

**THE POTOMAC DISTRICT COUNCIL  
OF THE ASSEMBLIES OF GOD, INCORPORATED  
AKA THE POTOMAC MINISTRY NETWORK  
BYLAWS**

**ARTICLE I. NETWORK LEADERSHIP**

**Section 1. Officers**

**A. Offices**

1. **Executive Officers.** The Executive Officers of the Network shall be the Superintendent, Assistant Superintendent and Secretary-Treasurer.
2. **Regional Executive Presbyters.** There shall be Regional Executive Presbyters who shall serve each geographical region.
3. **At-Large Executive Presbyters.** There shall be At-Large Executive Presbyters who shall serve and give voice to diverse ministerial constituencies to promote the vision and strategy of the Network.
4. **Board of Directors.** There shall be a Board of Directors of not less than three (3) nor more than fourteen (14) members, consisting of the Executive Officers, the Regional Executive Presbyters, and the At-Large Executive Presbyters.

5. **Presbyters.** There shall be Presbyters who shall serve segments of credentialed ministers and churches as determined by the Superintendent and Board of Directors.
6. **Trustees.** The Executive Officers shall serve as Trustees of the Corporation by virtue of their offices.
7. **General Presbyters.** The Executive Officers shall serve on the Presbytery of the General Council by virtue of their offices.
8. **Honorary Presbyters.** There shall be Honorary Presbyters consisting of qualified former members of the Potomac Ministry Network Board of Directors (formerly Board of Presbyters).

**B. Qualifications.**

1. **General Requirements.** The candidates for any office described herein shall be chosen from the ordained credentialed membership of the Ministry Network except when otherwise authorized by the Bylaws or the Network Operation Manual, and shall be persons of mature experience and ability, whose life and ministry are above question and who conform to all other Network requirements, including but not limited to adherence to the Constitution of the Network.

2. **Residency.** Network officers shall live within the geographical boundaries of the Network. A minister must have held AG credentials and have been a resident in the Network for a minimum of one year before becoming eligible for any office.
3. **Ministry.** Candidates for Network offices, with the exception of the office of Honorary Presbyter, must be actively engaged in ministry in the Network.
4. **Additional Requirements for Honorary Presbyters.** Candidates for the position of Honorary Presbyter must have served on the Potomac District Board of Directors (formerly Board of Presbyters) for a total of at least twelve (12) years.

### **C. Nomination and Election of Officers.**

1. **Voting Procedures.** All elections or ratifications shall be by secret ballot. Unless otherwise stipulated in the Bylaws, a two-thirds majority of total ballots cast shall be required for election. If an election requires a nominating ballot, unless otherwise authorized by the Bylaws, only those candidates receiving fifteen or more votes on the nominating ballot shall be presented to the Network Conference for election, and the number of votes each qualifying candidate receives on the nominating ballot shall be posted on the report of that ballot. If there be no election declared after the second electoral

ballot, the two candidates receiving the largest number of votes on the second ballot shall be voted for on the third and succeeding ballots. The requirement for a minimum of fifteen votes to qualify as a nominee shall not apply to Regional elections. In no case is an office to be filled by acclamation.

**2. Executive Officers (Superintendent, Assistant Superintendent, Secretary-Treasurer)**

**a. Nomination Process.**

1. The Board of Directors shall appoint an eleven-member Nominating Team which is representative of various Network constituencies and balanced between current members of the Board of Directors and those who are not currently serving in that capacity.

Approximately four months in advance of the election, the Nominating Team will lead an open nominating process offering every voting member of the Network the opportunity to place a name in nomination for the vacant office.

2. The Nominating Team shall interview all candidates who have received ten or more nominating ballots along with others who have the gifts, calling, aptitude,

character and experience necessary for the position.

They shall nominate, if possible, three or more candidates who are qualified and willing to serve.

3. Nominees shall be presented to the Network Board of Directors who shall select, if possible, three or more for election at the annual Network Conference or other special called meeting of the Potomac Ministry Network. A brief biographical sketch along with a photograph shall be provided to the Network for each nominee by the Network Secretary at least two weeks prior to the Conference.
4. The election shall proceed according to the Voting Procedures as indicated above. In the event an election does not occur, the Network Board of Directors shall caucus for the purpose of assessment and presentation of one or more nominees at the same meeting.
5. There shall be no nominations taken from the floor.

**b. Subsequent re-election.**

1. Prior to the expiration of the term of office, the Network Executive Officers shall confer with the Board of Directors for the purpose of determining his or her candidacy for another term.
2. Upon mutual agreement by the board of Directors and the officer, his or her name shall be placed in nomination for re-election by ratification.
3. Ratification of the Network officer shall be by the voting constituency of the Potomac Ministry Network according to the voting procedures described above.

**c. Term of Office.**

1. Full time Executive Officers shall be elected for the term of four (4) years and shall assume office ninety (90) days after the election or earlier should the Board of Directors so decide. They may serve successive terms without limitation.
2. The Assistant Superintendent shall be elected for the term of two (2) years and shall assume office immediately upon election. He or she may serve successive terms without limitation.

**d. Removal for Cause**

The Board of Directors by two-thirds vote may remove an Executive Officer from office prior to the end of a term if, in its judgment, there is clear and convincing evidence of incapacity, inefficiency, incompetence, or other grounds, not constituting a basis for formal discipline pursuant to Article X of the General Council Bylaws, that renders the officer unfit for office and compromises the mission of the Potomac Ministry Network. Such a decision by the Board of Directors shall not be effective unless and until it is ratified by the Network Conference by a two-thirds vote.

**3. Regional Executive Presbyters**

**a. Nomination.** One nominee shall be chosen by secret ballot in each Regional business meeting prior to the Network Conference. A two-thirds majority vote shall be required. The Executive Presbyters will be eligible for nomination from the Region in which they reside only.

**b. Ratification and Term of Office.** The Regional Executive Presbyters shall be ratified at a regular or special session of the Network Conference by a two-thirds majority vote for a term of two (2) years. They may serve for four (4) successive

terms and then may not be re-nominated for at least one (1) term. Terms will be staggered to maintain consistency on the Board of Directors.

- c. Removal for Cause.** The Board of Directors by two-thirds vote may remove an Executive Presbyter from office prior to the end of a term if, in its judgment, there is clear and convincing evidence of incapacity, inefficiency, incompetence, or other grounds, not constituting a basis for formal discipline pursuant to Article X of the General Council Bylaws, that renders the officer unfit for office and compromises the mission of the Potomac Ministry Network.

#### **4. At-Large Executive Presbyters**

- a. Nomination Process.** At-large Executive Presbyters shall be nominated by the Superintendent and affirmed by a two-thirds majority vote of the Board of Directors. They shall both serve and give voice to diverse ministerial constituencies to promote the vision and strategy of the Network.
- b. Ratification and Term of Office.** The At-Large Executive Presbyters shall be ratified at a regular or special session of the Network Conference by a two-thirds majority vote for a term of two (2) years. They may serve for four (4) successive



terms and then may not be re-nominated for at least one (1) term. Terms will be staggered to maintain consistency on the Board of Directors.

