

TENNESSEE DISTRICT



CONSTITUTION & BYLAWS

2024



1 **CONSTITUTION AND BYLAWS of the PENTECOSTAL CHURCH OF GOD TENNESSEE DISTRICT**
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5 **Revised to Tennessee District Convention 2024**
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7 **Tennessee District Office**
 8 **www.tnpcg.org**
 9 **e-mail - office@tnpcg.org**
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11 **EXECUTIVE COUNCIL**

12 Bishop / CEO Bishop Richard Walsh
 13 Presbyterian / COO Rev. Darrell Garrett
 14 Secretary-Treasurer / CFO Rev. Scott Long
 15

16 **EXECUTIVE DIRECTORS**

17 Central Rev. Joe Page
 18 Regional Rev. Brian Gelande
 19 Western Rev. Terry Kesley
 20

21 **DEPARTMENT DIRECTORS**

22 Men's Ministries Rev. Tim Shiverdeck
 23 Women's Ministries Sis. Audra Walsh
 24 Youth Ministries Rev. James Walsh
 25

26 **SPECIALIZED DIRECTORS**

27 Editor Sis. Charlsey Long
 28

29 **VESSELS OF HONOR**

30 Honorary Board Member Asst Bishop Jerry Moore
 31

32 **TABLE OF CONTENTS**

33 **ARTICLE ONE NAME PAGE 4**
 34 **ARTICLE TWO PURPOSE PAGE 4**
 35 **ARTICLE THREE PREAMBLE PAGE 4**
 36 **ARTICLE FOUR TENETS PAGE 4**
 37 **ARTICLE FIVE OFFICERS PAGE 5**
 38 **ARTICLE SIX MINISTRY PAGE 11**
 39 **ARTICLE SEVEN MEETINGS PAGE 16**
 40 **ARTICLE EIGHT RULING BODY PAGE 18**
 41 **ARTICLE NINE FINANCE PAGE 19**
 42 **ARTICLE TEN TERRITORY PAGE 20**
 43 **ARTICLE ELEVEN PROPERTY PAGE 20**
 44 **ARTICLE TWELVE PEROGATIVES PAGE 21**
 45 **ARTICLE THIRTEEN DEPARTMENTS PAGE 23**
 46 **ARTICLE FOURTEEN LOCAL CHURCH PAGE 29**
 47 **ARTICLE FIFTEEN BYLAWS PAGE 34**
 48
 49 **HISTORICAL PERSPECTIVE PAGE 35**
 50
 51
 52
 53
 54
 55
 56
 57
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**ARTICLE ONE
NAME**

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

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**ARTICLE TWO
PURPOSE**

PURPOSE - The purpose of the Tennessee District of the Pentecostal Church of God shall be to build churches and found missions within its own boundaries. Further, it shall be our purpose to encourage such churches as are new extant and such other agencies and activities which 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 and purpose of the Pentecostal Church of God.

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**ARTICLE THREE
PREAMBLE**

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 the Body, the Church of Jesus Christ, built and established upon the foundation of the Apostles and Prophets, Jesus Christ Himself being the Chief Cornerstone.

We further believe that members of the Body, the Church, are enjoined to assemble themselves together for worship, fellowship and 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 Testament; and according to God's Word, the early Christians came together in such fellowship as a representative Body of blood-washed and Spirit-filled believers, who cooperated with, and sent out, evangelists and missionaries and, under the leadership of the Holy Spirit, set over the churches, apostles, prophets, evangelists, pastors, teachers, deacons and helpers.

Therefore, we recognize ourselves as a cooperative Fellowship of Christians, endeavoring to keep the unity of the Spirit in the bond of peace, 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 fullness of Christ (Ephesians 4:3-13).

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**ARTICLE FOUR
TENETS**

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DOCTRINAL STATEMENT

As a Christian constituency of New Testament believers, we, the Pentecostal Church of God, subscribe to the following declaration of the things 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 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 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.

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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 complete revelation of His will for the salvation of men, and constituting the Divine and only rule of Christian faith and practice (2 Peter 1:21).
 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 the Creator of all things, visible and invisible, and preserver of all things (Romans 1:20; Colossians 1:16). In the unity of this Godhead, there are three Persons of one individual essence, who are co-equal, co-existent and co-eternal; namely, the Father, the Son 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; 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 5:18). The Son is the eternally begotten of the Father, and accepted earthly limitations for the purpose of incarnation, being true God 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 substitutionary sacrifice, and all who believe in Him are justified on the grounds of His shed blood. He arose from the dead according 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 kingdom of righteousness and justice. The Holy Spirit is a Divine Person, Executive of the Godhead on earth, the Comforter sent by 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.
 3. **Man, His Fall and Redemption:** Man is a created being, made in the likeness and the image of God, but through Adam's 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). 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 restore man back to God (1 John 3:8).
 4. **Salvation:** Salvation is made possible through the meritorious work of Jesus Christ on the cross and through Holy Spirit conviction. Godly sorrow works repentance and makes possible the experience of the new birth, and Christ formed within us is the gift of eternal 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, and is made operative by grace through faith in Jesus Christ, producing works acceptable to God (Ephesians 2:8). Man is a free moral 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 look forward to.
 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 Lord (Romans 12:5; 1 Corinthians 12:27); Christ being the Head (Ephesians 1:22; Colossians 1:18). Its earthly constituents are all true 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 5:27; Revelation 21:27). To the Church, through its members, is delegated the various gifts and offices of the Holy Ghost (1 Corinthians 12:8-11, 27, 28) which are necessary for the successful evangelization of the world and the perfecting of the Body of Christ (1 Corinthians 12:7; Ephesians 4:11, 12).
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).

6. **Ministry:** God, through the Holy Spirit, definitely calls such as He desires to serve as *apostles, prophets*, evangelists, pastors, and teachers, and specifically endues the one called with the talents and gifts peculiar to the office or offices (Ephesians 4:11-13). Under no circumstances should anyone be ordained or set apart to any such office unless the calling is distinct and evident.
7. **Water Baptism:** Baptism in water is by immersion, and is a direct commandment of our Lord (Matthew 28:19), and is for believers only. The ordinance is a symbol of the Christian's identification with Christ in His death, burial and resurrection (Romans 6:4; Colossians 2:12; Acts 8:36-39). The following recommendation regarding the water baptism formula is adopted, to wit: "On the 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 the Son of God, and of the Holy Ghost. Amen."
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 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; 10:44-48). The Baptism of the Holy Ghost is accompanied by the speaking in other tongues as the Holy Spirit Himself gives the utterance as the initial physical sign and evidence (Acts 2:4).
9. **Sanctification:** The Bible teaches that without holiness no man can see the Lord (Hebrews 12:14). We believe in the doctrine of sanctification as a definite, yet progressive, work of grace, commencing at the time of regeneration and continuing until the 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 Thessalonians 5:23).
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 resurrection, is strictly limited to Christian believers (1 Corinthians 11:27). The time and frequency of its observance is left to the discretion of each congregation (1 Corinthians 11:26). Only unfermented grape juice, the fruit of the vine, as recommended by our Lord (Matthew 26:29; Mark 14:25; Luke 22:18) shall be used in connection therewith.
11. **Foot Washing:** Foot washing is recognized among many believers as a Christian practice, and the time, manner and frequency of its observance is left to the discretion of each local congregation (John 13).
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, 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 truly believe.
13. **The Resurrection of the Just:** The Bible promises, "This same Jesus shall so come in like manner" (Acts 1:11). His coming is imminent; when He comes, "The dead in Christ shall rise first; then we which are alive and remain shall be caught up together with 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 of kings, and Lord of lords, and together with his saints, who shall be kings and priests He shall reign a thousand years (Revelation 20:6).
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 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 second coming of the Lord (Mark 13:32-33).
15. **The Coming of the Lord:** We believe the Bible presents the coming of Christ as personal, imminent, pre-tribulational and pre-millennial. We further contend that this position alone admonishes watchfulness, incites holy living, prevents spiritual declension and provides maximum incentive and motive for urgency and zeal in evangelizing the unsaved. As demonic deception and satanic darkness deepens, we urge our ministers to maintain and proclaim this doctrinal viewpoint as the "blessed hope" of the Church. Furthermore, we recommend that should any of our preachers hold to the mid- or post- tribulation doctrine, they refrain from preaching and teaching it. Should they persist in emphasizing this doctrine to the point of making it an issue, their standing in the fellowship will be seriously affected.
16. **Hell and Eternal Retribution:** The one who physically dies in his sins without Christ is hopelessly and eternally lost in the lake of fire, and therefore has no further opportunity of sharing the gospel or for repentance (Hebrews 9:27). The lake of fire is literal (Revelation 19:20). The terms "eternal" and "everlasting" used in describing the duration of the punishment of the damned (Matthew 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 ecstasy of saints in the presence of God.
17. **Relation to War:** Whereas, we believe that our government is ordained of God; and Whereas, We are thankful to the government of the United States of America for the freedom to worship God according to the dictates of our conscience; and Whereas, There are those within our church organization who conscientiously object to the bearing of arms in the time of war; be it Resolved, That we as a church organization affirm their respective right to this conviction as they offer their respective services to our government in any way consistent with non-combative service.
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 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 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.

206 **II. EXECUTIVE BOARD / DISTRICT BOARD**

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

- 219 1. The Executive Committee of the District Board shall consist of the District Bishop, District Secretary-Treasurer, and District
220 Presbyterian. The District Bishop shall serve as the Executive President, Chief Executive Director, and the Chief Executive Officer
221 (CEO) of the District. The District Secretary-Treasurer shall serve as a Co-Executive Vice President and the Chief Financial Officer
222 (CFO) of the District. The District Presbyterian shall serve as a Co-Executive Vice President and the Chief Operations Officer (COO) of
223 the District.
224 2. The Executive Committee of a District Department shall consist of the District Bishop, District Secretary-Treasurer, and District
225 Department Director.
226 3. The Executive Committee shall act on such district matters as shall require immediate attention when there is not sufficient time
227 or opportunities to secure a meeting of the entire District Board.
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229 **Section Two - Qualifications and Duties of Officers**

230 **I. DISTRICT BISHOP**

231 **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
232 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
233 Pentecostal Church of God and one (1) year's residence in this district.

234 **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
235 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
236 to appoint one of its own members to serve as District Bishop until the next District Convention.
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- 238 1. The District Bishop shall serve as the Executive President, Chief Executive Director, and the Chief Executive Officer (CEO) of the
239 District.
240 2. The District Bishop shall be the Chairman of the Tennessee District Board, the Chairman of all Tennessee District Executive
241 Committees, and shall represent the Tennessee District on the PCG General Board. If the District Bishop is unavailable, the District
242 Secretary-Treasurer or District Presbyterian may be appointed to take the Bishop's place.
243 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
244 work of that office. The District Bishop shall be general overseer of all work in the district, administer discipline in cases where
245 requested to do so by the District Board, and perform any other function usual and customary for the presiding officer, or such as may
246 be directed by the District Board.
247 4. All legal documents are to be reviewed by the District Board and signed by the District Bishop and District Secretary-Treasurer, and
248 as approved by the District Board.
249 5. The District Bishop shall be granted a thirty (30) day vacation with salary or tithes to be contributed as usual. Any business matters
250 arising during this time shall be handled by the District Presbyterian or by the District Board member appointed by the District Bishop.
251 6. The District Bishop shall be encouraged to contact, either in person or by phone, each minister in the district to encourage them or
252 discuss with them any problems they might be facing at least once every other month.
253 7. The District Bishop shall be encouraged to visit each church in the Tennessee District at least twice a year.
254 8. The District Bishop shall be allowed to pastor a church.
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257 **II. DISTRICT SECRETARY-TREASURER**

258 **Qualifications:** The District Secretary-Treasurer shall be not less than thirty-five (35) years of age, an ordained minister who has the baptism of
259 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
260 ordained minister of the Pentecostal Church of God and one (1) year's residence in this district. The District Secretary-Treasurer shall be
261 qualified to do the tasks required by the District Secretary-Treasurer's office. Seeing as the District Secretary-Treasurer's position requires some
262 computer and accounting knowledge, those ministers desiring the office should submit a resume to the Tennessee District office thirty (30) days
263 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
264 District Convention in session. However, it shall be understood that this process shall not deny the District Convention of the right to cast
265 nominating ballots, if desired.

