

2019

GENERAL CONFERENCE RESOLUTIONS

RESOLUTION #1

Whereas, The Ladies Ministries of the United Pentecostal Church International has experienced growth and change over the past several years; and

Whereas, The financial practices of Ladies Ministries are built around the annual fundraising campaign, Mothers Memorial, rather than the procedures recommended in Section 8-1.2-a.b of the current Ladies Ministries Policy; and

Whereas, There is a need to update the policies of Ladies Ministries in the *United Pentecostal Church International Manual*; therefore

Be it resolved, That the following changes to the Ladies Ministries section of the *UPCI Manual* be adopted.

ARTICLE XV LADIES MINISTRIES POLICY

Section 1. Name.

The name of this ministry of the United Pentecostal Church International shall be Ladies Ministries.

Section 2. Vision Statement.

1. The purpose of the United Pentecostal Church International Ladies Ministries is to fulfill the need of assistance in both North America and global missionary fields; to educate and engage women of all ages in Apostolic lifestyle and ministry; and to oversee ministries subject to the approval of the General Board that promote and encourage spiritual growth. This is accomplished through an annual fundraising campaign.

2. The mission of Ladies Ministries is to equip and mobilize Apostolic ladies for service in the kingdom of God; to maintain a spirit of cooperation with the various ministries of the organization; to preserve apostolic doctrine; and to maintain and transmit the heritage of the past to the present and future generations through teaching and by example.

Section 3. Officers.

The Ladies Ministries shall consist of:

1. General President.
2. Secretary.
3. A committee consisting of the District Presidents.

4. The General President and General Secretary of the Ladies Ministries shall be elected by the General Conference. The President shall be elected concurrent with the General Superintendent, and the Secretary concurrent with the General Secretary-Treasurer.

5. The Ladies Ministries presidents from each district, during their annual pre-General Conference Ladies Ministries meeting, shall nominate three (3) candidates (or one [1] candidate if that name receives a two-thirds majority on the nominating ballot) for the office of the Ladies Ministries General President or the Ladies Ministries General Secretary, to be presented to the General Board for their review and approval. After approval, the General Board will then present the nominee(s) to the General Conference for an election.

6. The General President and Secretary shall be elected for a term of two years with a maximum of eight (8) consecutive years. After four (4) consecutive terms in said elected office, the official would be required to be elected by a two-thirds vote to a fifth term and all consecutive terms. In the event the incumbent does not receive a two-thirds vote on the nominating ballot, a new nominating ballot would be called for and the incumbent's name would be deleted.

7. Ladies Ministries Regional Committee (consisting of one Ladies Ministries president from six regions) appointed by the General President with the approval of the District Superintendent to serve a two-year term; to assist the general office in conducting Ladies Ministries business.

Section 4. Qualifications.

General President and Secretary must be ladies at least thirty (30) years of age, of unquestionable character and integrity, shall be loyal to the organization and in good standing in their local church, and conform to the Fundamental Doctrine.

Section 5. Duties of General President.

1. To act as chair of all General Ladies Ministries committee meetings.
2. To keep all Ladies Ministries District Presidents informed of the work in general and have the privilege to visit district camp meetings and conferences to promote Ladies Ministries when invited.
3. To work under the direction and supervision of the General Board at all times.

Section 6. Duties of General Secretary.

1. To keep a record of all official meetings of the Ladies Ministries.
2. To give a report at the General Conference.
3. To receive all funds sent to the General Ladies Ministries office, to keep an accurate record of all monetary transactions.

Section 7. Organization of District Ladies Ministries Department.

1. Officers
Each organized district shall have a Ladies Ministries Committee consisting of District President, District Secretary, Sectional Presidents, and Secretaries when necessary.
2. Elections and Appointments.
 - (a) The District Ladies Ministries officials shall be elected by the District Conference for a two (2) year term or appointed by the District Board and ratified by the District Conference. The election of the District Ladies Ministries President shall be the same year as that of District Superintendent. The election of the District Ladies Ministries Secretary shall be the same year as that of District Secretary.
 - (b) The Sectional President shall be elected by the Sectional Conference or appointed by the District Superintendent, Sectional Presbyter, and Ladies Ministries President.
 - (c) Election of District and Sectional officers shall be for two-year terms, with a maximum of eight (8) consecutive years. After four (4) consecutive terms in said elected office, the official would be required to be elected by a two-thirds vote to a fifth term and all consecutive terms. In the event the incumbent does not receive a two-thirds vote on the nominating ballot, a new nominating ballot would be called for and the incumbent's name would be deleted.
3. Qualifications.
 - (a) Both the District President and the District Secretary must be ladies at least twenty-five (25) years of age, of unquestionable character and integrity, shall be loyal to the organization and in good standing in her local church, and conform to the Fundamental Doctrine.
 - (b) Both the Sectional President and the Sectional Secretary must be ladies of unquestionable character and integrity, shall be loyal to the organization and in good standing in her local church, and conform to the Fundamental Doctrine.
4. Duties.
 - (a) Duties of District President.
 - (1) To act as chair of committee meetings under the supervision of the District Superintendent.
 - (2) To promote Ladies Ministries work throughout the district.
 - (3) To visit various churches of the district when invited to promote individual Ladies Ministries programs.
 - (b) Duties of District Secretary.
 - (1) To keep a record of all committee meetings.
 - (2) To give a report of Ladies Ministries activities at the District Conference.
 - (c) Duties of Sectional President.
 - (1) To promote Ladies Ministries work throughout the section.

- (2) To visit various churches of the section when invited to promote individual Ladies Ministries programs.
- (d) Duties of Sectional Secretary.
 - (1) To keep a record of all sectional rallies and meetings.
 - (2) To inform the local church presidents of any Ladies Ministries activities in the section.

