



ASSEMBLIES
OF THE LORD
JESUS CHRIST

ARTICLES OF FAITH

GENERAL CONSTITUTION

2009



ARTICLES OF FAITH
GENERAL CONSTITUTION

Fiscal Year 2009
April 1, 2008 – March 31, 2009

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Judicial Procedure – Printed separately

Revised June 30, 2008

Incorporated all 2008 General Conference approved resolutions.

Changes are in **bold** print on the following pages:

11,20,23,24,28,31,35,39,45,53,57,77-79,83-86

GENERAL OFFICERS

Robert Martin.....**General Superintendent**
16723 Buckner Drive, Greenwell Springs, LA 70739
MartinR@aljc.net Residence.....225/262/1755

Roger Gray **General Secretary/Treasurer**
4221 Vercelli Lane, Knoxville, TN 37938
GrayR@aljc.net..... Residence.....865/925/1414

Mark McCool... Southern Region Assistant Superintendent
1407 Murray Road, Knoxville, TN 37912
McCoolM@aljc.net..... Residence.....865/688/9018

Danny St Clair.. Northern Region Assistant Superintendent
21 Whitehall Way, Anderson, IN 46013
StClairD@aljc.net..... Residence.....765/649/8678

David King**Western Region Assistant Superintendent**
923 S. Lindsay Street, Gainesville, TX 76240
KingD@aljc.net Residence.....940/736/0241

TRUSTEES

Robert Martin
Roger Gray
Jack Knapp

R. B. Bingham
Nathan Carrell
Raymond Bishop

HONORARY GENERAL SUPERINTENDENTS

David Mayo
Raymond Bishop
Don Johnson
Steve Wilson

NATIONAL DEPARTMENT DIRECTORS

M. L. Walls **World Missions Director**
515 W. Bridge St, Brownstown, IN 47220..... WallsM@aljc.net
Residence 812/966/2080

Bill Mills **Missions America Director**
PO Box 433, Gilbert, LA 71336 MillsB@aljc.net
Residence 318/435/4995; Cell: 318/413/0296

Michael Jadrnicek **General Youth President**
PO Box 70, Wellston, OH 45692..... JadrnicekM@aljc.net
Residence 740/384/5483

G. Dale Bostic **Evangelist Department Director**
5822 91ST St, Lubbock, TX 79424..... BosticD@aljc.net
Residence 806/698/8701

Joe Nelson **Christian Church School Director**
1093 Core Rd, Parkersburg, WV 26104 NelsonJ@aljc.net
Residence 304/485/1170

Randy Tahyi..... **Church Growth Director**
56896 Kimberly Dr, Elkhart, IN 46516..... TahyiR@aljc.net
Residence 574/674/6344

Penny Carpenter **Women's Esprit President**
2116 Scarlet Rose Ct, Maryville, TN 37801 ... CarpenterP@aljc.net
Residence 919/776/6085

John Robinson **BMCH Administrator**
1200 Hard Rock Rd, Savannah, TN 38372..... RobinsonJ@aljc.net
Residence 731/925/1767
BMCH - PO Box 253, Blue Mountain, MS 38610 – 662/685/9496
BMCH Website ~ www.bluemountainchildrenshome.com

David Snowden **TOPS Director**
270 Rivercliff Rd, McMinnville, TN 37110 SnowdenD@aljc.net
Residence 931/474/1236

DISTRICT SUPERINTENDENTS

Members of the General Board

Alabama District	James Knight
Arizona District	C. Wayne Stevens
Arkansas District	Larry Davidson
Florida District	Mitchell Shelby
Georgia District	Nathan Carrell
Gulf Coast District	David McKissick
Heartland District.....	Mark Naimy
Illinois District	Francis Farney
Indiana District	James Mullins
Kentucky District	Buddy Puckett
Louisiana District.....	David Poole
Michigan District.....	Stephen Trachsel, Sr.
Mississippi District.....	Raymond Bishop
Missouri District.....	Michael Miller
New England District.....	Eugene Dayton
Ohio District	Travis L. Kirk
Oklahoma District.....	Charles Hancock
Southeastern District.....	David Akers
Tennessee District	Jack Batson
Texas District	Jerry Sanders
Tri-State District	Billy McCool
Western District.....	Jay Manos
West Texas-New Mexico District.....	Allen Harris
West Virginia District	David Colvin



ASSEMBLIES
OF THE LORD
JESUS CHRIST

Articles

Of

Faith

PREFACE

In Matthew 16:18, Jesus prophetically stated; "... I will build my church..."

The many types and shadows of the Old Testament Tabernacle and Temple worship were pointing toward the New Testament period and the establishment of the Church of Jesus Christ on this earth.

After the death and resurrection of Jesus Christ, Jesus showed Himself alive to many of His disciples for forty days. He left them with the promise of the Spirit returning to indwell them (Luke 24:49; Acts 1:5-8).

On the Jewish Feast day of Pentecost, 30 A.D., a group of one hundred and twenty faithful followers of Jesus were gathered in Jerusalem in an upper room. Suddenly they were overwhelmed with the promised Spirit. They began to speak with other languages as the Spirit gave them utterance.

Thus the Church was born! As the Apostle Peter spoke to the gathered throng, 3,000 others were likewise added to the original group of one hundred twenty.

Since this beginning in Jerusalem, the Church spread as the apostles carried the Gospel forth into the world.

At the death of the apostles and the conclusion of their writings, which we recognize as New Testament Epistles, those whom they had ordained continued their message with signs following.

During the intervening centuries, the true Church of Jesus Christ has known much tribulation and persecution at the hand of those who oppose her message. Yet in every century the Lord has had a witness and the Church has had a voice.

At the beginning of the twentieth century, God chose the United States to pour out the Latter Rain of His Spirit. Revival fires began to spread as people began to seek a deeper experience with God. Soon thousands were filled with the Holy Spirit and baptized in the Name of Jesus Christ here in the United States. Then, Missionaries were sent out into other countries carrying the Gospel. Thus America became a great bastion for Apostolic truth in the twentieth century.

In every state the Apostolic Message spread and churches were founded. From these churches, groups began to form as churches and men of God united their efforts to do more for God. Through the efforts of these faithful witnesses the Commission of Jesus Christ to "...preach the gospel to every creature" (Mark 16:15), is being fulfilled.

BRIEF HISTORY

The Assemblies of the Lord Jesus Christ is a continuation of the great revival that began on the day of Pentecost at Jerusalem, A.D. 30, and is founded upon the foundation of the Apostles and Prophets, Jesus Christ Himself being the Chief cornerstone, (Acts 2:1-41; Ephesians 2:19, 20).

Various groups throughout the country went by different names trying and striving to promote the Gospel of Jesus Christ. Finally in the month of March, 1952, three groups known as the Assemblies of the Church of Jesus Christ, Jesus Only Apostolic Church of God, and the Church of the Lord Jesus Christ, formulated a merger adopting the name *Assemblies of the Lord Jesus Christ*, which is Apostolic in Doctrine and Teachings, and the Bible as their guide book. Therefore this Constitution and Articles of Faith are set forth.

INTRODUCTION

We believe the Bible to be the direct and absolute Word of God (II Timothy 3:16), given to us by the inspiration of the Holy Ghost as it moved upon the tongues and pens of men who had received the special anointing of God for this express purpose: (II Peter 1:21). "For the prophecy came not in old time by the will of man: but holy men of God spake as they were moved by the Holy Ghost." We believe the Bible to be God's means of doctrine, instruction, and comfort to the Church today, infallible in its authority, singular in interpretation, and man's only avenue of access to God.

ARTICLES OF FAITH

“THE ONE TRUE GOD”

We believe in the One ever-living, eternal God; infinite in power, holy in nature, attributes and purpose, and possessing absolute, indivisible Deity. This one true God has revealed Himself as Father in creation, through the Son in redemption, and as the Holy Ghost by emanation (I Corinthians 8:6; Ephesians 4:6; II Corinthians 5:19; Joel 2:28).

The Scripture does more than attempt to prove the existence of God; it asserts, assumes and declares that the knowledge of God is universal (Romans 1:19, 21, 28, 32; 2:15). God is invisible, incorporeal, without parts, without body and therefore free from all limitations. He is Spirit (John 4:24), and “a spirit hath not flesh and bones...” (Luke 24:39).

The first of all commandments is, “Hear, O Israel: the LORD our God is one LORD:” (Mark 12:29; Deuteronomy 6:4). “One God and Father of all, who is above all, and through all, and in you all:” (Ephesians 4:6).

This one true God manifested Himself in the Old Testament in divers ways, i.e., in the Son while He walked among men; as the Holy Ghost after the ascension.

THE SON OF GOD

The one true God, the Jehovah of the Old Testament, took upon Himself the form of man, and as the Son of man, was born of the virgin Mary. As Paul says, “And without controversy great is the mystery of godliness: God was manifest in the flesh, justified in the Spirit, seen of angels, preached unto the Gentiles, believed on in the world, received up into glory” (I Timothy 3:16; John 1:10).

“He came unto his own, and his own received him not.” (John 1:11). This one true God was manifested in the flesh, that is, in His Son Jesus Christ.

“... God was in Christ, reconciling the world unto himself, not imputing their trespasses unto them;...” (II Corinthians 5:19).

We believe that, “... in Him (Jesus) dwelleth all the fullness of the Godhead bodily” (Colossians 2:9).

THE NAME

“... unto us a child is born, unto us a son in given:... and his name shall be called Wonderful, Counselor, The mighty God, The everlasting Father, The Prince of Peace” (Isaiah 9:6). This prophecy of Isaiah was fulfilled when the Son of God was named, “And she shall bring forth a son, and thou shalt call his name JESUS: For he shall save his people from their sins” (Matthew 1:21).

“Neither is there salvation in any other: for there is none other name under heaven given among men, whereby we must be saved” (Acts 4:12).

MAN AND HIS FALL

God created man in His own image (Genesis 1:26,27), innocent, pure and holy (Romans 5:11, Ephesians 2:3). Man needed a redeemer which has been supplied in the seed of the woman, which seed bruised the serpent's head (Genesis 3:15; Luke 2:10,11); that is, Our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ in whom we have redemption through His blood, even the forgiveness of sins (Ephesians 1:7; Revelation 1:5).

THE GRACE OF GOD

“For the grace of god that bringeth salvation hath appeared to all men, Teaching us that, denying ungodliness and worldly lusts, we should live soberly, righteously, and godly in this present world.” (Titus 2:11,12)

“For the law was given by Moses, but grace and truth came by Jesus Christ.” (John 1:17)

A Christian, to keep saved, must walk with God and keep himself in the love of God (Jude 21), and in the grace of God. The word “grace” means “favor.” When a person transgresses and sins against God, he loses favor. If he continues to sin and does not repent, he will eventually be lost and cast into the lake of fire. (Read John 15:1,6; II Peter 2:20-22) Jude speaks of the backsliders of his day and their reward. (Read Hebrews 6:4-6)

“For by grace are ye saved through faith; and that not of yourselves: it is the gift of God:” (Ephesians 2:8).

THE COMMUNION

Melchizedek, the priest of the Most High God, gave the first communion, consisting of bread and wine (Genesis 14:18), to our father Abraham. Christ, being “made a high priest for ever after the order of Melchizedek.” Evidently administered the same (Hebrews 7:21; Matthew 26:26-29; I Corinthians 11:23-32).

On the night of our Lord’s betrayal, He ate the Passover supper with His apostles, after which He instituted the Communion service. “And he took bread, and gave thanks, and brake it, and gave unto them saying, This is my body which is given for you: this do in remembrance of me. Likewise also the cup after supper, saying, This cup is the New Testament in my blood, which is shed for you” (Luke 22:19, 20). Paul instructed the Church how to observe it (I Corinthians 11:23, 24,25).

THE WASHING OF FEET

This ordinance is as much a divine command as any other New Testament ordinance. Jesus gave us an example that we do even as He had done. He said that we ought to wash one another’s feet. And again, “If ye know these things, happy are ye if you do them” (John 13:4-17). There is scriptural evidence that this was practiced by the church in the days of the apostle Paul (I Timothy 5:10).

DIVINE HEALING

The physical suffering of the Lord Jesus Christ purchased healing for our bodies, as His death, burial and resurrection provided for the salvation of our souls, for “... with his stripes we are healed,” (Isaiah 53:5). Matthew 8:17 reads, “... Himself took our infirmities, and bare our sicknesses.” (See also I Peter 2:24)

We see from this that healing for the body is in the atonement. That being true, then it is for all who believe. Jesus said of the believer, “... they shall lay hands on the sick, and they shall recover.” Later James wrote in his epistle to all the church, “Is any sick among you? Let him call for the elders of the church; and let them pray over him, anointing him with oil in the name of the Lord: And the prayer of faith shall save the sick, and the Lord shall raise him up; and if he have committed sins, they shall be forgiven him.

Confess your faults one to another, and pray one for another, that ye may be healed. The effectual fervent prayer of a righteous man availeth much” (James 5:14-16).

REPENTANCE AND REMISSION OF SIN

The only grounds upon which God will accept a sinner is repentance from the heart for his sins that he has committed. A broken and contrite heart He will not despise (Psalm 51:17). John preached repentance, Jesus proclaimed it, and before His ascension commanded that repentance and remission of sins should be preached in His name, beginning at Jerusalem (Luke 24:47). Peter fulfilled this command on the day of Pentecost (Acts 2:38).

WATER BAPTISM

The scriptural mode of baptism is immersion, and is only for those who have fully repented, having turned from their sins and a love of the world. It should be administered by a duly authorized minister of the Gospel in obedience to the Word of God and in the name of Jesus Christ, according to the Acts of the Apostles; 2:38; 8:16; 10:48; 19:5, thus obeying and fulfilling Matthew 28:19.

HOLY SPIRIT BAPTISM

John the Baptist, in Matthew 3:11, said "... He shall baptize you with the Holy Ghost."

Jesus, in Acts 1:5, said, "... ye shall be baptized with the Holy Ghost not many days hence."

Luke tells us in Acts 2:4, "... and they were all filled with the Holy Ghost and began to speak with other tongues, (languages) as the Spirit gave them utterance."

The terms "baptized with the Holy Ghost," "filled with the Holy Ghost," and the "gift of the Holy Ghost," are synonymous terms which are interchangeable in the Bible.

APOSTOLIC DOCTRINE OF NEW BIRTH

The basic and fundamental doctrine of this Organization shall be the Bible standard of full salvation, which is repentance, baptism in water by immersion in the name of Jesus Christ for the remission of sins, and the baptism of the Holy Ghost with the evidence of speaking with other tongues as the Spirit gives the utterance (Acts 2:4,38; John 3:5).

HOLINESS

We believe that godly living should characterize the life and walk of all saints according to the sign and example found in I Peter 2:21; Titus 2:11; Galatians 2:20; Hebrews 12:14; I Peter 1:15-17.

We believe we are to cleanse ourselves from all filthiness of the flesh and spirit, perfecting holiness in the fear of God (II Corinthians 7:1), to abstain from all appearance of evil (I Thessalonians 5:22), and to turn away from those who have a form of godliness but deny the power thereof (II Timothy 3:5; I Corinthians 11:6; I Timothy 2:9,10; I Peter 2:3,4).

The Apostle Peter gives instruction to wives about their behavior and their appearance, "Likewise, ye wives, be in subjection to your own husbands; that, if any obey not the word, they also may without the word be won by the conversation of the wives; while they behold your chaste conversation coupled with fear. Whose adorning let it not be that outward adorning of plaiting the hair, and of wearing of gold, or of putting on of apparel; but let it be the hidden man of the heart, in that which is not corruptible, even the ornament of a meek and quiet spirit, which is in the sight of God of great price" (I Peter 3:1-4).

The Word of God teaches a distinction between the dress of a woman and a man: "The woman shall not wear that which pertaineth unto a man, neither shall a man put on a woman's garments: for all that do so are abomination unto the LORD thy God." (Deuteronomy 22:5)

The word "abomination" used by God in this verse indicates that this rule will not change through all generations. Christian men are not to wear women's clothing, and Christian women are not to wear men's clothing.

Modesty is not confined to dress alone but also includes conversation and manners. Philippians 4:5 teaches us, "Let your moderation be known unto all men. The Lord is at hand."

Holiness is not only an inward presence of God but it is also reflected in the outward life of the Christian in his conduct in this world.

TITHING

We believe tithing is God's financial plan to provide for His work, and has been since the days of Abraham. Tithing came with faith under Abraham, Moses' law enjoined it, Israel practiced it when she was right with God, Jesus endorsed it (Matthew 23:23), and Paul said to lay by in store as God has prospered you. Do not rob God of His portion, that is tithes and offerings (Read Malachi 3).

MARRIAGE AND DIVORCE

“Whosoever shall put away his wife, except it be for fornication, and shall marry another, committeth adultery” (Matthew 5:32; 19:9).

In order to lift a higher standard in the ministry, no minister shall be accepted in this organization who has married for the second time after his conversion, unless the first marriage was terminated by a death, **or if he/she is determined to be the innocent party in the divorce. See General Constitution Article VIII, Section 5.**

SECRET SOCIETIES

The people of God shall have no connection whatsoever with religious oriented secret societies or any other organization (labor unions excluded) wherein bound by an oath to unbelievers.