266 **Elections:** The District Secretary-Treasurer shall be elected by a two-thirds (2/3) majority vote at the District Convention. The District Secretary-
267 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
268 District Bishop. If the office of District Secretary-Treasurer becomes vacant between conventions, the District Board shall have the power to
269 select, from those qualified and capable within the Tennessee District, an individual to fill the unexpired term of office

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

- 275 3. The District Secretary-Treasurer shall make and keep a true record of all ordained ministers, licensed ministers, exhorters and
276 affiliated churches in the district. The District Secretary-Treasurer shall notify any minister or church not complying with the title and
277 assessment requirements. Be it resolved that every minister's title report be reviewed by the District Board at every board meeting
278 and that all discipline be left to the discretion of the District Board.
- 279 4. The District Secretary-Treasurer shall be the custodian of all the records, documents and archives of the Tennessee District and a
280 bookkeeping system using the same type of books as the present district office shall be established, along with a teaching session for
281 this system. All legal documents are to be reviewed by the District Board and signed by the District Bishop and District Secretary-
282 Treasurer, as approved by the District Board, and the District Secretary-Treasurer will perform such other functions as are customary
283 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
284 our monthly business.
- 285 5. The District Secretary-Treasurer shall be custodian of all district funds, and the District Secretary-Treasurer shall keep an accurate
286 record of all receipts and disbursements. The District Secretary-Treasurer shall give a report from time to time as requested by the
287 District Board. The books shall be audited once a year. The District Secretary-Treasurer shall deposit all funds in the bank, and all
288 disbursements shall be made by check, and the Secretary-Treasurer shall be the only authorized person to sign checks. If, and only if,
289 the local bank requires two (2) signatures on the signature card (not a check), the District Presbyter shall sign the card, but is not
290 authorized to sign any checks. This is to be applied to each department: District Office, Home Missions, Youth Ministry, Women's
291 Ministry, Men's Ministry, Christian Education and District Website. The District Bishop's check and other official's checks shall be
292 mailed no later than the fifteenth (15th) of each month.
- 293 6. Each minister in the Tennessee District shall receive a quarterly financial cash flow report that would reflect the income and expenses
294 of the district. This report will also list the District Churches & Ministers that have participated in the First Fruits & Tithing programs
295 that quarter.
- 296 7. At the next mailing after each District Board meeting the District Secretary-Treasurer shall mail out to all ministers the information
297 concerning all actions taken by the board except those of a personal nature and those that are harmful to the district. No information or
298 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
299 the information being sent out is correct and properly written. Therefore, the information being received by the District will always be
300 from the previous Board Meeting.
- 301 8. Upon the death of any minister or minister's spouse the District Secretary-Treasurer shall send a notice to all ministers and churches
302 requesting that a love offering be sent from them to the district office to be sent to the family.
- 303 9. The District Secretary-Treasurer will send to each minister in the Tennessee District the names of all ministers qualified for open
304 offices two (2) weeks prior to District Convention. The resolutions from all District Conventions shall be mailed to each minister
- 305 10. The District Secretary-Treasurer shall serve as the official Secretary-Treasurer & Executive Committee Member for the Youth
306 Department, Women's Department, Men's Department, Home Missions Department, Christian Education Department, District
307 Website and any other department or committee, unless otherwise specified. Furthermore, all District Department Executive
308 Committees may appoint a section representative to also serve as the department secretary/administrative assistant, however all
309 treasurer/financial matters must still be processed through the District Secretary-Treasurer. The District Secretary-Treasurer shall give
310 a report of what money is spent, and why it is spent, to the Department Directors.
- 311 11. The District (Youth) Secretary/Treasurer shall keep a true record of all business meetings and of the local Youth Ministry chapters in
312 the district. Secretary-Treasurer shall keep a complete financial record for the District Youth Ministry. Secretary-Treasurer shall keep
313 an accurate record of all receipts and disbursements, and shall give a financial report at each District Convention. Secretary-Treasurer
314 shall keep a record of the minutes of all business meetings of the District Youth Ministry Executive Committee. Secretary-Treasurer
315 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
316 information will be furnished by the local group.
- 317 12. The District (Women's) Secretary-Treasurer shall keep a record of all Women's Ministry meetings at conventions and business
318 sessions. Secretary-Treasurer shall keep a complete financial record of all district Women's Ministry finances. Secretary-Treasurer is
319 to keep an accurate record of all monies received in the Women's Ministry program, such as rally offerings and to receive and
320 disburse same Rally offerings, in cooperation with the Women's Ministry Director. Secretary-Treasurer shall keep secretarial records
321 of Women's Ministries; and keep correspondence of the Women's Ministry office in order.

322 III. DISTRICT PRESBYTER

323 **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
324 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
325 the Pentecostal Church of God and one (1) year's residence in this district.

326 **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
327 (2) years which runs concurrently with that of the District Secretary-Treasurer. Should the office become vacant, the District Board is empowered
328 to appoint someone to serve until the next District Convention.

- 329 1. The District Presbyter shall serve as a Co-Executive Vice President and the Chief Operations Officer (COO) of the District.
- 330 2. The District Presbyter shall be an Executive Committee Member on the Tennessee District Board, and when the Tennessee District
331 has twenty-six (26) or more duly chartered churches the District Presbyter shall represent the Tennessee District on the PCG General
332 Board.
- 333 3. The District Presbyter's duties shall be to cooperate with and assist the District Bishop, to open new fields, to organize new sections
334 and to assist the pastors and evangelists.
- 335 4. The District Presbyter shall have the responsibility of conducting all District Fellowships/Rallies in the Tennessee District.
- 336 5. The District Presbyter shall hold all Section Elections, or if unavailable, shall appoint another qualified District Official to hold
337 Section Elections.
- 338 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
339 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
340 the District Convention.
- 341 7. In the event of an incapacity in the office of the District Secretary-Treasurer, the District Presbyter, who shall keep their name and
342 signature on all District Bank Accounts, shall serve as a substitute until the return of the District Secretary-Treasurer, a new District
343 Secretary-Treasurer is appointed by the District Board, or a new District Secretary-Treasurer is elected by the District Convention.
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- 345 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
346 their return, a new appointment is made by the District Board, or a new election is held by the District Convention.
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348 **IV. REGIONAL PRESBYTER**

349 **Qualifications:** The Regional Presbyter shall be apt to teach, communicate, and give instruction, an ordained minister of the Pentecostal Church
350 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-
351 five (25) years of age, and must have been a member of the district for one (1) year.

352 **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
353 (2) years which runs concurrently with that of the District Secretary-Treasurer. Should the office become vacant, the District Board is empowered
354 to appoint a qualified minister to serve until the next District Convention.

- 355 1. The Regional Presbyter shall represent the entire "region" of the Tennessee District, and shall serve on the District Board as the
356 Executive Director of Home Missions having general supervision over all District Ministry Department Divisions, including the
357 District Youth Ministries, District Women's Ministries, District Men's Ministries, and any other ministries that may be assigned by
358 the District Board, including Editorial Department
- 359 2. The Regional Presbyter must be one qualified to establish new churches. No monies for new works shall be allowed without notifying
360 the Regional Presbyter. The Regional Presbyter should be notified of any new work started.
- 361 3. The Regional Presbyter shall have the authority to request from and receive monies from Home Missions equal to three (3) months'
362 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
363 approval of the District Board as long as funds are available.
- 364 4. Every month having a fifth Sunday shall be designated Home Missions Sunday and an offering shall be taken for District Home
365 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
366 preceding the fifth Sunday. Postage will be paid from the Home Missions Fund.
- 367 5. The Regional Presbyter may conduct sectional rallies, one (1) per year per section, to raise support for Home Missions, coordinating
368 with the District and Sectional Ministry Department Directors, as needed.
- 369 6. The Regional Presbyter shall be responsible for reviewing the Minister's Study Series material, the personal study courses and the
370 specialty modules, completed by ministers pursuing credentials in the TN District PCG. The Regional Presbyter shall record and store a
371 final report of the successful completion of the classes and send a copy to the District Board for consideration in the applicant's
372 credential process. Additionally, the Regional Presbyter shall review all church and/or ministerial applications to ensure that all
373 needed paperwork has been included, that each form has been filled out correctly, and that any application fees have been secured.
374 This process shall be completed before the applicant's interview with the District Board is scheduled.
- 375 7. The Regional Presbyter shall direct Christian Education activities, and may conduct teacher-training sessions made available to each
376 section, and may host learning seminars or conferences for teacher-training and enrichment, as needed.
- 377 8. The Regional Presbyter shall maintain constant communication with the District Department Directors of each District Ministry
378 Department, and shall serve as a liaison between the Directors and the District Board. This will allow the Directors to run their
379 individual Departments, but will also provide needed communication between the District Board and each of those Departments, as
380 well as keep the District Board up to date on all Departments events and/or activities.
- 381 9. The Regional Presbyter shall coordinate with any District Officials who may be hosting a District Event, in order to ensure active
382 awareness, participation, and/or involvement of each of the District Ministry Departments during the appropriate District Events.
383

384 **V. SECTIONAL PRESBYTERS**

385 **Qualifications:** The Sectional Presbyters shall be ordained ministers of the Pentecostal Church of God, with the baptism of the Holy Ghost. They
386 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
387 section for one (1) year.

388 **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
389 concurrently with that of the District Bishop. Each section shall elect its own sectional Presbyter at the fellowship meeting immediately preceding
390 the District Convention. These presbyters shall be subject to ratification by the entire District Convention. Should any Sectional Presbyter leave
391 office between conventions, or move to a section other than the section in which they have been elected to serve, their office shall immediately
392 become vacant, and the District Board shall appoint a qualified resident of that section to fill the office until the next election.

- 393 1. Sectional Presbyters shall serve on the District Board as the Executive Directors of their Section, shall serve as Section Home
394 Missions Directors and by virtue of their office shall serve as Section Department Directors (men, women, youth, etc.) until such time
395 that the Section has an election or the District Department Executive Committees appoint new Section Department Directors.
- 396 2. The Sectional Presbyter shall cooperate with and assist the District Bishop in the section which the Sectional Presbyter represents, and
397 the Sectional Presbyter shall be responsible for its development.
- 398 3. Each Section Presbyter shall be notified of any vacancy, conflict, or business related to churches in their Section, and is authorized to
399 handle such business. Furthermore, be it resolved that the Sectional Presbyter inform the District Bishop of the outcome of such
400 meetings. In the event the Sectional Presbyter is not available or has a conflict of interest the District Office shall be notified
401 immediately.
- 402 4. In sections with less than five (5) churches, the presbyter and Youth Director will be permitted to alternate their rallies or conduct
403 rallies as often as is suitable for that section.
- 404 5. Sectional Presbyters may serve as Parliamentarians at District Convention, if needed
405

406 **VI. DIRECTOR OF DISTRICT YOUTH MINISTRY**

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

410 **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
411 with the District Bishop election. If the office becomes vacant between conventions, the District Board shall have the power to select, from those
412 qualified and capable within the Tennessee District, a youth to fill the unexpired term of office.
413

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.

