

**CONSTITUTION  
AND  
BYLAWS  
OF THE  
NORTH CAROLINA  
ASSEMBLIES OF GOD**



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CONSTITUTION AND BYLAWS  
NORTH CAROLINA ASSEMBLIES OF GOD

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**CONSTITUTION AND BYLAWS  
OF THE  
NORTH CAROLINA ASSEMBLIES OF GOD**

**PREAMBLE**

In the last days God has been and is pouring out His Spirit upon all flesh in fulfillment of His promise (Joel 2:28; Acts 2:17), resulting in a ministry of Spirit-baptized men and women (Luke 24:40) and the formation of Pentecostal assemblies of saved and Spirit-filled ministers and fellowships, which have associated themselves under the name of The General Council of the Assemblies of God, Inc., for the propagation of the fullness of the Gospel. And, since this General Council has made provision for local Assemblies through District Councils, we have gladly assumed this solemn obligation and hereby duly assembling ourselves in scriptural order and having recognized ourselves as a District of the Assemblies of God in the state of North Carolina since June 7, 1944, we agree to be governed by the following Constitution and Bylaws:

**CONSTITUTION**

**ARTICLE I. NAME**

The name of this body shall be the North Carolina Assemblies of God. (*Hereinafter NCAG or District respectfully*).

**ARTICLE II. VISION AND MISSION STATEMENT**

NCAG is a voluntary cooperative fellowship, whose vision and mission are:

A. Vision

To see Spirit-empowered churches marked by spiritual and numerical growth everywhere.

B. Mission

We exist to empower ministers to reach their potential, equip churches to impact their community, and engage generations to inspire each other.

**ARTICLE III. TERRITORY**

NCAG shall include all territories of the state of North Carolina, which shall be divided into regions by action of the District Council.

**ARTICLE IV. RELATIONSHIP**

SECTION 1. NCAG shall recognize itself as an integral part of The General Council of the Assemblies of God, Inc., whose headquarters are in Springfield, Missouri, and be subject to the General Council as the parent body.

SECTION 2. The local churches of NCAG which are in full fellowship with the District shall recognize and be subject to the District as set forth in this Constitution and Bylaws.

**ARTICLE V.  
STATEMENT OF FUNDAMENTAL TRUTHS**

NCAG, wholeheartedly subscribes to the Statement of Fundamental Truths as written in the Constitution of the General Council of the Assemblies of God, and recognizes this statement is the basis of fellowship in the Assemblies of God and satisfied the need to describe fundamental doctrines.

**ARTICLE VI. PREROGATIVES**

SECTION 1. To approve all scriptural teachings, methods, and conduct, and to disapprove all unscriptural teaching, methods, and conduct.

SECTION 2. To encourage and promote the evangelization of the district, the country, and the world by all scriptural means.

SECTION 3. To set forth a basis of Christian fellowship and provide for counsel and cooperation among those of like precious faith.

SECTION 4. To establish and develop assemblies in accordance with New Testament standards and principles.

SECTION 5. To examine and certify ministerial candidates who shall meet the standards of the Scripture (I Timothy 3:7; Titus 1:5-9) and requirements of the district as set forth in this Constitution and Bylaws, and to assume the oversight of all ministerial matters in the District.

SECTION 6. To select its own officers and committees, to arrange for its own meetings, and to govern itself in conformity with policies of The General Council of the Assemblies of God, Inc.

SECTION 7. To establish and maintain such departments and institutions as may be necessary for the propagation of the Gospel.

SECTION 8. To own, hold in trust, use, sell, convey, mortgage, rent, lease, or otherwise dispose of such property, real or chattel, as may be useful for the prosecution of its work.

**ARTICLE VII. MEMBERSHIP**

**SECTION 1. NCAG**

The membership of NCAG shall consist of all ministers holding a current fellowship certificate with the General Council and whose residence is in North Carolina. Exceptions may be made for those affiliated as missionaries, evangelists, staff members of Assemblies of God colleges, institutions, and approved agencies, employees of the General Council, or others as provided by General Council Bylaws concerning district membership.

**SECTION 2. Assemblies of God of North Carolina**

The membership of NCAG shall consist of all ministers who are members of NCAG and all persons who are members of local churches in North Carolina affiliated with the Assemblies of God.

### SECTION 3. Voting Constituency

The voting constituency at a District Council shall be composed of all members of NCAG holding a current fellowship certificate who are present and registered; and of such delegates present and registered, as may be chosen by the membership churches, each church being entitled to one delegate.