Section 8. Financial Policy.

1. Annual Fundraising Campaign.
 - (a) The name of the annual fundraising campaign of Ladies Ministries shall be Mothers Memorial.
 - (b) The general fundraising campaign shall be conducted by the Executive Ladies Ministries Committee subject to the approval of the General Board.
 - (c) The district fundraising campaign shall be conducted by the District Ladies Ministries Committee subject to the approval of the District Board.
 - (d) Each district is requested to cooperate financially with the annual fundraising campaign.
 - (e) Each local church is requested to contribute to the annual fundraising campaign promoted within its district.
 - (f) Fifty percent (50%) of the total offering received by the District Ladies Ministries Secretary shall be retained in the District Ladies Ministries fund. These funds are to be allocated by the District Ladies Ministries Committee subject to the approval of the District Board and disbursed according to district policy.
 - (g) Fifty percent (50%) of the total offering received by the District Ladies Ministries Secretary shall be sent to the General Ladies Ministries Secretary of the United Pentecostal Church International.
 - (h) The allocation of funds shall be determined by the General Ladies Ministries Committee and approved by the General Board.
 - (i) Disbursement of funds shall be made according to the previously established General Board policy.
2. Adopted Missionary Offering.
 - (a) In conjunction with the annual fundraising campaign, the district is encouraged to participate in the Adopted Missionary Offering.
 - (b) Said offering is for the missionary families and includes providing birthday offering to missionary children and Christmas offering to missionary families on the field during the holiday season.
 - (c) Said offering to be counted in the total of the district Mothers Memorial offering.
 - (d) One hundred percent (100%) of said offering received by the District Ladies Ministries Secretary shall be sent to the General Ladies Ministries Secretary.
3. Expense Recommendation.
 - (a) The expense incurred for the General President's and Secretary's travel to and attendance at the General Conference shall be paid from the General Ladies Ministries Fund.
 - (b) It is recommended that all districts where possible send their District President to the General Conference, with the expense to be paid from the District Treasury of the Ladies Ministries.
 - (c) It is recommended that the districts defray expenses of the General President's official visit to the districts if possible.

Section 9. Safeguard of Funds.

1. The General Ladies Ministries officials with the General Board shall be responsible for the safeguarding of all General Ladies Ministries Funds invested in Ladies Ministries projects under their supervision.
2. The District Ladies Ministries Committee together with the District Board shall be responsible for the safeguarding of all Ladies Ministries projects in their district.

Carried

RESOLUTION #2

Whereas, The role of Honorary General Board Member serves to honor those who have served with integrity and longevity on the General Board, and

Whereas, Members of the Executive Committee may have also served on the General Board in various capacities prior to their executive roles, and

Whereas, With term limits in effect, present years of service requirements for Honorary General Board Members may reduce the number of future eligible candidates;

Be it resolved, therefore, that Article VI, Section 1, Paragraph 6 of the General Constitution be amended to read:

A candidate for the position of Honorary General Board member may be nominated by any General Board member while the General Board is in session. A standing committee appointed by the General Superintendent will pass on all nominees. To be accepted, nominees that clear this committee must be approved by the General Board and ratified by the General Conference. To be eligible for the position of Honorary General Board member, one must have served a minimum of sixteen (16) years (not necessarily continuous) as a General Presbyter, or a minimum of eight (8) years as an Executive Board member. He must be at least sixty-five (65) years of age. Members of the Executive Committee, regardless of age, may be considered to become an honorary member of the General Board at the conclusion of their tenure in office if they are in good standing with the organization. All Honorary General Board members shall be given the same financial remuneration as General Board members in attending General Board meetings. They shall also comprise an advisory Board of Elders, to be available to the General Superintendent at his discretion, for counsel concerning matters of importance to the organization. They shall be accorded all the privileges of General Board members, with the exception of voting in General Board meetings.

Carried

RESOLUTION #3

Resolution 3 was referred to committee that is to report to General Conference 2020.

RESOLUTION #4

Whereas, The United Pentecostal Church has been in a multi-year process of updating the *Manual* of the United Pentecostal Church International; and

Whereas, It has been many years since Article XII of the Constitution of the United Pentecostal Church, International has been updated; and

Whereas, Many changes have been made to the operational structure of the General North American Missions Division since the last major revision of Article XII; and

Whereas, Significant growth has occurred within the ministries, programs, and resources of the General North American Missions Division in order to minister to the needs of our rapidly changing society; and

Whereas, There is a stated desire to simplify the Constitution of the United Pentecostal Church International to its core purposes and remove operational issues that should be more properly placed in a policy manual; therefore

Be it resolved, the following changes to Article XII of the Constitution of the United Pentecostal Church International be adopted.

**ARTICLE XII
NORTH AMERICAN MISSIONS POLICY**

Section 1. Purpose.

The purpose of North American Missions is to strengthen our base for world evangelization by planting and establishing new

works in the United States and Canada through the following methods:

1. Assisting districts and missionaries in the planting of new churches.
2. Assisting churches in establishing daughter works and preaching points.
3. Training church planters.
4. Sending and supporting metro missionaries.
5. Assisting districts and church planters through Church In A Day.
6. Providing short-term mission opportunities in North America.
7. Supporting the Christian Prisoner Ministry.
8. Supporting the Evangelist Ministry.
9. Conducting the annual Christmas for Christ offering.

Section 2. Qualifications.

The qualifications for the General North American Missions Director, General North American Missions Secretary, and General North American Missions Director of Promotions shall be the same as Article IV, Section 3, Paragraphs 1 and 2 of the General Constitution.

Section 3. General Organization and Government.