THE RETURN OF THE LORD JESUS CHRIST

That the Lord Jesus Christ is to come to earth in person is a doctrine clearly set forth in Apostolic times. James taught it; the Apostles preached it; the saints expect it; (See Matthew 24:1, etc.; Acts 1:11; 3:19-21; I Corinthians 1:7,8; 11:26; Philippians 3:20,21; Titus 2:13).

TRANSLATION OF SAINTS

We believe the catching away of the church draweth nigh, and at that time all the dead in Christ shall rise from their graves, and we that are alive and remain shall be translated or “caught up” to meet the Lord in the air (Matthew 24:36-42; Luke 17:20-37; I Corinthians 15:51; Philippians 3:20,21; I Thessalonians 4:13-17).

Whereas, the Word of God teaches the imminent second coming of our Lord Jesus Christ and that there will be first an appearing or catching away of the Church (I Thessalonians 4:13) preceding His second coming back to earth; and said first appearance we believe to be at hand and likely to occur at any moment.

TRIBULATION

Moreover, we believe that the distress upon the earth is the “beginning of sorrows” and will become more intense until there “shall be a time of trouble such as never was since there was a nation even to that same time,” (Matthew 24:21; Daniel 12:1; Romans 11:25-27).

MILLENNIUM

We believe that the period of “Tribulation” will be followed by the dawn of a better day on earth, and that for one thousand years there shall be “peace on earth and good will toward men,” (Revelation 20:1-5; Isaiah 65:17-25; Matthew 5:5; Daniel 7:27; Micah 4:1; Habakkuk 2:14; Romans 11:25-27).

FINAL JUDGMENT

When the thousand years are finished, there shall be a resurrection of the dead who shall be summoned before the Great White Throne for their final judgment, and all whose names are not found written in the Book of Life shall be cast into the lake of fire, burning with the brimstone, which God has prepared for the devil and his angels (Revelation 20:5-15; Matthew 24:41-46; Revelation 21:8).

CIVIL GOVERNMENT

All civil magistrates are ordained of God for peace, safety, and the welfare of all people (Romans 13:1-10; Titus 3:1,2; I Peter 2:13,14); therefore, it is our duty to be in obedience to all requirements of the law that are not contrary to the Word of God and that do not force one to the violation of the sixth commandment by bearing arms. It is our duty to honor without murmuring (Matthew 17:24-27; 22:17-21) and show respect to them in all lawful requirements of the civil government.

CONSCIENTIOUS SCRUPLES

We propose to fulfill all the obligations of loyal citizens, but are constrained to declare against participation in combatant service in war, armed insurrection, property destruction, aiding and abetting in or the actual destruction of human life.

Furthermore, we cannot conscientiously affiliate with any union boycott or organization which will force or bind any of its members to perform any duties contrary to our conscience or receive any mark without our right to affirm or reject same.

However, we regret the false impression created by some groups or so-called “Conscientious Objectors” that to obey the Bible is to have contempt for law or magistrates, to be disloyal to our government and in sympathy with our enemies, or to be unwilling to sacrifice for the preservation of our commonwealth. This attitude would be as contemptible to us as to any patriot.

The Word of God commands us to do violence to no man. It also commands us that first of all we are to pray for rulers of our country. We, therefore, exhort our members to freely and willingly respond to the call of our Government except in the matter of bearing arms. When we say service - we mean service - no matter how hard or dangerous. The true church has no more place for cowards than has the nation. First of all, let us earnestly pray that we will with honor be kept out of war.

We believe that we can be consistent in service to our Government in certain non-combatant capacities, but not in the bearing of arms.

PUBLIC SCHOOL ACTIVITIES

We disapprove of school students attending shows, dances, dancing classes, theaters, engaging in school activities against their religious scruples, and wearing gymnasium clothes which immodestly expose the body.



ASSEMBLIES
OF THE LORD
JESUS CHRIST

*General
Constitution*

ARTICLE I

THE NAME

Assemblies of the Lord Jesus Christ (ALJC) is a Corporation chartered under the laws of the states of Mississippi, Tennessee and Louisiana.

ARTICLE II

MEMBERSHIP

Membership in the Assemblies of the Lord Jesus Christ shall consist of all accredited ministers and missionaries holding license or credentials in said body, and shall be known as an organization.

ARTICLE III

ANNUAL SESSIONS AND SPECIAL MEETINGS

SECTION 1. SESSIONS AND SPECIAL MEETINGS

1. An annual session of this body shall be held regularly and shall be called the General Conference. The fiscal year of the Assemblies of the Lord Jesus Christ and all Departments shall start April 1 and end the following March 31 each year.

a) General Conference Program official activities will not commence before Monday nor extend beyond Thursday of the same week, without approval of the General Board.

b) The General Superintendent shall appoint a General Conference Planning Committee, a Conference Coordinator, a Site Selection Coordinator and a General Conference Display Table Coordinator. All Department Directors, the General Youth President and the Women's Esprit President are members of this committee by virtue of their office. A documented policy and applicable job descriptions

shall govern the activities and authority of the Planning Committee, Conference Coordinator, Site Selection Coordinator and Display Table Coordinator. This policy and all applicable job descriptions shall be defined, maintained and may be modified by the General Board. The General Conference Display Coordinator or any individual appointed as a Display Coordinator for any other Conference by the proper Department or District authority, shall implement the General Board approved Display Policy.

2. Special Meetings.

a) When important matters arise between annual General Conferences, and the General Board along with the Executive Board agree by a majority that there is a need for a special meeting of the General Body, the General Superintendent shall be empowered to call a special meeting of the members of the Assemblies of the Lord Jesus Christ. Special meetings shall be conducted in accordance with this constitution, by-laws and Roberts Rules of Order, current edition.

b) The location, time and specific issues of the special meeting should be specified in the request for a special meeting as may be determined by the Executive and General Boards.

c) The special general body meeting notifications shall be sent out at least 30 days in advance of the meeting.

d) The General Superintendent shall be empowered to call a special Executive Board or General Board meeting at anytime.

3. The annual General Conference, also the annual National Youth Convention, shall be National Religious Holidays for all member churches. The week beginning the Sunday and ending the Saturday of the week of our annual General Conference also the annual National Youth Convention are National Holidays.

4. The General Board shall conduct General Board meetings at each General Conference and in the fall of the year. The fall meetings shall be called the General Board Fall Business Conference.

SECTION 2. TIME AND LOCATION

During either the General Conference or the General Board Fall Business Conference, the time and location of the next General Conference may be determined by the General Officers.

SECTION 3. BUSINESS

1. All sessions shall be opened with prayer. Every General Conference shall schedule no less than two (2) business meetings totaling eight (8) hours.

2. The order of business is as follows:

- a) Meeting called to order by the General Superintendent.
- b) Minutes from last General Conference and a report from each department director shall be given to each minister in printed form.
- c) Election of officers in election years.
- d) The General Secretary/Treasurer shall stand to answer any questions the ministers might have concerning last year's minutes.
- e) Approval of the minutes.
- f) Each officer and department director shall stand to answer any questions and for approval of their reports by the ministers in the following order:

- 1- General Superintendent**
- 2- First Assistant Superintendent**
- 3- Second Assistant Superintendent**
- 4- Third Assistant Superintendent**
- 5- General Secretary/Treasurer - Organization Financial Reports.**
- 6- World Missions Department Director**
- 7- Missions America Department Director**
- 8- General Youth President**
- 9- Evangelist Department Director**
- 10- Christian Schools Department Director**
- 11- Church Growth Department Director**
- 12- Women's Esprit President**

- g) Committee Reports.
- h) Unfinished business.
- i) New Business.
- j) Adjournment.

At subsequent business session(s), continue business as needed.

3. All resolutions shall be properly written and signed by the author and submitted no later than six full weeks prior to the first day of the General Conference of that year to the Chairman of the Resolutions Committee. The Resolutions Committee and its Chairman shall be appointed by the General Superintendent at either the General Conference or the General Board Fall Business Conference. This committee is to decide which of the resolutions shall be presented to the General Conference.

4. A filing fee of \$20 per resolution must accompany each resolution submitted for consideration at General Conference. This fee will be used to defray the cost of printing the resolutions. Any excess money is to be turned over to the General Fund.

5. A copy of any resolution affecting a national department shall be forwarded to the affected department director by the Resolution Committee two weeks prior to its presentation on the floor of the conference.

6. Any resolution failing to be presented may be forced to come before the conference by a vote of two-thirds (2/3) of those present.

7. All business meetings of the Assemblies of the Lord Jesus Christ shall be conducted according to the current edition of Robert's Rules of Order. This includes the General Conference, all departments, all boards, committees and judicial procedure, as well as all others as set forth in Robert's Rules of Order, and all others doing business for the organization. This shall be in keeping with the spirit of Christian love and fellowship.

8. General Board business sessions shall follow the following order and outline:

a) Remarks by the General Superintendent.

b) Reading and approval of the Minutes from last General Board meeting.

c) Reports and remarks of Officers, Boards and Standing Committees.

d) At the Fall Business Conference and whenever deemed necessary, Reports of Departments in the order specified in the meeting notification.

e) Reports of Special Committees.

f) Special Orders as applicable.

g) Unfinished business and General Orders.

h) New business.

i) Adjournment.

ARTICLE IV

GENERAL OFFICERS

SECTION 1. TITLES OF OFFICERS

1. The Assemblies of the Lord Jesus Christ is organized into national, district, department and regional functions. It operates a national headquarters office, district offices, department offices and regional offices. The Organization consists of three regions that are made up by grouping the districts from different areas of the United States of America: The regions are defined as follows: NORTHERN REGION: Illinois, Indiana, Kentucky, Michigan, Missouri, New York/New England, Ohio and West Virginia Districts. SOUTHERN REGION: Alabama, Arkansas, Florida, Georgia, Gulf Coast, Louisiana, Mississippi, Southeastern, Tennessee and Tri-State Districts. WESTERN REGION: Arizona, Heartland, Oklahoma, Southwestern, Texas, Western and West Texas-New Mexico Districts. The organization structure consists of Executive officers, District officers, Department Officers, and Regional Officers. All officers are either elected or appointed to their respective offices from within the membership of this organization.

2. The Organization shall have the following general officers:

- a) General Superintendent
- b) First Assistant Superintendent
- c) Second Assistant Superintendent
- d) Third Assistant Superintendent
- e) General Secretary/Treasurer
- f) District Superintendent of each District.

3. The Assistant Superintendents shall be elected by region and shall hold the office of Northern, Southern or Western Regional Representative concurrently with their first, second or third assistant superintendent office.

4. The determination of First, Second and Third Assistant Superintendent shall be decided by majority vote of the membership after the Northern, Southern and Western Region Representative elections have been completed.

SECTION 2. ELECTION

1. All general officers and national department directors/presidents shall be elected for a term of two (2) years by the membership present at the General Conference General Body Business Meeting.

2. The first hour of the business session after the election of the General Superintendent shall be set aside for the purpose of Assistant Superintendent-Regional Representative nominations. Each region shall nominate at least two (2), but no more than three (3), candidates to serve as its Regional Representative. By region in the order listed in Section 1, paragraph 2, these candidates shall be presented to the entire General Body present at the business meeting for election as Regional Representative.

3. Each Regional Representative shall coordinate the nomination process in his region. The Regional Representative shall appoint a recording secretary and tabulating committee for the purpose of nominating Regional Representative Candidates.

4. After all Regional Representatives are elected by the General Body, then the General Body shall, by majority vote, decide the First, Second and Third Assistant Superintendents.

5. A member of the Executive Board shall upon request be present at each District Conference wherein general officers are elected. For the purpose of election qualifications, the Assistant Superintendent office in a district is classified as a general office since he would become a general officer if the District Superintendent resigns, dies, or otherwise is unable to serve as District Superintendent.

6. District Superintendents shall be elected every two (2) years at the District Fall Conference.

7. The General Body shall nominate two (2), no more than three (3) and elect all Department Directors/Presidents, except Women's Esprit President whom shall be elected by the Women's Esprit qualified voters.

8. All department directors shall meet with the Executive Board as necessary at the General Conference and with the General Board at the Fall Business Conference.

9. Except for Regional Representative nominating ballots, only individuals receiving a minimum of 10% of the total number of ballots cast in any nominating ballot shall be eligible for nomination.

SECTION 3. QUALIFICATIONS OF OFFICERS

1. In order to hold a General Office in this organization, the following qualifications are required: One must have been ordained five (5) years prior to his election (**three (3) years for District Superintendents-Ref: Article D.C. IV, Section 2, Paragraph 1**); in the Assemblies of the Lord Jesus Christ and holding Credentials for two (2) years; a minister in good standing within and without the body of Christ, whose life and ministry has been proven a faithful work of the Lord (I Timothy 3:1-7; Titus 1:6-9), except in the cases where there is a new district that is less than three (3) years old, then the time period can be waived by the official in charge of the election.

2. No minister shall be permitted to be nominated, elected or appointed to any office that is not current with their district and national dues. Current is defined as paid up prior to the Conference, through the end of the month in which the Conference takes place.

SECTION 4. RESTRICTIONS

No minister can hold two (2) elective offices at the same time, except the office of Trustee, which office can be held jointly with another.

SECTION 5. ELECTION PROCEDURE

1. All votes for candidates for elective offices shall be by the following procedure, and shall be by secret ballot.

2. A first ballot (nominating ballot) shall be cast by which the names of three (3) persons receiving the most votes shall be presented to the voting body. Each of the nominees presented to the voting body in all district and national elections for all elected offices shall be required to state their desire and vision for the respective office. Such an address shall be given to the voting body upon presentation of each nominee and extend no more than three (3) minutes in length.

3. A two-thirds (2/3) vote on a first ballot (nominating ballot) for an office shall constitute an election.

4. In the event that a person elected by a two-thirds (2/3) vote on the first ballot (nominating ballot) should decline, the names of the next two (2) persons receiving the most votes on that first ballot shall be presented to the voting constituency for choice between the two.

a) In the event that the person receiving the second highest vote on a first ballot (nominating ballot) should decline consideration for office, all persons named on the first ballot shall be polled by the presiding officer for a verbal determination whether he/she will remain available for election, and then the following, (b), shall be implemented.

b) A new first ballot (nominating ballot) shall be taken which must follow the same guidelines as the original first ballot.

5. If a two-thirds (2/3) vote is not obtained by a candidate after the first electoral ballot, only the names of the two (2) receiving the most votes shall be presented to body.

6. If a two-thirds (2/3) majority vote is not obtained by either candidate after the second electoral ballot, a simple majority vote shall be decisive.

7. Ratification of appointments for office presented to the General Body by the General Board shall be done with a simple majority vote determined through secret ballot.

SECTION 6. QUALIFYING PROCEDURES

1. A Qualifications Committee shall be appointed at every General and District Conference in which general officers are elected.

2. The committee shall have no less than three (3) members. The General Secretary/Treasurer must serve during the General Conference and the District Secretary/Treasurer must serve during the District Conference, on the committee. The committee shall be appointed by the General Superintendent or the District Superintendent.

3. All questions concerning the qualifications of a nominee shall be presented to the Qualifications Committee, in writing.

4. No questions of such a nature shall be discussed openly before the conference.

SECTION 7. TERM OF OFFICE

1. A general officer may take office within thirty (30) days following his election.

2. If a vacancy occurs in any office where there is no duly elected assistant, the General Board shall appoint a qualified minister to fill said vacancy for the remaining term of office.

3. All organization financial and member records are the property of the Assemblies of the Lord Jesus Christ. Upon the completion of one's tenure in office, within 30 days, all national, department, district and section officers shall transfer all records pertaining to their respective office to the succeeding officer. Further, the former and succeeding officers shall sign a form acknowledging the transfer of all records. A copy of these signed acknowledgement forms shall be sent to headquarters.

ARTICLE V

OPERATION OF GENERAL OFFICES

SECTION 1. GENERAL SUPERINTENDENT

1. *The duties of the General Superintendent:*

- a) To preside at all General Conferences.
- b) To call and preside at all General Board meetings.
- c) To appoint all committees pertaining to the general work.
- d) To oversee the functions of the organization in general.
- e) To countersign all licenses and fellowship cards.

2. The General Superintendent, by virtue of his office, shall act as president in all legal matters.

3. He shall be authorized to sign all official and legal documents, deeds and mortgages.

4. He shall act as a Trustee of all corporation property.

5. The General Superintendent shall receive just compensation and expenses, as determined by the General Board, for his service to the organization.

6. Five dollars of every member's monthly dues shall be designated for use as the salary of the General Superintendent.

SECTION 2. ASSISTANT GENERAL SUPERINTENDENTS

1. *The duties of the Assistant General Superintendents:*

a) To work under and in harmony with the General Superintendent.

b) To fill the office of General Superintendent if and when necessary or when so requested by the General Superintendent.

SECTION 3. GENERAL SECRETARY/TREASURER

1. *The duties of the General Secretary/Treasurer:*

a) To take minutes and to preserve records of the business of the General Organization.

b) To receive and disburse all general funds of the organization as directed by the General Body, along with the payment of current operating expenses.

c) To make a report yearly to the General Conference.

d) To have the books of the finances of the organization audited once each year prior to the General Conference and submitted to the General Board for its approval.

e) To sign all licenses and fellowship cards.

f) He shall be a trustee for all corporation property.

g) He shall submit a planned budget to the General Board each year.

h) He shall be authorized to withhold any credential, license, or fellowship card when he has reason to believe that the applicant might be in question, **and refer the same to the Executive Board in accordance with paragraphs 9 through 12 of ARTICLE VIII, SECTION 2. LICENSE; for review and disposition.**

2. The General Secretary/Treasurer shall be authorized to sign all official and legal documents necessary for the business of the organization.