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

485 **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,
486 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
487 the District Board verification of both giving and membership faithfulness to their TNPCG local church before assuming office.

488 **Elections:** Sectional Men's Ministries Directors will be elected in each section at the sectional fellowship meeting immediately preceding the
489 District Convention. Election will be by a two-thirds (2/3) vote of any district minister (exhorter, licensed, ordained) or district minister's spouse
490 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
491 which runs concurrently with that of the District Bishop. If the office becomes vacant between conventions the District Men's Executive
492 Committee shall have the power to select, from those qualified and capable within the Section, a man to fill the unexpired term of office.

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

495
496 **XII. DISTRICT EDITOR / TECHNOLOGY DIRECTOR**

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

500 **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
501 election. If the office becomes vacant, the District Board shall have the power to select, from those qualified and capable within the Tennessee
502 District, an individual to fill the unexpired term of office.

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

509
510 **XIII. HONORARY DISTRICT BOARD MEMBER / VESSEL OF HONOR / ASSISTANT BISHOP**

511 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
512 Church of God, we hereby establish the office of "**Honorary Tennessee District Board Member**"

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

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

523
524
525 **A. PRIVILEDGES**

526 Honorary Tennessee District Board Members shall have the following privileges.

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

535
536 **B. GUIDELINES**

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

- 539 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
540 District will be removed from their position
541 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
542 Meeting will be required to remove themselves and leave the meeting
543 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
544 must wait 5 years until they are again eligible for an honorary board position
545 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
546 participate in TN District Board Meeting privileges
547 5. Any holding this office must always remember that this is an honorary and not elected position, therefore the current TN District
548 Bishop in consultation with the current TN District Board may, at any time, and without explanation, ask that one or all Honorary
549 Board Members excuse themselves from a given board meeting if the current TN District Board deem that a situation merits their
550 absence
551 6. Any recipient's spouse, who has served in active ministry with the recipient for a minimum of 25 years, maybe given similar honorary
552 recognition and privileges as it relates to the department of Women's Ministries or Men's Ministries, assuming they conduct
553 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*.

- 623 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
 624 district office. If the minister is still delinquent after sixty (60) days, the credentials will be dropped by the General office
 625 and the district office will be notified. Any minister who is dropped by the General office must make an application for re-
 626 instatement and meet with the District Board
- 627 g. The following ministers shall have their credentials fees and their subscription to the *Pentecostal Messenger* waived for one of
 628 the following three conditions; (1)When credentialed ministers reach the age of seventy (70) and have carried ordination with
 629 the Pentecostal Church of God for at least twenty (20) years or (2) if they are totally disabled with a terminal illness/physically
 630 debilitating condition and are not pursuing active ministry, or (3) if they are seventy (70) year of age with twenty (20) years of
 631 continuous service and who do not qualify for gratis status and cannot pursue active ministry. In order for ministers to begin
 632 receiving this waiver, their credential fees must be paid up to date.
- 633 h. All ministers shall pay their tithe/dues as required by the district.
 634

635 B. MINISTERIAL CERTIFICATION

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

638 *State of Tennessee Law 36-3-301. Persons who may solemnize marriages. (a) (1) All regular ministers, preachers, pastors, priests,*
 639 *rabbis and other spiritual leaders of every religious belief, more than eighteen (18) years of age, having the care of souls*
 640

641 Certified Ministers shall be recognized as ministers, called by God to the ministry of the local churches in the Tennessee District of the
 642 Pentecostal Church of God, who have met the approval of the TN District Board, and are presently maintaining a godly life and a Scriptural
 643 standard of teaching as it relates to the doctrine of the TN District. Certified Ministers shall have all the responsibilities, rights, and privileges of
 644 other TN District ministers. However, because all Pentecostal Church of God, General Headquarters bylaws, policies, procedures, and practices
 645 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
 646 has no power to circumvent the PCG General Headquarters, and in order to define the specific requirements of this credential, the following shall
 647 be understood.
 648

- 649 1. The Certified Ministers credential/certification does not infringe on the rights of the PCG General Credentials Committee or
 650 circumvent the TN District Credential Committee as it relates to the process. This credential/certification applies to local church
 651 ministry and does not infringe on PCG General or TN District matters.
- 652 2. Certified Ministers that keep membership, and pay tithe on (100%) one-hundred percent of their ministerial and secular income into a
 653 local church in the TN District, shall pay a (\$10.00) ten-dollar monthly credential/participation fee into the TN District General Fund,
 654 and shall be accountable to their Senior Pastor. Certified Ministers that keep membership, and/or pay tithe on their ministerial and
 655 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)
 656 twenty-five dollar monthly credential/participation fee into the TN District General Fund, shall provide proof to the district of their
 657 faithfulness in monthly tithing to their local church, and shall be accountable and must give a report to their Sectional Presbyter a
 658 minimum of once per month. These credential/participation fees shall be paid by the tenth (10th) of each month, and will help to cover
 659 the cost of a certified minister's inclusion in the ministry of the TN District, and shall be paid regardless of income.
- 660 3. Certified Ministers may not hold TN District Offices, (including but not limited to, a TN District Board Member, a TN District
 661 Department Director, a TN District Senior/Lead Pastor of a Chartered PCG local church in the TN District, etc.), because TN District
 662 Officers are representatives of the PCG General Headquarters, and the TN District has no authority to circumvent the PCG General
 663 Headquarters. Election or Appointment to the position of a Sectional Representative (youth, women, men, etc.) shall be considered on
 664 a case-by-case basis as determined by the TN District Board, and based on their specific position, they shall maintain the attendance
 665 and financial requirements prescribed by the TN District Board.
- 666 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
 667 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
 668 directly related to their appointed position. Again, the TN District cannot grant Certified Ministers the authority to vote, because TN
 669 District Business that relates to the PCG General Headquarters or its representatives cannot be circumvented by the TN District.
- 670 5. Certified Ministers shall be encouraged to complete the PCG Minister's Study Series, and any minister seeking credentials with the
 671 Pentecostal Church of God through the TN District may begin the process as a Certified Minister.
 672

673 C. MINISTERIAL APPRENTICESHIP PROGRAM

674 The Tennessee District of the Pentecostal Church of God does hereby establish a Ministerial Apprenticeship Program for the youth of our district
 675 ages seven (7) to seventeen (17.) A Ministerial Apprentice shall not be recognized as a minister, but shall be recognized as a potential minister,
 676 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
 677 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.
 678

- 679 1. A Ministerial Apprentice credential/certification does not infringe on the rights of the PCG General Credentials Committee or
 680 circumvent the TN District Credential Committee as it relates to the process. This credential/certification applies to local church
 681 ministry and does not infringe on PCG General or TN District matters. Applications will be processed by the TN District Youth
 682 Department and the TN District Youth Director will be present when an applicant meets the TN District Board.
- 683 2. A Ministerial Apprentice shall be fully accountable to their Senior Pastor, and shall be given opportunity to learn, grow, and
 684 serve, as needed, at the discretion of their Senior Pastor.
- 685 3. A Ministerial Apprentice shall not have a specific credential fee, but instead they shall participate in the youth ministries "I'm
 686 Involved" program every year.
- 687 4. A Ministerial Apprentice may not hold TN District Offices, and may not vote on TN District Business unless eligible in some
 688 other capacity.
- 689 5. A Ministerial Apprentice shall be encouraged to complete the PCG Minister's Study Series.
- 690 6. A Ministerial Apprentice shall be encouraged to participate in Youth Ministries activities such as Youth Talent Expo, Youth
 691 Impact Bible Quizzing, Youth Camps, and Youth Rally's
 692

693 **II. MINISTERIAL PEROGATIVES**

- 694 1. All ministers who desire license shall be well recommended. Those who desire ordination should have at least two (2) years of active
695 ministry as a licentiate.
696 2. At the discretion of the Credentials Committee, any acceptable ordained minister who has made, in person, a properly completed and
697 signed application, may be given full fellowship in this district.
698 3. Licensed ministers are expected to spend as much time in the active ministry as possible.
699 4. All granting of license and ordination shall be limited to the Credentials Committee at any district meeting. At other times, applicants
700 shall make application to the District Bishop, who will notify the applicant of the time when the District Board will meet in their
701 section. The applicant will appear in person before the District Board.
702 5. Every minister who desires license, ordination or acceptance of ordination from some other Pentecostal church shall appear before the
703 District Board, and shall declare their belief in the doctrines as set forth in the Constitution and Bylaws of the Tennessee District and
704 the General Constitution and Bylaws of the Pentecostal Church of God. They shall promise to preach this doctrine and no doctrine
705 which does not conform to this statement. This rule of doctrine shall apply to all ministers holding credentials with the Tennessee
706 District of the Pentecostal Church of God. Further, no ministers whose known doctrinal belief is contrary to the doctrinal statement of
707 the Pentecostal Church of God shall be elected to an office.
708 6. Any minister going from this district to another shall upon arrival notify the officials of the district into which they enter. Unless they
709 are actively engaged in extensive evangelism, they shall be required to transfer to the district into which they have moved after they
710 have been in that district for a period of six (6) months.
711 7. The Tennessee District shall adopt the standardized ministerial training curriculum established by the 1979 General Convention of the
712 Pentecostal Church of God. The administration of this curriculum comes under the direction of the District Board.
713 8. Any minister whose marital status changes, that minister must fill out a Change in Marital Status Form for the district office.
714 9. Any minister coming to the Pentecostal Church of God from other organizations shall be investigated by the District Board, which
715 must receive a recommendation from the organization from which the minister comes. If it is impossible to secure such a
716 recommendation for a minister, they shall not be accepted into the district membership until they have proven their ministry in one of
717 the following ways:
718 a. After having been a faithful member of a Pentecostal Church of God, they shall have their application signed by the pastor
719 of their local church and one (1) other minister who is in good standing with the Tennessee District of the Pentecostal
720 Church of God.
721 b. They shall conduct at least six (6) revivals in the Tennessee district, after which the pastors of the participating churches
722 shall be interviewed by the District Board as to the applicant's doctrine and deportment.
723 c. Persons coming into the ministry from the laity shall be subject to the procedure set forth in paragraph (a) above. Those
724 who enter the ministry from the laity will first be issued exhorter's credentials. After one (1) year as an exhorter, the
725 applicant becomes eligible for license. After (2) two years as a Licensed Minister in good standing, having proven their
726 ability as a capable Minister, Pastor, Assistant Pastor, full time Evangelist, full time Teacher in a Christian School or Bible
727 College or, having pastored two years prior to their application for Ordination, be in full time ministry, having a certificate
728 of completion of the Ministers Study Series and show reasonable proof of desire to continue in full time ministry or derives
729 at least 70% of their income from the ministry, may apply to the District Board for Ordination. (This is General Board
730 policy). No person shall pass through the Ordination Ceremony without the approval of their application for Ordination by
731 the General Office.
732

