

1 November 18, 2000 Transitional Council
2 AMENDED JUNE, 05
3 AMENDED JUNE, 07
4 AMENDED JUNE, 08
5 AMENDED JUNE, 09
6 AMENDED JUNE, 13
7 AMENDED JUNE, 16

8
9 **CODE OF REGULATIONS**
10 *Great Lakes Conference*

11
12 **PREAMBLE**

13
14 *BIBLICAL MANDATE: EACH ONE SHOULD USE WHATEVER GIFT HE HAS RECEIVED*
15 *TO SERVE OTHERS, FAITHFULLY ADMINISTERING GOD'S GRACE IN ITS VARIOUS*
16 *FORMS. 1 PETER 4:10*

17
18 In order to carry out the mandate of God who has called us together as a community of faith as
19 the Great Lakes Conference, Churches of God, General Conference,

20
21 And since God has called us together as a community of faith:

22
23 To be a servant people.

24 To become mature persons in Christ.

25 To be His witnesses to our world of influence that they may become one with us in Christ.

26 To be unified together as the body of Christ, ministering in our local communities, The GLC, the
27 General Conference, and the world.

28
29 THEREFORE, That for the above purpose we, the pastors, and representatives of said churches
30 (now assembled) do hereby adopt the following Code of Regulations.

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33 **ARTICLE I**
34 **NAME**

35
36 The name and style of this Corporation of the associated body of pastors, people and churches of
37 the Churches of God General Conference shall be "Great Lakes Conference, Churches of God,
38 General Conference." (Hereafter referred to as GLC, Conference or Corporation.) (Previously
39 incorporated as the Ohio Eldership of the Churches of God in North America, later as the Ohio
40 Conference of the Churches of God in North America and lastly incorporated as the Ohio
41 Conference, Churches of God, General Conference; and previously incorporated as the Michigan
42 Eldership of the Churches of God in North America, later as the Michigan Conference, Churches
43 of God in North America and lastly incorporated as the Michigan Conference of the Churches of
44 God, General Conference.)

45
46 This Corporation is comprised of all Churches of God, General Conference churches in the Great
47 Lakes Region as defined by the Churches of God, General Conference, their members and all
48 ministers holding credentials with the GLC. (See Rule 23 for definition of "districts.")

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ARTICLE II
Conference in Session

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Section 1 -- Membership of the Conference In Session shall include all its ordained ministers and licentiates whose credentials are current and acceptable and two (2) qualified representatives from each church. All churches having more than one hundred (100) annual average worship attendance as recorded for the previous year shall be granted one (1) additional qualified and approved representative for each increment of fifty (50) and another when the church enters the next increment of fifty (50). (Example- 101=3, 151=4) The church shall select delegates and provide adequate alternate(s) to fill its quota. Delegates shall be selected from the local congregations of the GLC and shall have been members of one of the local congregations of the GLC for at least one (1) year

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Ministers serving under other credentials shall serve as advisory members of the Conference in session until credentials are officially received by the GLC.

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Section 2 -- Credentials for delegates shall be approved and signed by the President and/or Secretary of the local congregation they represent. Credentials must be submitted before the scheduled start date of the annual Conference, as determined from time to time by the Executive Board. (Corrections and additions to delegate lists may be made on the Conference floor.)

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Section 3 -- All members of the Executive Board, members of the four (4) Conference Commissions, Nominating Committee, the Regional Conference Administrator, and presidents of such region-wide auxiliary organizations as are officially approved by the Conference, shall be members of the Conference by virtue of their office and the church of which they are members shall, in addition, be entitled to its full quota of delegates.

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Section 4 -- Persons who cease to be approved members of the Conference by reason of the provisions of the Code of Regulations, shall also, by reason of the loss of said membership, be dropped from the membership rolls of the Corporation and shall be deprived of all rights and privileges of said Corporation.

Section 5 -- It shall be the duty of the President and the Secretary of the Conference to examine and pass upon the credentials of all delegates.

Section 6 -- Quorum -- A majority of the approved members answering roll call at the morning session of the first day of the annual Conference shall constitute a quorum, for purposes of conducting business. Any member questioning that a quorum is present may call the attention of the President to the same, and the roll shall be called. If a quorum is not present, the Conference shall transact no further business, except to adjourn the meeting, until it has a quorum; the President, however, may send for absent members.

Section 7 -- Every member shall constantly endeavor to promote the peace, prosperity, and unanimity of the Conference, and all the Churches within its jurisdiction, and also carry out all the provisions of this Code of Regulations and the various rules of the Conference.