General North American Missions shall consist of a General North American Missions Director, a General North American Missions Secretary, General North American Missions Promotions Director (The General North American Missions Executive Team), a General North American Missions Board, a General North American Missions Executive Committee, and a General North American Missions Administrative Committee.

Section 4. General North American Missions Director.

1. The General North American Missions Director shall be elected by the General Conference for a term of two (2) years, for a maximum of eight (8) consecutive years and shall become a member of the Executive and General Boards. After four (4) consecutive terms in said elected office, the official would be required to be elected by a two-thirds vote to a fifth term and all consecutive terms. In the event the incumbent does not receive a two-thirds vote on the nominating ballot, a new nominating ballot would be called for and the incumbent's name would be deleted.

2. The duties of the General North American Missions Director shall be as follows:

- (a) To direct all North American Missions activities and work in harmony with the General Superintendent and General Board in accordance with Article V, Section 1, Paragraph 1(f).
- (b) To be the chair of the General North American Missions Board and the North American Missions Administrative Committee.
- (c) To preside over all ministries, programs, fundraisers, events, and endeavors of North American Missions.
- (d) To perform such other functions as may be directed by the North American Missions Administrative Committee, the General Board, and the General Superintendent not in conflict with these bylaws.
- (e) To supervise and to direct the receiving and disbursing of all North American Missions funds sent to UPCI World Headquarters.
- (f) To keep each District North American Missions Director, Regional Director, and District Superintendent informed of the work in general, and may visit any district meetings to assist the District North American Missions Director in promoting the North American Missions Program.

Section 5. General North American Missions Secretary.

1. The General North American Missions Secretary shall be elected by the General Conference for a term of two (2) years, for a maximum of eight (8) consecutive years, said election alternating with the election of the General North American Missions Director. After four (4) consecutive terms in said elected office, the official would be required to be elected by a two-thirds vote to a fifth term and all consecutive terms. In the event the incumbent does not receive a two-thirds vote on the nominating ballot, a new

nominating ballot would be called for and the incumbent's name would be deleted.

2. Duties of the General North American Missions Secretary shall be as follows:

- (a) To work full time under the direction and supervision of the General North American Missions Director.
- (b) To take minutes of the proceedings of committee meetings and to preserve the records of the North American Missions.
- (c) To keep an accurate record of all receipts and disbursements of the North American Missions funds and make a complete report of such funds to the General North American Missions Director and to the North American Missions Administrative Committee.
- (d) To conduct the correspondence relative to the North American Missions under the supervision of the General North American Missions Director.
- (e) To have the authority to disburse funds as directed by the General North American Missions Director and the North American Missions Administrative Committee.
- (f) To perform such other duties as the work of the North American Missions demands under the supervision of the General North American Missions Director.

Section 6. General North American Missions Promotions Director.

1. The General North American Missions Promotions Director shall be appointed by the General North American Missions Director and ratified by the Executive Board.

2. Duties of the General North American Missions Promotions Director shall be as follows: He or she shall perform duties assigned him or her by the General North American Missions Director to promote all phases of North American Missions endeavors.

Section 7. Regional North American Missions Directors and Pastoral Advisors.

1. Method of Appointment of Regional Directors: The General North American Missions Director shall nominate one from each of seven (7) regions. The District Directors of each region shall have the opportunity to ratify the name by a secret yes or no ballot, who in turn shall be ratified by the General Board or Executive Board.

2. Method of Appointment of Pastoral Advisors: The General North American Missions Director shall appoint two pastoral advisors, one from the Eastern Zone and one from the Western Zone, who shall be ratified by the General Board or the Executive Board.

3. Term of office.

The Regional Directors and Pastoral Advisors shall serve a term of four (4) years with a maximum of three (3) consecutive terms. The appointments shall be so arranged that three (3) positions shall expire every year for three (3) years.

4. Duties of the Regional Directors:

- (a) The Regional Directors shall work under the direction of the General North American Missions Director and in cooperation with the District North American Missions Director and District Superintendent.
- (b) They shall serve as a liaison between General North American Missions and the District North American Missions Department.
- (c) They shall be informed of all North American Missions policies and procedures.
- (d) They shall attend all meetings of the General North American Missions Board and Administrative Committee.
- (e) They shall promote North American Missions efforts in their respective regions.

5. Duties of Pastoral Advisors.

- (a) The Pastoral Advisors shall work under the direction of the General North American Missions Director.
- (b) They shall advise the North American Missions Administrative Committee as a pastoral voice of the pastoral constituency of the United Pentecostal Church.
- (c) They shall be informed of all North American Missions policies and procedures.
- (d) They shall attend all meetings of the General North American Missions Board and Administrative Committee.

- (e) They shall promote North American Missions efforts throughout the United Pentecostal Church.

Section 8. General North American Missions Board.

1. The General North American Missions Board shall consist of the North American Missions Executive Team, the General North American Missions Administrative Committee, and the elected District North American Missions Directors.

2. The duties of the General North American Missions Board shall be as follows:

- (a) To assist in the work of the North American Missions.
- (b) To attend all duly called meetings and conduct such business as deemed necessary in accordance with the North American Missions Policy.
- (c) To promote evangelization of the United States and Canada.

Section 9. General North American Missions Executive Committee.

1. The General North American Missions Executive Committee shall consist of the General Superintendent, the General Secretary, and the General North American Missions Director.

2. The duties of the General North American Missions Executive Committee shall be as follows:

- (a) To act upon North American Missions matters between meetings of the General North American Missions Board.
- (b) To oversee all General North American Missions funds invested in North American Missions projects under their supervision.

Section 10. General North American Missions Administrative Committee.

1. The General North American Missions Administrative Committee shall consist of the General North American Missions Director, the General North American Missions Secretary, the General North American Missions Promotions Director, seven (7) Regional Directors, and two (2) Pastoral Advisors.

