

# CONSTITUTION And BYLAWS

**International Ministry Network of Churches** 

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# **CONSTITUTION**

### **ARTICLE I. NAME**

The name of this corporation shall be the International Ministry Network of churches and henceforth will be referred to with the acronym IMNC.

# **ARTICLE II. EXISTENCE**

The duration of this corporation shall be perpetual.

# ARTICLE III. ORGANIZATION

### A. NATURE

The IMNC is a cooperative Network, based upon mutual agreements, voluntarily entered into by its membership.

### **B. JURISDICTION**

The jurisdiction of this corporation shall include all the area within the boundaries of the United States of America as well as any foreign lands worldwide. The Board of Directors shall divide the stateside Network into sections, setting the boundaries of each section within the Network. Each section shall be represented on the Board of Directors, duly elected by the Network Council by a simple majority vote.

# C. PRINCIPLES

The principles and purposes of the Network shall be in keeping with the broad principles of Christian Network and cooperation as set forth in the Constitution and shall include, these Biblical Truths as described therein.

# 1. The Scriptures Inspired

a. 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

a. 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 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 work 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 "Immanuel," 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 *Immanuel* 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 7:3; 1:1-13).

# (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 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. The Deity of the Lord Jesus Christ

- a. The Lord Jesus Christ is the eternal Son of God. The Scriptures declare:
  - i. His virgin birth (Matthew 1:23; Luke 1:31,35).
  - ii. His sinless life (Hebrews 7:26; 1 Peter 2:22).
  - iii. His miracles (Acts 2:22; 10:38).
  - iv. His substitutionary work on the cross (1 Corinthians 15:3; 2 Corinthians 5:21).
  - v. His bodily resurrection from the dead (Matthew 28:6; Luke 24:39; 1 Corinthians 15:4).
  - vi. 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

a. 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

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

### 6. The Ordinances of the Church

# a. Baptism in Water

i. 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 newness of life (Matthew 28:19; Mark 16:16; Acts 10:47,48; Romans 6:4).

# b. Holy Communion

i. The Lord's 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

a. 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 enduement 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. Sanctification

a. 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 Peter1:5).

# 9. The Church and Its Mission

a. 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 worshiped 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). Adds a necessary dimension to a 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).

### 10. The Ministry

a. 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), (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).

# 11. Divine Healing

a. 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).

### 12. The Blessed Hope

a. 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 and blessed hope of the Church (1 Thessalonians 4:16,17; Romans 8:23; Titus 2:13; 1 Corinthians 15:51, 52).

# 13. The Millennial Reign of Christ

a. 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).

# 14. The Final Judgment

a. 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 burneth with fire and brimstone, which is the second death (Matthew 25:46; Mark 9:43-48; Revelation 19:20; 20:11-15; 21:8).

### 15. The New Heavens and the New Earth

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

# D. MARRIAGE

### On Marriage, Gender, and Sexuality

God has wonderfully and immutably created each person as male or female. These two distinct, complementary genders together reflect the image and nature of God. (Gen. 1:26-27). Rejection of one's biological sex is a rejection of the image of God within that person.

The term "marriage" has only one meaning: the uniting of one man and one woman in a single, exclusive union, as described in Scripture. (Gen. 2:18-25). God intends sexual intimacy to occur only between a man and a woman who are married to each other. (1 Cor. 6:18; 7:2-5: Heb. 13:4). And as such, God has forbidden any sexual activity outside of a marriage between a man and a woman.

All forms of sexual immorality (including adultery, fornication, homosexual behavior, bisexual conduct, prostitution, bestiality, incest and the creation or use of pornography) are sinful and offensive to God. (Lev.18; Matt. 15:18-20; 1 Cor. 6:9-10).

In order to preserve the function and integrity of the IMNC as the Body of Christ, and to provide a biblical role model to those who connect with IMNC as credentialed ministers, members, participants, and the community, it is imperative that all ministers of IMNC

agree to and abide by this Statement on Marriage, Gender, and Sexuality. (Matt 5:16; Phil 2:14-16; 1 Thess. 5:22).

God offers redemption and restoration to all who confess and forsake their sin, seeking His mercy and forgiveness through Jesus Christ. (Acts 3:19-21; Rom 10:9-10; 1 Cor 6:9-11).

IMNC believes that every person must be afforded compassion, love, kindness, respect, and dignity. (Mark 12:28-31; Luke 6:31). Hateful and harassing behavior or attitudes directed toward any individual are to be repudiated and are not in accord with Scripture nor the doctrines of IMNC.

# 1. Marriage Policy

Since God has ordained marriage and defined it as the covenant relationship between a man and a woman, IMNC and its ministers and churches will only recognize marriages between one biological man and one biological woman. Further, the ministers of IMNC shall only participate in weddings and solemnize marriages between one man and one woman.

If at any point clergy are legally forced to perform same-sex marriages by the local, state, or national government, all ministers of IMNC will opt out of performing civil ceremonies and will perform only Biblically based "covenant ceremonies" between one man and one woman as biologically defined by their natural birth. (Genesis 1-3).

### E. MANAGEMENT

The management of this corporation shall be vested in a Board of Directors (Overseers) of not less than three (3) members. Their terms of office shall be as designated in the corporation Bylaws and until their successors are duly elected and qualified.

# F. BOARD OF DIRECTORS

The Directors and Executive Officers make up the Board of Directors. Qualifications of board members shall be as set forth in the corporation Bylaws. This board shall have such powers and perform such duties as this corporation in and by its Bylaws, rules and regulations may prescribe. Their terms of office shall be for that period as designated in the Bylaws of this corporation.

The Board of Directors shall be the Supervisory Committee, including the General Overseer, Secretary, and Treasurer as established by its bylaws. The Directors shall examine, approve, recommend, and endorse candidates who quality as certified ministers, licensed ministers, and ordained ministers.