98 **ARTICLE III**
99 **Conference Sessions**

100
101 **Section 1** -- The Conference shall meet annually at such place and time it may designate for the
102 transaction of such business as pertains to its interests, and the interests of the churches within its
103 jurisdiction. Special sessions may be called by the Executive Board upon fourteen (14) days
104 prior written notice mailed to the members at their last address of record on the books of the
105 Corporation.

106
107 **Section 2**-- All meetings of the Conference shall be open to non-members, except when
108 otherwise ordered by a majority of its members. When necessary, an executive session of
109 members only (which shall be a closed session) may be ordered by a majority of its members.

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111 **ARTICLE IV**
112 **Organizational Structure of Conference**

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114 ***BIBLICAL MANDATE: KEEP WATCH OVER YOURSELVES AND ALL THE FLOCK OF***
115 ***WHICH THE HOLY SPIRIT HAS MADE YOU OVERSEERS. BE SHEPHERDS OF THE***
116 ***CHURCH OF GOD. ACTS 20:28***
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118 **Section 1 – Officers of Conference**

119
120 The Officers of the Conference shall be the President, Vice-President, Secretary, and Financial
121 Controller.

122
123 The Officers (President, Vice-President, and Secretary) must have been members of the GLC for
124 a period of at least one (1) year prior to their election. Candidates for these positions shall be
125 delegates to the Conference in Session. They shall have had prior experience of working in the
126 Conference and shall have demonstrated gifts that would give evidence that they have the skills
127 necessary to fulfill their specific office. The officers shall be elected for three (3) year terms and
128 shall continue in office until their successor is elected or appointed. There shall be an annual
129 election of the officer whose term is then expiring. No specific office shall be held by any one
130 individual for more than two (2) consecutive full terms.

131
132 The Financial Controller shall be appointed for a three-year renewable term by the Executive
133 Board.

134
135 **President**

136
137 The President's term of office shall begin at the close of the Conference session in which the
138 person was elected.

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140 The President shall conduct the business of the Conference according to the GLC Code of
141 Regulations and Robert's Rules of Order. The President shall sign all legal documents and all
142 certificates and shall serve as the President of said corporation.

143 The President shall be the presiding officer of the Conference in Session, and of the Executive
144 Board. The President or an appointed representative shall be a member ex officio of all
145 Commissions and Task Forces.

146 In the event that there is a vacancy in the Presidency, the Vice-President will assume the
147 Presidency until a successor can be elected or appointed by the Executive Board.

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149 **Vice-President**

150
151 The Vice-President shall serve on the Executive Board and shall assume the duties of President
152 during the absence of the President or in the event of a vacancy in the office of President until a
153 successor is elected or appointed by the Executive Board. The Vice-President's term of office
154 shall begin at the close of the Conference session in which the person was elected. In the event
155 of a vacancy in the office of Vice-President, the Executive Board will appoint a successor.
156

157 **Secretary**

158
159 The Secretary shall serve at the Conference in Session and on the Executive Board. The
160 Secretary shall keep a correct journal of all Conference proceedings and provide copy of the
161 proceedings as an official copy for production of the journal after the Conference sessions. The
162 Secretary's term of office shall begin at the close of the Conference session in which the person
163 is elected. In the event of a vacancy in the office of Secretary, the Executive Board will appoint
164 a successor.
165

166 The Secretary shall serve as Secretary for the Executive Board and shall be Secretary of the
167 Corporation.
168

169 **Section 2 -- Executive Board**

170
171 The Executive Board shall consist of the President, Vice-President, Secretary, five (5), Members-
172 at-Large, and the Chairperson of each of the four (4) Commissions. The Regional Conference
173 Director and Financial Controller shall be advisory members of the Executive Board.
174

175 The Members-at-Large shall be members of a local church of the GLC for a period of at least
176 one (1) year prior to their election. They shall be elected by the Conference in Session, but do
177 not need to be delegates to the Conference in Session. They shall have had leadership
178 experience in their local church and shall have demonstrated gifts that would give evidence that
179 they have the skills necessary to fulfill their duties. The Members-at-Large shall be elected for
180 three (3) year terms. They shall continue in office until their successors are elected or appointed.
181 There shall be an annual election of the Members-at-Large whose terms are then expiring. No
182 Member-at-Large position shall be held by any one specific individual for more than two (2)
183 consecutive full terms.
184

185 **Section 3 -- Commissions**

186
187 There shall be four (4) Commissions: Commission on New Churches, Missions Commission,
188 Church Life Commission, and Pastoral Leadership Commission. The members of the four (4)
189 Commissions shall be members of the GLC for at least one (1) year prior to their appointment.
190 The members of each Commission shall be appointed by the Executive Board for a three (3) year
191 term and shall continue in office until their successor is appointed. Chairpersons of each
192 Commission will be appointed by the Officers of the Conference and the Members-at-Large of
193 the Executive Board. No persons will serve more than six (6) consecutive years (*two terms*) as
194 Chair of a Commission.
195