3. The Secretary shall send the Superintendent of each district and Trustees a copy of the minutes of each Executive Board meeting.

4. The office of Secretary/Treasurer shall be at Headquarters in Memphis, Tennessee. The General Secretary/Treasurer shall serve as the General Manager of the headquarters operations and supervise the headquarters staff. The General Manager position shall be under the supervision of the Executive Board

ARTICLE VI

COMMITTEES AND BOARDS

SECTION 1. GENERAL BOARD

1. The General Board shall consist of the General Officers under Article IV, Section 1.

2. *The duties of the General Board shall be:*

a) To oversee the spiritual and material welfare of the organization in general.

b) To direct the business of the organization as authorized by this constitution.

c) The General Board cannot amend, add to, or subtract from the by-laws of this constitution.

SECTION 2. EXECUTIVE BOARD

1. The Board of General Officers, while in session, shall be the Executive Board.

2. The General Superintendent, Assistant Regional Superintendents, and the General Secretary/Treasurer shall be the Executive Board between meetings of the General Board of Officers. They shall be authorized to carry out orders and resolutions of the General Assembly, **to review and disposition application issues brought to the attention of the Executive Board by the General Secretary in accordance with paragraphs 9 through 12 of ARTICLE VIII, SECTION 2. LICENSE**, and to conduct all business in accordance with these by-laws.

3. To oversee the spiritual and material welfare of the organization when the General Board is not in session.

SECTION 3. APOSTOLIC WITNESS, EDITOR OF APOSTOLIC WITNESS

1. The Apostolic Witness is an official publication and the property of the Assemblies of the Lord Jesus Christ.

2. The editor of the Apostolic Witness shall be appointed by the General Board and shall be under the supervision of the Executive Board.

3. The subscription price of the Apostolic Witness shall be changed only as approved by the General Board.

4. The Missions America and World Missions Department quarterly giving financial reports shall not be included in the Apostolic Witness.

5. The Missions America and World Missions Departments shall send quarterly financial giving reports to each church. The timing of the reports shall be based on the Organization's fiscal year calendar. The reports are to be distributed to all churches in the months of July, October, January and April.

SECTION 4. TRUSTEES

1. The number of trustees shall not be less than five (5) and not more than seven (7).

2. The trustees are elected by the majority vote of the General Conference for a period of two (2) years.

3. The General Superintendent and General Secretary/ Treasurer are by virtue of their office, members of the trustee board.

4. The duties of the Trustees shall be:

a) To act as the oversight of all properties purchased in the name of the Assemblies of the Lord Jesus Christ.

b) To see to the upkeep of the properties as to improvements, repairs, building new buildings, etc.

c) They are authorized by the Assemblies of the Lord Jesus Christ to make necessary loans or grant loans pertaining to the Assemblies of the Lord Jesus Christ.

d) They shall be authorized by a majority vote at the General Conference to lease, buy or sell properties for the organization, or to work out any negotiable plan on any property involved. If the General Board at a duly called meeting, by two-thirds (2/3) majority vote deem a case an extreme emergency it may authorized the trustees to do the same.

e) The Superintendent of the Assemblies of the Lord Jesus Christ shall act as Chairman of Trustees.

SECTION 5. PARLIAMENTARIAN

The parliamentarian shall be appointed as needed by the General Superintendent.

SECTION 6. APPROVAL/DISAPPROVAL AUTHORITY

All officers, boards, committees, and appointees of the Assemblies of the Lord Jesus Christ at the national, department, district and sectional levels who are given the privilege of approval by this Constitution and Judicial Procedure have the equal and opposite privilege of disapproval for any Constitutional action they are considering. Each decision shall be given appropriate and proper consideration based upon the statutes of this Constitution and the Judicial Procedure.

ARTICLE VII

CHURCHES

SECTION 1. OBLIGATIONS

1. All churches pastored by the ministers of the organization shall be sovereign within themselves.

2. All of our churches shall be expected to support approved programs as necessary for the work of the Lord.

3. Only such national or district programs that have been duly presented to and approved by the General Board, or District Body may be presented to our churches. The pastor is expected to support said programs and recommend them to his church.

4. Local church congregations may become affiliated when the majority of the congregation has voted to do so in a duly authorized business meeting. Such affiliation may be dropped in the same manner, via; when the majority of the congregation has voted to do so in a duly authorized business meeting.

5. Churches may become affiliated for the purpose of legal and civil recognition where tax exemptions or other recognition is needed. It shall be the responsibility of the organization to assist in these matters when called upon. Any church or pastor shall accept all responsibility for their abuse or misuse of the tax exemption privileges. The ALJC shall comply with proper IRS requirements to provide Tax-Exemption for affiliated churches.

6. In the event of a pastoral vacancy occurring in an affiliated church, the District Superintendent with the District Board and/or their duly authorized representatives shall assist and supervise those business meetings called to deal with the pastoral vacancy. It is further understood that only ministers affiliated with and in good standing with the Assemblies of the Lord Jesus Christ Organization, shall be recommended to such affiliated churches for consideration as pastor.

7. Nothing in this provision shall be construed or interpreted as abridging the rights, authority, or sovereignty of the local pastor and church body. This assistance shall be given only during those times of a pastoral vacancy, or at times when tax recognition, etc., is needed.

ARTICLE VIII

MINISTRY

SECTION 1. QUALIFICATIONS OF MEMBERSHIP

1. Anyone desiring to hold membership with the Assemblies of the Lord Jesus Christ must have fulfilled the command given in Acts 2:38, of repentance, baptism in the name of Jesus Christ, and have received the Holy Ghost with the evidence of speaking in other tongues. Furthermore, he must believe, preach, and teach the same, having the call of God to the ministry.
2. An application for membership shall be properly completed.
3. An application for membership shall be approved or disapproved by the District Board, and if approved, it shall be signed and forwarded to the General Secretary.
4. All applicants shall be notified upon receipt of their application. All approved applications shall be processed within thirty (30) days of approval.

SECTION 2. LICENSE

1. Each License or Credential with current fellowship card shall be signed by the General Superintendent and General Secretary.
2. All Licenses and Credentials are void unless accompanied by a current fellowship card.
3. All information stating that any License or Credential is to be withheld must be forwarded to the General Secretary from the district so demanding said action.
4. Any minister withdrawing or being dropped from our organization must return his License or Credential to his respective District Superintendent.
5. All ministers holding License or Credentials with the Assemblies of the Lord Jesus Christ, who are not engaged in full time ministry (Pastor or Evangelist), shall attach themselves to a local Apostolic assembly, working under the jurisdiction of and in fellowship with the Assemblies of the Lord Jesus Christ and be subordinate to that pastor. Any exceptions to the above rule must be approved by the District Board in which the minister is located.
6. All Evangelists must be attached to a district and be actively supporting that district's financial plan.

7. All ministers not presently in an organized district shall attach themselves to the nearest district and cooperate fully with that district.

8. No minister affiliated with us shall be permitted to hold papers with any other chartered organization or association. Exception shall be accepted in cases of property protection.

9. When the General Secretary has reason to withhold any properly completed application for license, he will submit the application to the Executive Board for review. The Executive Board will then make a determination, either sending it back to the District or approving the application.

10. If an application is sent back to the District, the District shall return the results of their investigation into all issues identified, in writing, to the Executive Board, through the General Secretary. The District can also choose to stop the application process and not approve the applicant based on the information provided by the Executive Board.

11. If the District returns the application to the Executive Board and the issues identified are not resolved to its satisfaction, the application shall be referred to the National Credentials Committee. This committee shall be empowered to review all information and interview all individuals necessary to obtain sufficient information in order to determine their recommendation for the disposition of the application. The General Board will receive the National Credentials Committee report and shall render the final decision with regard to the approval or disapproval of an application.

12. The National Credentials Committee shall be appointed by the General Superintendent at each General Conference and shall consist of not less than three (3) or more than five (5) members. An Executive Board member, as designated by the General Superintendent shall be a member of the National Credentials Committee

13. **Local License:** A Local License may be issued to the young minister obeying the call of God on his heart. The district board has the authority to revoke a Local License on the request of his pastor. Local license National dues are \$21.00 per month.

14. **General License:** One must have a proven ministry of not less than two (2) years duration. General license National dues are \$22.00 per month.

15. **Ordination/Credentials:** In order to be admitted to the ranks of the ministry's highest calling, one must be duly and solemnly ordained and must be at least twenty-one (21) years of age. Further-

more, one must have not less than three (3) years of faithful ministry on a full time basis. Credentials license National license dues are \$23.00 per month.

a) An ordination may be held at any District or General Conference.

16. **Women:** All licenses issued to women in this organization should be designated to read Local License or General License. Women shall meet the requirements of said licenses in order to hold membership in this organization and shall have all voting privileges granted by those licenses.

SECTION 3. VOTING QUALIFICATIONS

1. Only those ministers and missionaries holding accredited Credentials or General License with the Assemblies of the Lord Jesus Christ shall be entitled to vote for General Officers. General Officers are defined as the General Superintendent, Assistant Superintendents (Regional), District Superintendents, Assistant District Superintendents and the General Secretary/Treasurer.

2. Local Licensed ministers may vote for all other national and district officers and all other General/District general session business.

3. No minister shall be permitted to vote that is not current with their district and national dues. Current is defined as paid up prior to the Conference, through the end of the month in which the Conference takes place.

4. Only ministers in attendance at the business meeting session at the time of a vote are eligible to vote.

SECTION 4. RULES AND OBLIGATIONS

1. Our ministers may conduct meetings in any city and for any church, regardless of its organizational ties, in the Oneness movement, as long as the conduct of both the church and its pastor is in harmony with godly living and Christian ethics.

2. National dues and assessments of all ministers of the Assemblies of the Lord Jesus Christ shall be determined by resolutions as affecting same and passed by the General Body at the annual conference. All such dues shall be paid to the District Secretary.

a) This fee includes the official paper of the Assemblies of the Lord Jesus Christ, the Constitution and Credential or License.

3. In accordance with each district's financial plan and budgetary needs, each district body shall approve the monthly dues required for the efficient and successful operation of the district. The monthly district dues may be a fixed amount or may be set as a percentage of

total and/or ministerial income, as determined by the district board and approved by the district membership. Each member shall pay district dues in accordance with their district's approved plan and dues structure.

4. National membership dues are not considered paid until they are received at headquarters. District Secretaries shall forward all national dues paid by each member to headquarters within 45 days of their receipt by the District.

5. Any minister failing to keep his national and district ministerial fees current with his district shall be notified that, after thirty (30) days his name will be dropped from the membership roll. For no other reason can one be dropped or disfellowshipped, except by the proper procedures in Article VIII, Section 4.

6. Any minister dropped or disfellowshipped from this organization cannot be considered for reinstatement within a period of twelve (12) months following the removal of his name from the membership roll, and then not without first appearing before the district from whence the count was held for a thorough investigation of the actions and facts that now cause petition for said reinstatement.

7. Petition for reinstatement must be in writing, signed by the petitioner, and filed with the Secretary of the district in which the petitioner lives. The petition shall state the time and facts that precipitated the dropping or withdrawal of petitioner and his reasons for requesting reinstatement at this time.

8. For this portion of the Constitution, refer to the Judicial Procedure Booklet.

9. Any minister proven guilty of the sin of adultery, fornication, homosexuality, lesbianism, bisexuality, bestiality, incest, pedophilia, pornography, or any other conduct, as stated in I Corinthians 6:9-10, while in this or any other organization, or any other ministry, shall not be permitted to have membership in this body. A hand of mercy, love and compassion should be extended to such ministers who have evidenced a broken and contrite spirit, in an effort to restore them to God. Ministers so restored may develop a participating role in their local church at the prudence of their pastor; however, this shall not qualify them for the privilege of membership in this organization.

10. Any minister who withdraws from this organization or has withdrawn from any other organization, or any other ministry, while his conduct is under question cannot be a member of this organization until such time as he resolves the question to the satisfaction of the Assemblies of the Lord Jesus Christ.

11. Any minister who knowingly allows such a one under question to take part in his services, until the resolution of the question, shall

himself receive such disciplinary action as is deemed necessary by the District Board.

12. The name of any minister dealt with in any district, for any reason that shall cause his name to be removed from the ministerial list, shall be published in a letter to the members of this organization.

SECTION 5. MARRIAGE AND DIVORCE

“Whosoever shall put away his wife, except it be for fornication, and shall marry another, committeth adultery.” (Matthew 5:32)

“And I say unto you, Whosoever shall put away his wife, except it be for fornication, and shall marry another, committeth adultery: and whoso marrieth her which is put away doth commit adultery.” (Matthew 19:9)

- 1. In order to lift a higher standard in the ministry, no minister shall be accepted in this organization who has married for the second time after their conversion, unless the first marriage was terminated by a death, except in those cases where fornication or adultery is proven as grounds for divorce. Sufficient evidence, including, but not limited to those documents listed herein must be presented to the District Board considering the applicant for license.**
- 2. Documents required with the application: Complete court documents of divorce, including a copy of the divorce decree; applicant’s personal affidavit of the cause for divorce; affidavits of 2 or 3 credible witnesses, with personal knowledge of the fornication or adultery divorce issue; affidavits of 2 or 3 witnesses of the character of the applicant, both before and after the divorce.**
- 3. In the event that the applicant shall be found at fault, he/she shall not be eligible for license as a minister of this organization.**
- 4. The District Board must reach a majority decision in favor of approving the application. If approved, the district shall then refer the file to the Executive Board for endorsement of the District Board’s approval. The Executive Board will thoroughly and judiciously investigate the application.**
- 5. If a majority of the Executive Board agrees that all necessary steps have been taken by the District Board, the applicant’s license shall be approved.**

ARTICLE IX

CHRISTIAN CHURCH GROWTH POLICY

SECTION 1. NAME

The name of this department shall be Department of Church Growth of the Assemblies of the Lord Jesus Christ.

SECTION 2. PURPOSE

1. The purpose of this department is to promote overall Growth in every church of the Assemblies of the Lord Jesus Christ. These areas being Sunday School, Outreach, Home Bible Studies, Prayer and Discipleship.
2. To promote materials and programs that will aid in the Growth of our churches.
3. To empower the saints for Growth not only in number but also in quality.

SECTION 3. MISSION STATEMENT

Our Mission is to strengthen and empower the Saints in this wicked and untoward generation and to save as many lost sinners as possible before the Rapture of the Church.

SECTION 4. OFFICERS

The officers of the Church Growth Department shall consist of a National Director of Church Growth and one District Director from each District of the Assemblies of the Lord Jesus Christ. These officers shall, by virtue of their election and/or appointment, become the Department of Church Growth. A Secretary/Treasurer for the National Director of Church Growth Department may or may not be appointed by the National Director of the Church Growth Department. Any appointment of the Secretary/Treasurer shall be approved or denied by the Executive Board.

SECTION 5. METHOD OF ELECTION OF OFFICERS

1. The National Director shall be nominated and elected by the General Body.

2. District Directors shall be elected by their Conference for a term of two (2) years, which is to coincide with election of the National Director's term of office.

3. All District Directors shall work under and in harmony with the National Director of Church Growth.

SECTION 6. OFFICIAL DUTIES

1. Encourage overall Growth in the areas of Sunday School, Outreach, Home Bible Studies, Prayer and Discipleship.

2. To promote materials and programs that will encourage Church Growth and also the equipping and perfecting of the Saints.

3. Perform the duties as authorized by this policy.

SECTION 7. CHURCH GROWTH BOARD

1. The National Church Growth Board, in dealing with each local church, shall recognize the sovereignty of said local church operation as such under the local Pastor.

2. National Church Growth Board members are as follows:

a) Chairperson – National Director

b) Members – District Directors

3. Any meeting of the National Church Growth Board shall be valid with a meeting of the National Church Growth Director and any or all District Church Growth Directors present being a quorum.

4. The Church Growth Board shall meet at each General function, such as General Conference.

SECTION 8. FINANCIAL SUPPORT

1. All contributions to the Church Growth Department shall be sent to the National Headquarters offices in Memphis, Tennessee. All contributions shall then be forwarded to the National Church Growth Director, or to the National Church Growth Secretary/ Treasurer, as designated by the National Church Growth Director.

ARTICLE X

DEPARTMENT OF CHRISTIAN CHURCH SCHOOLS

SECTION 1. DIRECTOR

The Department of Christian Church Schools may present to the General Body its recommendation for nominees for election as Department of Christian Church Schools Director. The director of this department shall be nominated and elected by the General Body.

SECTION 2. COMMITTEE

The committee shall be composed of qualified people in different geographical locations to aid in the visitations and support in the helps needed by the local Church Schools. These committee members shall be appointed by the director and ratified by the General Board.