733 **III. MINISTERIAL RELATIONS**

- 734 1. Pentecostal Church of God ministers are privileged to use the services of other ministers as evangelists, provided that their faith is in
735 harmony with Pentecostal Church of God doctrine. Pentecostal Church of God ministers are privileged to labor among other churches,
736 provided that they do not injure the Pentecostal Church of God in that place.
737 2. Pentecostal Church of God ministers should cultivate mutual fellowship and work in harmony. No Pentecostal Church of God minister
738 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
739 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
740 Pentecostal Church of God or the District Bishop. No minister shall lend themselves to any disgruntled element in any church, nor be
741 involved in any effort to depose an incumbent pastor or cause dissension or strife. Any minister involved in such activities shall be
742 liable to drastic action.
743 3. Pentecostal Church of God ministers and workers must not interfere with those having charge of a church or mission. A minister
744 desiring to labor in a church must see or correspond with the church board or the District Bishop. Credentials with the Pentecostal
745 Church of God does not give free access to the pulpit of the Pentecostal Church of God churches.
746 4. Each Pentecostal Church of God minister shall place and keep membership with some local church of the Tennessee District
747 Pentecostal Church of God. Ministers shall maintain an active membership status by fulfilling both the attendance policy of the church
748 and the financial requirements of the district. Ministers who have a commute of fifty (50) miles or greater, and/or who have a personal
749 hardship or special circumstance, shall meet with the District Board, and shall maintain an active membership status by fulfilling both
750 the attendance policy prescribed by the District Board and the financial requirements of the district.
751 5. Each minister of this district shall contact the district office by correspondence, or in person, at least once each month.
752 6. All ministers shall supply the Tennessee District Office with a Cell Phone Number for texts and an Electronic Mail (e-mail) address as
753 their primary means of communication, helping to save time (*single action ability to contact multiple individuals instead of a single*
754 *individual, etc.*) and money (*paper, ink, envelopes, labels, stamps, etc.*) so that wherever and whenever possible, all of our Tennessee
755 District Officials and ministers can utilize an electronic means for their communication. Furthermore, any minister unable to receive
756 texts or e-mail must contact the Tennessee District Office for an exemption and explain their hardship to the District Board in order to
757 continue communicating by land-line phone and postal mail.
758 7. Each pastor shall cooperate with district workers by providing information necessary to complete the district workers report and to
759 establish district-wide programs.
760 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
761 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

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 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.
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 802 **V. MINISTERIAL TITHE**

803 **A. MINISTER'S TITHING REQUIREMENTS**

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

- 832 3. No minister (Exhorter, Licensed, Ordained) shall be required to pay more than a maximum of three-hundred (\$300.00) dollars per
833 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
834 Fund of their TN District PCG local church. This maximum limit shall not pertain to situations where ministers, who are past due, are
835 paying their last month's tithe in addition to their current month's tithe.
836 4. Any ministers who pay tithe to their own church may at no time use their own tithe to pay their own salaries.
837 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
838 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
839 will be required to make a financial report to the District Secretary-Treasurer each month showing the amount of their contribution to
840 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-
841 month extension if needed. The classification of a new work will be at the discretion of the Tennessee District Board and no verbal
842 statement made by anyone outside the District Board will be considered.
843 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
844 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
845 tithe separately, the bishop's spouse's tithe goes to the general fund of the district.
846 7. Church finance. Any church with an income of less than one hundred fifty dollars (\$150.00) per month (not including the pastor's
847 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
848 must be filed with the District Secretary-Treasurer so that the District Board can be assured of all church income.
849 8. Tennessee District Ministers who, due to special circumstances and with the permission of the district board, have voluntarily chosen
850 to separate themselves from conventional district ministry by placing their church membership into an approved ministry not affiliated
851 with the district, shall be given permission to pay their specified percentage of local church tithe into the general fund of their non-
852 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
853 district matters. – Furthermore, it shall be understood that this ruling shall not interfere with a minister's status as it relates to the
854 General Headquarters; it will not exempt a minister from regularly reporting to their assigned sectional presbyter; it will not excuse a
855 minister from paying their specified percentage of district tithe into the general fund of the district; nor will it represent a minister
856 who, with the permission of a district local pastor, maintains active membership in a district local church while also pursuing
857 ministerial opportunities outside of said district local church.
858 9. Tennessee District Ministers who have been placed on gratis status with the PCG General Headquarters may additionally be placed on
859 gratis status with the Tennessee District, having all participation fees waived by the Tennessee District Board, and tithe being
860 contributed in accordance with the district bylaws only as income is generated.
861 10. TNPCG Ministers who are unable to join a district local church but desire to participate in district business will, with the permission
862 of the District Board, report to an assigned presbyter and pay one-hundred percent (100%) of their tithe to the district general fund.
863

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

- 865 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
866 meeting. The minister's spouse shall also be denied the right to vote.
867 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
868 minister's spouse. This shall also include any minister with any outstanding balance due the district or general headquarters.
869 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
870 comply, and those failing to pay tithe should meet the disciplinary action as deemed appropriate by the District Board.
871 4. When any minister becomes delinquent in their tithe, they shall be notified by the District Secretary-Treasurer. If the situation is not
872 resolved within thirty (30) days, the minister shall be relieved of their duties and their ministerial credentials shall be revoked. THIS
873 ACTION SHALL BE ENFORCED WITHOUT FAIL OR FAVOR BY THE TENNESSEE DISTRICT BOARD.
874

875 **VI. MINISTERIAL REMITTANCES**

- 876 1. All remittances (except missionary offerings, merchandise and literature orders) shall be sent through the office of the District
877 Secretary-Treasurer. Such practice keeps each account current.
878 2. Any designated funds, property of any kind, received by the Tennessee District shall be accompanied by a letter as to the designation,
879 and shall be entered in the district file.
880

881 **VII. MINISTERIAL MARRIAGES**

882 **Marriage, Divorce and Remarriage**

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

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

- 901 b. The divorce was for the cause of fornication or sexual immorality on the part of the applicant's former spouse (Matthew 5:32;
902 19:9), where the applicant was faithful to the marriage vows during the marriage.
903 c. The divorce occurred when an unbeliever departs from a believer (1 Corinthians 7:15). It must be determined that every effort
904 was made personally and legally to save the marriage, and said divorce occurred against the will of the applicant.
905 d. The divorce occurred because of spousal abuse (Eh 5:25, 28-29).
906
- 907 4. Same Sex Marriage. Whereas, we are facing insurmountable inroads of same sex agendas on television, the news, education and in
908 general society, Whereas, we are continually having to courageously stand against a wave of acceptance of same sex couples in the
909 name of tolerance, divergence and equal rights, Whereas, the attitude and moral level of the world encroaches gravely upon the Holy
910 Bible and its teachings on marriage being of "male and female", Whereas, the State of Tennessee, along with other states, as a trend,
911 are continually being forced by the Supreme Court to accept same sex marriage, Whereas, our Pastors, Churches and Ministry
912 individuals are to be protected by an umbrella of unified conviction and biblical stand from the assembly... Be it Resolved; those who
913 carry credentials with the Tennessee District of the Pentecostal Church of God will not be allowed to perform same sex marriages, Be
914 it further Resolved; while all are welcome to attend, homosexuals, lesbians, bisexual and transgender persons cannot knowingly be
915 allowed to serve in leadership positions in church functions or services, whether volunteer or paid; Be it further Resolved; credentialed
916 ministers risk losing their license with these infractions.
917

918 VIII. MINISTERIAL WITHDRAWALS

- 919 1. The District Secretary shall keep a correct record of the case of any minister withdrawing from fellowship with the Tennessee District
920 of the Pentecostal Church of God. This record shall state the cause for withdrawal. No person who surrenders parchments shall be
921 restored to fellowship until they have appeared before the District Board and satisfactorily answered any question pertaining to the
922 case under consideration. No money shall be refunded to any minister who has paid into the district treasury.
923

924 IX. MINISTERIAL AFFILIATION & STARTING NEW WORKS

- 925 1. Any minister affiliated with the Tennessee District of the Pentecostal Church of God shall seriously endeavor to affiliate their church
926 with this district as expeditiously as possible.
927 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
928 possible to discuss the potential of a new work.
929 3. Any potential new work shall not be given serious consideration without definite plans to join the full membership of the Pentecostal
930 Church of God; and they shall not be entitled to register a local church delegate to conduct official district business until the church
931 has been set in order with a pastor in full membership with the Pentecostal Church of God.
932 4. Any potential new work may, with the approval of the District Board, be granted "Church Fellowship Status" giving them recognition
933 and encouraging affiliation with our district ministers and churches. However, any and all membership rights shall be reserved for
934 churches chartered directly with the Pentecostal Church of God.
935

936 X. MINISTERIAL CANDIDACY FOR PASTORATE

- 937 1. No local minister shall become a candidate for a local church except by recommendation of the District Bishop or Sectional Presbyter
938 in charge of the church.
939 2. No minister shall be allowed to try out for any church in the Tennessee District that is not current with their tithe.
940 3. Any minister who becomes a candidate for any church in the Tennessee District Pentecostal Church of God must be properly licensed
941 with the Pentecostal Church of God, and in good standing with their respective district.
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943 ARTICLE SEVEN 944 MEETINGS

945 I. DISTRICT MEETINGS

- 946 1. Until such time that the Tennessee District has a campground, all district events, including the District Convention, shall be held at a
947 place decided by the District Board. The District Board shall attempt to schedule District Convention the last Wednesday through
948 Friday of July, being extended as needed.
949 2. All district meetings shall be announced well in advance of the meeting, and the district office shall send written notice of the meeting
950 to all ministers and churches in the Tennessee District. Such written notice should be sent no later than two (2) weeks before the
951 meeting. Such meetings shall be announced by the pastors, and the notices shall be posted in the churches.
952 3. All district meetings and activities shall be centrally located if possible.
953 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
954 will be no district meeting or fellowship meeting scheduled on a holiday or holiday weekend.
955

956 II. SECTIONAL MEETINGS

- 957 1. Each section may have one (1) fellowship meeting each month. The time and place for each fellowship meeting shall be decided by
958 the Sectional Presbyter, and a two-week written notice for sectional meetings shall be sent to all ministers in that section and to all
959 district officials.
960 2. Sectional fellowship meetings shall be scheduled at the discretion of each Sectional Presbyter, not to interfere with District fellowship
961 meetings or any other District meetings, with holiday or weekend optional at the discretion of the Sectional Presbyter
962 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
963 their choice.
964

965 III. DISTRICT CONVENTION

966 A. CONVENTION COMMITTEES

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

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

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B. CONVENTION VOTING CONSTITUENCY

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

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C. CONVENTION FINANCE

1. Financial arrangements for the District Convention shall be decided by the District Board.

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D. CONVENTION RESOLUTIONS

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

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E. CONVENTION REPORTS

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 district office for further reference. Reports shall cover the preceding fiscal year.
2. The District Secretary-Treasurer shall prepare a complete itemized financial report of all receipts and disbursements, and present a copy of it to each member of the voting constituency at each District Convention.
3. All and part-deeded churches must fill out the annual questionnaire and a report of the district net worth and liabilities shall be included in the district report.