## **ARTICLE VIII. OFFICERS**

### SECTION 1. Executive Officers

- (a) The executive officers of NCAG shall be the superintendent and assistant superintendent/secretary. The General Presbyters of NCAG shall be the superintendent, assistant superintendent/secretary, and one member of the Board of Directors as appointed by the Executive Officers and ratified by the Board of Directors.
- (b) The executive officers shall be ordained ministers of mature experience and ability, whose lives and ministries are above question. They shall have been affiliated with the Assemblies of God for three years, with NCAG one year, and shall have cooperated with the financial policies of NCAG.
- (c) The superintendent shall be trustee of NCAG and is hereby given and shall have authority to execute and deliver deeds, mortgages, encumbrances, contracts, and any other documents affecting real estate now or hereafter owned or held in trust by the district, as well as any other properties or interests which may revert to the District, as hereinafter authorized by the District Constitution and Bylaws. Such conveyances, deeds, mortgages, encumbrances, contracts, and other documents shall be attested by assistant superintendent/secretary.

### SECTION 2. Board of Directors

The Board of Directors shall consist of the superintendent, assistant superintendent/secretary, one member from each of the geographical regions of NCAG, one minister from the ethnic/minority constituency, one minister under age 40, one female minister, and one minister from the constituency at large. These members shall be ordained ministers of maturity and ability, whose lives and ministries are above question. They shall have been affiliated with the Assemblies of God for three years, with NCAG one year, and shall have cooperated with the financial policies of NCAG.

## **ARTICLE IX. MEETINGS**

SECTION 1. NCAG shall meet for District Council biennially and convene in the intermediate year between General Council sessions and at other such times and places as may be determined by the Board of Directors and announced not later than 60 days prior to the meeting.

SECTION 2. Special sessions of NCAG may be arranged, if agreed to by two-thirds of the Board of Directors. Special sessions are to be announced to all members of NCAG not later than 15 days prior to the meeting.

SECTION 3. The right of initiative to call a special session shall be granted to any ordained minister of NCAG. A statement setting forth reasons for the special session and signed by not less than twenty-five percent of the ordained ministers of NCAG shall be considered sufficient

reason for such a call. The statement shall be filed with the Board of Directors, which shall issue the call, setting the time and place for the meeting.

SECTION 4. Regional meetings shall be held at such times and for such purposes as may be determined by the superintendent.

SECTION 5. The Board of Directors shall meet quarterly and at other such times as deemed necessary by the superintendent.

## **ARTICLE X. PROPERTY RIGHTS**

SECTION 1. All property, real or chattel, shall be taken, held, sold, transferred, or conveyed in the corporate name of NCAG, or any of its subsidiaries; i.e., NCAG, or any of its subsidiaries' names, and shall be under the management of the Board of Directors.

SECTION 2.

(a) Real property, for use or benefit of the entire NCAG, shall not be purchased or sold unless first authorized by a two-thirds vote of the membership present at any regular or special session of the Council.

(a) Such property may be leased, mortgaged, or rented as the need arises when authorized by a two-thirds vote of the Board of Directors.

SECTION 3.

(a) Other property, real or chattel, acquired for the purpose of promoting and establishing District affiliated churches may be sold, transferred, leased, rented, conveyed, or mortgaged in the corporate name of NCAG when authorized by a two-thirds vote of Board of Directors. All proceeds received from such property shall be used at the discretion of the Board of Directors.

(b) The properties of all churches not affiliated with the General Council shall be held in the corporate name of NCAG which shall have full power and authority to take and hold such property, whether gift or purchase.

Upon affiliation with the General Council, the title to all property, real and personal (whether gift or purchase), and all indebtedness thereupon, immediately and automatically shall be transferred to and vested in the official name of the duly recognized General Council affiliated church.

SECTION 4. Church property reverting to NCAG, because of a local assembly ceasing to function as a church body, may be sold, transferred, leased, mortgaged, rented, or conveyed in the corporate name of NCAG when authorized by a two-thirds vote of the Board of Directors. All proceeds received from such property shall be used at the discretion of the Board of Directors.

SECTION 5. When required, the assistant superintendent/secretary shall attach a certified copy of the minutes of the meeting in which authorization for conveyance, lease, contract, or mortgage shall have been authorized by vote of the membership of NCAG, Board of Directors, or the Executive Officers as the case may be. Such certificate shall be held to be conclusive evidence thereof.

SECTION 6. In the event this District shall cease to function for the purposes herein set forth, then all property, real or chattel, and all assets remaining after satisfying debts and obligations shall revert to the parent body, The General Council of the Assemblies of God, a Missouri not-for-profit corporation with headquarters at Springfield, Missouri. The General Council of the

Assemblies of God shall have full authority to sell such property and to use the proceeds for the extension of the work of the Assemblies of God.