196 **Section 4 -- Task Forces**

197
198 Task Forces may be appointed by any of the Commissions, the Executive Board or the
199 Conference in Session and assigned to specific tasks that need to be accomplished.
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201 **ARTICLE V**
202 **Executive Board**

203
204 **Section 1 -- Accountability**
205

206 The Executive Board shall be accountable to and report to the GLC as it meets in annual or
207 special sessions. It shall oversee and manage the operations and functions of the Conference on
208 behalf of the Conference in a manner consistent with and appropriate to the purpose of the
209 Conference. It shall abide by and support the Code of Regulations and By-Laws of the
210 Conference and such other policies, directions and regulations properly adopted by the
211 Conference in session.
212

213 The Executive Board shall submit reports pertaining to the state of the church, plans and
214 projections relating to the mission of the Conference and its specific programs, ministries, and
215 related endeavors. It shall report changes in administrative or operational policies, financial
216 projections and provide statements accurately reflecting the financial status of the Conference. It
217 shall report all such matters as the Conference or its member congregations has the right to know
218 or may hereafter request.
219

220 **Section 2 -- Corporate Responsibility**
221

222 The Executive Board shall serve as the Board of Trustees of this charitable, not for profit,
223 religious organization incorporated according to the laws of the State of Ohio, Michigan and
224 other states where it may operate. It shall assume all responsibilities normally assigned to such a
225 Board of Trustees unless otherwise provided for by the Code of Regulations and By-Laws of the
226 GLC. Included in these duties shall be responsibility for filing documents, reports and such
227 other related legal papers as may be required to properly maintain legal status as an incorporated
228 body in the State of Ohio.
229

230 The Executive Board shall hold title to, in trust, and control all the public, joint and common
231 property, whether personal, mixed, or real estate which now are, or thereafter, may become the
232 property of the GLC by gift, grant bargain, sale, conveyance, devise, bequest, or otherwise (See
233 Article XIII, Section 2, Polity). It shall collect all rents and interests, and shall keep property
234 adequately insured. The Board shall have power to contract debts, make contracts, give
235 mortgages, borrow money, execute deeds, and convey personal property to fulfill its purpose, in
236 accordance with the Articles of Incorporation.
237

238 This Board shall have power to acquire real property to fulfill its purpose in accordance with the
239 Articles of Incorporation. But they shall have no power to sell, convey, lease, exchange
240 encumber mortgages or otherwise transfer by any means whatsoever any real property of the
241 Corporation without having prior approval by the GLC in Session.
242

243 The Executive Board may, with consent of the Conference and/or provisions of the Code of
244 Regulations of the Conference, assign specific properties and assets, with accompanying
245 responsibilities for management and control, to affiliated or controlled corporations accountable
246 to and authorized by the GLC.
247

248 Any of the four (4) Commissions of the GLC may be incorporated as affiliated or controlled
249 corporations by the Executive Board and authorization of the Conference when such is advisable
250 or legally required for the conduct of business.

251
252 Other controlled or affiliated corporations of the GLC include Camp Otyokwah and the
253 Foundation of the Ohio Conference. New controlled or affiliated corporations may be formed by
254 the Executive Board as needed and authorized by the Conference. With the establishment of a
255 controlled or affiliated corporation, lines of accountability and provisions for reporting shall also
256 be well defined.

257
258 Section 3 -- Meetings and Quorum

259
260 The Executive Board shall meet at least quarterly. The quorum required for the conduct of
261 business shall be eight (8) members in attendance.

262
263 Section 4 -- Membership and Vacancies

264
265 The membership of the Executive Board shall be as stated in Article IV, Section 2 of the GLC
266 Code of Regulations.

267
268 In the event of a vacancy in the membership of the Executive Board or on any of the
269 commissions by reason of death, disability, resignation or other cause, the Executive Board shall
270 appoint a replacement to complete the unexpired term. In the event of a vacancy of a
271 Chairperson of a Commission, the Executive Board shall appoint a new Chairperson.

272
273 In the event that it is necessary to remove an officer of the Conference, a member of a council or
274 a staff person by reason of incompetence, lack of interest, insufficient attendance, or other cause,
275 the Executive Board shall notify the person that such action is being taken. The person being
276 removed shall have the opportunity for due process of appeal. If the removal is approved, it shall
277 be treated as any other vacancy.

278
279 Section 5 -- Financial Operations

280
281 The Executive Board shall be responsible for the supervision and management of all financial
282 operations of the GLC. It shall by concerted effort and by constant vigilance administer, control,
283 systematize, receive and disperse the finances of the GLC according to the provisions of the GLC
284 Code of Regulations and the specific instructions of the Conference in session.