### G. OFFICERS

The Executive Officers of this corporation shall be the General Overseer, Secretary, and Treasurer together with such other Officers as may be authorized in the bylaws. The Officers of this corporation shall, by virtue of office, be members of the Board of Directors. Their terms of office shall be for that period as designated in the Bylaws of this corporation.

# H. VACANCIES AND REMOVAL

An Officer or Director may be removed and the vacancy filled as provided in the corporation Bylaws.

# I. QUORUM

A majority of the duly elected members of the Board of Directors shall constitute a quorum for any officially called meeting.

# **ARTICLE IV. BUSINESS MEETINGS**

# A. ANNUAL MEETING

The annual meeting of the credentialed ministers will come together for a what will be called the Summit. It shall be held on a date and in a place chosen each year by a majority vote of the Network Board of Directors. The Network Board of Directors shall hold their annual meeting prior to the Summit or immediately following the Summit, annually.

# B. **QUORUM**

A majority of the duly elected members of the Network Board of Directors shall constitute a quorum.

### ARTICLE V. MEMBERSHIP

Membership of the IMNC shall consist of the Network Board of Directors. All credential holders of IMNC and affiliated churches constitute non-voting members of the IMNC.

### ARTICLE VI. DISSOLUTION

The assets of the IMNC, are irrevocably dedicated to religious and/or charitable purposes, the same being stated fully in its Constitution and its Bylaws. In the event of liquidation, dissolution or the revocation of its charter or abandonment of its stated purposes, after providing for the payment of debts and obligations of the corporation, the remaining assets will not inure to the benefit of any private person or persons, but all such remaining assets will be distributed to nonprofit organizations, which are organized and operated exclusively for the religious and/or charitable purposes which are exempt under Section 501 (c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code, under which section the organization or organizations shall have established tax exempt status.

# ARTICLE VII. NON-PROFIT

There shall be no capital stock issued, and this corporation is not organized for profit. This corporation is organized exclusively for charitable, religious, educational, and scientific purposes, including for such purposes, making distributions to organizations that qualify as exempt organizations under Section 501 (c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code.

No part of the net earnings of the corporation shall inure to the benefit of, or be distributed to its members, Directors, 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 distribution in furtherance of the purposes of said corporation.

# **ARTICLE VIII. AMENDMENTS**

All resolutions for Constitutional amendments must be submitted to the Network Board of Directors no later than 14 days prior to the beginning of a Network Board of Directors' meeting. A two-thirds vote of the Network Board of Directors present will be necessary for adoption.

# **BYLAWS**

### ARTICLE I. NAME AND PARLIAMENTARY ORDER

In the conducting of the business affairs of the Network, it 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 Network.

# ARTICLE II. ELECTION OF EXECUTIVE OFFICERS

The officers of the IMNC Board of Directors (Overseers) shall be chosen from the qualifying non-voting membership of the Network. They shall be ordained ministers of mature experience and ability and shall have held credentials with the IMNC for at least one (1) year. They shall serve in the capacity of Trustees for the Corporation and may serve as the Network Credential Committee or appoint others to serve as such or other capacities as needed. The Network Board of Directors shall create additional officer positions, define the authority and duties of each such position, and elect or appoint persons to fill the positions. Any two or more officers may be held by the same person, except for the office of General Overseer.

# A. GENERAL OVERSEER.

Shall serve as chairman and President of the IMNC Board of Directors and as ex-officio member of all other Network committees. Daniel Miller shall serve for his lifetime or until his voluntary resignation. The President and Chairman of the Network Board of Directors shall supervise and control all of the business and affairs of the Corporation. The President and Chairman of the Board may execute any deeds, mortgages, bonds, contracts, or other instruments that the Board of Directors has authorized to be executed. However, the President and Chairman of the Network Board of Directors may not execute instruments on behalf of the Corporation if this power is expressly delegated to another officer or agent of the Corporation by the Board of Directors, the Bylaws, or statute. The President and Chairman of the Network Board of Directors shall provide spiritual leadership to the Corporation. The President and Chairman of the Network Board of Directors shall perform other duties prescribed by the Network Board of Directors and all duties incident to the office of President. If the President and Chairman of the Network Board of Directors is unable to fulfill the duties of his office, then the Vice-President, or another person selected by the Network Board of Directors, shall act in the place of the President and Network Board of Directors, except that the spiritual leadership of the Corporation shall be delegated by the Network Board of Directors among the then current staff of the Corporation. If the President and Chairman of the Network Board of Directors is permanently unable to fulfill the duties of his office, then the Network Board of Directors shall first consider the exiting Chairman's successor

recommendation. Upon a potential successor's receiving two-thirds (%) majority approval of the total number of voting members of the Network Board of Directors (not merely a quorum), the successor is thereby approved. The titles "President" and "Chairman of the Board" may be used independently but shall refer to the same officer position.

# **B. SECRETARY.**

The Network Board of Directors may appoint a Secretary at any point in the life of the Corporation. In the absence of a Secretary the Chairman of the Board will serve as such.

# c. TREASURER.

The Board of Directors may appoint a Treasurer at any point in the life of the Corporation. In the absence of a Treasurer the Chairman of the Board will serve as such.

# D. ADDITIONAL OFFICIALS

### 2. DIRECTOR OF MISSIONS:

There shall be a Director of Missions whose primary duties shall be the promotion of Missions within the network. The Board of Directors of the IMNC shall submit a candidate to the Network Council for ratification by simple majority vote. Tenure of office shall be one year and is to be reviewed annually.

### 2. YOUTH DIRECTORS:

There shall be a Director whose primary duties shall be the promotion of the Gospel among the Youth within Network churches. The Board of Directors of the IMNC shall submit candidates for these positions to the Network Council for ratification by simple majority vote. Candidates shall be Spirit-filled, living true, consistent lives and who have shown themselves to be trustworthy and competent. Tenure of office shall be two years.