In the event of cessation of this District, its board of trustees (or directors) shall transfer all properties and any remaining assets, in accordance with the foregoing provisions, within one year after the date of such cessation. If such transfer is not made within the time prescribed above or if the aforesaid General Council shall be unable or unwilling to accept the aforesaid transfer, then disposition thereof shall be made by the court of the county in which the District headquarters office is located, provided that in such case, proceeds of dissolution shall be distributed to organizations having purposes nearest the purposes of the Assemblies of God.

#### **ARTICLE XI. AMENDMENTS**

Amendments to the Constitution may be made at any regular or special meeting of NCAG by a two-thirds majority vote, provided the proposed amendments have been submitted to the voting constituents at least 30 days prior to the District Council.

## **BYLAWS**

### **ARTICLE I. RULES OF ORDER**

In order to expedite the work of NCAG in its deliberations, the Council shall be governed by accepted rules of Parliamentary procedure, all in keeping with the spirit of Christian love and fellowship. Robert's Rules of Order Newly Revised shall be accepted as the final authority.

### **ARTICLE II. NOMINATIONS AND ELECTIONS**

#### **SECTION 1. DISTRICT OFFICERS**

- (a) The superintendent shall be nominated at one of the biennial District Council meetings by secret ballot.
- (b) When the office of the assistant superintendent/secretary's four-year term is completed or vacancy occurs, the names of up to three ministers with bios, nominated by the Board of Directors shall be presented to the District Council in session prior to the beginning of the electoral process.
- (c) Candidates who shall receive a two-thirds majority on the nominating ballot shall be declared elected.
- (d) If there is no election on the nominating ballot, after the second electoral ballot, the two candidates receiving the highest number of votes shall be balloted upon until there is an election. After the fifth electoral ballot, the candidate with the simple majority number of ballots shall be elected.
- (e) The superintendent and assistant superintendent/secretary will serve as full-time officers of NCAG and their offices shall be wherever the District Office is located, and shall be elected for a term of four-years each. Their terms of office shall be staggered.
- (f) One member of the Board of Directors shall be chosen from each of the geographical regions of NCAG.
- (g) All members of the Board of Directors shall be nominated by the superintendent in consultation with the Executive Committee and submitted for election to the District Council to serve a two-year term.
- (h) No person shall be eligible to serve in more than one elective district office at a time.

#### **SECTION 2. VOTING CONSTITUENCY**

- (a) The voting constituency of the District Council shall consist of all present and registered ministers holding valid NC Assemblies of God credentials and church delegates. Each Assembly of God church shall be entitled to one voting delegate at the business sessions.
- (b) All elected officials shall assume office not more than 60 days after elected.

#### **SECTION 3. VACANCIES**

- (a) If the office of the superintendent shall become vacant for any reason, the assistant superintendent shall fill the office of superintendent until a special business session of NCAG is called in order to elect a new superintendent. This special session shall be called by the Board of Directors within 60 days of the vacancy of the office of superintendent. The special called session of NCAG shall be chaired by an executive officer of the General Council.

- (b) In the event of vacancy in the office of assistant superintendent/secretary, the Board of Directors shall fill the position by appointment until the next District Council.
- (c) In the event of a vacancy among the regional members of the Board of Directors, the Executive Officers shall submit a nominee to the Board of Directors for ratification to fill the vacancy for the remainder of the term of office.

**SECTION 4. GENERAL COUNCIL NONRESIDENT  
EXECUTIVE PRESBYTER NOMINEES**

NCAG shall nominate two ministers from its district, one of which will be the superintendent and one shall be one whom is not an elected full-time district official, to be presented to the General Council as nominees from its area to serve on the Executive Presbytery of the General Council.