285
286 The Executive Board shall be responsible for the development of the annual Conference budget
287 and projections for subsequent budgets as may be requested or required. The proposed budget or
288 budgets prepared by the Board shall be presented in advance to the Conference in Session for
289 approval, amendment or rejection. The budget presented to the Conference in Session shall have
290 given consideration to the requests of all commissions, agencies and other approved budget
291 participants. It shall include in the proposed budget such other miscellaneous expenses as are
292 required for Conference operations. The support of the General Conference budget shall
293 likewise be included in the budget proposals.

294
295 To expedite budget preparations the Executive Board shall provide guidelines/forms that will
296 assist each council, agency, organization, office or other approved participants in the

297 development of their individual budget requests. The Board shall receive and review the
298 requests and give sufficient opportunity for dialogue, questions and answers, and the sharing of
299 related information in an annual budget hearing. Only then shall the Board develop the proposed
300 budget for presentation to the Conference in session. Commissions, agencies, organizations,
301 offices and other approved participants shall be given opportunity to address the Conference
302 regarding the budget proposal.

303
304 Provision shall be made for periodic evaluation of the conference's financial status and for an
305 annual audit of all financial records. (See Section 6, Financial Controller)

306
307 The Executive Board shall be responsible for reviewing and approving all requests for special
308 solicitations or financial campaigns within the conference unless previously approved by the
309 Conference in Session or approved and initiated by the General Conference.

310 311 **Section 6 -- Administration**

312
313 The Conference in session may establish such staff level positions as it determines necessary.
314 Such authorization shall provide for selection of a staff person or persons by the Executive
315 Board. Funding of staff positions shall be via normal budget procedures or by such other means
316 as the Conference in Session shall approve.

317
318 Prior to the selection of a person for a staff position, a job description identifying and defining
319 qualifications, functions, and responsibilities shall be prepared and approved by the Executive
320 Board. All position descriptions for conference staff shall be maintained in the appendix of the
321 Conference Code of Regulations or Operating Policy Manual.

322
323 Any staff person selected shall report to and be accountable to the Executive Board and/or the
324 Regional Conference Director as determined by the position description. Each staff person shall
325 report as determined by the Executive Board. In the employment of staff persons, candidates
326 shall be screened as to loyalty and devotion to the Word of God, demonstration of Christian
327 character, possession of skills and giftedness, and give witness to beliefs consistent with the
328 doctrine of the Churches of God, General Conference.

329
330 The Executive Board shall appoint an Advisory Committee to address staff related matters as
331 may be determined by the Executive Board or requested by the staff. Provision shall be made for
332 evaluation of staff members, job descriptions, staff salaries and benefits at least annually.

333 334 335 **Regional Conference Director**

336
337 The Executive Board shall select and employ a person to serve as the GLC Director as
338 authorized by the conference in Session. This person shall report to and be accountable to the
339 Executive Board. Provisions for screening, job description, and periodic evaluations shall
340 conform with the requirements as stated in Article V, Section 6.

341 The Conference Director shall be a member of the GLC and will be a voting member of the
342 Conference in Session.

343
344 The Conference Director shall be one (1) of the GLC delegates to the General Conference
345 Sessions.

346 **Financial Controller**

347

348 The Executive Board shall appoint a Financial Controller that will serve as the Treasurer of the
349 Great Lakes Conference. As the principal accounting and financial officer of the Corporation,
350 he/she shall have charge of and be responsible for the maintenance of adequate books of account
351 for the Corporation. He/she shall be responsible for and have charge and custody of all funds
352 and securities of the Corporation, their receipt and disbursement. He/she will perform all the
353 duties of treasurer and other duties as are assigned to him/her by the Executive Board.

354

355 The Financial Controller will serve as an Advisory Member to the Executive Board and will be
356 accountable to the Regional Conference Director for the day-to-day operations.

357

358 The Financial Controller will assist a task force appointed by the Executive Board in preparing
359 the annual budget.

360

361 **Administrative Office Employees**

362

363 Administrative office employees as authorized by the Executive Board or the Conference in
364 Session shall be employed and supervised by the Regional Conference Director.

365

366 **Section 7 -- Statistical Reports**

367

368 The Executive Board shall provide annually for the solicitation and compilation of a Statistical
369 Report. The report shall conform to the format and time line established by the General
370 Conference. Additional information may be solicited for the GLC if deemed necessary. The
371 primary responsibility for this task shall be assigned to the Regional Conference Administrative
372 Office of the Conference.

