RESOLUTIONS

PROCESSED FOR PRESENTATION

TO THE

57TH GENERAL COUNCIL

AUGUST 7–11, 2017

ANAHEIM, CALIFORNIA

2017 Resolutions Committee

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The General Council of the Assemblies of God
1445 N. Boonville Avenue
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AMENDMENTS

TO THE

CONSTITUTION

ARTICLE XIII. AMENDMENTS
(Page 106)

Amendments to the Constitution may be made at any regularly called session of the General Council provided that the proposed amendments have been submitted in writing at least 6 months in advance to the Executive Presbytery. Before the Executive Presbytery may submit proposed amendments for consideration by a session of the General Council, it shall provide written notice of the proposed amendments by regular or electronic mail to the office of each district superintendent and each district secretary and to ministers of The General Council of the Assemblies of God, not later than 30 days prior to said session. Amendments to the Constitution shall require a two-thirds vote of all members present and voting.
Resolution 1

DISTRICT COUNCIL NOMENCLATURE

WHEREAS, The Assemblies of God membership consists of all ministers in possession of current credential recognition by the Assemblies of God and all churches who have voluntarily chosen affiliation with the Assemblies of God; and

WHEREAS, The district councils (both geographic and language/ethnic) recognized by the Assemblies of God serve as the primary interface for credential matters and providing a network of fellowship among member churches and ministers; and

WHEREAS, In order to more clearly convey culture, mission, and purpose, various district councils have chosen to amend their identity, choosing other descriptive names; and

WHEREAS, The General Council documents should recognize and empower its districts in such action; therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That General Council Constitution ARTICLE X. DISTRICT COUNCILS,
Section 1. Membership, page 103, which currently reads:

 Membership of each district council shall be determined by the district’s constitution and bylaws.

Be amended to read:

 Membership of each district council shall be determined by the district’s constitution and bylaws. District councils may also be known as networks, resource centers, or other nomenclature adopted by their council in session.

Sponsor: Executive Presbytery
Resolution 2

DISTRICT REPRESENTATIVE ON GENERAL PRESBYTERY—CONSTITUTION

WHEREAS, Action was taken during the 2015 General Council to amend the General Council Bylaws ARTICLE II. ELECTION OF OFFICERS AND PRESBYTERS, Section 2. Nominations and Elections, paragraph d. General presbyters, subparagraph (1) District representatives, as follows:

d. General presbyters

(1) District representatives. In addition to the superintendent of each district, who shall serve on the General Presbytery by virtue of office, two others shall be elected by the district council in session, both of whom shall be ordained Assemblies of God ministers, and at least one of whom shall be a pastor of a church or a person involved in other ministry located in the district. They shall take office immediately; and

WHEREAS, The General Council Constitution also needs to be amended to bring it into conformity with the above action taken by the 2015 General Council in session; therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That General Council Constitution ARTICLE IX. OFFICERS AND PRESBYTERIES OF THE GENERAL COUNCIL, Section 3. General Presbytery, paragraph a. Representation, qualifications, and responsibilities, pages 101–102, which reads:

Section 3. General Presbytery

a. Representation, qualifications, and responsibilities. The General Presbytery shall be composed of individuals of maturity, experience, and ability whose lives and ministry are above reproach, who shall represent the Fellowship in all phases of its work in their respective fields. The General Presbytery shall be the official policy-making body of the Assemblies of God when the General Council is not in session. Each district shall have the privilege of representation on the General Presbytery by three members—the district superintendent together with two others who shall be elected by their district council, one of whom shall be an ordained pastor of a church located in the district. They shall take office immediately.
Be amended to read:

Section 3. General Presbytery

a. Representation, qualifications, and responsibilities. The General Presbytery shall be composed of individuals of maturity, experience, and ability whose lives and ministry are above reproach, who shall represent the Fellowship in all phases of its work in their respective fields. The General Presbytery shall be the official policy-making body of the Assemblies of God when the General Council is not in session. Each district shall have the privilege of representation on the General Presbytery by three members—the district superintendent together with two others who shall be elected by their district council, one of whom shall be an ordained pastor of a church or an ordained person involved in other ministry located in the district. They shall take office immediately upon election.