2. Duties of the Administrative Committee shall be as follows:

- (a) To review and develop North American Missions policy, procedures, programs, ministries, and promotion.
- (b) To allocate funds received through the Christmas for Christ program.

Section 11. District Organization and Government.

1. Each organized district shall have a District North American Missions Director, a District North American Missions Board, and a District North American Missions Executive Committee. The district may or may not have a District North American Missions Secretary. It may also have a District Director of Promotions at the discretion of the District Board.

2. District North American Missions Director.

- (a) Qualifications.
 - (1) The District North American Missions Director shall be at least thirty (30) years of age, must have been a minister in good standing with the organization for at least two (2) years, must have been ordained at least one (1) year, must have proven loyal to the organization and the cause of North American Missions by cooperation with the upbuilding of the work, and must have been a cooperating member of the district for at least one (1) year.
 - (2) Must conform to the Fundamental Doctrine of the United Pentecostal Church International.
- (b) Shall be elected by the District Conference for a term of two (2) years, alternating with the office of District Superintendent. After four (4) consecutive terms in said elected office, the official would be required to be elected by a two-thirds vote to a fifth term and all consecutive terms. In the event the incumbent does not receive a two-thirds vote on the nominating ballot, a new nominating ballot would be called for and the incumbent's name would be deleted.
- (c) Duties of the District North American Missions Director shall be as follows:
 - (1) To efficiently develop and administer the District

North American Missions and to act as chair of the District North American Missions Board.

- (2) To promote North American Missions work throughout the district, including time in a District Conference annually.
- (3) To promote and support preaching points, daughter works, and church plants throughout the district in cooperation with the District Board.
- (4) To secure all available materials designed for him or her in the promotion of North American Missions in his or her district.
- (5) To attend all duly called meetings of the General North American Missions Board. The district is to financially assist him or her as far as possible.
- (6) To work in cooperation with the District Superintendent, District Board, and General North American Missions Board.
- (7) To conduct meetings as he or she and the District Superintendent deem necessary to plan and administrate the missions and evangelism affairs of the district. These meetings shall be called with the permission of the District Superintendent and shall be conducted in cooperation with him.
- (8) To lead the board and district in raising funds for Christmas for Christ and other North American Missions projects.

3. District North American Missions Secretary.

- (a) Qualifications.
 - (1) Must have been a minister in good standing with the organization for at least one (1) year, must have a General License or Certificate of Ordination, must have proven loyal to the organization and the cause of North American Missions through cooperation with the upbuilding of the work, and must be a cooperating member of the district.
 - (2) Must conform to the Fundamental Doctrine of the United Pentecostal Church International.
- (b) Term of Office.

The District North American Missions Secretary shall be either elected by the District Conference or appointed by the District North American Missions Director and District Board and ratified by the District Conference for a two (2) year term, alternating with the office of District North American Missions Director. After four (4) consecutive terms in said elected office, the official would be required to be elected by a two-thirds vote to a fifth term and all consecutive terms. In the event the incumbent does not receive a two-thirds vote on the nominating ballot, a new nominating ballot would be called for and the incumbent's name would be deleted.

(c) The duties of the District North American Missions Secretary shall be as follows:

- (1) To work under the direction of the District North American Missions Director.
- (2) To take minutes and preserve records of all District North American Missions Board proceedings.
- (3) To administer the finances of the District North American Missions in accordance with district policy.
- (4) To make a financial report to the District Board when requested.
- (5) To promote and support preaching points, daughter works, and church plants throughout the district in cooperation with the District North American Missions Director.

4. District North American Missions Board.

- (a) This Board shall consist of the District North American Missions Director, District North American Missions Secretary, the District North American Mission Director of Promotions (if applicable), and Sectional North American Missions Directors. In districts without sections, the District North American Missions Director, District North American Missions Secretary and District Superintendent shall function in lieu of such a board.

- (b) The duties of the District North American Missions Board shall be as follows:
 - (1) To oversee all matters pertaining to the District North American Missions.
 - (2) To guide and assist the District North American Missions Director.
 - (3) To promote and support preaching points, daughter works, and church plants throughout the district in cooperation with the District Board.
 - (4) To formulate District North American Missions policy. This policy shall not conflict with the General Policy as outlined in this *Manual*.
 - (5) The District North American Missions Board is subject to the District Board.

5. District North American Missions Executive Committee.

- (a) The District North American Missions Executive Committee shall consist of the District Superintendent, the District North American Missions Director, and the Sectional Presbyter in whose section the project or individual under consideration is located. The District Superintendent shall act as chair of this committee.
- (b) The duties of the District North American Missions Executive Committee shall be as follows:
To act upon North American Missions matters between meetings of the District North American Missions Board.

6. Sectional North American Missions Directors.

- (a) Qualifications.
All Sectional North American Missions Directors should hold license or credentials with the United Pentecostal Church International, be in good standing with their district, and conform to the Fundamental Doctrine.
- (b) Selection and term of office:
The Sectional North American Missions Director shall either be elected by the Sectional Conference or appointed by the District North American Missions Executive Committee.
- (c) The duties of the Sectional North American Missions Director shall be as follows:
 - (1) To serve as a member of the District North American Missions Board.
 - (2) To attend all duly called meetings of the District North American Missions Board and attend all other District North American Missions Board functions as much as possible.
 - (3) To promote and support preaching points, daughter works, and church plants throughout the section in cooperation with his or her presbyter.
 - (4) To oversee North American Missions events of his or her section.
 - (5) To be responsible to the District North American Missions Director and work in cooperation with his or her presbyter.
 - (6) To lead his or her section in raising Christmas for Christ and other North American Missions funds.