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ARTICLE VI

376

Commissions

377

378 **BIBLICAL MANDATE:** WE HAVE DIFFERENT GIFTS, ACCORDING TO THE GRACE
379 GIVEN US. IF A MAN'S GIFT IS PROPHECYING, LET HIM USE IT IN PROPORTION TO
380 HIS FAITH. IF IT IS SERVING, LET HIM SERVE; IF IT IS TEACHING, LET HIM TEACH;
381 IF IT IS ENCOURAGING, LET HIM ENCOURAGE; IF IT IS CONTRIBUTING TO THE
382 NEEDS OF OTHERS, LET HIM GIVE GENEROUSLY; IF IT IS LEADERSHIP, LET HIM
383 GOVERN DILIGENTLY; IF IT IS SHOWING MERCY, LET HIM DO IT CHEERFULLY.
384 ROMANS 12: 6-8.

385

386 **Section 1 -- Commissions**

387

388 The Commissions of the GLC shall be the Commission on New Churches, Missions
389 Commission, Church Life Commission and Pastoral Leadership Commission.

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394 **MEMBERSHIP:** *The Commissions shall be assigned the following number of members:*
395 *Missions – 6*
396 *Church Life – 8*
397 *New Churches – 6*
398 *Pastoral Leadership – 8*
399

400 Each member must presently be a member of a local Church in the GLC, either as a lay member,
401 ordained or licensed pastor, or person holding other credentials of the GLC and such
402 membership must have been in effect for one (1) year. The members of each commission shall
403 exhibit a high level of commitment, have the expertise and gifts needed to fulfill the
404 responsibilities of the Council.

405
406 Terms of service shall be three (3) years, with rotating terms, so that two (2) or three (3) shall be
407 appointed in any given year.

408
409 Membership of the Commission shall be of legal age and shall be selected from the membership
410 of the GLC at large.

411
412 **Section 2 -- Reporting Procedure**

413
414 A written report of each commission's meetings and activities shall be submitted by each
415 Commission Chairperson for every meeting of the Executive Board.

416
417 In addition to written reports, a member of the Commissions selected by the Chairperson shall be
418 present to report in case of absence of the Chairperson. This person shall not vote on the
419 Executive Board and shall not count toward a quorum.

420
421 **Section 3 -- Accountability**

422
423 Each Commission shall meet at least quarterly. Adequate advance notice should be given to the
424 Regional Office and to commission members.

425
426 Each Commission shall keep a written record of each meeting according to a format approved by
427 the Executive Board.

428
429 A quorum shall be necessary in order to conduct business at each Commission. A quorum shall
430 consist of a majority of its members.

431
432 Each Commission shall be accountable to and be supervised by the Executive Board.
433 Each Commission in addition to its ongoing duties and responsibilities shall also be responsible
434 for long range planning.

435
436 Cooperation between Commissions will be necessary for specific tasks.

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443 **Section 4—Missions Commission**

444
445 BIBLICAL MANDATE: THE SPIRIT OF THE LORD IS ON ME, BECAUSE HE HAS
446 ANOINTED ME TO PREACH GOOD NEWS TO THE POOR. HE HAS SENT ME TO
447 PROCLAIM FREEDOM FOR THE PRISONERS AND RECOVERY OF SIGHT FOR THE
448 BLIND, TO RELEASE THE OPPRESSED, TO PROCLAIM THE YEAR OF THE LORD'S
449 FAVOR. LUKE 4:18, 19

450
451 FOCUS: To care for the mission's outreach of the GLC,
452 Specifically:

- 453
454 Missionary education
455 National Missions
456 World Missions
457 Community Outreach

458
459 This Commission will encourage the churches and individuals of the GLC in the areas of cross
460 cultural ministries. They will educate the Conference concerning denominational ministries in
461 the United States and around the world. They will provide opportunities for ministries to those
462 areas.

463
464 **Section 5—Church Life Commission**

465
466 BIBLICAL MANDATE: MAKE EVERY EFFORT TO KEEP THE UNITY OF THE SPIRIT
467 THROUGH THE BOND OF PEACE. THERE IS ONE BODY AND ONE SPIRIT—JUST AS
468 YOU WERE CALLED TO ONE HOPE WHEN YOU WERE CALLED—ONE LORD, ONE
469 FAITH, ONE BAPTISM, ONE GOD AND FATHER OF ALL, WHO IS OVER ALL AND
470 THROUGH ALL AND IN ALL.. EPHESIANS 4:3-6.

471
472 FOCUS: To care for issues related to the church and its ministry,
473 Specifically:

- 474
475 Church Development
476 Church Organizational and Legal Issues
477 Conflict Resolution
478 Children, Youth and Family
479 Discipleship
480 Small Groups
481 Stewardship

482
483 This Commission will assist churches of the GLC in the area of church health. The Commission
484 will assist churches with organizational needs, legal issues, and conflict resolution.