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F. CONVENTION STANDING RULES OF ORDER

1. District Convention (Business Meetings) shall be subject to parliamentary law (*Robert's Rules of Order*) in all instances in which parliamentary law does not conflict with the Constitution and Bylaws of the Tennessee District of the Pentecostal Church of God.
2. All elections of the District Convention (Business Meeting) shall be by closed ballot.
3. All resolutions shall be accompanied by a motion made and seconded by members of the voting constituency.
4. Only one (1) question shall be before the District Convention (Business Meeting) at any time.
5. There shall be no discussion of a resolution until a motion is made, seconded and stated by the chair.
6. Only by a two-thirds (2/3) majority vote may a resolution be withdrawn after it has been discussed.
7. No resolution may be discussed for more than thirty (30) minutes before a vote is taken.
8. All resolutions presented to the District Convention (Business Meeting) must first be processed by the Resolution Committee.
9. Any individual who desires to comment upon any subject shall rise to their feet, address the chair, confine their remarks to the questions under discussion, and avoid all unkind or disrespectful language.
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 will conform to the regulations of the District Convention (Business Meeting) or take their seat.
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 time, three (3) minutes the second time, and two (2) minutes the third time. A timekeeper shall be appointed by the chair.
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 call for the question when a member has the floor.
13. No more than three (3) members who hold the same opinion about a motion may speak consecutively. If after three such members have spoken, there is no dissenting speaker, question must be called.
14. The author of a resolution is asked to speak first.
15. Anyone wishing to speak about a resolution must state whether they are for or against.
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 shall be nominating ballots. After three ballots have been cast with no election, only the two (2) highest names shall remain on the 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 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/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 more than ten (10) ballots, including nominating ballots, shall be cast upon any group of nominees. In the event that no election has been reached after the tenth ballot, the nominations shall be reopened and new ballots shall be cast. No office shall be filled by

1039 acclamation. As it relates to Directors and Officers of the District, after nine (9) ballots, if no election has been reached, then on the
 1040 tenth (10) ballot, a simple majority shall determine an election. As it relates to Officers of the District Board, after nineteen (19)
 1041 ballots, if no election has been reached, then on the twentieth (20) ballot, a simple majority shall determine an election. As it relates to
 1042 the District Bishop, after twenty-nine (29) ballots, if no election has been reached, then on the thirtieth (30) ballot, a simple majority
 1043 shall determine an election. Any election failing to obtain the required number of votes shall be determined by the District Board.
 1044 17. Under no circumstances shall personal or slurring remarks or accusations be permitted on the floor of any District Convention
 1045 (Business Meeting).
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1047 **G. CONVENTION ORDER OF BUSINESS**

- 1048 1. The District Board shall determine one of the following options for the “Order of Business” at each annual Tennessee District
 1049 Convention

1050	CALL TO ORDER (Friday)	CALL TO ORDER (Thursday)
1051	Report of the Registration Committee	Report of the Rules of Order Committee
1052	Report of the Rules of Order Committee	Report of the Regional Presbyter
1053	Report of the District Bishop	Report of the Sectional Presbyters (alphabetically)
1054	Report of the District Secretary/Treasurer	Report of the Central Section Presbyter
1055	Report of the District Presbyter	Report of the Eastern Section Presbyter
1056	Report of the Regional Presbyter	Report of the Western Section Presbyter
1057	Report of the Sectional Presbyters (alphabetically)	Report of the Director of Youth Ministry
1058	Report of the Central Section Presbyter	Report of the Director of Women’s Ministry
1059	Report of the Eastern Section Presbyter	Report of the Director of Men’s Ministry
1060	Report of the Western Section Presbyter	Report of the District Editor
1061	Report of the Director of Youth Ministry	Report of the Auditor/Audit Committee
1062	Report of the Director of Women’s Ministry	Other Reports/Presentations/Acknowledgements
1063	Report of the Director of Men’s Ministry	RECESS
1064	Report of the District Editor	RE-CONVENE (Friday)
1065	Report of the Auditor/Audit Committee	Report of the Registration Committee
1066	Report of the District Finances from Sec/Tres	Report of the District Bishop
1067	Other Reports/Presentations/Acknowledgements	Report of the District Secretary/Treasurer
1068	Unfinished Business	Report of the District Presbyter
1069	Report of the Resolutions Committee	Report of the District Finances from Sec/Tres
1070	Election of District Officers	Unfinished Business
1071	Ratification of Section Officers	Report of the Resolutions Committee
1072	New Business (other than resolutions or bylaw amendments)	Election of District Officers
1073	ADJOURN	Ratification of Section Officers
1074		New Business (other than resolutions or bylaw amendments)
1075		ADJOURN

1076

1077

1078 **IV. ATTENDANCE AT MEETINGS**

- 1079 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
 1080 District Convention each year and also General Convention every two (2) years. Also, every minister in the district shall be
 1081 encouraged to make plans to attend both District and General Convention.
 1082 2. To ensure that the Tennessee District shall be well represented at General Headquarters, the District Board shall be authorized to
 1083 appoint a qualified substitute to fill in for any district official who is unable to attend their specific General Board or Department
 1084 Central Committee Meeting.
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1086 **ARTICLE EIGHT**
 1087 **RULING BODY**

1088

1089 **I. CONVENTION POLICY**

- 1090 1. Beginning with the 1975 Tennessee District Convention, the District Convention of the Tennessee District of the Pentecostal Church
 1091 of God, convening in regularly or specially called business session, shall be the highest ruling and policy-making body in the district.
 1092 The action taken by said District Convention shall be binding upon the district in every respect, and all district officials, as well as all
 1093 boards and committees, shall be bound by this action. A vote taken at a District Convention shall not be altered, changed or ignored by
 1094 any district official, board or committee, but it can be changed only by a two-thirds (2/3) majority vote of a succeeding District
 1095 Convention.
 1096 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
 1097 Constitution and Bylaws of the Tennessee District. Such limitations shall interfere neither with administrative decisions nor purchases.
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1100 **II. BOARD POLICY**

- 1101 1. The Tennessee District Board may, when necessary, establish administrative policy in order to conduct district business. “Tennessee
 1102 District Board Policy”, or simply “Policy”, must be printed and made available, if requested, to all Tennessee District Ministers.
 1103 Policy, while just as binding, does not supersede, must not be in conflict, and cannot circumvent the Tennessee District Bylaws. It
 1104 must also be understood that the Tennessee District Bylaws have the sole power to create, set, and define our rules of order, while
 1105 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
 1106 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
 1107 immediate Tennessee District Convention for consideration by the convention. The policy will then become a resolution and must be
 1108 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 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.

- 1179 3. The TN District Board may provide needed amenities, such as internet access, to District Officials whose position requires their
- 1180 constant and frequent use, as funds are available.
- 1181 4. The TN District Board may provide for our District Officials meals while they are conducting business on behalf of the District, as
- 1182 funds are available.
- 1183 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
- 1184 good standing with the TN District, and these funds will be paid from the TN District Home Missions Fund, as funds are available.
- 1185 6. The TN District Board may provide flowers and/or gifts for our District Ministers on appropriate special occasions, such as weddings,
- 1186 hospitals, or funerals, as funds are available.
- 1187 7. The District Bishop’s credential fee may be paid from the district treasury and the TN District Board may provide an appropriate
- 1188 Pastor Appreciation for our Bishop, as funds are available.

**ARTICLE TEN
TERRITORY**

I. TERRITORY COVERED

- 1194 1. The Tennessee District of the Pentecostal Church of God shall be all of the state of Tennessee; Murray, Kentucky.
- 1195 2. The Tennessee District Board will assign every Tennessee District Church to a Section within the Tennessee District, and because our
- 1196 Sections do not have official boundaries or borders, Church Membership, not home address, will determine which Section a
- 1197 constituent represents
- 1198



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

- 1209 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,
- 1210 the following clause should be incorporated into the property deed of all district owned properties and churches:
- 1211 “Having granted, sold, and conveyed and by these present do grant, sell, and convey, unto the said (name(s) of
- 1212 Grantee) all that certain lot, tract, or parcel of land situated, lying and being in the City of..... County of
- 1213 State of, and described as follows, to-wit: (Compete legal description of property), upon the following
- 1214 condition to-wit: Should the premises and property herein for any reason, cease to be used as a Pentecostal Church of
- 1215 God (church), said premises and all of said property shall immediately vest, in fee simple, in the Pentecostal Church of
- 1216 God, Tennessee District Inc. This limitation on the use of said property is a part of the consideration for the
- 1217 conveyance, and is made herein for the express purpose of protecting said property from being diverted from its
- 1218 original intended use, which is for the benefit and welfare of the Pentecostal Church of God, Tennessee District, Inc.”
- 1219 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
- 1220 to the local church (or its trustees), provided the following reversionary clause is a part of the deed:
- 1221 “(property or local church name), is a Pentecostal Church of God. In the event of either an attempted conveyance of
- 1222 church property, or disaffiliation with the Pentecostal Church of God, or the dissolution of the local church, the
- 1223 property will revert to the Tennessee District of the Pentecostal Church of God.”
- 1224 3. The local church which has been granted title to the local church (or its trustees) with the reversionary clause as an integral part
- 1225 of the deed shall have full right, power and authority to sell, exchange, transfer and convey said property, or to borrow money
- 1226 and pledge the said real estate for the repayment of the same and to exercise all necessary deeds, conveyances, etc.; provided the
- 1227 proposition shall first be presented to a regular or special called meeting of the local church where proper notice is given and a
- 1228 quorum (majority) of the members are present, chaired by the district bishop of Tennessee District Pentecostal Church of God or
- 1229 one the district bishop may appoint, and the project is approved by two-thirds (2/3) of all members of the said church present
- 1230 and voting; and, provided the project is approved by a majority of the members of district board, who shall authorize the
- 1231 necessary “waiver” or “subordination agreement” to facilitate the action.

II. DISTRICT CAMPGROUND

- 1233 1. The District Board has the authority to make necessary decisions relative to developing the district campground.
- 1234 2. If and when a decision is reached concerning the campground, a campground director shall be appointed by the District Board.
- 1235

