of local groups, that they wish to enter by mutual fellowship into the Tennessee District Women's Ministry, provided they are in accord with the doctrine set forth by the Pentecostal Church of God.
2. Any local group desiring to become a member of the Women's Ministry shall apply to the District WM Director for membership and shall be presented a certificate of fellowship at the time the group is accepted for membership.
3. Any local group may withdraw membership by sending a notice of withdrawal to the district office together with the fellowship certificate.
4. Change of pastors does not affect membership of local society.
5. Qualification for membership in the local society shall be upon confession of faith unto salvation of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ.

## IX. WOMEN'S - ACTIVITIES AND MEETINGS

1. There shall be a Business Convention once each year, to be held in conjunction with the convention of the Tennessee District, Pentecostal Church of God.
2. Besides the Business Convention, there should be a missionary rally once a year, the time and place and program for these meetings shall be determined by the Executive Committee of the Pentecostal Church of God Women's Ministry.
3. The district shall be divided into sections; each section may have a meeting once every six (6) months at a time and place agreed upon by the local leaders, for the purpose of discussing missionary activities and planning sectional programs, and for fellowship.
4. The District Women's Ministry Director and all Women's Ministry Sectional Leaders shall meet once every three (3) months, coinciding with the regular scheduled District Board meeting.
5. Sectional Leaders, after each board meeting, should meet with all Women's Ministry Directors and pastor's wives in their section, and bring them up to date on all activities and business of the Women's Ministries.
6. The District Women's Ministry Executive Committee, consisting of the District Bishop and/or spouse, District Secretary-Treasurer and/or spouse, and the District Women's Ministry Director, for the following year, shall submit their yearly calendar to the District Board to be ratified at the October meeting.

### Section Four – Men's Ministry

## I. MEN'S – NAME, MOTTO, EMBLEM

1. The name of the organization shall be known as the "Men's Ministry."
2. The motto shall be "Reaching men for the King".
3. The symbol shall be hands holding a crown.

## II. MEN'S – PURPOSE

1. One of the greatest powers in the church, is a group of consecrated men who will put God first, others second and themselves last. Realizing the need to activate and utilize this vast reservoir of spiritual power to its fullest measure to help make men aware of their divine appointment as spiritual leaders of their household, their church and their communities, we therefore establish a men's fellowship for the Tennessee District of the Pentecostal Church of God for the purpose of creating a stronger bond of fellowship among the men of our churches, promoting a stronger arm of evangelism in our churches and district.

## III. MEN'S – COVENANT

1. Therefore, we the Tennessee District Men's Ministry pledge to:
  - a. Work together to create and maintain a spiritual environment in total harmony with the local pastors.
  - b. Present Christ as the center focal point for every man's life, both spiritually and earthly.
  - c. Create a bonding relationship between men in the church and its community, as well as a bond for the men to the church.
  - d. Help men find their respective places in the body of Christ.
  - e. Reach other men for Christ.
  - f. Provide practical teaching that is a daily tool for living.
  - g. Open up ministries for involvement in today's church world.
  - h. Create an environment of usefulness and self-worth.

## IV. MEN'S – DOCTRINAL STATEMENT

1. The Men's Ministry shall be a part of the Pentecostal Church of God and shall support the objectives and purposes of both the general and district organizations.
2. The Bible shall be the rule and guide of faith and life, according to the doctrinal statement of the Pentecostal Church of God.

## V. MEN'S – OFFICERS

1. The officers of the Tennessee District Men's Ministry shall be the District Men's Ministry Director, a Sectional Men's Ministry Leader in each section, and the spouse of each Tennessee District Board Member, as applicable.

## VI. MEN'S – EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

1. The Men's Ministry Executive Committee shall consist of the District Bishop and/or spouse, the District Secretary-Treasurer and/or spouse, and the District Men's Ministry Director.
2. The Men's Ministry Executive Committee shall be subject to the call of the District Men's Ministry Director, with approval of the Tennessee District Bishop to decide all matters of legislative importance. Their decision shall stand in force until they are ratified by the next District Convention.

1771 **VII. MEN'S – MEMBERSHIP**

- 1772 1. The membership of the Men's Ministry of the Tennessee District shall consist of all local groups who have accepted this constitution  
1773 and have signified by a vote of the membership of local groups, that they wish to enter by mutual fellowship into the Tennessee  
1774 District Men's Ministry, provided they are in accord with the doctrine set forth by the Pentecostal Church of God.  
1775 2. Any local group desiring to become a member of the Men's Ministry shall apply to the District Men's Ministry for membership and  
1776 shall be presented a certificate of fellowship at the time the group is accepted for membership.  
1777 3. Any local group may withdraw membership by sending a notice of withdrawal to the district office together with the fellowship  
1778 certificate.  
1779 4. Change of pastors does not affect membership of local society.  
1780 5. Qualification for membership in the local fellowship shall be upon confession of faith unto salvation of our Lord and Savior Jesus  
1781 Christ.  
1782

1783 **VIII. MEN'S – ACTIVITIES**

- 1784 1. There shall be a Business Convention once each year, to be held in conjunction with the Tennessee District Convention.  
1785 2. It is recommended that each local fellowship participate in a monthly Men's Ministry event to be determined by the local Men's  
1786 Ministry leader.  
1787 3. It is recommended that each section in the Tennessee District participate in at least three Sectional Men's Ministry events each year, to  
1788 be determined by the Sectional Men's Ministry leader.  
1789 4. It is recommended that the Tennessee District Men's Ministry shall have an annual District Rally for the purpose of spiritual growth  
1790 and to raise finances for the District/ General Men.  
1791 5. It is recommended that the Tennessee District Men's Ministry shall have an annual District Retreat for the purpose of spiritual growth  
1792 and fellowship.  
1793