Section 12. General North American Missions Finances.

1. All funds shall be received and disbursed by the General Secretary-Treasurer of the United Pentecostal Church International. Such funds shall be disbursed only upon the request of the General North American Missions Director or General North American Missions Secretary.
2. All money raised throughout our ranks under the banner of "North American Missions" shall be used for North American Missions work exclusively.
3. No funds can be raised under the banner of "North American Missions" without the authorization of General North American Missions. This does not preclude Districts from granting permission to their approved Missionaries to raise funds within their District.
4. It is recommended that all districts send their District North American Missions Director to the General Conference and to any General North American Missions Board meeting. The expenses shall be paid out of the District North American Missions Department treasury.

Section 13. Metro Missions.

1. Purpose.
 - (a) To establish churches in metropolitan areas of North America. A Metro Missions area shall be a population center of seven hundred fifty thousand or more residents.
 - (b) To secure financial assistance necessary for the implementation and development of evangelism in the metropolitan areas of North America.
2. Administration.
 - (a) General North American Missions shall administrate the Metro Missions Program in accordance to this policy and according to that published in *Policies of the United Pentecostal Church International: General Board*.
 - (b) A Metro Missions Coordinator shall be appointed by the General North American Missions Director and ratified by the North American Missions Administrative Committee for a two-year term.
 - (c) The General North American Missions Administrative Committee shall approve applicants and areas for sponsored projects, establish the budget for each missionary endeavor, make necessary appropriations for the project, and authorize the missionary to raise a budget through deputation.
 - (d) The General North American Missions Administrative Committee shall review annually the progress of each project to determine present needs and to make necessary adjustments.
 - (e) After a minister and the project has been approved by the Administrative Committee, the project shall be under the supervision of a committee composed of the Metro Missions Coordinator and the General North American Missions Executive Team.
3. The Metro Missionary.
 - (a) Selection of the Missionary.
 - (1) Metro missionary applicants shall complete the Metro Missions application form, including a financial statement. Applicants must receive approval from their home district and their target district prior to meeting the North American Missions Administrative Committee for a thorough examination. If approved, final appointment, as a missionary, shall be by the action of the Executive Board.
 - (2) No application shall be considered for an area unless the District Board has requested a metro missionary.
 - (3) Prospective Missionaries will be evaluated in the following categories:
 - (a) Personal experience
 - (b) Doctrinal teaching and conviction
 - (c) Definite call to church planting
 - (d) Physical, mental, and spiritual fitness for the work
 - (e) Christian character (financial stewardship, ministerial ethics) and general qualifications
 - (f) Ministerial experience and effectiveness
 - (b) Duties and Responsibilities of the Missionary:
 - (1) The missionary's purpose is to build and establish a self-supporting congregation.
 - (2) The missionary shall raise support by soliciting monthly commitments and financial partners in accordance with the North American Missions policy.
 - (3) The missionary shall work in harmony with his or her district and section, and under the direction of the General North American Missions Director, District Superintendent, and District North American Missions Director.
 - (4) Nothing in this Section shall inhibit, change, or limit the power or right of a District Superintendent and District Board from approving qualified ministers to start new churches in any city or town in their district, including metro areas. Only ministers who have made application to the General North American Missions Committee for support as a missionary to a metro area will be under the jurisdiction of the policy.
- (c) Missionary Tenure.

- (1) The missionary term shall be five (5) years, with yearly evaluation and approval given by the General North American Missions Administrative Committee.
- (2) A missionary shall not move on location until permission is granted by General North American Missions.
- (3) The missionary's support shall not be terminated after his or her appointment except by majority agreement of the District Superintendent, the District North American Missions Director, and the General North American Missions Director.
- (d) Missionary Finance.
 - (1) The budget of the missionary shall be determined by the General North American Missions Executive Team and the Metro Missions Coordinator.
 - (2) Monthly commitments raised by the missionary for the budget shall be sent by the contributing churches to General North American Missions.
 - (3) Support after appointment and before his or her term begins shall come from freewill offerings received while raising the budget. He or she shall provide the contributor and General North American Missions with a receipt for each offering.
 - (4) All the budgeted monies raised by the missionary shall be held by North American Missions for disbursement. In case of termination of the missionary, said funds shall be reallocated by the General North American Missions Executive Team within the Metro Missions program.
 - (5) In case of termination of a metro missionary, all sponsors of said missionary shall be notified immediately.

Section 14. Christmas for Christ.

1. Name.
The name of this missions program shall be Christmas for Christ.
2. Purpose.
 - (a) To raise funds in support of North American Missions.
 - (b) To enlist, train, and send church planters into unevangelized and under-evangelized areas to start and establish churches.
 - (c) To encourage the people of the United Pentecostal Church to be personally involved in fulfilling the Great Commission.
3. Administration.
 - (a) The General North American Missions Administrative Committee shall administer the Christmas for Christ program in accordance to Christmas for Christ policy published in *Policies of the United Pentecostal Church International: General Board*.
 - (b) The district fundraising campaign shall be conducted by the District North American Missions Board subject to the approval of the District Board.
4. Raising of Funds.
 - (a) Each district is requested to cooperate financially with the annual fundraising campaign.
 - (b) Each local church is requested to cooperate annually with the Christmas for Christ campaign within their district.
 - (c) Each family is requested to give their best gift to Christ during the Christmas season.
5. Holding of Funds.
The Christmas for Christ offering shall be sent by the church directly to the District North American Missions Department, or the District Secretary-Treasurer, or District Office, whichever one is designated by the district.
6. Allocation of Funds.
 - (a) Forty percent (40%) of the total Christmas for Christ offering received by the District North American Missions Department shall be retained in the District North American Missions fund. These funds are to be allocated by the District North American Missions Board subject to the approval of the District Board and disbursed according to District Policy. The funds are to be used for ministries, programs, and projects of the District North American Missions Board.