**ARTICLE III. DUTIES OF OFFICERS**

**SECTION 1. District Superintendent**

- (a) To act as president and trustee of the corporation in all legal matters.
- (b) To preside at all sessions of the District Council, Board of Directors, and Executive Committee, and to establish the agenda for these meetings.
- (c) To give account for all district funds received and disbursed by him.
- (d) To select, employ, and supervise leadership of the district departments.
- (e) To select, employ, and supervise regional district consultants.
- (f) To perform any other function, usual and customary, for the presiding officer or such as may be directed by the Board of Directors or District. He shall be an ex-officio member of all committees.
- (g) To supervise the NCAG Finance Director whose duties include the following:
  - The Finance Director shall report directly to the District Superintendent.
  - The Finance Director shall serve as the treasurer of the corporation.
  - To receive and record all money to be used for the work of NCAG and to make disbursements as directed.
  - To keep an accurate record of receipts and disbursements and shall conduct the work of their office according to accepted methods of business.
  - To give a report from time to time and shall perform such other duties as may be requested by the Superintendent or Board of Directors.
  - The financial director shall be bonded and shall present his/her books for audit or review as prescribed in Article XII. Section 1.
  - To assist in the formulation of budgets and shall serve as a member of the Finance Committee.
  - To act as a resource person to committees.
  - To supervise the day-to-day operations of the office.

**SECTION 2. Assistant District Superintendent/Secretary**

- (a) To act as vice-president/secretary of the corporation in legal matters and shall be authorized, with the approval of the Board of Directors, to execute and deliver legal documents on behalf of the corporation in the event the office of the superintendent is vacant, or if the superintendent is incapacitated and unable to execute and deliver legal documents.
- (b) To assist the superintendent as directed.

- (c) To perform any other function, usual and customary, for the assistant superintendent/secretary or such as may be directed by the Board of Directors or District Council.
- (d) To act as Corporate Secretary of the corporation, attesting all legal documents.
- (e) To be custodian of the seal of the District Council and maintain oversight of credentials process.
- (f) To keep a record of the proceedings of the District Council, Board of Directors, and Executive Committee.

**SECTION 3. General Presbyters**

- (a) To represent the District's interests as members of the General Presbytery of the Assemblies of God in session.
- (b) To function in other such capacities as general presbyters as may be required as members of the body in session.
- (c) To carry out such other functions and duties as may be requested by the Board of Directors from time to time.

**SECTION 4. Board of Directors**

- (a) To serve as the Board of Directors of the corporation.
- (b) To assist the superintendent in the spiritual directives of the District.
- (c) To provide leadership and accountability for the ministries of District.
- (d) To appoint a Ministerial Relations Committee and a Church Relations Committee, receive committee recommendations, and take action as deemed appropriate.
- (e) To act in all matters affecting the interests of the District between sessions.
- (f) To ratify and/or appoint pastors of district affiliated assemblies and make other necessary and prescribed appointments.
- (g) To serve as the Credentials Committee and to provide for the selection of the Credential Interview Committees.
- (h) To serve as the Finance Committee of the District and to appoint a Budget Committee of qualified ministers and laymen in addition to the Executive Officers, to prepare a general operations budget to be presented to the Board of Directors for approval. Included in the committee's work shall be a review and recommendation on the salaries of the paid officials.
- (i) To approve the minutes of the District at the next meeting of the Board of Directors and authorize publication of the same.
- (j) To periodically review the regional boundaries and make recommendations of proposed changes, when deemed beneficial, and to present such recommendations to the next session of the District Council.
- (k) To provide for the review, approval, and implementation of policies of NCAG, and to provide policy statements and procedural manuals necessary for the effective management of NCAG.
- (l) To review and approve job descriptions of officers, departmental directors, and other staff as necessary.

**ARTICLE IV. DIRECTORS, COMMISSIONERS, MANAGERS, LEADERS, AND OTHER DESIGNATIONS**

The ministry leaders shall be selected by the superintendent, to serve as directors, commissioners, managers, or other specific designations commensurate with the position being filled.

## **ARTICLE V. CHURCH MINISTRIES AND DEPARTMENTS**

### **SECTION 1. Church Ministries**

Church ministries shall be under the direction of the Executive Committee, who shall provide leadership as may be necessary.

### **SECTION 2. Departments**

The Board of Directors shall be authorized to establish departments as needed within the district. Departments shall operate within the parameters and guidelines of the District Policy Manual. These departments may include, but not be limited to:

1. Christian Education
2. Finance
3. Men's Ministries
4. Middle and Senior Adult Ministries
5. Missions
6. Women's Ministries
7. Youth

### **SECTION 3. Duties and Responsibilities of Departmental Directors**

- (a) Supervise the work and ministry of their respective departments.
- (b) Submit a quarterly report of activities to the superintendent and a biennial report to the District Council.
- (c) Submit all funds received for their department from all sources to the Finance Director.
- (d) Submit all expense vouchers and statements to the Finance Director for approval and payment.
- (e) Submit to the Board of Directors, through the budgeting process, any proposal which would financially obligate NCAG.

### **SECTION 4. Leadership of Departments**

The leadership of departments shall be selected by the superintendent and ratified by the Board of Directors.

