
APOSTOLIC CHURCH *of* JESUS CHRIST



International Incorporated

ARTICLES OF FAITH AND BYLAWS

2026 EDITION

**ARTICLES OF FAITH AND BYLAWS
OF
THE APOSTOLIC CHURCH OF JESUS CHRIST
INTERNATIONAL, INC.
2026 EDITION**

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OUR MOTTO

“Behold, how good and how pleasant it is for brethren to dwell together in unity.” – Psalm 133:1

With Apostolic doctrine and Apostolic fellowship with an Apostolic Aim, this body of Christian ministers and workers are determined and hope to obtain Apostolic results.

New to the 2026 Edition

Article II Membership, Sections 5, 6, and 7 were updated to reflect the resolution adopted at the 2026 General Conference, that annual dues at all licensing levels would increase by \$50.

To **Article VIII Districts**, Section 8 was added to reflect the resolution adopted at the 2025 General Conference, to instruct District Secretary/Treasurers to send quarterly the appropriate portion of received funds to the General Secretary/Treasurer.

Page numbers have been updated and some minor typographical and formatting errors have been corrected, which in no way reflect substantive changes to the text.

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BRIEF HISTORY

The Apostolic Church of Jesus Christ is a continuation of the great revival that began at Jerusalem, on the Day of Pentecost. It is founded upon the Bible, with repentance toward God, and faith in our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. Its aim and object are the salvation of the lost, by the promulgation of the doctrines and teaching of the early church which is founded upon the Apostles and Prophets, Jesus Christ Himself being the Chief Corner Stone (Ephesians 2:20-21).

Although the true followers have been little known, yet from that time until now there have always been earnest contenders for the faith which was once delivered unto the saints (Jude 3, 1 Kings 19:18). At various intervals throughout the past centuries, the followers of the Apostolic Faith and Doctrines have been prominent and prevalent through great revivals that have appeared in Great Britain, the United States, and Canada.

In Kansas (1901) the revival broke forth and moved southward to Texas, being known locally only, but finally reached Los Angeles, California (1906). From whence it spread throughout the whole earth, entering into almost every nation under heaven, penetrating the heathen darkness of India, China, and Africa, and the Isles of the Sea, fulfilling the commission of our Lord, "Go ye into all the world and preach the gospel to every creature" (Mark 16:15-20, Matthew 28:18-19, Luke 24:47-49, Acts 1:4-11) and proclaiming the soon coming of the Lord.

So great has been the awakening that, at this present time, almost every city, town, and country place have witnesses to the outpouring

of the Holy Spirit as in Acts 2:4 on the Day of Pentecost, thus fulfilling Joel 2:28-29.

Our only aim and desire is to Glorify God our Savior, even Jesus Christ, who gave Himself for us that He might redeem us from all iniquity and purify unto Himself a peculiar people zealous of good works, that we should show forth the praise of Him who hath called us out of darkness into His marvelous light.

The Apostolic Church of Jesus Christ was organized for a foundation for the unity of all believers of the Oneness movement under the Church name that best reveals the complete Foundation of the Church. "The Apostolic Church of Jesus Christ" was the desire and sentiment of many for a church name. This was proven by a strange happening which occurred about the same time, and in the same month (October 1925). There was another body of ministers and workers of the same faith who met together from three states at Houston, Texas who also chose the name of The Apostolic Church of Jesus Christ for their organization.

These brethren soon learned that it was impossible for them to obtain a charter for this name as the same was being chartered in the State of Missouri. They then selected another name for the organization with headquarters in the Southern part of the country. They became known as "The Emmanuel's Church in Jesus Christ." Two years passed and these two bodies were brought into acquaintance with each other.

Soon, means of a consolidation were sought for by the brethren of both organizations. At Norphlet, Arkansas in the month of May 1927, a special called join conference convened for the purpose of discussing plans and ways of uniting both of these organizations into

one. This joint conference met at Guthrie, Oklahoma in October 1927. These two above named gatherings proved to be a blessing in getting the brethren acquainted with each other and learning more about the aims and objectives of both organizations, whose aims and objectives proved to be the same in most every instance.

The main feature of these gatherings was the blessed spirit of fellowship that prevailed. The uniting of these two movements at the Guthrie, Oklahoma conference was hindered in some respects, but the desire for a closer fellowship ruled to the extent that another joint conference of the above ruled bodies convened at Port Arthur, Texas in October 1928. At which time the glory of the Lord came down and every obstacle was removed which had prevented a complete consolidation of the Emmanuel's Church in Jesus Christ and the Apostolic Church of Jesus Christ into one great body of Christian workers and ministers of the Apostolic Faith throughout the entire country.

At this conference at Port Arthur, Texas, more than eighty ministers and workers were present. All fully realized the great need of all of God's people of this faith to stand firm for the old-time Apostolic doctrine and fellowship. This was proven by all present, without a single voice against it when they again chose the Apostolic Church of Jesus Christ for their church name.

Hearts were melded together, friction between the brethren seemed to be unknown, and perfect love prevailed. Following the above conference at Port Arthur, Texas, the Third Annual Conference of the Apostolic Church of Jesus Christ convened at 1100 Hickory Street, St. Louis, Missouri, October 31, 1928, and continued for several days. With a voice of thanksgiving and praise to the Lord for

the blessed hand of God which directed this great accomplishment, all were made to rejoice.

A good delegation from the states were present at this conference and their motto was, “Behold how good and how pleasant it is for brethren to dwell together in unity.” With Apostolic doctrine, Apostolic aim, and Apostolic fellowship, this body of Christian ministers and workers were determined to obtain Apostolic results.

The above brief history of the Apostolic Church of Jesus Christ was unanimously adopted at 2415 S. Broadway, St. Louis, Missouri, at the 10th Annual Conference of the above-named corporation, which convened from October 31 to November 4, 1935.

The Apostolic Church of Jesus Christ was subsequently reorganized as an Arkansas Corporation in 1996 and adopted the corporate name of the Apostolic Church of Jesus Christ International, Incl, to signify our global vision to reach the lost with the Apostolic Message.

ARTICLES OF FAITH

God's love in the hearts of His Saints, developed into perfection, shall be the ultimate result to be obtained. Therefore, the following Articles of Faith shall be the basis and foundation of the Corporation, which shall be known throughout the land and over the seas, by the Church or Corporate name of: The Apostolic Church of Jesus Christ International, Inc.

Section 1. Apostolic Doctrine

Our creed, discipline, rule of order, and doctrine is the Word of God, as taught and revealed by the Holy Ghost (John 14:26, 1 Corinthians 2:9-13). The Word of God is to be used in the conversion of the world (Mark 16:15-16, Matthew 28:19-20). It is the Sword of the Spirit (Ephesians 6:17, Hebrews 4:12). All Scripture is given by inspiration of God, and is profitable for doctrine, for reproof, for correction, for instruction in righteousness, that the man of God may be perfect, thoroughly furnished unto all good works (1 Timothy 3:16-17).

Section 2. The Church

Jesus said, "Upon this rock I will build my church, and the gates of hell shall not prevail against it" (Matthew 16:18). JESUS CHRIST is the foundation of the Church. "For other foundation can no man lay, than that is laid, which is Jesus Christ" (1 Corinthians 3:11). See also Ephesians 2:20-22, 1 Timothy 6:19, 2 Timothy 2:19.

A. The Head of the Church

The Lord Jesus Christ is the head of the Church. "For in him dwelleth all the fullness of the Godhead bodily, and ye are complete in him which is the head of all principality and

power” (Colossians 2:9-10) See also Colossians 1:18, Ephesians 5:23.

B. The Church Set Up

The Church was set up at Jerusalem, on the Day of Pentecost, 33AD, in an upper room, “where abode both Peter, and James, and John, and Andrew, Philip, and Thomas, Bartholomew, and Matthew, James the son of Alphaeus, and Simon Zelotes, and Judas the brother of James. These all continued with one accord in prayer and supplication, with the women, and Mary the mother of Jesus, and with his brethren. And in those days Peter stood up in the midst of the disciples, and said, (the number of names together were about an hundred and twenty,) (Acts 1:13-15). “And when the day of Pentecost was fully come, they were all with one accord in one place. And suddenly there came a sound from heaven as of a rushing mighty wind, and it filled all the house where they were sitting. And there appeared unto them cloven tongues like as of fire, and it sat upon each of them. And they were all filled with the Holy Ghost, and began to speak with other tongues, as the Spirit gave them utterance” (Acts 2:1-4). See also Luke 24:49, Acts 1:4-5, Acts 2:1-42, 1 Corinthians 12:13-28.

C. The Church Apostolic

The Church is founded upon the Apostles and Prophets, Jesus Christ Himself being the Chief Cornerstone (Ephesians 2:20). “Jesus answered, ‘Verily, verily, I say unto thee, except a man be born of water and of the Spirit, he cannot enter into the kingdom of God’” (John 3:5). Jesus gave the Apostle Peter the “keys to the kingdom” (Matthew 16:19). Peter used the keys in Acts 2:38. “They that gladly

received his word were baptized; and the same days there were added unto them about three thousand souls. And they continued steadfastly in the apostles' doctrine ..." (Acts 2:41-42). They were Apostolic, because of their Apostolic Faith, Apostolic Teaching, Apostolic Doctrine, and their Apostolic Foundation. The Church of Jesus Christ today is still Apostolic, earnestly contending for the faith once delivered to the saints (Jude 3). In the days of the Apostles, the Churches of Rome, Alexandria, Antioch, and Jerusalem were called Apostolic Churches.

D. Church Membership

There is only one way to become a member of the Church of Jesus Christ: "Ye must be born again of water and of the Spirit" (John 3:5). "Repent and be baptized, every one of you in the name of Jesus Christ, for the remission of sins," as in Acts 2:38, "and ye shall receive the gift of the Holy Ghost," with the signs following as in Acts 2:4. We enter into the Body of Christ, the true Church, by baptism or birth of water and Spirit. "For by one Spirit are we all baptized into one body" (1 Corinthians 12:13). See also 1 Corinthians 12:27-28, John 3:5-8.

E. Church Membership Records

The names of all the members of the Church are kept on record in heaven (Luke 10:20). "And of Zion it shall be said, this and that man was born in her. The Highest himself shall establish her. The Lord shall count when he writeth up the people that this man was born there" (Psalm 87:5-6). All must be born of water and Spirit in this dispensation if they desire their names to be written in heaven (Hebrews 12:22-23).

F. Names Blotted Out

“And the Lord said unto Moses, whosoever hath sinned against me, him I will blot out of my book” (Exodus 32:33). In Revelation 3:5 it is written, “He that overcometh ... I will not blot out his name out of the book of life.”

G. The Church a Spiritual Temple

“Know ye not that ye are the temple of God, and that the Spirit of God dwelleth in you?” (1 Corinthians 3:16). “What? Know ye not that your body is the temple of the Holy Ghost which is in you, which ye have of God, and ye are not your own?” (1 Corinthians 6:19). “And what agreement hath the temple of God with idols? For ye are the temple of the living God. As God hath said, I will dwell in them and walk in them, and I will be their God, and they shall be my people” (2 Corinthians 6:16). “And are built upon the foundation of the Apostles and Prophets, Jesus Christ himself being the chief cornerstone, in whom all the building fitly framed together growth into a holy temple in the Lord, in whom ye are also builded together for an habitation of God through the Spirit” (Ephesians 2:20-22). “Ye also as lively as stones are built up a spiritual house, a holy priesthood, to offer up spiritual sacrifice to God by Jesus Christ” (1 Peter 2:5). See also Hebrews 3:6.

H. The Church Name

“The Gentiles shall see thy righteousness, and the kings thy glory and thou shall be called by a new name which the mouth of the Lord shall name” (Isaiah 62:2). In this we have a clear prediction of the establishment of the name of the New Testament Church, in which the Gentiles were to hold their membership. The name was not some title men were

pleased to give her, but she was to be named by the mouth of the Lord. In harmony with this thought, the Prophet Daniel said, “Oh Lord for thine own sake ... O my God, for they city and thy people are called by thy name” (Daniel 9:19). “I will say to the north, give up, and to the south, keep not back. Bring my sons from afar and my daughters from the ends of the earth. Even every one that is called by my name” (Isaiah 43:6-7). “He calleth his own sheep by name and leadeth them out” (John 10:3-4). “There shall be one fold and one shepherd” (John 10:16). The name, “The Apostolic Church of Jesus Christ,” reveals the foundation of the Church, and identifies us with the Mother Church that was set up on the Day of Pentecost, AD 33 and continued steadfastly in the Apostles’ Doctrine. It also acknowledges Jesus Christ to be its founder, builder, owner, maker, author, and possessor.

Section 3. One God

There is only one God (Ephesians 4:6). The Lord is God (Deuteronomy 4:39). There is only one Lord (Ephesians 4:5). The same Lord that said He is God in Deuteronomy 4:39 said, “I am Jesus,” in Acts 9:5. The Lord said, “I am the Almighty God” in Genesis 17:1. Jesus Christ is revealed to be the Almighty God in Isaiah 9:6, Revelation 1:8, and Revelation 4:8. Jesus Christ is our great God and Savior who gave Himself for us (Titus 2:13-14). He is Lord God of the Holy Prophets (Revelation 22:6-16). The true God (1 John 5:20). God manifested in the flesh (1 Timothy 3:16). God is a Spirit (John 4:24). A Spirit invisible (1 Timothy 1:17, Colossians 1:15-19). A Spirit hath not flesh and bones (Luke 24:39). God, the great eternal Spirit “veiled Himself” in the flesh of His Son, Jesus Christ (Hebrews 10:20), making him both Lord and Christ (Acts 2:36). The mighty God, the Mighty God, the Everlasting

Father (Isaiah 9:6). A Savior which is Christ the Lord (Luke 2:11). One Lord and His name one (Zechariah 14:9).

Section 4. The Godhead

The Spirit of God alone dwells in the Godhead according to the Word of God. Father and Holy Ghost are synonymous terms for the Spirit of God that dwelt in the Temple made without hands and who was known as the Lord Jesus Christ. “Beware lest any man spoil you through philosophy and vain deceit, through the tradition of men, after the rudiments of the world, and not after Christ. For in him dwelleth all the fullness of the Godhead bodily” (Colossians 2:8-9). See also Acts 17:29 and Romans 1:20.

Section 5: The Virgin Birth

We believe in the virgin birth of Jesus Christ (Matthew 1:18-25, Luke 1:26-38). Jesus Christ is Emmanuel, God with us (Matthew 1:25). He is the same yesterday, today, and forever (Hebrews 13:8). He is known only by divine revelation (Matthew 11:27). We believe Jesus Christ, the Son of God, was conceived of the Holy Ghost, born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, was buried, arose again the third day, showed Himself alive unto them by many infallible proofs, being seen of them forty days and ascending into heaven, will return again with power and great glory.

Section 6. The Divinity of Christ

“Then said they all, art thou the Son of God? And he said unto them, ye say that I am” (Luke 22:70). “I and my Father are one” (John 10:30). “He that seeth me, seeth him that sent me (John 12:45). “If ye had known me, ye should have known my Father also, and from henceforth ye know him, and have seen him. Philip saith unto him, Lord, shew us the Father, and it sufficeth us. Jesus saith unto him,

Have I been so long time with you, and yet hast thou not known me, Philip? He that hath seen me hath seen the Father, and how sayest thou then, Shew us the Father?" (John 14:7-9). "And without controversy, great is the mystery of Godliness. God was manifest in the flesh, justified in the Spirit, seen of angels, preached unto the Gentiles, believed on in the world, received up into glory (1 Timothy 3:16).