- c. **Removal for Cause.** The Board of Directors by two-thirds vote may remove an At-Large Executive Presbyter from office prior to the end of a term if, in its judgment, there is clear and convincing evidence of incapacity, inefficiency, incompetence, or other grounds, not constituting a basis for formal discipline pursuant to Article X of the General Council Bylaws, that renders the officer unfit for office and compromises the mission of the Potomac Ministry Network

## 5. **Presbyters**

- a. **Appointment.** Presbyters shall be nominated by the Superintendent from the list of ordained ministers or licensed ministers who are actively seeking ordination and affirmed by a majority vote of the Board of Directors.
- b. **Term of Office.** Presbyters shall serve for two (2) years and may be reappointed for successive terms without limitation.

6. **Regional Voting Constituency.** The voting constituency at Regional business meetings shall be on the same basis as that of the Network Conference.

7. **Honorary Presbyters**

- a. **Nomination and election.** Honorary Presbyters shall be elected by secret ballot at the Network Conference, having been nominated by the majority vote of the Board of Directors. A two-thirds majority of total ballots cast shall be required for election.
- b. **Term of Office.** The term of office shall be the balance of the lifetime of those elected, provided they maintain their ministerial credentials in good standing with the Assemblies of God.

8. **Department Directors**

- a. **Appointment.** Department Directors serve at the pleasure of the Superintendent. The Network Superintendent, in consultation with the Board of Directors, shall appoint Directors of Network Departments or Ministries. Their terms of service shall be determined by the Superintendent in

accordance with provisions established in the Network Operation Manual.

- b. **Department or Ministry Teams.** The Network Department or Ministry Directors, in consultation with the Superintendent, shall appoint their Department or Ministry Teams.

9. **General Council Executive Presbyter Nominees**

- a. **Non-Resident.** When requested by the General Council, at the Network Conference prior to the General Council, the Board of Directors shall present the names of six ordained ministers, three of whom are not full-time Network Officers, as candidates for the Network's nominees for General Council Non-Resident Executive Presbyter. Two names shall be chosen by the Network in accordance with the criteria established in the General Council Bylaws. *(See General Council Bylaws, Article II, Section 2, c, (1), (a)).* A two-thirds vote shall be required.
- b. **Other Nominees.** When requested by the General Council, at the Network Conference prior to the General Council, the Board of Directors shall present to the Network Conference the names of two or more persons who qualified individuals from Potomac Ministry Network to the Executive Presbytery,

one who is an ordained minister under forty (40) years of age at the time of election, one ordained female minister (no age requirement), and one ordained African-American minister (no age requirement), as described in the General Council Bylaws. The nominee will be affirmed by ratification or election with a two-thirds vote required.

#### **10: General Council General Presbytery Nominees**

- a. **District representation:** At each Network Conference nomination for three General Presbytery representatives, comprised of the Superintendent, Secretary/Treasurer, and one qualified ordained pastor of a church located in the district. The nominee will be affirmed by ratification or election with a two-thirds vote required.
- b. **Additional representation:** At each Network Conference, the Board of Directors shall present to the Conference the names of at least two persons qualified for the office of General Presbyter, one ordained female minister (no age requirement), one under forty, or any other nominee requested by the General Council, as described in the General Council Bylaws. The nominee will be affirmed by ratification or election with a two-thirds vote required.

#### **D. Vacancies**

1. **Executive Officers.**

- a.** If a vacancy occurs in an Executive Office (Superintendent, Assistant Superintendent, Secretary-Treasurer), the Network Board of Directors shall, at their discretion, call a special session of the Potomac Ministry Network for the purpose of filling the vacant office and any other office that may become vacant as a result of the election, or a special election shall be held for this purpose during the annual Network Conference.
- b.** If a vacancy occurs in the office of Superintendent, the Assistant Superintendent shall serve as the Acting Superintendent until a Superintendent is elected as detailed above.
- c.** If a vacancy occurs in the office of the Assistant Superintendent or Secretary-Treasurer, the Board of Directors shall appoint an acting officer until an elected office can be seated as detailed above.
- d.** In the event vacancies occur simultaneously, or near simultaneously, in both the Superintendent's and the Assistant Superintendent's offices, the Network Secretary-Treasurer shall immediately call for a meeting of the Board of Directors, or if the Secretary-Treasurer is unable to act, the Board of Directors shall select a chairperson and appoint an

Acting Superintendent and/or Assistant Superintendent until the offices are filled by election as described above.

**2. Regional and At-Large Executive Presbyters.**

If a vacancy occurs in the office of a Regional or At-Large Executive Presbyter, the Board of Directors shall fill the office by appointment to complete the unexpired term.

**Section 2. Duties of Officers**

**A. Superintendent**

1. The Superintendent shall oversee the day to day operations of the Potomac Ministry Center.
2. The Superintendent shall be responsible to provide pastoral care for the credentialed ministers of the Network and shall encourage both ministers and churches in their spiritual development.
3. The Superintendent shall give advice and assistance to the ministers and churches when needed.
4. The Superintendent, working in cooperation with the Board of Directors, shall be authorized to render decisions and to administer discipline to the ministers and local assemblies of the Network when needed.

5. The Superintendent shall appoint and supervise the Directors of all Departments and Ministries, and oversee all Network ministry activities.
6. The Superintendent shall preside at all meetings of the Network Conference and shall perform any other functions usual and customary to the presiding officer.
7. The Superintendent shall be chairperson of the Board of Directors and ex-officio member of all committees.
8. The Superintendent shall be President of the Corporation.

**B. Assistant Superintendent**

1. The Assistant Superintendent shall assist the Superintendent in the administration of the Network as requested by the Superintendent.
2. The Assistant Superintendent shall be a member of the Board of Directors.
3. The Assistant Superintendent shall preside at meetings of the Network Conference or the Board of Directors in the absence of the Superintendent.
4. The Assistant Superintendent shall be Vice-President of the Corporation.

### **C. Secretary-Treasurer**

- 1.** The Secretary-Treasurer shall keep a true record of the proceedings of the Network Conference and meetings of the Board of Directors.
- 2.** The Secretary-Treasurer shall record and publish for the Network's records the minutes of the Annual Conference.
- 3.** The Secretary-Treasurer shall process applications for credentials and shall keep a record of all credentialed ministers and churches in the Network.
- 4.** The Secretary-Treasurer shall be the Secretary-Treasurer of the Corporation.
- 5.** The Secretary-Treasurer shall be a member of the Board of Directors.
- 6.** The Secretary-Treasurer shall be authorized to sign all official and legal documents and to perform such other functions as are usual and customary or as may be directed by the Network Conference or the Board of Directors.
- 7.** The Secretary-Treasurer shall be an ex-officio member of all committees.