And,

WHEREAS, The General Council Bylaws ARTICLE II. ELECTION OF OFFICERS AND PRESBYTERS, Section 2. Nominations and Elections, paragraph d. General presbyters, subparagraph (1) District representatives, was amended during the 2015 General Council in session but discussion did not include the word "ordained" being added to the text; and

WHEREAS, The General Council Constitution and Bylaws must be in conformity; therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That General Council Bylaws ARTICLE II. ELECTION OF OFFICERS AND PRESBYTERS, Section 2. Nominations and Elections, paragraph d. General presbyters, subparagraph (1) District representatives, page 111, which reads:

(1) District representatives. In addition to the superintendent of each district, who shall serve on the General Presbytery by virtue of office, two others shall be elected by the district council in session, both of whom shall be ordained Assemblies of God ministers, and at least one of whom shall be a pastor of a church or a person involved in other ministry located in the district. They shall take office immediately upon election.
Be amended to read:

(1) *District representatives*. Each district shall have the privilege of representation on the General Presbytery by three members—the district superintendent together with two others who shall be elected by their district council, one of whom shall be an ordained pastor of a church or an ordained person involved in other ministry located in the district. They shall take office immediately upon election. In addition to the superintendent of each district, who shall serve on the General Presbytery by virtue of office, two others shall be elected by the district council in session, both of whom shall be ordained Assemblies of God ministers, and at least one of whom shall be a pastor of a church or a person involved in other ministry located in the district. They shall take office immediately upon election.

Sponsor: General Presbytery
Resolution 3

COMPASSION, JUSTICE, AND PEACEMAKING

Angels heralded Christ’s birth with the words, “Peace on earth.” We also know that, as the Prince of Peace, Christ will return soon to set up His kingdom by bringing “Peace on earth” and rule with justice. However, between these two events, what is our role in bringing peace and justice to our world today? Do we merely wait for Christ to return and bring peace? Do calls for justice in the Old Testament speak to the Assemblies of God today? Is there a place for a Pentecostal prophetic word like that of Amos? What should be our response to conflict, human trafficking, slave labor, child exploitation, the homeless, and widows and orphans? The General Council of the Assemblies of God, district councils, and local churches should be involved in conflict resolution between churches, denominations, races, religions, and countries. We believe justice and peacemaking are necessary complements of compassion ministries, and this should be clearly stated in our Constitution.

Furthermore, the Commission on Doctrinal Purity and the General Presbytery approved the Assemblies of God position paper entitled, “Church Mission and Peacemaking.” We, the undersigned, propose the following amendment to our Constitution, ARTICLE III. PREROGATIVES, line e. which reads, “To respond to human need with ministries of compassion,” by adding the words “and actions that promote justice and peacemaking.”

Resolution to amend the Constitution by adding explicit language on justice and peacemaking to further define ARTICLE III. PREROGATIVES, line e:

WHEREAS, The General Council at its August 2009 meeting in Orlando, Florida, amended the General Council Constitution, ARTICLE III. PREROGATIVES, by the addition of the line e:

e. To respond to human need with ministries of compassion; and

WHEREAS, The function of the body of Christ is to follow the will of its Head and His example; and

WHEREAS, Jesus said, “Blessed are the peacemakers, for they will be called children of God” (Matthew 5:9); and

WHEREAS, Amos declared, “Let justice roll on like a river” (Amos 5:24); and

WHEREAS, Zechariah wrote, “This is what the LORD Almighty said, ‘Administer true justice; show mercy and compassion to one another’” (Zechariah 7:9); and
WHEREAS, Paul wrote, “Let us therefore make every effort to do what leads to peace and to mutual edification” (Romans 14:19); and
WHEREAS, The author of Hebrews wrote, “Make every effort to live in peace with everyone and to be holy” (Hebrews 12:14); and
WHEREAS, James wrote, “Peacemakers who sow in peace reap a harvest of righteousness” (James 3:18); and
WHEREAS, Matthew records the prophecy of Isaiah, “A bruised reed he will not break, and a smoldering wick he will not snuff out, till he has brought justice through to victory” (Matthew 12:20; Isaiah 42:3); and
WHEREAS, The Assemblies of God adopted the position paper entitled, “Church Mission and Peacemaking,” which states, “the Assemblies of God considers peacemaking to be intrinsic to the Church’s mission” (page 1, line 2); “the Church in our time, and every time, has both the imperative and the challenge of pursuing peace” (page 4, line 19); and “in view of the admonitions of Scripture to pursue peace in a broken world, the importance and relevance of deliberate peacemaking activities is abundantly clear” (page 9, line 23); and
WHEREAS, Justice seeking and peacemaking are necessary complements to ministries of compassion in regards to a Christian response to human need; therefore, be it RESOLVED, That the General Council Constitution, ARTICLE III. PREROGATIVES, line e, page 94, which reads:
   e. To respond to human need with ministries of compassion.
Be amended to read:
   e. To respond to human need with ministries of compassion and actions that promote justice and peacemaking.