485
486 This Commission will offer guidance and support to the churches of the GLC regarding
487 educational and discipleship programs in their local context. It will maintain contact with
488 churches in this regard

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492 **Section 6—Commission on New Churches**

493
494 BIBLICAL MANDATE: THEREFORE GO AND MAKE DISCIPLES OF ALL NATIONS,
495 BAPTIZING THEM IN THE NAME OF THE FATHER AND OF THE SON AND OF THE
496 HOLY SPIRIT, AND TEACHING THEM TO OBEY EVERYTHING I HAVE COMMANDED
497 YOU. MATTHEW 28:19, 20a

498
499 FOCUS: To create and care for the church planting movement of the GLC, Specifically:

- 500
501 Church plant sanction and supervision
502 Daughter churches
503 Recruitment and equipping of planters
504 Restart of churches
505 New church acquisition

506
507 The Commission is to be a catalyst for new, reproducing movements that make disciples. This is
508 accomplished by recruiting spiritual entrepreneurs, equipping and empowering them, and
509 encouraging and supporting them and their movements for the glory of God.

510
511 When a fellowship of believers wishes to identify with the GLC, the Commission will work with
512 the leadership of that group to determine compatibility and to outline the process for receiving
513 them into the Conference.

514
515 The Commission will be responsible to foster the church planting efforts of the GLC.

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519 **Section 7—Pastoral Leadership Commission**

520
521 BIBLICAL MANDATE: IT WAS HE WHO GAVE SOME TO BE APOSTLES, SOME TO
522 BE PROPHETS, SOME TO BE EVANGELISTS, AND SOME TO BE PASTORS AND
523 TEACHERS, TO PREPARE GOD’S PEOPLE FOR WORKS OF SERVICE, SO THAT THE
524 BODY OF CHRIST MAY BE BUILT UP UNTIL WE ALL REACH UNITY IN THE FAITH
525 AND IN THE KNOWLEDGE OF THE SON OF GOD AND BECOME MATURE,
526 ATTAINING TO THE WHOLE MEASURE OF THE FULLNESS OF CHRIST. Ephesians
527 4:11-13

528
529 FOCUS: To care for training and credentialing of pastoral leadership for the GLC. Specifically:

- 530
531 Continuing education for pastors
532 Credentialing of pastors
533 Education of ministerial prospects
534 Fellowship of pastors
535 Maintenance of list of credentialed pastors
536 Pastor’s benefits
537 Pastoral assignments
538 Pastoral transitions/interim

539

540 This Commission will be responsible for the recruitment and placement of persons who have
541 responded to God's call to Pastoral ministry. It will give assistance in the training and enabling
542 necessary to fulfill the call and to acquire the credentials needed for ministry. It will assist in the
543 nurture, care and continuous development of persons under its supervision. The standards as set
544 forth by the General Conference will be followed by the GLC. After examination by the
545 Commission, persons who have met the respective requirements for credentials will be
546 recommended to the Executive Board. Final approval for the Life Ordination credential will be
547 given by the Conference in session.

548
549 This Commission will assist pastors in finding ministry within local churches of the GLC and
550 will assist local churches in their search for pastors. This Commission will work closely with the
551 pastors and churches in attempting to match the pastor's ministry gifts with the churches'
552 ministry needs. It will provide the necessary advice and counsel to the pastor and church to aid
553 in the search and selection process. This Commission will be responsible for the approval and
554 appointment of pastors to churches within the GLC.

555
556 The Pastoral Leadership Commission will assist the pastor and church requesting to terminate
557 their ministry relationship with each other. Resignations and/or requests for change by pastor or
558 local church must be made to the Commission in writing according to regulations in the Manual
559 of Operations. All resignations and/or requests for change of pastor must first be approved by
560 the Commission prior to becoming effective and/or binding upon either party.

561
562 When a pastoral vacancy arises, the Commission will immediately work with the church to
563 provide interim supervision and will oversee such assignments.

564
565 All pastors considered for appointment by the Commission to local churches in the GLC must
566 hold credentials approved by the GLC. This Commission will recommend to the Executive
567 Board appropriate disciplinary action for unethical and/or immoral conduct of pastors. Final
568 decision concerning such action will rest with the Executive Board, with the right of appeal for
569 the accused resting with the GLC in Session and further with the Churches of God, General
570 Conference.

571
572 Given the nature of the responsibilities of The Pastoral Leadership Commission, membership
573 shall be composed of at least four (4) ordained pastors.