SECTION 3. PURPOSE

1. To promote our Church Schools on a Monday through Friday program, using God-centered curriculum that in-houses life skills.
2. To implement the program of Accreditation and Certification where and when desired by the pastor.
3. To issue Certification of Accreditation to those Bible Colleges, and Monday through Friday Church Schools that are consistent with the teachings that are outlined by the Assemblies of the Lord Jesus Christ and that meet the standards set forth in the valid criteria.
4. To issue certifications to those teachers that meet the standards set forth in the valid criteria for certification and that are consistent with the teachings of the Assemblies of the Lord Jesus Christ.
5. To endorse those Bible Colleges and curriculum that the pastor is in good standing with the Assemblies of the Lord Jesus Christ and the school has fulfilled said requirements.

SECTION 4. FINANCIAL SUPPORT

1. All contributions to the Department of Christian Schools shall be sent to the National Headquarters offices in Memphis, Tennessee. The contributions shall then be forwarded to the Department of Christian Schools National Director.

ARTICLE XI

MISSIONS AMERICA POLICY

SECTION 1. IDENTIFICATION AND PURPOSE

1. The Missions America Department of the Assemblies of the Lord Jesus Christ shall be dedicated to the evangelizing of the Continental North America.

2. This shall include all English and foreign speaking people, and any resident Indian tribes, but shall exclude the countries of Mexico and Canada.

3. The purpose of this department shall be to establish churches and provide pastors for the same, wherever and whenever possible, to the fullest extent of our ability and so designated resources.

SECTION 2. GENERAL STRUCTURE AND OPERATION

1. The National Missions America Department shall consist of a National Director, National Assistant Director, and a committee of Regional Directors, and District Directors.

2. The National Director shall be nominated and elected by the General Body of ministers. The Assistant Director and Regional Directors will be appointed or reappointed every two (2) years by the National Director of Missions America.

3. The National Director shall have the oversight of the field of Missions America so designated in Section 1 as follows:

a) To serve as chairman of the committee of Missions America which consists of National, Regional, and District Missions America Officials.

b) To receive funds and disburse same as directed by the committee of Missions America.

c) To take minutes and record all receipts and allocations of funds so that a complete report of committee actions and finances may be given to the General Conference.

d) To serve as coordinator of programs and promotions between all areas of North America.

e) The National Missions America Department Director position shall be a salaried position. The salary for this position shall be determined bi-annually by the National Missions America Department

Board and shall be budgeted and funded by and from Missions America Department funds. The bi-annual salary recommendation shall be submitted to the General Board of the Assemblies of the Lord Jesus Christ for its review and approval.

4. The committee of Missions America shall assist the National Director as follows:

a) To promote and coordinate the purpose of this department as stated in Section 1, paragraph 3; and Section 3, paragraph 3, Number d; in all areas and districts.

SECTION 3. DISTRICT STRUCTURE AND OPERATION

1. The District Missions America Director shall be elected by the District Conference or appointed by the District Board and ratified by the District Conference for a term of two (2) years.

2. The District Missions America Director shall appoint two (2) or more members who, with himself, shall serve on the committee of District Missions America. The district committee of Missions America shall fulfill the obligations as specified:

a) To determine the need for establishing new works in their respective districts.

b) To regulate the allocations of funds to the various projects throughout the district.

3. The District Directors of Missions America shall have the oversight of the District Missions America work as follows:

a) To serve as chairman of the district committee of Missions America.

b) To be responsible for the taking and keeping of the minutes of all district committee meetings and recording of all Missions America developments in the district in order that a complete report may be given to the district conference.

c) To promote the raising of funds for the establishment of the Missions America program within the district.

d) To cooperate with the National Director of Missions America in carrying out the national program.

e) To cooperate with the District Superintendent in promoting Missions America in the district.

f) To serve on the National Committee of Missions America.

g) The District Missions America Director may at any time inspect the work of the Adopt-A-City Church. He may also, with the concurrence of the District Superintendent, and Regional Director, recommend discontinuance of Adopt-A-City support (including faith promises) for that church.

h) The District Director shall work as a liaison between the Missions America Missionary and the pastors of the churches that support him.

SECTION 4. MISSION AMERICA FUNDS

1. Funds to support a strong Missions America program shall be raised at special meetings, by personal contributions, and by offerings from the local churches.

2. Missions America Funds shall consist of four (4) categories:

a) **Designated offerings** (Offerings sent to ministries that are not on the Adopt-A-City program). Ninety percent (90%) of all designated offerings shall be sent to where it is designated, with ten percent (10%) being retained by the national office.

b) **Undesignated offerings** (Offerings that are sent to be used where most needed).

c) **Adopt-A-City offerings** (Offerings that are for support of Adopt-A-City churches).

d) **Resurrection Sunday Offerings** (Offerings for the establishing of new churches).

3. All funds shall be sent to the National Headquarters office in Memphis, Tennessee. The National Missions America Office shall send the District percentage of contributions due the District to the District Missions America Director. The Missions America Department shall implement and maintain an appropriate policy to maintain all percentages, allocations and procedures for the reporting and dispersal of all funds.

4. A report listing all District churches and District individuals contributing to Missions America along with amounts contributed shall be sent to the District's Missions America Director in accordance with the timetable established by the procedures of the National Missions America Department.

5. Each contributor shall designate how the funds are to be allocated to each Missions America Fund category. The Missions America Fund categories are identified in the monthly Missions America Contribution Form that must be sent in with each contribution. The Missions America Contribution Form is mailed out to all contributors of record each month by the Missions America National office.

6. All Contributions and Contributions Forms need to be sent to headquarters by no later than the third Monday of each month.

7. Ninety percent (90%) of Adopt-A-City offerings shall be sent to the Adopt-A-City churches, with remaining ten percent (10%) being retained by the national office.

8. Ninety percent (90%) of Resurrection Sunday offerings shall be sent to the Target City, with ten percent (10%) being retained by the national office.

9. Twenty-five percent (25%) of undesignated offerings shall be returned to the district, with the remaining seventy-five percent (75%) being retained by the national office.

10. Undesignated offerings sent to the national office shall be used at the discretion of the national office.

11. District Directors shall have Missions America rallies within their district to raise funds for their district account. These funds, along with twenty-five (25%) percent of undesignated funds received from the national office, shall be used as follows:

- a) Help on expenses for the District Missions America Director to attend General Conference.
- b) Telephone calls related to Missions America work.
- c) Travel involved in Missions America work.
- d) Help on expenses to Missions America seminars, rallies, and/or meetings.

12. Resurrection Sunday offerings shall be received once a year on Easter Sunday and sent to the National Headquarters offices in Memphis, Tennessee. They shall then be forwarded to the National Missions America office.

SECTION 5. REQUIREMENTS OF AN ADOPT-A-CITY CHURCH

1. The Adopt-A-City program is for establishing new churches in North America and Canada.

2. The Adopt-A-City program is also for helping those churches that are three (3) years old and less with a grant.

3. Each Adopt-A-City church shall be required to adopt the rules of government as set forth by the Adopt-A-City program.

4. Each Adopt-A-City church shall be required to affiliate with the Assemblies of the Lord Jesus Christ before receiving any funds. The District Superintendent of the district in which the church is located will be the chairman of the business meeting, which is called to determine affiliation.

5. Any church that has received grants through the Adopt-A-City program that desires to withdraw from the Assemblies of the Lord Jesus Christ shall be required to reimburse all funds received through the Adopt-A-City program as set forth in the Adopt-A-City Agreement.

6. Any church that desires to come on the Adopt-A-City program that receives funds from the Missions America Department must first have a called business meeting to take a vote from the church body

to do this. A copy of those minutes of that meeting must be sent to the National Missions America Department before funds can be received.

7. The church must also agree to sign the Adopt-A-City Agreement of the National Missions America Department.

8. All Missions America offerings from the Adopt-A-City church to the National Missions America Department shall be subtracted from obligation of indebtedness

9. Each Adopt-A-City church must obtain their own E.I.N. number (Employer Identification Number).

10. Each Adopt-A-City church is required to accept the Constitution and By-Laws as set forth by the Missions America Department.

11. All Adopt-A-City checks shall be made out in the name of the church.

12. Approval for Adopt-A-City grants must be granted by:

- a) District Missions America Director.
- b) District Superintendent.
- c) Regional Missions America Director.
- d) National Missions America Director.

13. An Adopt-A-City applicant:

- a) Must be a minimum of twenty-one (21) years of age.
- b) Must have a General License or Credentials.
- c) Must inform the congregation of their Adopt-A-City status upon approval of their application, and each consecutive year thereafter.
- d) Must be a member of the Assemblies of the Lord Jesus Christ for a period of two (2) years with the exception of those with a proven ministry.

14. Introduction of an Adopt-A-City church or pastor:

a) **The Adopt-A-City program is designed to assist those works three years old and younger in the establishing of new churches to be affiliated with the Assemblies of the Lord Jesus Christ for an original three-year period, with consideration given for a maximum of five years pending approval of the Missions America Board.**

b) The Missions America Missionary and his program must be initially introduced in the sectional or district fellowship meeting. Here he may be permitted to solicit faith promises (with the previous consent of the pastors) or use an alternate plan in which the pastor may desire to raise funds from his church, using his own method.

c) The National or District Missions America Director shall, upon request, inform each pastor of those in his church which have pledged sponsorship.

d) The Missions America Missionary shall then be permitted to solicit invitations from each pastor of any section within his district to solicit faith promises on an individual basis.

e) In the event that a Missions America Missionary goes into a district other than his own to solicit funds, he must first have approval from that District Missions America Director and the District Superintendent of his own district prior to solicitation.

15. In the event that an Adopt-A-City pastor, while on the Adopt-A-City program wishes to close or leave the work where he pastors, for whatever reason, the pastor of said church must notify his District Superintendent. The District Superintendent will then notify the National Missions America Director.

SECTION 6. REGIONAL DIRECTORS

1. There shall be three Regional Directors, who shall be chosen from the three (3) regions of the organization:

- a) A Northern Regional Director
- b) A Southern Regional Director
- c) A Western Regional Director

2. The Regional Directors shall have the oversight of their region in Missions America work.

3. They shall work in harmony with all Adopt-A-City works in their region.

4. They shall work with the District Missions America Directors in their region.

5. They shall serve on the National Missions America Board.

SECTION 7. NATIONAL MISSIONS AMERICA SECRETARY

1. The National Missions America Secretary shall be appointed by the National Missions America Director for a term of two (2) years.

2. The duties of the National Secretary shall be:

a) To record and keep accurate records of all matters of official business.

b) To work under the supervision of the National Missions America Director.

c) To keep an accurate record of all receipts and disbursements of the National Missions America Department.

d) To prepare a financial report each month for the National Missions America Director.

e) To prepare an annual report to be submitted to the General Body each year at General Conference.

f) To receive all funds for the National Missions America Department, and have the authority to sign and disburse checks as directed by the National Missions America Director.

g) To correspond with Missions America under the supervision of the National Missions America Director.

SECTION 8. TARGET CITIES

1. Resurrection Sunday Offering shall be designated to establish Adopt-A-City Churches.

2. The Missions America Department shall designate a Target city each year.

3. The number of cities so designated shall be determined by the amount of funds available.

4. The Regional Director, along with the District Directors of his region, shall recommend a Target city.

5. The Regional Director, along with the District Director in which a Target city is chosen, shall work with the District Superintendent.

6. The National Missions America Director along with the Regional Directors, shall determine which Target city shall be chosen.

7. The National Missions America Director, the Regional Director, along with the District Director, shall seek out someone to establish the Target city church.

SECTION 9. HISPANIC MINISTRY

1. Purpose of The Hispanic Ministry:

a) To establish new churches among the Spanish-Speaking population, throughout North America.

b) To provide a means of fellowship for Hispanic Churches and ministers that desire to be in fellowship with the Assemblies of the Lord Jesus Christ.

2. The Hispanic Ministry shall be a division of the National Missions America Department, Assemblies of the Lord Jesus Christ.

3. The director of the Hispanic Ministry shall be appointed by the National Missions America Director and approved by the Missions America Executive Board, for a term of two (2) years.

4. The Director of Hispanic Ministry must submit a financial report to the National Missions America Director for the fiscal year, at the end of the fiscal year. The Director of Hispanic Ministry shall give his financial report to the Missions America Board at each General Conference or as requested by the National Missions America Director.

5. Any Hispanic church requesting to receive funds must first meet the requirements as set forth in Section 5 of the Missions America Policy.

6. Application to receive Missions America Funds must be filled out and have the signature of the Hispanic Ministry Director, District Superintendent, District Missions America Director, Regional Missions America Director and the National Missions America Director.

7. No Hispanic church that is over three years old shall receive funds from the Assemblies of the Lord Jesus Christ without the approval of the Missions America Executive Board.

8. Any minister that desires to start a Missions America Church under the Hispanic Ministry without receiving funds, must first contact the Director of Hispanic Ministry. The Director of Hispanic Ministry is to then contact the District Superintendent and the District Missions America Director of said district before the Missions America Church is started.

9. Any minister of the Assemblies of the Lord Jesus Christ that pastors a Hispanic church may be part of the Hispanic Ministry.

10. Any Hispanic minister that desires to receive license with the Assemblies of the Lord Jesus Christ must do so according to the General Constitution of the Assemblies of the Lord Jesus Christ.

11. The Hispanic Ministry may have a Hispanic Conference each year. This conference must be approved by the National Missions America Department.

SECTION 10. THE PRISONER'S FRIEND MINISTRIES

1. The Prisoner's Friend Ministries. A division of the National Missions America Department of the Assemblies of the Lord Jesus Christ, Memphis, Tennessee.

2. Purpose: To evangelize prison and jail institutions throughout the 50 states of the United States of America. Contact with any prison or prisoner outside the 50 states shall come under the authority of the World Missions Department of the Assemblies of the Lord Jesus Christ. The Prisoner's Friend Ministries shall:

a) Attempt to educate prisoners with the Apostolic message in jails and prisons throughout America.

b) Distribute Gospel tracts and Bibles to any prisoner (jail or prison) that requests these materials.

c) Attempt to supply Gospel music cassettes and Apostolic preaching cassettes to prisoners and prisons that can receive them.

d) Attempt to supply Apostolic video worship or preaching tapes to prisoners and prisons that can receive them.

e) Attempt to maintain personal contacts with prisoners via birthday and Christmas cards.

f) Offer a complete Bible correspondence course to any prisoner that requests it. This offer shall be valid only for so long as a person is incarcerated.

g) Establish a national registry and recognition for all chaplains registered with the National Chaplain's Program of the Assemblies of the Lord Jesus Christ.

3. Funding And Disbursements Of Funds:

a) The Prisoner's Friend Ministries shall be funded through the National Missions America Department through offerings and special gifts received either by the office of The Prisoner's Friend or by the National Missions America Department for the purpose of funding The Prisoner's Friend Ministries.

b) Offerings and/or special gifts for the prison ministry received by The Prisoner's Friend office shall be directed as per the Missions America Director's instructions to the chaplain of The Prisoner's Friend Ministries.

c) 100% of all offerings and gifts received for the National prison ministry shall be forwarded to the chaplain of The Prisoner's Friend Ministry to use for the prison ministry.

d) All expenses incurred by The Prisoner's Friend Ministries shall be paid by check, and a copy of the Division's monthly bank statement shall be sent to the National Director of Missions America on a monthly basis.

e) Notations shall be made beside every check number on the bank statement copy to identify the payees of the checks.

f) The Prisoner's Friend Ministry shall submit an annual financial statement to the National Missions America director.

g) The personnel of The Prisoner's Friend Ministries shall receive no salaries but shall be reimbursed for expenses such as phone calls, travel and overnight accommodations incurred in the performance of the ministry.

h) All major purchases such as copiers (when funds are available) must be pre-approved by the National Director of Missions America.

i) Each church and each district in the Assemblies of the Lord Jesus Christ is encouraged to send at least one major offering annually to The Prisoner's Friend Ministries.

j) Since so much expense is involved in the prison ministry, every church is encouraged to support The Prisoner's Friend Ministries on a monthly basis.

4. Appointment And Term Of Office Of National Chaplain:

a) The chaplain of The Prisoner's Friend Ministries shall be appointed by the National Director of Missions America and approved by the Missions America Executive Board to serve for a term of two years or until a successor is appointed for the position.

SECTION 11. MISSIONS AMERICA DEPARTMENT DIVISIONS

1. The Hispanic Ministry, Native American Ministry and the Prisoner's Friend Ministry shall be a division of the National Missions America Department and shall come under the Missions America Policy.

2. The directors for the divisions of the Missions America Department shall be appointed by the National Missions America Director and approved by the Missions America Executive Board, for a term of two (2) years.

3. Support and flow of funds for the Divisions of the National Missions America Department shall be as set forth in the Missions America Policy Article XI, Section 4 of the General Constitution.

4. Each Divisional Director must submit a financial report for the fiscal year to the National Missions America Director at the end of the fiscal year. Each Divisional Director shall give his financial report to the Missions America Board at each General Conference or as requested by the National Missions America Director.

ARTICLE XII

WORLD MISSIONS POLICY

SECTION 1. WORLD MISSIONS POLICY

1. It shall be the purpose of the Assemblies of the Lord Jesus Christ to seek and carry the gospel to neglected and un-evangelized countries, and to strive for the establishing of self-supporting, self-propagating, native churches. Further, it shall be our purpose to establish and maintain missionary stations rather than to simply support missionaries.

