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PREAMBLE AND CONSTITUTION OF THE PENTECOSTAL CHURCH, Inc.

In Topeka, Kansas, a band of earnest hungry-hearted Christian people called a Fast, which lasted twenty-one days, praying for a great outpouring of the Holy Spirit, which to their joyful surprise ended at midnight New Year's Eve, in the year of 1899. Mighty manifestations of God's Power were witnessed in the meeting soon after midnight, and people were heard speaking in other languages, as the Holy Spirit gave utterance, as on the Day of Pentecost.

A great revival broke forth, which soon spread southwestward to the state of Texas, and west to Los Angeles, California, in the year of 1906. From thence, it spread throughout the whole earth, entering into every nation under Heaven, penetrating the heathen darkness of India, Africa, China, and the isles of the sea, fulfilling the great commission of our Lord, "Go ye into all the world and preach the Gospel to every creature." (Matt. 28:18, 19; Mark 16:15-20; Luke 24:47-49; Acts 1:4-11.)

Believing in the Lord God Almighty and in His Inspired Word, which is the Bible; in the vicarious sufferings of Jesus Christ; in the lost condition of mankind; in the redemption of man through the atoning blood of the Ever-lasting Covenant; to the Glory of God, and for the hastening of the personal coming of our Lord Jesus Christ from Heaven, we unite ourselves into a body to be called "The Pentecostal Church," for the purpose of preaching the Gospel of Christ

Jesus, to publish and to distribute religious literature; to establish new churches, to send forth missionaries, and to perform any other duty connected with religious work, and help in any way possible to meet the needs of local churches.

It has always been and shall continue to be our policy to regard all men equal in the sight of God. We therefore extend Christian and brotherly fellowship and love to all God's people everywhere.

We shall endeavor to keep the unity of the spirit in the bond of peace with all Spirit-filled children of God, until we all come to the unity of the faith, once preached by Jesus Christ and His Apostles.

To this end we pledge our prayers, our faith, our life, our love, our earthly means of support, and our time, in the fear of God and for His glory alone.

FUNDAMENTALS

We believe the Bible to be the inspired Word of God, in so far as it is correctly translated from the original writings. (11 Tim. 3:16.)

GODHEAD

"For the invisible things of him from the creation of the world are clearly seen, being understood by the things that are made, even his eternal power and Godhead; so that they are without excuse." Romans 1:20.

There is one ever-living Eternal God, who is a Spirit. (Isa. 44:6-8; Mark 12:29; John 4:24; 1 Cor. 8:6.)

He manifested Himself in the Old Testament in various ways and under different names, such as God Elohim, God Almighty, El Shaddai and the "I am the I AM," Jehovah, and especially Jehovah Lord, the redemptive NAME.

In the New Testament this one true God was manifest in the flesh or in His son, Jesus Christ. "For when the fullness of time was come, God sent forth His son, made of a

woman, made under the law, to redeem them that were under the law"; "God was in Christ, reconciling the world unto Himself, not imputing their trespasses unto them"; "for in Him (Jesus) dwelleth all the fullness of the Godhead bodily." "For it pleased the Father that in Him should all fullness dwell"; "and without controversy great is the mystery of Godliness: God was manifest in the flesh, justified in the Spirit, seen of angels, preached unto the Gentiles, believed on the world, received up into glory."

Man is triune spirit, soul, and body. God is triune, a trinity. Three manifestations of one God, not three eternally distinct persons or Gods, as that is tritheism.

Jesus in His humanity, was man; in His deity, was God. His flesh was the Lamb or sacrifice of God. (Heb. 10:10-20.)

The Son of God is the only hope of the world. The Man, Jesus, is the mediator between God and man. (1 Tim. 2:5.)

God is a multiple. That is, He has many names, offices, titles, many manifestations, such as God, Son of God, Son of Man, Lord of All, King, Shepherd, Priest, Holy One, Lamb, Alpha and Omega. He is all and in all. Amen.

CREATION OF MAN AND HIS FALL

In the beginning God created man innocent, pure and holy; but through the sin of disobedience, Adam and Eve fell from their holy state, and God excluded them from Eden. Hence, by one man's disobedience, sin entered into the world. (Gen. 1:27; Rom. 5:12; Eph. 2:13.)

CONVERSION OR FORGIVENESS OF SINS

Comes by repentance toward God through faith in our Lord Jesus Christ, by confessing and forsaking our sins.

BAPTISM IN WATER

Immersion in water for converted believers, who have turned from their sins and the love of the world, and should

be administered by a duly authorized minister of the Gospel by authority, and in the name of our Lord, Jesus Christ, according to the Acts of the Apostles (Acts 2:38; 8:16; 10:48; 19:5), thus fulfilling Matt. 28:19.

BAPTISM IN THE HOLY SPIRIT

Is for all believers, and is obtained by obedience, (Acts 2:38; 5:31, 32); by asking for, (Luke 11:13); by tarrying for, (Luke 24:49); by faith, (Gal. 3:14); and is accompanied by speaking with other tongues as the Spirit gives the utterance.