Section 7. The Nature of Jesus Christ

The Spirit in Christ was God Eternal, while the Temple Jesus Christ was in the process of time begotten of the Holy Ghost and born of the Virgin Mary. "God was in Christ, reconciling the world unto himself" (2 Corinthians 5:19). Christ Eternal: His going forth has been from everlasting (Micah 5:2, John 3:13-31, 8:58, 17:3-24, Hebrews 7:3, Revelation 22:13). Jesus Christ is the only Potentate, Lord of Lords, and King of Kings (1 Timothy 6:4-15, Revelation 17:14, 19:16). Both Lord and Christ (Acts 2:36, 1 Corinthians 12:3).

Section 8. Power in the Name of Jesus Christ

"In the name of our God we will set up our banners. Some trust in chariots, and some in horses, but we will remember the name of the Lord our God" (Psalm 20:5-7). "The name of the Lord is a strong tower, the righteous runneth into it and are safe" (Psalm 18:10). "Wherefore God hath highly exalted him, and given him a name which is above every name. That at the name of Jesus every knee should bow, of things in heaven and things in earth, and that every tongue should confess that Jesus Christ is Lord to the glory of God the Father" (Philippians 2:9-11). "And that repentance and remission of sins should be preached in his name among all nations, beginning at Jerusalem" (Luke 24:47). "Neither is there salvation in any other, for there is none other name under heaven, given among men, whereby we must be saved" (Acts 4:12). "Whatsoever ye do

in word or deed, do all in the name of the Lord Jesus” (Colossians 3:17).

Section 9. Regeneration or the New Birth

“Verily I say unto you, except ye be converted, and become as a little child, ye shall not enter into the kingdom of heaven” (Matthew 18:3) See also Luke 22:3 and Acts 3:19. “ye must be born again” (John 3:3-8). David said, “Create in me a clean heart, O God, and renew a right spirit within me” (Psalm 51:10-13). “a new heart also will I give you, a new spirit will I put within you. I will take away the stony heart out of your flesh, and I will give you a heart of flesh, and I will put my Spirit within you” (Ezekiel 36:26-27). “Therefore, if any man be in Christ, he is a new creature” (2 Corinthians 5:17). He saves us by the washing of regeneration and renewing of the Holy Ghost (Titus 3:5, James 1:18, 1 Peter 1:3). “Being born again, not of corruptible seed, but of incorruptible, by the Word of God which liveth and abideth forever” (1 Peter 1:23) See also John 1:11-13, 2:29, 3:9, 4:1. “Whosoever believeth that Jesus is Christ is born of God” (1 John 5:1). “Whosoever is born of God doth not commit sin” (1 John 3:9, 5:18). “Hereby know we that we dwell in him, and he in us, because he hath given us of his Spirit” (1 John 4:13). “If any man have not the Spirit of Christ, he is none of his” (Romans 8:1-16).

Section 10. The Atoning Blood of Christ

The blood of Jesus Christ was shed for the remission of sins (Matthew 26:28), and without the shedding of blood there is no remission of sins (Hebrews 9:22). “For as much as ye know that ye were not redeemed with corruptible things, as silver and gold, from your vain conversation received by tradition from your fathers. But with the precious blood of Christ, as of a lamb without blemish and without spot” (1 Peter 1:18- 19). “How much more shall the blood

of Christ, who through the eternal Spirit offered himself without spot to God, purge your conscience from dead works to serve the living God?” (Hebrews 9:14). “Much more then, being now justified by his blood, we shall be saved from wrath through him” (Romans 5:9). See also John 1:7, Revelation 1:5, 7:14). “Who hath purchased the church with his own blood” (Acts 20:28).

Section 11. Redemption and Remission of Sin

God commanded all men everywhere to repent (Acts 17:30, 26:20). “Godly sorrow worketh repentance” (2 Corinthians 7:10). “The Lord is nigh unto them that are of a broken heart, and saveth such as be of a contrite spirit” (Psalm 34:18, 51:17). John the Baptist preached repentance. The Lord Jesus Christ proclaimed it, and before His ascension commanded that repentance and remission of sins should be preached in his name among all nations, beginning at Jerusalem (Luke 24:47). Peter fulfilled this command on the Day of Pentecost (Acts 2:38).

Section 12. Water Baptism in the Name of the Lord Jesus Christ

The Word of God is our only foundation. If the foundation be destroyed what can the righteous do? Baptism in water is a command of God: “Go ye therefore and teach all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Ghost” (Matthew 28:19). “He that believeth and is baptized shall be saved, but he that believeth not shall be damned” (Mark 16:16). “Jesus answered, verily, verily, I say unto thee; except a man be born of water and of the Spirit he cannot enter into the Kingdom of God” (John 3:5). “Then Peter said unto them, Repent and be baptized every one of you, in the name of Jesus Christ, for the remission of sins, and ye shall receive the gift of the Holy Ghost” (Acts 2:38). “And he commanded them to be baptized in the name of the Lord” (Acts 10:48). “And now why tarriest thou? Arise and be baptized,

and wash away thy sins, calling on the name of the Lord” (Acts 22:16). In the days of Noah eight souls were saved by water. “The like figure whereunto even baptism doth also now save us” (1 Peter 3:20-21). Water alone does not save us. Not by water only; but by water and blood. The blood and the name of Jesus are inseparable.

To be saved by water baptism, it must be administered by burial in water, in the name of the Lord Jesus Christ, for there is no other name given among men whereby we must be saved. The life of the blood of Jesus Christ is connected with water baptism when it is administered in His name. The Spirit, the water, and the blood agree in one (1 John 5:8). Without the shedding of blood there is no remission of sins. (Acts 2:38, Also the birth of water, John 3:5). “Know ye not, that so many of us as were baptized into Christ were baptized into his death. Therefore, we are buried with him by baptism unto death: that like as Christ was raised up from the dead by the glory of the Father, even so we also should walk in newness of life. For if we have been planted together in the likeness of his death, we shall be also in the likeness of his resurrection” (Romans 6:3-5). See also 1 Corinthians 12:13, Galatians 3:27, Colossians 2:12, and 1 Peter 3:21. The name of the Father, the Son, and the Holy Ghost is Jesus Christ. “For in him dwelleth all the fullness of the Godhead bodily” (Colossians 2:9). See also John 1:1, 10, 14:6-10). “There are three that bear record in heaven: the Father, the Word, and the Holy Ghost, and these three are one” (1 John 5:7).

Section 13. Signs Follow Believers

“And these signs shall follow them that believe; In my name shall they cast out devils; they shall speak with new tongues; They shall take up serpents; and if they drink any deadly thing, it shall not hurt them; they shall lay hands on the sick, and they shall recover” (Mark 16:17-18).

Section 14. Spiritual Baptism

“It shall come to pass in the last days, saith God; I will pour out my Spirit upon all flesh” (Acts 2:17). “He shall baptize you with the Holy Ghost and with fire” (Matthew 3:11). “Behold I send the promise of my Father upon you” (Luke 24:29). “Ye shall be baptized with the Holy Ghost not many days hence” (Acts 1:5). “Ye shall receive power after that the Holy Ghost is come upon you” (Acts 1:8). The Comforter, which is the Holy Ghost, is promised (John 14:16, 18, 26, 16:7-14). These Scriptures were fulfilled at Jerusalem (Acts 2:4, 4:31), Samaria (Acts 8:14-17), with Paul (Acts 17-18, 1 Corinthians 14:18), with the Gentiles at the household of Cornelius (Acts 10:44-48), and with the Ephesians (Acts 19:1-7). Believers are sealed with the Holy Spirit (Ephesians 1:13, 4:30). Called the refreshing (Acts 3:19), the rest (Isaiah 28:11-12), the latter rain (Joel 2:23, Hosea 6:3, Zechariah 10:1). By the one Spirit we are all baptized into one body (1 Corinthians 12:13), and born of the Spirit (John 3:5).

Section 15. Tongues

Speaking in tongues as the Spirit gives utterance is the initial evidence of the baptism of the Holy Ghost (Acts 2:4-19, 9:17-18 with 1 Corinthians 14:18, Acts 10:44, 19:6). “He that speaketh in an unknown tongue speaketh not unto men, but unto God” (1 Corinthians 14:2). Tongues are for a sign to them that believe not (Isaiah 28:11, 1 Corinthians 14:21-22). Diverse kinds of tongues is a spiritual gift (1 Corinthians 12:10). Diversities of tongues were set in the Church by God (1 Corinthians 12:28). Paul said, “I thank God; I speak with tongues more than ye all” (1 Corinthians 14:18). “Wherefore, brethren, covet to prophesy, and forbid not to speak with tongues” (1 Corinthians 14:39).

Section 16. Spiritual Gifts

“Now there are diversities of gifts, but the same Spirit. And there are differences of administrations, but the same Lord. And there are diversities of operations, but it is the same God which worketh all in all. But the manifestation of the Spirit is given to every man to profit withal. For to one is given by the Spirit the word of wisdom; to another the word of knowledge by the same Spirit; To another faith by the same Spirit; to another the gifts of healing by the same Spirit; To another the working of miracles; to another prophecy; to another discerning of spirits; to another divers kinds of tongues; to another the interpretation of tongues: But all these worketh that one and the selfsame Spirit, dividing to every man severally as he will” (1 Corinthians 12:4-11).

Section 17. Fruit of the Spirit

“But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, longsuffering, gentleness, goodness, faith, Meekness, temperance: against such there is no law” (Galatians 5:22-23).

Section 18. What God has Set in the Church

“And God hath set some in the church, first apostles, secondarily prophets, thirdly teachers, after that miracles, then gifts of healings, helps, governments, diversities of tongues” (1 Corinthians 12:28).

Section 19. Order and Government

“These things write I unto thee, that thou mayest know how thou oughtest to behave thyself in the house of God, which is the church of the living God, the pillar and ground of the truth” (1 timothy 3:14-15). “Let all things be done decently and in order” (1 Corinthians 14:10). Paul left Titus in Crete to set things in order and to ordain Elders in every city (Titus 1). Instructions were given to Elders to feed the flock of God (1 Peter 5:1-3). God set helps and governments

in the Church (1 Corinthians 12:28). “The government shall be upon his shoulders, and of the increase of his government and peace there shall be no end” (Isaiah 9:6-7, 2 Peter 2:10).

Section 20. Importance of Sound Doctrine

“My doctrine shall drop as the rain; my speech shall distill as the dew” (Deuteronomy 32:2). “God hath from the beginning chosen you, to salvation through sanctification of the Spirit, and belief of the truth” (2 Thessalonians 2:13) See also Joshua 24:14-15. “All scripture is given by inspiration of God, and is profitable for doctrine” (2 Timothy 3:16). “Preach the Word” (2 Timothy 4:12, 1 Timothy 4:13-16). “Speak thou the things which becomes sound doctrine” (Titus 1:9, 2:1-7). “If ye continue in my word, then are ye my disciples indeed” (John 8:31-32). “For the time will come when they will not endure sound doctrine (2 Timothy 4:3-4). See also Matthew 15:9. Some shall depart from the faith (1 Timothy 4:1). Strong delusions will be sent on those who reject the truth (2 Thessalonians 2:10-12). Prove all things (1 Thessalonians 5:21, Isaiah 8:20, 2 John 1:9).

Section 21. True Worship

“God is a Spirit, and they that worship him must worship him in Spirit and in truth” (John 4:24). “Give unto the Lord the glory due his name. Worship the Lord in the beauty of holiness” (Psalm 20:2). Knee before the Lord. Come before His presence with singing (Psalm 95:6, 100:2-4). Praise God in his sanctuary (Psalm 149:3, 150:1-6). Wait upon the Lord (Isaiah 40:31). Bring an offering and come into His courts (Psalm 96:8). Remember the Sabbath day, to keep it holy (Exodus 20:8-10, Romans 14:5-6).

Section 22. Children

“Even a child is known by his doings, whether his work be pure, and whether it be right” (Proverbs 20:11). “Children obey your parents in the Lord, for this is right. Honor thy father and mother, which is the first commandment with promise, that it may be well with thee, and thou mayest live long on the earth” (Ephesians 6:1-3). See also Colossians 3:20, 1 Timothy 5:4. Jesus said, “Suffer the little children to come unto me, and forbid them not, for of such is the kingdom of heaven” (Matthew 19:14, Mark 10:14). The Holy Ghost is promised to believers’ children (Acts 2:39).

Section 23. Young People

“Wherewithal shall a young man cleanse his way? By taking heed thereto according to thy word” (Psalm 119:9). “Remember thy Creator in the days of thy youth” (Ecclesiastes 12:1). See also Ezekiel 2:18. “Let no man despise thy youth; but be thou an example of the believers, in word, in conversation, in charity, in spirit, in faith, in purity” (1 Timothy 4:12). “Young men likewise exhort to be sober minded. In all things showing thyself a pattern of good works: in doctrine showing incorruptness, gravity, and sincerity” (Titus 2:6-7).

Section 24. Unity

“Behold how good and how pleasant it is for brethren to dwell together in unity” (Psalm 133:1). “Now I beseech you brethren, by the name of the Lord Jesus Christ, that ye all speak the same thing and that there be no division among you, but that ye be perfectly joined together in the same mind and in the same judgment” (1 Corinthians 1:10). “Endeavor to keep the unity of the Spirit in the bond of peace” (Ephesians 4:3, 13). “Stand fast in one Spirit, with one mind, striving together for the faith of the gospel” (Philippians 1:27) “That ye may with one mind and one mouth, glorify God, even

the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ” (Romans 15:6). See also 1 Peter 3:8, John 17:21, Ephesians 2:14, Romans 12:5, 1 Corinthians 10:17, Galatians 3:8, Romans 5:6.

Section 25. Prayer

“Call unto me, and I will answer thee, and shew thee great and mighty things, which thou knowest not” (Jeremiah 33:3). “Pray without ceasing” (1 Thessalonians 5:17). “As and ye shall receive” (Matthew 7:7-8). “And whatsoever ye shall ask in my name, that will I do” (John 14:13). “If any of you lack wisdom, let him ask of God” (James 1:5). Pray in secret (Matthew 6:6, 14:23). Watch and pray (Matthew 26:41). Evening and morning and at noon will I pray and cry aloud (Psalm 55:17, Daniel 6:10, Acts 10:2). Ask with faith, nothing wavering (James 6:7). “Whatsoever things ye desire when ye pray, believe that ye receive them, and ye shall have them” (Mark 11:24). “They that wait upon the Lord shall renew their strength (Isaiah 40:31). “If ye abide in me, and my words abide in you, ye shall ask what ye will, and it shall be done unto you” (John 15:7).

Section 26. Praise

Sing praises to the Lord (Psalm 9:11). Praise the Lord with musical instruments and dance (Psalm 33:2, 149:3, 150:1-6, Exodus 15:20-21, 2 Samuel 7:14, Jeremiah 31:13). “Let all the people praise thee, O God” (Psalm 67:3, Isaiah 42:12). Give thanks to His name (Hebrews 13:15). A four-fold reason for praising God (1 Peter 2:9). “Clap your hands, all ye people; shout unto God with the voice of triumph” (Psalm 47:1). “Bless the Lord, O my soul, and forget not his benefits: Who forgiveth all thine iniquities; who healeth all thy diseases” (Psalm 103:1-3).