Sponsor: J. Ross Byars
Robert E. Cooley
Murray W. Dempster
Robert W. Houlihan
Nam Soo Kim
Russell P. Spittler

Presented ____________________
Amended ____________________
Referred ____________________
Adopted ____________________
Lost ____________________
Resolution 4

QUALIFYING MEMBERSHIP IN LOCAL CHURCHES

WHEREAS, The qualifying requirements for recognition of a local church being given General Council affiliated status is established by the General Council Constitution ARTICLE XI. LOCAL ASSEMBLIES; and

WHEREAS, One of the minimal requirements established is the number of voting members in the local assembly, currently established at 20 (twenty) members; and

WHEREAS, The underlying assumption of the recognition of “General Council affiliated status” for a local assembly is the achievement of both self-governance and self-sustaining in its operations; and

WHEREAS, It is for the benefit of healthy local churches that this threshold number be reviewed by the General Council in session, for the purpose of providing maximum strength to the local church; therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That General Council Constitution ARTICLE XI. LOCAL ASSEMBLIES, Section 1. General Council Affiliated Assemblies, paragraph a. Requirements for affiliation, subparagraph (3), page 104, which currently reads:

(3) Have a minimum active voting membership of 20 persons who shall accept responsibility to maintain scriptural order in the local body. In cases where there are fewer than 20 voting members, an exception may be granted by the district, in compliance with General Presbytery policy, and provided that the church has demonstrated the capacity for self-governance;

Be amended to read:

(3) Have a minimum active voting membership of 30 persons who shall accept responsibility to maintain scriptural order in the local body. In cases where there are fewer than 30 voting members, an exception may be granted by the district, in compliance with General Presbytery policy, and provided that the church has demonstrated the capacity for self-governance;

Sponsors: Larry H. Griswold
D. Rick Ross
New Jersey District Presbytery
Ohio District Presbytery

Presented _______________________
Amended _______________________
Referred _______________________
Adopted _______________________
Lost _______________________
AMENDMENTS

TO THE

BYLAWS

ARTICLE XXI. AMENDMENTS
(Page 164)

Amendments to the Bylaws may be made at any regular meeting of The General Council of the Assemblies of God. Amendments to be adopted shall require a majority of all votes cast.
Resolution 5

INACTIVE MINISTERS STATUS

WHEREAS, The General Council Bylaws ARTICLE VII. MINISTRY, Section 6. Official List, references an “inactive list” for those credential holders who have not been engaged in viable ministry and proclamation of the gospel over a period of one year; and

WHEREAS, The categories of lapsed, resigned, not renewed, and dismissed have served well to define any needed credential changes from that of an “active status”; and

WHEREAS, The inactive list itself has not been maintained or updated by district councils and the general secretary’s office for many years, with the exception of ministers with disabilities; and

WHEREAS, An inactive list presently seems to serve no necessary purpose moving forward, other than for those ministers with disabilities; therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That General Council Bylaws ARTICLE VII. MINISTRY, Section 6. Official List, paragraph b. Inactive or disabled ministers and paragraph c. Restoration to active status, pages 131–132, which presently reads:

b. Inactive or disabled ministers. All credentialed ministers who shall withdraw from active ministry or shall cease to engage in pastoral, evangelistic, or other full-time ministry, shall be expected to notify the district office, which shall inform the general secretary who shall then be authorized to transfer the names of such persons to the inactive list, unless the district of which said person is a member requests otherwise by letter.

(1) Definition. All ministers who have not been actively engaged in viable ministry and proclamation of the gospel over a period of 1 year shall have their names placed upon the inactive list for the following year.

(2) Removal of inactive ministers from ministerial list. When a minister is inactive for 2 or more consecutive years, his or her name shall be eliminated from the ministerial list, unless the credentials committee of the district of which said person is a member requests otherwise by letter.
(3) **Exceptions.** This shall not apply to those whose inactivity has been caused by infirmity; or those engaged in other aspects of full-time ministry such as the National Leadership and Resource Center or district workers, educators, ministers of music, ministers of youth, and ministers of Christian education; or those who have reached the age of 60 years; or those ministers who have had 25 years of approved service as credentialed ministers, or those whose spouse is disabled or has retired giving them little opportunity for public ministry.