- (b) Sixty percent (60%) of the total Christmas for Christ offering received by the District North American Missions Department shall be sent to the General Secretary-Treasurer of the United Pentecostal Church International.
- (c) The allocation of funds shall be determined by the General North American Missions Administrative Committee.
- (d) Disbursement of funds shall be made according to the established Christmas for Christ policy published in *Policies of the United Pentecostal Church International: General Board*.

Section 15. Definition of a North American Missions Work.

A church shall be defined as a North American Missions work for its first five (5) years in existence. The North American missionary status shall be granted after a North American Missions application has been approved by the District Board and is duly recorded with Church Administration, UPCI World Headquarters.

Section 16. Ministries.

Other relevant ministries as approved by the General Board:

1. Short Term Missions
2. Christian Prisoner Ministry
3. Church in a Day
4. Evangelist Ministry

(More information about these ministries and their policies are published in *Policies of the United Pentecostal Church International: General Board*.)

Carried

RESOLUTION #5

Whereas, There is a need to provide a format for Districts to utilize in preparing and/or updating a proper constitution and bylaws; and

Whereas, Such a format should reflect the latest requirements, practice, and language for documents of this nature; and

Whereas, There is a need to update such a format with more accurate wording, as well as to codify some District practices not presently regulated in the *UPCI Manual* [i.e. Presbyters-at-large]; and

Whereas, Many years have passed since an update of the District Constitution has been presented to the General Conference for its consideration; and

Whereas, There has been an ongoing effort to update and modernize the *Manual* of the UPCI of which this is part; therefore

Be it resolved, that the following changes be adopted to the District Constitution in the Manual of the United Pentecostal Church International.

DISTRICT CONSTITUTION

PREAMBLE

In order to establish our work on a more efficient basis, to promote greater cooperation, and to secure closer fellowship, we here and now organize ourselves into the (name of district) District of the United Pentecostal Church International.

PURPOSE

Our purpose is to evangelize the lost, to disciple the believer, and to equip the church through a partnership of ministers and local churches which are committed to Apostolic truth.

**ARTICLE I
DISTRICT OFFICERS**

Section 1. Names of Officers.

The officers of the district shall be as follows: District Superintendent, three (3) to nine (9) District Presbyters, and a District Secretary-Treasurer (may be one [1] or two [2] persons). Other additional District Presbyters may be added where needed in a large district, with the permission of the Executive Board.

Section 2. District Board.

The District Board shall consist of District Superintendent, District Secretary, and the District Presbyters.

Section 3. Qualifications.

The qualifications for members of the District Board are as follows: Must be a male at least thirty (30) years of age, must have been a minister in good standing with the organization for at least two (2) years, must have been ordained at least one (1) year, must have proven loyal to the organization by cooperation in the upbuilding of the work, and must have been a cooperating member of the district for at least one (1) year. The only exception to this is that the District Superintendent must have been a minister in good standing with the organization for at least five (5) years. Must conform to the Fundamental Doctrine.

Section 4. Voting Constituency.

1. *District Conference Voting:* Those who shall be entitled to vote for the election of officers, or upon any proposal, resolution, or any other business that properly comes before the District Conference, shall be accredited ministers in good standing. All accredited ministers who vote must be in actual attendance at the District Conference.

2. *Sectional Conference Voting:* Those who shall be entitled to vote for the election of officers, or upon any proposal, resolution, or any other business that properly comes before the Sectional Conference, shall be accredited ministers in good standing according to the following categories:

- (a) Pastors
- (b) Pastoral Assistants
 - (1) This term refers to any minister who is assisting his or her Pastor in any area of ministry.
 - (2) All full-time Pastoral Assistants are entitled to vote.
 - (3) Each assembly shall be permitted, at any given sectional conference, only one (1) voting Pastoral Assistant who derives his or her livelihood from sources other than the ministry. Such Pastoral Assistants must have held ministerial credentials for six (6) months in that district and must present a letter to the Roster Committee from the church where he or she has been a Pastoral Assistant for a minimum of six (6) months in that same section. The letter must be signed by the Pastor or church secretary and will be in effect as long as he or she remains in the position at the same church.
- (c) Evangelists

An evangelist must be on the field and regularly engaged in preaching revivals, deriving his or her livelihood from the ministry.
- (d) All elected or appointed officials who are listed in the *Manual*.
- (e) Honorary ministers
- (f) Retired ministers

A retired minister is a minister who, due to advanced age or physical impairment, has retired from active ministry.
- (g) Full-time administrators and instructors in all religious projects endorsed by the United Pentecostal Church International.
- (h) Full-time administrators and instructors in Christian schools, owned and operated by UPCI churches.

All Christian school administrators and instructors must present a letter to the Roster Committee from their local church signed by the Pastor or church secretary, stating their active involvement in ministerial service. This letter will be in effect as long as they remain in this position at the same church.
- (i) Accredited ministers who are between appointments shall be entitled to vote if the time of inactivity has not exceeded ninety (90) days.
- (j) All accredited ministers who vote must be in actual attendance at the sectional conference.

Section 5. Representation.

1. If the District is divided into sections, one District Presbyter shall be elected from each section of the district.

Section 6. Objections to Nominees.

1. If there is any objection to any nominee, a request may be made to the chair that the same be referred to a Qualifying Committee. No details of the objection or questions shall be discussed from the floor. The Qualifying Committee may determine a nominee's qualifications only according to that specified in the *Manual* under the qualification given for the office under consideration.