8. The Secretary-Treasurer shall be the custodian of all Network funds and shall make disbursements as authorized by the Board of Directors.
9. The Secretary-Treasurer shall oversee the budgetary process and other financial matters as detailed in the Network Operation Manual.
10. The Secretary-Treasurer shall keep an accurate record of all receipts and disbursements.
11. The Secretary-Treasurer shall provide a finance report at each regular session of the Board of Directors and at the Network Conference.
12. The Secretary-Treasurer shall monitor the giving of funds from the Network credential holders and make a report to the Board of Directors regarding each one's compliance with support requirements.
13. The Secretary-Treasurer shall be bonded in the amount of One Hundred Thousand Dollars (\$100,000).

**D. Executive Presbyters**

1. The Executive Presbyter shall represent the Superintendent in his or her Region or constituency when requested by the Superintendent.

2. The Executive Presbyter shall work with the Presbyters in his or her Region or constituency:
  - a. To provide resources for ministers and churches and to connect them with the resources available through the Network.
  - b. To help self-governing churches address internal management issues when requested.
  - c. To provide oversight to District affiliated churches.
  - d. To work with the Superintendent's office to assist churches in pastoral transition.
  - e. To conduct credential examinations at the certified and licensed levels.
  - f. To assist the Presbyters in the provision of pastoral care for ministers when requested.
3. The Executive Presbyter shall assist the Superintendent to provide oversight and pastoral care for the Presbyters in his or her region or constituency.
4. The Executive Presbyter shall be a member of the Board of Directors.

## **E. Presbyters**

1. The Presbyter shall assist the Superintendent to provide pastoral care for the credentialed ministers within his or her segment of the Network.
2. The Presbyter shall facilitate the connection of the ministers in his or her care with one another in order to provide mutually beneficial relationships.
3. The presbyter shall work with the Executive Presbyter when requested:
  - a. To provide resources for ministers and churches and to connect them with the resources available through the Network.
  - b. To help self-governing churches address internal management issues.
  - c. To provide oversight to District affiliated churches.
  - d. To work with the Superintendent's office to assist churches in pastoral transition.
  - e. To conduct credential examinations at the certified and licensed levels.

4. The Presbyter shall report on a regular basis to the Superintendent and Executive Presbyter regarding the health and welfare of the ministers and churches under his or her care.
5. The Presbyter shall communicate regularly on behalf of the Network to the credential holder.
6. The Presbyter shall meet at the call of the Superintendent to help formulate and implement the strategic plan for the mission and vision of the Network.

**F. The Board of Directors**

1. The Superintendent shall chair the Board of Directors.
2. The Board of Directors shall assist the Superintendent with the general oversight of the Network and shall perform such duties as are usual and customary.
3. They shall approve the general policies of the Network as detailed in the Network Operation Manual.
4. They shall approve the Network budget.
5. They shall be the interpreters of the Bylaws as adopted by the Conference and shall be governed by the same.

6. They shall serve as the Network Credentials Committee and shall represent the General Council in the examination and discipline of all credentialed ministers subject to the General Council Bylaws.
7. They shall investigate and respond to allegations of incompetence or moral turpitude placed against Network officers.
8. They shall meet at a time and place arranged by the Superintendent, which may be in person, by phone, or by other electronic means including email referendum.
9. The presence of a majority of Board members shall constitute a quorum for meetings of the Board of Directors. Notice of Board meetings shall be given at least seven (7) days in advance of the meeting date, except in case of emergency meetings where notice shall be given as soon as is reasonably possible.
10. They shall approve the Network Operation Manual.

**G. Honorary Presbyters**

1. Honorary Presbyters shall be available for counsel and advice to officers of the Network on occasions initiated by the officers.
2. Although not participating in meetings of the Board of Directors, they shall be granted the privilege of being seated with the Board at

Network Conference meetings and at other official Network functions.

3. Their name and title shall be included in official lists of Network officers.

## **ARTICLE II. DEPARTMENTS, BOARDS, COMMITTEES & TEAMS**

### **Section 1. Authorization and Amenability**

- A. The Network shall establish Departments, Boards, Committees, Teams and Work Groups as necessary to fulfill its mission and vision.
- B. All Departments, Boards, Committees and Work Groups shall be supervised by and amenable to the Network Superintendent.
- C. The Board of Directors shall serve as the Credentials Committee.

## **ARTICLE III. MINISTRY**

### **Section 1. Ministerial Credentials**

- A. **Qualifications.** The qualifications for ministerial credentials with the Assemblies of God shall be determined by the General Council of the Assemblies of God.
- B. **Process.** The process for obtaining credentials through the Potomac Ministry Network is described in the Network Operation Manual.

- C. **Eligibility.** Only Assemblies of God ministers in good standing with their respective Ministry Network councils shall be eligible to serve as lead/senior pastors of Assemblies of God churches in the Potomac Ministry Network.
  
- D. **General Council Rulings.** There are many matters which affect the fellowship and activities of our Network which are covered by General Council rulings. Full information is available on these matters in the Bylaws of the General Council of the Assemblies of God.

## **Section 2. Local Churches**

- A. **Recognition.** The Network shall recognize local churches as General Council Affiliated, District Council (Network) Affiliated, and Parent Affiliated according to the criteria and procedure established in the General Council Bylaws.
  
- B. **Pastoral Selection for General Council Affiliated Churches.** The Superintendent and Regional Executive Presbyters shall be available for consultation before local churches call ministers as pastoral candidates. It is recommended that their election shall be for an indefinite period of time.
  
- C. **Pastoral Appointment for Network Affiliated Churches.** The pastor of a District Council (Network) Affiliated Church shall be appointed by the Network Board of Directors.

- D. Pastoral Removal.** Should it be deemed necessary to remove a pastor, those who shall represent the church shall consult with the Superintendent and Regional Executive Presbyter to determine what action should be taken.
- E. Local Church Constitution & Bylaws.** The General Council Affiliated church shall adopt a constitution and bylaws in keeping with the recommendations, policies and practices of the Assemblies of God, thus adequately protecting its people, property, and pastor. A copy of this constitution shall be furnished to the Ministry Network office for their permanent records. Network Affiliated churches shall operate under bylaws provided by the Potomac Ministry Network Board of Directors that shall be updated as needed.

### **Section 3. Network Meetings**

**A. Network Conference.**

1. The Network shall hold an annual Conference of its membership at a time and place determined by the Board of Directors. All persons attending the Conference session shall register as Voters or Visitors.
2. A special session of the Ministry Network may be called by the Board of Directors when and how they deem necessary.
3. An Assemblies of God ordained minister in good standing with the Network may submit a request to the Board of Directors for a special meeting of the Ministry Network provided that a written request for



such meeting has been signed by no fewer than twenty percent (20%) of the ordained ministers of the Ministry network.

- B. Ministerial Enrichment.** The Network may provide other ministerial events as determined by the Superintendent in consultation with Network leadership.
- C. Regional Meetings.** Each Region shall meet at least biennially for the purpose of nominating the Regional Executive Presbyters as indicated above.

## **ARTICLE IV. FIDUCIARY STEWARDSHIP**

### **Section 1. Obligations**

The members of the Network shall be responsible for the financial support of the Potomac Ministry Network.