DIVINE HEALING

Healing for the body was purchased by our Savior Jesus Christ, for "With His stripes we are healed," Isa. 53:5; and intended for recognition and practice by the church. "For they shall lay hands on the sick and they shall recover," Mark 16:18; and "if you are sick, call for the elders of the church," as in James 5:14.

SACRAMENT

On the night of our Lord's betrayal, He ate the Passover Supper with His Apostles. He took bread and wine and blessed it, instituting the communion, saying, "this do in remembrance of me." Luke 22:19.

Paul instructed the church how to observe it (1 Cor. 11:23, 24.) There is great spiritual significance in the partaking of the sacrament; also, there is a natural side. We see this by the use of the literal bread and fruit of the vine.

FOOT WASHING

The first example was given by our Lord. St. John 13:2-14. To be blessed, it is well to do what He suggests. St. John 13:15-17, 1 Tim. 5:9-10.

HOLINESS

Godly living should characterize the life of every child of the Lord, and he or she should live according to the pattern and example, given in the Word of God (Rom. 6:6; Titus 2:11, 12; 1 Peter 2:21-23); otherwise we shall not escape the judgment of the great day. (Heb. 12:14; 1 Peter 1:15-17.)

ETERNAL SECURITY

For a person to remain saved, they must abide in the Grace of God—Grace means favor. A person sinning against God loses the favor or grace of God, and continuing to sin (without repentance) will eventually be cast into the Lake of Fire. God is able to keep us from falling, but we must keep ourselves in the love of God. (Jude 21.) The book of Jude tells us about the backsliders and their reward. Also read Heb. 6:4-6.

RESTORATION OF ALL THINGS

We understand the Scripture to teach restoration of all things, as was spoken by the mouth of the Holy Prophets, since the world began; but we cannot find where the devil, his angels, and all sinners are included. (Rev. 20:10.)

CONSCIENTIOUS SCRUPLES

We recognize the institution of human government as being of divine ordination and in doing so, affirm unswerving loyalty to the government of the United States; however, we take a definite position regarding the bearing of arms or the taking of human life.

As followers of the Lord Jesus Christ, the Prince of Peace, we believe in the implicit obedience to His commandments and precepts, which instruct us as follows: "Thou shalt not kill," (Ex. 20:13); "That ye resist not evil," (Matt. 5:39); "Follow peace with all men," (Heb. 12:14); etc. These we believe and interpret to mean Christians shall not shed blood nor take human life.

Therefore, we propose to fulfill all the obligations of loyal, American citizenship but are constrained to declare against participating in war, armed insurrection, property destruction, aiding or abetting in or the actual destruction of human life.

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

MARRIAGE AND DIVORCE

"Whosoever shall put away his wife, except for fornication, and shall marry another, committeth adultery." Matt. 5:32; 19:9. When this sin has been committed, the innocent party may be free to remarry only in the Lord. It being our desire to raise a higher standard for the ministry, we recommend that they do not marry again.

TITHING

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

SECOND COMING OF JESUS

That Jesus is coming again the second time in person, just as He went away, is clearly set forth by the Lord Jesus Himself and was preached and taught in the early Christian church by the Apostles; hence the children of God today are earnestly with hope, looking forward to the glorious event. (Matt. 24; Acts 1:11; 3:19-21; 1 Cor. 11:26; Phil. 3:20, 21; 1 Thes. 4:14-17; Titus 2:13, 14.)

MILLENNIUM

We believe there shall be a "Great Tribulation," which will be followed by the dawn of a better day on earth; and that for one thousand years there shall be "Peace on Earth; and good will toward men." (Isa. 65:17-25; Dan. 7:27; Micah 4:1-2; Heb. 2:14; Matt. 5:5; Rom. 11:25-27; Rev. 20:1-5.)

FINAL JUDGMENT

When the thousand years are finished, there shall be a resurrection of all the dead, who will be summoned before the Great White Throne for their final judgment, and all whose names are not found written in the Book of Life shall be cast into the lake of fire, burning with brimstone; which God hath prepared for the devil and his angels; Satan himself being cast in first. (Matt. 25:41; Rev. 20:7-15; 21:8.)

GOVERNMENT

ARTICLE I. MEMBERSHIP

1. Membership in the Pentecostal Church, Incorporated shall consist of all ministers and missionaries, holding an accredited credential or license, and all members of local assemblies which are affiliated with us.

ARTICLE II.

Section 1: MEETINGS.

1. Regular sessions of our organization shall be held annually; the same to be called a General Conference.

Section 2:

1. The date and place for a General Conference may be decided upon, while in session, or arranged for by the Executive Board.

Section 3:

1. The regular order of business for the Conference shall be:

- (a) Meeting called to order by the General Chairman.
- (b) Report of Chairman.
- (c) Report of Secretary.
- (d) Report of Treasurer
- (e) Committee reports.
- (f) Unfinished business.
- (g) All resolutions must come through the Resolution Committee.
- (h) Election of officers.
- (i) New business.
- (j) Adjournment.

2. All business sessions of the Conference shall commence with prayer.

ARTICLE III. OFFICERS AND THEIR DUTIES

Section 1: NAMES OF OFFICERS.

1. The general offices of the organization shall consist of General Chairman, General Secretary-Treasurer, Missionary Secretary, General S. S. Superintendent, General Presbyters and Executive Board Members.