Section 27. Faith

“Faith is the substance of things hoped for, the evidence of things not seen” (Hebrews 11:1). Without faith it is impossible to please God (Hebrews 11:6). “Faith cometh by hearing, and hearing by the word of God” (Romans 10:17). Faith in Christ secures salvation (John 3:15, 5:24, 11:25, 12:46, 20:31, Romans 12:9). “The just shall live by faith” (Romans 4:3). By faith, Enoch was translated (Hebrews 11:30). By faith, Elijah proved the true God (1 Kings 18:21-39). By faith the walls of Jericho fell down (Hebrews 11:30). By faith, prison doors were opened (Acts 5:11, 16:25-26). By faith, the dead are raised (Acts 9:40). The sick are healed (Acts 5:15, James 5:14-15). Miracles were wrought (Acts 19:12). Signs follow them that believe (Mark 16:16-18). “All things are possible to him that believeth” (Mark 9:23-29). Have faith in God (Mark 11:22-24, Matthew 17:20, Ephesians 6:16, Daniel 3:20-26, 6:16-22.)

Section 28. Hope

Hope enabled Abraham to become the father of the faithful (Romans 4:18). Hope is the saving element in life (Romans 8:24). The Scriptures are the source of hope (Romans 15:4). Hope abides forever (1 Corinthians 13:13). Believers are called to testify concerning the hope within them (1 Peter 3:15). Hope inspires clean living (1 John 3:3), cheers the dying hour of the saints (Proverbs 14:32), assures of immortality (Acts 24:15) and a heavenly treasure (Colossians 1:5), anticipates Christ’s second coming (Titus 2:13), is an anchor of the soul (Hebrews 6:18-19), and is grounded in the resurrection of Christ (1 Peter 1:3). “Christ in you the hope of glory” (Colossians 1:27). See also 1 Thessalonians 5:8.

Section 29. Charity

“Charity suffereth long, and is kind; charity envieth not; charity vaunteth not itself, is not puffed up, Doth not behave itself

unseemly, seeketh not her own, is not easily provoked, thinketh no evil; Rejoiceth not in iniquity, but rejoiceth in the truth; Beareth all things, believeth all things, hopeth all things, endureth all things. Charity never faileth ... And now abideth faith, hope, charity, these three; but the greatest of these is charity” (1 Corinthians 4-8, 13).

Section 30. Love

Love is a proof of true discipleship, and the bond of perfectiveness (John 13:39, Colossians 3:14). The love of God is shed abroad in our hearts by the Holy Ghost (Romans 5:5). Jesus said, “If you love me keep my commandments” (John 14:15). The greatest commandment is love (Mark 12:30-31). “Great love hath no man than this, that a man lay down his life for his friends (John 15:13). “Hereby perceive we the love of God, because he lay down his life for us (1 John 3:16). See also John 3:16. “This is my commandment that ye love one another, as I have loved you” (John 15:12). See also 1 Peter 1:22 and 1 Thessalonians 3:12. God is love (1 John 4:7, 16). Love is the first fruit of the Spirit (Galatians 5:22).

Section 31. Growing in Grace

Grow in grace, and in the knowledge of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ (2 Peter 1:2, 3:18). It is life eternal to know the only true God (John 17:3). Faith is the first step toward God. “He that cometh to God must believe that he is” (Hebrews 11:6). “Add to your faith virtue, and to virtue knowledge, and to knowledge temperance, and to temperance patience, and to patience godliness, and to godliness brotherly kindness, and to brotherly kindness charity ... he that lacketh these things is blind ... if ye do these things ye shall never fall” (1 Peter 1:1-12).

Section 32. Spiritual Weapons and Armor

Fight the good fight of faith and lay hold on eternal life (1 Timothy 6:12), which demands entire consecration (2 Timothy 2:4). “Put on the whole armor of God” (Ephesians 6:11). See also Romans 13:12, 2 Corinthians 6:7. There are invisible foes (Ephesians 6:12, 1 Peter 5:8). “The weapons of our warfare are not carnal” (2 Corinthians 10:4) See also 1 Samuel 17:45. “Take the helmet of salvation, and the sword of the Spirit, which is the word of God (Ephesians 6:17). The Word of God is quick and powerful (Hebrews 4:12). “Be strong in the Lord” (Ephesians 6:10). “Let us who are of the day be sober, putting on the breastplate of faith and love, and for a helmet, the hope of salvation” (1 Thessalonians 5:8). “Above all, taking the shield of faith, wherewith ye shall be able to quench all the fiery darts of the wicked” (Ephesians 6:16). See also Revelation 12:11, 15:2.

Section 33. The Lord our Healer

The Lord is our healer (Exodus 15:26). As by sin came sickness, so by righteousness came health and healing. He himself took our infirmities and bore our sickness (Matthew 8:14-17, Isaiah 53:4-5, Psalm 103:1-3). “Is any sick among you? Let him call for the elders of the church; and let them pray over him, anointing him with oil in the name of the Lord: and the prayer of faith shall save the sick, and the Lord shall raise him up” (James 5:14-15).

Section 34. The Lord’s Supper

The first supper of bread and wine was held by Melchizedek, Priest of the Most High God, and Abraham (Genesis 14:18). Our Christ, as High Priest after the order of Melchizedek, reinstated this supper on the night He was betrayed (Matthew 26:26-29, 1 Corinthians 11:23-32). The Lord’s Supper (Communion) shall be overserved literally, using unleavened bread and wine. It is important to observe

this ordinance (John 6:48- 56, 1 Corinthians 10:16). Self-examination is necessary before observing this ordinance. It is wrong to take unworthily (1 Corinthians 11:27-30). Acts 20:7 and 1 Corinthians 11:26-28 tell when to observe this ordinance.

Section 35. Washing Feet

Washing feet is a New Testament command. Following the supper, Jesus girded Himself with a towel and washed the disciples' feet as a token of humility, which His followers should express toward each other. As He said, "Ye ought to wash one another's feet," and again, "if ye know these things, happy are ye if ye do them" (John 13:4-17, 1 Timothy 5:10).

Section 36. Sanctification

How secured: "Sanctify them through thy truth, thy word is truth" (John 17:17). See also Romans 15:16. "Wherefore Jesus also, that he might sanctify the people with his own blood, suffered without the gate" (Hebrews 13:12). "But of him are ye in Christ Jesus, who of God is made unto us wisdom, and righteousness, and sanctification, and redemption" (1 Corinthians 1:30). "Christ also loved the church and gave himself for it, that he might sanctify and cleanse it with the washing of water by the word" (Ephesians 5:25-26). "By the which will we are sanctified through the offering of the body of Jesus Christ once for all" (Hebrews 10:10). See also 2 Timothy 2:16-21 and 1 Peter 1:2. Jesus came to save His people from their sins. A wholly sanctified life is the only one true standard of salvation (Hebrews 12:4, 1 Peter 1:15-17). One must be thoroughly saved from sin, wholly sanctified, and filled with the Holy Ghost to escape the judgments of God and to have the hope of enjoying the glory of eternal life.

Section 37. Holiness

We are earnestly contenting for a holy, Spirit-filled life with signs following, as on the day of Pentecost, which is God's standard of salvation (Mark 12:16-17, Acts 2:4, 8:14-17, 9:17, 10:44-48, 19:1-6, Romans 12:1-2, Hebrews 12:14, Matthew 5:48, 1 Peter 1:15-16). Godly living should characterize the life and walk of a saint, according to the pattern, sign, and example (1 Peter 2:21-22, Titus 2:11-12, Galatians 2:20, Luke 1:74-75, Ephesians 4:26, 2 Peter 5:11). We are commanded to cleanse ourselves from all filthiness of the flesh and spirit, perfecting holiness in the fear of God (2 Corinthians 7:1), to abstain from all appearance of evil (1 Thessalonians 5:22), and to turn away from those who have a form of godliness but deny the power thereof (1 Timothy 3:5).

Section 38. Marriage Obligations

"Therefore shall a man leave his father and his mother, and shall cleave unto his wife, and they shall be one flesh" (Genesis 2:24). "But I say unto you, that whosoever shall put away his wife, saving for the cause of fornication, causeth her to commit adultery: and whosoever shall marry her that is divorced committeth adultery" (Matthew 5:32, 19:9). See also Mark 10:9. "For the woman which hath a husband, is bound by law to her husband as long as he liveth, but if the husband be dead, she is loosed from the law of her husband (Romans 7:2). See also 1 Corinthians 7:39. "And unto the married I command, yet not I but the Lord, let not the wife depart from her husband, but and if she depart let her remain unmarried or be reconciled to her husband; and let not the husband put away his wife" (1 Corinthians 7:10-11). See 1 Corinthians 7:15 for unbelieving husbands. Based upon the scriptural reference of the 1611 King James Version of the Bible, marriage is an explicit (exclusive) union between a male and a female based upon the sex declared on his/her original birth certificate. "Be ye not unequally

yoked together with unbelievers” (1 Corinthians 6:14). Marriage with unbelievers is forbidden (Genesis 24:3, Deuteronomy 7:3, Joshua 23:12-13, Ezekiel 9:12, Nehemiah 13:25).

Section 39. Tithes

“All the tithe of the land, whether of the seed of the land or the fruit of the tree, is the Lord’s. It is holy unto the Lord” (Leviticus 27:30). See also Leviticus 27:30-33, 2 Chronicles 31:5-10. The tithes go to the Levites for their service (Numbers 18:21). The Levites were a type of the ministers of Christ in this age. “Even so hath the Lord ordained that they which preach the gospel should live of the gospel” (1 Corinthians 9:14). Abraham paid tithes under the faith covenant (Genesis 14:20, Hebrews 7:1-5). The Law, which was 430 years after the promise to Abraham, endorsed tithing. Jesus said it should not be left undone (Matthew 23:23). Levi, who received tithe, paid tithes in Abraham, and the sons of Levi were commanded to take tithes of the people, according to the Law, that is of their brethren, though they came out of the loins of Abraham (Galatians 3:8), and ought to pay tithes. “Bring ye all the tithes into the storehouse” (Malachi 3:10). Tithes and offerings are God’s financial plan for the support of the ministry.

Section 40. Offerings

“The liberal soul shall be made fat, and he that watereth shall be watered also himself” (Proverbs 11:25). “Honor the Lord with thy substance, and with the first fruits of all thine increase” (Proverbs 3:9-10). Give willingly (Exodus 25:2, 1 Chronicles 29:9). Every man gives as he is able (Deuteronomy 16:7). God loves a cheerful giver (2 Corinthians 9:7). “Lay aside upon the first day of the week” (1 Corinthians 16:2). If you do not pay your tithes and offerings, you rob God and are cursed with a curse (Malachi 3:8-9). We are the

Israel of God (Galatians 6:16) and it is the duty of Israel (the church) to support the ministry with their tithes and offerings.

Section 41. The Second Coming of Jesus

That the Lord is to come again to the earth is a truth that cannot be gainsaid. It is taught by our Lord, confirmed by the Apostles, and was expected, as is still being expected by the saints (1 Thessalonians 4:14-17, Matthew 24:30, Acts 1:9-11, Titus 2:13, 1 John 3:2), which will be a literal, personal returning of our Lord Jesus Christ.

Section 42. The Resurrection

Marvel not at this, for the hour is coming in which all they that are in their graves shall hear His voice and shall come forth. They that have done well, unto the resurrection of life, and they that have done evil, unto the resurrection of damnation (John 5:28-29, Daniel 12:2, Acts 24:15). Two resurrections are declared in the Word of God. The First Resurrection and the Second Resurrection are one thousand years apart. Christ is the first fruits of the First Resurrection, and afterwards they that are Christ's at His coming (1 Corinthians 15:20-23). The dead in Christ shall rise first (1 Thessalonians 4:16). "Blessed and holy is he that hath part in the first resurrection: on such the second death hath no power, but they shall be priests of God and of Christ, and shall reign with him a thousand years" (Revelation 20:6). "But the rest of the dead lived not again until the thousand years were finished" (Revelation 20:5, 12-15).

Section 43. The Translation of the Saints

"The Lord himself shall descend from heaven with a shout, and with the voice of the archangel, and with the trump of God, and the dead in Christ shall rise first. Then we which are alive and remain shall

be caught up (translated) together with them in the clouds to meet the Lord in the air” (1 Thessalonians 4:13-18). See also Matthew 24:36-42, Luke 17:20-37, 1 Corinthians 15:51, Philippians 3:20-21.

Section 44. The Millennium

“And they lived and reigned with Christ a thousand years” (Revelation 20:4). That there is to be a period of one thousand (1000) years, during which time Satan shall be bound and Christ shall reign on the earth, is plainly stated in the New Testament (Revelation 20:1-5). And for one thousand years there will be peace on earth, and the desert shall rejoice and blossom as the rose (Isaiah 35:1, 65:17-25, Matthew 5:5, Daniel 5:27, Micah 4:1-2, Hebrews 2:14, Romans 11:25-27).

Section 45. The White Throne Judgement

After the thousand years are finished, there will be a resurrection of the dead. Both small and great shall stand before God at the Great White Throne Judgment, and He will judge according to their works. All whose names are not found written in the Book of Life shall be cast into the Lake of Fire burning with brimstone, where the devil, the beast, and the false prophet are (Matthew 25:41, Revelation 19:20, 20:7-15, 21:8).

Section 46. The Laws of the Land

Magistrates are ordained for the peace, safety, and welfare of the people (Romans 13:1-10). Our duty is to be in obedience to all laws that are not contrary to the Word of God and that do not require a violation of the Sixth Commandment by taking up arms or going to war. Our duty is to honor them, pay our burdens as may be assessed against us by taxation without complaint (Matthew 17:24-27), thus showing proper respect to those things in all legal requirements of our government.

Section 47. Immorality

We believe that immoral behavior in any of its manifestations including, but not limited to, adultery, incest, rape, child abuse, homosexuality, sodomy, rape, and sexual deviation is sin. Any person who is a willing participant in any such immoral or ungodly act shall not have any rights or privileges in this church.

Section 48. Christian Modesty

Christian modesty is a matter of properly reverent and pious behavior as becomes those called into the righteousness of Christ. It can be seen in commandments such as prohibitions against using profane and unwholesome language (Ephesians 4:29, 1 Timothy 4:12), wearing immodest apparel, and the use of ornamental jewelry (1 Timothy 2:9-10, 1 Peter 3:3-4). The commandment of God is that we glorify God in our bodies (1 Corinthians 6:20), presenting them as living sacrifices unto the Lord (Romans 12:1-2). This cannot be done by following the fads and fashions of the world which encourage, among other things, the immodest exposing of the body through formfitting and revealing clothing.

We affirm the ancient biblical principle that the two genders are and should be distinct (Genesis 1:26-27, Matthew 19:14). They should be distinct in their dress insomuch as a woman's outer garments should not "gird up your loins as a man," nor should men wear garments distinctive of a woman (Job 38:3, Deuteronomy 22:5). They should also be distinct in their hairstyles with women leaving their hair uncut and men wearing their hair cut (1 Corinthians 11:1-16).

We also disapprove of the wearing of makeup, hair dye, and such like as serving no purpose other than to satisfy pride and vanity, both

of which are hinderances to the Christian life and fail to reflect the nature of Christ (James 4:6, Psalm 138:6). These all are devices of Satan used as a deceptive trap and attack against the true beauty that comes from serving in the fear of the Lord (Proverbs 31:30, 1 Peter 3:4, 1 Timothy 2:10).

**BYLAWS OF THE
APOSTOLIC CHURCH OF JESUS CHRIST
INTERNATIONAL, INC.**

PROLOGUE

The tenets of faith and spiritual prerogatives contained herein provide a doctrinal foundation for the Apostolic Church of Jesus Christ International, Inc., and reflect a purpose that is higher and greater than any one individual or group of individuals involved in the betterment of this corporate body.

These Articles of Faith and Bylaws are set forth in order to establish the standard to which our Licensed Ministers shall be held accountable in matters of doctrine and practice. We recognize the sovereignty of the local church and do not herein or hereby claim or attempt to claim authority therein.