2. The World Missionary Policy of the Assemblies of the Lord Jesus Christ, in keeping with the principles that govern the organization, shall be cooperative. The organization does not hire missionaries, or guarantee them any stated salary.

SECTION 2. WORLD MISSIONS BOARD

1. The World Missions Board shall consist of the Director of World Missions, the Secretary of World Missions, the Promotional and Publication Director of World Missions, all Regional Field Supervisors, all District Promotional Directors, the Radio Director, the Deputation Director and the Educational Missions Director.

2. The duties of the World Missions Board shall be:

a) To have the general oversight of all activities of this organization outside the continental limits of the United States, working in harmony with and under supervision of the General Superintendent and the General Board.

b) To examine candidates (in person or by application) for World Missionary service and make recommendation to the Executive Board for Missionary appointment.

c) To endorse candidates for short-term assignment or ministries other than full-time missionary service in World fields.

d) To approve the budget of the World Missions division and establish policies for solicitation and disbursement of funds.

e) To serve as a board of appeals concerning problems that cannot be resolved by the Missionary Field Superintendent, Regional Field Supervisor, or the Director.

f) To take action with regard to false doctrine or misconduct on the World mission field in harmony with the by-laws and judicial procedure of this organization.

g) To approve the organizing and proposed constitutions of mission fields.

h) To make appointment of Missionary Field Superintendents, where Field constitutions provide for this action.

i) The World Missions Board shall convene at each General Conference at a time and place selected by the World Missions Director.

j) Four (4) or more shall constitute a quorum at any called meeting.

SECTION 3. QUALIFICATIONS

The Director and members of the World Missions Board must be at least thirty (30) years of age, must be of unquestionable character and integrity, and must conform to the fundamental doctrine.

SECTION 4. EXECUTIVE WORLD MISSIONS BOARD

The Executive World Missions Board shall consist of the Director of World Missions, the Secretary of World Missions, the Promotional Director of World Missions, the Deputation Director of World Missions, the Educational Director of World Missions, and the Regional Field Supervisors. This board would convene at meetings as called by the World Missions Director to conduct World Missions business between conferences. The World Missions Director (or his representative) and two members shall constitute a quorum.

SECTION 5. WORLD MISSIONS DIRECTOR

1. *The duties of the World Missions Director shall be:*

a) To act as the head of the World Missions division under the supervision of the World Missions Board.

b) To be chairman of the World Missions Board.

c) To conduct correspondence with prospective missionaries and with those already on the field.

d) To perform such other functions as may be directed by the World Missions Board not in conflict with these by-laws.

e) To have the authority to recall missionaries as directed by the World Missions Board. All cases involving the missionary's ministerial status shall be handled according to the judicial procedure.

f) To supervise and direct the receiving and disbursing of all World Missionary funds. In no case shall any World missionary funds be disbursed without the authorization of the Director of World Missions, who shall be directed by these by-laws, the World Missions Board or the donors.

g) To visit each World mission field as he deems it necessary. In the event that he finds it impossible to make the trip himself, the World Missions Board should recommend someone else to go. All expenses of such trips shall be paid for by the World Missions Division if possible.

h) To have the authority to sign all World Missionary Credentials and Fellowship cards.

i) To carry out the duties of this office in correspondence and in visitation to the World field as often as authorized by the World Missions Committee.

j) To fulfill all other duties as may be prescribed by this Constitution.

k) He shall submit a planned budget for each year at the General Conference.

l) The Director of World Missions shall be authorized to sign all legal documents, deeds, and mortgages as a trustee of the World Missions property.

m) The annual salary of the National World Missions Director shall be determined by the National World Missions Board and be approved by the General Board.

SECTION 6. WORLD MISSIONS SECRETARY

The Secretary of World Missions shall be appointed by the by the Director of World Missions and approved by the General Board to a term of two (2) years. This appointment to be ratified by the General Board while this conference is in session.

1. The duties of the secretary shall be:

a) To serve as the recording secretary of the World Missions Board and keep a record of all decisions and official acts of the World Missions Board. A copy of the same is to be sent to all members of the Executive and World Missions Board.

b) To keep an accurate record of all receipts and disbursements of World Missionary funds and make all necessary reports of such funds to the Director of World Missions.

c) To conduct correspondence relative to the World Missions division under the supervision of the Director of World Missions.

d) To have the authority to write World Missionary vouchers directed by the Director of World Missions and the World Missions Board.

e) To perform such other duties as the work of the World Missions division demands under the supervision of the Director of World Missions.

SECTION 7. WORLD MISSIONS PROMOTIONAL DIRECTOR

The Promotions Director of World Missions shall be appointed by the Director of World Missions and approved by the General Board to a term of two (2) years. This appointment to be ratified by the General Board while this conference is in session.

SECTION 8. WORLD MISSIONS DEPUTATION DIRECTOR

1. The World Missions Deputation Director shall be appointed by the Director of World Missions and approved by the General Board to a term of two (2) years. This appointment to be ratified by the General Board while this conference is in session.

2. *The duties of the deputation director shall be:*

a) Set up the itinerary for the deputation of the missionary.

b) Be responsible for informing the World Missions' Director and World Missions' Secretary of the complete itinerary of the missionary while on deputation.

c) Be responsible for the well-being and proper care of the missionary while on deputation. The Deputation Director shall be in contact with the missionary and District Directors to ensure that proper care has been given to the missionary.

d) Give the missionary an information packet with his itinerary, an outline of duties while on deputation and the materials needed to perform his deputation.

SECTION 9. WORLD MISSIONS EDUCATIONAL MISSIONS DIRECTOR

The duties of the World Missions Educational Missions Director shall consist of the following:

1. To serve under the direction of the World Missions Executive Board.

2. To Work with the World Missions Field Supervisors and Missionaries in promoting the Gospel through various forms of human development such as Bible Schools and/or Training Centers.

3. To promote the World Missions Educational Division financially through approved fund-raising programs.
4. To supervise the proper dispersal of World Missions Educational Division Funds for approved projects.
5. To select a World Missions Educational Committee (for the serving as a consulting body for the World Missions Educational Director) to be approved by the World Missions Director.
6. To meet with the World Missions Educational Committee annually.
7. Shall travel to various Missions Fields when approved by the director of World Missions.
8. To provide an annual financial report to the World Missions Executive Board at the National General Conference.

SECTION 10. REGIONAL FIELD SUPERVISORS

1. The World Missions field is divided into four (4) geographical regions:

- a) Asia/South Pacific
- b) Latin America/Caribbean
- c) Africa
- d) Europe/Middle East

The World Missions Director shall appoint four (4) men to serve as Regional Field Supervisors over each of the respective regions for a term of two (2) years. These appointments are to be ratified by the General Board while this conference is in session.

2. *The duties of the regional field supervisor shall include:*

- a) To seek qualified candidates for his respective field and to represent his region to the World Missions Board.
- b) To spend as much time as possible promoting the needs of his region to the home front.
- c) To supervise the work in his area under the jurisdiction of the World Missions Board and the Director of World Missions.
- d) To represent the home constituency to the World missionaries and the World churches.
- e) To work to maintain harmony among the brethren and to establish priorities within their region, in cooperation with the missionaries.
- f) To serve as a liaison between the missionaries, the World Missions Board, and the Director of World Missions. It is understood that this shall not in any way impede direct access or appeal by the missionary to the Director of World Missions.

- g) To sit with the World Missions Board with a voice and a vote.
- h) The Regional Field Supervisor shall visit his field once a year if funds are available and if not; he should visit the field every two years. The World Missions Department shall pay expenses for this trip unless otherwise agreed upon. Said expenses shall include all travel, lodging and meals. Said expenses shall be substantiated by receipts or expense log if receipts are not available.
- i) To be a member of the World Missions Executive Board.

**SECTION 11. DISTRICT WORLD MISSIONS
PROMOTIONAL DIRECTORS**

- 1. Each district of the Assemblies of the Lord Jesus Christ shall elect a Promotional Director for the district.
- 2. It is the duty of the District World Missions Promotional Director (hereafter known as DWMPD) to effectively educate and communicate with the pastors concerning the program and goals of the World Missions Department,
- 3. It is the duty of the DWMPD to supervise and manage a missionary's deputation within the district. These responsibilities entail:
 - a. Devise a complete travel schedule of the missionary's deputation.
 - b. Ensure that the missionary's accommodations are adequately met while traveling throughout the district.
 - c. Follow up on churches (where the missionary ministered) to gather the total of new financial support. This total should be sent to the National World Missions Secretary within four weeks of the missionary's departure.
 - d. Attend the World Missions business session at the National General Conference.

**SECTION 12. LOCAL CHURCH WORLD MISSIONS
PROMOTIONAL DIRECTOR/SECRETARY**

- 1. It is proposed that each local Church have its own World Missions Promotional Director/Secretary whose duties shall be:
 - a) With complete cooperation of the pastor, to have a weekly/monthly World Missions offering.
 - b) To promote interest through correspondence with publication of letters, articles, etc., from each field represented by this organization.

SECTION 13. POLICY FOR WORLD MISSIONS CANDIDATES

1. Prospective missionaries should be thoroughly examined by the World Missions Board, which shall be governed in its selection and nomination of missionaries by the following requirements:

a) *Personal Experience*: Candidates must have the personal experience of full New Testament salvation according to Acts 2:38, namely, Repentance of sins, baptism in water in the name of Jesus Christ for the remission of sins, and the receiving of the gift of the Holy Ghost, evidenced by speaking with other tongues as the Spirit gives utterance. Said candidates must believe this to be essential to salvation.

b) *Doctrinal Teaching And Conviction*: Said candidates will teach the essentiality of this same born-again experience to all converts.

c) Definite call to World Missions work.

d) Physical, mental and spiritual fitness for the work.

e) Experience as a Pastor, Assistant Pastor, Evangelist, etc. of at least two (2) years. We recommend this experience be in the ALJC.

2. Prospective missionaries shall be granted appointment only after they have first qualified for ordination. At no time should ordination be granted on the strength of World call, but should be determined on the basis of their scriptural qualifications. Exceptions to this role would be:

a) *Teachers*: In the event that some fields might demand missionaries open and maintain parochial schools, and since the missionaries cannot do the work of the missions station and also fill the role of day teacher, qualified teachers who pass all requirements of the Articles of Faith shall be given the proper credential and be authorized to work as teachers under the supervision of the missionary.

b) *Missionary Helpers*: This might apply to missionary children who have come of age but could still be a great asset in the work on the field, having lived there.

3. Before going to the appointed field, missionaries and their spouses shall be required to:

a) Pass an examination by a competent physician as to physical and mental fitness.

b) Have health care approved by the World Missions Board.

c) Provide information to the World Missions Secretary so police clearance can be obtained.

d) Provide information to the World Missions Secretary so that a credit check can be completed.

e) Send copies of materials mentioned in points a) and b) to the World Missions Secretary.

4. Anyone desiring appointment as a World missionary should file a World Missionary Application form provided by the World Missions Division at least three (3) months prior to a meeting of the World Missions Board. The Secretary should then secure recommendations from the candidate's District Board and District Superintendent, the candidate's pastor and other personal references. Should the candidate be applying for a field where another missionary is appointed, the written opinion of that appointed missionary should be obtained. Candidates shall then be examined by the World Missions Board who will then make recommendation to the Executive Board that approved candidates be appointed. Final appointment as a World Missionary shall be by action of the General Board.

5. Any missionary already in a World country who desires to be affiliated with the Assemblies of the Lord Jesus Christ and appointed as a missionary should obtain a letter from the Missionary Field Superintendent and apply to the Director of World Missions who shall submit his application to the World Missions Board and General Board.

6. Any Missionary under appointment should attend a Missionary Seminar before leaving for his field of labor. Such seminar would inform him of such things as:

- a) The indigenous Church.
- b) The need for Bible Schools on the field.
- c) Photography and Newsletters.
- d) The Missionary Family.
- e) The woman's role on the field.
- f) Communication with World Missions Board and supporters.

7. All duly appointed Missionaries shall be required to pay national dues, but shall be exempt from district dues.

SECTION 14. WORLD MISSIONS SERVICE

1. Missionaries should be requested not to plan furloughs or other extensive moves or financial outlay without first getting the written approval of the World Missions Board. The World Missions Board will not be responsible for financial obligations of missionaries when these principles are not adhered to.

2. The length of term of appointment of missionaries should be as follows:

- a) Two (2) year term of service with a three (3) month deputation.

b) The World Missions Board shall adjust these terms as necessitated by field need, missionary health factors, family considerations, and other factors that pertain to this matter.

3. It should be required that missionaries have a physical check-up as soon as possible after returning home on each deputation, so that if necessary diet and rest is needed, the missionary may profit by such instruction throughout the deputation period, and thus prepare for return to the field.

4. Appointment of all missionaries shall terminate upon their return to the homeland at the end of their term unless application for reappointment is made prior to returning from the field and passed upon by the World Missions Board and General Board.

5. Within two (2) weeks of returning home the missionary is to contact the World Missions Director, Secretary and Deputation Director giving a report of their time on the field and receiving their itinerary for the time they are home. The Deputation Director should know where the missionary is traveling at all times.

6. World Missionaries, while under appointment of the General Board, shall not adopt or "take to bring up" in any legal way as their own, any children without consulting with and having agreement of the World Missions Board.

SECTION 15. WORLD MISSIONS SUPPORT

1. All church and individual monthly and special offering contributions made to the World Missions Department shall be sent to the National Headquarters offices in Memphis, Tennessee and be forwarded to the National World Missions Secretary.

2. For as much as the Assemblies of the Lord Jesus Christ does not hire missionaries, the following is its policy of World Missions support:

a) The World Missions Department will not commit itself to a definite financial allotment.

b) The missionary will present a projected budget to the World Missions Director every two (2) years.

c) **When the missionary's budget is approved, he will be required to do deputation travel until he has enough sponsors.**

d) Each month the missionary will receive, depending on his incoming funds, up to his approved budget.

e) Any incoming funds that are designated to said missionary in excess of his monthly budget will be held for him in an escrow account. In the event that his incoming funds are insufficient for any given month to meet his allotment, it would be made up from his escrow account, providing the funds are there.

f) The escrow account would be used:

(i) To meet needs for his station.

(ii) For furlough/deputation expense.

(iii) For emergencies.

g) A percentage of the missionaries' gross income shall be placed in a retirement fund. The percentage is to be decided by the World Missions Board.

3. In order for the World Missions Department to be aware of what monies are coming into missions and also give churches proper credit, it is requested that a triple receipt book be purchased and used, giving each church a copy, sending a copy to the World Missions Secretary, and keeping a copy for the missionary's personal record.

4. No systematic canvas of Assemblies for pledges of support or funds for fare and projects should be made without first securing the permission of the World Missions division.

5. In order to establish a regular and consistent source of support for the World Missionary endeavor of the church, the Helping Hands shall be considered the program of the World Missions Division for our local churches. All funds raised by the use of this plan under the missionary label should be for the support of endorsed Assemblies of the Lord Jesus Christ World Missions endeavors. It is suggested that the funds be allocated on the following basis:

a) For the pledged support of the Assemblies of the Lord Jesus Christ World Missionaries and their field of labor according to the policy of the World Missions Division.

b) For the World Missions general fund.

c) For special projects which have the prior approval of the World Missions Division.

d) For special needs of the missionaries on furlough, under appointment and while on deputation as authorized by the World Missions Division.

6. All missionary monies pledged and raised at our General and District Conferences shall be raised for endorsed or appointed missionaries and their projects only.

7. Local churches are advised to engage missionaries in cooperation with the District Promotional Directors to avoid offerings to any missionary not endorsed by our Board.

8. Undesignated World Missionary offerings shall be placed in the World Missions General Fund to be used only for the support of the Assemblies of the Lord Jesus Christ World Missionary endeavors wherever the need exists. Designated World Missionary offerings shall be expended as designated except:

a) In the event that the designated funds received for any missionary shall exceed the regular allowance for that missionary, the World Missions Division shall hold such funds in a reserve fund for said missionary to be applied on the future needs of the missionary or his work.

b) In the event that one of our missionaries should cease to be a missionary under the appointment of the Assemblies of the Lord Jesus Christ by reason of resignation, withdrawal, death or for any other reason, said funds shall be at the disposal of the World Missions Division for use in any other World Missions endeavor.

9. All money intended for the support of National Ministers shall be sent to the missionary on the field for disbursement and not directly to the national worker, as we believe this will safeguard the relationship which should exist between the national ministers and missionaries under whose supervision they labor.

10. Basic allowance for personal support, housing, transportation and other needs for support should be established on an equitable basis for the World Missions Board and on the basis of current monetary values. Allowance should be granted for children of missionaries so long as they remain on the field with their parents. This allowance should continue as long as parents are under appointment until the child is eighteen (18) years of age or until six (6) months after his return from the field, whichever is the longest. Allowance should be granted for unmarried children of missionaries who are in school up to age twenty-two (22), providing the parents remain under appointment.

11. In order to maintain missionary interest, it is most essential that the missionary on the field cooperate by acknowledging all offerings to the donors, with a Newsletter and thanks, at least every three (3) months. In order to be completely fair to your fellow missionaries, it is required that missionaries do not encourage people to send offerings to them directly.