### 3. WOMEN'S MINISTRIES OFFICERS:

There shall be a President of Women's Ministries whose primary duties shall be the promotion of the Gospel among the Women within the Network churches. Candidates shall be submitted to the Network Council for ratification by simple majority vote. Tenure of office shall be two years.

# 4. SHEPHERDS

The Network Board of Directors may appoint Shepherds to assist the General Overseer.

# **ARTICLE III: NOMINATIONS AND ELECTIONS**

All candidates for the Network Board of Directors (Overseers) shall be nominated by the General Overseer and elected by simple majority of the Network Board of Directors.

# A. REMOVALS

Members of the Board of Directors or appointed positions may be removed from their offices in situations of proven violation of Christian character as described in the Constitution and By-laws therein. Removal of a Director, Executive Officer, or appointed position will be executed by a simple majority of the remaining Network Board of Directors

# ARTICLE IV: MEETINGS OF THE NETWORK BOARD OF DIRECTORS

# A. Regular Meeting.

The General Overseer may provide for regular meetings by resolution stating the time and place of such meetings. Regular meetings may be held via teleconference or videoconference. No notice of regular meetings of the Network Board of Directors is required other than a resolution of the Network Board of Directors stating the time and place of the meetings.

# B. Special Meetings.

Special meetings of the Network Board of Directors may be called by or at the request of any Overseer. The person calling special meetings of the Network Board of Directors may fix any place as the place for holding a special meeting or via teleconference or videoconference. The person calling a special meeting shall notify the General Overseer of the information required to be included in the notice of the meeting. The General Overseer shall give notice to the Overseers as required in section D of Article IV of these Bylaws.

# C. Action by Consent of Board Without Meeting.

Any action required or permitted to be taken by the Network Board of Directors may be taken without a meeting, and with the same force and effect as a unanimous vote of Network Board of Directors, if all members of the Network Board of Directors consent in writing or via teleconference or videoconference. Such consent may be given individually or collectively.

# D. Notice.

Written or printed notice of any Special meeting of the Network Board of Directors shall be delivered to each Overseer not less than five (5) nor more than sixty (60) days before the date of the meeting. The notice shall state the place, day, and time of the meeting, who called the meeting, and the purpose or purposes for which the meeting is called.

### E. Quorum.

A majority of the number of Overseers then in office shall constitute a quorum for the transaction of business at any meeting of the Network Board of Directors. The Overseers present at a duly called or held meeting at which a quorum is present may continue to transact business even if enough Overseers leave the meeting so that less than a quorum remains. However, no action may be taken without the vote of at least a majority of the number of Overseers required to constitute a quorum. If a quorum is

present at no time during a meeting, a majority of the Overseers present may adjourn and reconvene the meeting one time without further notice.

If a meeting cannot be organized for lack of a quorum, those present may, except as otherwise provided these Bylaws, adjourn the meeting to the time and place which they determine. However, in the case of any meeting called for the election of Overseers, those who attend the second of such adjourned meetings, although less than a quorum as fixed in the Articles of Incorporation or these Bylaws, shall nevertheless constitute a quorum for the purpose of electing Overseers. In the case of a second such meeting called after the lack of a quorum for a purpose other than or in addition to the election of Overseers, including amendment of the Articles of Incorporation or Dissolution of the Corporation, any number of members present shall constitute a quorum, notwithstanding any other provision of law to the contrary.

# F. Conduct of Meetings.

The General Overseer/Chairman shall preside over the meeting. The Secretary of the Corporation shall act as Secretary of the Network Board of Directors. When the Secretary is absent from any meeting, the Chairman, or the person presiding, may appoint any person to act as Secretary of the meeting. Meetings shall be governed by Robert's Rules of Order, insofar as such rules are not inconsistent with or in conflict with the Articles of Incorporation, or the Bylaws. The Chairman may appoint someone else to conduct the meeting. No meeting shall be held without the presence of the Chairman of the Board, save and except in the event of the Chairman's death, or his signed waiver with two witnesses evidenced by their signatures.

# ARTICLE V. DUTIES OF THE OFFICERS

### A. GENERAL OVERSEER

- 1. To preside at all business sessions of the IMNC.
- 2. To be head of the IMNC office and to supervise the work of that office during the interim between sessions of the IMNC Council. They shall act as President of the corporation in all legal matters, and shall be authorized to sign all official and legal documents.
- **3.** They shall have the general oversight of all the work of the IMNC and to administer discipline in all cases when required.
- **4.** They shall have the right to perform any other functions usual and customary for the presiding officer, or such as may be directed by the Board of Directors of the IMNC or the Network Council.
- **5.** By authority of their office, they are ex-officio member of all committees.

# **B. DUTIES OF THE SECRETARY**

The Secretary shall:

1. Give all notices as provided in the Bylaws or as required by law.

- 2. Take minutes of the meetings of the Network Board of Directors and committees of the Corporation and keep the minutes as part of the records of the Corporation.
- 3. Maintain custody of the corporate records and of the seal of the Corporation.
- 4. Affix the seal of the Corporation to all documents as authorized.
- 5. Keep a register of the mailing address of each Director, officer, and employee of the Corporation.
- 6. Perform duties as assigned by the President and Chairman of the Board or by the Network Board of Directors.
- 7. Perform all duties incident to the office of Secretary.
- 8. The Chairman shall appoint or employ a recording secretary if the Secretary so desires.