The letter of the law contained in the following Articles is necessary for human accountability, direction, and order. The spirit of love, mutual respect, and teachability, however, must never be cast aside in the process of implementing any of these Articles.

We hold that in the essentials there must be unity, in non-essentials there must be liberty, and in all things, there must be charity.

**ARTICLE I
ORGANIZATION**

Section 1. Name

The name of this Corporation shall be THE APOSTOLIC CHURCH OF JESUS CHRIST INTERNATIONAL, INC. hereinafter also

referred to as ACJCII, the “Church,” the “Organization” or the “Corporation.”

The ACJCII was organized as a foundation for the unity of all believers of the Oneness Movement, under the Church name that best reveals the complete foundation of the New Testament Church which, we feel, has been named by the mouth of the Lord, showing that His Church is built upon the foundation of the Apostles and Prophets, Jesus Christ himself being the Chief Corner Stone (Ephesians 2:20-22).

The Corporation shall keep:

- A. A fiscal year of July 1 through June 30.
- B. Correct and complete books and records of accounts.
- C. Minutes of the proceedings of its members, General Board, committees having and exercising any of the authority of the General Board, and any other committee.
- D. At the principal office, a record giving the names and addresses of the General Board members entitled to vote.
- E. Books and records of the ACJCII, maybe inspected only by a member of the General Board, or his agent, for any proper purpose at any reasonable time.

Section 2. Headquarters

The principal/national office of the ACJCII shall be the same as the address of the General Chairman. The Corporation may have such other offices as may be determined from time to time by the Board of Directors, hereinafter also called the General Board.

Section 3. Purpose

Within the context outlined in the Articles of Incorporation of the Church, including all amendments duly made thereto, the purposes of the Corporation are as follows:

- A. The Corporation is organized exclusively for religious, educational, and charitable purposes, to proclaim, promote, and further the Gospel of Jesus Christ, and His Kingdom as set forth in the Word of God, the Holy Bible; to teach all truths based upon and contained within the Holy Bible; and to promote religious, educational, and charitable projects in the field of Christian evangelism.
- B. The propagation of the gospel of Jesus Christ through the establishment and maintenance of worldwide fellowship of Apostolic ministries and to minister the Gospel of Jesus Christ throughout the United States of America and around the world.
- C. Furthering the aims aforesaid, to establish, promote, support, and maintain churches and missions in the United States of America and foreign lands; to promote fellowship and means of cooperation between churches of like faith and doctrine, to spread the gospel of Jesus Christ through all lawful means.
- D. Furthering the aims aforesaid, to train, ordain, license, and commission Pastors, home and foreign missionaries, chaplains, and Christian workers; and to promulgate standards for such ministers.
- E. Furthering the aims aforesaid, to establish and maintain private secondary Christian schools.
- F. To establish and maintain Bible and training schools to provide training for ministers of the gospel. To ordain and license qualified ministers of the gospel for the work of the ministry. To inaugurate and maintain charitable institutions,

such as homes for the aged, rest homes for ministers and missionaries, orphanages, homes for the indigent and those bound by substance abuse, cemeteries, schools, and kindred institutions.

- G. To maintain such relations with local, state, federal, and foreign governments as may be necessary for the successful accomplishments of the purposes of the organization and the welfare of the churches, ministers, and members thereof.
- H. Furthering the aims aforesaid, to use such methods as radio, sound recordings, magnetic and videotape recordings, motion and sound pictures, still pictures, books, tracts, pamphlets, music, advertisement on television, the internet, and interviews on mass media. Furthering the aims aforesaid, to publish and distribute Christian literature of all kinds; and to own and operate printing shops, publishing houses, and presses.
- I. Furthering the aims aforesaid, to engage in the business of radio broadcasting, including, but not limited to, AM, FM, FM multiplex transmissions, satellite translators, and other means of electronic transmissions of music and messages; to own, sell, hold, lease, equip, maintain, and operate radio broadcasting and receiving stations; and to transmit, receive, re-transmit, or collect by electronic means, religious music, sermons, teachings, plays, or any other thing of a religious nature which may be transmitted by radio, or electronic signals.
- J. Furthering the aims aforesaid, to provide Christian counseling services.
- K. Furthering the aims aforesaid, to provide auxiliary services and assistance to other Christian groups, churches, organizations, and ministries; and to distribute and disseminate all kinds of written materials of interest to

Christian persons, groups, organizations, churches, and ministries

- L. Furthering the aims aforesaid, to render charitable assistance of all kinds to persons in need (including physical, financial, educational, and spiritual needs).
- M. Furthering the aims aforesaid, to contribute financially to all kinds of Christian groups, organizations, churches, and charities; provided, however, that all such organizations must qualify as exempt organizations under Section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986, or as the same may hereafter be amended.

Section 4. Corporate Powers

The general powers of the corporation are:

- A. To accept, receive, hold, sell, re-invest, and dispose of gifts, donations, devices, and bequests of both real and personal property. To purchase, acquire, own, hold, sell, use, mortgage, transfer, pledge, and deed in trust personal or real property; to supervise property of others; to borrow money; and to issue bonds, debentures, notes, and other obligations of this Corporation from time to time for any of the projects or purposes of this Corporation. To buy, lease, rent, or otherwise acquire, hold or use, own, enjoy, sell, exchange, lease as lesser, mortgage, deed in trust, pledge, encumber, transfer on trust, or otherwise dispose of any kinds of property, whether real, personal, or mixed, and to receive property by devise or bequest. To borrow money and to contract debts, to issue bonds, notes, and other evidence of indebtedness, and to secure them by any or all of the property of this Corporation or to issue them unsecured. To enter into, make, perform, and carry out contracts of every kind for any lawful purpose and without limit on the amount with any

persons, firm, or corporation. To have and to exercise all the powers conferred by the laws of the United States upon non-profit religious corporations, as that law is now in effect or may at any time hereafter be amended.

- B. To engage such employees as may be necessary to perform the duties involved in carrying on the Corporation's business.
- C. To make Bylaws for the government of the Corporation, not inconsistent with laws of the United States, individual states, or foreign countries wherein the corporation might minister; and to alter, revise, and amend the same at will.
- D. To receive contributions and to make donations to dispense charitable contributions through, and otherwise aid and support, those organizations qualified for exemption from federal income tax under Section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986. As now in effect or subsequently amended.
- E. No part of the net earnings of the Corporation shall inure to the benefit of, or be distributed to, its members, officers, trustees, directors, or any person except that the Corporation shall be authorized and empowered to pay reasonable compensation for services rendered, and to make payments in the furtherance of the purposes of the Corporation.
- F. Except for those powers expressly held by the General Conference or to others as provided in these bylaws, the temporal affairs of the Corporation shall be managed by its General Board whose members shall have a fiduciary obligation to the Corporation.

Section 5. Contracts, Checks, Deposits, and Funds

- A. The General Board may authorize any officer or officers, agent or agents, trustee or trustees of the ACJCII in addition

to the officers so authorized by these Bylaws, to enter into any contract or execute and deliver any instrument in the name of and on behalf of the organization, and such authority may be general or may be confined to specific instances and/or to a specific period of time as defined by the General Board.

- B. All checks, drafts, or orders for the payment of money, notes, or other evidences of indebtedness issued in the name of the organization shall be signed by such an officer or officers, agent or agents of the organization and in such manner as shall from time to time be determined by resolution of the General Board. In the absence of such determination by the General Board, such instruments may be signed by either the Secretary/Treasurer or President of the corporation.
- C. All funds of the ACJCII shall be deposited from the time to time to the credit of the Corporation in such banks, trust companies, or other depositories as the General Board may select.
- D. The General Board may accept on behalf of the ACJCII any contribution, gift, bequest, or device for any purpose of the Corporation.

Section 6. Political Activities

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 any candidate for public office. Notwithstanding any other provision of these Articles, 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 of 1986 (or

the corresponding provision of any future United States Internal Revenue Law) or (b) by a corporation, contributions to which are deductible under Section 170(c) (2) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 or the corresponding provision of any future United States Internal Revenue Law.

Section 7. Corporate Seal

The General Board may provide a corporate seal, which shall bear the legal name of the Corporation.

Section 8. Dissolution

Upon the dissolution of the Corporation, the General Board shall, after the payment of all the liabilities of the Corporation, dispose of all of the assets of the Corporation exclusively for the purposes of the Corporation in such manner, or to such organization or organizations organized and operated exclusively for charitable, educational, religious, or scientific purposes as shall qualify as an exempt corporation or organizations under Section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986, as amended, (or of the corresponding provisions of any future United States Revenue Law) as the General Board shall determine.

Section 9. Limitations

- A. Private Benefit - No part of the net earnings of the Corporation shall inure to the benefit of, or be distributable to, its members, officers, trustees, directors, or any person except that the Corporation shall be authorized and empowered to pay reasonable compensation for services rendered, and to make payments in the furtherance of the purposes of the Corporation.
- B. Charitable Purposes - This Corporation is organized and shall be operated exclusively for charitable, religious, and

educational purposes, including, for such purposes, the making of distributions to organizations that qualify as exempt organizations under Section 501(c) (3) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 (or the corresponding provision of any future United States Internal Revenue Law.)

- C. Notwithstanding any other provisions of the Articles of Incorporation or these Bylaws, The Corporation shall not carry on any activity 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 of 1986, as amended, (or by the corresponding section of any future Revenue Code of the United States of America) or (b) by a corporation, contributions of which are deductible under Section 170(c) (2) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986, as amended (or the corresponding section of any future United States Revenue Law.)

Section 10. Amendments to the Bylaws

- A. These Bylaws, or any part thereof, may be altered, amended, or repealed, and new Bylaws may be adopted by a two-thirds (2/3) majority vote at a regularly scheduled business meeting at the Annual Conference.
- B. Any Article or any portion of these Bylaws found to be in conflict with existing state or federal law or should any provision in these Bylaws be found to be unenforceable and/or invalid, such finding shall not invalidate the entire Bylaws, but only the subject provision shall be considered null and void.

Section 11. Amendments to the Articles of Incorporation

- A. The Articles of Incorporation of the Organization may be amended at any regular meeting of the members of the General Board or at any special meeting of the same called for that purpose, by a majority vote of the members present or represented by an absentee ballot at the meeting.
- B. No amendment to the Articles of Incorporation shall be made at any regular meeting, and no such action shall be taken at any special meeting unless a written notice at least two weeks in advance is given to each member. Such amended Articles shall be executed and acknowledged by the officers in whom the management of the affairs of the Corporation is vested, and shall be filed and recorded in the same place as the original Articles.

ARTICLE II MEMBERSHIP

Section 1. Qualifications

“This is a true saying, if a man desires the office of a bishop, he desired a good work. A bishop then must be blameless, the husband of one wife, vigilant, sober, of good behavior, given to hospitality, apt to teach, not given to wine, no striker, not given to filthy lucre; but patient, not a brawler, not covetous, one that ruleth well his own house having his children in subjection with all gravity, not a novice, lest being lifted up with pride he fall into condemnation of the devil. Moreover, he must have a good report of them which are without, lest he fall into reproach and the snare of the devil” (I Timothy 3:1-7 and Titus 1:4-9).

No minister will be permitted to hold license with the ACJCII, who is not in full accordance with The Articles of Faith and Bylaws of

this Corporation. All ministers of the ACJCII shall believe and teach the New Birth, as in John 3:5, Acts 2:1-4, and Acts 2:38.

Section 2. Title

Paul left Titus in Crete to set things in order and to ordain elders in every city. Here Paul called a minister an elder (Titus 1:5). He called the same elder a bishop (Titus 1:7). The same elder overseer (Acts 20:28). Paul gives the qualifications of a bishop to be identical with the qualifications of an elder.

Section 3. Bible Training Program

The ACJCII makes provision to establish a prescribed Bible Training program and/or cooperate with an established Bible training school so that individuals desiring licensing and ordination as ministers of the ACJCII shall successfully complete all criteria and courses of study offered or recommended by the General Board.

Section 4. Application for Credentials

- A. Three classifications of credentials – Full Credentials (Ordination), General License, and Local License – shall be issued by the ACJCII as follows:
 1. Any minister desiring credentials shall present an application and questionnaire with all questions answered in harmony with the Article of Faith and Bylaws and a check for an amount equal to one (1) year's license fee to the General Secretary/Treasurer or to the Secretary of a District of the ACJCII.
 2. The applicant shall be examined by a licensing committee of three (3) or more ministers who may be appointed by the General Chairman or by the respective District Elder.

3. The ACJCII will not allow any of its ministers to hold credentials with two (2) organizations or religious bodies at the same time.
4. All ministers coming into the ACJCII shall come under subjection and in obedience to all Articles of Faith and Bylaws, discipline, and church government.
5. Ministers residing outside of the United States shall make application to the Foreign Missions Department, the Director, Assistant Director, and Secretary/Treasurer of which shall serve as the licensing committee. The annual license fee of these ministers shall be set by the Director of Foreign Missions and shall be adjusted to a value in harmony with the standard of currency of the minister's country of residence.

Section 5. Local License

- A. A Local License may be issued to workers and beginners in the ministry being no younger than 18 years of age.
- B. The bearer thereto shall be required to carry a Local License for a minimum of one year under the direction of a Pastor licensed by the ACJCII, or until such time as the bearer has, by actual experience in the ministry, sufficiently qualified for a General License.
- C. The bearer of a Local License shall not be authorized to Pastor or hold a National or District level office nor perform marriages.
- D. The annual license fee for a Local License shall be \$200 per year to be paid to the licensees District.

Section 6. General License

- A. A General license may be issued in accordance with the fulfillment of the above-mentioned Local License requirements or upon proof of sufficient qualifications.
- B. General License holders shall be required to carry a General License for a minimum of one year before being granted Ordination.
- C. The bearer of this license shall not be authorized to hold National office or a District executive office. Except for the Youth Department and the Ladies Auxiliary Department.
- D. The annual license fee for a General License shall be \$225 per year to be paid to the licensees District

Section 7. Full Credentials (Ordination)

- A. Full Credentials (Ordination) may be issued in accordance with fulfillment of the above requirements for General license or upon sufficient proof of qualifications.
- B. Full Credentials may not be issued to any person with less than two years' experience in the ministry.
- C. The annual license fee for Full Credentials (Ordination) shall be \$250 per year to be paid to the licensees District.

Section 8. Processing Applicants

The following guidelines must be used in every District:

- A. There must be a licensing committee consisting of the District Executive Board or of three (3) or more ministers who may be appointed by the District Elder.
- B. In order to be eligible, a candidate must submit an application for a license in the State/District where he resides, except in the event of the mutual consent of the respective District Elders and the General

Secretary/Treasurer, along with a check equal to one (1) year's license fee.

- C. Said applicant shall not be considered by the licensing committee unless the application is signed by all of the District Executive Board members.
- D. No license shall be issued to any applicant prior to a thirty-day background check.

Section 9. Renewals

- A. All annual license renewals must be approved by the District Elder in that respective District.
- B. A District Elder may not withhold an annual Fellowship card unless proper charges are filed in writing to the District Secretary.
- C. Any minister failing to keep his or her license fee current shall receive a notification from their District Secretary/Treasurer by final notice statement, that their license fee is 30 days past due. In which they remit the full amount of their fee with a thirty-dollar (\$30.00) reinstatement fee. And shall be reinstated, if payments are received within 20 days of termination notice; otherwise, the minister must complete new application form and appear before the District Executive Board.
- D. In hardship cases, in the event that a minister cannot meet his or her renewal fees on time, due to financial or health related problems, he or she shall submit a letter requesting deferment of payment. Letter should be sent to the District Secretary/Treasurer and he shall send a letter to the General Secretary/Treasurer notifying him of the situation.
- E. Delinquent renewals accepted at a District or national conference forfeits the member's right to vote or accept an

office for that year's conference unless it is the annual renewal date.