(4) **Ministers with disabilities.** Ministers with permanent disability or illness, which prevents them from engaging in active ministry, shall be indicated as disabled. The credential status of the minister shall remain unchanged. The annual renewal of his or her credentials shall take place in the regular manner. Ministers with disabilities thus approved by their district shall not have further obligation of financial support to the General Council.

c. **Restoration to active status.** Should the minister at any time return to active ministry, his or her name may be restored to the active list upon application bearing endorsement by the district officiary.

Be amended to read:

b. **Ministers with disabilities.** Ministers with permanent disability or illness, which prevents them from engaging in active ministry, shall be indicated as disabled. The credential status of the minister shall remain unchanged. The annual renewal of his or her credentials shall take place in the regular manner. Ministers with disabilities thus approved by their district shall not have further obligation of financial support to the General Council.

Inactive or disabled ministers. All credentialed ministers who shall withdraw from active ministry or shall cease to engage in pastoral, evangelistic, or other full-time ministry, shall be expected to notify the district office, which shall inform the general secretary who shall then be authorized to transfer the names of such persons to the inactive list, unless the district of which said person is a member requests otherwise by letter.
(1) **Definition.** All ministers who have not been actively engaged in viable
ministry and proclamation of the gospel over a period of 1 year shall
have their names placed upon the inactive list for the following year.

(2) **Removal of inactive ministers from ministerial list.** When a minister is
inactive for 2 or more consecutive years, his or her name shall be
eliminated from the ministerial list, unless the credentials committee of
the district of which said person is a member requests otherwise by
letter.

(3) **Exceptions.** This shall not apply to those whose inactivity has been
caused by infirmity; or those engaged in other aspects of full-time
ministry such as the National Leadership and Resource Center or
district workers, educators, ministers of music, ministers of youth, and
ministers of Christian education; or those who have reached the age of
60 years; or those ministers who have had 25 years of approved
service as credentialed ministers, or those whose spouse is disabled or
has retired giving them little opportunity for public ministry.

(4) **Ministers with disabilities.** Ministers with permanent disability or
illness, which prevents them from engaging in active ministry, shall be
indicated— as disabled. The credential status of the minister shall
remain unchanged. The annual renewal of his or her credentials shall
take place in the regular manner. Ministers with disabilities thus
approved by their district shall not have further obligation of financial
support to the General Council.

**c. Restoration to active status.** Should the minister at any time return
to active ministry, his or her name may be restored to the active list upon
application bearing endorsement by the district officiary.

And, be it further

RESOLVED, That General Council Bylaws ARTICLE VII. MINISTRY, Section 11.
Nondisciplinary Credential Terminations, paragraph b. On the initiative of the
district, page 137, which presently reads:
b. On the initiative of the district. (See Article X, Section 4.)

(1) Inactive. When a minister becomes inactive for 2 consecutive years, according to the stipulations set forth in Bylaws, Article VII, Section 6, paragraph b, his or her name shall be published as inactive in the ministers letter.

(2) Not renewed. If in the opinion of the credentials committees a minister’s credentials should not be renewed short of disciplinary action, the minister’s name shall be published as not renewed in the ministers letter.

Be amended to read:

b. On the initiative of the district. (See Article X, Section 4.)

(1) Inactive. When a minister becomes inactive for 2 consecutive years, according to the stipulations set forth in Bylaws, Article VII, Section 6, paragraph b, his or her name shall be published as inactive in the ministers letter.

(2) Not renewed. If in the opinion of the credentials committees a minister’s credentials should not be renewed short of disciplinary action, the minister’s name shall be published as not renewed in the ministers letter.

Sponsor: General Presbytery
Resolution 6

SENIOR STATUS FOR MINISTERS

WHEREAS, General Council Bylaws ARTICLE VII. MINISTRY, Section 7. Senior Ministers, mandates the reclassifying of each credential holder who turns 65 years of age as either senior-active, senior-semiretired, or senior-retired; and

WHEREAS, The age of 65 no longer represents retirement age for many credential holders; and

WHEREAS, Reasons related to insurances or other credential benefits that would be linked to the age of 65 no longer exist; and

WHEREAS, The senior-active and senior-semiretired statuses do not change a credential holder’s financial obligations to the General Council or to most districts; and

WHEREAS, It requires extra time and expense for the General Council to track and notify ministers of their senior status when they turn age 65, with no related changes, benefits, or consequences for the credential holder; and

WHEREAS, The re-designated status of “senior” has not always been understood in the honorary way in which it was intended for credential holders who are still active in ministry; therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That General Council Bylaws ARTICLE VII. MINISTRY, Section 7. Senior Ministers and paragraphs a. through c., pages 132–133, which presently reads:

Section 7. Senior Ministers

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

a. Terminology

(1) The term senior-active shall be used for credential holders who continue to serve more than half-time in the ministry.