Section 2: EXECUTIVE.

1. The Executive Board shall consist of the General Chairman, General Secretary, General S. S. Superintendent, Missionary Secretary and three others members.

Section 3: GENERAL BOARD OF PRESBYTERS.

1. The General Board of Presbyters shall consist of members of the Executive Board and the General Presbyters.

Section 4: QUALIFICATIONS.

1. In order to hold office in our organization, the following qualifications are required: Executive officers and General Presbyters must be at least thirty years of age. An executive officer must have been a minister in good standing with us

for at least five years; General Presbyters for three years; other district officers for two years. Shall have proven loyal to the organization by cooperating in the upbuilding of the work.

2. No man can hold two executive offices.

Section 5: THE MANNER OF ELECTION.

1. The General Chairman shall appoint a Committee of three or five, who shall act as a Nominating Committee. All members and delegates shall have the right to hand to the Nominating Committee the names of those, whom they desire to hold office.

2. The nominating committee shall be required to examine the record of every candidate, also question the candidate to ascertain whether or not they are qualified and whether or not they will serve if elected.

3. The committee shall eliminate qualified candidates to a maximum of three by the voting of the committee. The names of the three determined by their vote as best qualified for the office shall be presented to the Conference to be voted upon.

4. When three names are presented to be voted upon, the one receiving the lowest number of votes shall be dropped from the list, provided neither of the three have received two-thirds of the votes cast, and another vote shall be taken upon the remaining nominees.

5. When nominating committee shall consider as many as nine qualified for the office of an Executive Board Member, all nine names shall be presented at one time and each voter write three names on the ballot the first time. When one is elected, the voter shall write one name on each ballot, the remaining names shall be presented again, continuing until the three members are elected.

6. All voting for officers shall be by secret ballot.

7. Any candidate must receive two-thirds of the votes of the voters present, to be elected.

8. If there is any objection to any nominee, there shall be a request made to the Chairman that same be referred to the nominating committee and no objection nor even question shall be brought up on the floor.

9. All nominations shall be one day prior to election.

Section 6: TIME IN OFFICE.

1. All officers shall hold office for one year or until their successors are elected.

Section 7: VOTING CONSTITUENCY.

1. The voting constituency shall consist of all accredited ministers, together with chosen delegates representing local assemblies, present and registered.

ARTICLE IV. DUTIES OF OFFICERS

Section 1: DUTIES OF GENERAL CHAIRMAN.

1. To preside over General Conferences under the direction of the Executive Board.

2. To act as president of the corporation in all legal matters.

3. To sign every license, credential, identification card and church membership certificate.

4. To call executive and general board meetings.

5. To preside at all sessions of the general or executive board.

6. To superintend the work on the field under the direction of the Executive Board.

7. To appoint a resolution committee of five, one year in advance of conference. Same to be announced in the "Apostolic Herald." Resolutions are to be mailed this committee during the year, and said committee shall meet three days prior to General Conference to take care of their business.

Section 2: DUTIES OF THE GENERAL SECRETARY-TREASURER

1. The Secretary-Treasurer may be one or two persons.

2. Duties of the General Secretary shall be

(a) To take minutes and preserve records of business proceedings with all other papers, belonging to the organization.

(b) To direct the business of the Headquarters' Office under the direction of the Executive Board.

(c) To sign every credential, license, identification card and church membership certificate.

3. Duties of the General Treasurer shall be:

(a) To receive, care for, sign checks and disburse all funds of the organization, keeping an accurate record of all such transactions, holding books open and for inspection by officers or members of the organization; a general report to be made at each Annual Conference.

(b) The books of the General Treasurer shall be audited once each year and finally passed upon.

Section 3: DUTIES OF THE MISSIONARY SECRETARY-TREASURER

1. Duties of the Missionary Secretary shall be:

(a) To act as head of the Missionary Department, under the supervision of the Missionary Board.

(b) To keep a record of all decisions of the Missionary Board and of all official acts of the Missionary Department.

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

(d) To perform such functions, as may be directed by the Missionary Board.

2: Duties of the Missionary Treasurer shall be:

- (a) To receive, care for, sign checks and disburse missionary funds as directed by donors or by Missionary Board, keeping an accurate record of all such transactions, holding books open and for inspection by officers or members of the organization; a general report to be made at each Annual Conference.
- (b) The books of the General Treasurer shall be audited once each year and finally passed upon.

Section 4: DUTIES OF THE GENERAL S. S. SUPERINTENDENT

1. To act as Chairman of General S. S. Conferences.
2. To appoint District Superintendents to assist in the upbuilding of the work in unorganized Districts.
3. To work in conjunction with pastors in selecting S. S. missionaries, who shall assist in the organization of Sunday Schools.

Section 5: DUTIES OF THE GENERAL S. S. SECRETARY

1. To work in cooperation with and under the direction of the General S. S. Superintendent.

Section 6: DUTIES OF THE EXECUTIVE BOARD

1. To represent the entire organization, and that they shall not have jurisdiction over any certain district.
2. To care for all general business and be the final authority on any question, during the interim between Conferences.
3. When deemed necessary, shall have the right to adopt or annul any by-law and same shall be operative only until the following Annual Conference, to whom it shall be referred for ratification.
4. Any or all of the members of the Executive Board shall have the privilege of and be welcome to visit any of the Districts at any time and shall be granted the same privileges as members living in the District, with the exception of voting.