2. The Qualifying Committee Chair shall be appointed by the officer presiding at the time of the objection to the nominee. The committee shall consist of at least three (3) members, but not more than five (5), including the chair of the committee. The Conference Chair shall, prior to the conference, prepare a list of potential members for the Qualifying Committee. This list shall be composed from the current voting membership. The presiding officer shall select from this list in the event this committee is needed.

Section 7. Method of Election.

1. The method of election of district officers by the District Conference shall be the same as that used by the General Conference in the election of officers unless the individual district desires to be divided into sections. In the event the district desires to be divided into sections, either of the following methods may be used: Each section within the district may nominate its District Presbyter from within the section at a sectional conference preceding the annual District Conference or at a sectional caucus at the District Conference and a District Presbyter shall be elected from the nominees by the District Conference; or, each section within the district may elect its District Presbyter from within the section at a sectional conference preceding the annual District Conference, said officers to take office at the annual District Conference.

2. The election of district officers shall be conducted by the General Superintendent or his representative.

Section 8. Term of Office.

All officers elected by the District Conference (or sectional conference) shall remain in office for a term of two (2) years, for a maximum of eight (8) consecutive years. After any district or sectional official has served four (4) consecutive terms in an elected office, he or she would be required to be elected by a two-thirds (2/3) vote to a fifth (5th) term and all consecutive terms. In the event the incumbent does not receive a two-thirds (2/3) vote on the nominating ballot, a new nominating ballot would be called for and the incumbent's name would be deleted. Each district by the voting voice of the District Conference may determine which district office should be full time. In the event that a new superintendent is elected in any district, the out-going superintendent shall continue in office for a period of thirty (30) days following the date of said election. The District Superintendent and the District Secretary-Treasurer shall be elected on alternating years, with the Global Missions Director, Youth Ministries President, the Children's Ministries Director, and the Ladies Ministries President being elected the same year as the District Superintendent and the Youth Ministries Secretary, Director of North American Missions, Children's Ministries Secretary, and Ladies Ministries Secretary being elected the same year as the District Secretary-Treasurer. Should a district so desire, the Ladies Ministries President and Secretary may be appointed by the board and ratified by the conference rather than elected.

Section 9. Death, Resignation, and Removal.

1. Any district officer whose credentials transfer out of his or her district between conferences due to relocating to a new district, assuming a pastorate in a new district, etc. must resign his or her district office.

2. If vacancies happen by death, resignation, or removal, the District Board may fill such vacancies, with the exception of the office of District Superintendent. Said appointment shall extend only until the next District Conference. If there remains a year unexpired in the term of said office the District Conference shall elect a replacement to serve for that year. In the event a vacancy occurs in the office of District Superintendent, the General Superintendent shall be authorized to preside over district business until the election of a District Superintendent at a special district conference called by

the General Superintendent, or an Assistant General Superintendent authorized by the General Superintendent, for the purpose of conducting an election to fill this office. Said election shall be held within sixty (60) days after the vacancy occurs.

ARTICLE II RIGHTS AND DUTIES OF OFFICERS, AND RULES APPERTAINING THERETO

Section 1. District Superintendent (General Presbyter).

1. He shall be a member of and shall attend all regular and specially called meetings of the Board of General Presbyters.

2. In the event he is unable to attend a regular or specially called meeting of the Board of General Presbyters, the District Superintendent is authorized to appoint a representative from the District Board to attend in his stead.

3. The duties of the District Superintendent shall be as follows:

- (a) To be overseer of the district work in cooperation with the District Board.
- (b) To maintain a spirit of harmony and cooperation between the district and general work, thereby working in harmony and unity with all other districts.
- (c) To encourage the raising of money for missions.
- (d) To assist, when called upon by the pastor or local church board, in dealing with any difficulties which may arise within local assemblies.
- (e) To assist in securing pastors for assemblies in the district.
- (f) To investigate all applicants of the district for credentials or license before signing the applications.
- (g) To sign each credential, license, fellowship card, and church membership certificate issued to applicants in the district.
- (h) To preside as chair of District Conferences and District Board meetings.
- (i) To appoint all committees pertaining to the district work.
- (j) To encourage church growth, disciple making, leadership training, new churches, daughter works, preaching points, missions, and community involvement throughout the district.

4. In the furtherance of the work in the district, he shall have the right to appeal to any minister who is a member of the district and any evangelist or missionary currently working in the district.

5. He must be consulted regarding the organization of new churches within the district.

6. He shall be empowered to ordain ministers in any district meeting or General Conference.

7. He shall be empowered to appoint committees to serve at his pleasure or at the pleasure of the District Board. Said committees' activities are to be governed by the current edition of *Roberts' Rules of Order Revised*.

Section 2. District Presbyters.

1. The duties of the District Presbyter shall be as follows:

To work under the direction of and in cooperation with the District Superintendent in carrying out district work.

2. In the event the district is divided into sections and a District Presbyter is elected from each section, said District Presbyter shall oversee the work of the section in which he is elected under the supervision of the District Superintendent.

- (a) He shall preside as chair of all sectional business meetings.
- (b) He shall endeavor to maintain a spirit of harmony and cooperation in the section with all departments of the district and general work.
- (c) He shall oversee all sectional fellowship meetings or appoint a chair to serve in said capacity.
- (d) He shall notify the District Superintendent of all resignations or impending resignations of pastors in the section and consult with him concerning any complaints which have been brought to his attention regarding any minister in the section, or any difficulty arising between pastors or churches.
- (e) He shall assist the District Superintendent in securing pastors for assemblies in his section.
- (f) As a member of the District Board, he shall examine all applications for license or credentials in his section in advance of their appearance before the District Board.

(g) He shall supply the District Superintendent with whatever assistance or information he may have which would assist him in carrying out the district work.