1794 **IX. MEN'S – FINANCES**

- 1795 1. All local Men's Ministry groups shall send in tithe to Secretary-Treasurer on monies made from special Men's Ministry projects for  
1796 the support of the office. The district Men's Ministry office shall pay tithe from tithe received from the local Men's Ministry fund-  
1797 raising projects for the district Men's Ministry office fund, this tithe to be sent to the general Men's Ministry office when funds are  
1798 available.  
1799 2. Each local Men's Ministry group will send a five-dollar (\$5.00) registration fee annually, every June, for each member of their Men's  
1800 Ministry group, and this fee shall be placed in the Men's Ministry General Fund.  
1801 3. When the District Men's Ministry Director is requested to meet with the District Board, he shall be paid mileage, in accordance with  
1802 District mileage provisions.  
1803 4. Up to one hundred dollars (\$100.00) shall be given to the district Men's Ministry Director for his expenses to each general convention  
1804 and each general board meeting that he attends. This will be taken from the Men's Ministry General Fund, as funds are available.  
1805 5. All special collections and offerings, except all missions' money, that go out of the district shall be divided as follows: ninety percent  
1806 (90%) to the project and ten percent (10%) to the operating fund of the Men's Ministry Fellowship. The monies received from  
1807 churches will be given full credit for the project.  
1808 6. Be it resolved that on Father's Day of each year, each local church will have Men's Ministry Day. Ten percent of the total offering  
1809 will be sent to the district to be forwarded to PCG Men's Ministry (Bedford, TX) Seventy-five percent (75%) of the remainder of the  
1810 offering from this event will be sent to the District for the Men's Ministry general fund. The remaining twenty-five percent (25%) of  
1811 the offering will be kept by the local church for the support of local Men's Ministry group.  
1812 7. The district Men's Ministry books shall be audited  
1813 8. Be it resolved that after the distribution of the District monthly first fruits program is paid to General Headquarters that up to fifteen  
1814 percent (15%) of the remainder may be placed in the District Men's Ministry general fund, as funds are available.  
1815

1816 **ARTICLE FOURTEEN**  
1817 **LOCAL CHURCH**

1818 **I. LOCAL CHURCH NAME**

- 1819 1. The name of the local church shall be determined by the church with the approval of the District Board.  
1820  
1821

1822 **II. LOCAL CHURCH PEROGATIVES**

- 1823 2. The local church shall have the right to govern itself according to the standards of the scriptures. In connection therewith, or incidental  
1824 thereto, it shall have the right to purchase or acquire by gift, bequest, or otherwise, either directly or as a trustee, and to own, hold in  
1825 trust, use, sell, convey, mortgage, lease or otherwise dispose of any real estate or chattels as may be necessary for the furtherance of its  
1826 purpose; all in accordance with its Constitution and By-laws.  
1827

1828 **III. LOCAL CHURCH AFFILIATION**

- 1829 1. The local church shall voluntarily enter into the full cooperative fellowship with churches of like precious faith associated in the  
1830 Tennessee District of the Pentecostal Church of God, General Headquarters in Bedford, Texas; and shall share in the privileges and  
1831 assume the responsibilities enjoined by that affiliation.  
1832 2. Each local church shall elect its own pastor and officers. In the event the local church is without a pastor, the District Bishop  
1833 automatically becomes the pastor by virtue of their office, until a new pastor has taken over pastoral duties of said church.  
1834 3. The Pentecostal Church of God recommends the authorized King James text for English speaking churches.  
1835 4. The Pentecostal Church of God declares its total opposition to the sin of gambling in any form, including social gambling such as:  
1836 lotteries, bingo, raffles, etc.  
1837 5. All Churches set in order in the fellowship of the Pentecostal Church of God shall be required to use the Sunday school literature  
1838 published by the Pentecostal Church of God.  
1839 6. All churches shall carry the PENTECOSTAL CHURCH OF GOD as a part of their church sign.

- 1840 7. Due to the IRS ruling on W-2 forms, all chartered Pentecostal Church of God churches shall get an employee number to comply with  
1841 giving W-2 forms and registering their employer's number with the district office.  
1842 8. As law suits and courts are such as they are, all chartered churches should obtain and keep personal liability insurance in case  
1843 someone is hurt, and the Tennessee District, Pentecostal Church of God, shall be named in the policy and should this policy be  
1844 terminated or cancelled the district office shall be notified.  
1845 9. If a church in the Tennessee District closes, all monies will go into the Home Missions Fund,  
1846 10. If requested by the District Board, the pastor and church board in the Tennessee District shall take an inventory of all church  
1847 furnishings. One copy shall be sent to the district office and one copy shall be kept in the church on file.  
1848 11. Background Checks shall be requested and required for all local church workers and all district workers and shall be performed by  
1849 each local church with a copy to be sent and kept on file in the district office. Should any church or individual choose to instead  
1850 request that the district office perform said background check, a processing fee shall be assessed to the individual or church, and the  
1851 amount of the processing fee shall be set by the District Board. Should any individual leave the district and then return, a new  
1852 background check may be required.  
1853  
1854

#### 1855 IV. LOCAL CHURCH ORDINANCES

- 1856 1. Communion or the Lord's Supper shall be observed regularly, as enjoined in the Scriptures.  
1857 2. Water Baptism by immersion in water shall be administered to born again believers in the Lord Jesus Christ.  
1858 3. Dedication Services for infants and small children may be conducted in the church.  
1859 4. Prayer shall be administered by request, with the anointing with oil and the laying on of hands.  
1860 5. Foot Washing Services shall be left to the discretion of the pastor  
1861  
1862

#### 1863 V. LOCAL CHURCH MEMBERSHIP

- 1864 1. Membership in the local church shall be open to all true believers in the Lord Jesus Christ who have been born again by the Word of  
1865 God, through receiving Christ as their personal Savior, who are filled or seeking to be filled with the Holy Spirit, and who stand in  
1866 agreement with the Doctrine of the Pentecostal Church of God.  
1867 2. All members will be expected to give clear evidence of the Christian experience (the New Birth) by following a Christian lifestyle, as  
1868 taught in the Word of God.  
1869 3. The Pastor will present application for membership to the Board of Trustees, who shall review all applications.  
1870 4. Each church shall keep a true record of its members.  
1871 5. All members are expected to be faithful to the church by attending the monthly means of grace, taking part in the services, living  
1872 consistent Christian lives with a distinctive testimony, and showing forth a willingness to contribute regularly to the support of the  
1873 church according to their ability, all as defined by the church. The Board of Trustees may place any Active Member failing to meet  
1874 these requirements, on the Inactive Membership Roll.  
1875