**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

- 1305 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
1306 thy mother: that thy days may be long ...” Ex. 20:12
1307 g. The New Testament reaffirms this marriage relationship between a man and a woman, and of the family in a definite way, as
1308 being a father, a mother and children. Eph. 5:21-6:4 & Col. 3:18-21
1309 h. Therefore, we the Tennessee District Pentecostal Church of God, without reservation define and declare that Christian marriage
1310 is a covenant relationship between a man and a woman, and we reject and condemn all attempts to redefine marriage in any other
1311 terms, as stated in our bylaws.
- 1312 2. OUR POSITION CONCERNING HOMOSEXUALITY
- 1313 a. Webster’s New World Dictionary, copyright, 1968; defines it as: “(1) sexual desire for those of same sex. (2) sexual relations
1314 between individuals of the same sex. Opposed to *heterosexuality*.”
- 1315 b. It is important that we as the Tennessee District Pentecostal Church of God declare our Biblical position on this matter.
1316 Normally we would treat this sin just as we would adultery and fornication. But the importance is based on the fact that its
1317 legalization gives it more influence on the public, the Church world and especially on our children. Because of this we declare
1318 that homosexuality is clearly unbiblical and sinful, regardless of what laws are passed.
- 1319 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
1320 is pronounced. Lev. 20:13 “If a man also lie with mankind, as he lieth with a woman, both of them have committed an
1321 abomination: they shall surely be put to death; their blood shall be upon them.” Lev. 18:22; Judges 19:1-30
- 1322 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
1323 severity that this particular sin was labeled as sodomite several places in the Bible. In Old Testament: Deut. 23:17 There shall be
1324 no whore of the daughters of Israel, nor a sodomite of the sons of Israel. “The Interpreter’s Dictionary of the Bible”, copyright
1325 1962 gives meaning of sodomite as, “a male person who engages in sexual relations with another male.” I Ki. 14:24; 15:12;
1326 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.
- 1327 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
1328 “Wherefore God also gave them up to uncleanness through the lusts of their own hearts, to dishonor their own bodies between
1329 themselves: 25, Who changed the truth of God into a lie, and worshipped and served the creature more than the Creator... 26,
1330 For this cause God gave them up unto vile affections: for even their women did change the natural use into that which is against
1331 nature: 27, And likewise also the men, leaving the natural use of the woman, burned in their lust one toward another; men with
1332 men working that which is unseemly, and receiving in themselves that recompence of their error which was meet. 28, And even
1333 as they did not like to retain God in their knowledge, God gave them over to a reprobate mind...”The sin of homosexuality is
1334 clearly seen of both men and women, and the judgment that is passed upon such.
- 1335 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
1336 immorality. The Apostle realized how important it was for the new Christians to understand God’s moral order. And those that
1337 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
1338 God? Be not deceived: neither fornicators, nor idolaters, nor adulterers, nor effeminate, nor abusers of themselves with mankind,
1339 6:10 ... shall inherit the kingdom of God.” Notice the Apostle doesn’t want them to be deceived, regardless how accepted it was
1340 by the world. Joseph Thayer, Greek Lexicon, 19th copyright 1978 states that “effeminate” is, “of a catamite, a male who submits
1341 his body to unnatural lewdness”. Catamite, is a boy used in a form of sodomy. Thayer states meaning of “nor abusers of
1342 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.
1343 Robertson, Greek scholar 1931 says, “late compound for sodomites.”
- 1344 g. Such Scriptures Rom. 1:24-28 and I Cor. 6:9-10 not only condemn the more scandalous examples of homosexual behavior, but
1345 they also condemn the more modern-day life styles. That which is proclaimed as a loving and committed relationship.
- 1346 h. Homosexual behavior is a sin because it is contrary to God’s created order for human relationships and the family unit. “Gen.
1347 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
1348 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
1349 leave his father and his mother, and shall cleave unto his wife: and they shall be one flesh.” The message could not be any
1350 clearer of what God’s order is for a man and a woman.
- 1351 i. Jesus reaffirms this established order that was from the beginning as was stated under (marriage above) Mat. 19:4-6 and Mk.
1352 10:6-9
- 1353 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
1354 other transgressions of God’s Law. Our only hope is repentance and forgiveness of sin through the blood of Jesus Christ. Which
1355 produces a regenerated heart and transformed and changed life and conduct. I Cor. 6:11 was speaking to those who had been
1356 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,
1357 but ye are sanctified...”
- 1358 k. Therefore, we the Tennessee District Pentecostal Church of God stand opposed to any and all forms of homosexual lifestyles and
1359 behavior. We believe it is directly opposed to God’s Word, and it is sinful.
- 1360 3. OUR POSITION CONCERNING GENDER
- 1361 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
1362 the human race after the fall of man into sin was and is devastating. The disorder, malfunction, evil, brokenness and pain have
1363 corrupted God’s “good” creation. Gen. 3:1-24; Eph. 2:2; Rom. 8:20-21
- 1364 b. We believe that gender identity must be determined by biological sex according to God’s good design and not by one’s self-
1365 perception. Such perception comes from a heart that has not been created anew by Jesus Christ. Jer. 17:9 The heart is deceitful
1366 above all things, and desperately wicked: who can know it? Gen. 6:5; Prov. 14:12 (16:25); Eph. 4:17-18
- 1367 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.
1368 11:7-9; Eph. 5:22-33
- 1369 d. Therefore, we believe for a person to seek to live contrary to their birth sex, whether by behavior, medical or surgical therapy is
1370 rebelling against the gift of God. And God’s design He has for the person.
- 1371 e. We also condemn the efforts of a person to change one’s bodily identity, whether it be cross-sex hormone therapy, gender
1372 reassignment surgery, or any other method whereby one seeks to attain this change. That is to bring themselves in line with their
1373 perceived gender identity rather than their biological birth gender identity.

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- 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 funds 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.

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5. No minister of a potential “New Work” shall be eligible to receive Home Missions Funds unless it is determined that the potential “New Work” has a sufficient number of prospective members and resources to set the “New Work” in order and sustain a continuing ministry.
 6. Any church, not deeded to this district, that requests Home Missions Funds shall sign a legally binding financial agreement guaranteeing loyalty and assuming all membership responsibilities in the TN District PCG for a minimum of four (4) years, with a 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 set by the District Board.

Section Two – Youth Ministries

I. YOUTH - NAME & MOTTO

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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 witnessed the same by the outpouring of the Holy Spirit upon all flesh; and Whereas, we, as organized individual groups of Youth Ministry, desire more intimate fellowship and interest, which organizing with other local groups will supply, and desire the encouragement and blessing which is derived from fellowshiping with other groups of Pentecostal young people; therefore be it RESOLVED, that we, organized Youth Ministry groups, shall with mutual agreement, enter ourselves into groups known as TENNESSEE DISTRICT YOUTH MINISTRIES.
 2. This organization shall be known as the YOUTH MINISTRY ASSOCIATION OF THE TENNESSEE DISTRICT.
 3. The motto of the Youth Ministry shall be: “NOT BY MIGHT, NOR BY POWER, BUT BY MY SPIRIT, SAITH THE LORD OF HOSTS.”

II. YOUTH - PURPOSE

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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 order that souls shall be converted to the Lord Jesus Christ and believers baptized in the Holy Ghost through our work for Him; and through our activities and contests, to work to promote fellowship among Christian young people; to promote the Sunday school, church and young people’s work of the local churches; and to further the progress of the Tennessee District and general Youth Ministry program.

III. YOUTH - COVENANT

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

IV. YOUTH - DOCTRINAL STATEMENT

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

V. YOUTH - OFFICERS

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

VI. YOUTH - EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

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

VII. YOUTH - FINANCE

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

- 1508 3. When the District Youth Director is requested to meet with the District Board, the DYD shall be paid mileage in accordance with the
1509 District mileage provisions.
- 1510 4. Each year, as soon after January 1 as possible, each local society shall send the District Youth Ministry Secretary-Treasurer (District
1511 Secretary-Treasurer) a special offering for the support of the district office and a registration of all members of the local group.
- 1512 5. Youth Ministry supplies shall be bought and sold at a profit, and the profit shall be used to further Youth Ministry work.
- 1513 6. Offerings shall be taken at all meetings of the sectional rallies, district rallies and District Conventions. These offerings are to be used
1514 for the district Youth Ministry work.
- 1515 7. Finances shall be distributed at the discretion of the Youth Ministries Executive Committee
- 1516 8. Finances of local groups shall be determined by the groups themselves.
- 1517 9. If the general office raises the Youth Ministry assessment, the church assessment will be raised accordingly.
- 1518 10. At the District discretion they may consider other possibilities that would bring more interest income than a Certificate of Deposit.
- 1519 11. All funds generated for Youth Ministries whether it be free will offering or rally offering be deposited in the General Fund of Youth
1520 Ministries.
- 1521 12. Each local youth group will send to the Tennessee District Youth Ministry Secretary-Treasurer (District Secretary-Treasurer) the First
1522 Fruits (10%) of their local youth group's income for the support of the District Youth Ministry office prior to registration of all
1523 members of the local youth group at District convention.
- 1524 13. Be it resolved that any profits from youth camp be placed into the District Youth Ministry general fund to include all past youth
1525 profits.
- 1526 14. Be it resolved that after the distribution of the District monthly first fruits program is paid to General Headquarters that up to fifteen
1527 percent (15%) of the remainder may be placed in the District Youth general fund, as funds are available.
- 1528 15. The Bishop Ronnie Kesley Memorial Scholarship fund shall offer up to a minimum of a five hundred-dollar (\$500.00) scholarship, as
1529 funds are available, to the Senior curriculum Impact Bible Quiz (IBQ) "Championship Team." Funds will be transferred from the
1530 Home Missions Fund and maintained in the Youth Ministry IBQ account until the awarded students graduate high school, which will
1531 provide documentation and registration for classes at an approved institute of higher education. The Senior "Championship Team"
1532 qualifies each year for the scholarship to be added to their scholarship. The funds will be available for the one year to fall enrollment
1533 following high school graduation. If a student chooses not to enroll in classes at an approved institute of higher education, funds will
1534 return to the IBQ scholarship fund. The Junior curriculum Impact Bible Quiz (IBQ) "Championship Team" shall receive up to a
1535 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
1536 coach. The Primary curriculum Impact Bible Quiz (IBQ) "Championship Team" shall receive up to a minimum of a twenty-five-dollar
1537 (\$25.00) cash prize, as funds are available, to be used and/or distributed at the discretion of their coach.
1538 As it relates to the distribution of the IBQ Scholarship, a one member team (an individual competition) shall receive 100%; a two
1539 member team shall receive 60%, 40%; a three member team shall receive 50%, 30%, 20%; a four member team shall receive 50%,
1540 30%, 15%, 5%; a five member team shall receive 50%, 25%, 15%, 5%, 5%; a six member team shall receive 45%, 25%, 15%, 5%,
1541 5%, 5%; a seven member team shall receive 45%, 25%, 10%, 5%, 5%, 5%, 5%; a eight member team shall receive 45%, 20%, 10%,
1542 5%, 5%, 5%, 5%, 5%.
- 1543 16. Each local youth group will send a three-dollar (\$3.00) registration fee annually, every January, for each member of their youth group,
1544 and this fee shall be placed in the YM General Fund.

1545 VIII. YOUTH - MEMBERSHIP

- 1547 1. The membership of the Youth Ministry shall consist of all local groups who have accepted this constitution and have signified by a
1548 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
1549 doctrine as set forth by the Pentecostal Church of God.
- 1550 2. Any local group which desires to become a member of the Youth Ministry shall apply to the District Youth Ministry Secretary
1551 Treasurer (District Secretary-Treasurer) or the District Youth Ministry Director for membership. At the time the group is accepted into
1552 the association, it shall be presented a certificate of fellowship and shall be received publicly at the following district rally or District
1553 Convention.
- 1554 3. Any local group may withdraw membership by sending notice of withdrawal, together with the fellowship certificate, to the District
1555 Youth Ministry Secretary-Treasurer (District Secretary-Treasurer). Both the certificate and notice should be sent sixty (60) days prior
1556 to withdrawal. Youth Ministry banners, certificates and other Youth Ministry material must be surrendered to the district Youth
1557 Ministry office.
- 1558 4. Change of pastors does not affect the membership of any local group.
- 1559 5. Qualifications for individual membership in the local Youth Ministry shall be confession of faith in the Lord Jesus Christ.
- 1560 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
1561 and report to that society, either by letter or in person, at least once a month.
- 1562 7. The Youth Ministry ages shall be eight (8) through eighteen (18). Youth Ministry Directors/Leaders/Workers shall be individuals (18)
1563 eighteen and over who display a heart and passion for youth ministry.
- 1564 8. Duties of the local officers shall be determined by the local groups, except in relation to the district office as follows:
1565 a. Officers of the local societies shall be responsible for sending an offering from their group each month for the support of the
1566 District Youth Ministry Director.
1567 b. In order to assure accurate district records, local Youth Ministry officers shall register every member of the local society with the
1568 district office each year.
1569 c. The officers of local societies shall notify the district office immediately of any change in the group and shall supply any
1570 information requested by the district office.