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576 **ARTICLE VII**
577 **Task Forces**

578
579 Task forces may be appointed by the Executive Board, Commissions, or the Conference in
580 Session to accomplish specific Tasks. Task Force members shall be selected on the basis of their
581 giftedness and expertise from the people across the GLC. The job description and completed
582 records of each Task Force shall be on file in the Administrative Office.

583
584 Prior to the appointment of a task force, the Appointing Body shall provide a written directive
585 containing a description of the task(s) to be accomplished, the reporting procedure to be used,
586 and the anticipated time for completion of the task.

587

588 The Task Force shall be directly responsible to the Body, which appoints the specific Task
589 Force. The Task Force may be comprised of any number of persons according to the size of the
590 task that is to be completed. The Task Force may be appointed for a short period of time or for
591 an extended period depending upon the task they must accomplish. A member of the Body
592 appointing the Task Force may also serve as a part of the Task Force. Each Task Force shall
593 choose its own Chairperson, unless otherwise directed by the Body that appointed it.
594

595 The members of a Task Force shall vary in number according to the size of the task to be
596 accomplished. In the case of a vacancy, the body which appointed them should determine if a
597 new appointment is needed, and if so, make that appointment.
598

599 Each Task Force, when appointed, shall adhere to the tasks and responsibilities specified by the
600 Appointing Body. All opinions, decisions, etc. shall be approved by the Appointing Body.
601

602 Each Task Force shall keep a written record of each meeting according to a format approved by
603 the Executive Board. The written record shall be submitted to the Body which supervises it.
604

605 A Task Force shall exist only as long as the Appointing Body determines that there are tasks to
606 be accomplished by the particular task force.
607

608 **ARTICLE VIII**

609 **The Nominating Committee**

610

611 A Nominating Committee of five (5) members shall be composed of three (3) members elected
612 by the Conference in session and one (1) member appointed by the Executive Board. The Vice-
613 President of the Conference shall serve on the Nominating Committee by virtue of office, and
614 shall act as its chairperson. Consideration of representation on this committee from each of the
615 GLC districts shall be given. Appointed members will be selected at the first meeting of the
616 Executive Board following the Conference in session. Each elected and appointed member will
617 serve a three (3) year term. There shall be an annual election and appointment of the members of
618 the nominating committee whose terms are expiring. Nominating Committee members may not
619 serve for more than two (2) full consecutive terms.
620

621 The Nominating Committee shall serve continuously throughout the Conference year and from
622 year to year. Its task shall be to identify persons who are members of local congregations within
623 the GLC who have particular gifts and skills suited for leadership roles within the conference.
624 Pastors and Lay Leaders should submit names and brief resumes of persons who have the
625 specific gifts or expertise for service on any of the Commissions. It shall provide the Conference
626 in Session with nominations for each elected position in the Conference and nominations for
627 delegates to the General Conference. It is preferred that the Committee nominate at least one
628 more than the number to be elected, for each elective position. A resume that comprehensively
629 describes each nominee shall be distributed in advance of each election. The names and resumes
630 of the persons being nominated by the Nominating Committee shall be sent to all delegates to the
631 Conference in Session.
632

633 The Nominating Committee shall meet periodically throughout the year in order to adequately
634 fulfill their responsibilities.
635
636

637 Nominations may be made from the floor by conference delegates. Such nominations should be
638 made with forethought and preparation. Each nominee should give consent for nomination in
639 advance and a description of the nominee should be given to all delegates prior to the balloting.
640

641 **ARTICLE IX**

642 **Affiliated or Controlled Corporations and Entities**

643
644
645 The GLC may establish controlled or affiliated corporations, as it deems necessary. The
646 establishment of these corporations shall be authorized by action of the Conference in Session
647 upon favorable recommendation by the Executive Board. Controlled corporations are those
648 corporations whose boards or trustees are all members in good standing with the GLC and who
649 are responsible to the GLC. Affiliated corporations are those ultimately controlled by the GLC
650 through veto or approval power over the Code of Regulations and/or Articles of Incorporation of
651 the related corporation.
652

653 All controlled or affiliated corporations shall maintain Articles of Incorporation and a Code of
654 Regulations that shall be maintained and subject to and in accord with the GLC Code of
655 regulations/Code of Regulations. The Code of Regulations shall be reviewed and approved by
656 the GLC in Session or by the Executive Board of the Conference prior to its adoption.
657 Subsequent changes in the Code of Regulations shall be reviewed and approved by the
658 Conference in Session or the Executive Board prior to implementation.
659

660 The Corporate Bodies now known as Camp Otyokwah, The Foundation of the Great Lakes
661 Conference, and other such corporations or entities shall be controlled by the GLC. The nature
662 and frequency of reporting shall be at the discretion of the Executive Board.
663

664 All Articles of Incorporation, Code of Regulations and/or By-Laws and Legal Agreements must
665 be on file in the Administrative Office of the GLC.
666