1876 NOTE: *The individual local churches shall always have the right to define the "monthly means of grace" for their local church.*

- 1877 • *District Board recommendation for minimum "faithful attendance" – Unless a church board approved special circumstance*  
1878 *exists, all Active Local Church Members must attend a minimum of one (1) service a week or four (4) services a month.*  
1879 • *District Board recommendation for minimum "faithful contribution" – Whether paid weekly, bi-weekly, or monthly, Active*  
1880 *Local Church Member Tithe must be paid in full every month with a personal check or tithing envelope used for record keeping.*  
1881  
1882 6. New and/or Inactive Members may be added to the Active Membership Roll at a business meeting, provided they meet Board  
1883 approval and they currently have (90) ninety consecutive days of active faithfulness in all membership requirements. Anyone  
1884 remaining on the Inactive Membership Roll for a period of (1) one year may be removed from the Church Membership Rolls.  
1885 7. All Active Members who meet the scriptural standards for membership will constitute the Voting Membership of the church, provided  
1886 they are at least (15) fifteen years of age, and are working in harmony with the pastor, church and district. Anyone not on the Active  
1887 Membership Roll will not have a voice or a vote in church business.  
1888 8. At District Convention, each local church shall be entitled to two (2) voting delegates, provided that the church meets the requirements  
1889 stipulated by District Convention.  
1890

#### 1891 VI. LOCAL CHURCH OFFICERS

##### 1892 A. LOCAL CHURCH PASTOR

1893 **Qualifications:** Any pastor of a local church of the Tennessee District shall be in full membership with the Pentecostal Church of  
1894 God. Any New Pastor, when elected by a (2/3) two-thirds majority secret ballot election of active members present in a meeting called  
1895 for that reason, shall serve for (2) two years unless otherwise specified at the time of election. Any Incumbent Pastor, who is the only  
1896 eligible candidate for election, when elected by a (2/3) two-thirds majority yes/no secret ballot election of active members present in a  
1897 meeting called for that reason, shall serve for an indefinite term unless otherwise specified at the time of election. Any minister who  
1898 starts a new work shall automatically receive an indefinite term as the pastor of the new work.  
1899 Furthermore, any church in the Tennessee District without a pastor will coordinate with the Tennessee District Bishop so that  
1900 candidates may try-out for the open pastor position. This process may continue for a six (6) month period. The governing body of the  
1901 church may at any time during this process ask the District Board to call for a church business meeting to vote on any group of  
1902 candidates or a single candidate.  
1903 a. With multiple candidates, there will be a nominating vote with a two-thirds (2/3) majority required for an election. If no  
1904 election has been reached after the nominating vote, it shall be followed by a Yes/No vote on the candidate that received  
1905 the highest support during the nominating vote with a two-thirds (2/3) majority required for an election.  
1906 b. With a single candidate, there will be a Yes/No vote with a two-thirds (2/3) majority required for an election.  
1907 c. If no election has been reached after a six (6) month period, the Tennessee District Board will be authorized to call for a  
1908 church business meeting, where an election will take place being governed by the same election process used at Tennessee  
1909 District Convention, and with all candidates being eligible for election.

1. The Pastor shall be considered the Executive Director and Spiritual Overseer of the church and shall direct all its activities, sharing leadership responsibilities as the Pastor deems wise so that the church activities may be properly coordinated and administered at all times. The Pastor shall be an ex-officio member and chairman of all boards, departments, and committees of the church. The Pastor shall serve as Chairman of the Board of Trustees. The Pastor shall be expected to arrange for and supervise all church services, special meetings, conventions, and revivals. No person shall be invited to speak or preach in the church without the Pastor's approval. Neither the Board of Trustees nor any other church board will make any decision without the Pastor's approval.
2. These recommendations are subject to other mutually satisfactory arrangements between the church, the pastor and the district.
  - a. It is recommended to local churches which ask a pastor to resign, that the pastor be given thirty (30) days from the time of their resignation to vacate their office.
  - b. A pastor who resigns the office should give the church thirty (30) days' notice before leaving.
  - c. At any time, a pastor resigns their church, the church books will be audited by any two (2) of the following district officials: District Bishop, District Secretary-Treasurer, District Presbyter, Regional Presbyter, or the Sectional Presbyter of the section in which the church is located.
  - d. Upon an opening in the Tennessee District for a pastor in our churches, all ministers of the district, licensed and ordained, shall be notified, giving them an opportunity to try out for pastorate of said church.
  - e. No minister will be allowed to try out for any church in the Tennessee District that is not current with their tithe.
  - f. Any church in the Tennessee District that has an interim pastor who has been appointed by the Tennessee District Board will be allowed to be voted on by that congregation when the church needs a pastor (if they desire) before any letter is sent out that the church is open for try-outs. Also, if a pastor resigns and has an associate pastor who is credentialed with the PCG that associate pastor will be allowed to be voted on by a yes/no vote by that congregation before any letter is sent out by the District Bishop that the church is open for try-outs.
  - g. Every church asking for a pastor should ask for and receive a resume.
  - h. All pastoral elections are to be chaired by a district official, and the minutes to be sent to the district office for filing. The District Bishop shall be notified at least two (2) weeks in advance of regular pastoral elections. An announcement shall be posted in the church and announced each meeting for the two weeks' notice. Special called pastoral elections shall have five (5) days' notice given, and shall be posted in the church and announced each service. This is to be arranged with the District Bishop.
  - i. No minister who has resigned their church, or who has been voted out of their church, may remain in the church without the written consent of the incoming pastor.

#### **B. LOCAL CHURCH BOARD OF TRUSTEES**

**Qualifications:** The Local Church Board, the Board of Trustees, the Deacon Board, the Elder Board, or simply the board shall consist of (3) three to (12) individuals of mature mind, meeting the Scriptural requirements, being filled or seeking to be filled with the Holy Spirit, currently faithful in all membership requirements (1) one consecutive year as active members, and demonstrating competence in business matters appropriate to this position. The pastor in consultation with the board may nominate them or the pastor may have the church nominate them, and their nomination shall become an election when ratified by the church members with a (2/3) two-thirds majority vote at the annual business meeting. They shall serve for (1) one year unless otherwise specified at the time of election. When the office of any trustee shall expire or become vacant for any legal cause, the office shall pass to a successor without formal transfer of any deeds or documents regardless of whether or not such documents specify a successor.