1573 **IX. YOUTH - ACTIVITIES AND MEETINGS**

- 1574 1. There shall be a Youth Ministry business convention to be conducted in conjunction with the District Convention of the Tennessee
1575 District of the Pentecostal Church of God.
1576 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.
1577 3. The Tennessee District shall work in harmony with the Youth Ministry Director to promote such Youth Ministry rallies as are
1578 commensurate with the needs of the district Youth Ministry. The details and frequency of these rallies shall be decided by the Youth
1579 Ministry Director and the District Bishop.
1580 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
1581 planning of the youth camp will involve Youth Ministry officers and Youth Ministry Sectional Leaders, and final approval given by
1582 the Tennessee District Board.
1583 5. Be it resolved that the District Youth Director should present to the District Board at the January District Board meeting the location
1584 and cost for that current year's youth camp.
1585 6. The district shall be divided into sections, and each section may have a rally once each quarter. The Youth Director of that section
1586 shall be responsible for organizing and conducting said meetings. The Tennessee District Youth Director shall be invited to all
1587 meetings and shall put forth a diligent effort to attend such meetings.
1588 7. The district Youth Ministry shall decide upon any other activities by a vote of the members at the business convention.
1589 8. The activities of local Youth Ministry groups shall be determined by the group and its pastor.
1590 9. Where it is practical, local Youth Ministry groups shall sponsor a junior Youth Ministry work for those too young for the Youth
1591 Ministry. This work shall be known as Junior Youth Ministry.
1592 10. The local Youth Ministry shall secure the approval of the pastor before visiting any other assembly as a group. The pastor shall have
1593 the privilege of attending all meetings, rallies and Youth Ministry activities.
1594 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
1595 shall be properly chaperoned.
1596 12. The rally point system shall be left to the discretion of the Youth Ministry Director.
1597 13. Youth Ministry rallies shall be specifically planned, dates and places, and other functions included for the coming year, and a copy
1598 sent to all ministers and churches.
1599 14. Each pastor and local Youth Ministry Director shall promote the "I'm Involved" program in their local church.
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1602 **X. YOUTH - BUSINESS AND ELECTIONS**

- 1603 1. The voting constituency at Youth Ministry business sessions shall be the members of the voting constituency of the District
1604 Convention, together with the local Youth Ministry Director, Youth Ministry Secretary-Treasurers (District Secretary- Treasurer),
1605 Sectional Leaders, and local Youth Ministry delegates. Youth Ministry delegates shall be members in good standing of their local
1606 groups.
1607 2. Elections of local groups shall be determined by the groups themselves.
1608 3. Legislative business and elections of local groups shall be valid only when approved by the local pastor.
1609 4. Before an individual may be accepted as a member of a local Youth Ministry group, they must be familiar with the Youth Ministry
1610 covenant.
1611 5. No church Youth Ministry delegate will be allowed to vote at District Conventions if the Youth Ministry general office assessments
1612 are not paid in full.
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1614 **XI. YOUTH - STANDING**

- 1615 1. The Youth Ministry people of the Tennessee District shall be considered a branch of the Pentecostal Church of God.
1616 2. The Youth Ministry shall support the activities and official publications of the Pentecostal Church of God and the general Youth
1617 Ministries Association, as well as those of the Tennessee District.
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1620 **XII. YOUTH - PROPERTY**

- 1621 1. The Youth Ministry may own personal property under the name of the Pentecostal Church of God, Tennessee District, of which it is a
1622 department.
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1624 **Section Three – Women's Ministry**

1625 **I. WOMEN'S - NAME, MOTTO, SLOGAN, EMBLEM, AND COLORS**

- 1626 1. This organization shall be known as the Women's Ministry.
1627 2. The motto of the Women's Ministry shall be "Labourers together with God" (1 Corinthians 3:9).
1628 3. The slogan of the Women's Ministry shall be "Jesus, Others, Yourself."
1629 4. The emblem of the Women's Ministry shall be the tilted cup.
1630 5. The colors of the Women's Ministry shall be red, for the blood of Christ, white, for purity.
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1637 **II. WOMEN'S - PURPOSE**

- 1638 1. The purpose of the Women's Ministry shall be to minister to the total woman through evangelization; spiritual enrichment; through
1639 personally establishing her Christian relationship in the home; and by showing loving concern for children and youth through support
1640 of Christian Pathlighters and Messenger College. Other purposes shall be to encourage a missionary zeal and spirit throughout the
1641 churches-through visibility of the *Light to the World* program; to assume the responsibility of sponsoring the various missionaries in
1642 their respective fields of labor; to carry on home missionary work in the behalf of the needy; to help the orphaned and neglected,
1643 homeless and delinquent children; to promote the gospel program in every way through earnest prayer and in regular attendance at all
1644 services and in a material way through various fund-raising projects, each of which shall be conducted with the knowledge of, and the
1645 approval of, the pastors.
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1647 **III. WOMEN'S - COVENANT**

- 1648 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
1649 lost; therefore, we, the Women Ministry of the Pentecostal Church of God, do hereby pledge to prepare ourselves by seeking God in a
1650 personal Commitment and by building homes with Christian relationships as a top priority; further, we will work together for the
1651 advancement of the gospel of Christ around the world. We will not knowingly lend ourselves to any program that would hinder the
1652 cause of Christ; we will put forth every effort to keep our meetings free from un-Christ-like conversations and will endeavor to keep
1653 uppermost the advancement of Christian Pathlighters and Bible college efforts, benevolences and home, foreign and Native American
1654 Ministries to the utmost of our abilities and will band ourselves together to pray unceasingly for our missionaries and their work
1655 around the world.
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1657 **IV. WOMEN'S - RELATIONSHIP AND DOCTRINAL STATEMENT**

- 1658 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
1659 officials and local pastors. It shall support the objectives and purposes of the general organization and its official publications.
1660 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
1661 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
1662 blessing of service (Ecclesiastes 9:10; Romans 12:11), and shall be in full accord with the doctrinal statement of the Pentecostal
1663 Church of God.
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1665 **V. WOMEN'S - OFFICERS**

- 1666 1. The officers of the Tennessee District Women's Ministry shall be the District Women's Ministry Director, a Sectional Women's
1667 Ministry Leader in each section, and the spouse of each Tennessee District Board Member, as applicable.
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1669 **VI. WOMEN'S - EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE**

- 1670 1. The Women's Ministry Executive Committee shall consist of the District Bishop and/or spouse, the District Secretary-Treasurer
1671 and/or spouse, and the District Women's Ministry Director.
1672 2. The Women's Ministry Executive Committee shall be subject to the call of the District Women's Ministry Director with approval of
1673 the Tennessee District Bishop to decide all matters of legislative importance. Their decision will stand in force until they are ratified
1674 by the next District Convention.
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1676 **VII. WOMEN'S - FINANCES**

- 1677 1. All Women's Ministry groups shall send in tithe to Secretary-Treasurer on monies made from special Women's Ministry projects for
1678 the support of the office. The district Women's Ministry office shall pay tithe from tithe received from the local Women's Ministry
1679 fund-raising projects for the district Women's Ministry office fund, this tithe to be sent to the general Women's Ministry office when
1680 funds are available.
1681 2. The district Women's Ministry books shall be audited.
1682 3. Each Women's Ministry group shall be assessed twelve dollars (\$12.00) per year for Women's Ministry district office.
1683 4. The District Women's Ministry Secretary-Treasurer (District Secretary-Treasurer) shall receive up to one-hundred twenty dollars
1684 (\$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
1685 group.
1686 5. Groups must be registered and all dues paid to be eligible to compete for trophies and banners.
1687 6. Up to one hundred dollars (\$100.00) shall be given to the district Women's Ministries Director for her expenses to each general
1688 convention and each general board meeting that she attends. This will be taken from the Women's Ministries General Fund, as funds
1689 are available.
1690 7. All special drives, except all missions' money, that go out of the district shall be divided as follows: ninety percent (90%) to the
1691 project and ten percent (10%) to the operating fund of the Women's Ministry. The monies received from churches will be given full
1692 credit for the project.
1693 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
1694 will be sent to district to be forwarded to PCG Women's Ministry (Bedford, TX) Seventy-five percent (75%) of the remainder of the
1695 offering from this event will be sent to the District for the Women's Ministry general fund. The remaining twenty-five percent (25%)
1696 of the offering will be kept by the local church for the support of local Women's Ministry group.
1697 9. All World Missions and Native American Ministries monies go to District Secretary/Treasurer's Office to be dispersed to General
1698 Missions Department All returns from World Missions and Native American Ministries be given to the Treasury of the District
1699 Women's Ministry.
1700 10. Be it resolved that after the distribution of the District monthly first fruits program is paid to General Headquarters that up to fifteen
1701 percent (15%) of the remainder may be placed in the District Women's Ministry general fund, as funds are available.
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1703 **VIII. WOMEN'S - MEMBERSHIP**

- 1704 1. The membership of the Women's Ministry of the Tennessee District shall consist of all local groups who have accepted this
1705 constitution and have signified by a vote of the membership of local groups, that they wish to enter by mutual fellowship into the
1706 Tennessee District Women's Ministry, provided they are in accord with the doctrine set forth by the Pentecostal Church of God.
1707 2. Any local group desiring to become a member of the Women's Ministry shall apply to the District WM Director for membership and
1708 shall be presented a certificate of fellowship at the time the group is accepted for membership.
1709 3. Any local group may withdraw membership by sending a notice of withdrawal to the district office together with the fellowship
1710 certificate.
1711 4. Change of pastors does not affect membership of local society.
1712 5. Qualification for membership in the local society shall be upon confession of faith unto salvation of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ.
1713

1714 **IX. WOMEN'S - ACTIVITIES AND MEETINGS**

- 1715 1. There shall be a Business Convention once each year, to be held in conjunction with the convention of the Tennessee District,
1716 Pentecostal Church of God.
1717 2. Besides the Business Convention, there should be a missionary rally once a year, the time and place and program for these meetings
1718 shall be determined by the Executive Committee of the Pentecostal Church of God Women's Ministry.
1719 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
1720 by the local leaders, for the purpose of discussing missionary activities and planning sectional programs, and for fellowship.
1721 4. The District Women's Ministry Director and all Women's Ministry Sectional Leaders shall meet once every three (3) months,
1722 coinciding with the regular scheduled District Board meeting.
1723 5. Sectional Leaders, after each board meeting, should meet with all Women's Ministry Directors and pastor's wives in their section, and
1724 bring them up to date on all activities and business of the Women's Ministries.
1725 6. The District Women's Ministry Executive Committee, consisting of the District Bishop and/or spouse, District Secretary-Treasurer
1726 and/or spouse, and the District Women's Ministry Director, for the following year, shall submit their yearly calendar to the District
1727 Board to be ratified at the October meeting.
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1729 **Section Four – Men's Ministry**

1730 **I. MEN'S – NAME, MOTTO, EMBLEM**

- 1731 1. The name of the organization shall be known as the "Men's Ministry."
1732 2. The motto shall be "Reaching men for the King".
1733 3. The symbol shall be hands holding a crown.
1734