5. To assemble three days prior to General Conference to complete Conference arrangements.

6. The transportation expenses of members of the Executive Board shall be paid to and from all special call meetings.

ARTICLE V: DISTRICT COUNCILS

1. Any State or District, desiring to have a local organization, may apply to the General Secretary, who with the General Chairman and General Presbyter of said District shall decide upon the advisability of said State or District organizing.

2. Should an agreement be reached to organize, a written notice shall be mailed to all members in the District for a call meeting, which shall be presided over by a General Officer.

PREAMBLE

In order to establish our work on a more efficient basis and realizing the need of greater cooperation and closer fellowship, we here and now organize ourselves into the ----- Council of the Pentecostal Church, Inc.

PURPOSE

Our purpose shall be to use greater effort toward evangelizing the undeveloped territory and to care for all needy fields in a more efficient manner.

OFFICERS AND THEIR DUTIES

Section 1: NAMES OF OFFICERS

1. The officers of the District shall be as follows: General Presbyter, three to seven District Presbyters, and Secretary-Treasurer.

2. The District Board shall consist of the General Presbyter, and District Presbyters.

Section 2: QUALIFICATIONS

For qualifications refer to article III, Section 3.

Section 3: METHOD OF ELECTION

1. All officers shall be elected by the same method as used by the General Assembly.
2. All officers shall be elected for a period of one year or until their successors are elected.
3. Any district officer taking a pastorate, or establishing a residence outside of his district between conferences shall resign his office and be replaced by the District Board.

Section 4: DUTIES

1. The duties of a General Presbyter shall be:
 - (a) To take special interest in the development of the work in his district.
 - (b) To encourage a series of Bible and Missionary Conferences in the various assemblies throughout the Districts.
 - (c) They shall have the right to appeal to any minister, evangelist, or missionary in the furtherance of such work.
 - (d) To encourage the raising of missionary money.
 - (e) To work in cooperation with the local District officers, not only in the upbuilding of the local work, but lending assistance and encouragement toward the general work.
 - (f) Assist in dealing with any difficulties, which may arise, within local assemblies, according to the authority given by Local Church Government.
 - (g) To be consulted in regard to the organization of new churches, within his District.
 - (h) To assist in securing pastors for assemblies.
 - (i) To investigate all applicants for license or credentials before signing an application.

- (j) To sign each credential, license, identification card and church membership certificate, issued to members in his own District.
- (k) To act as Chairman of District Conferences.
- (l) He shall be a member of and act as Chairman of the District Board in the District, over which he is the overseer.
- (m) To be empowered to ordain ministers in their respective territory, when in foreign fields and in unorganized districts at a special meeting.

2. The District Presbyters should be elected from different sections of the District.

3. Their duties shall be:

- (a) To work under the direction of and in cooperation with the General Presbyter, getting whatever information he may desire or carrying out any instructions given by him.

4. The Secretary-Treasurer may be one or two persons.

5. The duties of the Secretary shall be:

- (a) To take minutes and preserve records of business proceedings with all other papers belonging to the District.

6. The duties of the treasurer shall be:

- (a) To receive, care for, and disburse all funds of the District, keeping an accurate record of all such transactions, holding books open and for inspection by officers or members of the District.
- (b) A report should be made at every Annual District Conference.
- (c) No money should be paid out without the O. K. of the District Board.
- (d) Whenever a sufficient sum of money is handled by the Treasurer, it is best to open a checking account

with a reliable bank in the name of the organization, granting authority to the Treasurer to sign all checks. A letter should be written the bank by the General Presbyter, notifying them who the treasurer is and authorizing them to recognize his signature, until notified of a successor.

Section 5: DISTRICT BOARD

1. The duties of the District Board shall be:

(a) To deal with all matters, pertaining to its territorial jurisdiction, which do not infringe upon the power and privileges of the general body.

(b) To take action with regard to false doctrines in their own District.

1. Their decision shall be upheld by the General Conference, when it does not conflict with by-laws of the general body.

(c) To handle any grievance or complaint against a minister, per Article VII, Section 5, Paragraph 11.

Section 6: DISTRICT PRIVILEGES

1. Under this constitution the District shall have the right to adopt such rules and regulations, as it deems needful to enforce or handle matters not mentioned in same; always in harmony with rules of the general body.

2. When and where it appears to be beneficial, convenient and deemed necessary by the officers of Districts that there should be a consolidation of same, such action to be ratified by members of such Districts represented at a joint conference which shall be called by the Chairman of the Districts.

ARTICLE VI. LOCAL ASSEMBLIES

Section 1: AFFILIATION

1. Any assembly may be affiliated with, and under the

protection of the general body by publicly announcing a specially called business meeting for the purpose of considering whether or not they desire to be affiliated with the organization. Should 90 per cent or more of the recognized members of the assembly who are present at the specially called business meeting vote their approval for accepting our articles of faith and affiliating with us, then an application must be filled out; the same be endorsed by at least three officers of the local church.