### **Section 2. Agreements**

- A. Minister's Tithe.** Each minister shall contribute not less than seventy-five percent (75%) of his or her tithes on all earned income and allowances into the ministry Network Operational Fund each month. Exception shall be made in accordance with the General Council Bylaws or on a case by case basis by the Network Board of Directors. The fulfillment of the agreement to contribute to Network support as stipulated herein shall be considered as

being an essential requirement for the renewal of ministerial credentials each year.

- B. Local Church Network Support.** Each church is encouraged to send a monthly offering for the Ministry Network’s administration expense.

### **Section 3. Budget**

The Board of Directors shall annually review and authorize a budget for the Potomac Ministry Network. The budget shall be administered in accordance with the financial policy approved by the Board of Directors detailed in the Network Operation Manual.

### **Section 4. Property**

The Potomac Ministry Network shall, through its corporate name or its appointed trustees, acquire, hold, convey, transfer, sell, or otherwise dispose of its property in accordance with the express wishes of the Potomac Ministry Network or through its duly elected officers.

## **ARTICLE V. ORGANIZATIONAL RULES**

### **Section 1. Transactions with Interested Parties**

A contract or other transaction between the Network and one or more of its Presbyters, Officers, Directors, Members, or family members thereof (hereinafter “Interested Party”), or between the Network and any other entity, of which one or

more of the Network, its Presbyters, Officers, Directors, or Members are also Interested Parties, or in which entity an Interested Party has a financial interest will be voidable at the sole election of the Network unless all of the following provisions are satisfied:

- The Network entered into the transaction for its own benefit;
- The transaction was fair and reasonable as to the Network, or was in furtherance of its exempt purposes at the time the Network entered into the transaction;
- Prior to consummating the transaction, or any part, the Board authorized or approved the transaction, in good faith, by a vote of a majority of the Board Members then in office, without counting the vote of the interested party, and with knowledge of the material facts concerning the transaction and the Interested Parties' interest in the transaction; and
- Prior to authorizing or approving the transaction, the Board, in good faith determined after reasonable investigation and consideration, that either the Network could not have obtained a more advantageous arrangement with reasonable effort under the circumstances, or the transaction was in furtherance of the Network's tax-exempt purposes.

Common or interested Board members may not be counted in determining the presence of a quorum at a meeting of the Board (or a committee thereof) which authorizes, approves, or ratifies such contract or transaction. The Board may adopt

additional Conflicts of Interest policies, in addition to the above, that shall provide for full disclosure of material conflicting interest by Board members, officers, or staff. These policies shall permit the Board to determine whether the contemplated transaction may be authorized as just, fair, and reasonable to the Network.

## **Section 2. No Compensation for Board Members**

No salary or compensation should be paid to any Board member in his or her capacity as a member of the Board, but nothing herein shall be construed to preclude any Board member from serving in any other permitted capacity and receiving reasonable compensation thereof. Moreover, Board members may receive reasonable reimbursement for Network related travel and approved expenses upon request and submission of proper written documentation.

## **Section 3. No Private Inurement**

No part of the net earnings of the Corporation shall inure to the benefit of, or be distributable to its Directors, Trustees, Officers, or other private persons, except that the Corporation shall be authorized and empowered to pay reasonable compensation for services rendered and to make payments and distributions in furtherance of the purposes set forth herein. No substantial part of the activities of the Corporation shall be the carrying on of propaganda, or otherwise attempting to influence legislation, and the Corporation shall not participate in, or intervene in (including the publishing or distribution of statements) any political campaign on

behalf of or in opposition to any candidate for public office. Notwithstanding any other provision of these Bylaws, the Corporation shall not carry on any other activities not permitted to be carried on (a) by a corporation exempt from federal income tax under Section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code, or the corresponding section of any future federal tax code, or (b) by a corporation, contributions to which are deductible under Section 170(c)(2) of the Internal Revenue Code, or the corresponding section of any future federal tax code.

#### **Section 4. Parliamentary Procedure**

The business sessions of the Potomac Ministry Network shall be governed by parliamentary procedure as set forth in the current edition of Robert's Rules of Order Newly Revised, in keeping with the spirit of Christian love and fellowship.

#### **Section 5. Notice and Quorum**

Written notice of the annual or a special called Network business meeting is required to be sent thirty (30) days in advance to all ministers and delegates. Those ministers and delegates who respond to the announcement by the Board of Directors for the annual or special Ministry Network meeting shall constitute a quorum.

#### **Section 6. Order of Business**

Each business session of the Ministry Network Council shall be opened with prayer.

The minutes of each session shall be recorded for the Ministry Network

constituency. The regular order of business for the Ministry Network shall be:

- (1) Appointment of Committees
- (2) Report of the Superintendent
- (3) Report of the Assistant Superintendent
- (4) Report of the Secretary-Treasurer
- (5) Committee Reports
- (6) Unfinished Business
- (7) Election or Ratification of Officers:
  - (a) Superintendent
  - (b) Assistant Superintendent
  - (c) Secretary-Treasurer
  - (d) Regional Executive Presbyters
  - (e) At-Large Executive Presbytery Nominees
  - (f) General Council Executive Presbyter Nominees (when requested)

(8) New Business

(9) Adjournment

## **Section 7. Indemnity**

To the fullest extent permitted by Maryland law, as now in effect or as may hereafter be amended, no Director or Officer of the Corporation shall be personally liable for damages in any proceeding brought by or in the right of the Corporation, or in connection with any claim, action, suit or proceeding to which he or she may be or is made a party by reason of being or having been an Officer or Director of the Corporation, provided however, that such relief from liability shall not apply in any instance where such relief is inconsistent with any provision applicable to corporations described in Section 501(c)(3) or the Code of Maryland.

Any person made or threatened to be made a party to any action or proceeding, whether civil or criminal, by reason of the fact that he or she, his or her testator or intestate, is or was a Director or officer, employee or agent of the Corporation, may be indemnified by the Corporation, and the Corporation may advance his or her related expense, to the full extent permitted by law.

The Corporation may purchase and maintain insurance to indemnify: (a) itself for any obligation which it incurs as a result of the indemnification specified above; and (b) its Directors and officers.

## **Section 8. Amendments**

Amendments to the Bylaws may be made at any regular or special called business session of the Potomac Ministry Network by a majority vote.

## **ARTICLE VI. EMERGENCY BYLAWS**

- A. The emergency bylaws may make all provisions necessary for managing the Network during the emergency, including but not limited to the following:
1. Procedures for calling a meeting of the Network Council and Network Board of Directors.
  2. Quorum requirements for any meeting
  3. Designation of additional or substitute directors
  4. Modification of lines of succession to accommodate the incapacity of any director, officer, employee, or agent resulting from the emergency.
  5. Relocation of the principal office
- During an emergency, the Network Board of Directors shall have the maximum authority possible to run the Network's interim affairs in the manner they deem best.
- B. All provisions of the regular bylaws consistent with the emergency bylaws remain effective during the emergency. The emergency bylaws are not effective after the emergency ends.
- C. Corporate action taken in good faith in accordance with the emergency



bylaws both binds the Network and may not be used to impose liability on a corporate director, officer, employee, or agent.