1. Because there have been misunderstandings in local churches as to what makes up the church board, and what the duties of the church board are, the Tennessee District offers the following definition:
  - a. Where there are no deacons in the church, the trustees and the pastor form the church board.
  - b. Where there are no trustees in the church, the deacons shall act as trustees, and, with the pastor, they shall form the church board.
  - c. Where there are both deacons and trustees, the deacons and trustees, with the pastor, form the church board.
2. The Board shall act in an advisory capacity with the pastor, as Deacons and/or Elders and/or Trustees, in all matters pertaining to the church in its spiritual life and in the ministry of its ordinances. They shall act in the examining of applicants for giving and taking of membership and also in the administration of the discipline of the church.
3. The board shall be subject to the pastor and to the church, and they shall work in harmony with both. Any church board member who does not work in harmony and for the interest of the church shall be removed from their office by the church or by the District Bishop.
4. The duties of the members of the board shall be to serve as ushers, to serve the pastor at times of communion, and to pray for the sick. They shall assist the pastor and church in all the business affairs of the church, all forms of real estate purchases, building programs, and other programs which pertain to church property.
5. A majority present at any meeting of the board shall constitute a quorum. When positions in the church shall become vacant during a term in office, the board may appoint a qualified successor to serve in the position until an election.
6. The board shall have no authority over the pastor, and it cannot discharge the pastor without the consent of the church with a two-thirds (2/3) majority vote. This decision must be made at a business meeting for which five (5) days' notice has been given.
7. In the event the office of pastor shall be vacated for any reason, the board shall serve as a Pulpit Committee. The board shall be empowered to provide for their own chairman from their membership in order to transact business for the church. The chairman will contact the Tennessee District Bishop of the Pentecostal Church of God, and work in harmony with the Bishop in establishing a process of an orderly selection of a new pastor.
8. Any church belonging to the Pentecostal Church of God, Tennessee District, that does not have sufficient trustees within the church, the Tennessee District Board shall become trustees for that church until such time the church has sufficient trustees to operate.

### C. LOCAL CHURCH SECRETARY - TREASURER

**Qualifications:** The office of secretary-treasurer may be combined or separated, and it may be filled by any qualified church member. The Pastor and the Board shall nominate an active member qualified by experience to serve as secretary/treasurer of the church and the pastor and the board. This nomination shall become an election when ratified by the church members with a (2/3) two-thirds majority vote at the annual business meeting. The secretary/treasurer shall serve for (1) one year unless otherwise specified at the time of election.

1. The secretary/treasurer shall preserve all records, and shall be custodian of the church's seals, deeds and other documents. The secretary/treasurer shall keep a record of the membership of the church. The secretary/treasurer shall be the custodian of all legal documents of the church. The secretary/treasurer shall maintain proper minutes of all business meetings of the church and the pastor and the board, and shall keep such other records and supply such other reports as maybe requested by the pastor and the board. The secretary/treasurer shall be empowered to sign all checks and legal documents on behalf of the church as may be approved by the pastor and the board. The secretary/treasurer shall keep all records of all finances, contributions, tithes and offerings and give each donor a yearly receipt for tax purposes. The secretary/treasurer shall accept and disburse all church money, and shall do such other duties as shall be designated for that office, and shall deposit all funds in the bank weekly.
2. The church shall operate in a business-like way, as a good steward of all resources at its disposal, and utilizing, in so far as possible, an annual budget. On request, a full accounting of church finances and reports shall be furnished in the meeting of the pastor and the board. The secretary/treasurer accounts shall be audited under the direction of the pastor and the board. The secretary/treasurer shall surrender all church property when leaving office or when asked to do so by the church or District Bishop.
3. The Pastor's tithe from salary shall be deducted by the church Secretary/Treasurer and sent to the TN District Office by the tenth (10<sup>th</sup>) of each month.

### VII. LOCAL CHURCH FINANCES

1. The voluntary contributions of the tithes and offerings of the members, partners, and friends of the church shall provide the funds for the work of the church.
2. Each local church in the Tennessee District will support general and district ministries with First Fruits (ten percent/10%) of their undesignated income (designated income includes salaries and missions' monies). All local churches shall support the general and district ministries with a minimum ten dollar (\$10) monthly participation fee which may be included as a part of the local church's First Fruits. Each church's First Fruits shall be sent to the District office by the tenth (10<sup>th</sup>) of each month. Any church that does not participate in the First Fruits program will have no vote or representation at any District convention.

#### First Fruits

**Step 1 - Total Local Church Monthly Income – Designated Income (Salaries & Missions) = Undesignated Income**

**Step 2 - Undesignated Income x .10 = First Fruits to the District Office**

**Step 3 - District Office will send the correct percentage to General Headquarters and then keep the remainder**

3. All churches are expected to support both foreign and home missionary programs (World Missions, Native American Ministries, National Missions, Home Missions, Messenger College, also Alabaster Box, Light Another Candle, Military Chaplains), and all churches should be open at any time for a service for any Pentecostal Church of God missionaries who are touring the district.
4. Each local church shall make a special effort to send a foreign mission offering to general headquarters each month.
5. Any church shall take an offering for any official who is asked to be present at that church.

### VIII. LOCAL CHURCH PROPERTY

1. The proceeds from the sale of property which reverts to the Tennessee District shall go into the Home Missions Fund.
2. When building or remodeling church buildings, plans must first be approved by the District Board.
3. The district cannot make indebtedness against local church properties deeded to the district, or list on loan applications or financial statements to loaning institutions, that the properties be considered 'held in trust.'
4. If an insured loss occurs because of destruction to a church building deeded to the district, all monies shall be considered that church's property to be held by that church to rebuild.
5. If a church body disbands after said insured loss because of destruction to a church building deeded to the district, all monies shall be held at least three (3) years in the District Home Missions Fund for that church to rebuild. If after three (3) years, that church does not rebuild, funds will go in the Home Missions program.