(h) In the furtherance of the work in his section, he shall have the right to appeal to any minister who is a member of his section and any evangelist or missionary currently working in his section.

Section 3. District Secretary-Treasurer.

1. The duties of the District Secretary shall be as follows:

- (a) To take minutes of District Conferences and District Board meetings.
- (b) To preserve records of business proceedings and all other papers belonging to the district.

2. The duties of the District Treasurer shall be as follows:

- (a) To receive and care for all district funds and, if required by the district, the funds of all departments of the district; and make all district disbursements, and department disbursements when he holds their funds; to keep an accurate account of all such transactions; to hold the books open for inspection by officers or members of the district; and to make a report at each District Conference.
- (b) To oversee the financial activity of all sections.
- (c) No district money, other than normal operating expenses, should be paid out without the consent of the District Board or the District Conference.

Section 4. District Board.

The duties of the District Board shall be as follows:

1. To take action regarding false doctrine in the district, so long as the action taken does not conflict with the bylaws of the General Body.

2. To handle any grievance or complaint against a minister according to the *Manual* of the United Pentecostal Church International including compliance with the Judicial Procedure therein.

3. To pass upon all applications for credentials, licenses, or church membership certificates issued in the district.

4. To develop plans for recruiting and training ministers; starting new preaching points, daughter works, and churches; and reaching unevangelized and under-evangelized areas, ethnicities, and demographics.

5. To own as trustees, real estate and personal property which may be acquired by purchase, devise, or bequest by the district and for the benefit of the district; to use and deal with such real estate and personal property in such manner as may be consistent with the Constitution and Bylaws of the United Pentecostal Church International; to sell, convey, mortgage, pledge, and otherwise encumber such real estate and personal property for the benefit of the district; and to authorize, by proper resolution, its District Superintendent and District Secretary-Treasurer to execute and deliver on behalf of the District Board, as trustee, any such deeds of conveyance, notes, mortgages, deeds of trust, or pledges.

6. To deal with all other matters pertaining to the district which do not infringe upon the power and privileges of the General Body.

7. To meet at least annually with the head of each District Department to approve proposals and to impart guidance, inspiration, and support.

8. To ratify the names presented by respective department heads for appointed positions within the department.

Section 5. Safeguard of Funds.

1. Centralization of Funds.

(a) The district funds and, when specified by the district, the funds of every department shall be deposited with and held by the District Treasurer.

(b) The District Treasurer shall release said funds after proper authorization and a written request, either electronic or a hard copy, signed by the respective departmental leader or departmental secretary/treasurer.

2. Standardization of Books.

(a) The financial records of all departments shall be standardized by a uniform system of bookkeeping approved by the District Board. A qualified accountant, preferably a CPA in the United States or a CA in Canada, should be secured by the

District Secretary/Treasurer, and the district, departmental, and sectional books should be examined annually.

(b) If one is appointed, the duties of the Auditing Committee shall be as follows:

(1) To secure and audit annually the financial records of every department of the district and section that receives and disburses funds and shall report their findings to the District Board prior to the annual district or sectional conference.

(2) To make recommendations to the District Board regarding any improvement of the district bookkeeping system.

ARTICLE III

LOCAL CHURCH GOVERNMENT GUIDELINES

Section 1. *Local Church Government.*

1. It is recommended that all churches within the district adopt the Local Church Government as specified in the *United Pentecostal Church International Manual*. However, under the self-governing provisions of Article XVIII, Section 1., Preamble, each local church is assured of its right to be self-governing and thus to be allowed to have its own by-laws as approved by that local church.

2. All pastors shall be selected in accordance with the United Pentecostal Church International Manual, as detailed in the section concerning Pastor under Article III, Section 3 of the Local Church Government, or in accordance with the by-laws that are in effect in any specific local church.

Section 2. *Member Churches.*

1. Member churches of the district shall be:

(a) Churches that have affiliated with the UPCI by congregational vote as specified in the UPCI General Constitution, and

(b) Churches whose pastor holds ministerial credentials with the UPCI and which the District Board has accepted into fellowship.

2. Each church is encouraged to cooperate fully with the promotional fund-raising drives and efforts of all the departments of the district.

ARTICLE IV DISTRICT CONFERENCE

Section 1. *Resolutions.*

1. All resolutions to be presented to the District Conference and all amendments to this constitution shall first be presented to the Resolutions Committee and such committee shall pass upon such resolutions or amendments prior to the submission thereof to the District Conference.

2. The resolutions must have the author's signature before being considered by the Resolutions Committee.

3. If the Resolutions Committee shall fail to act upon such resolution or amendment or shall refuse or fail to report its action thereon to the District Conference, or if the Resolutions Committee shall have failed to report favorably on any such resolution or amendment, then by a vote of two-thirds (2/3) of those in attendance at the District Conference entitled to vote thereat may force such resolution or amendment to a vote of the District Conference.

4. It is recommended that all resolutions that will be presented to the District Conference be published no later than 30 days prior to the District Conference.

5. The District Board may bring resolutions to the Resolutions Committee at any time for presentation at the District Conference.

6. No resolution, amendment, or bylaw may be proposed or considered that would be in violation of the Articles of Faith or General Constitution of the United Pentecostal Church International.

7. In an election conference, any resolution which would affect the election of officers may be presented and/or passed only after the elections are complete. Any resolution presented and/or passed at a conference does not take effect until the end of said conference.

Section 2. *Rules of Order.*

All business in the District Conference shall be conducted according to and in harmony with the general guidelines of the *United Pentecostal Church International Manual* and the current edition of *Robert's Rules of Order Revised*.

Carried. All references to presbyter(s)-at-large in the original resolution were referred to committee.