- F. Lifetime License are available after 30 consecutive years upon request.

Section 10. Ministers with Previous Ordination/Licensing

- A. Ministers with previous Ordination from a Oneness organization may be accepted, provided they desire to obtain Full Credentials with the ACJCII, are in harmony and fellowship with the Articles of Faith and Bylaws of the ACJCII, and can furnish the required recommendation.
- B. Those with previous licensing from a Oneness organization though not Ordained may be accepted with no more than a General License.

Section 11. Licensing of Women

Women may be ordained to the Ministry by the ACJCII, according to the Scriptures (Joel 2:28-29, Acts 2:17-18 and Acts 21:8-9).

Section 12. Ministers from Outside Like Precious Faith

- A. Ministers coming out of denominations or sectarian churches into the ACJCII shall not be eligible to hold a National Office in said named Corporation until he or she has been licensed by the ACJCII for a period of five (5) consecutive years.
- B. Said ministers must be in harmony and fellowship with the Articles of Faith and Bylaws of the ACJCII, and be able to furnish the required recommendation.

Section 13. Pentecostal Ministers Transferring In

Pentecostal ministers coming into the ACJCII shall not be eligible to hold a National Office for a period of three (3) consecutive years.

Section 14. Divorced and/or Remarried Ministers

We recognize just causes for divorce and remarriage within the confines of clear Scriptural authority. To that end, and believing that judgement begins at the house of God, the ACJCII will accept, on a case-by-case basis, applications from ministers having been divorced and/or remarried, shall thoroughly examine the applicant and the causes leading up to the dissolution of the union, and shall rely upon the Spirit of God to guide in a decision regarding the application.

Section 15. Annual Fellowship Card

For the purpose of keeping a Record of Ministers who hold license with the ACJCII, and how they stand on lines of doctrine, all Credentials shall be null and void without an annual ministerial courtesy card attached thereunto.

Section 15. Restoration Policy for Ministers

Restoration of fallen ministers to the ministry finds at best weak support in the Old Testament. It is true David was restored to God after his sin with Bathsheba including both adultery and murder. We, of the ACJCII, feel deeply on the spirit of restoration to saint and minister. In the New Testament, restoration was in consideration of mercy and grace. The blood of Jesus Christ covers a multitude of sins. We feel that a minister can be forgiven and restored to his or her ministry under proper guidelines of the ACJCII.

Section 16. Discipline

All existing ministers and those coming into the ACJCII shall come under subjection and in obedience to all Articles of Faith and Bylaws. Upon proof of practicing or teaching otherwise, the

minister shall be governed according to Article VII of this document.

ARTICLE III

OFFICERS AND BOARDS; THEIR POWERS AND DUTIES

Section 1. The General Chairman

- A. The General Chairman shall be the President and Chief Executive Officer of the Corporation. He shall have general management of the business of the Organization and general supervision of the other officers. He shall preside at all meetings of the Corporation and see that all orders and resolutions of the General Conference are carried into effect, subject, however, to the right of the Board to delegate to any other officer or officers of the Corporation any specific powers, other than those that may be conferred only upon the President. He shall execute in the name of the Corporation all deeds, bonds, mortgages, contracts, and other documents authorized by the Board of Directors. He shall be an ex-officio member of all standing committees and shall have the general powers and duties of supervision and management usually vested in the office of president of the corporation. He shall be designated attorney-in-fact for the Corporation by virtue of his office.
- B. The General Chairman's duties shall include the following:
 - 1. To preside at all General Conferences.
 - 2. To call and preside at all General Board meetings.
 - 3. To appoint all committees pertaining to the general work.
 - 4. To oversee the functions of the Organization in general.
 - 5. To countersign all licenses.

- C. The General Chairman, by virtue of his office, shall act as President in all legal matters.
- D. He shall be authorized to sign all official and legal documents, deeds, and mortgages.

Section 2. The Assistant General Chairman

- A. The Assistant General Chairman shall perform the duties and exercise the powers of the General Chairman in case of his temporary absence from the office of the Corporation and shall perform such other duties as may from time to time be granted or imposed by the General Chairman, the General Board or the General Conference.
- B. Duties of the Assistant General Chairman shall include the following:
 - 1. To work under and in harmony with the General Chairman
 - 2. To fill the office of General Chairman if and when necessary or when so requested by the General Chairman.

Section 3. The General Secretary/Treasurer

- A. As Secretary, the General Secretary/Treasurer shall attend all sessions of the General Board and General Conference of the ACJCII and act as clerk and recorder thereof, recording all votes and the minutes of all proceedings in a book to be kept for that purpose. He shall perform like duties for the executive and standing committees when required. He shall give, or cause to be given, notice of meetings of the General Board and General Conference when notice is required to be given under these Bylaws or by any resolution of the Board. He shall have custody of the seal to all authorized documents requiring a seal. He shall keep the membership rolls of the

ACJCII, and in general perform the duties usually incident to the office of Secretary, and such further duties as shall from time to time be prescribed by the General Board or the President.

- B. As Treasurer, the General Secretary/Treasurer shall keep full and accurate account of the receipts and disbursements in books belonging to the ACJCII, and shall deposit all monies and other valuable effects in the name and to the credit of the Corporation in such banks and depositories as may be designated by the President and General Board, but shall not be personally liable for the safekeeping of any funds or securities so deposited pursuant to the order of the Board. He shall disburse the funds of the ACJCII, as may be ordered by the General Board and shall render to the President and General Board at the regular meeting of the Board, and whenever they may require, accounts of all his transactions as Treasurer and of the financial condition of the Corporation. He shall perform the duties usually incident to the office of Treasurer and such other duties as may be prescribed by the General Board or by the President.
- C. The specific duties of the General Secretary/Treasurer shall include the following:
 - 1. To take minutes and to preserve records of the business of the General Organization.
 - 2. To receive and disburse all general funds of the Organization as directed by the general body, along with the payment of current operating expenses.
 - 3. To make a report yearly to the General Conference.
 - 4. To have the books of finances of the Organization audited once each year prior to the General Conference and submitted to the General Board for its approval.

5. To sign all licenses and fellowship cards.
 6. He shall be a trustee of all Corporation property.
 7. He shall submit a planned budget to the General Board each year.
 8. He shall be authorized to withhold any credential, license, or fellowship card in any event he has reason to believe that the applicant might be in question, and to refer same to District or Credential Committee.
- D. All bank accounts, either District or National, must have at least two signatures on the back of the bank account cards. For District accounts, the District Elder and a member of the National Executive Board will be two of the required signatures. For national accounts, the General Secretary/Treasurer will be one of the required signatures.
- E. The General Secretary/Treasurer shall be authorized to sign all official and legal documents necessary for the business of the Organization.

Section 4. Executive Board

The General Chairman, Assistant General Chairman, and General Secretary/Treasurer shall be the members of the Executive Board. They shall be authorized to carry out the orders and resolutions of the General Conference and to conduct all business of the Corporation in accordance with these bylaws. The General Board, while in session, shall be the Executive Board.

Section 5. General Board

- A. The General Board shall consist of the Executive Board and the District Elder.
- B. The Duties and powers of the General Board shall be those necessary to:

1. Oversee the spiritual and material welfare of the Organization in general.
2. Direct the business of the Organization as authorized by these bylaws.

Section 6. Board of Trustees

- A. The General Chairman and General Secretary/Treasurer shall, by virtue of their office, be the members of the Trustee Board of the ACJCII.
- B. The Board of Trustees shall:
 1. Act as the oversight of all properties purchased in the name of the ACJCII
 2. See to the upkeep of the properties as to improvements, repairs, construction, etc.
 3. Be authorized by the Organization to make necessary loans and grant loans pertaining thereto.
 4. Be authorized by a majority vote at the General Conference to lease, by, or sell properties for the organization, or to work out any negotiable plan on any property involved.
- C. The Chairman of the ACJCII shall act as Chairman of the Trustee Board.

Section 7. National Foreign Missions Director

(See ARTICLE IX for Bylaws governing the Foreign Missions Department.)

Section 8. National Home Missions Director

(See ARTICLE X for Bylaws governing the Home Missions Department.)

Section 9. National Youth Director

(See ARTICLE XI for Bylaws governing the Youth Department.)

Section 10. National Sunday School Director

(See ARTICLE XII for Bylaws governing the National Sunday School Department.)

Section 11. Editor of the Apostolic Standard

(See ARTICLE XIII for Bylaws governing the Apostolic Standard and Publications Department.)

Section 12. National Ladies Auxiliary President

(See ARTICLE XIV for Bylaws governing the Ladies Auxiliary Department.)

Section 13. Obligations of All General Officers

It shall be the duty of all General Officers:

- A. To manifest an interest in financing the Organization with which they carry Credentials.
- B. To help build up the ACJCII
- C. To take a special interest in getting all our local Apostolic Churches of Jesus Christ set in order.
- D. At the expiration of their term in office, all General Officers of the ACJCII shall relinquish all records, monies, and properties pertaining to their office to their successors.

ARTICLE IV

THE ANNUAL GENERAL CONFERENCE

Section 1. Time of the Annual General Conference

The time of the annual General Conference of the ACJCII shall be decided by the General Board at the General Conference each preceding year.

Section 2. Location of Annual General Conference

The General Board shall select and secure a site for each Annual General Conference.

Section 3. Annual General Conference Committee

The Executive Board of the ACJC, shall serve as the Annual General Conference Committee whose responsibilities shall include the following:

- A. To select and secure the General Conference site each year.
- B. See to the printing and presentation of a General Conference brochure consisting of a report from all National department Directors showing their department's accomplishments of the past year, financial report, projections for the coming year, and the Conference agenda. The brochure should include any advertisement possible for the forthcoming General Conference location and dates.

Section 4. General Powers of the Annual General Conference

The Annual General Conference of the ACJCII, shall have the power to make rules and regulations, governing the corporation and its members and shall be empowered to enforce them.

Section 5. The Annual General Conference Business Meeting

The Annual Business Meeting of the Corporation shall be held at the General Conference at a time and place named by the Executive Board.

A. Voting Rights

1. The right to vote at the Annual General Conference Business Meeting shall be reserved to licensed ministers who are in good standing and fellowship with the ACJCII and lay delegates selected by the local churches that have been set in order.
2. Each local church that has conformed to the bylaws of the ACJCII, having been sent in order by a minister in good standing with the ACJCII, shall be entitled to send one (1) delegate to the Annual General Conference for each one hundred (100) lay members, or fraction thereof, as reflected in their active attendance records. All delegate letters must be submitted to the General Secretary/Treasurer no later than June 30.
 - i. Delegates shall have the right to vote in the elections of officers.
3. The term “in good standing” is defined as:
 - i. Attending the District Conference, Annual General Conference, and District functions, or be excused from attending by the District Elder of the respective District. Reasons for being excused may be for health, finances, family death/sickness, or any other legitimate cause.
 - ii. Having a verifiable monthly financial effort by the District Executive Board.
 - iii. Supporting all Departments and their respective District through tithes and offerings.

1. Licensed Pastors not receiving tithes are still accountable for tithes to the District from the tithing received of the church they serve.
4. Repercussions of not meeting the definition of “in good standing”:
 - i. Minister cannot vote in District or national elections for a minimum of one year.
 - ii. Minister cannot hold or be elected to a District or national office for a minimum of one year.
 - iii. Minister cannot submit resolutions or verbally participate in a District or national meeting.
 - iv. Minister cannot minister at a state or national function.
 - v. Minister is responsible for communication with the General or Executive Board members should their status not meet the “in good standing” definition.
 - vi. If a minister is in a position of leadership in the organization and is unable to maintain a status of “in good standing” within a 90-day period, the minister relinquished by default all titles and positions of leadership held within the organization.
 - vii. An office or position relinquished due to violation of the definition of “in good standing” may be held open and the minister restored thereto after maintaining required status for a full 90-day period or the office or position may be left vacant until the next scheduled general session of the voting assembly.

B. Election of General Officers

1. The National (General) Officers of the Organization shall be elected by secret ballot at the General Conference as set forth in this Article.
 - i. The General Chairman, Assistant General Chairman, and General Secretary/Treasurer shall be elected for a three (3) year term. These officers shall be elected on alternate years. All other National Officers shall be elected at the same time as the Executive Officers.
 - ii. Any one person may hold two elective offices that would automatically make up the General Board. This would consist of the General Chairman, Assistant General Chairman, General Secretary/Treasurer, and District Elders.
 - iii. An officer of the ACJCII may be elected to succeed himself/herself.
2. Election Procedures:
 - i. Ministers interested in holding a position should be allowed to let it be so stated on the conference floor prior to the nominating ballot. If there are three or less names, proceed directly to the electoral ballot.
 - ii. All votes for the officers shall be by secret ballot.
 - iii. The first ballot cast for each office shall be a nominating ballot. The three names thereon receiving the largest number of votes shall be presented to the conference for an electoral ballot which shall follow. Any nominee wishing to decline must do so on this ballot.
 - iv. A two-thirds ($\frac{2}{3}$) vote for any office on the nominating ballot shall be declared and election.

If the person so elected declines to accept the office in question, a new ballot shall be taken for other nominees.

- v. If a majority is not obtained by the second electoral ballot, only the names of the two persons receiving the highest number of votes shall be returned to the conference and balloting shall continue until one of them receives a majority.

3. Qualifications of National (General) Officers

- i. To be eligible to serve as a General Officer, one must be in good standing with the ACJCII.
- ii. Ministers coming out of denominations or sectarian churches (non-Pentecostal) into the ACJCII shall not be eligible to hold a National Office in the Corporation until having been licensed by the Organization for a period of five (5) consecutive years.
- iii. Pentecostal ministers coming into the ACJCII shall not be eligible to hold a National Office for a period of three (3) consecutive years.

C. Agenda

- 1. The agenda of the Annual Business Meeting of the Conference shall be as follows:
 - i. All session shall open with prayer.
 - ii. Meeting called or order by the General Chairman.
 - iii. Reading of the minutes of the last Annual General Conference business meeting.
 - iv. Reading of reports, which shall be given in the following order:
 - 1. General Chairman

2. Assistant General Chairman
 3. General Secretary/Treasurer
 4. Foreign Missions Department
 5. Home Missions Department
 6. Youth Department
 7. Sunday School Department
 8. Publications Department
 9. Ladies Auxiliary Department
 10. Committee Report
 - v. Unfinished Business
 - vi. New Business
 - vii. Elections of Officers
 - viii. Adjournment
- D. All resolutions shall be properly written and signed by the author and submitted to the Resolution Committee which shall be appointed by the General Chairman. This committee is to decide which of the resolutions shall be presented to the General Conference. All resolutions must be submitted by June 30
- E. All business sessions shall be conducted according to parliamentary procedure in keeping with the spirit of Christian love and fellowship.