12. Report forms should be sent to the missionary with his monthly remittance and should be returned promptly, filled in as far as possible, to the Director.

SECTION 16. WORLD MISSIONS BIBLE SCHOOLS

Any missionary desiring to operate a Bible School requiring support from missionary funds should first make application to the World Missions Board, stating the purpose of the school, what the curriculum will be and the monthly cost of maintenance, after which it must have the approval of the World Missions Board.

SECTION 17. WORLD MISSIONS PROPERTY

1. Missionaries are advised not to purchase or undertake new development of the work which would involve much expense until the approval of the World Missions Board is obtained; otherwise, the World Missions Division cannot be held responsible for the undertaking.

2. All immovable property which has been purchased or procured by means of free will offerings, subscriptions, donations or public funds, shall be deeded to the Assemblies of the Lord Jesus Christ. All missionary property shall be held by the Assemblies of the Lord Jesus Christ.

3. A copy of all property deeds, titles and other legal papers relating to all mission properties which have been purchased or leased should be forwarded to the World Missions Division for their records.

4. All purchases of property must comply with the laws of the respective countries and be done only with the permission of the World Missions Board.

5. Missionaries contemplating the purchase of property or erection of buildings should cooperate with the Regional Field Supervisor and secure his endorsement before submitting their proposition to the World Missions Division.

6. All musical instruments, furniture, furnishings, motor cars, other vehicles, machinery, and etc. in connection with missionary work, which have been purchased with missionary funds shall be regarded as the property of the Assemblies of the Lord Jesus Christ and shall not be disposed of without the written consent of the World Missions Division; missionaries' personal effects and belongings excepted.

SECTION 18. LICENSES AND CREDENTIALS ON THE FIELD

1. Any United States citizen residing in a foreign field and desiring ministerial Licenses or Credentials shall be examined by the Regional Field Supervisor where they are residing and laboring. All applicants endorsed by the Regional Field Supervisor shall be forwarded to the World Missions Board for their decision.

2. All applicants in a World missionary district shall meet the requirements of the Articles of Faith.

3. **All national ministers residing and laboring outside North America shall be examined and granted license or credentials by their respective national churches. In those countries where we are not registered, application for license or credentials may be made directly to the World Missions Department. They must complete all requirements and prerequisites required, including conforming to the Assemblies of the Lord Jesus Christ Articles of Faith. Any license issued by the World Missions Department to a national minister under this provision may be revoked by the World Missions Department any time and at will, without any appeal or recourse by the minister. Licenses issued from the World Missions Department to such a national minister shall contain and be subject to the following provision:**

a) **This license or credential is issued by the World Missions Department only for the country of residence of the minister and is issued without any warranty or guarantee by the World Missions Department to any person or employee of the Assemblies of the Lord Jesus Christ**

b) **Such licenses approved by the World Missions Department shall be ratified by the Assemblies of the Lord Jesus Christ General Board before issuance.**

4. **All licensees issued a license in accordance with Section 18, Paragraph 3 shall acknowledge that such licensee may not bind or pledge or create any liability of any kind whatsoever, by or against the Assemblies of the Lord Jesus Christ. Further, the provisions of General Constitution Section 19(d) regarding fund raising shall apply to all licensees licensed under Section 18, Paragraph 3.**

5. **Since these licensees are not eligible for financial benefit, the Assemblies of the Lord Jesus Christ shall not require membership dues.**

SECTION 19. RECOGNITION AND FELLOWSHIP OF APOSTOLIC MINISTRIES OUTSIDE OF NORTH AMERICA

1. The recognition and fellowship of ministries of Apostolic doctrine (see Articles of Faith) in those countries where we have no recognized resident missionary may be issued a "Certificate of Fellowship" with the following provisions, agreements and understandings:

a) Such ministries as may request a "Certificate" shall be visited by an authorized minister of this Organization with the express purpose of verifying their doctrinal beliefs and practices. A report shall be given to the World Missions Board with recommendations following such authorized visit.

b) An application requesting a "Certificate of Fellowship" must be made by the leaders of the ministry involved. Such applications shall be processed by the World Missions Department as soon as may be feasible.

c) When such "Certificate" is issued it is specifically understood that all national ministers who are part of any group granted this recognition must remain true to the Apostolic Doctrines of this Organization. Failure to do so may result in the forfeiture of this "Certificate" unless the leaders of the group in question take immediate disciplinary action as may be deemed necessary. Information regarding such action shall be made known to the World Missions Board immediately.

d)2 This "Certificate" is for the express purpose of recognizing those qualified ministries only. NOTHING IN THIS PROVISION ALLOWS FOR SOLICITATION OF FINANCIAL SUPPORT EITHER BY MAIL, IN PERSON, BY WELL MEANING FRIENDS, OR BY ANY OTHER MEANS.

We have our duly appointed missionaries to care for and ANY solicitation for financial support must be expressly authorized IN WRITING by the World Missions Department. Further, no deputation schedule may be arranged for any visiting foreign national minister except by the World Missions Department. To do otherwise may result in forfeiture of the "Certificate."

SECTION 20. WORLD MISSIONS EVANGELISM

1. Any minister desiring to become engaged in short-term evangelism or any other ministry on the foreign field and desiring to raise the funds for this purpose outside his own church shall meet the following requirements:

a) After receiving a written invitation from the Regional Field Supervisor of that particular field, through the World Missions Board, he

shall obtain the written endorsement of his district board on the basis of his ministerial ability, proven evangelistic results, cooperation with the general and district programs of the church, general relationship with his fellow ministers, and any other facet of consideration that would qualify him as a proper representative of the Assemblies of the Lord Jesus Christ to those on the foreign field.

b) Following this endorsement, he as a minister, his proposed program of ministry, and the means of financing the program shall be approved by the World Missions Board.

c) Any minister receiving such endorsement must agree to furnish an accounting of funds related to the program if any part has been raised by offerings from churches other than his own.

d) Any minister engaging in foreign ministry without following the foregoing procedure may be called in question by the World Missions Board and/or shall not receive the cooperation of World missionaries on the field.

e) All reports of evangelistic results must have the written endorsement of the Regional Field Supervisor of that field in which the meetings were conducted.

f) Visiting ministers are expected to pay all their own expenses plus the expenses of the missionary relative to the meeting.

SECTION 21. WORLD MISSIONS AGREEMENT

1. Each missionary shall file with the World Missions Division a full (annual) statement regarding his work, e.g., concerning his family and living accommodations, period of service, language qualifications, nature of the work engaged in, budget of expenses, prospects of the field, and the present number of born-again believers on his field. This statement shall be sent to the National World Missions Secretary by the close of the fiscal year.

2. Missionaries shall be expected to read carefully the above rules and regulations which have been mutually agreed upon by our fellowship and subscribe to same before receiving appointment.

3. In the event that any missionary under appointment of the Assemblies of the Lord Jesus Christ should violate this agreement by returning home without the written consent of the World Missions Director, the World Missions Board shall be automatically released of any and all obligation to pay the said missionary's return fare or the fares of his dependents and to give further support. *Exception to this rule shall be:* attending funerals of loved ones such as a mother, father, sister, brother, daughter or son; at which time he should have the verbal consent of the World Missions Director.

ARTICLE XIII

GENERAL YOUTH DEPARTMENT

SECTION 1. NAME

The name of this department shall be called Apostolic Crusaders.

SECTION 2. OFFICERS

1. General Youth President
2. General Youth Secretary

SECTION 3. ELECTION OF OFFICERS

1. The General Youth President shall be nominated and elected by the General Conference for a term of two (2) years or until a successor is elected.

2. The General Youth Secretary shall be appointed by the General Youth President and ratified by the Executive Board for a term of two (2) years.

SECTION 4. QUALIFICATIONS

The qualifications for the General Officers of the Apostolic Crusaders shall be:

1. Officers must be ministers in good standing with the Assemblies of the Lord Jesus Christ (see Article VIII).
2. They shall be at least twenty-one (21) years of age and under forty (40) years of age at the time of their election.

SECTION 5. DUTIES OF OFFICERS

1. *Duties of the President shall be:*

a) To preside over all youth activities at the annual National Youth Convention. Shall also plan, organize, and coordinate this event with the assistance of the General Youth Committee.

b) To preside over all youth activities at the Annual General Conference. Shall also plan, organize, and coordinate this event with the assistance of the General Youth Committee.

c) To attend and assist District Youth Presidents in organizing annual Regional Youth Conferences.

d) To aid District Youth Presidents in youth work under the supervision of the District Superintendent and to foster unity among the districts.

e) To call for and preside over all meetings of the General Youth Committee which shall meet at each National Youth Convention and General Conference or at any other time deemed necessary by the General Officers and approved by the Executive Board.

f) To visit each district, whenever possible, at the request of the District Youth President.

g) To give direction and oversight to the ministries of the General Youth Department.

h) To work under the direction and supervision of the General Board.

2. *Duties of the Secretary shall be:*

a) To take minutes of proceedings of General Youth Committee meetings of the General Youth Department.

b) To represent the youth department and assist in the work of the department whenever called upon by the General Youth President and/or whenever the General Youth President is unable to attend or function.

c) To receive all monies given to the General Youth Department and to account for them properly.

d) To disburse said funds under the supervision of the General President.

SECTION 6. COMMITTEES

1. General Youth Committee:

This committee shall be composed of the General Youth President, the General Youth Secretary, and the District Youth Presidents of the General Youth Department.

2. *Duties of the General Youth Committee shall be:*

a) To assist and counsel with the President in all matters pertaining to the general youth work.

b) This committee's actions shall be subject to the General Board.

3. Meetings of the General Youth Committee shall be:

a) National Youth Convention Youth Committee meetings.

b) General Conference Youth Committee meetings.

c) Special called meetings by the General Youth President as necessary with the approval of the Executive Board.

4. Executive Youth Committee: This committee shall be composed of the General Youth President, the General Youth Secretary, and one or more members of the General Youth Committee (appointed by the Youth President and ratified by the General Youth Committee) as may be deemed advisable by the Youth President.

5. Duties of the Executive Youth Committee shall be:

a) To assist the General Youth President in any business necessary during the year.

b) To assist in emergency decisions which must be made in a prompt manner and in situations in which the General Youth Committee does not have time to meet.

6. Meetings of the Executive Youth Committee shall be:

Whenever called by the General Youth President as necessary.

SECTION 7. MINISTRIES OF THE GENERAL YOUTH DEPARTMENT

1. *Apostolic Youth Corps*: To give Apostolic Crusaders the opportunity to participate in evangelism both at home and abroad.

2. *Bible Quizzing*: To promote Bible knowledge among the youth.

3. *Meetings*:

a) To provide a spiritual program of worship, fellowship, and training.

b) Meetings include National Youth Convention, Regional Youth Conferences, and General Conference activities.

4. *Publications*: Crusaders Connection.

5. *Talents*: To provide the youth with an opportunity to financially assist the work of the Lord.

6. *Patrick Wilson Memorial Scholarship Fund*: college scholarships presented to selected Apostolic Crusaders from Talents and/or donations.

7. *Youth Camps, Retreats, etc.*: To help develop the Christian character of the youth.

8. Any other program(s) approved by the General Youth Department on an annual basis.

SECTION 8. ORGANIZATION OF DISTRICT YOUTH DEPARTMENT

1. *Officers*: District officers shall consist of a District Youth President and a District Youth Secretary, and in the case of a large district, Sectional Youth Directors for each section.

2. *Elections and Appointments:*

a) The District Youth President shall either be elected by the District Conference or appointed by the District Board and ratified by the District Conference for a term of two (2) years or until a successor is chosen.

b) The District Youth Secretary shall be appointed by the District Youth President and ratified by the District Board for a term of two (2) years.

c) Sectional Youth Directors shall be elected or appointed in their respective sections according to the same rule as is used for selecting District Officers, and their term of service shall be two (2) years.

d) Any District Youth President or District Youth Secretary vacancy occurring before an election shall be filled with a District Board appointment which shall last only until the next election.

e) Sectional Youth Directors are not required to be ministers, and a sectional vacancy can be filled with a District Youth President appointment approved by the District Superintendent.

3. *Qualifications:*

a) All District Youth Presidents and District Youth Secretaries must be ministers in good standing with the Assemblies of the Lord Jesus Christ (see Article VIII).

b) Must be under forty (40) years of age at the time of their election, unless in special cases the District Board agrees to lift the age limit.

4. *Duties:*

a) *Duties of the District Youth President shall be:*

(i) To serve as a member of the District Youth Committee.

(ii) To efficiently develop and administrate the district youth work.

(iii) To serve as a member of the General Youth Committee and shall diligently endeavor to promote the General and District Youth Ministries and Programs.

(iv) To attend all meetings of the General Youth Committee. His district is to financially assist him as far as possible.

(v) To be subject to his District Board at all times.

b) *Duties of the District Youth Secretary shall be:*

(i) To serve as a member of the District Youth Committee.

(ii) To take minutes and preserve district youth records.

(iii) To work in complete harmony with the District Youth President and help facilitate the district youth program.

(iv) To receive all monies given to the District Youth Department and to account for them properly.

(v) To disburse said funds under the supervision of the District Youth President.

c) *Duties of the Sectional Youth Director shall be:*

(i) To serve as a member of the District Youth Committee.

(ii) To attend all duly called meetings of the District Youth Committee. Attend all other district youth functions as far as possible.

(iii) To cooperate with the pastors in fostering youth work in the churches throughout the section.

(iv) To be in charge of the rallies in the section.

(v) To be under the supervision of the Sectional Presbyter and to be responsible to the District Youth President at all times.

5. *District Youth Committee:* This committee shall be composed of the District Youth President, the District Youth Secretary, and the Sectional Youth Directors.

6. *Duties of the District Youth Committee:*

a) To assist and counsel with the District Youth President in all matters pertaining to the district youth work.

b) To diligently endeavor to promote the General and District Youth Program.

c) This committee's activities shall be supervised by the District Board.

7. Meetings of the District Youth Committee:

a) District Conference Youth Committee meetings.

b) Youth Camps, Retreats, etc.

c) Special called meetings by the District Youth President as necessary with the approval of the District Board.

SECTION 9. SUGGESTED FORM OF LOCAL YOUTH DEPARTMENT

1. Officers:

a) Youth Leader

b) Youth Secretary

2. Duties:

The Duties of the Local Officers shall be:

a) The Youth Leader shall supervise and promote the local youth activities and shall support and promote General and District Youth Ministries and Programs.

b) The Youth Secretary shall assist the local youth leader by keeping records of meetings and finances and by supporting the leader's programs.

3. Local Youth Committee:

a) This committee will consist of the Pastor, Youth Leader, Youth Secretary, and one or more Crusader from the local assembly as may be deemed advisable by the Pastor.

b) The method of selection is left to the discretion of the Pastor.

4. *Duties of the Local Youth Committee:*

To assist the pastor and Youth Leader in planning, promoting, and conducting all youth ministries of the local church as requested by the Pastor.

5. Eligibility for membership in local Apostolic Crusader Groups: All young persons (single and married) between his or her 12th and 36th birthdays who are actively participating in the local youth group.

SECTION 10. FINANCE

1. General Youth Fund:

a) All funds and contributions made to the General Youth Department shall be sent to the National Headquarters offices in Memphis, Tennessee which shall forward them to the General Youth Secretary. Funds shall be received and disbursed by the General Youth Secretary. Such funds shall be disbursed only upon the request of the General Youth President.

b) The General Youth Department shall be funded by tithes from the District Youth Department (referred to as "general funds"), monies received from National Youth Convention and General Conference Youth Activities, and allocations from the annual Talents Fund Drive.

c) The District's tithe includes annual dues of \$300 (\$25 per month) which must be paid by each district. Therefore tithing should be a minimum of \$25 per month.

d) The General Youth Fund shall tithe all general funds received from all districts to the General Secretary of the Assemblies of the Lord Jesus Christ.

e) The General Youth Secretary shall provide an annual written financial statement at General Conference.

f) The expenses of the General Youth Officials to the National Youth Convention and General Conference shall be paid out of the General Youth Department Treasury.

g) The expenses of the General Youth officials to other national youth functions and board meetings shall be paid from the same fund. The General Youth President's travel expense on an Apostolic Youth Corps trip shall be paid from this fund.

2. District Youth funds:

a) All funds of the District Youth Department shall be received and disbursed by the District Youth Secretary. Such funds shall be disbursed only upon the request of the District Youth President.

b) In the event the district shall designate that the District Secretary/Treasurer shall handle the funds, this official is responsible for tithing youth monies (including aforementioned dues) to the General Youth Secretary.

c) The District Youth Secretary shall provide at least an annual written financial statement at District Conference.

d) The District Youth Department shall be funded by tithes from all local Apostolic Crusader groups' offerings, from monies received from district youth activities, and from a percentage of Talents' income.

e) The local Apostolic Crusaders groups' tithe includes annual dues of \$120 (\$10 per month), subject to the approval of the local pastor.

f) All District Youth Department treasuries shall tithe all funds received, except specially designated offerings, into the general youth department treasury.

g) It is strongly recommended that all districts send their District Youth President to National Youth Convention and General Conference meetings to represent the district to the General Youth Committee, his expenses to be paid out of the District Youth Fund and/or the District General Fund.

3. Talents

a) *Purpose:*

(i) A national fund-raising drive to assist in the specific needs of the Kingdom.