# c. DUTIES OF THE TREASURER

The Treasurer shall:

- 1. Have charge and custody of and be responsible for all funds and securities of the Corporation.
- 2. Receive and give receipts for moneys due and payable to the Corporation from any source.
- 3. Deposit all moneys in the name of the Corporation in banks, trust companies, or other depositories as provided in the Bylaws or as directed by the Network Board of Directors or President and Chairman of the Board.
- 4. Write checks and disburse funds to discharge obligations of the Corporation.
- 5. Maintain the financial books and records of the Corporation.
- 6. Prepare financial reports at least annually.
- 7. Perform other duties as assigned by the President and Chairman of the Board or by the Board of Directors.
- 8. If required by the Board of Directors, give a bond for the faithful discharge of his or her duties in a sum and with a surety as determined by the Board of Directors.
- 9. Perform all the duties incident to the office of Treasurer.
- 10. The Board of Directors shall employ one or more persons actually to fulfill the duties of the Treasurer under the Treasurer's direction.

### D. DUTIES OF THE SHEPHERDS

- Must be licensed or ordained with the IMNC.
- 2. Will serve as a relational liaison between pastors, credential holders, and churches.
- 3. Will be the initial point of contact for coaching and resourcing for pastors, churches, and credential holders.
- 4. Will assist with the interview process for candidates seeking a Certificate of Ministry or License to Preach.
- 5. Will maintain consistent contact with the Network Board of Directors and Officers and the ministers.
- 6. Term of appointment shall be one year, to be reviewed annually.
- 7. May be assigned other duties as requested by the Network Board of Directors.

# E. DUTIES OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS (OVERSEERS)

- 1. The IMNC Board of Directors shall be trustees of the Network and have the general oversight of the activities and departments of the Network. The Executive Officers and their successors shall be empowered to negotiate, consummate, and execute legal documents and transactions of all nature in order to carry out the business of the corporation.
- 2. It shall be authorized to act for the Network in all matters that affect its interest.
- **3.** It shall function as the Credentials Committee and, as such, shall examine all candidates for the ministry.
- **4.** It shall provide for its own meetings according to need and shall set time and term of the next Summit of the IMNC.
- **5.** It is required to elect the General Overseer or any other officer to fill the office, should such a one pass away, resign, or be otherwise disqualified from serving.
- **6.** It shall have the right to name committees according to needs.
- **7.** In all matters it shall stand with the General Overseer with counsel in all necessary undertakings.
- **8.** It shall have the authority to set and adjust the salary of the General Overseer and other workers.
- **9.** It shall appoint speakers for the Summit and camp meetings.
- **10.** It shall act as the Nominating Committee for any nominations prescribed in the corporation's Bylaws.

# ARTICLE VI. THE MINISTRY

# A. MINISTRY DESCRIBED

Christ's gifts to the Church include apostles, prophets, evangelists, pastors, and teachers (Ephesians 4:11); exhorters, administrators, leaders, and helpers (Romans 12:7,8). We understand God's call to these ministry gifts is totally within their sovereign discretion without regard to gender, race, disability, or national origin providing they do not conflict with Biblical Principles and the IMNC Statement of Faith.

In terms of maturity of ministry, three classifications of ministry are recognized, viz., the ordained minister, the licensed minister, and the certified minister.

Ordained and Licensed Ministers holding current ministerial credentials are authorized to perform the ordinances and ceremonies (sacerdotal functions) of the church in accordance with applicable federal or state laws.

# **B. BASIC QUALIFICATIONS**

The following qualifications pertain to applicants for ministerial recognition.

1. **Salvation and Baptism.** Testimony to having experienced the new birth (John 3:5) and to having been baptized in water by immersion (Matt. 28:19).

- 2. **Baptism in the Holy Spirit.** Testimony to having received the baptism in the Holy Spirit. The Spirit-filled life will enable him to fulfill the threefold mission of the church.
- Evidence of call. Clear evidence of a divine call to the ministry, evidenced by a
  personal conviction, confirmed by the work of the Spirit and the testimony of fellow
  ministers.
- 4. **Christian character.** A blameless Christian life and a good report of those who are without (Titus 1:7; 1 Timothy 3:7).
- 5. **Doctrinal position.** A thorough understanding of, and agreement with, our doctrinal position as contained in the Statement Biblical Truths therein provided
- 6. **Network polity.** A satisfactory working knowledge of the principles, practices, and purposes of the Network through a study of the IMNC Constitution and Bylaws.
- 7. **Commitment to the Network.** An active loyalty to our constitutional agreements, a cooperative spirit, and a readiness to seek and receive the counsel of those who are spiritually mature and those in positions of authority (Proverbs 11:14).
- 8. Voluntary Cooperation. By voluntary it is meant that, upon learning the principals, doctrines, and practices of the Network, and by seeing the benefits to be derived from being associated with such an organization, persons of their own free choice decide to become members, thus subscribing to all that for which the organization stands. Cooperation is meant, to the best of one's ability, complying with all decisions setting forth and defining duties and responsibilities incumbent upon members of the organization. It includes active participation and respect for the will of the majority expressed through constitutional processes. For the minister, voluntary cooperation means that when the minister decides to become a cooperative member of the Network, this cooperation and participation thereby becomes obligatory and not optional.
- 9. **Basic educational requirements.** Any level of formal academic achievement (diploma or degree) shall not be a requirement for credentials; however, credential applicants shall meet the following criteria: All applicants are required to be interviewed by the IMNC Credentials Committee
  - a. Successfully complete courses, prescribed by the Board of Directors, offered in correspondence through an approved Network institution, or
  - Successfully complete equivalent training to that indicated above, preferably, in an endorsed Network post-secondary school; or in a seminary, college, Bible college, or school approved by the IMNC Credentials Committee, or
  - c. Be recommended by the IMNC Credentials Committee as qualifying for credentials through self-study and ministerial experience. Such candidates shall have a proven and fruitful ministry of substantial duration. The IMNC Credentials Committee will evaluate each applicant on a case-by-case basis.
- 10. Marriage Status. The IMNC disapproves but does not immediately disqualify any married persons holding ministerial credentials with the Network if either marriage partner has a former spouse living.