D. An emergency exists for purposes of this section if a quorum of the Network's members or directors cannot readily be assembled because of any of the following events:

1. A natural catastrophe, including, but not limited to, a hurricane, tornado, storm, high water, wind-driven water, tidal wave, tsunami, earthquake, volcanic eruption, landslide, mudslide, snowstorm, or drought, or, regardless of cause, any fire, flood, or explosion.
2. An attack on this state or nation by an enemy of the United States of America, or upon receipt by this state of a warning from the federal government indicating that an enemy attack is probable or imminent.
3. An act of terrorism or other manmade disaster that results in extraordinary levels of casualties or damage or disruption severely affecting the infrastructure, environment, economy, government functions, or population, including, but not limited to, mass evacuations.
4. A pandemic
5. A state of emergency proclaimed by a governor or by the president.
6. Any other condition as a result of which a quorum cannot readily be assembled.

## **Electronic Meetings and Action by Unanimous Consent**

In the event of an emergency or other sufficient cause as determined by the Network Board of Directors the members of the Network Board or Network Conference may participate and act at any meeting through the use of any technology by means of which all persons participating in the meeting can communicate simultaneously with each other, upon such terms and in such manner as the District/Network Presbytery shall determine. Participation in such meeting shall constitute attendance and presence in person at the meeting of the member or members so participating.

Any action required or permitted to be taken at any meeting of the Network Board of Directors may be taken without a meeting if all members consent thereto in writing, and the writings are filed with the minutes of proceedings of the Network Board of Directors.

The Corporation may purchase and maintain insurance to indemnify:

(a) itself for any obligation which it incurs as a result of the

indemnification specified above; and (b) its Directors and officers.

**ORIGIN OF THE POTOMAC DISTRICT COUNCIL  
OF THE ASSEMBLIES OF GOD, INCORPORATED  
AKA THE POTOMAC MINISTRY NETWORK**

Feeling the need of cooperation in the work of God in Maryland and West Virginia, a meeting of workers was held on August 24<sup>th</sup>, 1917, at Shaft, Maryland, to organize a District Council. The following resolutions were adopted:

RESOLVED, That we recognize ourselves as the District Council of Maryland and West Virginia, in cooperative fellowship with the General Council of the Assemblies of God (incorporated) with headquarters at Springfield, Missouri.

Motion: Carried that we adopt the “Statement of Fundamental Truths” as the basis of cooperation and fellowship for this District Council.

During the annual District meeting which was held at Hagerstown, Maryland, August 20, 1925, the matter of changing the name of the District was discussed. The wisdom of a change seemed apparent owing to the fact that the former name did not adequately describe the boundaries of the territory included.

On motion it was carried that we change the name of our District from “The Maryland and West Virginia District Council” to “The Potomac District Council of the Assemblies of God.”



**CONSTITUTION AND BYLAWS OF  
THE POTOMAC DISTRICT COUNCIL OF THE ASSEMBLIES OF GOD  
AKA THE POTOMAC MINISTRY NETWORK**

**CONSTITUTIONAL DECLARATION**

WE BELIEVE:

That God's purpose concerning man is (1) to seek and to save that which is lost, (2) to be worshiped by man, (3) to build a body of believers in the image of His Son, and (4) to demonstrate His love and compassion for all the world.

That these believers, saved and called out of the world, constitute the Body or Church of Jesus Christ built and established upon the foundation of the apostles and prophets, Jesus Christ Himself being the chief cornerstone.

That the members of the Body, the Church (ecclesia), of Jesus Christ, are enjoined to assemble themselves for worship, fellowship, counsel and instruction in the Word of God, the work of the ministry, and for the exercise of those spiritual gifts and offices provided for New Testament church order.

That it is evident the early apostolic churches came together in fellowship as a representative body of saved, Spirit-filled believers who ordained and sent out evangelists and missionaries, and under the supervision of the Holy Spirit set over the church pastors and teachers.



That the priority reason for being of the Assemblies of God is to be an agency of God for evangelizing the world, to be a corporate body in which man may worship God, to be a channel of God's purpose to build a body of saints being perfected in the image of His Son, and to be a people who demonstrate God's love and compassion for all the world.

That the Assemblies of God exists expressly to give continuing emphasis to this reason for being in the New Testament apostolic pattern by teaching and encouraging believers to be baptized in the Holy Spirit, which enables them to evangelize in the power of the Spirit with accompanying supernatural signs, adding a necessary dimension to worshipful relationship with God, and enabling them to respond to the full working of the Holy Spirit in expression of fruit and gifts and ministries as in New Testament times for the edifying of the body of Christ.

That we are a part of the cooperative fellowship of Pentecostal, Spirit-baptized saints from local Pentecostal assemblies of like precious faith throughout the United States and foreign lands known as the General Council of the Assemblies of God, whose purpose is neither to usurp authority over the various local assemblies, nor to deprive them of their scriptural and local rights and privileges, but to recognize and promote scriptural methods and order for worship, unity, fellowship, work, and business for God; and to disapprove unscriptural, doctrines and polity, endeavoring to keep the unity of the Spirit in the bond of peace, "till we all come in the unity of the faith, and of the knowledge of the Son of God, unto a perfect man, unto the measure of the stature of the fullness of Christ" (Ephesians 4:13).



## **PREAMBLE**

For the purpose of promulgating the Gospel of Jesus Christ by all available means in the Potomac Ministry Network, so that the results of our efforts may be conserved and churches and ministries be established and developed in general unity and cooperative fellowship along the lines of our distinctive testimony, and for the further purpose of cooperating with all other Districts and Ministry Networks in the work of the General Council at home and abroad; we, who are members of the General Council of the Assemblies of God, hereby associate ourselves together for Scriptural fellowship and recognize ourselves as the Potomac Ministry Network, and agree to be governed by the following Constitution and Bylaws.

## **CONSTITUTION**

### **ARTICLE I. NAME**

The corporate name of this body shall be the Potomac District Council of the Assemblies of God, Incorporated, a Maryland non-profit corporation with headquarters in Gainesville, Virginia. The Corporation may also be referred to as the Potomac Ministry Network of the Assemblies of God.

### **ARTICLE II. TERRITORY**

The Potomac Ministry Network shall include the District of Columbia; all the State of Maryland; that part of West Virginia that includes and lies east of Marshall, Wetzel,



Harrison, Upshur, Randolph, and Pocahontas counties; and that part of Virginia that includes and lies east of Bath, Rockbridge, Bedford, and Pittsylvania counties.

### **ARTICLE III. RELATIONSHIP**

The Potomac Ministry Network shall be an integral part of the General Council of the Assemblies of God, Incorporated, with headquarters at Springfield, Missouri; therefore the principles of voluntary unity and cooperative fellowship as set forth in the Constitution of the General Council are the principles which shall govern this Ministry Network.