ARTICLE V

SPIRITUAL PREROGATIVES

In addition to all foregoing statements of purposes and powers, the spiritual prerogatives of this Corporation include, but are not limited to, the following:

- A. To establish, edify, and enlarge a caring body of Spirit-filled Apostolic believers that will:
1. Glorify the Lord Jesus Christ,

2. Advance the Kingdom of God,
 3. Provide a redemptive influence in the world around them,
 4. Prepare the next generation to do the same.
- B. Since the body of Christ is to be a kingdom of priests (I Peter 2:5, 9), the philosophy of this Corporation is that every member should be a minister, actively engaged in:
1. Ministering to the Lord in worship, praise, and through stewardship of our tithes and talents,
 2. Ministering to each other through fellowship, mutual edification, personal ministry, and practical service, to the world through evangelism, benevolence, and other acts of Christian service. Among the basic objectives of this Organization are the following:
 - i. To propagate the gospel of the Kingdom and teach the Word of God, so people may be evangelized and believers may be conformed to the image of Christ.
 - ii. To raise the spiritual vision of our people by regularly assembling the members of our Churches for fellowship one with another both in large public gatherings and in small fellowship groups in homes and other places, to worship God in Spirit and truth, and to cooperate in the building up of the whole body of Christ.
 - iii. To involve every participant of our Churches in fellowship and activities; to help them discover and develop their spiritual gifts, find their unique place in the body, and minister to their fullest potential in the power of the Holy Spirit.
 - iv. To strengthen family units so that the home life of each member is healthy and fruitful by biblical standards; to equip and aid the parents in

fulfilling their God-given mandate to educate their children in a manner consistent with Holy Scripture.

- v. To perform the ordinances of the holy Christian Church which include baptizing believers in water in the name of Jesus Christ, celebrating the Lord's Supper, and to perform other ministries including but not limited to dedicating babies, conducting weddings, and officiating funerals.
- vi. To exert a positive and redeeming influence in our communities and country by all lawful means, including but not limited to, praying for those in authority as instructed in I Timothy 2:1-3, and interceding on behalf of our nation according to II Chronicles 7:14.
- vii. To honor Jesus Christ in His ministry, manifestation, and direction in the life of this Corporation and all its decisions and activities.

ARTICLE VI

ORDINANCES AND RELATED CHURCH PRACTICES

Local churches of the ACJCII shall observe the following Church Ordinances, all of which shall be administered by duly licensed Ministers, who are standing in accordance with the Articles of Faith, and Bylaws of the ACJCII.

Section 1. Water Baptism

The ordinance of baptism by immersion in water (Acts 2:38) shall be administered to all those who have repented of their sins and who have believed on the Lord Jesus Christ for the salvation of their souls, and who give clear evidence of their salvation (Romans 6:35;

Colossians 2:12) in accordance with Section 12 of the Articles of Faith.

Section 2. The Lord's Supper

The ordinance of the Lord's Supper shall be observed regularly and literally as enjoined in the Scriptures (Luke 22:19-20; I Corinthians 11:23-26) in Accordance with Section 34 of the Articles of Faith.

Section 3. Anointing the Sick with Oil

The ministry of elders anointing the sick with oil shall be available to all who ask for it (James 5:14) in accordance with Section 33 of the Articles of Faith.

Section 4. Dedication of Babies

While our organization does not practice or condone infant baptism, it does make provision for and indeed encourages a formal, public dedication of babies to the Lord by their parents.

Section 5. Operation of the Gifts of the Spirit

As a Pentecostal body, this Corporation condones and encourages the manifestation of the gifts of the Spirit in public meetings, so long as such manifestations conform to Scriptural order (I Corinthians 12 and 14).

Section 6. Fasting

While there are no ironclad rules concerning fasting, the Bible teaches there are instances when fasting needs to accompany prayer. We believe that fasting can increase our faith, build us up spiritually, and bring victory if we practice it as and when God directs us. Fasting by members is encouraged (Acts 13:2-3; Matthew 17:21; I Corinthians 7:5; Matthew 6:16.).

ARTICLE VII

JUDICIAL PROCEDURES

Section 1. Grievance Committees

It shall be the duty of each District Elder to appoint a grievance committee of at least three ministers in good standing to assist in settling disputes or difficulties arising between a minister and the local church or between two or more ministers.

Section 2. Discipline of Ministers

- A. All ministers licensed by this Corporation are amenable to the General Board of the ACJCII in all matters of conduct and doctrine.
- B. In actions other than those taken directly by the General Board of ACJCII, to whom each minister must remain amenable, the following procedures shall be strictly adhered to:
 - 1. All charges against any minister shall be made in writing, in triplicate, and signed by two (2) or more accusers. The original and one (1) copy thereof shall be filed with the General Secretary of the ACJCII, who shall send one (1) copy to the accused minister and one (1) copy, shall be retained by the accusers. The president of the Corporation shall designate a suitable time and place for a hearing of the charges, and shall give all interested parties fifteen (15) days or more written notice thereof, said notice to be mailed to the last known address of the accused stating the time, date, and place of the meeting, the nature of the charges, and advising him of his right to be heard, in person or in writing, at said meeting.

2. A court of inquiry (Ecclesiastical Tribunal), consisting of the members of the General Board, shall hear and, in good faith, pass upon all such charges so made. A majority vote of the members of the General Board present at any duly called hearing shall constitute a final and binding decision in such matters.
 3. No testimony or evidence shall be admissible at such hearings, except that which directly bears upon the charges made in writing as aforesaid, which rule shall be enforced by the chairman of the meeting.
 4. If the accused confesses and truly repents, and shows a contrite heart, he should be given reasonable consideration and leniency; and, if possible, full restoration after a suitable and proper probationary period of time. We should not unjustly prosecute anyone.
 5. If the charges are against the president, the procedure shall be the same, except the vice-president of the Corporation shall act as chairman.
 6. If the charges are sustained and considered of sufficient import, the accused name may be ordered removed from the ministerial list or otherwise dropped, and his connection with the organization fully and finally severed.
 7. If the charges are not sustained, the accusers shall be deemed guilty of malicious slander, trouble-making, and causing division, and may be disciplined, even to the extent of removal of their names from the ministerial list, if considered of sufficient import.
- C. We desire to maintain the unity of the Spirit in the bond of peace. Therefore, no minister under charges or having been dismissed from the ACJCII, shall be granted the privilege of

ministering in any of the ACJCII churches, or of having his or her articles published in any of the publications of the organization unless exonerated or reinstated.

- D. Whereas the Scriptures enjoin us against delinquent indebtedness, and whereas all delinquent debts are a disgrace to anybody, a reproach to the ministry, causing undue hardship to those who follow, any minister of the ACJCII, who has unpaid debts for a period of ninety (90) days without making satisfactory arrangements with his or her creditors shall be brought before the General Board for appropriate action and admonition. If reasonable and satisfactory arrangements are not made within a period of sixty (60) days following, his or her credentials shall be revoked by the general office. Any licensed minister of the ACJCII, who leaves his or her place of ministry without satisfactory arrangements concerning all outstanding debts, shall expect to have such credentials summarily revoked.
- E. Should a violation occur, a prima facie fact of guilt shall be declared and the credentials of the party and/or parties through whom the offense occurs shall immediately be in jeopardy.

Section 3. Failing in Walks of Life or Doctrine

- A. Any minister found guilty, as per Sections 1 or 2, in failing in his or her walk with God shall surrender voluntarily his or her license to the District Elder or the District Secretary. If the District has no Elder or Secretary the failing minister shall turn the license in to the National Secretary/Treasurer.
- B. Any minister found guilty, as per Sections 1 or 2, of failing in walks of life who neglects or refuses to surrender his or her license shall be notified in writing by the District Secretary/Treasurer that their license has been revoked.

- C. Any minister wishing to appeal charges brought against him must do so in writing to the District Elder. If no District Elder is available, the appeal must be made to the General Chairman.
- D. It shall be the duty of the Grievance Committee to investigate and settle all disputes arising in their respective Districts. The decision of the Grievance Committee shall be final.
- E. Any dispute that has not been resolved by the time of the next Annual General Conference may be referred to the General Board. The General Board shall serve as the Grievance Committee during General Conference, the decision of the General Board shall be final.

Section 4. Receiving of Unauthorized Contributions

Any Pastor or Evangelist licensed by the ACJCII who collects or receives tithes from the members of a church where they have been called for a meeting, or encourages the members to send him or her their tithes after leaving a place where they conducted a meeting shall, upon proof, be governed by this Article.

ARTICLE VIII DISTRICTS

Section 1. Establishment of Districts

The Corporation hereby makes provision for Pastors and Evangelists, who are licensed by the ACJCII, to organize themselves into Districts, and hold local Conferences, at regular intervals, in their respective Districts. To establish a new District, said District must have no less than three (3) churches and five (5) ministers. In the event there are no District Conferences being held, The District Elder shall be appointed by the General Board. Each

District may adopt District Bylaws consistent with the Bylaws of this Corporation, to govern their affairs. Any Bylaws proposed for any District or amendments to existing Bylaws must have the prior approval of the General Board of the Corporation. No local church, District, or agency of the ACJCII, shall ever be governed by Bylaws that have not been authorized by the General Office of the ACJCII

Section 2. District Board

The individuals who shall serve as members of the District Boards for each District shall be those Individuals who fill the following District Offices:

- A. District Elder
- B. Assistant District Elder
- C. District Secretary/Treasurer
- D. Foreign Missions Director
- E. Home Missions Director
- F. Youth Leader
- G. Sunday School Director
- H. Ladies Auxiliary Director

Section 3. Election and Term of District Boards

- A. District executive officers shall be elected by their District conference for a term of three (3) years, each office on alternate years.
- B. All officers shall work under and in harmony with their respective District and General Departments.

Section 4. District Conference

Each District shall conduct regular District Conferences. The District Board of each District shall decide the venue, and frequency of these Conferences. A member of the General Executive Board shall conduct each District Conference election each year.

Section 5. Purpose of District Conference

Among the chief objectives of our District Conferences are the following:

- A. To introduce Jesus Christ as a personal Savior to a lost generation.
- B. Create a greater spirit of fellowship among the brethren.
- C. To become better acquainted with each other.
- D. To receive applications for ministerial license.
- E. Thoroughly examine all applicants who wish to obtain license with the ACJCII.
- F. To teach the people what the ACJCII believes.
- G. To encourage Pastors and Evangelists to keep in touch and cooperate with the National Officers at Headquarters.
- H. To ordain all candidates who are eligible to carry credentials.

Section 6. The District Conference Business Meeting

The District Business Meeting of the Corporation shall be held at the District Conference at a time and place named by the District Executive Board.

Section 7. Voting Rights

- A. The right to vote at the District Conference business meeting of the ACJCII, shall be reserved to Ordained and Licensed Ministers, who are in good standing and fellowship with the ACJCII, and lay delegates selected by the local churches, that have been set in order.
- B. Each local church that has conformed to the Bylaws of the ACJCII, having been set in order by a minister in good standing with the ACJCII, shall be entitled to send one (1) Delegate to the District Conference, for each One Hundred

(100) lay members, or fraction thereof, as reflected in their active attendance records.

- C. Delegates shall have the right to vote in the elections of officers.

Section 8. Financial Obligations to National

On a quarterly basis, the District Secretary/Treasurer shall:

- A. Send 50% of all tithes and general offerings received during that quarter to the General Secretary/Treasurer.
- B. Send departmental offerings received during that quarter to the respective department Secretary/Treasurer according to the Support, Funding, and/or Finance sections of Articles X, XI, XII, XIII, and XV of these Bylaws.

ARTICLE IX AFFILIATION OF LOCAL CHURCHES

Section 1. Disclaimer

Though affiliation is offered, the ACJCII does not require the affiliation of local churches with the organization.

Section 2. Prerequisites for Affiliation

Five or more persons who are filled with the Holy Ghost as in Acts 2:4 and have been baptized in water by immersion in the name of Jesus Christ for the remission of sins as in Acts 2:38 who are pastored by a minister in good standing with the ACJCII and are willing to accept and abide by all the Articles of Faith and Bylaws of the same may apply to the organization for affiliation.

Section 3. Procedure

Local churches desiring to affiliate with the ACJC may do so by complying with the following procedure:

- A. Having conformed to the aforementioned prerequisites, they shall show, by a majority vote of all their membership, that they desire to affiliation with and become a part of the ACJCII.
- B. The church shall send a proof of appropriate action to the General Secretary/Treasurer who shall, after receiving such agreement, appoint an investigatory committee of three (3) ministers in good standing with the ACJCII.
- C. The investigatory committee shall deliver the report of their investigation of the applicant church to the General Secretary/Treasurer who shall keep a copy of same on file.
- D. If the investigatory committee's report on the applicant church is favorable, the General Secretary/Treasurer shall notify the applicant that their application for affiliation has been accepted once they are set in order according to these bylaws.

Section 4. Officers of the Affiliated Local Church and their Duties

Except where otherwise provided in these bylaws, each affiliated local church shall elect its own officers. The officers of a local church affiliated with the ACJCII shall consist of:

- A. Pastor
 - 1. The Pastor shall hold credentials with the ACJCII and be approved by the General Board. No applicant for ministerial credentials shall be allowed to serve as Pastor or Interim Pastor until approved by the General Board.
 - 2. The Pastor shall faithfully execute the duties of Article VI of these bylaws, keep accurate records of baptisms, marriages, and funerals, maintain doctrinal continuity with the Articles of Faith of the ACJCII,

promote the organization, and, because the very fate of the souls of the laity depends upon the leadership, counsel, and ministry of these who have this divine appointment, work toward a higher standard, a greater consecration, and the continued spirituality of the laity in their charge.

3. The Pastor shall, in a separate and distinct capacity, serve as President and Chief Executive Officer of the local corporation of the local church, being a continuing member of the Board of Directors without interruption, having general management of the business of the local church, and general supervision of the other officers. The Pastor shall preside at all meetings of the Board of Directors seeing that all orders and resolutions of the Board are carried into effect subject, however, to the Board's right to delegate to any other officer or officers of the church any specific powers other than those that may be conferred only upon the President. The Pastor shall execute, in the name of the church, all deeds, bonds, mortgages, contracts, and other documents authorized by the Board of Directors. The Pastor shall be an ex-officio member of all standing committees and shall have the general powers and duties of supervision and management usually vested in the office of President, and be designated attorney-in-fact for the church.
4. The Pastor should issue to any member leaving his assembly a letter of recommendation, if such is merited, and should secure same from members transferring to his assembly. This procedure will hold to a minimum the unnecessary and unwarranted

transferring of the laity from one church to another at the slightest provocation.

5. Pastors should consult and agree upon all matters that concern them jointly in the operation of their churches where continued fellowship is a prime factor.
6. Any Pastor leaving or withdrawing from the ACJCII, whether voluntarily or involuntarily, shall immediately resign the position of Pastor, leaving the property of the church in the custody of the Directors of the affiliated local church.

B. Secretary/Treasurer

1. The Secretary shall attend all business meetings of the church and act as clerk and recorder thereof, recording all votes and the minutes of all proceedings in a book to be kept for that purpose. The Secretary shall perform like duties for the executive and standing committees when required and shall give, or cause to be given, notice of meetings of the Board of Directors when notice is required to be given under these bylaws or by any resolution of the Board. The Secretary shall have custody of the seal to all authorized documents requiring a seal. The Secretary shall keep the membership rolls of the church and, in general, perform the duties usually incident to the office of Secretary and such further duties as shall, from time to time, be prescribed by the Board or the Pastor. The Secretary shall also keep on file in the church records minutes of the business meetings from which time the local church was set in order and send a copy of same to the General Secretary/Treasurer of

the ACJCII who will record same in a special record kept for that purpose.

2. The Treasurer shall keep full and accurate account of the receipts and disbursements in books belong to the church and shall deposit all moneys and other valuable effects in the name and to the credit of the church in such banks and depositories as may be designated by the Board of Directors, but shall not be personally liable for the safekeeping of any funds or securities so deposited pursuant to the order of the Board. The Treasurer shall disburse the funds of the church as may be ordered by the Board and shall render to the President and Directors at the regular meeting of the Board, and whenever they may require, accounts of all transactions as Treasurer and of the financial condition of the church. The Treasurer shall perform the duties usually incident to the office of Treasurer and such other duties as may be prescribed by the Board of Directors or the Pastor.