### **SECTION 5. Departmental Auxiliary Ministries**

Leaders of auxiliary ministries shall be appointed as needed by the superintendent.

## **ARTICLE VI. COMMITTEES AND CONSULTANTS**

### **SECTION 1. Committees**

The administration of NCAG shall be supplemented by such committees as may be necessary and proper. All committees, standing and special, shall be subordinate to the Board of Directors, and shall contribute to the harmony and development of the ministry of NCAG as a whole. Committees shall function in accordance with policy and procedure manuals provided by the Board of Directors.

### **SECTION 2. Standing Committees**

Standing committees shall be appointed as necessary and shall serve for the designated time

or until their purpose is accomplished. In the event of a vacancy on a standing committee, the superintendent shall be authorized to fill such vacancy.

### **SECTION 3. Departmental Consultants**

- (a) The ministry and work of each department of NCAG shall be planned and supplemented by a board of consultants to be named by the Board of Directors in consultation with the respective departmental director.
- (b) The membership of each board of consultants shall include the director for the respective department who shall serve as chairman.
- (c) Each department's board of consultants shall meet at least annually, and as may be needed, to plan and project the work and ministry of the respective department.
- (d) Departmental directors may appoint task forces as the need arises.

### **SECTION 4. Resolutions Committee**

- (a) All resolutions for presentation to the District Council shall be through a Resolutions Committee to be appointed biennially by the superintendent, and shall be presented to the Resolutions Committee chairman forty-five days before the Council session. This shall not apply to resolutions coming from the Board of Directors session just prior to the District Council.
- (b) The Resolutions Committee shall prepare the resolutions in printed form and make them available at the registration desk. Attention shall be called to the resolutions during the opening service at the District Council.
- (c) The Resolutions Committee may present other resolutions it deems to be appropriate, which must be approved for presentation by a two-thirds vote of the District Council.
- (d) Each resolution presented shall be signed by its author(s) and the name of the sponsor(s) published in the minutes with the resolution.

## **ARTICLE. VII. COMMITTEE ON MISSION**

### **SECTION 1. Authorization and Purpose**

There shall be a Committee on Mission to assist the superintendent in implementing the mission and objectives of NCAG as outlined in the District Constitution, ARTICLE II. Mission and Objectives, and shall be amenable and work in cooperation with the Board of Directors.

### **SECTION 2. Organization**

- (a) Composition  
The members of the committee shall be appointed by the Board of Directors and shall consist of a diversified representation of NCAG leadership, ministers, and laity.
- (b) Chairman  
The chairman of the committee shall be nominated by the superintendent and ratified by the Board of Directors.
- (c) Subcommittees  
Subcommittees of the committee may be appointed by the chairman of the committee as the need arises.

### **SECTION 3. Functions**

- (a) The committee shall recommend to the Board of Directors ways in which the NCAG mission and objectives may be fulfilled.
- (b) The committee shall focus on the highest and best use of organizational assets and resources and make recommendations of their use to the Board of Directors.
- (c) The committee shall make periodical evaluations of ministries, ministries functions, and operating procedures, and bring all recommendations to the Board of Directors.
- (d) The Board of Directors may provide an annual report to the District Council.

## **ARTICLE VIII. DISTRICT DIVISIONS**

**SECTION 1.** NCAG, shall be composed of six (6) or more geographical regions as determined by the District Officers in consultation with the Board of Directors and reported to the constituency.

**SECTION 2.** Non-Regional Ethnic Fellowships. NCAG recognizes the following Ethnic Fellowships:

- (a) Hispanic Fellowship, which shall consist of the entire Hispanic population of the state.
- (b) Native American Fellowship, which shall consist of the entire Native American population of the state.
- (c) Leadership of District Ethnic Fellowships shall be nominated by the superintendent in consultation with the Executive Committee and ratified by the ministers and church delegates present at a duly called meeting of that fellowship

## **ARTICLE IX. LOCAL ASSEMBLIES**

### **SECTION 1. Classification of Assemblies**

Churches of NCAG shall be classified as General Council affiliated assemblies, district affiliated assemblies, parent affiliated assemblies, and cooperating assemblies.