### **ARTICLE IV. TENETS OF FAITH**

This Ministry Network shall stand for the Holy Scriptures as the all-sufficient rule for faith and practice, and adopts the Statement of Fundamental Truths approved by the General Council, that we may all speak the same thing.

### **STATEMENT OF FUNDAMENTAL TRUTHS**

The Bible is our all-sufficient rule for faith and practice. This Statement of Fundamental Truths is intended simply as a basis of fellowship among us (i.e., that we all speak the same thing, 1 Corinthians 1:10; Acts 2:42). The phraseology employed in this Statement is not inspired or contended for, but the truth set forth is held to be essential to a full gospel



ministry. No claim is made that it contains all Biblical truth, only that it covers our need as to these fundamental doctrines.

## **1. The Scriptures Inspired**

The Scriptures, both the Old and New Testaments, are verbally inspired of God and are the revelation of God to man, the infallible, authoritative rule of faith and conduct (2 Timothy 3:15-17; 1 Thessalonians 2:13; 2 Peter 1:21).

## **2. The One True God**

The one true God has revealed himself as the eternally self-existent “I AM,” the Creator of heaven and earth, and the Redeemer of mankind. He has further revealed himself as embodying the principles of relationship and association as Father, Son, and Holy Spirit (Deuteronomy 6:4; Isaiah 43:10, 11; Matthew 28:19; Luke 3:22).

## **The Adorable Godhead**

### **(a) Terms Defined**

The terms *Trinity* and *Persons* as related to the Godhead, while not found in the Scriptures, are words in harmony with the Scripture, whereby we may convey to others our immediate understanding of the doctrine of Christ respecting the Being of God, as distinguished from “gods many and lords many.” We, therefore, may speak with propriety of the Lord our God, who is One Lord, as a Trinity or as one Being of three persons, and still be absolutely scriptural (examples, Matthew 28:19; 2 Corinthians 13:14, John 14:16, 17).





## **(b) Distinction and Relationship in the Godhead**

Christ taught a distinction of Persons in the Godhead which He expressed in specific terms of relationship, as Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, but that this distinction and relationship, as to its mode is inscrutable and incomprehensible, because unexplained (Luke 1:35; 1 Corinthians 1:24; Matthew 11:25-27; 28:19; 2 Corinthians 13:14; 1 John 1:3,4).

## **(c) Unity of the One Being of Father, Son, and Holy Spirit**

Accordingly, therefore, there is **that** in the Father which constitutes Him **the Father** and not the Son; there is **that** in the Son which constitutes Him **the Son** and not the Father; and there is **that** in the Holy **Spirit** which constitutes Him **the Holy Spirit** and not either the Father or the Son. Wherefore, the Father is the Begetter; the Son is the Begotten; and the Holy Spirit is the One proceeding from the Father and the Son. Therefore, because these three persons in the Godhead are in a state of unity, there is but one Lord God Almighty and His name one (John 1:18; 15:26, 17:11, 21; Zechariah 14:9).

## **(d) Identity and Cooperation in the Godhead**

The Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit are never **identical** as to **Person**, nor **confused** as to **relation**; nor **divided** in respect to the Godhead; nor **opposed** as to **cooperation**. The Son is **in** the Father and the Father is **in** the Son as to relationship. The Son is **with** the Father and the Father is **with** the Son, as to fellowship. The Father is not **from** the Son, but the Son is **from** the Father, as to authority. The Holy Spirit is from the Father and the Son proceeding as to nature, relationship, cooperation and authority. Hence, no Person in the Godhead



either exists or works separately or independently of the others (John 5:17-30, 32, 37; 8:17,18).

### **(e) The Title, Lord Jesus Christ**

The appellation, *Lord Jesus Christ*, is a proper name. It is never applied in the New Testament either to the Father or to the Holy Spirit. It therefore belongs exclusively to the **Son of God** (Romans 1:1-3, 7; 2 John 3).

### **(f) The Lord Jesus Christ, God with Us**

The Lord Jesus Christ, as to His divine and eternal nature, is the proper and only Begotten of the Father, but as to His human nature, He is the proper Son of Man. He is, therefore, acknowledged to be both God and man; who because He is God and man, is “Emmanuel,” God with us (Matthew 1:23; 1 John 4:2, 10, 14; Revelation 1:13, 17).

### **(g) The Title, Son of God**

Since the name *Emmanuel* embraces both God and Man, in the one Person, our Lord Jesus Christ, it follows that the title, *Son of God*, describes His proper deity, and the title, *Son of Man*, His proper humanity. Therefore the title, Son of God, belongs to the order of eternity, and the title, Son of Man, to the order of time (Matthew 1:21-23; 2 John 3; 1 John 3:8; Hebrews 1: 1-13; 7:3).

### **(h) Transgression of the Doctrine of Christ**



Wherefore, it is a transgression of the doctrine of Christ to say that Jesus Christ derived the title, *Son of God*, solely from the fact of the Incarnation, or because of His relation to the economy of redemption. Therefore, to deny that the Father is a real and eternal Father, and that the Son is a real and eternal Son, is a denial of the distinction and relationship in the Being of God; a denial of the Father and the Son; and a displacement of the truth that Jesus Christ is come in the flesh (2 John 9; John 1:1, 2, 14, 18, 29, 49; 1 John 2:22, 23; 4:1-5; Hebrews 12:2).

### **(i) Exaltation of Jesus Christ as Lord**

The Son of God, our Lord Jesus Christ, having by Himself purged our sins, sat down on the right hand of the Majesty on high, angels and principalities and powers having been made subject unto Him. And having been made both Lord and Christ, He sent the Holy Spirit that we, in the name of Jesus, might bow our knees and confess that Jesus Christ is Lord to the glory of God the Father until the end, when the Son shall become subject to the Father that God may be all in all (Hebrews 1:3; 1 Peter 3:22; Acts 2:32-36; Romans 14:11; 1 Corinthians 15:24-28).

### **(j) Equal Honor to the Father and to the Son**

Wherefore, since the Father has delivered all judgment unto the Son, it is not only the **express duty** of all in heaven and on earth to bow the knee, but it is an **unspeakable** joy in the Holy Spirit to ascribe unto the Son all the attributes of deity, and to give Him all the honor and the glory contained in all the names and titles of the Godhead except those which express relationship (see paragraphs b, c, and d) and thus honor the Son even as we



honor the Father (John 5:22, 23; 1 Peter 1:8; Revelation 5:6-14; Philippians 2:8,9; Revelation 7:9, 10; 4:8-11).

### **3. Deity of the Lord Jesus Christ**

The Lord Jesus Christ is the eternal Son of God. The Scriptures declare:

- a. His virgin birth (Matthew 1:23; Luke 1:31, 35).
- b. His sinless life (Hebrews 7:26; 1 Peter 2:22)
- c. His miracles (Acts 2:22; 10:38).
- d. His substitutionary work on the cross (1 Corinthians 15:3, 2 Corinthians 5:21).
- e. His bodily resurrection from the dead (Matthew 28:6; Luke 24:39; 1 Corinthians 15:4).
- f. His exaltation to the right hand of God (Acts 1:9, 11; 2:33; Philippians 2:9-11; Hebrews 1:3).