### IX. LOCAL CHURCH MEETINGS

1. Meetings for public worship shall be held on each Lord's Day, and during the week as may be provided for under the direction of the pastor in consultation with the board.
2. There should be a business meeting of the pastor and the other members of the church board at the first of each month. This meeting should be for the discussions of the general welfare of the church and of business matters to be resolved by the church board. All matters of major importance should be brought before the church body. After prayer, parliamentary law governs all business meetings.
3. All officers shall be elected by secret ballot unless the church elects to rescind this rule. The rule of secret ballot may be rescinded for only one election at a time.
4. The church shall hold an annual business meeting, the date and time to be set by the pastor and board. Such meetings shall be announced no less than (2) two weeks prior to the date selected. A majority of the active members present shall constitute a quorum.
5. A special meeting of the full membership may be called at any reasonable time by the pastor, in consultation with the board announced no less than (5) five days in advance. A special called meeting must include in the announcement the purpose of the meeting, and the business to be conducted in the meeting will be limited to the announced purpose. A majority of the active members present shall constitute a quorum.



6. The business meeting shall be conducted following generally accepted rules of parliamentary procedure in keeping with the Spirit of Christian love, courtesy, fellowship, and mutual respect. The regular order of business for the annual meeting of the church shall be as follows:
  1. Prayer
  2. Call to order
  3. Reading of previous minutes
  4. Report of finances
  5. Report of the Pastor
  6. Report of Departments
  7. Unfinished business
  8. Election of Officers
  9. New business
  10. Adjournment
7. Each church which affiliates with the Tennessee District shall file with the District Secretary-Treasurer a copy of the initial business meeting, together with the name of the pastor elected, the names of the church members and a list of the charter members of the church.
8. Unless directed and sanctioned by the pastor, or in the absence of a pastor, the church board, services held in homes or elsewhere by local church members at the regular service times of the local church, shall be considered a breach of fellowship. Members of the church may not invite any minister to have such a meeting.
9. Any church which has been set in order in fellowship with the Tennessee District of the Pentecostal Church of God, and which desires to withdraw its affiliation from the district must have a duly called meeting with the District Bishop acting as chairman.

#### **X. LOCAL CHURCH DEPARTMENTS**

1. The church shall hereby provide for the establishment of a Ministerial department, Sunday School department, Music department, Youth department, Women's department, Men's department, Senior's department, or any other department as the needs of the work may require. All such departments shall be subordinate to the church and shall contribute to the harmony and development of the whole. They shall be under the general supervision of the pastor, and the pastor shall be ex-officio member and chairman of all departments.
2. Any officer of any department in any local church of the Tennessee District of the Pentecostal Church of God must be a member of that church. They shall be subject to the bylaws of that local church, the Tennessee District, and the Pentecostal Church of God.
3. Any elected officer of the local church, when elected by a (2/3) two-thirds majority secret ballot election of active members present in a meeting called for that reason, shall serve for (1) one year unless otherwise specified at the time of election.
4. The Tennessee District Pentecostal Church of God goes on record as favoring appointment of all Sunday school workers except the Sunday school superintendent.
5. Department Directors will be active members for at least (1) one year and be filled or seeking to be filled with the Holy Spirit.
6. Those desiring position shall make their calling known to the pastor, and upon meeting the pastor and board approval, may fill department positions.
7. Those filling a position will set a proper example for the church therefore; they will display a Christian character, display commitment and competence through ability, dependability, accountability, be adorned in modest apparel, assume leadership responsibilities, and meet all the basic requirements for activity in the church.
8. Committees may be formed and filled at the pastor's discretion.

#### **XI. LOCAL CHURCH DISCIPLINE**

1. In all matters of conflict between church members, the Bible procedure for resolution of conflict shall be as follows: First, let the disagreeing member make an honest attempt to settle the conflict privately. If they are unsuccessful, let the conflict be brought before the church board. Only as a last resort, let the church board bring the matter before the church. Anyone bringing any matter before the church without meeting the former requirements shall be liable to punishment for making trouble. No personal slurring remarks shall be allowed at any business meeting. Anyone found gossiping or injuring another church member or church officer may be brought before the church board for discipline.
2. The church board is asked to be lenient with anyone who shows a contrite or broken spirit and asks for forgiveness. When one has made restitution for a fault, anyone referring to that fault shall be disciplined for such reference. If the harmony of the church will be preserved and unwholesome discussion by the members of the local body avoided, the District Bishop or the District Presbyterian shall be empowered to accept the resignation of a pastor or church official.
3. Should any conflict arise between the pastor and any member or members of the church, they shall make every possible attempt to settle the conflict privately. However, if serious charges are against the pastor, the disagreeing parties shall file such charges with the District Bishop.
4. In the event that a serious problem which could jeopardize a pastor or a church arises, the pastor or District Bishop shall not discuss the problem with any minister, but shall present the problem to the District Board.
5. If any pastor or official, or a member or members, or any other person or persons, or any congregation or church should be found to be conspiring, plotting or planning in any manner against the welfare of the Pentecostal Church of God, in any of its congregations for the purpose of gaining control of any real estate or personal property of any congregation or of the Pentecostal Church of God, or any other situation should arise that might require prompt and definite action, then, and in that event, this district does hereby authorize any general, district or local officer or representative of the Pentecostal Church of God to promptly take possession of said property or properties and hold same in the name of the Pentecostal Church of God, and so retain possession thereof until the emergency has passed. Any person having a grievance against the district in any way must first meet with the District Bishop and District Board to solve the matter. Any person causing disharmony in the district by word or deed shall be answerable to the District Board.
6. Members, who change their doctrinal beliefs so that they are in conflict with the church, or who engage in conduct or activities obviously unbecoming to an overcoming Christian, are subject to discipline. Such discipline shall always follow Biblical guidelines, with adequate attempts of restoration being made privately before any public separation from the church is made. In the event the member refuses to be subject to Biblical discipline, the pastor and the board may by a majority vote remove the name of that member from the rolls of the church. All persons filling church positions, including the board shall be subject to removal from their position upon definite action by the pastor in consultation with the board. The Tennessee District Board is empowered to discipline the pastor if a sufficient cause is found to exist.