### **SECTION 2. Qualifications for General Council Affiliation**

- (a) Churches which desire to affiliate with The General Council of the Assemblies of God shall have at least twenty voting members.
- (b) Churches desiring affiliation must have an adequate number of spiritually qualified members to fill the offices of the church called for in its Constitution and/or Bylaws.
- (c) Churches desiring affiliation must recognize their obligation to the Fellowship as a whole, maintain proper doctrinal standards, and must have achieved spiritual and financial maturity. The church must accept all current and long-term financial obligations, and thereby release the District from all loan guarantees relating to that assembly.
- (d) Affiliated churches shall adopt a satisfactory Constitution and/or Bylaws and agree to be governed thereby.
- (e) Churches which shall have met the qualifications for affiliation shall be approved by the Board of Directors, which shall provide affiliation procedures as outlined in General Council Bylaws ARTICLE VI. Assemblies.

### **SECTION 3. Procedure for General Council Affiliation**

- (a) An existing, mature church that desires to affiliate with the General Council of the Assemblies

of God shall apply to the superintendent's office for guidance and assistance. The superintendent's office shall provide an approved application form and procedural instructions.

- (b) The application for General Council affiliation shall be presented to the Board of Directors for approval with an official governance document; i.e., Constitution and/or Bylaws, acceptable to the district.
- (c) Upon approval by the Board of Directors, the application for affiliation shall be forwarded to the general secretary of The General Council of Assemblies of God. Recognition of affiliation shall occur upon receipt by the assembly of a letter of recognition and a Certificate of Affiliation issued by the general secretary.

#### **SECTION 4. Qualifications for District Council Affiliation**

- (a) All churches which are not General Council affiliated shall be district affiliated.
- (b) Churches having district affiliation shall recognize an obligation to the District, shall maintain proper doctrinal standards, and shall be seeking to achieve spiritual and financial maturity.
- (c) District affiliated churches shall operate under the Constitution and/or Bylaws provided by the district.
- (d) District affiliated churches shall file a quarterly report of activities, or as prescribed by the Board of Directors.

#### **SECTION 5. Church Planting**

- (a) Church planting shall be under the supervision of the superintendent. The superintendent shall appoint directors and consultants as needed. A new church plant or recognition of an existing church applying for District or General Council affiliation shall have the approval of the Board of Directors.

#### **SECTION 6. Prerogatives and Obligations**

- (a) A General Council affiliated church shall be self-governing, hold property in its own name, call its own minister, and administer its programs as necessary and proper.
- (b) A District affiliated church shall be deeded to and held in the name of the NCAG.
- (c) No property of a district affiliated church which is held in the name of NCAG shall be mortgaged or in any way encumbered without a two-thirds vote of the congregation and final approval of the Board of Directors.
- (d) The pastor of a district affiliated church shall be elected by the local assembly according to the Constitution and/or Bylaws for District Affiliated Churches.

#### **SECTION 7. Affiliation Reversal**

- (a) A General Council affiliated church whose active voting membership shall decrease to less than twenty, or which for other good and sufficient reasons shall disqualify as a General Council church, shall revert to district affiliation.
- (b) General Council affiliated churches which shall revert to district affiliation shall be expected to return to their former status through provisions as herein stated.

#### **SECTION 8. Intervention of the District in a Local Assembly**

- (a) While the right of a local assembly to self-government is a basic General Council principle, it is also recognized that the assembly has a responsibility to the District and General Council; and both councils have a responsibility to the assembly.

Some of the circumstances which require intervention by the district officary include:

1. Division resulting in disruption
2. Assumption of dictatorial authority by the pastor or board
3. Prolonged absence of the pastoral leadership
4. Deviation or departure from Assemblies of God doctrines, principles, and practices
5. Attempts to disaffiliate from the Assemblies of God Fellowship
6. Any activity that brings reproach upon the Assemblies of God

(b) Intervention Procedure

The district officary has the right to meet with the board or congregation. District intervention may also be initiated in the following ways:

1. Request of the pastor
2. Action of the board
3. Petition of the congregation according to Bylaws provisions
4. District officary initiative
5. Exercising the right of organizational assistance as provided by the General Council Constitution and Bylaws

(c) District Policy of Preservation for Affiliated Churches

If a situation arises which requires district initiative and involvement, the superintendent, in consultation with the Board of Directors, shall meet with the official board, pastor, and/or congregation to assist the church. The Executive Committee may bring the church under district supervision with Board of Directors approval if such an occasion arises in which they feel it would be necessary to preserve the assembly. The church shall have right of appeal according to General Council Constitution ARTICLE XI. Local Assemblies, Section 1, e.

## **ARTICLE X. MINISTERS**

### **SECTION 1. Classification of Ministers**

Ministers shall be classified as certified, licensed, or ordained.