- 11. Annulments and Marriage Dissolution. The Board of Directors has the authority to determine whether an applicant qualifies for an ecclesiastical annulment. In such cases there must be clear and satisfactory evidence of deception, fraud, or other conditions which have a profound impact preventing the creation of a valid marriage union, unknown at the time of marriage by the applicant. The Board of Directors has the authority to determine whether an applicant qualifies regarding a former marriage when the termination of that marriage is consistent with the scriptural position of the Network relating to the granting or holding of ministerial credentials; or if a former marriage ended prior to conversion. In those cases involving pre-conversion divorce they shall be decided on an individual basis just as those that deal with ecclesiastical annulments. Those who do not qualify for a biblical divorce as stated above will be reviewed at the discretion of the Board of Directors on a case-by-case basis.
- 12. Ministers from Other Organizations. If a minister from another reputable body desires to affiliate with the Network, the credentials Committees of the IMNC are under no obligation to accept the applicant's previous ministerial status, but will judge each candidate on his or her own merits as to the level of credentials to be granted. Such applicants shall be required to:
  - 1. Conform to Network criteria for recognition.
  - 2. Complete an application for ministerial recognition.
  - 3. Submit a recommendation from the body with which they are formerly affiliated. If such is not available, letters of recommendation should be sought from three reputable ordained ministers who are familiar with the applicant's ministry.
  - 4. Meet with the credentials committee.
  - 5. Be recommended by the Network credentials committee for the approval of the Board of Directors.
  - 6. All previously ordained ministers so approved shall receive public recognition as ordained ministers with laying on of hands by the Network Leadership at the next annual Network Council.
  - 7. Ministers who receive recognition will relinquish their ministerial credentials with any other organization, unless an exception is granted by the (Board of Directors)
- 13. Consideration of the Experience of a Minister's Spouse. Partners in life frequently also become partners in ministry. Consequently, there is a provision whereby the ministerial experience of a minister's spouse may be recognized and contribute toward the granting of a ministerial credential. The Network Credentials Committee may, at its discretion, deem most or all of the basic educational requirements met by life experience for an active ministry spouse of a minister who has been ordained for a minimum of 10 years with an approved ministerial body.
  - 1. Receipt of an application for ministerial credentials;
  - **2.** Receipt of a completed summary form indicating the candidate's educational history, ministry experience, and other church and community service involvement;

- **3.** Receipt of three references: (Two Ministers and one friend that are familiar with the applicants' ministry and spiritual life.
- **4.** An interview with the Network Credentials Committee or its designated representative(s).

# **C. SPECIFIC QUALIFICATIONS**

Requirement of Appearance. All applicants for credentials must be willing and able
to appear either physically or virtually (at the discretion of the IMNC Credentials
Committee) before the IMNC Credentials Committee at a time specified in
conjunction with the candidate.

# 2. Certificate of Ministry

- a. General Requirements. They shall show promise of usefulness in the gospel work. They shall devote full or part time to Christian ministry and, at the discretion of the IMNC Credentials Committee, may remain under the supervision of a pastor or a ministry coach or mentor. They shall show evidence of a divine call and be actively engaged in some aspect of ministry and proclamation of the gospel, except in case of ill health or advanced age.
- **b.** Pastoral Requirements. In the event a certified minister is serving in a position as the pastor, they shall be expected to advance to the licensed credential level within 2 years of acceptance of the pastorate. This shall not apply to any minister who has reached the age of 65 or older or whose certificate has been issued on a provisional basis. Any exceptions shall be at the discretion of the IMNC Credentials Committee.
- c. Exception for Provisional Issuance. A Certificate of Ministry may be issued on a provisional basis to a person who has not met all the educational requirements, but who is deemed by the IMNC Credentials Committee to be essential to the continuity of a church or a ministry outreach for which a duly credentialed and qualified minister is unavailable. The reason for such a provisional issuance must be ministry driven, and the justification for its use is terminated when the minister ceases to be involved in the ministry for which it was initially granted, unless They accept another qualifying assignment. Other limitations are:
  - i. The ministry certificate on a provisional basis will be issued for 1 year and shall not be renewed more than two times.
  - **ii.** A person who has been granted the Certificate of Ministry on a provisional basis must meet the qualifications for a ministry certificate within a 3-year period.
- **2. Licensed Minister.** Qualifications for license shall include clear evidence of a divine call, character and preparation suitable for that calling, practical ministry experience, and an evident purpose to devote one's life in service to the proclamation of gospel.
- **3. Ordained Minister.** Qualifications for Ordination are outlined in the New Testament Scriptures (I Timothy 3:1-7; Titus 1:7-9). In addition:

- a. Applicants must be 23 years of age or older.
- **b.** They must have met all the requirements in making application and in completing the prescribed application form.
- **c.** No person may be ordained to the ministry until He or she has shown evidence of a divine call and has held a ministry license and has been actively engaged in ministry and proclamation of the gospel for at least 2 full consecutive years immediately prior thereto.
- **d.** Exceptions to Requirements. The Board of Directors upon request by the IMNC Credentials Committee and where exceptional circumstances exist, may waive the membership requirements for an applicant holding a Ministry License for 2 full consecutive years.
- **e.** In order to maintain active status, ordained ministers shall be actively engaged in ministry and proclamation of the gospel except for cases of disability, retirement or other valid circumstances as determined by the Secretary.

# D. SENIOR MINISTERS

In respect and honor to those ministers who have given years of service to the Network, senior status shall automatically be given to all credential holders who have reached the age of 65, whether they continue in full-time ministry or not.