- 2113 7. Due to the magnitude of sexual sins in the world today, we explain the following, God ordained and approved the home and marriage  
2114 between a natural born man and a natural born woman, to multiply and replenish the earth. All other sexual activities are classified in  
2115 the Bible as fornication, such as adultery, sodomy, homosexuality, and lesbianism etc. These are an abomination to God. Anyone  
2116 involved in or approving of these shall be removed from the membership roll.  
2117 8. When any church or congregation withdraws fellowship from the Tennessee District and the Pentecostal Church of God, the District  
2118 Board shall revoke the license of any minister or ministers that they feel are directly or indirectly involved in this action.  
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## 2121 XII. LOCAL CHURCH BYLAWS

- 2122 1. Each local church may have its own bylaws, but those bylaws shall in no way conflict with or interfere with the Constitution and  
2123 Bylaws of the Tennessee District or the General Constitution and Bylaws.  
2124 2. Amendments to the constitution and bylaws of the church may be made by a 2/3-majority vote of the active members in any duly  
2125 called business meeting.  
2126 3. All bylaw requirements for local churches included in the bylaws of the General Headquarters and/or the Tennessee District of the  
2127 Pentecostal Church of God shall become part of these bylaws.  
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## 2130 ARTICLE FIFTEEN 2131 BYLAWS 2132

### 2133 I. AMENDMENT AND DELETION

- 2134 1. The articles of this constitution and bylaws of the Tennessee District of the Pentecostal Church of God may be amended or deleted by  
2135 a two-thirds (2/3) majority vote of the Tennessee District Convention.  
2136 2. Proposed amendments must be submitted in writing to the Resolutions Committee before the business session of the District  
2137 Convention. Proposed amendments must be signed by the authors.  
2138 3. Absolutely no amendments, deletions, changes, updates, or revisions, other than punctuation, spelling, grammar or outline errors, may  
2139 be made to the Tennessee District Constitution and Bylaws without informing the Tennessee District Convention.  
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### 2142 II. BYLAW BOOKS

- 2143 1. The Tennessee District will print bylaw books in alternate years, the printing to coincide with bishop elections, or as directed by the  
2144 District Board. The District Board will acquire three (3) bids for printing, and will have the bylaw books printed at the lowest cost to  
2145 the district for quality printing. The District Board shall be responsible for reviewing and approving the bylaws before they are  
2146 printed, in order to ensure accuracy as it relates to District Convention changes.  
2147 2. In order to maintain compliance with the General Constitution & Bylaws, the Tennessee District Board will determine General Bylaw  
2148 provisions/requirements versus recommendations/suggestions; and will report any needed changes, updates, or revisions to the  
2149 Tennessee District Convention for approval and/or consideration.  
2150 3. All bylaw requirements included in the bylaws of the General Headquarters of the Pentecostal Church of God shall become part of  
2151 these bylaws, and no provision in district bylaws shall conflict with any provision of the general bylaws.  
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## HISITORICAL PERSPECTIVE

The State of Tennessee separated from the Twin States District and became the Tennessee District of the Pentecostal Church of God on September 30, 1958, being formally set in order by holding our inaugural Tennessee District Convention, including the election of our first official representatives, in 1959.

### Vessel of Honor/Honorary Board Member established 2016

2016	Bishop Ronnie & Beverly Kesley
2016	Bishop Orman & Nancy Meadow
2016	Bishop Kenneth & Juanita Jessee
2016	Bishop Vertie & Patricia McNeeley
2017	Bishop Jerry & Brenda Moore

### Tennessee District Bishop (formally Superintendent 1959-2003) established 1959

1959-1964	Rev. Charles Scott
1964-1972	Rev. Eugene Peale
1972-1981	Rev. Orman Meadow
1981-1984	Rev. Malcom Austill
1984-1986	Rev. Kenneth Jessee
1986-1988	Rev. Vertie McNeeley
1988-1990	Rev. Kenneth Jessee
1990-1998	Rev. Orman Meadow
1998-2008	Rev. Jerry Moore
2008-2014	Rev. James Harris
2014-2016	Rev. Jerry Moore
2016 –present	Rev. Richard Walsh

### Tennessee District Secretary-Treasurer established 1959

1959-1965	Rev. Charles Williams
1965-1972	Rev. Wesley Pennington
1972-1979	Rev. Eugene Peale
1979-1984	Rev. Kenneth Jessee
1984-1985	Rev. O. Kenneth Timbs
1985-1986	Rev. Vertie McNeeley
1986-1989	Rev. Orman Meadow
1989-1998	Rev. Jerry Moore
1998-2002	Rev. Gerald Scott
2002-2013	Rev. Vertie McNeeley
2013-present	Rev. Scott Long

### Tennessee District Presbyter established 1978

1978-1981	Rev. Malcom Austill
1981-1984	Rev. Orman Meadow
1984-1988	Rev. Doyle Johnson
1988-1994	Rev. Ronnie Kesley
1994-1998	Rev. James Harris
1998-2002	Rev. John Blackwell
2002-2005	Rev. JN Austill
2005-2011	Rev. Darrell Garrett
2011-2013	Rev. Jerry Moore
2013-2016	Rev. Richard Walsh
2016-2021	Rev. George Van Luven
2021-present	Rev. Darrell Garrett

2237 **Tennessee District Regional Presbyter established 2017**

2238 2017-2021 Rev. Darrell Garrett

2239 2021-present Rev. Brian Gelande

2240

2241 **Tennessee District Home Missions Director established 1978**

2242 1978-1980 Rev. Tommie Dicus

2243 1981-1984 Rev. O. Kenneth Timbs

2244 1984-1988 Rev. JN Austill

2245 1988-1991 Rev. Douglas Baggett

2246 1991-1994 Rev. Eugene Nicholas

2247 1994-1996 Rev. James Harris

2248 1996-2017 District Presbyter

2249 2017-present Regional Presbyter

2250

2251 **Tennessee District Christian Education Director established 1978**

2252 1978-1980 Rev. Donald Peale

2253 1981-1984 Rev. O. Kenneth Timbs

2254 1984-1986 Sis. Marie Roark

2255 1986-1987 Rev. Franklin Price

2256 1987-1996 DISTRICT BOARD

2257 1996-2000 Rev. John Blackwell

2258 2000-2010 District Presbyter

2259 2010-2014 Sis. Lynette Fields

2260 2014-2017 Sis. Audra Walsh

2261 2017-present Regional Presbyter

2262

2263 **Tennessee District Youth Ministries Director (formally PYPA President 1969-2003) established 1969**