### **4. The Fall of Man**

Man was created good and upright; for God said, “Let us make man in our image, after our likeness.” However, man by voluntary transgression fell and thereby incurred not only physical death but also spiritual death, which is separation from God (Genesis 1:26, 27; 2:17; 3:6; Romans 5:12-19).

### **5. The Salvation of Man**



Man's only hope of redemption is through the shed blood of Jesus Christ the Son of God.

**a. Conditions to Salvation.** Salvation is received through repentance toward God and faith toward the Lord Jesus Christ. By the washing of regeneration and renewing of the Holy Spirit, being justified by grace through faith, man becomes an heir of God according to the hope of eternal life (Luke 24:47; John 3:3, Romans 10:13-15; Ephesians 2:8; Titus 2:11; 3:5-7).

**b. The Evidences of Salvation.** The inward evidence of salvation is the direct witness of the Spirit (Romans 8:16). The outward evidence to all men is a life of righteousness and true holiness (Ephesians 4:24; Titus 2:12).

## 6. The Ordinances of the Church

**a. Baptism in Water.** The ordinance of baptism by immersion is commanded in the Scriptures. All who repent and believe on Christ as Savior and Lord are to be baptized. Thus they declare to the world that they have died with Christ and that they also have been raised with Him to walk in the newness of life (Matthew 28:19; Mark 16:16; Acts 10:47, 48; Romans 6:4).

**b. Holy Communion.** The Lords Supper, consisting of the elements—bread and the fruit of the vine—is the symbol expressing our sharing the divine nature of our Lord Jesus Christ (2 Peter 1:4); a memorial of His suffering and death (1 Corinthians 11:26); and a prophecy of His second coming (1 Corinthians 11:26); and is enjoined on all believers “till He come!”



## **7. The Baptism in the Holy Spirit**

All believers are entitled to and should ardently expect and earnestly seek the promise of the Father, the baptism in the Holy Spirit and fire, according to the command of our Lord Jesus Christ. This was the normal experience of all in the early Christian church. With it comes the endowment of power for life and service, the bestowment of the gifts and their uses in the work of the ministry (Luke 24:49; Acts 1:4,8; 1 Corinthians 12:1-31). This experience is distinct from and subsequent to the experience of the new birth (Acts 8:12-17; 10:44-46; 11:14-16; 15:7-9). With the baptism in the Holy Spirit come such experiences as an overflowing fullness of the Spirit (John 7:37-39; Acts 4:8), a deepened reverence for God (Acts 2:43; Hebrews 12:28), an intensified consecration to God and dedication to His work (Acts 2:42), and a more active love for Christ, for His Word, and for the lost (Mark 16:20).

## **8. The Initial Physical Evidence of the Baptism in the Holy Spirit**

The baptism of believers in the Holy Spirit is witnessed by the initial physical sign of speaking with other tongues as the Spirit of God gives them utterance (Acts 2:4). The speaking in tongues in this instance is the same in essence as the gift of tongues (1 Corinthians 12:4-10, 28) but different in purpose and use.

## **9. Sanctification**

Sanctification is an act of separation from that which is evil, and of dedication unto God (Romans 12:1, 2; 1 Thessalonians 5:23; Hebrews 13:12). Scriptures teach a life of “holiness



without which no man shall see the Lord” (Hebrews 12:14). By the power of the Holy Spirit we are able to obey the command: “Be ye holy, for I am holy”(1 Peter 1:15, 16).

Sanctification is realized in the believer by recognizing his identification with Christ in His death and resurrection, and by faith reckoning daily upon the fact of that union, and by offering every faculty continually to the dominion of the Holy Spirit (Romans 6:1-11, 13; 8:1, 2, 13; Galatians 2:20; Philippians 2:12, 13; 1 Peter 1:5).

## **10. The Church and Its Mission**

The Church is the Body of Christ, the habitation of God through the Spirit, with divine appointments for the fulfillment of her Great Commission. Each believer, born of the Spirit is an integral part of the general assembly and church of the firstborn, which are written in heaven (Ephesians 1:22, 23; 2:22; Hebrews 12:23).

Since God’s purpose concerning man is to seek and to save that which is lost, to be worshipped by man, to build a body of believers in the image of His Son, and to demonstrate His love and compassion for all the world, the priority reason for being of the Assemblies of God as part of the Church is:

- a. To be an agency of God for evangelizing the world (Acts 1:8; Matthew 28:19, 20; Mark 16:15, 16).
- b. To be a corporate body in which man may worship God (1 Corinthians 12:13).
- c. To be a channel of God’s purpose to build a body of saints being perfected in the image of His Son (Ephesians 4:11-16; 1 Corinthians 12:28; 14:12).



d. To be a people who demonstrate God's love and compassion for all the world  
(Psalm 112:9; Galatians 2:10; 6:10; James 1:27).

The Assemblies of God exists expressly to give continuing emphasis to this reason for being in the New Testament apostolic pattern by teaching and encouraging believers to be baptized in the Holy Spirit. This experience:

- a. Enables them to evangelize in the power of the Spirit with accompanying supernatural signs (Mark 16:15-20; Acts 4:29-31; Hebrews 2:3, 4).
- b. Adds necessary dimension to worshipful relationship with God (1 Corinthians 2:10-16; 1 Corinthians 12-14).
- c. Enables them to respond to the full working of the Holy Spirit in expression of fruit and gifts and ministries as in New Testament times for the edifying of the body of Christ and care for the poor and needy of the world (Galatians 5:22-26; Matthew 25:37-40; Galatians 6:10; 1 Corinthians 14:12; Ephesians 4:11, 12; 1 Corinthians 12:28; Colossians 1:29).

## **11. The Ministry**

A divinely called and scripturally ordained ministry has been provided by our Lord for the fourfold purpose of leading the Church in: (1) evangelization of the world (Mark 16:15-20), (2) worship of God (John 4:23, 24), and (3) building a body of saints being perfected in the image of His Son (Ephesians 4:11, 16), and (4) meeting human need with ministries of love and compassion (Psalm 112:9; Galatians 2:10; 6:10; James 1:27).





## **12. Divine Healing**

Divine healing is an integral part of the gospel. Deliverance from sickness is provided for in the Atonement, and is the privilege of all believers (Isaiah 53:4, 5; Matthew 8:16, 17; James 5:14-16).

## **13. The Blessed Hope**

The resurrection of those who have fallen asleep in Christ and their translation together with those who are alive and remain unto the coming of the Lord is the imminent blessed hope of the Church (1 Thessalonians 4:16, 17; Romans 8:23; Titus 2:13; 1 Corinthians 15:51, 52).