- 1. Terminology
  - a. The term "senior-active" shall be used for credential holders who continue to serve three-quarters to full-time in the ministry.
  - b. The term "senior semi-retired" shall be used for credential holders who continue to be active, but for half-time or less.
  - c. The term "senior-retired" shall be used for those who have ceased to engage in any regular appointed ministry.
- 2. Application of Retired Category

Senior semi-retired and senior-retired status shall be granted only to those ministers who filed a request for such status with the Network Office.

# E. CREDENTIALS

- 1. Application
  - **a.** The Network shall have the authority to examine, approve, and recommend candidates who qualify as certified ministers, licensed ministers, and ordained ministers
  - **b.** Each applicant for ministerial recognition shall obtain from the Network Office an application packet, which when completed shall be mailed or electronically submitted to the Network Secretary not later than the deadline date established by the Network Secretary.
  - **c.** Upon receiving completed application materials, the Network Secretary, shall arrange for the applicant to meet either physically or virtually with the Credentials Committee for an interview.
- 2. Ordination and Credentialing Service

The Ordination and Credentialing Service for those approved for credentials shall take place at the Annual Network Council. Exceptions may be granted by the Credentials Committee when special conditions warrant.

### 3. Status

- **a. Active.** Active ministry requires that an Ordained, Licensed or Certified Minister must be actively engaged in ministry and proclamation of the gospel except for cases of disability, retirement or other valid circumstances as determined by the Network Secretary.
- **b. Inactive.** All ministers who have not been actively engaged in viable ministry and proclamation of the gospel over a period of a year shall have their names placed upon the inactive list for the following year. If such inactivity shall continue for a second year, their name shall be taken from the ministerial list.

### 4. Renewals

All ministers shall be required to fill out a questionnaire annually in order to renew their Network certificate.

- a. Expiration Date. All Network certificates are valid until December 31 of each year and must be renewed annually. The renewing of credentials is the responsibility of the individual minister. In the event a minister does not receive their renewal form by December 1, they should notify the Network Secretary.
- b. Grace Period Until January 15. All who shall have failed to renew their Network certificates on or before December 31, or who shall have failed to indicate their purpose to do so, shall be considered as delinquent and shall be required to pay a late fee of an amount set at the discretion of the Board of Directors in order to be reinstated up until January 15.
- c. Reinstatement Required After January 15. Ministers who have not renewed by January 15 shall be recorded as lapsed as of the expiration date of December 31. They must make application for reinstatement and pay a fee of an amount set at the discretion of the Board of Directors in order to be reinstated.

### 5. Minister's Dues

**a.** All IMNC credential holders are required to pay an annual professional due as set by the Network Board of Directors.

# F. MINISTERIAL ACCOUNTABILITY

- **1.** All credential holders of the IMNC are responsible to the Directors of the IMNC concerning their doctrine and their conduct.
- 2. It is expected of them that they work in full harmony with the Network Council, and with the entire work of the IMNC.
- **3.** The minister shall not leave the congregation without first giving notice to the General Overseer and the congregation at least thirty (30) days' notice in advance.
- 4. With the exception of the elected/appointed pastor, we discourage credentialed ministers from serving as a deacon or trustee of the local church without the counsel of the IMNC Directors.

# G. MINISTERIAL COURTESY AND CONDUCT

- 1. All discourteous conduct is disapproved and all ministers are advised against interfering with pastors in charge of Churches, whether it be by going in upon their work without consent or by such correspondence with members of the Church that will hurt the influence of the leader. All correspondence which concerns the whole Church shall be addressed to the one in charge and not to private members. When there is no pastor, letters concerning the work shall be addressed to the Secretary of the Church.
- **2.** Any minister who so offends shall be subjected to Scriptural treatment as an offender by the Board of Directors. Such discourtesy will seriously affect the granting of annual Network Certificates and may be the basis of their recall.
- **3.** It is expected that all ordained and licensed ministers of the IMNC shall support the Network.

### H. CAUSES FOR DISCIPLINARY ACTION

- The Board of Directors shall administer discipline upon a complaint filed in writing
  with the Network General Overseer by the complainant, and after a proper hearing
  of the case, the party found guilty may be disfellowshipped and their name dropped
  from the roster or removed from office. At least two-thirds vote of the Board of
  Directors shall be necessary to discipline members of the IMNC.
- Violations of Network principles as stated in this Constitution and Bylaws may give cause for disciplinary action by the Credentials Committee. Among such causes for action shall be
  - a. Any moral failure involving sexual misconduct
  - b. Any moral or ethical failure other than sexual misconduct
  - c. General inefficiency in the ministry
  - d. A failure to represent our Pentecostal testimony correctly
  - e. A contentious or non-cooperative spirit
  - f. An assumption of dictatorial authority over an church
  - g. An arbitrary rejection of Network counsel
  - h. A declared open change in doctrinal views
  - i. Immoral, unethical, or illegal practices related to personal, church or ministry finances.
  - j. A marriage in violation of our stand on marriage and divorce

# **ARTICLE VII. MISSIONS**

# A. STRUCTURE

The Board of Directors shall comprise the Network Missions Committee. This Committee shall administer the Network Missions Program as it pertains to Missions. Its duties shall be to work with the Network Missions Director in the promotion and administration of all Missions Programs.

### **B. DIRECTOR OF MISSIONS**

- 1. The office of Director of Missions shall be filled by appointment of the Board of Directors.
- **2.** The scope of responsibilities shall be the promotion of missions In the US and abroad as directed by the Board of Directors to include:
  - **a.** Missionary rallies.
  - **b.** Informative letters to pastors or church missionary secretaries.
  - **c.** Promotion of Impact teams.
  - **d.** Encouragement for local churches to engage in outreach ministries.
- **3.** The funds for the expense of this office shall be administered by the Board of Directors.