1735 **II. MEN'S – PURPOSE**

- 1736 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.
1737 Realizing the need to activate and utilize this vast reservoir of spiritual power to its fullest measure to help make men aware of their
1738 divine appointment as spiritual leaders of their household, their church and their communities, we therefore establish a men's
1739 fellowship for the Tennessee District of the Pentecostal Church of God for the purpose of creating a stronger bond of fellowship
1740 among the men of our churches, promoting a stronger arm of evangelism in our churches and district.
1741

1742 **III. MEN'S – COVENANT**

- 1743 1. Therefore, we the Tennessee District Men's Ministry pledge to:
1744 a. Work together to create and maintain a spiritual environment in total harmony with the local pastors.
1745 b. Present Christ as the center focal point for every man's life, both spiritually and earthly.
1746 c. Create a bonding relationship between men in the church and its community, as well as a bond for the men to the church.
1747 d. Help men find their respective places in the body of Christ.
1748 e. Reach other men for Christ.
1749 f. Provide practical teaching that is a daily tool for living.
1750 g. Open up ministries for involvement in today's church world.
1751 h. Create an environment of usefulness and self-worth.
1752

1753 **IV. MEN'S – DOCTRINAL STATEMENT**

- 1754 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
1755 and district organizations.
1756 2. The Bible shall be the rule and guide of faith and life, according to the doctrinal statement of the Pentecostal Church of God.
1757

1758 **V. MEN'S – OFFICERS**

- 1759 1. The officers of the Tennessee District Men's Ministry shall be the District Men's Ministry Director, a Sectional Men's Ministry
1760 Leader in each section, and the spouse of each Tennessee District Board Member, as applicable.
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1762 **VI. MEN'S – EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE**

- 1763 1. The Men's Ministry Executive Committee shall consist of the District Bishop and/or spouse, the District Secretary-Treasurer and/or
1764 spouse, and the District Men's Ministry Director.
1765 2. The Men's Ministry Executive Committee shall be subject to the call of the District Men's Ministry Director, with approval of the
1766 Tennessee District Bishop to decide all matters of legislative importance. Their decision shall stand in force until they are ratified by
1767 the next District Convention.
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VII. MEN’S – MEMBERSHIP

1. The membership of the Men’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 Men’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 Men’s Ministry shall apply to the District Men’s Ministry 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 fellowship shall be upon confession of faith unto salvation of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ.

VIII. MEN’S – ACTIVITIES

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

IX. MEN’S – FINANCES

1. All local Men’s Ministry groups shall send in tithe to Secretary-Treasurer on monies made from special Men’s Ministry projects for the support of the office. The district Men’s Ministry office shall pay tithe from tithe received from the local Men’s Ministry fund-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 available.
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 Ministry group, and this fee shall be placed in the Men’s Ministry General Fund.
3. When the District Men’s Ministry Director is requested to meet with the District Board, he shall be paid mileage, in accordance with District mileage provisions.
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 and each general board meeting that he attends. This will be taken from the Men’s Ministry General Fund, as funds are available.
5. All special collections and offerings, 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 Men’s Ministry Fellowship. The monies received from churches will be given full credit for the project.
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 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 offering from this event will be sent to the District for the Men’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 Men’s Ministry group.
7. The district Men’s Ministry books shall be audited
8. 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 Men’s Ministry general fund, as funds are available.

**ARTICLE FOURTEEN
LOCAL CHURCH**

I. LOCAL CHURCH NAME

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

II. LOCAL CHURCH PEROGATIVES

2. The local church shall have the right to govern itself according to the standards of the scriptures. In connection therewith, or incidental 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 trust, use, sell, convey, mortgage, lease or otherwise dispose of any real estate or chattels as may be necessary for the furtherance of its purpose; all in accordance with its Constitution and By-laws.

III. LOCAL CHURCH AFFILIATION

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

- 1862 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
- 1863 God, through receiving Christ as their personal Savior, who are filled or seeking to be filled with the Holy Spirit, and who stand in
- 1864 agreement with the Doctrine of the Pentecostal Church of God.
- 1865 2. All members will be expected to give clear evidence of the Christian experience (the New Birth) by following a Christian lifestyle, as
- 1866 taught in the Word of God.
- 1867 3. The Pastor will present application for membership to the Board of Trustees, who shall review all applications.
- 1868 4. Each church shall keep a true record of its members.
- 1869 5. All members are expected to be faithful to the church by attending the monthly means of grace, taking part in the services, living
- 1870 consistent Christian lives with a distinctive testimony, and showing forth a willingness to contribute regularly to the support of the
- 1871 church according to their ability, all as defined by the church. The Board of Trustees may place any Active Member failing to meet
- 1872 these requirements, on the Inactive Membership Roll.
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1875 *NOTE: The individual local churches shall always have the right to define the "monthly means of grace" for their local church.*

- 1876 • *District Board recommendation for minimum "faithful attendance" – Unless a church board approved special circumstance*
- 1877 *exists, all Active Local Church Members must attend a minimum of one (1) service a week or four (4) services a month.*
- 1878 • *District Board recommendation for minimum "faithful contribution" – Whether paid weekly, bi-weekly, or monthly, Active*
- 1879 *Local Church Member Tithes must be paid in full every month with a personal check or tithing envelope used for record keeping.*

- 1880 6. New and/or Inactive Members may be added to the Active Membership Roll at a business meeting, provided they meet Board
- 1881 approval and they currently have (90) ninety consecutive days of active faithfulness in all membership requirements. Anyone
- 1882 remaining on the Inactive Membership Roll for a period of (1) one year may be removed from the Church Membership Rolls.
- 1883 7. All Active Members who meet the scriptural standards for membership will constitute the Voting Membership of the church, provided
- 1884 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
- 1885 Membership Roll will not have a voice or a vote in church business.
- 1886 8. At District Convention, each local church shall be entitled to two (2) voting delegates, provided that the church meets the requirements
- 1887 stipulated by District Convention.
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1890 **VI. LOCAL CHURCH OFFICERS**

1891 **A. LOCAL CHURCH PASTOR**

1892 **Qualifications:** Any pastor of a local church of the Tennessee District shall be in full membership with the Pentecostal Church of

1893 God. Any New Pastor, when elected by a (2/3) two-thirds majority secret ballot election of active members present in a meeting called

1894 for that reason, shall serve for (2) two years unless otherwise specified at the time of election. Any Incumbent Pastor, who is the only

1895 eligible candidate for election, when elected by a (2/3) two-thirds majority yes/no secret ballot election of active members present in a

1896 meeting called for that reason, shall serve for an indefinite term unless otherwise specified at the time of election. Any minister who

1897 starts a new work shall automatically receive an indefinite term as the pastor of the new work.

1898 Furthermore, any church in the Tennessee District without a pastor will coordinate with the Tennessee District Bishop so that

1899 candidates may try-out for the open pastor position. This process may continue for a six (6) month period. The governing body of the

1900 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

1901 candidates or a single candidate.

- 1902 a. With multiple candidates, there will be a nominating vote with a two-thirds (2/3) majority required for an election. If no
- 1903 election has been reached after the nominating vote, it shall be followed by a Yes/No vote on the candidate that received
- 1904 the highest support during the nominating vote with a two-thirds (2/3) majority required for an election.
- 1905 b. With a single candidate, there will be a Yes/No vote with a two-thirds (2/3) majority required for an election.
- 1906 c. If no election has been reached after a six (6) month period, the Tennessee District Board will be authorized to call for a
- 1907 church business meeting, where an election will take place being governed by the same election process used at Tennessee
- 1908 District Convention, and with all candidates being eligible for election.
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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 Presbyterian, Regional Presbyterian, or the Sectional Presbyterian 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 title.
 - 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.

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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.

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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 (10th) 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 (10th) 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.

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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	6. Report of Departments
2. Call to order	7. Unfinished business
3. Reading of previous minutes	8. Election of Officers
4. Report of finances	9. New business
5. Report of the Pastor	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.

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X. LOCAL CHURCH DEPARTMENTS

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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.

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XI. LOCAL CHURCH DISCIPLINE

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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 Presbyter 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.
2128

2129
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.
2140

2141
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

2183		
2184		
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2190		
2191	2016	Bishop Ronnie & Beverly Kesley
2192	2016	Bishop Orman & Nancy Meadow
2193	2016	Bishop Kenneth & Juanita Jessee
2194	2016	Bishop Vertie & Patricia McNeeley
2195	2017	Bishop Jerry & Brenda Moore
2196		

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

2197		
2198	1959-1964	Rev. Charles Scott
2199	1964-1972	Rev. Eugene Peale
2200	1972-1981	Rev. Orman Meadow
2201	1981-1984	Rev. Malcom Austill
2202	1984-1986	Rev. Kenneth Jessee
2203	1986-1988	Rev. Vertie McNeeley
2204	1988-1990	Rev. Kenneth Jessee
2205	1990-1998	Rev. Orman Meadow
2206	1998-2008	Rev. Jerry Moore
2207	2008-2014	Rev. James Harris
2208	2014-2016	Rev. Jerry Moore
2209	2016 –present	Rev. Richard Walsh
2210		

Tennessee District Secretary-Treasurer established 1959

2211		
2212	1959-1965	Rev. Charles Williams
2213	1965-1972	Rev. Wesley Pennington
2214	1972-1979	Rev. Eugene Peale
2215	1979-1984	Rev. Kenneth Jessee
2216	1984-1985	Rev. O. Kenneth Timbs
2217	1985-1986	Rev. Vertie McNeeley
2218	1986-1989	Rev. Orman Meadow
2219	1989-1998	Rev. Jerry Moore
2220	1998-2002	Rev. Gerald Scott
2221	2002-2013	Rev. Vertie McNeeley
2222	2013-present	Rev. Scott Long
2223		

Tennessee District Presbyter established 1978

2224		
2225	1978-1981	Rev. Malcom Austill
2226	1981-1984	Rev. Orman Meadow
2227	1984-1988	Rev. Doyle Johnson
2228	1988-1994	Rev. Ronnie Kesley
2229	1994-1998	Rev. James Harris
2230	1998-2002	Rev. John Blackwell
2231	2002-2005	Rev. JN Austill
2232	2005-2011	Rev. Darrell Garrett
2233	2011-2013	Rev. Jerry Moore
2234	2013-2016	Rev. Richard Walsh
2235	2016-2021	Rev. George Van Luven
2236	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

2288

2289

2290

2291	<u>Tennessee District Women's Ministries Director (formally PLA President 1972-2003) established 1972</u>	
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	<u>Tennessee District Women's Ministries Secretary-Treasurer (formally PLA Secretary-Treasurer 1981-2003) established 1981</u>	
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	<u>Tennessee District Men's Ministries Director (formally Kings Men Fellowship Director 2011-2024) established 2011</u>	
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
2320		
2321	<u>Tennessee District Editor (formally Sunshine News Editor 1983-2000 & Son Shine News Editor 2000-2022) established 1983</u>	
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. Charlsey Long
2326		
2327		
2328	<u>Tennessee District Board Members (Sectional)</u>	
2329		
2330	<u>Central Presbyter (formally Mid-Cumberland 1984-2008) established 1984</u>	
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. Hershaw Wren
2347	1984-2014	Rev. Ronnie Kesley
2348	2014-2016	Rev. Vertie McNeely
2349	2016-2017	Rev. Darrell Garrett
2350	2017	Rev. Vertie McNeely
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
2397		
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	<u>Tennessee District WM Board Members (Sectional)</u>	
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. Charlsey 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 Southern WM Director established 1974
 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
 2464

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

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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