### **SECTION 2. General Qualifications for Ministers**

- (a) Applicants for all credentials shall evidence a scriptural born again experience and shall have received the baptism with the Holy Spirit according to Acts 2:4.
- (b) Applicants for all credentials shall give testimony of a divine calling and evidence a desire to progress in the ministry.
- (c) Applicants for all credentials shall live blameless Christian lives and give evidence of a good reputation.
- (d) Applicants for all credentials shall be thoroughly conversant and in agreement with the Assemblies of God doctrinal position.
- (e) Applicants for all credentials shall have attended Bible college or completed the prescribed Bible correspondence courses.
- (f) Applicants for all credentials shall be willing to accept and be governed by the General Council and District Council Constitution and Bylaws.

### **SECTION 3. Qualifications for Ordained Ministers**

- (a) Applicants for ordination shall be at least twenty-three years of age.
- (b) Applicants for ordination shall have been licensed and engaged in active ministry for at least two full consecutive years.
- (c) Applicants for ordination shall give evidence of the blessing and confirmation of God upon their ministry.
- (e) Applicants for ordination shall appear before the District Credentials Interview Committee for an interview and satisfactorily pass a written examination as prescribed by the General Council.
- (e) Applicants for ordination shall give evidence of planning to engage in full-time ministry.
- (f) Applicants for ordination shall be approved by the General Council Credentials Committee prior to being ordained by the Board of Directors. This includes receiving and recognizing the ordination of a minister from another denomination.
- (g) Applicants for ordination shall be ordained at the biennial meeting of the District Council or at other such times as arranged by the Board of Directors.

### **SECTION 4. Qualifications for Licensed Ministers**

- (a) Applicants for license shall be at least eighteen years of age.
- (b) Applicants for license shall appear before the District Credentials Interview Committee for an interview and satisfactorily pass a written examination as prescribed by the General Council.

### **SECTION 5. Qualifications for Certified Ministers**

- (a) Applicants for certified minister shall be at least seventeen years of age.
- (b) Applicants for certified minister shall indicate a call to service apart from ministry in their local assemblies and shall be efficient helpers in gospel work who devote a part of their time to Christian service.
- (c) Applicants for certified minister shall appear before the District Credentials Interview Committee for an interview and satisfactorily pass a written examination as prescribed by the General Council.
- (f) A certificate of ministry may be issued on a provisional basis to a person who has not met all the credentialing requirements but who is deemed by the District Credentials Interview Committee to be essential to the continuity of a church or a ministry outreach for which a duly credentialed and qualified minister is unavailable. The applicant must meet all requirements of the General Council Bylaws regarding provisional issuance.

### **SECTION 6. Issuance of Credentials**

- (a) All credentials for approved candidates shall be issued by The General Council of the Assemblies of God in Springfield, Missouri.
- (b) Credentials for all ministers shall be subject to renewal annually on satisfactory completion of the General Council questionnaire.
- (c) Satisfactory completion of the constitutional provisions alone shall not be considered sufficient grounds for issuance or renewal of any credentials, but general fitness shall also be considered necessary for issuance or renewal of credentials.
- (d) All credential holders who reach sixty-five years of age and who are no longer engaged in

full-time ministry shall be recognized as senior retired upon his/her request or the request of the District. The annual renewal of his/her credentials shall take place in the regular manner without regard to ministerial activity.

### **SECTION 7. Ministerial Prerogatives**

- (a) All ministers of the Gospel shall be authorized to perform the ordinances and ceremonies (sacerdotal functions) of the Assemblies of God in accordance with applicable federal and state laws.
- (b) No minister of NCAG shall be authorized to perform a marriage ceremony for anyone who has been divorced and whose former companion is still living, unless his case is included in the exceptional circumstances described in the General Council Bylaws.

## **ARTICLE XI. MINISTERIAL RELATIONS**

### **SECTION 1.**

- (a) All ministers shall be subject to and guided by the General Council Constitution and Bylaws provisions relating to matters of discipline, ministerial relations, and conduct.
- (b) All ministers associated with the district shall be amenable to the Board of Directors in doctrine and conduct.
- (c) Ministers accepting ministry in non-Assemblies of God churches shall comply with the General Council Bylaws Article IX., Section 9.
- (d) No minister other than the local pastor shall serve on the board or in any other official capacity in a local church.
- (e) Under no circumstances should any credentialed minister participate and/or vote in a pastoral election.
- (f) No minister shall make contacts to begin a church until the minister is approved by the Board of Directors. Ministers proposing to plant or affiliate a new church shall follow the established policies and procedures for church planting.