(ii) To unite the Apostolic Crusaders in a great worldwide effort and to focus attention on the evangelization of the world.

b) *Raising of Funds:*

(i) Each district is to cooperate financially with the Talents' effort by conducting various fund-raising events in the district.

(ii) Each local church is requested to contribute to the annual Talents' drive promoted in their district with special fund-raising activities.

c) *Allocation of Funds:*

(i) Twenty-five percent (25%) of the total offerings received by the District Youth Secretary shall be retained in the District Youth Department Fund. These funds will help the district to operate financially and may be used to send the District Youth President to General Youth Committee meetings. They may also be used for district purposes such as: campground buildings and equipment, aid to youth camps, retreats, etc., Missions America churches, and other District Youth Ministries.

(ii) Seventy-five percent (75%) of the total offering received by the District Youth Secretary shall be sent to the General Youth Secretary. This amount shall be allocated to specific needs in the following departments: World Missions, Missions America, Children's Home, Bible Colleges, Christian Education, Apostolic Crusaders, and any other project(s) designated by the General Youth Committee and approved by the Executive Board.

d) *Manner of Accepting Projects:*

(i) The directors of the various departments or ministries desiring to receive funds shall provide the General Youth Department with a written request including details and expenses of the specific need(s).

(ii) The General Youth Committee shall decide by vote the projects for which they are able and willing to pay.

(iii) A report of the projects accepted shall be made to the Executive Board for approval.

(iv) Written requests should be received by the General Youth Department from the various departments and ministries by an announced deadline.

ARTICLE XIV

WOMEN'S ESPRIT

SECTION 1. NAME

This Christian Body shall be known as the Assemblies of the Lord Jesus Christ Women's Esprit.

SECTION 2. MEMBERSHIP

1. National Officers.
2. District Officers.
3. Local Officers.
4. Local Women.

SECTION 3. QUALIFICATIONS FOR MEMBERSHIP IN NATIONAL OR DISTRICT WOMEN'S ESPRIT

1. Each lady, her husband, or her pastor must be a licensed minister in the Assemblies of the Lord Jesus Christ.
2. Members must be baptized in Jesus' Name and filled with the Holy Ghost.
3. A membership card is NOT required.

SECTION 4. FINANCIAL OBLIGATIONS OF LOCAL CHURCH'S WOMEN'S ESPRIT TO NATIONAL AND DISTRICT WOMEN'S ESPRIT

1. The local Women's Esprit can tithe ten percent (10%) of the monies they raise, to the District Women's Esprit.
2. If there is not an active Women's Esprit, the churches can send an offering to the district and national Women's Esprit as they see fit.

SECTION 5. FINANCIAL OBLIGATIONS OF THE DISTRICT WOMEN'S ESPRIT TO THE NATIONAL WOMEN'S ESPRIT

1. All funds and contributions made to the National Women's Esprit Department shall be sent to the National Headquarters offices in Memphis, Tennessee and shall be forwarded to the National Women's Esprit Secretary.

2. If there are funds being sent to the District Secretary from the churches, she should tithe ten percent (10%) of those funds to the National Women's Esprit, sending them to National Headquarters.

3. If the district is inactive, an occasional offering may be sent to the National Women's Esprit, sending them to the National Headquarters offices, as the District President sees fit.

SECTION 6. VOTING RIGHTS

1. Only the wives of licensed ministers with the Assemblies of the Lord Jesus Christ, female licensed ministers with the Assemblies of the Lord Jesus Christ in good standing, and all current local, district and national Women's Esprit leaders shall be eligible to vote during the National Women's Esprit elections. This does not include other business matters, which all ladies have a vested interest.

2. She must be baptized in Jesus' Name and filled with the Holy Ghost.

SECTION 7. SESSIONS

1. National Women's Esprit: An annual business session of this body shall be held at each General Conference.

2. District Women's Esprit: An annual or semi-annual business session of this body shall be held. The same shall be called the District Conference.

SECTION 8. BUSINESS- NATIONAL/DISTRICT

1. All business sessions shall be conducted according to parliamentary procedure in keeping with the spirit of Christian love and fellowship.

2. The order of business shall be as follows:

- a) All business meetings shall open with prayer.
- b) Reading minutes of previous meeting and acting thereon.
- c) Financial reports.
- d) Old business.
- e) Election of officers.
- f) New business.

3. Election procedures: Read Article IV, Section 5.

SECTION 9. NOMINATING REQUIREMENTS

1. Those nominated for office must:

- a) Have the Holy Ghost and be baptized in Jesus' Name.
- b) Be a member of Women's Esprit for a minimum of one (1) year.

SECTION 10. TITLE OF OFFICERS

1. **National:**

- a) National President
- b) National Vice-President
- c) National Secretary/Treasurer

2. **District:**

- a) District President
- b) District Vice-President
- c) District Secretary/Treasurer

3. **Church:**

- a) President
- b) Secretary
- c) Treasurer

SECTION 11. TERM OF OFFICE

1. **National:**

a) The Women's Esprit President and Vice-President shall be nominated and elected for a term of two (2) years.

b) The Women's Esprit Secretary/Treasurer shall be appointed by the Women's Esprit President and ratified by the Executive Board for a term of two (2) years.

c) Officers shall be at all times subject to the General Board.

2. **Districts:**

a) All District officers shall either be elected or appointed for a term of two (2) years.

b) All District officers shall be at all times subject to the District Board.

SECTION 12. DUTIES OF OFFICERS

1. *President:*

The president shall preside at all meetings. She is empowered to appoint committees pertaining to the National, District, or local work (according to position) and oversee the function of the Women's Esprit.

2. *Vice-President:*

The Vice-President shall work under, and in conjunction with, the President and fill the office of the President if and when necessary, or when so required by the President.

3. *Secretary/Treasurer*

It shall be the duty of the Secretary/Treasurer to take minutes and preserve records of the business of the Women's Esprit, receive and disburse funds, and perform other secretarial duties as necessary.

ARTICLE XV

DISTRICTS

SECTION 1. FORMULATION

1. Any group of ministers desiring to form a new district from an existing district must submit, in writing, a resolution at a regularly scheduled District Business Conference stating the arrangements concerning boundaries, etc. There must be a two-thirds (2/3) majority vote to separate a district.

2. Should an agreement be reached to form a new district, the General Superintendent or an Executive Board Member, of his choice, shall be called to preside over the next scheduled District Business Conference.

3. Any group of ministers desiring to form a new district in an area unattached to any present district shall contact the General Superintendent, who shall be present at the meeting when said new district is formed.

a) There must be at least five (5) churches whose pastors are members of this Organization to qualify for and maintain district status.

b) Any present district, whose membership falls below a minimum of five (5) churches whose pastors are members of this Organization, shall be put in a state of probation for a period of one (1) year. The district board or its duly appointed representatives shall be required to appear before the General Board at the next scheduled or specially called General Board meeting to see what, if anything, can be done to help bring growth to said district. At the next scheduled or specially called General Board meeting closest to the end of but not before the end of the one-year period, the district shall have at least achieved the minimum requirements identified in paragraph 4 of this section. If the district fails to meet the minimum requirements for qualification as a district, the General Board shall vote to either extend the probationary period in up to one (1) year increments, one period at a time, or shall vote to dissolve the district, and allow each minister who was a member of said district to attach themselves to the nearest district or to the district of the state of their church membership.

SECTION 2. CONSOLIDATION

When the consolidation of districts is deemed necessary or beneficial by the officers of said districts, the consolidation must be ratified by a joint conference of the members of the districts.

SECTION 3. DISCONTENT

1. When discontent arises in a district to the extent as to threaten the stability of the district; and when after attempts have been made by those concerned result in no satisfactory solution; and when as many as five (5) persons who pastor five (5) different churches in the district, or five (5) General Board members agree that conditions have reached an impasse; they shall be authorized to contact the Executive Board to send a representative, who shall have the authority to call and chair a meeting of the district brethren to resolve the matter.

a) The ministers who call for the meeting must be responsible for the expenses of the Executive Representative.

2. When discontent arises in a district to the extent as to threaten the stability of the district; and when discontent threatens the harmony of the General Fellowship as observed by the Executive or General Boards; and when after attempts have been made by those concerned result in no satisfactory solution, the General Superintendent, with the General Board shall intervene to resolve the matter.

SECTION 4. DISTRICT CONSTITUTION

ASSEMBLIES OF THE LORD JESUS INCORPORATED

PREAMBLE

In order to establish our work on a more efficient basis, to promote greater cooperation, and to secure a closer fellowship and harmony between the district and the general organization, we the members of the districts of the Assemblies of the Lord Jesus Christ, do hereby set forth this Constitution and By-Laws, according to Article XVI, Section 4.

PURPOSE

The following constitution is set forth to define the minimum requirements that must be included in all individual district constitutions. Each district may adopt additional by-laws to aid in governing and operating their individual districts so long as the district's constitution does not contradict or infringe upon the General Constitution.

ARTICLE D.C. I

THE NAME

SECTION 1. THE NAME

The name of the district shall be known as the District of the Assemblies of the Lord Jesus Christ, Incorporated.

ARTICLE D.C. II

MEMBERSHIP

SECTION 1. ELIGIBILITY

1. Anyone desiring to hold membership with the Assemblies of the Lord Jesus Christ must have fulfilled the command given in Acts 2:38, repentance, baptism in the Name of the Lord Jesus Christ, having received the Holy Ghost with the evidence of speaking in other tongues as the Spirit gives the utterance. Furthermore, he must believe, preach, and teach the same, having the call of God to the ministry.

2. An application for membership shall be properly completed.

3. An application for membership shall be approved or disapproved by the District Board, and if approved, shall be signed and forwarded to the General Secretary.

4. All applications shall be processed within thirty (30) days of approval.

5. All qualifications for membership in the Assemblies of the Lord Jesus Christ shall be set by the General Conference.

SECTION 2. TRANSFERS

1. Any member who moves his/her residence from one district to another must transfer their membership to the district that encompasses their new residence. Within 30 days after changing their residence, the member must notify their current District's Superintendent and/or their current District's Secretary/Treasurer of their

residence change, preferably in writing; and request a Letter of Transfer to the district of their new residence.

2. The current District's Secretary/Treasurer shall send a Letter of Transfer to the receiving District's Secretary/Treasurer and to the General Secretary/Treasurer within 30 days of the member's notification of the change of his residency, informing the receiving district of the transferring minister's status and cooperative attitude.

3. Upon arrival in a new district the minister shall immediately contact the District Superintendent of that district to inform him of his residency in the new district.

4. The receiving District's Secretary/Treasurer shall notify the General Secretary/Treasurer of the transferring minister's correct new address, if it is not provided in the Letter of Transfer.

5. No minister shall be accepted into another district without being cleared by his present district. All delinquent dues must be paid prior to transferring a member from one District to another District. Delinquent dues not paid prior to the transfer shall result in the member being dropped in accordance with the process outlined in Article VIII, Section 4 of the General Constitution within the specified timeframe.

SECTION 3. OBLIGATIONS

1. To conduct one's self everywhere as becometh a Christian minister.

2. Endeavor to maintain a spirit of unity and love.

3. To cooperate with the programs and leadership of the district.

4. Cooperate with the financial policy of the district.

5. To work for the furtherance of the district.

6. To abide by this Constitution and By-Laws duly enacted by the district, according to this Constitution, and to preach and teach doctrine consistent with the Articles of Faith, Constitution and By-Laws of the Assemblies of the Lord Jesus Christ.

7. The rules and obligations as set forth in the General Constitution and By-Laws of the Assemblies of the Lord Jesus Christ, according to Article VIII, are applicable and binding on all ministers in the district.

8. All National dues and assessments, and all district dues must be paid to the District Secretary/Treasurer.

9. Any minister failing to keep his ministerial fees current with his district shall be notified that, after thirty (30) days his name shall be dropped from membership in the Assemblies of the Lord Jesus Christ. A minister may not be dropped or disfellowshipped, for any other reason, except by the proper procedures as outlined in

Article VIII, Section 4, of the General Constitution and By-Laws of the Assemblies of the Lord Jesus Christ.

10. A minister's dues shall not be considered current unless, he is current with his national and district obligations, according to Article VIII, Section 4, paragraphs 2, 3 and 4 of the General Constitution and By-Laws of the Assemblies of the Lord Jesus Christ.

11. Any minister withdrawing or being dropped from our organization must return his license or credentials, and current fellowship card to his respective District Superintendent.

SECTION 4. ADMISSION

Any minister who is eligible and accepts the foregoing obligations shall be considered for membership by the District Board at a regular District Conference, Sectional Conference, or duly called District Board meeting.



DISTRICT CONFERENCE

SECTION 1. BUSINESS SESSIONS

At least one business session of the district shall be held regularly each year, and shall be called a District Conference. District Conferences shall be identified as the Spring Conference and the Fall Conference. The Fall Conference after the General Election shall be the District Electoral Conference and all officers including the District Superintendent shall be elected at this time.

SECTION 2. TIME LOCATION

During the District Conference, the time and location of the next District Conference may be set by the Conference, or the Conference may set a permanent time for its Conferences. If it becomes necessary, with the approval of the Conference, the District Board may set the time and location of the District Conference.

SECTION 3. SECTIONS

Sections shall make up the district with all Sectional Officers elected at the Sectional Conference, for each department, each section deciding the site of the Sectional Conference, (where the district has sections). It is suggested that all districts divide into sections, as soon as it is feasible.

SECTION 4. BUSINESS

1. All business sessions shall be opened with prayer.
2. The order of business shall be as follows:
 - a) Meeting called to order by the District Superintendent.
 - b) Reading of the minutes of the last District Conference.
3. Reports shall be given as follows:
 - a) District Superintendent.
 - b) Assistant District Superintendent.
 - c) District Secretary/Treasurer.
 - d) World Missions Director.
 - e) Missions America Director.
 - f) Director of Church Growth.
 - g) District Youth President.
 - h) Women's Esprit President.
 - i) Committee Reports.
4. Election of Officers.
5. New Business.
6. Adjournment.
7. All resolutions shall be properly written and signed by the author and submitted to the Chairman of the Resolutions Committee, the Resolutions Committee shall be appointed by the District Superintendent. This Committee is to decide which resolutions shall be presented to the District Conference, (according to Article III, Section 3, paragraphs 3-6, of the General Constitution and By-Laws).

ARTICLE D.C. IV

DISTRICT OFFICERS AND DEPARTMENT DIRECTORS

SECTION 1. DISTRICT OFFICERS

1. **The District shall have the following officers:**
 - a) **District Superintendent**
 - b) **Assistant District Superintendent**
 - c) **District Secretary/Treasurer**
 - d) **Sectional Presbyters (in districts with sections)**

SECTION 2. QUALIFICATIONS OF DISTRICT SUPERINTENDENT AND ASSISTANT DISTRICT SUPERINTENDENT

1. **In order to hold these offices, the following qualifications are required: One must have been ordained in the Apostolic faith at least three (3) years prior to his election (Apostolic ordination); must be in the Assemblies of the Lord Jesus Christ, holding Credentials for at least two (2) years; must be a minister in good standing within and without the body of Christ, whose life and ministry has been proven a faithful work of the Lord (I Timothy 3:1-7; Titus 1:6-16).**
2. **An Executive Board member, in case of an extreme emergency, shall be empowered to waive the time limit to fill said office.**

SECTION 3. QUALIFICATIONS OF SECRETARY/TREASURER, SECTIONAL PRESBYTER AND TRUSTEE.

1. **In order to hold these offices, one must be in good standing with the District, holding Credentials license and in this organization for at least two (2) years.**
2. **An exception to the tenure requirements may be granted in the case of newly-organized districts, according to Article IV, Section 3 of the General Constitution.**

SECTION 4. DEPARTMENT DIRECTORS

The following officers shall constitute Department Directors

- a) **World Missions District Promotional Director**
- b) **Missions America District Director**
- c) **Church Growth District Director**
- d) **District Youth President**
- e) **Women's Esprit District President**

SECTION 5. QUALIFICATIONS OF DEPARTMENT DIRECTORS

- 1. District Department Directors must be those in good standing with the District, holding any license in this organization for a minimum of one (1) year, with the exception of Women's Esprit President, who shall meet the requirements of Article XIV, Section 9 of the General Constitution.**
2. An exception to the tenure requirements may be granted in the case of newly-organized districts, according to Article IV, Section 3 of the General Constitution.

SECTION 6. ELECTION OF DISTRICT OFFICERS AND DEPARTMENT DIRECTORS

In accordance with the General Constitution and By-Laws, all District Officers **and Department Directors** shall be elected for a term of two (2) years (Article IV, Section 2, Paragraphs 1, 5-7, 9).

SECTION 7. VOTING QUALIFICATIONS

1. Not more than four (4) ministers or missionaries in a local church who hold accredited Credentials or General License with the Assemblies of the Lord Jesus Christ shall be entitled to vote for District Superintendent and Assistant District Superintendent.
- 2. Local license ministers cannot vote for District Superintendent or Assistant District Superintendent, but they are eligible to vote on all other District Officers, Department Directors, and business.**

SECTION 8. RESTRICTIONS

No minister can hold two (2) elective offices at the same time, except the office of Trustee, which can be held jointly with another office.