2. A Certificate of Membership will be issued to every affiliated assembly; the cost of same being \$1.00.

Section 2: CONSTITUTION

1. The assembly may use our suggestive form of local church government, or any other form which a majority of the members voting shall endorse.

2. The assembly shall have the right to change its rules and regulations, at or when it is deemed needful or necessary to enforce or handle any matter which may arise, so long as the original constitution adopted, and all new rules shall be in harmony with the rules of the general body.

Section 3: DELEGATES

1. Any assembly may choose delegates to represent it before the general conference.

2. There shall be one delegate for each fifty members or less.

ARTICLE VII. MINISTRY

Section 1: QUALIFICATIONS

1. Anyone desiring to be affiliated with the Pentecostal Church, Incorporated, must have had the one baptism of the Holy Ghost with the initial sign of speaking in other tongues, as in Acts 2:4; 10:46; 19:1-6; and have been baptized by immersion in the Name of the Lord Jesus Christ, as in Acts 2:38; believe in, teach, and preach the same.

2. A questionnaire must be properly filled out; all questions being carefully answered.

- (a) The same must be indorsed by the General Presbyter or District Secretary.

Section 2: CHRISTIAN WORKERS LICENSES

1. Will be furnished to pastors, whose assemblies are affiliated with us, for the sum of 25c; same to be used by the pastor for local workers in his own assembly.

Section 3: ORGANIZATION LICENSES AND CREDENTIALS

1. Licenses.

- (a) For a beginner a local license will be issued; then after one has labored faithfully in cooperation with some assembly for a year or more, a general license may be issued.

2. Credentials.

- (a) In order to carry full credentials, one must have been duly and solemnly ordained.
- (b) Neither credentials nor licenses will be issued to anyone residing in the United States, who is affiliated with any other religious organization.
- (c) Every credential, license, and identification card must be signed by the General Chairman, the General Secretary, and the General Presbyter of the District, in which the applicant resides.
- (d) Without identification card, all licenses and credentials are void.

3. Any minister withdrawing from our fellowship shall be requested to return their license or credentials.

Section 4: ORDINATION

1. No minister shall be ordained, until he or she has been in the active ministry as pastor or evangelist at least two full consecutive years and has been fully proven.

2. An ordination can be held at any District meeting or General Conference, when one or more members of the Ex-

ecutive Board are present and at any special meeting in an unorganized district when an Executive Officer or General Presbyter is present.

3. Any minister who resides in an organized district that wishes to be ordained must be examined by a committee appointed by the General Presbyter and if endorsed said applicant should receive a letter of recommendation signed by the General Presbyter, the letter to be presented at a conference where they could be ordained.

Section 5: OBLIGATIONS AND RULES

1. Ministers should not accept the invitation of a member or members of any assembly to hold a series of meetings in any church, where there is a pastor, without first obtaining said pastor's consent. Where there is no pastor, the consent of the elders in charge must be obtained.

2. We recommend that a minister should not accept the call to pastor an assembly, which has been established for more than three years, unless he himself has had more than three years experience in the ministry.

3. Any minister, endeavoring to establish a work in a locality already sufficiently served by The Pentecostal Church, Incorporated, shall be dealt with according to decision of the District Board.

4. Every pastor should keep a record of the members of his or her assembly, that they may be more able to care for and look after the welfare and integrity of the saints.

5. Each minister is required to pay \$5.00 annually into a General Headquarters Budget fund, which shall include Discipline, Ministerial List, and Subscription to the Apostolic Herald. This can come from tithing, church or revival campaigns.

6. One-half of the \$5.00 budget fee should be paid by the first of the year, the balance before the opening of the next General Conference.

7. New members shall be required to pay the full budget when affiliating before July 1st or one-half after July 1st. One-half or all to accompany the application.

8. The fee for those carrying a local license is \$1.00 per year.

9. Each minister should receive The Apostolic Herald either singly or in rolls.

10. Any minister holding or seeking to hold credentials or license with us, speaking or writing in opposition to any fundamental, by-law, or section of the Constitution, shall be called before the District Board and penalty inflicted according to their ruling.

11. Any person proven guilty of committing the act of adultery or fornication, after having been baptized with the Holy Ghost, shall never be eligible as a minister; and if affiliated, shall be removed permanently from the roll of our ministerial fellowship.

12. Anyone having a grievance or complaint against a minister shall file the same in writing with officers of the local District where minister resides or if district is not organized then file with adjoining district. The District Board shall request the accused and accuser to appear at the next district conference or have their evidence there when an acceptable jury of ministers of said District shall be chosen to hear and pass on such case. The accused minister shall have the right to face his or her accuser before the jury and produce witnesses in their defense. If found guilty of disorderly conduct or unscriptural teaching, and no fruits shown of repentance, their license or credential shall be called for. Said minister shall have the right to appeal to the General Board of Presbyters, whose decision will be final.

13. The names of ministers, who have been dropped from our Ministerial List, may be published in the Apostolic Herald, stating whether withdrawn, dropped or deceased.

14. All ministers laboring with their hands when not actively engaged in pastoring or evangelizing should have a regular place of worship and pay their tithes to that assembly.