C. Three or more Deacons (when needed).

D. Three Trustees (or similar designation).

Section 5. General Duties of Local Directors

Local churches affiliated with the ACJCII shall be served by a Board of Directors. Directors must be in good standing and fellowship with the local church and shall be regularly elected by majority vote of the enrollment membership of said local church for the period set forth in the bylaws of the local church.

Section 6. Obligations of Affiliated Local Churches

Among the obligations shall be the following:

- A. To keep in a special record an account of all its business transactions (financial and corporate) in accordance with the law and generally accepted accounting procedures.
- B. To send a copy of the business meeting in which their church was set in order to the General Secretary/Treasurer.
- C. To provide for continuing compliance with all State and Federal laws relating to churches except from Federal income tax under the provisions of Section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code.
- D. To adopt bylaws approved by the General Board of the ACJCII and to be governed by these uniform bylaws. No church affiliated with this corporation shall be governed by any instrument which conflicts with these bylaws.
- E. To cooperate by completing an annual survey sent by the organization which shall include pertinent information required by the Federal government. Responsibility for cooperation shall rest upon the local Pastor and shall be submitted by January 15 annually. Furthermore, each church shall be required to deliver, in person or by post, conformed copies of all corporate records pertaining to the local church including but not limited to minutes of corporate meetings and amendments to Articles of Incorporation and bylaws. Additionally, the affiliated local church shall conform to any financial reporting requirements enacted by the Board of Directors of the ACJCII.

Section 7. Members

Any person accepted for membership in an affiliated local church must have a born-again experience, having been baptized in the name of Jesus Christ and filled with the Holy Ghost, and must agree (in principle) with the Articles of Faith of the ACJCII.

Section 8. Financial Support

- A. Affiliated local churches having a Pastor shall:
 - 1. Pay their pastor reasonable compensation for services rendered (as allowed by law) from the tithes.
 - 2. Pay general operating expenses from the general offerings.
- B. Affiliated local churches having no Pastor shall:
 - 1. Pay their expenses with free-will offerings.
 - 2. Pay speakers or Evangelists with tithes and offerings.

Section 9. Property of Affiliated Local Churches

- A. All real estate shall be purchased in the name of and deeded to the local assembly.
- B. Church property belonging to an affiliated local church shall not be leased, mortgaged, or sold without a majority vote of the entire qualified voting constituency of said church, including the approval of the Pastor and Secretary.
 - 1. If said church has no Pastor, the aforementioned transaction must be endorsed by the General Secretary/Treasurer of the ACJCII.
- C. Any real estate belonging to a minister (or ministers) of an affiliated local church or to an individual member of the laity of said church which is to be sold to the church shall be transferred to the Trustees and their successors of said church by a good and sufficient warranty deed upon said local church paying the person (or persons) the value of said property.
- D. All church property of an affiliated local church shall be held by the local church corporation and shall not be held by any person (or persons) individually.
- E. Property deeded to the trustees of an affiliated local church cannot be transferred or deeded to another organization or

denomination except by a two-third (2/3) majority vote of the enrolled members.

- F. When the property of an affiliated local church held in trust by the trustees who were duly elected by a majority of the enrolled membership of said church is no longer used for church purposes and has not been used for a place of worship by said church for a period of eighteen (18) months:
 - 1. The same shall be sold as is herein provided and the trustees shall make a good and sufficient warranty deed of such property in the name of the ACJCII.
 - 2. The proceeds from such sale shall be turned over to the General Secretary/Treasurer of the ACJCII and shall be used in other church property as directed by the next Annual Conference of the ACJCII.
- G. For clarification purposes in connection with organizational business effecting church-owned properties, the respective interest in properties - real, personal, and mixed - owned in whole or part by the ACJCII or any of its Districts shall be construed to be interest in fee simple.

Section 10. Affiliated Local Churches Withdrawing from the Organization

Affiliated local churches desiring to withdraw from the ACJCII shall notify the organization of their intent in writing at least thirty days in advance of the meeting called for that purpose and shall abide by the following procedures:

- A. The Pastor and a majority of all enrolled members of the affiliated local church may call a special business meeting by signing a petition for same specifying the nature of the business to be transacted, and announcing it at least three (3) regularly scheduled services prior thereto.

- B. The Secretary of said church shall keep a record of all such petitions and meetings.
- C. The meeting shall be conducted in accordance with the provisions of this Article.
- D. The results of the meeting shall be reported immediately to the General Secretary/Treasurer.

ARTICLE X

NATIONAL FOREIGN MISSIONS DEPARTMENT

The ACJCII hereby makes provisions to become involved in various missionary activities overseas. When the activities of the Corporation in a particular country or nation make it desirable, the Foreign Missions Department shall direct those activities. The Foreign Missions Department will exercise such power and authority specifically given to it by the General Board and these Bylaws. The Foreign Missions Department shall have the responsibility of insuring that the mission activities reflect the principles, nature and purpose of the ACJCII.

Section 1. Name

The name of this department shall be the National Foreign Missions Department of the Apostolic Church of Jesus Christ International, Inc.

Section 2. Purpose

It shall be the purpose of the ACJCII, to seek out and carry the gospel to neglected and unevangelized countries and to strive for the establishing of self-supporting, self-propagating, native churches. Further, it shall be our purpose to establish and maintain missionary stations rather than simply to support missionaries.

Section 3. Cooperative Nature

The Foreign Missionary policy of the ACJCII, in keeping with principles that govern the Organization, shall be cooperative. The Organization does not hire missionaries, or guarantee them any stated salary.

Section 4. Non-Educational Policy

As we are called of God to go into all the world and preach the gospel, and not to educate the people, we do not conduct parochial schools unless it is so required by the government or the conditions of the said country is such that it is necessary in order to carry on the work of God. No missionary shall conduct any parochial school without the written consent of the Missionary Board.

Section 5. General Structure and Operation

- A. The Foreign Missions Department Committee shall consist of a National Foreign Missions Director, an Assistant Director and a Secretary/Treasurer along with a Foreign Missions Director from each District, and the Executive Board of the ACJCII.
- B. The Director, Assistant Director, and Secretary/Treasurer shall be elected by the General Conference for a term of three (3) years, each office on alternate years.
- C. The Director, Assistant Director, and Secretary/Treasurer shall act as the licensing committee for all ministers making application to and seeking credentials with the ACJCII.
- D. The National Foreign Missions Director shall have the oversight of the field of Foreign Missions so designated as follows:
- E. Duties of the National Foreign Missions Director:

1. To act as the head of the department with the direction of the Foreign Missions Committee.
 2. To act as chairman of the committee.
 3. To direct the financial structure of the Foreign Missions Department in receiving and disbursing its funds as authorized by the laws of the Organization, the will of the donor, and with the authority and direction of the Foreign Missions Committee, and the Executive Board.
 4. To carry out the duties of this office in correspondence and in visitation to the foreign missions field as often as authorized by the Foreign Missions Committee, and the Executive Board.
 5. To fulfill all other duties as may be prescribed by the constitution.
 6. He shall submit a planned budget for each year at the General Conference.
- F. The Duties of the Assistant Director shall be to assist the Director as requested and to preside at all functions in the Directors absence as requested.
- G. The Duties of the Secretary/Treasurer of Foreign Missions shall be:
1. To receive and record all money solicited by the Department and to issue payments when authorized by the Foreign Missions Committee.
 2. To give a monthly report to the Foreign Missions Committee of all money received and disbursed.
 3. To make an annual report to the General Conference of the receipts and expenditures of the Department.
 4. To record minutes of all meetings of the Foreign Missions Committee and to distribute the same to all members of the committee.

H. The Duties of the District Foreign Missions Director

1. Each District shall have a District Foreign Missions Director.
2. District Foreign Missions Director shall be elected by the District Conference.
3. Duties of the District Foreign Missions Director shall be to promote the cause of Foreign Missions

Section 6. Foreign Missionary Candidates

- A. Prospective missionaries must be thoroughly examined by the Foreign Missionary Board, which shall be governed in its selection of missionaries by the following requirements:
 1. As to personal experience of salvation.
 2. As to definite call to Foreign Missionary work.
 3. As to physical, mental, and spiritual fitness for this work.
- B. Prospective missionaries shall not be granted appointment until they have first qualified themselves in the homeland as to their qualities as a Christian worker.
- C. Anyone desiring appointment as a foreign missionary shall first fill out the application form supplied by the Department. The Department shall then secure recommendations from the applicant's local Pastor and District Board. After these requirements have been satisfactorily complied with, the applicant then must be examined by the Missionary Board and have the endorsement of the General Board.
- D. Any missionary already in a foreign country who desires to be licensed by the ACJCII may apply to the National Foreign Missions Director who shall submit said application to the Missionary Board and General Board.

- E. Prospective missionaries shall not be granted an appointment to a foreign field unless first he or she is licensed or ordained and in no case shall these credentials be issued to any person going to or already in a foreign field as a missionary who has not been endorsed by all members of the Executive Foreign Missions Board.
- F. New missionaries going to the field shall apply themselves, as a first consideration, to the study of the language, the customs of the people, and the conditions of the country, in order to do better missionary work.
- G. No foreign missionary of the ACJCII, whether licensed or ordained, shall be permitted to be a member of any other religious organization, except it be necessary for the purpose of performing religious or ministerial duties where the ACJCII is not recognized by the government of that foreign country.

Section 7. Foreign Missionary Support

- A. All money given for the outgoing fare and outfit of missionaries shall be deposited with the Foreign Missions Department until needed for the purpose for which it was given. Should a missionary, for any reason, be unable to go to the field, or cease doing missionary work the money shall be available for their missionary purposes, except in such cases where it is necessary to return the same to donors. This rule shall apply to old missionaries as well as new ones going out for the first time.
- B. No systematic canvass of assemblies for pledges of support or for funds for fare and outfit should be made without first securing the written permission of the Foreign Missions Department.

- C. Missionaries shall not appeal to assemblies or individuals in the homeland, by correspondence or otherwise, for finances for any new undertaking without first getting approval of the Foreign Missions Department. Missionaries shall not encourage people to send offerings to them directly but through the Foreign Missions Department.
- D. The Director of Foreign Missions shall, from time to time, prepare and send to each Pastor information setting forth the financial needs of the Foreign Missions Department, so that the efficient administration of the Department shall not be hindered through the lack of funds. It is also requested that each Pastor enlighten his assembly concerning the need of supporting the Foreign Missions Department.
- E. The National Department of Foreign Missions is to retain Ten Percent (10%) for operating expenses of Foreign Missions offerings sent to the National Foreign Missions Secretary/Treasurer.
- F. Any special arrangement for distributing funds, such as opening a bank account in a foreign country or developing a District in a foreign country must be developed and approved with the Foreign Missions Board and reviewed with legal counsel.
- G. Occasional special offerings and promotional appeals may be raised by direct solicitation of members. These offerings shall be sent to the District, the District shall retain 10% and send the remaining 90% to the National Foreign Missions Department.

Section 8. Foreign Missionary Property

- A. Missionaries are advised not to purchase or undertake new developments of the work which would involve additional expense until the approval of the Missionary Board is

obtained; otherwise, the Missionary Department cannot be held responsible for the undertaking.

- B. All property, both in the homeland and foreign fields, which has been purchased or procured by means of free-will offerings, subscriptions, donations, or public funds, shall be safeguarded and held by the Board of Trustees and also deeded to the ACJCII wherever legally possible.
- C. All musical instruments, furniture, and furnishings, also motor cars, other vehicles and machinery, etc., in connection with the missionary work, which have been purchased with the missionary funds, shall be regarded as property of the ACJCII and shall not be disposed of without the written consent of the Department.

Section 9. Foreign Missionary Fellowship

- A. Districts on the field shall be organized where there are sufficient missionaries or native preachers.
- B. The Department shall renew the fellowship cards of all foreign missionaries and native ministers in good standings with the ACJCII.

Section 10. Foreign Missionary Furlough

- A. Missionaries are requested not to plan a furlough, or other extensive moves of financial outlay, without first getting the written approval of the Department. The Department will not be responsible for financial obligations of missionaries when these principles are not adhered to.
- B. Appointment of all missionaries shall terminate upon their return to the homeland. While in the homeland, missionaries shall be subject to the provisions made for them by the home constituency and the Department. When the time comes for their return to the foreign fields, each case shall be decided

upon its own merits, due consideration being given to all available facts concerning the case. After having faithfully considered every angle and all evidence in the case, the Missionary Board may recommend a reappointment.

Section 11. Foreign Missionary Complaints

A missionary having any recommendation or complaint shall follow the same procedure as any other minister.

ARTICLE XI NATIONAL HOME MISSIONS DEPARTMENT

The ACJCII does hereby make provision to establish a National Home Missions Department.

Section 1. Name

The name of this department shall be the National Home Missions Department of the Apostolic Church of Jesus Christ International, Inc.

Section 2. Identity, Purpose, and Definitions

- A. The Home Missions Department of the ACJCII shall be dedicated to the evangelizing of the United States.
- B. This shall include all English and foreign speaking peoples and any resident Native American tribes located therein.
- C. The purpose of this department shall be to establish churches and provide Pastors for the same, to the fullest extent of our ability and so designated resources.
- D. A Home Mission for the purpose of this article shall be defined as:

1. A church having not completed five (5) years as an established work, being served by a minister licensed by the ACJCII for a period of no less than one (1) year.
2. A preaching point, outreach, or extension ministry of an established church into a community other than the church's present locality, being overseen by a minister licensed by the ACJCII for a period of no less than one (1) year.
3. A Home Missionary shall be defined as those licensed ministers engaged in such work as described in Subdivisions 1 and 2 of this Subsection.

Section 3. General Structure and Operation

- A. The Home Missions Department shall consist of a National Home Missions Director, an Assistant Director, a Secretary/Treasurer and a Committee of Home Missions comprised of duly elected District Home Missions Directors.
- B. The Director, Assistant Director, and Secretary/Treasurer shall be elected by the General Conference for a term of three (3) years, each office on alternate years.
- C. The National Home Missions Director shall have the oversight of the field of Home Missions as designated in Section 2 of this Article as follows:
 1. To serve as Chairman of the Committee of Home Missions.
 2. To receive funds and disburse same as directed by the Committee of Home Missions.
 3. To appoint a Secretary/Treasurer to record all minutes and all receipts aid allocations of funds so that a complete report of the department can be given at the General Conference.

- D. The committee of Home Missions shall assist the Director as follows:
1. To promote the purpose of this department in the unorganized areas and Districts under the guidance of the Director of Home Missions.
 2. To meet and work with the Director of Home Missions at all times and places he deems necessary and at all General Conferences, in order to promote the purpose of this department with the greatest efficiency.

Section 4. District Structure and Operation

- A. Each District shall elect a Director of Home Missions who shall serve for the term of one (1) year.
- B. The District Elder, the District Home Missions Director and two others shall serve on the District Committee of Home Missions.
- C. The District Director of Home Missions shall have the oversight of the District Home Mission work as follows:
1. To serve as Chairman of the District Committee of Home Missions.
 2. To be responsible for the taking and keeping of the minutes of all District committee meetings and the recording of all Home Missions developments in the District in order that a complete report may be given to the District Conference.
 3. To promote the raising of funds for the establishment of Mission Program within the District.