2264 1969-1972 Rev. Orman Meadow

2265 1972-1977 Rev. Marvin Williams

2266 1977-1979 Rev. Archie Neal

2267 1979-1982 Rev. JN Austill

2268 1982-1986 DISTRICT BOARD

2269 1986-1987 Rev. David King

2270 1987-1990 Rev. Joe Page

2271 1990-1992 DISTRICT BOARD

2272 1992-1993 Rev. Timothy Marion

2273 1994-1995 Rev. Gary Herndon

2274 1996-2000 Rev. Brian Taylor

2275 2000-2006 Rev. Brian Gelande

2276 2006-2008 Rev. Terry Kesley

2277 2008-2014 Rev. J. Anthony Traylor

2278 2014-2016 Rev. Felicia Reno

2279 2016-present Rev. James Walsh

2280

2281 **Tennessee District Youth Ministries Secretary-Treasurer (formally PYPA Secretary-Treasurer 1984-2003) established 1984**

2282 1984-1987 Sis. Kimberly Jessee

2283 1987-1989 Bro. Ricky Peale

2284 1989-1991 Rev. Jeff Kesley

2285 1991-1996 DISTRICT BOARD

2286 1996-1997 Rev. John Gream

2287 1997-present District Secretary-Treasurer

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2291 **Tennessee District Women's Ministries Director (formally PLA President 1972-2003) established 1972**

2292	1972-1981	Sis. Nancy Meadow
2293	1981-1986	Rev. Juanita Jessee
2294	1986-1988	Sis. Patricia McNeeley
2295	1988-1990	Rev. Juanita Jessee
2296	1990-1996	Sis. Nancy Meadow
2297	1996-1997	Rev. Arleigh Barnett
2298	1998	Sis. Juanita Harris
2299	1998-2008	Sis. Brenda Moore
2300	2008-2014	Sis. Juanita Harris
2301	2014-2016	Sis. Brenda Moore
2302	2016-present	Sis. Audra Walsh

2303

2304 **Tennessee District Women's Ministries Secretary-Treasurer (formally PLA Secretary-Treasurer 1981-2003) established 1981**

2305	1981-1985	Sis. Nancy Meadow
2306	1985-1986	Sis. Patricia McNeeley
2307	1986-1989	Sis. Nancy Meadow
2308	1989-1998	Sis. Brenda Moore
2309	1998-2002	Sis. Jenna Scott
2310	2002-2005	Sis. Glenda Austill
2311	2005-present	District Secretary-Treasurer

2312

2313 **Tennessee District Men's Ministries Director (formally Kings Men Fellowship Director 2011-2024) established 2011**

2314	2011-2013	Rev. Richard Walsh
2315	2013-2016	Rev. Ross Loveall
2316	2016	Rev. Benjamin Allen
2317	2016-2017	Rev. Anthony Hendren
2318	2018-2024	Rev. M. Scott Bridges
2319	2024-present	Rev. Tim Shiverdeck

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2321 **Tennessee District Editor (formally Sunshine News Editor 1983-2000 & Son Shine News Editor 2000-2022) established 1983**

2322	1983-1990	Rev. Juanita Jessee & Sister Marie Roark
2323	1990-1997	Rev. Juanita Jessee
2324	1998-2001	Rev. Blaine Allen
2325	2001-present	Sis. Charley Long

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2328 **Tennessee District Board Members (Sectional)**

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2330 **Central Presbyter (formally Mid-Cumberland 1984-2008) established 1984**

2331	1984-1996	Rev. Orman Meadow
2332	1996-1999	Rev. John Blackwell
2333	1999-2000	Rev. Tom Webb
2334	2001-2002	Rev. Brian Taylor
2335	2002-2005	Rev. Darrell Garrett
2336	2005-2012	Rev. Scott Long
2337	2012-2013	Rev. Richard Walsh
2338	2013-2014	Rev. Eli Fields
2339	2015-2016	Rev. George VanLuven
2340	2016	Rev. Ross Loveall
2341	2017-2021	Rev. Brian Gelande
2342	2021-2023	Rev. Jerry Moore
2343	2023-present	Rev. Joe Page

2344

2345	<u>Eastern Presbyter established 1974</u>	
2346	1974-1984	Rev. Hershal Wren
2347	1984-2014	Rev. Ronnie Kesley
2348	2014-2016	Rev. Vertie McNeeley
2349	2016-2017	Rev. Darrell Garrett
2350	2017	Rev. Vertie McNeeley
2351	2017-2019	<i>DISTRICT BOARD</i>
2352	2019-2021	Rev. Felicia Reno
2353	2021-present	<i>DISTRICT BOARD</i>

2354		
2355	<u>Western Presbyter (formally Northern 1972-2017) established 1972</u>	
2356	1972-1976	Rev. Paul Wanger
2357	1976-1978	Rev. Richard Hendrickson
2358	1978-1980	Rev. Bob Smith
2359	1980-1988	Rev. John Roark
2360	1988-1990	Rev. Douglas Baggett
2361	1990-1994	Rev. Gerald Scott
2362	1994-1998	Rev. Eugene Nicholas
2363	1998-2000	Rev. John Gream
2364	2000-2008	Rev. James Harris
2365	2008-2015	Rev. Joe Page
2366	2015-2017	Rev. Brian Gelande
2367	2017-present	Rev. Terry Kesley