# **ARTICLE VIII. LOCAL Churches**

# **A. IMNC AFFILITATED CHURCHES**

- 1. Qualifications for Recognition
  - a. Statement of Biblical Truths. An acceptance of the Network Tenets of Faith.
  - b. **Acceptable Standards for Pastoral Leadership.** Make provision for a pastor who is a credentialed minister in good standing with the Network Council.
  - c. **Constitution and Bylaws.** The meeting in which a church shall be set in order shall be assisted by an Officer of the Network who shall assist the church in the adoption of Constitution and Bylaws acceptable to the Network.
  - d. **Membership Certificate.** Upon notification by the Network of the action, the Secretary's office shall issue a certificate of affiliation to each church coming into the Network.
- 2. Prerogatives and Privileges
  - a. **Autonomy.** The right of self-government under Jesus Christ its living Head, which includes the power to choose or call its pastor, elect its official board, and transact all other business pertaining to its life as a local church.
  - b. **Limits to Autonomy.** The association of a local church with IMNC shall in no way undermine its rights to be self-governing or interfere with its autonomy. However, there are certain responsibilities to the Network that should be recognized.
    - i. Adherence to IMNC Principles and Doctrine. It shall be the duty of local Churches to support by every means possible the basic principles upon which the Network is founded, including that of "voluntary cooperation," and strict adherence to the Statement of Fundamental Truths.
    - ii. Maintenance of Scriptural Order and Conduct. Local Churches shall accept their full share of responsibility for the maintenance of Scriptural order in the local body, and uphold a Scriptural standard of conduct.
  - c. **Available Ministries.** The local church is encouraged to request the assistance of the Network in filling a pastoral vacancy.

**d. Discipline.** The local church has the right to administer discipline to its members according to the scriptures and its bylaws.

# e. Property.

- The Local Church has the right to acquire and hold title to property, either through trustees or in its corporate name as a self-governing unit.
- ii. In case the congregation should cease to exist as a church body and ceases to use its property for church purposes, then the property is to revert to and become the property of the IMNC or like organizations.
- iii. In case the congregation should be divided over doctrinal or any other issues, or shall vote to disaffiliate from the Network, all property and assets of the church shall remain with those members, whatever their number, desiring continued affiliation with the Network and adhering to its Statement of Fundamental Truths. The determination of which group of members desires continued affiliation with the Network and adheres to its Statement of Fundamental Truths shall be decided by the Board of Directors of the IMNC, and its decision shall be final and binding. If all of the members of the local church shall vote to disaffiliate from the Network for doctrinal or any other reasons, then the ownership of property and assets shall be determined by the mutual efforts of the church and the Board of Directors.

Any and all unresolved questions regarding property and assets shall be determined through a mediation process--one mediator chosen by the representative(s) of the church, one by the Board of Directors, and the third mediator chosen with the approval of the representative(s) of the church and the Board of Directors. If the church does not participate in the mediation process, then all matters in question will be referred to the Board of Directors for final disposition.

# f. Appeal To Network.

i. The pastor, the board, or the church body by petition has the right to appeal to the Network for help when in need of counsel or advice.

# 3. Responsibilities

- a. **Annual Reports.** Each church of the Network shall be requested to keep an up-to-date record of its Adherence and a report of the same shall be sent upon request to the office of the Network Secretary.
- b. **Safeguarding the Network from Unproved Ministries.** Pastors and leaders of Network should make proper investigation regarding persons who seek to gain entrance to teach or minister.
  - i. It is recommended that the member shall request a letter of introduction from the church of which they are a member to be sent by mail to the church with which they wish to affiliate. It is recommended that the receiving church shall give an acknowledgment of transfer to the former church.

c. **Support.** It is recognized that for any organization to survive and serve effectively it must have the moral and financial support of its constituency. The entire Network program should be supported by the local church and financial support should be according to the policies of the Network.

# 4. Discipline of Churches

Since the approval of a church is the prerogative of the Network Council, and is indicated by the issuance of appropriate certificates of affiliation, the IMNC has the right to request a meeting with the Church Leadership if for some valid reason its status is in question. The Network has the right to withdraw its certificate of affiliation if deemed necessary

5. Private Ownership of Church Properties Disapproved
The IMNC disapproves of the ownership of any church properties by other than the
entire church body through its duly elected trustees

### B. PARENT AFFILIATED CHURCHES

A Parent Affiliated Church is defined as a church which is under the supervision of a parenting church. A Parent Affiliated Church shall be governed in accordance with the parenting church's Articles of Incorporation or Constitution and Bylaws.

# C. SUPPORT OF CHURCH ADVANCE FUND

All churches are strongly encouraged to contribute a minimum of 2% of their General Fund (tithes/offerings) income monthly (called the 2% Church Advance Fund) to the IMNC. These funds will be used for Church Planting and Revitalization as determined by the Board of Directors. This giving does not replace other support to various Network Ministries and any other membership dues owed to the Network.

# **ARTICLE IX. INSTITUTIONS**

- A. The IMNC shall help to establish schools for training of candidates for the ministry
- B. The IMNC shall encourage the establishing and maintaining of homes for children, the aged, retired ministers and missionaries, Christian day schools and Extension schools, and all humanitarian and educational work that shall be for the betterment of mankind.
- C. The Network General Overseer shall, by virtue of their office, be a member of the Board of Directors of all institutions unless otherwise provided.

# **ARTICLE X. NETWORK PROPERTIES**

# **A. LEGAL CUSTODIANS**

The Board of Directors shall be the legal custodians and trustees of all property, real or personal, now owned or hereafter acquired in its name or in the name of its Executive Officers, which property may be or become a part of the assets of said Network Council.

### **B. TITLES**

All such property, real or personal, now owned or hereafter acquired by the IMNC shall be taken, held, possessed, sold, transferred, as signed, mortgaged or conveyed in the corporate name of the IMNC.