Section 5. Home Missions Funding

- A. Funds to support a strong Home Missions program shall also be raised at special meetings, by personal contributions, and by offerings from the local churches.
- B. These funds shall be received by the District Secretary and paid out as directed by the District Home Mission Committee.
- C. Fifty (50) percent of the funds raised shall be sent to the National Department and the remaining Fifty (50) percent retained by the District for Home Mission work in the District.
- D. Occasional special offerings and promotional appeals may be raised by direct solicitation of members. These offerings shall be sent to the District, the District shall retain 10% and send the remaining 90% to the National Home Missions Department.

ARTICLE XII NATIONAL YOUTH DEPARTMENT

The ACJCII does hereby make provision to establish a national youth ministry serving those aged 30 years and younger.

Section 1. Name

The name of this department shall be the National Youth Department of the Apostolic Church of Jesus Christ International, Inc.

Section 2. General Officers

The General officers for the National Youth Department shall be:

- A. National Youth Director
- B. Assistant National Youth Director

C. National Youth Secretary/Treasurer

Section 3. Election of Officers

The National Youth Director, Assistant Youth Director, and Secretary/Treasurer shall be elected by the General Conference for a term of three (3) years, each office on alternate years.

Section 4. Qualifications and Restrictions

Officers must be ministers in good standing with the ACJCII having not exceeded the age of forty (40) at the time of their election.

Section 5. Duties of Officers

A. The duties of the National Youth Director shall be:

1. To preside over all Youth Activities at National Youth gatherings.
2. To aid District Youth Directors in youth work and to foster unity among the Districts.
3. To call for aid preside over all meetings of the Department, who shall meet at each National Youth Conference or at any other time deemed necessary and approved by the General Board.
4. To visit each District, whenever possible, at the request of the District Youth Director.
5. The National Youth Director shall devote his time to the work of the Youth Department and shall work under the direction and supervision of the General Board.

B. The duties of the Assistant National Youth Director shall be:

1. To assist the Youth Director as requested and to serve in the absence of the Youth Director in his stead.
2. To promote the work in general of the Youth Department.

- C. The duties of the National Youth Secretary/Treasurer shall be to take minutes of proceedings of the Department, and to receive all funds to be disbursed by the National Youth Director or the National Youth Secretary/Treasurer.

Section 6. General Youth Committee

- A. The General Youth Committee shall be composed of the National Youth Director, Assistant National Youth Director, the National Youth Secretary/Treasurer and each District Youth Director.
- B. The duties of the General Youth Committee shall be:
 - 1. To assist and counsel with the National Youth Director in all matters pertaining to general youth work.
 - 2. To decide the order of all national youth gatherings.
- C. This committee's activities shall be supervised by the General Board.

Section 7. Creation of District Youth Department

- A. District Officers shall consist of a District Youth Director, a District Youth Secretary/Treasurer, and in the case of a large District, sectional Youth Leaders.
- B. Elections of District Youth Department Officers.
 - 1. The District Youth Director and District Youth Secretary/Treasurer shall be elected by the District Conference and the District officers shall be ratified by the District Conference for a term of one (1) year.
 - 2. Sectional Youth Leaders shall be selected according to the same rule as is used for selecting District Youth Directors and Secretary/Treasurers, and their term of service shall be the same as District youth officers.

3. All District Officers of this department must be in good standing as ministers of the ACJCII, and must have the approval of their respective Districts.
- C. Duties of the District Youth Officers.
1. The duties of the District Youth Director shall be:
 - i. To supervise the District youth work.
 - ii. To serve on the General Youth Committee representing his respective District.
 2. The duties of the District Youth Secretary/Treasurer shall be:
 - i. To take minutes and preserve records of proceedings.
 - ii. All District funds of the Department shall be received and disbursed by the District Youth Secretary/Treasurer.
 - iii. Disbursement of funds shall be made upon the request of the District Youth Director subject to approval of the District Elder and ministers.
 - iv. The District Youth Secretary/Treasurer shall keep an accurate account of all such transactions. He shall hold the books open for inspection at all times. He shall make an annual report to the District Ministerial Conference.

Section 8. Local Youth Groups

Any youth group in a church pastored by a minister of the ACJCII shall be qualified to receive all the benefits of the National Youth Department and participate in all youth activities of the ACJCII.

Section 9. Finance

- A. All local youth groups shall tithe their offerings. These tithes and offerings shall be received by the District Youth Secretary/Treasurer.
- B. The District Youth Secretary/Treasurer shall retain fifty (50) percent of said tithes and offerings in his respective District for the promotion of District youth activities, he shall forward the remaining fifty (50) percent to the National Youth Director or National Youth Secretary/Treasurer, which shall record all such funds received.
- C. The National Youth Director, Assistant Youth Director, and Secretary/Treasurer shall be compensated for his or her expense.
- D. It is recommended that the Districts defray the expenses of the District Youth Director while he represents his respective District at the National Youth Conference.
- E. All ministers licensed by the ACJCII are expected to cooperate with the Youth Department financial structure.
- F. Occasional special offerings and promotional appeals may be raised by direct solicitation of members. These offerings shall be sent to the District, the District shall retain 10% and send the remaining 90% to the National Youth Department.

ARTICLE XIII

NATIONAL SUNDAY SCHOOL DEPARTMENT

The Corporation does hereby make provision to engage in the development and propagation of a national Sunday school program. The purpose of this department shall be to propagate the Word through the local Sunday Schools throughout the entire body by encouraging better and more efficient methods of teaching.

Section 1. Name

The name of this department shall be the National Sunday School Department of the Apostolic Church of Jesus Christ International, Inc.

Section 2. Membership

- A. Membership in this department shall consist of all members in the local Sunday School whose Pastors are members of the ACJCII
- B. Each Sunday School maintains a sovereign right to its own local system of operation within the frame work of the General body.

Section 3. Officers

The officers of the National Sunday School Department shall consist of a National Sunday School Director, and Assistant National Director/Secretary/Treasurer, and a District Sunday School Director from each District of the ACJCII. These officers shall, by virtue of their election and or appointment, become the General Sunday School Board.

Section 4. Election and Terms of Department Officers

- A. General officers shall be elected by the General Conference for a term of three (3) years, each office on alternate years.
- B. District officers shall be elected by their District conference for a term of one (1) year.
- C. All officers shall work under and in harmony with their respective General or District Sunday School Department.

Section 5. Official Duties

- A. The National Sunday School Director shall have the Authority and oversight of the following:

- B. Perform duties as authorized by this policy.
- C. Authorize and conduct the duties outlined by the General Sunday School Board.
- D. Initiate Sunday school rallies and Sunday School Conventions, both General and District, and supervise each as far as possible.
- E. Preside over all General Sunday School Department and General Sunday School convention meetings.
- F. Shall keep the financial and general records of all business and other transactions including the recording of the minutes of all the meetings which involve the National Sunday School Department.

Section 6. General Operations and Directives

- A. The General Sunday School Department, in dealing with each local church, shall recognize the sovereignty of said church operation as such under the local Pastor.
- B. Any meeting of the General Sunday School Department shall become valid with a majority of members present.

Section 7. Support

- A. All Sunday Schools tithe their Sunday School Offerings and send same to the District Sunday School Director for promoting the Sunday School in the ACJCII
- B. Fifty (50) percent of the funds raised shall be sent to the National Sunday School Department and the remaining fifty (50) percent retained by the District Sunday School Department.
- C. Occasional special offerings and promotional appeals may be raised by direct solicitation of members. These offerings shall be sent to the District, the District shall retain 10% and

send the remaining 90% to the National Sunday School Department.

ARTICLE XIV

THE APOSTOLIC STANDARD AND PUBLICATIONS DEPARTMENT

The ACJCII does hereby make provision to publish and distribute an authorized publication which shall serve as the official voice of the ACJCII.

Section 1. Name

The name of The Official Organ of the ACJCII shall be “The Apostolic Standard.”

Section 2. Contents

The Official Organ of the ACJCII, shall contain:

- A. Such reports and articles received from various local churches.
- B. May carry a clean line of advertising to help pay for printing same.

Section 3. Editor’s Rights of Refusal

Be it hereby known that the Editor of The Apostolic Standard shall have the authority to accept or reject any, or all articles and reports sent for publication that are unscriptural, or in any way could be construed as harmful to the ACJCII.

Section 4. Qualifications of Editor

- A. Must be a licensed minister in good standing of the ACJCII and shall be chosen by the General Board for a period of three (3) years and shall be ratified by the General

Conference with a term concurrent with the General Chairman.

B. Duties

1. Editor-in-Chief.

- i. Responsible for editing and publishing of “The Apostolic Standard” and for all other National periodicals and publications.
- ii. He or she shall make a report to the General Board and to the General Conference each year, and to make recommendation he deems necessary to Better or increase the scope of the editorial department.

ARTICLE XV

NATIONAL LADIES AUXILIARY DEPARTMENT

The ACJCII does hereby make provision to create and maintain a Ladies Auxiliary.

Section 1. Name

The name of this department shall be the National Ladies Auxiliary Department of the Apostolic Church of Jesus Christ International, Inc.

Section 2. Organization

The Ladies Auxiliary shall consist of National, District, and local church organization.

Section 3. Membership

Membership in the Ladies Auxiliary shall be extended only to those who are members of each local church pastored by a minister of the ACJCII.

Section 4. Planning Sessions

Planning sessions shall be held by the Ladies Auxiliary separate from and independent of the Ministerial sessions at any District or General Conference.

Section 5. Officers

- A. The Local, District, and National officers of the Department shall be as follows:
 - 1. National President
 - 2. Vice President
 - 3. District President of each District which shall constitute a National Committee
 - 4. National Secretary/Treasurer

Section 6. Elections, Terms, and Qualifications of Officers

- A. National officers shall be elected by the General Conference for a term of three (3) years, each office on alternate years.
- B. National officers must be the wife of a licensed minister with the ACJCII who is in good standing.
- C. District officers shall be elected at the District meetings of the Ladies Auxiliary for a term of one (1) year.
- D. Local church officers shall be elected at the discretion of local auxiliary policy.

Section 7. Duties of Officers

- A. The duties of the National President shall be:

1. To preside at all General meetings of the Ladies Auxiliary.
 2. To preside at all General Committee meetings of the Ladies Auxiliary.
 3. To give a report to the General Conference.
 4. To cooperate with and work under the supervision of the General Board.
- B. The duties of the Vice President shall be:
1. To perform such responsibilities as directed by the President.
 2. To act in the President's stead, when so needed or requested by the Ladies Auxiliary.
 3. To assist the President in all matters related to the work.
- C. The duties of the National Secretary/Treasurer shall be:
1. To take minutes and keep a record of all general meetings of the Ladies Auxiliary and the Committee.
 2. To receive and disburse all the funds received by the General Ladies Auxiliary as directed by the Ladies Auxiliary Committee and approved by the General Board.
 3. To make a report to the General Conference.
- D. The duties of the District President shall be:
1. To preside at the District meetings of the Ladies Auxiliary.
 2. To preside over all District committees which may be appointed.
 3. To give a report to the District Conference.
 4. To cooperate with and work under the supervision of the District Board.
- E. The duties of the District Secretary/Treasurer shall be:

1. To take minutes and keep a record of all District meetings of the Ladies Auxiliary and Committees.
 2. To receive and disburse all the funds received by the District Ladies Auxiliary as directed by the District President and the District Board.
 3. To make a report to the District Conference.
- F. The duties of the Ladies Auxiliary Committee shall be:
1. To work with the President in formulating and carrying out the programs of the Auxiliary.
 2. To promote the work of the Auxiliary in the Districts and local churches as requested.

Section 8. Finance and Programs

- A. Local churches shall tithe (10%) to their local District Ladies Auxiliary. The District shall retain 50% of the tithe in their District, sending 50% to the National Ladies Auxiliary Department.
- B. Occasional special offerings and promotional appeals may be raised by direct solicitation of members. These offerings shall be sent to the District, the District shall retain 10% and send the remaining 90% to the National Youth Department.

ARTICLE XVI INDEMNIFICATION OF DIRECTORS, OFFICERS, AND EMPLOYEES

Section 1. Indemnification

The Corporation shall indemnify any person who is or was a Director, Officer, or Employee of the Corporation, or is or was serving as a Director, Officer, or Employee of another corporation, partnership, or other enterprise at the request of the Corporation, against expenses (including attorneys' fees), judgments, fines,

penalties, and amounts paid in settlement reasonably incurred by such person, to the fullest extent now or hereafter permitted by law, in connection with or resulting from any claim, action, suit, or proceeding (whether actual or threatened, civil, criminal, administrative or investigative, or in connection with an appeal relating thereto), in which such person may be involved as a party or otherwise by reason of being or having been a Director, Officer, or Employee for the Corporation or of such other organization; provided such person acted in good faith and in a manner that he reasonably believed to be in, or not opposed to, the best interests of the Corporation and, with respect to any criminal action or proceeding, in a manner which he had no reasonable cause to believe was unlawful. The termination of any claim, action, suit, or proceeding by judgment, order, settlement (whether with or without court approval), conviction, or upon a plea of nolo contendere or its equivalent, shall not, of itself, create a presumption that the person did not act in good faith and in a manner which he reasonably believes to be in, or not opposed to, the best interests of the Corporation, and, with respect to any criminal action, suit, or proceeding, in a manner which he had no reasonable cause to believe was unlawful.

Section 2. Further Indemnification

Any Director, Officer, or Employee of the Corporation who has been successful as a party on the merits or otherwise in his defense of any claim, action, suit, or proceedings referred to in the first sentence of Section 1 shall be indemnified as of right against expenses (including attorneys' fees) reasonably incurred by him in connection therewith (except to the extent covered by insurance).

Section 3. Determining Propriety of Indemnification

Except as provided in Section 2 above, any indemnification under Section 1 shall be made by the Corporation only upon a

determination that indemnification of the particular Director, Officer, or Employee is proper in the circumstances because such person has met the applicable standards of conduct set forth in Section 1. Such determination shall be made (1) by the General Board of the Corporation by a majority vote of a quorum consisting of members of the General Board who were not parties to such claim, action, suit, or proceeding, or (2) if such a quorum is not obtainable or if so directed by a majority vote of a quorum consisting of members of the General Board who were not parties to such claim, action, suit, or proceeding, by independent legal counsel (who may be regular counsel of the Corporation) in a written opinion.

Section 4. Non-Exclusivity

The indemnification provided by this Article shall not be deemed exclusive of any other rights to which a Director, Officer, or Employee may be entitled under any by-law, resolution, agreement, vote of the members, or otherwise, and shall continue as to a person who has ceased to be a Director, Officer, or Employee of the Corporation, and shall inure to the benefit of the heirs, executors, and administrators of any such person. The indemnification provided by this Article shall be applicable to claims, actions, suits, or proceedings made or commenced after the adoption hereof, arising from acts or omissions to act whether before or after the adoption hereof.

Section 5. Insurance

This Corporation shall have power to purchase and maintain insurance on behalf of any person who is or was a Director, officer, partner, employee, or agent of another corporation, partnership, joint venture, trust or other enterprise, against any liability asserted against such person and incurred by him in any such capacity, or arising out of his status as such, whether or not the Corporation

would have the power to indemnify him against such liability under the provisions of this Article, together with expenses actually and reasonably incurred by him in connection with his defense thereof; provided that when and to the extent that the Corporation has purchased and maintained such insurance, it shall have no duty under this Article to indemnify any such person to the extent such liability is covered by such insurance.

ARTICLE XVII

REFUNDS OF CONTRIBUTIONS AND GIFTS

All gifts, contributions and bequests made to the Corporation shall, in accordance with the law, be given with “no strings attached.” No gift, contribution or bequest made to the Organization shall be refundable to any person, corporation, or estate for any reason except by action of the General Board the accordance with applicable law.