### **SECTION 2.**

- (a) All matters relating to discipline, conduct of ministers, and ministerial relations shall be referred to the superintendent.
- (b) Ministers who shall be under charge, or whose ministry shall be questioned, shall be subject to provisions of the Constitution and Bylaws of The General Council of the Assemblies of God, with privileges and appeals as provided therein.

### **SECTION 3.**

Discipline and rehabilitation shall be administered in accordance with the provisions of the General Council Bylaws, ARTICLE X. Discipline.

## **ARTICLE XII. FINANCES**

**SECTION 1.** All finances of the NCAG and its departments, branches, and agencies shall be under the supervision of the Board of Directors, which shall provide for an annual audit of all funds by a certified public accountant and which shall furnish a report of the audit to the District Council.

**SECTION 2.** NCAG endorses the Biblical principle of tithing (Mal. 3:8,10) and subscribes to the position that the ministries of NCAG should be supported by the tithes/dues and offerings of the

ministers and churches and by such other means as may be necessary and proper.

**SECTION 3.** Ordained and licensed ministers should recognize their obligation to contribute to the General Council an amount (as established by the General Council) from their tithes/dues, as an offering, or through their influence. All who can are strongly urged to give more than the established amount, either personally or through the assemblies they pastor. Compliance with this requirement shall be a prerequisite for renewal of credentials of all active ministers. If their contributions are in arrears, they shall be given an opportunity to meet this deficit with their renewal.

**SECTION 4.** Licensed and ordained ministers associated with NCAG shall contribute not less than 80% of their tithes/dues from gross income from all sources to the support of NCAG each month.

**SECTION 5.** Certified ministers holding fellowship papers with NCAG shall contribute not less than 50% of their tithes/dues from gross income from all sources to the support of the district each month.

**SECTION 6.** Senior retired ministers shall contribute not less than 50% of their tithes/dues from income received directly from ministry.

**SECTION 7.** The Board of Directors shall be authorized to extend financial assistance to district affiliated churches upon written application when such financial assistance is deemed necessary by the Board.

**SECTION 8.** Failure to comply with the District Council and General Council provisions for tithing, except as herein provided, shall be considered sufficient grounds for withholding renewal of credentials until satisfactory arrangements shall have been made.

**SECTION 9.** Each church in NCAG shall be urged to send a monthly offering to the District office in the amount of 1% of the church's general fund income for the support of the general and departmental operations through the unified budget.

### **ARTICLE XIII. DISTRICT BURIAL FUND PROGRAM**

The Burial Fund program of the NCAG is available to ministers who hold valid credentials with NCAG. The Burial Fund program shall be administered by the Executive Committee and the District benevolence director.

### **ARTICLE XIV. LOAN FUND**

#### **SECTION 1. Authorization**

NCAG, is authorized to create and operate a Church Loan Fund and other such funds for the primary purpose of making loans to Assemblies of God churches and related entities for church construction, rebuilding, remodeling, and other such needs. The funds may be operated within NCAG, or through a separate non-profit corporation, the directors or trustees of which are appointed by the Executive Committee and ratified by the Board of Directors.

#### **SECTION 2. Loan Committee**

For the funds operated within NCAG, there shall be a loan committee, or committees, of at least three members, each appointed by the Executive Committee and ratified by the Board of

Directors. The loan committee members shall serve for terms of three years. The first appointment shall be as follows: one member shall serve for one year; one member shall serve for two years; one member shall serve for three years. One of the members shall serve as chairman of the committee.

### **SECTION 3. Duties of Loan Committee**

The committee shall approve all loans made by the District and shall determine the rate of interest, terms of repayment, security requirements, and other matters of business relative to making all loans. All loans shall be made primarily to Assemblies of God churches and related entities of NCAG. The committee shall make quarterly reports relative to all loans to the Board of Directors. The superintendent may request information from the committee whenever he feels such information is pertinent to him. The committee shall review all applications received for loans and shall make all decisions relative to all loans.

## **ARTICLE XV. QUORUM**

**SECTION 1.** A majority of the members of the Board of Directors shall constitute a quorum at any regular or special session.

**SECTION 2.** All members who shall respond to the announcement of a District Council shall constitute a quorum.

## **ARTICLE XVI. ORDER OF BUSINESS**

The recommended order of business for the District Council is:

1. The report of the superintendent
2. The report of the assistant superintendent/secretary
3. The report of other officers
4. Election of officers with reports of committees and the presenting of resolutions between ballots
5. The report of the Roster Committee
6. Unfinished business
7. New business
8. Adjournment

## **ARTICLE XVII. AMENDMENTS**

Amendments to the Bylaws may be made in any regular or special session of the District Council by a majority vote of members present and voting.

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