### C. SALE OF REAL PROPERTY

No real property so owned and held by the IMNC shall be sold, leased, mortgaged or otherwise alienated without the same shall have first been recommended and approved by a vote of at least two-thirds of the Network Board of Directors.

### D. SALE OF PERSONAL PROPERTY

Personal property of the IMNC may be sold, leased or mortgaged or otherwise transferred or assigned by the proper officers of the IMNC, when thereunto duly authorized by the Board of Directors or by its Executive Officers.

### E. PURCHASE OF REAL AND PERSONAL PROPERTY

When necessary or expedient or for the best interest of the IMNC or any of its member churches, the IMNC, or its Executive Officers, may buy or otherwise acquire or hold in trust without designating said trust, in its own corporate name or the name of its Executive Officers, as such, any real or personal property and may sell, transfer, mortgage or convey such real or personal property to said local church or to such other person or persons when authorized so to do by a two-thirds majority physical or electronically submitted vote of the members of its Board of Directors.

### F. GRANDFATHER CLAUSE

Any property, real or personal, heretofore held in the corporate name of the IMNC which may have been heretofore sold, transferred, mortgaged or conveyed and where said instrument of conveyance has been in substantial compliance with the foregoing, is hereby ratified, confirmed and in all respects approved.

# **ARTICLE XI. DEPARTMENTS**

Departments and ministries may be established and administered by the Executive Officers, with the approval of the Board of Directors for the purpose of carrying out the ministry and vision of the IMNC.

# **ARTICLE XII. FINANCES**

# A. MINISTERIAL SUPPORT

- 1. All IMNC credential holders are required to pay an annual professional due as set by the Network Board of Directors.
- 2. Failure to fulfill one's minimum financial responsibility to the IMNC will result in a minister's credentials not being renewed until the matter is resolved to the satisfaction of the Network Officiary. In instances of extreme circumstances or hardship, the minister so affected may appeal to the Network Officiary for

adjustment.

### **B. CHURCH SUPPORT**

- **1.** Each church is required to pay a monthly due as set forth by the Network Board of Directors.
- 2. All churches are strongly encouraged to contribute a minimum of 2% of their General Fund (tithes/offerings) income monthly (called the 2% Church Advance Fund) to the IMNC. These funds will be used for Church Planting and Revitalization as determined by the Board of Directors. This giving does not replace other support to various Network Ministries and any other membership dues owed to the Network.

### C. MINISTER'S BENEVOLENCE FUND

- 1. Each local church should accept its responsibility to provide a retirement income for its pastors and ministerial staff by contributing a minimum amount at least equal to 2-1/2% (two and a half percent) of the minister's salary (over and above salary) to the minister's retirement account.
- 2. Each minister should accept the responsibility to provide a retirement income for himself and their family by contributing at least a minimum amount equal to 2-1/2% (two and a half percent) of the minister's salary to their retirement account.

# **ARTICLE XIII. INDEMNIFICATIONS**

# A. When Indemnification is Required, Permitted, and Prohibited.

- The Corporation shall indemnify a Director, officer, or employee of the (a) Corporation who was, is, or may be named defendant or respondent in any proceeding as a result of his or her actions or omissions within the scope of his or her official capacity in the Corporation. For the purposes of this article, an agent includes one who is or was serving at the request of the Corporation as a Director, officer, partner, venturer, proprietor, trustee, partnership, joint venture, sole proprietorship, trust, employee benefit plan, or other enterprise. However, the Corporation shall indemnify a person only if he or she has acted in good faith and reasonably believed that the conduct was in the Corporation's best interests. In a case of a criminal proceeding, the person may be indemnified only if he or she had no reasonable cause to believe that the conduct was unlawful. The Corporation shall not indemnify a person who is found liable to the Corporation or is found liable to another on the basis of improperly receiving a personal benefit. A person is conclusively considered to have been found liable in relation to any claim, issue, or matter if the person has been adjudged liable by a court of competent jurisdiction and all appeals have been exhausted.
- (b) The termination of a proceeding by judgment, order, settlement, conviction, or on a plea of nolo contendere or its equivalent does not necessarily preclude indemnification by the Corporation.
- (c) The Corporation shall pay or reimburse expenses incurred by a Director, officer, or employee of the Corporation in connection with the person's appearance as a witness or other participation in a proceeding involving or affecting the

- Corporation when the person is not a named defendant or respondent in the proceeding.
- (d) In addition to the situations otherwise described in this article, the Corporation may indemnify a Director, officer, or employee of the Corporation to the extent permitted by law. However, the Corporation shall not indemnify any person in any situation in which indemnification is prohibited by the terms of this article.
- (e) Before the final disposition of a proceeding, the Corporation may pay indemnification expenses permitted by the Bylaws and authorized by the Corporation. However, the Corporation shall not pay indemnification expenses to a person before the final disposition of a proceeding if: the person is a named defendant or respondent in any proceeding brought by the Corporation, or the person is alleged to have improperly received a personal benefit or committed other willful or intentional misconduct.
- (f) If the Corporation may indemnify a person under the Bylaws, the person may be indemnified against judgments, penalties, including excise and similar taxes, fines, settlements, and reasonable expenses (including attorney's fees) actually incurred in connection with the proceeding. However, if the proceeding was brought by or on behalf of the Corporation, the indemnification is limited to reasonable expenses actually incurred by the person in connection with the proceeding.

# ARTICLE XIV. ADDITIONS AND AMENDMENTS

- **A.** Additions or amendments to the Bylaws of the Constitution may be made at any regular or special meeting of the Network Board of Directors.
- **B.** A 2/3 vote of the Network Board of Directors shall be required for an amendment to the Bylaws of the Constitution.