ARTICLE VIII. PUBLICATION DEPARTMENT

1. Our official organ is The Apostolic Herald.

2. The editor of The Apostolic Herald shall be appointed by the General Board of Presbyters and ratified by the General Conference.

3. A Board of Publication consisting of three members shall be selected by the General Board of Presbyters and ratified by the General Conference.

(a) This Board shall dictate a general policy for all publications edited by us.

4. Ministers are requested to give their support to The Apostolic Herald by urging the use of it in all assemblies.

ARTICLE IX. SCHOOLS

1. We are highly in favor of religious education, not compulsory but convenient, and recommend that all subjects that are to be taught in any School shall first receive the indorsement of our Board of Publications.

ARTICLE X. MISSIONARY POLICY

1. A committee of three shall be appointed by the General Board of Presbyters and ratified by the General Conference to act as a Foreign Missions Committee or Board.

(a) Said Committee shall be empowered to handle foreign missionary work.

2. Each member of the Missionary Board shall have authority to select two ministers to assist them in giving a preliminary examination to prospective missionaries.

(a) Every missionary, who is indorsed in preliminary examination, must attend a General Conference to be finally examined and passed upon by the General Board of Presbyters.

3. Prospective missionaries must be thoroughly examined, as to their call, character, capability, etc., and given appointment only after finding that said prospect can be fully recommended to the brethren and saints, as being worthy of support.

4. Our Missionary Board, together with the General Secretary, shall pass upon missionaries now on the foreign field.

5. In no case shall a credential or license be issued to anyone going to a foreign field, as a missionary, who has not been indorsed by our Board.

6. Every minister should pledge themselves to send a stipulated amount monthly or annually to the foreign missionary treasury for the support of missionaries.

(a) A new pledge should be made at every General Conference.

7. Assemblies should be advised not to give offerings to any missionary not indorsed by our Board.

8. Monies raised by or for foreign missionaries, while on the home field, shall be held in the general treasury until they are ready to sail.

(a) If for any reason, prospective missionary should not sail, money will be returned to donors, unless said donors consent that it be used otherwise.

(b) Missionaries must not leave the homeland in debt for transportation or landing expense.

9. Our general missionary fund will be divided among only those, who are indorsed by our Missionary Board.

10. Any missionary, desiring to go to the foreign fields and having been indorsed by our Missionary Board, must furnish their own merchantable guarantee covering return.

11. Whereas a report from a missionary has the appearance of an appeal for funds and that they are indorsed by the organization, be it resolved that no report shall be published in The Apostolic Herald from any missionary not having our indorsement.

12. A report of missionary offerings will be published in

The Apostolic Herald and an annual report read at every General Conference.

13. Missionaries must get the consent of the Foreign Missions Committee before making any move, which involves more or less expense, such as returning from the field, etc.

14. Furthermore, a submissive spirit should be constantly manifested toward the Foreign Missions Committee.

15. A missionary having any recommendation or complaint, must first take it up with Headquarters with the privilege of appealing to the Missionary Board; in no case writing or talking to individuals or assemblies.

16. Missionaries are requested not to pay any more than what would be considered a fair rental for property, which does not belong to us.

17. Missionaries are requested to secure their transportation through our General Secretary.

ARTICLE XI. SUNDAY SCHOOLS

1. The Sunday School Department shall always remain an integral part of and work under the supervision of the general organization.

2. The officers of the organization shall consist of General Sunday School Superintendent and Secretary-Treasurer who shall be elected annually by the General Conference of the Pentecostal Church, Incorporated.

3. A Sunday School Board shall be elected, consisting of three, one of whom shall be the General S. S. Superintendent.

4. Each District shall have a District Superintendent and Secretary-Treasurer.

(a) The District officials shall be appointed by the General S. S. Superintendent, until the work is organized; after which each District shall elect their own officers by properly selected delegates, attending an Annual Sunday School Conference.

5. All General S. S. Conferences must be held in connection with the General Conference of The Pentecostal Church, Incorporated.

6. The General S. S. Superintendent shall act as Chairman of the General S. S. Conferences.

7. Ten per cent of all regular local Sunday School offerings (special offerings excepted) shall be sent to the Headquarters; ninety per cent of which shall go to the General S. S. Superintendent, the same to be used by him to cover his expenses, while promoting Sunday School work on the field; the remaining ten per cent to defray expenses at the Headquarters.

8. The local Sunday School is and must always be an integral part of the local assembly.

ARTICLE XII. PENTECOSTAL GLEANERS

1. The Pentecostal Gleaners shall always remain an integral part of and work under the supervision of the Executive Board.

2. The purpose of Pentecostal Gleaners is to promote the spiritual welfare of young people especially.

(a) The officers of the organization shall consist of President and Secretary-Treasurer who shall be elected annually by the General Conference of the Pentecostal Church, Incorporated.

(b) Every state, district or national officer must be a minister affiliated with us.

4. The duties of all officers shall be to assist in any way possible the furtherance of God's cause, among the young people and assemblies.

5. There shall be an Executive Board for Pentecostal Gleaners, consisting of Supervisor, President, and Secretary. The general S. S. Superintendent shall act as Supervisor.