(2) The term senior-semiretired shall be used for credential holders who continue to be active, but for half-time or less.

(3) The term senior-retired shall be used for those who have ceased to engage in any regular appointed ministry.
b. **Application for retired category.** Senior-semiretired and senior-retired status shall be granted only to those ministers who filed a request for such status with their district office. The district secretary shall forward annually to the general secretary a list of those ministers who have made these requests.

c. **Guidelines**

   (1) **Reports.** Senior-active and senior-semiretired ministers shall continue to file their annual reports and pay the General Council portion of their tithes in the regular manner. Senior-retired ministers shall file an abbreviated report to maintain a correct address file for mail and insurance purposes.

   (2) **Sources of income.** These designations and guidelines shall apply regardless of whether the senior minister’s income is from ministry, from retirement plans or Social Security payments, or from investments or other employment.

   (3) **Designation in publications.** No distinguishing mark shall accompany the listing of senior-active in the official publications of the Assemblies of God, but may be so indicated in the working lists used for insurance and retirement purposes. Senior-semiretired and senior-retired ministers shall have this status indicated in the *Official List of Assemblies of God Ministers.*

   (4) **Support of General Council National Leadership and Resource Center.** Senior-active and senior-semiretired ministers shall continue to designate the required amount of support to the General Council National Leadership and Resource Center as set forth in Bylaws, Article VII, Section 10, paragraph f. Senior-retired ministers shall be free to distribute as they desire the portion of their tithes previously paid to the General Council.
Section 7. Senior-Retired Ministers

In respect and honor to those ministers who have given years of service to the Fellowship, the term senior-retired shall be used for those who are 65 years of age or older and who have ceased to engage in any regular appointed ministry. Senior status shall automatically be given to all credential holders who have reached the age of 65, whether or not they continue in full-time ministry.

**a. Terminology**

(1) The term senior-active shall be used for credential holders who continue to serve more than half-time in the ministry.

(2) The term senior-semiretired shall be used for credential holders who continue to be active, but for half-time or less.

(3) The term senior-retired shall be used for those who have ceased to engage in any regular appointed ministry.

**a-b. Application for retired category.** Senior-semiretired and Senior-retired status shall be granted only to those ministers who filed a request for such status with their district office. The district secretary shall forward annually to the general secretary a list of those ministers who have made these requests.

**b c. Guidelines**

(1) **Reports.** Senior-active and senior-semiretired ministers shall continue to file their annual reports and pay the General Council portion of their tithes in the regular manner. Senior-retired ministers shall file an abbreviated annual report to maintain a correct mailing address file for mail and insurance purposes.

(2) **Sources of income.** These designations and guidelines shall apply regardless of whether the senior minister’s income is from ministry, from retirement plans or Social Security payments, or from investments or other employment.
Designation in publications. No distinguishing mark shall accompany the listing of senior active in the official publications of the Assemblies of God, but may be so indicated in the working lists used for insurance and retirement purposes. Senior semiretired and Senior-retired ministers shall have this status indicated in the Official List of Assemblies of God Ministers.

Support of General Council National Leadership and Resource Center. Senior active and senior semiretired ministers shall continue to designate the required amount of support to the General Council National Leadership and Resource Center as set forth in Bylaws, Article VII, Section 10, paragraph f. Senior-retired ministers shall be free to distribute as they desire the portion of their tithes previously paid to the General Council.

Sponsor: General Presbytery
Resolution 7

NONRESIDENT EXECUTIVE PRESBYTERS BALLOTED BY AREA

WHEREAS, It benefits the Fellowship, as a grassroots movement to maintain local representation, when possible; and

WHEREAS, In recent years, increasing numbers of representatives based on gender, age, and ethnicity have been added to the General Council Executive Presbytery; and

WHEREAS, Our General Council is large both in numbers and geography; and

WHEREAS, It is often challenging for the voters from one geographic area to have sufficient knowledge of nominees from another area; and

WHEREAS, It would seem beneficial to the Fellowship to allow the voters from the areas to vote on the nominees from their own area, rather than from the General Council at-large; and

WHEREAS, Electronic voting at General Council creates the time-saving possibility of voting simultaneously for each General Council nonresident executive presbyter by area; therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That General Council Bylaws ARTICLE II, ELECTION OF OFFICERS AND PRESBYTERS, Section 2. Nominations and Elections, paragraph c. Nonresident executive presbyters, subparagraph (a) By area, page 110, which reads:

