

## REVISIONS COMMITTEE REPORT – 2022

The following revisions were approved by the Revisions Committee as outlined in the Bylaws, Article Six, Section Four, D.5. The revisions will be identified by strike-out (words or punctuation removed) and/or underline (words or punctuation added or changed).

Meeting of the Revisions Committee

July 19, 2022

Nancy Heverly (Chair), Jay Herndon (District Secretary-Treasurer)  
Holly Andreatta, Chris Grigson, and Leanna Sheley (Resource)

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## REVISIONS TO THE CONSTITUTION

## ARTICLE THIRTEEN – LOCAL CHURCHES

**Section Three: District Council Churches**

Local assemblies that do not qualify for General Council affiliation may be recognized by the District Presbytery as District Council affiliated, according to qualifications published in Article Eight, Section Ten of these Bylaws. ~~District Council Churches District Council affiliated churches shall be under the direct supervision of the District Presbytery.~~ District Council affiliated programs churches may include U.S. Missions projects, established church organizations entering into our fellowship from other affiliation or independent status, former sovereign Assemblies of God church programs that have surrendered their sovereignty temporarily or otherwise that seek District Council protection, and otherwise, as approved by the District Presbytery via special resolution.

*As adopted by the District Council, with no adjustments.*

## BYLAWS

## ARTICLE FOUR – DUTIES AND PRIVILEGES OF OFFICERS, BOARDS, AND COMMITTEES

**Section One: Duties of the Executive Officers**

## B. Duties of the Assistant District Superintendent

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6. The Assistant District Superintendent shall be the Director of the Division of District Churches and District Missions, in such capacity acting with the oversight of the District Presbytery (see Constitution Article Thirteen, Section Three) to oversee coordinate and support District affiliated churches, District ~~a~~Approved ~~m~~Ministries, and ~~d~~Domestic ~~e~~Evangelists; and to make recommendations regarding Assemblies of God US Missionaries and military chaplains, and district affiliated Organizations ministries; and endorsed ministries.

*As adopted by the District Council, with the following adjustments:*

- *District Appointed Ministries, and Domestic Evangelists capitalized for continuity.*
- *Inserted Organizations for continuity, and removed ministries, and endorsed ministries as it is older language no longer used.*

**Section Three: Duties of the District Presbytery**

## A. General Duties (Applies to all Presbyters.)

1. The District Presbytery shall serve the District Council to facilitate and support the ministry needs within their respective sections or constituencies.
2. The District Presbytery shall receive reports of action from the Executive Presbytery.
3. The District Presbytery shall also serve as the District Churches and District Missions

Board, as described in these Bylaws. The District Presbytery is to formally approve the opening and closing of churches, may make recommendations regarding the sale or purchase of property, and review and suggest action to address the needs of churches and ministers.

4. The District Presbytery is to formally approve the opening and closing of churches, as well as the addition; and removal of General Council affiliated and District Council affiliated churches from the District roster.

*As adopted by the District Council, with the following adjustments:*

- *Subparagraph 3. – Insert – “...District Churches and District Missions Board...”*
- *Subparagraph 4. – Strike the common “... addition; and removal...”*

#### B. Providing Sectional Pastoral Leadership

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4. ~~Each~~ The individual Sectional Presbyters shall work with the Director of the Division of District Churches and District Missions Director to provide ~~oversight of support and counsel to~~ District affiliated churches in their respective sections, and receive annual reports from the pastor of the District affiliated churches. Each Sectional Presbyter or respective designee shall meet with each pastor of the District affiliated churches at least once each calendar year on the premises of that local church to conduct a tour and inspection of the church premises and any District owned parsonage and property, and to review the files regarding employee and volunteer workers, and to discuss the ministerial goals of the pastor and the local church. ~~Written reports of these meetings shall be forwarded to the Director of the Division of District Churches and District Missions.~~ Such support and counsel responsibilities of the Sectional Presbyter shall include, on at least an annual basis:
  - a. Receiving and reviewing annual reports from senior pastors.
  - b. Meeting at the church offices with the senior pastor directly, or through an authorized representative, to discuss past and current church programs and activities, and as well as forward-looking ministerial plans and goals of the church.
  - c. Touring and inspecting the church’s facilities, directly or through an authorized representative, including (without limitation to) church offices, sanctuaries, meeting rooms, educational spaces, kitchens, common areas, on-site and off-site parsonage, and other church-related properties/facilities.
  - d. Reviewing basic business records of the church, including (and without limitation to) employee and volunteer worker files, insurance documents, accounting records, and church bylaws.
  - e. Preparing and submitting a written report to the Director of the Division of District Churches and District Missions detailing the information gleaned from items a-d above.