6. There should be a young peoples' department in every assembly, organized with President and Secretary-Treasurer.

7. The officers in each local assembly shall be elected by the local body of young people.

(a) The duties of the local President shall be to supervise the young people's service under the direction of the pastor.

(b) The duty of the Secretary-Treasurer shall be to keep a record of all business meetings, handle all correspondence, care for and disburse local Gleaner funds under the direction of the Pastor as per Article III Sec. 3, Paragraph 6 Verse (a) Page 30 under Local Church Government.

8. Ten per cent of all regular Pentecostal Gleaner offerings (special offerings excepted) should be sent to Headquarters; ninety per cent of which shall go to the Pentecostal Gleaner's President, the same to be used by him, to cover expenses incurred by either he or the Gleaner Secretary while promoting Pentecostal Gleaners' work on the field, the remaining ten per cent to defray expenses at the Headquarters.

Suggestive Form of Local Church Government

This is a suggestive form for any assembly desiring to organize—change it to suit your needs.

PREAMBLE

In order to establish our work on a more efficient and permanent basis, we, the members of the local _____

_____ assembly at _____

affirm our belief in being scrupulously set in order, that it is needful for God's people to be efficiently organized to successfully carry on the gospel work and properly handle their business affairs. A house divided against itself cannot stand. The main purpose of this constitution is to provide rules to govern the assembly, according to the Scriptures, so that we may advance in the will of God. (Titus 1:5; 1 Cor. 12:28).

ARTICLE I. THE ASSEMBLY

Section 1: THE NAME

1. The name of this assembly shall be known as -----

Section 2: THE PURPOSE

1. To establish and maintain a place of worship.
2. To unite a people of like faith in the bonds of brotherly love and fellowship. (Heb. 13:1).
3. To meet together, and truly worship God in spirit and in truth, and receive spiritual teaching. (John 4:24; Ephesians 4:11-15).
4. To point the lost to the way of life by publishing at home and abroad the true plan of salvation, exhorting believers to be filled with the Holy Spirit. (John 1:29; Luke 11:13; Acts 1:8; 2:38; 8:19).
5. To provide rules of Christian conduct, based on the Word of God. (Titus 2nd Chapter).

ARTICLE II. MEMBERSHIP

Section 1: ELIGIBILITY

1. Anyone believing in and accepting the Apostolic doctrine, as set forth in our constitution is eligible to become a member.

Section 2: OBLIGATIONS

1. As a member of the assembly, each one must accept the following obligations:
 - (a) To cleanse one's self from all filthiness of the flesh and spirit, perfecting holiness in the fear of God. (II Cor. 7:1). (Tobacco in any form is considered filthy).
 - (b) To conduct one's self everywhere, as becometh a Christian.
 - (c) To endeavor to manifest a spirit of brotherly love and

fellowship toward all of God's people.

- (d) Not forsaking the assembling of ourselves together as the manner of some is. (Heb. 10:25).
- (e) To support the work of the assembly with my prayers and financial aid, as God prospers. (Mal. 3:10; I Cor. 16:2).
- (f) To maintain family and secret devotion.
- (g) All amusements and recreations are not harmful but saints should avoid all ungodly and worldly amusements, to be blameless and harmless amidst an evil generation and thus bring no reproach upon the Name of Christ.
- (h) To abide by the rules of the assembly as prescribed in this constitution. (Titus 2:1-8; Heb. 13:17).
- (i) In case of moving, one should unite with another church of same faith as soon as possible, but must have a letter of recommendation from former church.

Section 3: ADMISSION

1. Anyone, who is eligible and accepts the foregoing obligations, shall be a member of the assembly by registering their name and address with the pastor or secretary and receiving the right hand of fellowship.

Section 4: CHURCH DISCIPLINE

1. Any member, failing or refusing after the first and second admonition, to keep the obligations and abide by the rules of the assembly may be automatically suspended. (II Thes. 3:6), or dealt with according to the following:

FAULT

2. If any member of this church be overtaken in a fault he or she shall be dealt with, according to Gal. 6:1; I John 5:16, 17; James 5:19, 20.

PERSONAL OR PUBLIC OFFENSE

3. Any grievance arising between individual members of his assembly shall be dealt with, according to Matt. 18: 15-18.

4. Should the accused be found guilty by the church, he may be disfellowshipped from the assembly and name dropped from the membership roll, unless he truly repents and makes public confession.

ARTICLE III. OFFICERS AND THEIR DUTIES

Section 1: NAMES OF OFFICERS

1. The officers of the church shall be as follows: pastor, assistant pastor, when such is needed; deacons or church board, at least one and not more than seven; three trustees when property is owned; secretary-treasurer.

Section 2: ELIGIBILITY

1. Pastor: must have recommendation from the General Synod.

2. Other officers: must have been a member in good standing at least one year, except in the case of newly organized assemblies.

Section 3: PASTOR

1. The pastor shall be chosen by the church board whose election shall be endorsed by the church.

2. Resignation or dismissal.

(a) A pastor, desiring to leave a church, shall give the church board thirty days written notice. By mutual agreement the time can be changed.

3. A church, desiring to change pastors, shall give the pastor through the board thirty days' notice. By mutual agreement the time can be changed.