(a) By area. The nominations for 11 area nonresident executive presbyters shall be made as follows: Each district council at its annual meeting prior to the General Council session shall nominate two ministers from its district, one of whom is not an elected full-time district official, to be presented to the General Council as nominees from its area. These nominees shall be presented to and be balloted upon by the General Council in session. A two-thirds vote shall be required to nominate and elect. If no election has been declared after the third elective ballot has been cast, the three candidates having the highest number of votes in the last ballot cast shall be nominees to be further voted upon, and all other names shall be eliminated.
Be amended to read:

(a) *By area.* The nominations for 11 area nonresident executive
presbyters shall be made as follows: Each district council at its annual meeting
prior to the General Council session shall nominate two ministers from its
district, one of whom is not an elected full-time district official, to be
presented to the General Council as nominees from its area. These nominees
shall be presented to the General Council in session and be balloted upon by
the General Council in session voting members of their respective area.
(Members of various areas will only vote on nominees from their area.) A
two-thirds vote shall be required to nominate and elect. If no election has been
declared after the third elective ballot has been cast, the three candidates
having the highest number of votes in the last ballot cast shall be nominees to
be further voted upon, and all other names shall be eliminated.

Sponsor: Ohio District Council
Alabama District Presbytery
Florida Multicultural District Executive Committee
Georgia District Presbytery
Iowa District Presbytery
Kentucky District Presbytery
Louisiana District Board
Minnesota District Presbytery
Montana District Presbytery
New Mexico District Presbytery
Northern California-Nevada District Presbytery
Samoa District Council
South Dakota District Presbytery
West Florida District Presbytery
West Texas District Presbytery

Presented __________________________
Amended __________________________
Referred __________________________
Adopted __________________________
Lost __________________________
Resolution 8

CHI ALPHA CAMPUS MINISTRIES NAME CHANGE

WHEREAS, Chi Alpha Campus Ministries was organized as an outreach of The General Council of the Assemblies of God in 1953 to evangelize and disciple American and international college and university students; and

WHEREAS, Multiple renditions of the name Chi Alpha have been utilized over the past seven decades (Chi Alpha, Chi Alpha Campus Ministries, Chi Alpha Christian Fellowship, Assemblies of God Collegiate Ministries, etc.); and

WHEREAS, A lack of clear name recognition weakens the Chi Alpha brand and causes confusion; and

WHEREAS, Several international ministries use the name Chi Alpha to refer to their campus outreaches, and a delineation between national and worldwide would bring clarity and distinction; and

WHEREAS, The 2013 General Presbytery took action to revise The General Council of the Assemblies of God Flowchart and approve revisions to the Assemblies of God U.S. Missions Chi Alpha section of The General Council of the Assemblies of God Organizational Manual to reflect the name change of Assemblies of God U.S. Missions Chi Alpha Campus Ministries to Assemblies of God U.S. Missions Chi Alpha Campus Ministries, U.S.A.; and

WHEREAS, As a result of this action The General Council of the Assemblies of God Bylaws should be amended to align with The General Council of the Assemblies of God Organizational Manual to reflect the changes adopted by the General Presbytery; therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That General Council Bylaws ARTICLE XIV. ASSEMBLIES OF GOD U.S. MISSIONS, Section 2. Organization and Governance, paragraph c. Departments, subparagraph (2), page 159, which reads:

(2) Chi Alpha Campus Ministries provides campus ministry to evangelize and disciple American and international college and university students.

Be amended to read:

(2) Chi Alpha Campus Ministries, U.S.A. provides campus ministry to evangelize and disciple American and international college and university students.
And, be it further

RESOLVED, That General Council Bylaws ARTICLE XIV. ASSEMBLIES OF GOD U.S. MISSIONS, Section 3. Support, paragraph e, page 161, which reads:

   e. Chi Alpha Campus Ministries.

   All Chi Alpha groups are required to contribute five percent of all group revenue to national Chi Alpha Campus Ministries.

Be amended to read:

   e. Chi Alpha Campus Ministries, U.S.A.

   All Chi Alpha groups are required to contribute five percent of all group revenue to national Chi Alpha Campus Ministries, U.S.A.