*As adopted by the District Council, with the following adjustments:*

- *Subparagraph 4.b. – Strike the “... activities, and as well as...”;* *Insert – “church programs and activities; as well as forward-looking ministerial plans and goals of the church.*
- *Subparagraph 4.d. – Insert – “including (and without limitation to)*
- *Subparagraph 4.e. – Strike the brackets {a} and {b}*

## ARTICLE FIVE – ESTABLISHMENT OF DIVISIONS

### Section One: Division of District Churches and District Missions

#### A. Purpose

The Division of District Churches and District Missions ~~This division~~ exists to oversee coordinate and support District affiliated churches; at the direction and with the oversight of the District Presbytery (See Constitution, Article Thirteen, Section Three), District approved and recognized ministries, and domestic evangelists, and to make recommendations regarding Assemblies of God US Missionaries, District affiliated and endorsed ministries, and military chaplains who are members of this District.

As adopted by the District Council, with the following adjustments:

- To bring into conformity – ~~“District approved Appointed and-recognized ministries, and dDomestic eEvangelists, and to make ... US Missionaries, District aAffiliated Organizations, and military chaplains...~~

#### B. Leadership and Composition

The District Council’s Assistant District Superintendent shall be responsible to lead the day-to-day operations of this division, and in such capacity shall bear the title of Director of the Division of District Churches and District Missions. The Director shall operate under the authority and at the direction of the District Churches and District Missions Board. Unless otherwise constituted by vote of the District Presbytery, the District Churches and District Missions Board shall be comprised of all members of the District Presbytery.

~~This division shall be led by the Assistant District Superintendent who shall also be known as the Director of this division.~~

~~The District Churches and District Missions Board shall be comprised of the District Presbytery. The chairpersons of the Intercultural Fellowships; and any other special representatives appointed by the Executive Presbytery may be invited to attend meetings of the District Church and District Missions Board and shall have voice but no vote in its proceedings.~~

As adopted by the District Council, with the following adjustments:

- Paragraph 2 – Capitalized Intercultural Fellowships; and removed the comma

#### C. Funding

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#### D. Operations

1. ~~The District Churches and District Missions bBoard serves as the governing board of a policy board for all District affiliated churches, and-District approved ministries; and District approved Appointed, and Domestic Evangelists. shall provide oversight to District-appointed missionaries. As such, it shall appoint The District Churches and District Missions Board shall endorse the application of churches requesting recognition as a District Affiliated Church. The District Churches and District Missions Board may offer recommendations regarding pastors, approve directors of ministries, recommend mortgages, leases, property acquisitions, budgets, contracts, and other such items identified in the Policy and Procedures Manual Rules of Order for District affiliated churches.~~
2. The Sectional Presbyter together with the Sectional Leadership Committee shall have the right to make recommendations to the Division of District Churches and District Missions regarding District Affiliated Churches and District Approved ministries operating within their sections.
3. Neither this division nor its director shall underwrite or otherwise guarantee or endorse any debt, nor are they authorized to give consent to any person or agency for guaranteeing debt. All matters involving debt shall be referred to the Executive Presbytery.
4. ~~Disbursements of funds of this Division for sums of \$10,000 or less may be authorized by the Director. Disbursements of funds in excess of \$10,000 must be approved by the Executive Committee. All such action shall be reported to the District Presbytery and to the Executive Presbytery and recorded in their respective minutes.~~
- 5.4. This division shall encourage all local Assemblies of God churches to include in their budgets giving programs, with special consideration for those missionary personnel and support Assemblies of God US Missionaries, Assemblies of God World Missionaries, and other projects identified with this District Council.
- 6.5. The director of this division shall make recommendations to the District Presbytery regarding District Recognized Appointed ministries, Affiliated Organizations, and Domestic Evangelists.
- 7.6. This division shall oversee District-appointed missionaries and domestic evangelists and

shall maintain an account for each at the District Office where designated contributions, offerings and honorariums may be received and credited to the minister's account and issue the donor World Ministries giving credit. The Division shall review the status of each District-appointed missionary and domestic evangelist annually.

- 8.7. The District Presbytery shall oversee U.S. missions endowment funds for the purpose of support and promotion of U.S. missions and missionaries.

*As adopted by the District Council, with the following adjustments:*

- *Subparagraph 1 – Capitalized the word “Board” and “Affiliated Church.” Removed “approved” and replaced with “Appointed ministries, and” to bring into conformity. Uncapitalized “affiliated churches.” Removed “... and directors of ministries, mortgages...”*
- *Subparagraph 2 – Uncapitalized “affiliated churches.” Removed “approved” and replaced with “Appointed.”*
- *New Subparagraph 5 - Removed “Recognized” and replaced with “Appointed.” And, inserted “...Appointed ministries, Affiliated Organizations, and Domestic Evangelists” to bring into conformity.*
- *New Subparagraph 6 – Capitalized “Domestic Evangelists”*

## ARTICLE SEVEN – MINISTERS AND MINISTRY

### Section One: Establishment of Ministry

#### J. Termination of Ministerial Credentials

##### 2. Termination of Credentials on Initiative of District Council

- c. Ministerial credentials registered with this District Council ~~shall~~ may be terminated in event the minister shall become credentialed with any other denomination or religious order granting ministerial credentials unless a special exception for good cause shown is requested by the District and approved by the General Council Executive Presbytery. An investigation shall be conducted to determine the proper category of termination, and he shall be reported accordingly.
- d. Ministerial credentials registered with this District Council may be terminated as a feature of discipline involving dismissal of the minister, ~~and as hereinafter set forth according to General Council Bylaws, Article X, Section 3.~~