(a) However, where a church is established by a minister of our organization, he shall have the oversight of

same, until said pastor and congregation jointly agree to a change.

(b) In case of misconduct, same must be reported to the district presbyter, who shall take such action as he deems best.

(c) After any pastor is duly notified that the church desires to change pastors or the pastor duly notifies the church that he desires to change pastorates, he shall not have the authority to make any change in the by-laws, membership roll or the changing of officers.

4. The salary or wages shall be such as he and the assembly shall agree upon. (Luke 10:7; I Cor. 9:7-14).

5. The pastor's duties shall be:

(a) To preach and teach the Word, as God gives him ability.

(b) To visit and pray for the sick.

(c) To encourage the weak.

(d) To reprove and warn the unruly.

(e) To give advice as needed and be ready to every good work. (I Thes. 5:14; I Tim. 4:1, 2).

6. The pastor's authority shall be as follows:

(a) He shall have the oversight and superintendence of all the interests of the church and of all departments of its work, both spiritual and temporal, not as lord over God's heritage, but shall feed the flock of God, taking the oversight thereof, not by constraint, but willingly, not for filthy lucre, but of a ready mind, (I Peter 5:2, 3), inasmuch as he is responsible for the guardianship and watch-care of all, with which he is put in trust.

(b) He should be consulted in regard to all business of any importance, pertaining to the spiritual, moral and material affairs of the church.

(c) Call for and preside over business and church board meetings and appoint committees, with the approval of the assembly.

Section 4: ASSISTANT PASTOR

1. The assistant pastor shall be appointed by the pastor and indorsed by the church.

2. His duties shall be:

(a) To assist the pastor in all matters, as directed by the pastor.

Section 5: CHURCH BOARD

1. The deacons or church board shall be appointed by the pastor and indorsed by the church, for the term of one year.

2. Their duties shall be in connection with the pastor

(a) To care for the business affairs of the assembly, provided however their transactions shall be submitted to the assembly for its approval or disapproval.

3. In case of a vacancy of the pastor, the church board may call a business meeting to choose a pastor or transact other necessary business. (Acts 6:2, 3; Romans 12: 11).

Section 6: TRUSTEES

1. The board of trustees shall be elected by a majority vote of the assembly and shall serve, until their successors are elected.

2. Their duties shall be:

(a) To hold all property, belonging to the assembly, in trust for the assembly.

(b) Make all legal acquirements and transactions which the assembly shall dictate, and look after all repairs as directed by the assembly.

Section 7: SECRETARY-TREASURER

1. The secretary-treasurer may be one or two persons and shall be appointed by the pastor and indorsed by the church for the term of one year.

2. The duties of the secretary shall be:

(a) To take minutes and preserve records of business proceedings with all other papers, belonging to the assembly.

3. The duties of the treasurer shall be:

(a) To receive, care for, and disburse all funds of the as-

sembly; keep an accurate record of all such transactions, holding books open and for inspection by members of the assembly.

4. The assembly may call for monthly, quarterly, or annual report and the church may audit the books once each year.

5. One member of the church board shall O. K. all bills before the treasurer shall pay them, with the exception of such as the pastor's salary, light, water, coal, and janitor bills.

6. Whenever a sufficient sum of money is handled by the treasurer, it is best to open a checking account with a reliable bank in the name of the church, granting authority to the treasurer to sign all checks.

(a) A letter should be written the bank, notifying them who the treasurer is and authorizing them to recognize his signature, until notified of a successor.

Section 8: DISMISSAL OF OFFICERS

1. Any officer, manifesting a lack of interest and failing to attend services a reasonable amount of the time, must be removed.

ARTICLE IV. PROPERTY

1. If at any time an assembly decides to purchase property, the pastor and church board shall look after the business matters and present their views to the assembly. Then, when a majority decides upon the purchase of a site, three trustees must be elected, according to Article III, Section 6.

2. The title of property shall be in name of the church at town, where assembly is located, and be held in trust by said trustees, until their successors are elected. Never at any time, should property be in the name of private individuals.

ARTICLE V. REVISION AND AMENDMENT

1. Any assembly may choose delegates to represent it

before the General Conference in the interest of amending or revising this constitution or other matters.

2. There shall be one delegate for each fifty members or less.

3. Under this constitution the assembly shall have the right to adopt such rules and regulations, as it deems needful to enforce or handle matters not mentioned in the same, always in harmony with the rules of the general body.

ARTICLE VI. BUSINESS MEETINGS

1. A call or business meeting of the church must be announced publicly at least three services; the first announcement being ten days previous to the meeting date.

2. A majority vote of members present at any business session shall be the deciding factor.

ARTICLE VII. ADOPTION

1. This constitution becomes effective in any assembly, when ninety or more per cent of the members present and voting in a business meeting called for that purpose, shall so vote.

ARTICLE VIII. RECORD OF ADOPTION

The _____ Assembly of _____ and
community has met this day in a duly called business meet-
ing with a quorum of members present and caused to be
adopted by the following vote: _____ for and _____ against
this constitution of Local Church Government for the as-
sembly.

_____ Pastor

_____ Secretary

_____ Deacon