Sponsor: Executive Presbytery
Resolution 9

STRENGTHENING NEWLY FORMED DISTRICTS

WHEREAS, The expansion and growth of the Assemblies of God through its district councils is provided for in General Council Bylaws ARTICLE V. DISTRICT COUNCILS, Section 1, Formation of New Districts, indicating that new districts will continue to be formed; and

WHEREAS, Our experience with the approval of newly formed districts is similar to our experience in planting churches throughout our Fellowship, namely that “birth-weight” of the newly formed ministry does matter; and

WHEREAS, It would be to the advantage of the churches and ministers as members of any newly formed district that every effort be made to guarantee the strength and sustainability of the new district; therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That General Council Bylaws ARTICLE V. DISTRICT COUNCILS, Section 1. Formation of New Districts, paragraph b. Guidelines, subparagraphs (1) through (5), pages 120–121, which reads:

b. Guidelines. Guidelines for establishing new districts shall include:

(1) A minimum of 40 Assemblies of God churches sponsored by an existing district and having voted to become a part of the new district at the beginning of the conference unless an exception has been granted by the Executive Presbytery.

(2) Size, maturity, and financial stability of the churches as to membership, leadership, and program ministries.

(3) The location, size, and potential growth of the geographical area under consideration.

(4) The effect the establishment of the proposed new district will have on other districts.

(5) Churches and ministers that have voted to become a part of the new conference shall be required to contribute one-third of their district tithes or dues to the new conference during the first year, two-thirds of their district tithes or dues to the new conference during the second year, and contribute the full amount of tithes or dues as determined by the newly established district during the third year and following.
Be amended to read:

b. **Guidelines.** Guidelines for establishing new districts shall include:

   (1) A minimum of 40-60 Assemblies of God churches (of which at least 50 percent are General Council affiliated status) sponsored by an existing district and having voted to become a part of the new district at the beginning of the conference unless an exception has been recognized granted by the Executive Presbytery.

   (2) Size, maturity, and financial stability of the churches as to membership (assessing both total membership and regular attendance), leadership, and program ministries.

   (3) Size, maturity, and financial stability of the proposed district, its potential for leadership, and its ability to sustain support and program ministries to its churches.

   (4) The location, size, and potential growth of the geographical area under consideration.

   (5) The effect the establishment of the proposed new district will have on other districts.

   (6) Churches and ministers that have voted to become a part of the new conference shall be required to contribute one-third of their district tithes or dues to the new conference during the first year, two-thirds of their district tithes or dues to the new conference during the second year, and contribute the full amount of tithes or dues as determined by the newly established district during the third year and following.

   Sponsor: Executive Presbytery
Resolution 10

LISTING OF DISTRICT COUNCILS

WHEREAS, The Assemblies of God membership consists of all ministers in possession of current credential recognition by The General Council of the Assemblies of God and all churches who have voluntarily chosen affiliation with The General Council of the Assemblies of God; and

WHEREAS, District councils (both geographic and language/ethnic) recognized by the Assemblies of God serve as the primary interface for credential matters and providing a network of fellowship among member churches and ministers; and

WHEREAS, In order to more clearly convey mission and purpose, various district councils have chosen to amend their identity, choosing other descriptive names; and

WHEREAS, The expansion and growth of the Assemblies of God through its district councils is provided for in General Council Bylaws ARTICLE V. DISTRICT COUNCILS, Section 1. Formation of New Districts, indicating that new districts will continue to be formed; and

WHEREAS, When a new district council is formed, or a district council chooses to rename itself, editorial amendments to the General Council Bylaws (ARTICLE II. ELECTION OF OFFICERS AND PRESBYTERS, Section 2. Nominations and Elections, paragraph c. Nonresident executive presbyters) are required by the General Council in session, in order to bring our documents into agreement with action of district councils in session, and previously approved by the General Presbytery in session; and

WHEREAS, Eliminating routine editorial amendments would make more efficient use of the General Council agenda and time spent by the delegates in session; therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That General Council Bylaws, ARTICLE II. ELECTION OF OFFICERS AND PRESBYTERS, Section 2. Nominations and Elections, paragraph c. Nonresident executive presbyters, subparagraphs (2) Divisions for electing nonresident executive presbyters, (a) By area, pages 110–111, be amended by deleting the individual names of various districts assigned to areas recognized by the Assemblies of God and by the addition of text so that the section which currently reads:

(2) Divisions for electing nonresident executive presbyters.
(a) By area. For the purpose of electing nonresident executive presbyters,
The General Council of the Assemblies of God shall be divided into 11 areas,
according to district boundary lines in the following manner:

Northwest Area: Alaska, Montana, Northwest, Oregon, Southern Idaho,
Wyoming

Southwest Area: Arizona, Hawaii, Northern California-Nevada, Rocky
Mountain, Southern California

North Central Area: Iowa, Minnesota, Nebraska, North Dakota, Northern
Missouri, South Dakota, Wisconsin-Northern Michigan