SECTION 9. ELECTION PROCEDURE

1. All voting for officers shall be by secret ballot.
2. The election procedure shall be according to Article IV, Section 5, of the General Constitution.

SECTION 10. QUALIFYING PROCEDURE

1. All questions concerning the qualifications of a nominee shall be presented to the Qualifications Committee, in writing.
2. No questions of such nature shall be discussed openly before the conference, according to Article IV, Section 6 of the General Constitution.

SECTION 11. TERM OF OFFICE

1. All elected Officers shall take office at the conclusion of the District Conference, where they are elected.

2. If a vacancy occurs in the office of the District Superintendent, the Assistant District Superintendent, shall serve his unexpired term. Where there is no duly elected assistant, the General Board shall appoint a qualified minister to fill said vacancy for the remaining term of office.

3. All other District Officer **and Department Director vacancies** shall be appointed by the District Board, according to Article IV, Section 7, of the General Constitution.

ARTICLE D.C. V

SECTION 1. DISTRICT SUPERINTENDENT

1. *The duties of the District Superintendent shall be:*

- a) To preside at all District Conferences.
- b) To call for and preside over all District Board meetings.
- c) To appoint committees pertaining to the district work.
- d) To oversee the functions of the district in general.
- e) To serve on the General Board, he must attend all General Board meetings, and report back to his respective district.
- f) To make a report to the District Conference.
- g) By virtue of his office he shall be trustee of all district property.
- h) To assist, when asked by a local church, in helping to secure a pastor.
- i) For the furtherance of the Gospel, he shall have the authority to appeal to any minister of the district.
- j) He shall be authorized to ordain ministers at any District Conference, or any district function.

SECTION 2. DISTRICT SECRETARY/TREASURER

1. *The duties of the District Secretary/Treasurer shall be:*

- a) To take minutes of all business meetings.
- b) To receive and disburse all funds as directed by district policy.
- c) To present an annual report to the District Conference.
- d) To sign and process all applications accepted by the District Board.
- e) By virtue of his office he shall be trustee of all district property.

ARTICLE D.C. VI

SECTION 1. THE DISTRICT BOARD

1. The District Board shall consist of the District Officers named in Article D.C. IV, Section 1, Paragraph 1, a-d, of this Constitution.

The duties of the District Board shall be:

a) To oversee the spiritual and material welfare of the district in general.

b) To direct the business of the district as authorized by this Constitution.

c) The District Board cannot amend, add to, subtract from, or enlarge upon, the By-Laws of this Constitution.

d) The District Board shall examine, and approve or disapprove, all applicants for License or Credentials, with the Assemblies of the Lord Jesus Christ who make application in their district.

SECTION 2. TRUSTEES

1. The Trustees shall be three (3) in number:

a) The District Superintendent and the District Secretary/Treasurer, by virtue of their office shall be Trustees, and one (1) shall be elected by the District Conference for a term of two (2) years.

b) The District Superintendent shall be Chairman of the Trustees.

2. *Their duties shall be:*

The same as those in Article VI, Section 4, of the General Constitution of the Assemblies of the Lord Jesus Christ.

SECTION 3. OTHER DISTRICT OFFICES

All other Board and Committees, etc., not particularly covered in this Constitution shall operate according to the General Constitution and By-Laws of the Assemblies of the Lord Jesus Christ.

SECTION 4. NEW WORKS

Any minister in our fellowship starting a new work must cooperate with the District Superintendent, as well as all the programs in the district.

ARTICLE D.C. VII

AMENDMENTS

1. A district constitution may be amended by a 2/3 majority of those present at any District Conference who are current with their district and national dues and voting at any district conference. Current is defined as paid up prior to the District Conference, through the end of the month in which the District Conference takes place.”

2. When a District Constitution (D.C.) Article is changed by a 2/3 majority vote of the general membership at a duly called or regularly scheduled business meeting, all District Constitutions shall be updated to reflect the approved changes without need for further approval of the district membership.

ARTICLE XVI

PASTORAL COURTESY

CHANGE IN MEMBERSHIP

1. Whereas, this Constitution is not binding upon the laity, each pastor should issue to any member leaving his assembly a letter of recommendation, if such is merited, and should secure from members transferring to his assembly the same.
2. This procedure will hold to a minimum the unnecessary and unwarranted transferring of the laity from one church to another at the slightest provocation.
3. Pastors should consult and agree upon all matters that concern them jointly, in the operation of their churches, where continued fellowship is a prime factor.
4. There is no higher calling in life than that of a Bishop or Pastor, and the very fate of the souls of the laity depends upon the leadership, counsel and ministry of those who have Divine appointment.
5. Pastors should work toward a higher standard, a greater consecration, and the continued spirituality of the laity in their charge.

ARTICLE XVII

AMENDMENTS

This constitution may be amended at our regularly scheduled business meeting at the annual session of the General Conference by a vote of two-thirds (2/3) majority of those present and voting.

ARTICLE XVIII

BENEVOLENT FUND

SECTION 1. DUES

1. The General Secretary will transfer a **pre-determined amount per month (Ref: Currently \$3.00)** of each paid up member's dues from the General Fund into the Benevolent Fund as long as the benevolent fund is self-funded by the Assemblies of the Lord Jesus Christ. The General Body shall determine by majority vote, the per-month, per-member amount that shall be authorized to be transferred to the self-funded Benevolent Fund by the General Secretary. The General Secretary shall notify all District Secretaries in writing when this per month-per member amount results in an increase or decrease in each member's monthly national dues.
2. In the event that a qualified insurance company is contracted to provide a package of life insurance benefits for all members, member's spouses and member's children in lieu of the self-funded benevolent fund, the monthly national dues of each member shall be adjusted to compensate for an increase or decrease in the per month-per member premium cost of the package of life insurance benefits, as approved by majority vote of the General Body. The per month-per member premium amount shall be transferred to a Benevolent insurance premium account by the General Secretary and shall be used solely for the purpose of paying the contracted per month-per member premium. Premiums shall be paid directly to the contracted company, not through an agent representing the contracted company.
 - a) Should a qualified insurance company be contracted to provide a package of life insurance benefits, all currently held benevolent fund monies shall be held in escrow for a period of three (3) years from the activation date of the first contracted policy or until the contracted insurance company has proven to meet our needs. After this period the General Body may vote by 2/3 majority to re-designate all or a portion of the Benevolent Fund monies

for other Organizational uses or it may continue to hold the Benevolent Fund monies in escrow.

- b) **Benefits provided by a qualified insurance company to each eligible member shall not be less than those provided by the self-funded Assemblies of the Lord Jesus Christ Benevolent Fund.**
 - c) **A company shall be considered qualified if their financial rating is A or better, as determined by industry financial rating agencies such as A.M. Best Company and Standard and Poor's.**
3. No money is to be taken out of the benevolent fund for any reason other than the payment of claims **or to subsidize the premium payment of the group policy upon initialization of a group policy, or in the event that there is a shortfall in dues designated for this benefit's premium payment, when the premium becomes due.** Benevolent fund monies cannot be used for collateral on any loans or purchases.
 4. After a minister has discontinued their membership for any reason or has been disfellowshipped, he or she at that time will have no benefits of the benevolent fund.
 5. At the time of the death of a member, the spouse and or children's additional coverage **is terminated, unless they hold membership** in the Assemblies of the Lord Jesus Christ.

SECTION 2. CONDITIONS OF ELIGIBILITY

1. To be eligible for benefits, a minister's dues shall not be over thirty (30) days in arrears.

2. Any new member coming into the organization with any known life-threatening or pre-existing condition, will not be eligible for benefits until he or she has been a member for five (5) years.

3. Accidental deaths will be covered from the time of the receipt of his or her license or credentials.

4. An affiliated minister's child is covered until the 19th birthday. A child married before the 19th birthday shall not be covered.

5. Death occurring from any intentional self-infliction; while sane or insane, or while committing or attempting to commit an assault or felony, will not be covered.

6. No new minister applying for license after the 65th birthday shall be covered by the Benevolent Fund, **unless a contracted insurance company's negotiated plan allows the initialization of new coverage above age 65.**

SECTION 3. CLAIMS

1. Payment of claims shall be made in full, when the General Secretary receives a copy of the certified death certificate.

2. Listed below are the amounts to be paid for each eligible recipient whether natural or accidental death. **The consecutive years of membership categories may be combined in a contracted insurance company's schedule of benefits, as long as the benefit paid is equal to or more than the amount provided for by the self-funded Benevolent Fund schedule of benefits included in this section.**

3. **The benefit amount of a contracted insurance company's benefit shall be negotiated between the Organization and the insurance company with a goal to provide a minimum of \$10,000 for each member as a minimum, as well as additional benefits amounts for the member's spouse and children with a goal to provide the same amount as the member for the member's spouse.**

4. A current member of the Assemblies of the Lord Jesus Christ consecutively:

One to three years	\$500
Three to five years	\$1,000
Five to ten years.	\$1,500
Ten to fifteen years	\$2,500
Fifteen to twenty years	\$3,750
Over twenty years.	\$5,000

SPOUSE

Up to five years	\$200
Five to ten years.	\$400
Ten to fifteen years	\$650
Fifteen to twenty years	\$800
Over twenty years	\$1,000

CHILDREN TO AGE 18:

Up to five years	\$100
Five to ten years.	\$300
Ten to fifteen years	\$400
Fifteen to eighteen years	\$500

SECTION 4. BENEFICIARIES

1. The name, **mailing address and telephone number** of the beneficiary or beneficiaries shall be included on **all new and up-grade** applications.

2. The **member** is automatically the beneficiary of their spouse and children’s death benefits. **The spouse of the member is automatically the beneficiary of the member, unless the member designates another individual as their primary beneficiary on their application or in writing via a signed change of beneficiary request/notification. The beneficiary information on file at headquarters at the time of death will be used to pay benefits.**

ARTICLE XIX

NATIONAL EVANGELIST DEPARTMENT

SECTION 1. NAME

The name of this department shall be the National Evangelist Department.

SECTION 2. OFFICERS

1. General Officers of the National Evangelist Department shall be:

- a) Evangelist Department Director.
- b) Evangelist Department Secretary/Treasurer.
- c) Evangelist Department Promotions Coordinator.
- d) Evangelist Department Board Members.

2. *The duties and authority of the department officers shall be:*

a) Evangelist Department Director:

- (i) To publicize and promote all participating evangelists.
- (ii) To oversee the functions of the Evangelist Department.
- (iii) To supervise and direct the receipt and disbursement of all funds given to the Evangelist Department in accordance with this policy, further definitive policy as prescribed by Evangelist Department participants through department legislation, or by the direction of the Evangelist Department Board.
- (iv) To oversee the identification of the site of, coordinate the planning and schedule for, and direct the activities of the National Evangelist Conference.
- (v) To fulfill all other duties as may be prescribed by this Constitution or as assigned by the Executive and General Boards of this organization.

b) Evangelist Department Secretary/Treasurer:

(i) To serve as the recording secretary of the Evangelist Department and keep record of all decisions and official acts of the Evangelist Department participants and Board.

(ii) To receive and disburse all funds in accordance with Evangelist Department directives and instructions and to keep an accurate record of all receipts and disbursements of Evangelist Department funds and make all necessary reports of such funds to the Evangelist Department Director, the Executive and General Boards, and general body of ministers at each General Conference.

(iii) To conduct correspondence relative to the Evangelist Department under the supervision of the Evangelist Department Director and Board.

c) Evangelist Department Promotions Coordinator:

(i) To coordinate specific promotional activities such as provide monthly articles and announcements to the Apostolic Witness, coordinate general promotional activities such as department conference displays, posters and individual brochures and other promotional activities as may be defined.

(ii) To serve on the Evangelist Department Board.

d) Evangelist Department Board:

To establish and maintain criteria which will:

(i) Identify the ministry and motivation of an evangelist desiring to evangelize full time.

(ii) Assist in establishing and/or enhancing his credibility as an evangelist.

(iii) Assist pastors in identifying credible, conscientious, and dependable evangelists who will benefit their churches.

(iv) To review all applications for participation in the Evangelist Department and approve those who meet the prerequisites for participation.

(v) To assist as needed, evangelists within the region of the Board Member's locality.

(vi) To advise and assist the Evangelist Director and evangelists as needed to establish department policy.

(vii) To censure evangelists within the context of department policy, who do not maintain a high moral standard in accordance with the Articles of Faith or whose conduct does not reflect the Evangelist Department participation criteria as outlined herein.

SECTION 3. ELECTION OF OFFICERS

1. The Evangelist Department Director shall be nominated and elected by the General Body of ministers present at General Conference in accordance with Article IV, Section 2, Paragraph 7.

a) The participating approved members of the Evangelist Department shall recommend at least two (2), not more than three (3), individuals to the General Body. The recommendation of the evangelists shall be determined at the National Evangelist Conference preceding the General Conference where election of officers will occur.

b) The Evangelist Department Director shall appoint the Evangelist Department Secretary/Treasurer and Evangelist Department Board members.

2. The General Board shall ratify the Evangelist Department Secretary/Treasurer and the Evangelist Department Board members.

a) The Evangelist Department Board shall consist of not less than five (5) nor more than seven (7) individuals. The Evangelist Department Director and Secretary/Treasurer shall be members of the Evangelist Department Board by virtue of their offices.

SECTION 4. PURPOSE

1. The purpose of the Evangelist Department shall be to promote a good working Pastor/Evangelist relationship, and to provide a mechanism of review which will enhance the pastor's confidence in the evangelist before he is given the privilege of preaching in his pulpit.

2. This shall be accomplished by allowing the Evangelist Department to screen individuals in order to identify and quality them, using a consistent standard published criteria, established by the Evangelist Department Board, thereby giving a local pastor confidence in an approved individual without the need of judging that evangelist for himself.

SECTION 5. EVANGELIST PARTICIPATION

1. In order for an evangelist to participate in the Evangelist Department and receive the promotional and financial support and benefits of the department, he shall make application to the Evangelist Department, receive approval of the Evangelist Department Board, and comply with the following criteria.

a) He shall be a full time evangelist, licensed by the Assemblies of the Lord Jesus Christ at least six (6) months whose ministerial income is at least eighty (80%) of his total family annual income.

b) He shall be requested to pay into the Evangelist Department Treasury one hundred (100%) of the tithe of his ministerial income. This shall satisfy the requirement of departmental ministerial dues. Where the financial plan of the district an evangelist belongs to requires a percentage of his tithes as dues, the district policy shall take precedence over the Evangelist Department Policy. In this case, the difference between the district requirement and the department requirement shall be given to the Evangelist Department.

2. In the event an evangelist's home district requires a percentage of his tithe to comply with that district's financial plan, or he has a personal conviction to pay tithes elsewhere, such as his home church, he must give dues equal to a minimum of twice the total maximum allotment he may receive per twelve (12) month period to the Evangelist Department in order to receive full promotional and financial benefits. All Assemblies of the Lord Jesus Christ Pastors shall give the option to evangelists who are participants in the Evangelist Department to forward their tithes to the department in accordance with this section.

3. Each participating Evangelist on a weekly or monthly basis, must send a MONEY ORDER or CASHIER'S CHECK made payable to "Assemblies of the Lord Jesus Christ Evangelist Department," for an amount in accordance with the requirements of this section to the Evangelist Department Secretary/Treasurer.

4. Approved evangelists who comply with the financial plan of the Evangelist Department will receive benefits in accordance with this section and the Evangelist Benefits Policy, and shall be granted voting privileges for all actions affecting the Evangelist Department and the Evangelist Benefits Policy. Changes to the Evangelist Benefits Policy shall be determined by the Evangelist Department Board with the participation of the approved evangelists in attendance at the Evangelist Department meeting at each General Conference.

a) An approved evangelist shall receive a total allotment in accordance with the Evangelist Benefits Policy. He may receive this allotment in equal parts at two (2) national conferences of his choice. The division of the total allotment may be adjusted by the Evangelist Department Director or Secretary/Treasurer in order to meet the needs of an evangelist.

b) The total allotments received per calendar year in accordance with the Evangelist Benefits Policy by an evangelist shall not exceed one half (1/2) of the amount he has given to the Evangelist Department in the twelve (12) months preceding the conference he makes request for allotment.

SECTION 6. OFFERINGS

1. All special offering and general contributions made to the Evangelist Department shall be sent to the National Headquarters offices in Memphis, Tennessee and shall be forwarded to the Evangelist Department Secretary.

2. The Evangelist Department shall disperse funds it receives which are designated as special offerings given expressly to supplement the allotment which is provided to Evangelists at national conferences.

a) The disbursement of these designated offerings shall be made equally and completely to all Evangelists who are participating in the National Evangelist Department and who are in attendance at the Evangelist Department meetings held at General Conference and at Youth Conference.

b) The evangelists shall have the liberty to re-designate these funds to provide for significant needs of one (1) or more evangelists which may be presented at these meetings. Funds considered for re-designation shall be dispersed as re-designated after having received two-thirds (2/3) majority support of the participants of the Evangelist department who are present at said meeting.

3. Tithes shall be paid to the General Fund of the Assemblies of the Lord Jesus Christ on all undesignated offerings received, in accordance with the tithing policy of the Assemblies of the Lord Jesus Christ Constitution.

Judicial Procedure

The Judicial Procedure, which is controlled by and an integral part of this Constitution, is printed separately.