## **14. The Millennial Reign of Christ**

The second coming of Christ includes the rapture of the saints, which is our blessed hope, followed by the visible return of Christ with His saints to reign on the earth for one thousand years (Zechariah 14:5; Matthew 24:27, 30; Revelation 1:7, 19:11-14; 20:1-6). This millennial reign will bring the salvation of national Israel (Ezekiel 37:21, 22; Zephaniah 3:19, 20; Romans 11:26, 27) and the establishment of universal peace (Isaiah 11:6-9; Psalm 72:3-8; Micah 4:3, 4).

## **15. The Final Judgment**

There will be a final judgment in which the wicked dead will be raised and judged according to their works. Whosoever is not found written in the Book of Life, together with the devil



and his angels, the beast and the false prophet, will be consigned to everlasting punishment in the lake which burns with fire and brimstone, which is the second death (Matthew 25:46; Mark 9:43-48; Revelation 19:20; 20:11-15; 21:8).

## **16. The New Heavens and the New Earth**

“We, according to His promise, look for new heavens and a new earth wherein dwells righteousness” (2 Peter 3:13; Revelation 21, 22).

### **ARTICLE V. BIBLICAL MARRIAGE, FAMILY, AND SEXUALITY**

We believe that marriage unites one man and one woman in a lifetime commitment to each other (Genesis 2:23,24; Matthew 19:4-6). Marriage provides for intimate companionship, pure sexual expression (Genesis 2:25; Ephesians 5:31-33), procreation, and reflects the relationship of Christ and the church (Genesis 1:28; Proverbs 5:15-19; 1 Corinthians 7:1-5).

We believe that God has commanded that no intimate sexual activity be engaged in outside of a marriage between one man and one woman. We believe that any form of homosexuality, lesbianism, bisexuality, bestiality, incest, fornication, adultery, and pornography are sinful perversions of God’s gift of sex. We believe that God disapproves of and forbids any attempt to alter one’s gender by surgery or appearance (Genesis 2:24; Genesis 19:5, 13; Genesis 26:8,9; Leviticus 18:1-30; Romans 1:26-29; 1 Corinthians 5:1; 6:9; 1 Thessalonians 4:1-8; Hebrews 13:4). Such sinful patterns, if not repented, will be a barrier to membership, employment and leadership in a body of believers.

### **ARTICLE VI. PREROGATIVES**



In connection with its purpose to promulgate the Gospel of Jesus Christ at home and abroad by all available means this Ministry Network shall have the right to:

1. Supervise all activities of the Assemblies of God in its prescribed field, in accordance with the right conferred by the Constitution of the General Council of the Assemblies of God.
2. Elect its own officers and committees, to arrange its own meetings, and to govern itself. It shall be subordinate to the General Council of the Assemblies of God and amenable thereto in all matters of doctrine and the personal conduct of ministers who shall have Ministry Network endorsement.
3. Recommend candidates for credentials who have met the requirements as set forth in the Bylaws of the General Council of the Assemblies of God.
4. Establish churches and provide for their development.
5. Establish and maintain such departments and ministries for the Network as may be necessary for the propagation of the Gospel in its borders.
6. Own, hold in trust, sell, convey, mortgage, lease or otherwise dispose of such property, real or chattel, as may be needed for the pursuit of its work.

## **ARTICLE VII. MEMBERSHIP**



1. All ordained, licensed, and certified ministers holding valid credentials with the General Council and in good standing with the Potomac Ministry Network shall be considered members.
2. All General Council or District Council affiliated local churches shall have the right to send a delegate for representation in business meetings of the Potomac Ministry Network. The delegate must present a letter of certification signed by the secretary or pastor of the church being represented.
3. There will be annual and special meetings of members as outlined in the Bylaws.

### **ARTICLE VIII. OFFICERS**

1. The executive officers shall consist of the Ministry Network Superintendent, Assistant Superintendent, and Secretary-Treasurer.
2. The General Council Presbyters shall consist of the Ministry Network Superintendent, Assistant Superintendent, and Secretary-Treasurer, who shall serve on the General Presbytery of the General Council by virtue of their offices.
3. The Board of Directors shall consist of the Ministry Network Superintendent, Assistant Superintendent, Secretary-Treasurer, Regional Executive Presbyters, and At-Large Executive Presbyters.



## ARTICLE IX. DEPARTMENTS, BOARDS, COMMITTEES & TEAMS

The Potomac Ministry Network shall establish and maintain departments, boards, committees, teams and work groups as required to carry out its work.

## ARTICLE X. LOCAL CHURCHES

1. Local churches shall be set in order by the Ministry Network and shall be subject to and operate according to the Constitution and Bylaws of the General Council of the Assemblies of God and the Potomac Ministry Network.
2. Local churches shall be classified as General Council Affiliated, District Council (Network) Affiliated, or Parent Affiliated as defined in the General Council Constitution and Bylaws.

## ARTICLE XI. DISSOLUTION

1. **Ministry Network.** In the event that the Potomac Ministry Network ceases to function as such, all its assets shall revert to the General Council of the Assemblies of God, Inc., and shall be used by the said General Council for the same purpose for which the Assemblies of God is chartered and to which it is dedicated. It is understood that the General Council shall first satisfy all the commitments of the Potomac Ministry Network from the said Ministry Network's assets.



**2. Local Churches.** In the event a local church registered with and/or within the jurisdiction of the Potomac Ministry Network, however affiliated with the Potomac Ministry Network or the General Council of the Assemblies of God, shall cease to function (including but not limited to ceasing regular meetings) for any of the purposes stated in its Articles of Association, Articles of Incorporation, Constitution, and/or its Bylaws, then after providing for the payment of its debts, the remaining assets (personal and/or real property) will not inure to the benefit of any private person or persons but all such remaining assets shall automatically revert to or be transferred to, the Potomac Ministry Network of the Assemblies of God within one year of cessation. Local churches, however affiliated, must take any steps reasonably necessary to effectuate the transfer described herein, including but not limited to inserting language in deeds and/or governing documents. The Potomac Ministry Network of the Assemblies of God shall have full authority to sell such property and to use the proceeds derived therefrom for the extension of the work of the Assemblies of God within the Potomac Ministry Network and under the direction of the Board of Directors of said Ministry Network and according to its exempt purposes.

If the Potomac Ministry Network of the Assemblies of God shall be unable or unwilling to accept the aforesaid transfer as an organization operated exclusively for religious purposes with tax exempt status under Section 501 (c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code, then disposition thereof shall be made



to another Section 501 (c)(3) religious organization, or if not then by the court of the county or city in which this church is located, provided that in such case proceeds of the dissolution shall be distributed to an organization or organizations having purposes nearest the purposes of the Potomac Ministry Network of the Assemblies of God, and which are organized and operated exclusively for religious purposes, and which have established tax-exempt status under Section 501 (c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code.

## **ARTICLE XII. AMENDMENTS**

Amendments to the Constitution may be made at any regular or special meeting of the Ministry Network provided the proposed amendment has been submitted to the Board of Directors first for consideration, and then mailed by regular or digital mail to each member of the Ministry Network at least sixty (60) days prior to the time of meeting. A two-thirds vote of all members present shall be necessary for adoption.