South Central Area: Kansas, New Mexico, North Texas, Oklahoma, South
Texas, West Texas

Great Lakes Area: Appalachian, Illinois, Indiana, Kentucky, Michigan,
Ohio

Gulf Area: Arkansas, Louisiana, Mississippi, Southern Missouri,
Tennessee

Northeast Area: New Jersey, New York, Northern New England,
Pennsylvania-Delaware, Potomac, Southern New England

Southeast Area: Alabama, Georgia, North Carolina, Peninsular Florida,
South Carolina, West Florida

Language Area-East Spanish: Florida Multicultural, Midwest Latin
American, Puerto Rico, Southern Latin, Spanish Eastern

Language Area-West Spanish: Central District/Distrito Central, Northern
Pacific Latin American, Northwest Hispanic, South Central Hispanic,
Southern Pacific, Southwest, Texas Gulf Hispanic, Texas Louisiana Hispanic,
West Texas and Plains

Language Area-Other: Brazilian, German, Korean, National Slavic,
Samoan, Second Korean

Be amended to read:

(2) Divisions for electing nonresident executive presbyters.

(a) By area. For the purpose of electing nonresident executive presbyters,
The General Council of the Assemblies of God shall be divided into 11 areas
as follows, according to district boundary lines in the following manner:
Northwest Area—Alaska, Montana, Northwest, Oregon, Southern Idaho, Wyoming

Southwest Area—Arizona, Hawaii, Northern California—Nevada, Rocky Mountain, Southern California

North Central Area—Iowa, Minnesota, Nebraska, North Dakota, Northern Missouri, South Dakota, Wisconsin—Northern Michigan

South Central Area—Kansas, New Mexico, North Texas, Oklahoma, South Texas, West Texas

Great Lakes Area—Appalachian, Illinois, Indiana, Kentucky, Michigan, Ohio

Gulf Area—Arkansas, Louisiana, Mississippi, Southern Missouri, Tennessee


Southeast Area—Alabama, Georgia, North Carolina, Peninsular Florida, South Carolina, West Florida

Language Area—East Spanish: Florida Multicultural, Midwest Latin American, Puerto Rico, Southern Latin, Spanish Eastern

Language Area—West Spanish: Central District/Distrito Central, Northern Pacific, Latin American, Northwest Hispanic, South Central Hispanic, Southern Pacific, Southwest, Texas Gulf Hispanic, Texas Louisiana Hispanic, West Texas and Plains

Language Area—Other: Brazilian, German, Korean, National Slavic, Samoan, Second Korean

The addition of new areas and the assignment of individual districts to areas shall be determined by the General Presbytery in session, and reported to the General Council in a timely manner.

Sponsor: Executive Presbytery
HONORARY GENERAL PRESBYTE

RESOLUTION
Resolution 11

HONORARY GENERAL PRESBYTER—CHARLES O. KELLY

WHEREAS, Charles O. Kelly has served the Assemblies of God with great distinction as a minister of the gospel for 52 years; and

WHEREAS, He has served The General Council of the Assemblies of God as a general presbyter for 46 years, during which time he served as district secretary-treasurer of the North Carolina District for 22 years, and as district superintendent of the North Carolina District for 24 years; and

WHEREAS, He served on the Board of Regents of Southeastern University for a total of 40 years and as chairman of the Board of Regents for 7 years, and interim president for 2 years; and

WHEREAS, He continues to serve on the Board of Native American Bible College where he has served 46 years and as chairman of the board for 24 years; and

WHEREAS, He continues to serve on the Board of Regents of Northpoint College and Graduate School; and

WHEREAS, He has served on various committees of the General Council; and

WHEREAS, This Fellowship has been blessed by his spiritual leadership, practical wisdom, and faithfulness in ministry and service; and

WHEREAS, It is proper and fitting to honor those whose service among us has represented the highest standards of integrity, ethics, loyalty, diligence, and hard work; and

WHEREAS, Charles O. Kelly meets all of the General Council Constitution and Bylaws qualifications for recognition as an honorary general presbyter; and

WHEREAS, Article IX, Section 3, paragraph j, pages 102–103, of the General Council Constitution makes provision for persons with such distinctive history to be chosen as an honorary general presbyter of The General Council of the Assemblies of God; therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That Charles O. Kelly be elected by this General Council to the position of honorary general presbyter of The General Council of the Assemblies of God.

Sponsor: North Carolina District Council General Presbytery

Presented _______________________
Amended _______________________
Referred _______________________
Adopted _______________________
Lost _______________________

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