2368		
2369	<u>Southern Presbyter established 1974</u>	
2370	1974-1978	Rev. Arlie Moore
2371	1978-1980	Rev. Lacy Dorris
2372	1980-1984	Rev. Doyle Johnson
2373	1984-1988	Rev. JN Austill
2374	1988-1990	Rev. Roger Reece
2375	1990-1994	Rev. Eugene Nicholas
2376	1994-1997	Rev. Alvis Barnett
2377	1997-2001	Rev. Jerrold Bertram
2378	2001-2004	Rev. JN Austill
2379	2004-2006	Rev. Terry Kesley
2380	2006-2008	Rev. Carl Stiles
2381	2008-2017	Rev. Terry Kesley
2382	2017-present	Western Presbyter

2383		
2384		
2385	<u>Tennessee District YM Board Members (Sectional)</u>	

2386		
2387	<u>Central YM Director (formally Mid-Cumberland 1997-2008) established 1997</u>	
2388	1997-2002	<i>DISTRICT BOARD</i>
2389	2002-2008	Rev. Scott Long
2390	2008-2012	Rev. Sean Winship
2391	2012-2014	Rev. Eli Fields
2392	2014-2016	Rev. James Walsh
2393	2016-2018	Bro. Dylan Ward
2394	2018-2022	<i>DISTRICT BOARD</i>
2395	2022-2024	Rev. Jamey Gream
2396	2024-present	Sis. Michaela Gelande

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2398

2399	<u>Eastern YM Director established 1997</u>	
2400	1997-2010	Bro. Eddie Kesley
2401	2011-2014	Rev. Felicia Reno
2402	2014-2017	Rev. Mark Lewallen
2403	2018-2019	Rev. Felicia Reno
2404	2019-present	<i>DISTRICT BOARD</i>
2405		
2406	<u>Western YM Director (formally Northern 1997-2017) established 1997</u>	
2407	1997	Rev. John Gream
2408	1998-2000	Rev. Brian Gelande
2409	2000-2002	Rev. Scott Long
2410	2002-2004	Rev. Ryan Armstrong
2411	2004-2008	<i>DISTRICT BOARD</i>
2412	2008-2014	Rev. Brian Gelande
2413	2014-2016	Rev. Brian Conger
2414	2017-present	<i>DISTRICT BOARD</i>
2415		
2416	<u>Southern YM Director established 1997</u>	
2417	1997-2000	Rev. Kevin Isbell
2418	2000-2003	<i>DISTRICT BOARD</i>
2419	2003-2006	Rev. Terry Kesley
2420	2006-2017	<i>DISTRICT BOARD</i>
2421	2017-present	<i>Western YM Director</i>
2422		
2423		
2424	<b><u>Tennessee District WM Board Members (Sectional)</u></b>	
2425		
2426	<u>Central WM Director (formally Mid-Cumberland 1984-2008) established 1984</u>	
2427	1984-1996	Sis. Nancy Meadow
2428	1996-1999	Sis. Jackie Blackwell
2429	1999-2002	<i>DISTRICT BOARD</i>
2430	2002-2010	Sis. Charley Long
2431	2010-2012	Rev. Mollie Loveall
2432	2012-2016	Sis. Audra Walsh
2433	2016	Rev. Mollie Loveall
2434	2017-present	Sis. Connie Gelande
2435		
2436	<u>Eastern WM Director established 1974</u>	
2437	1974-1984	Sis. Dorothy Wren
2438	1984-2014	Sis. Beverly Kesley
2439	2014-2016	Sis. Patricia McNeeley
2440	2016-2018	Sis. Anna Garrett
2441	2018-2021	Rev. Kathy McNeeley
2442	2021-present	Sis. Anna Garrett
2443		
2444	<u>Western WM Director (formally Northern 1972-2017) established 1972</u>	
2445	1972-1980	Records not available
2446	1980-1990	Sis. Marie Roark
2447	1990-1994	Sis. Jenna Scott
2448	1994-1998	Sis. Jean Nichols
2449	1998-2000	Sis. Jenna Scott
2450	2000-2006	Sis. Connie Gelande
2451	2006-2008	Sis. Juanita Harris
2452	2008-2015	Sis. Patsy Page

2453	2015-2017	Sis. Connie Gelande
2454	2017-present	Sis. Penny Kesley
2455		
2456	<u>Southern WM Director established 1974</u>	
2457	1974-1990	Records not available
2458	1990-1994	Sis. Jean Nicholas
2459	1994-2001	Rev. Arleigh Barnett
2460	2001-2005	Sis. Glenda Austill
2461	2005-2017	Sis. Penny Kesley
2462	2017-present	Western WM Director

2463  
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2465 **Tennessee District Men's Board Members (formally Kings Men Fellowship 2011-2024) (Sectional)**

2466

2467 Central Men's Director established 2011

2468	2011-2013	Rev. Ross Loveall
2469	2013-2017	Rev. Glen Calbert
2470	2017	Rev. Tim Shiverdeck
2471	2017-2018	Rev. M. Scott Bridges
2472	2018-2024	Rev. Tim Shiverdeck
2473	2024-present	DISTRICT BOARD

2474

2475 Eastern Men's Director established 2011

2476	2011-2013	DISTRICT BOARD
2477	2013-2016	Rev. Dewayne Lewallen
2478	2016-2018	DISTRICT BOARD
2479	2018-2021	Bro. Carson Reno
2480	2021-present	DISTRICT BOARD

2481

2482 Western Men's Director (formally Northern 2011-2017) established 2011

2483	2011-2013	DISTRICT BOARD
2484	2013-2014	Rev. M. Scott Bridges
2485	2014-2016	Rev. Anthony Hendren
2486	2017	Rev. M. Scott Bridges
2487	2017-2020	DISTRICT BOARD
2488	2020-present	Bro. Tommy Kesley

2489

2490 Southern Men's Director established 2011

2491	2011-2017	DISTRICT BOARD
2492	2017-present	Western Men's Director

2493

2494

2495

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2497

2498 This information is supported by the best records available in the Tennessee District of the Pentecostal Church of God archives. Some  
2499 documentation from the earlier history of the movement is not thoroughly complete. Any items of historical significance that can be contributed  
2500 to the archives or additional information concerning Tennessee District of the Pentecostal Church of God history are greatly appreciated