*To bring into conformity with the General Council Bylaws.*

## ARTICLE EIGHT – THE LOCAL CHURCH

### Section Ten: District Council-Affiliated Churches

#### A. Affiliation with the District Council

1. ~~District sponsored~~ Local churches shall be recognized as District Council affiliated churches; shall operate according to policies established by the District Presbytery, with day-to-day coordination and support provided by the Director under supervision of the Division of District Churches and District Missions in accordance with these District Council Bylaws. The statutory bylaws of all District affiliated churches shall be the most recent version of the “Constitution and Bylaws for District Affiliated Churches” as ~~approved~~ recommend by the District Presbytery.
2. District Council affiliated churches may include U.S. Missions projects, District church plants, established church organizations entering into our fellowship from other affiliations or independent status, and former sovereign Assemblies of God churches that have surrendered their sovereignty, no longer satisfy the qualifications for sovereign status, temporarily or otherwise have sought that seek District Council assistance. (See Bylaws, Article Eight, Section Five.)
3. ~~District Council affiliated churches must comply with and fulfill all policies, standards, and practices as adopted by the Executive Presbytery. It is the specific directive of this District Council that all District Council affiliated churches comply with policies and procedures adopted by the Executive Presbytery regarding safe practices for the care and protection of minors.~~

As adopted by the District Council, with the following adjustments:

- Paragraph A – Removed “Council” to read “District affiliated churches” to bring into conformity.
- Subparagraph A.2. – Insert, “...independent status, and former sovereign...”

#### B. Qualifications for District Affiliated Churches

Churches requesting recognition as a District affiliated church must meet the following qualifications and standards:

1. District affiliated churches must accept and endorse the Tenets of Faith of the Assemblies of God Fellowship, as such are set forth in the Constitution and Bylaws of both The General Council of the Assemblies of God and this District Council, which Tenets of Faith are commonly known as The General Council of the Assemblies of God Statement of Fundamental Truths.
2. District Affiliated churches must be incorporated according to the laws of the state in which they operate, formed and operated exclusively for religious purposes, exempt under provisions of Section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code, referencing affiliation with this District Council, and compliant with other policies adopted by this District Council’s District Church and District Missions Board.
3. District Affiliated churches must adopt a Constitution and Bylaws in form compatible with those recommended by this District Council’s District Church and District Missions Board.
4. District Affiliated churches must have a Senior Pastor who holds a current credential with the General Council of the Assemblies of God and whose credentials are registered with this District Council, or in exigent circumstances, who holds credentials with another recognized Pentecostal fellowship, with approval of the Director of the Division of District Churches and District Missions.
5. The church must conform with the Policy and Procedures Manual for District Affiliated Churches, as approved by the District Church and District Missions Board.
6. District Affiliated churches must fulfill and comply with all policies, standards, and rules as promulgated by the Executive Presbytery, including (and without limitation to) those policies and procedures adopted by the Executive Presbytery regarding safe practices for the care and protection of minors.
7. District Affiliated churches must complete an application form with relevant information and ~~indicating~~ indicate intention to comply with all standards and requirements expressed or implied in this section.
8. District Affiliated churches must complete an annual report, affirming compliance with these standards and reporting other ministerial, membership, and business information as may be requested by the Director of the Division of District Churches and District Missions, their respective Sectional Presbyters, and/or an officer of the District.

As adopted by the District Council, with the following adjustments:

- Paragraph B – Uncapitalized “Affiliated Church” to bring into conformity.
- Subparagraph 6. – Inserted “(and without limitation to)” to bring into conformity.
- Subparagraph 7 – Replace “indicating” with the word “indicate” for proper grammar.

### BYLAWS, ARTICLE ELEVEN, SECTION ONE

#### Section One: Contributions of Ministers

- E. The established amount to be so contributed as Minister’s Tithe shall be according to the scale established common to all classifications of ministerial credential, particularly applicable to the following classification of credentials:

<b>Credential Type</b>	<b>Minimum Amt per Month</b>
** Active Ordained Ministers.....	a minimum of \$ <del>248</del> <u>258</u> per month
** Active Licensed Ministers.....	a minimum of \$ <del>248</del> <u>258</u> per month
* Active Certified Ministers.....	a minimum of \$ <del>138</del> <u>148</u> per month
*** Senior, Retired Credential Holders.....	a minimum of \$60 per month (as able)
* All Inactive Credential Holders.....	a minimum of \$60 per month

Nationally Appointed US Missionaries, World Missionaries residing in the U.S. or on the field per family, and

- District approved Chi Alpha Directors ..... a minimum of \$95 100 per month
- Chaplains Nationally Endorsed .....a minimum of 10% of their tithes
- Student, full-time ..... a minimum of \$90 100 per month
- # Spouse as second credential holder..... a minimum of \$35 per month

*As adopted by the District Council*