667 **Section 1 -- Camp Otyokwah**

668
669 **PURPOSE:** Camp Otyokwah shall be operated as a Christian Center by providing setting and
670 facility for the purpose of fellowship, nurture, and ministry.
671

672 **ORGANIZATION:** Camp Otyokwah shall be managed and administered by a Board of
673 Trustees, with nine (9) voting members. Board of Trustee members will be appointed by the
674 Executive Board. The Board of Trustees will present nominees for board positions to the
675 Executive Board each year by March 1. The Executive Board will appoint new trustees no later
676 than their May Executive Board meeting. The new class of trustees will assume responsibilities
677 June 1. Each class of Trustees shall have a minimum of two members of the GLC. They shall
678 have had leadership experience in their local church and shall have demonstrated gifts that would
679 give evidence that they have the skills necessary to fulfill their duties. Their terms of office shall
680 be three (3) years, with rotating terms, so that only three (3) shall be appointed each year. They
681 may not serve more than three (3) consecutive full terms. In the event of a vacancy of a Trustee
682 by reason of death, disability, resignation or other cause, the Executive Board shall appoint a
683 replacement to complete the unexpired term.
684

685 The Trustees of Camp Otyokwah shall meet at least quarterly. They shall be accountable to the
686 Executive Board and shall report at least quarterly to the Executive Board and annually to the
687 Conference in Session.

688
689 The Trustees shall be responsible for leasing, renting, and setting calendar for Camp activities.
690 Priority shall be given to Camp uses as authorized by the Conference.

691
692 The Trustees shall establish goals, maintain properties, provide job descriptions and recommend
693 to the Executive Board persons for the position of Executive Director. They shall present an
694 operational budget to the Executive Board each year. They may develop and operate (with
695 Executive Board or Conference approval) individual and congregational gifting programs and
696 programs for capital improvements.

697
698 **DUTIES:** Duties and responsibilities are as outlined in the Articles of Incorporation and such
699 other duties and responsibilities as may be assigned by the Conference.

700
701 **Section 2 - The Foundation of the Great Lakes Conference**

702
703 **PURPOSE:**

- 704
- 705 • To conduct fund raising activities to be operated for the benefit and support of the GLC, an
706 Ohio nonprofit corporation, and any affiliated or controlled corporations and entities to the
707 GLC.
 - 708
 - 709 • To be organized exclusively for charitable purposes as set forth in Section 501(c) (3) of the
710 Internal Revenue Code of 1986.
 - 711
 - 712 • To engage in any lawful act, activity or business not contrary to and for which a nonprofit
713 corporation may be formed under the laws of the State of Ohio, and to have and exercise all
714 powers conferred by the laws of the State of Ohio on nonprofit corporations.
 - 715

716 **ORGANIZATION:** The Foundation of the Great Lakes Conference shall be controlled and
717 managed under the direction of a Board of Trustees, with seven (7) voting members. The
718 trustees shall be members of the GLC. They shall be elected by the Executive Board. They shall
719 have had leadership experience in the local church and shall have demonstrated gifts that would
720 give evidence that they have the skills necessary to fulfill their duties. Their terms of office shall
721 be three (3) years, with rotating terms. They may not serve more than three (3) consecutive full
722 three (3) year terms and may not be reelected as a trustee until he or she has been off the Board
723 of Trustees for at least one (1) full year.

724
725 The Executive Board shall have a right to fill any vacancy for the office of trustee of any class,
726 whether or not the vacancy has been temporarily filled by the remaining trustees, by written
727 notice to the Board of Trustees of its action. Any trustee of any class so elected by the Executive
728 Board shall hold office during the term defined in the class or until a successor is elected as
729 trustee for that class.

730
731 Annual elections shall be at the first meeting of the Executive Board scheduled in the first
732 calendar quarter of each year or on such other date as may be designated by the Executive Board
733 of the GLC. All trustees shall serve until they have been duly replaced.

734
735 DUTIES: The duties and responsibilities of the Foundation of the Great Lakes Conference shall
736 be in accord with its Code of Regulations and the Ohio Revised Code. Reports shall be made to
737 the Executive Board and the GLC in session.
738

739
740 **ARTICLE X**
741 **Auxiliary Organizations and Agencies**
742 **GLC/General Conference**
743

744 **SECTION 1 -- LAY ORGANIZATIONS**
745

746 To receive official recognition as an authorized Auxiliary Organization or Agency the
747 Conference in Session must give approval upon favorable recommendation by the Executive
748 Board.
749

750 Recommendations for the dissolution of authorized Auxiliary Organizations or Agencies shall
751 likewise be by action of the Conference in Session upon recommendation of the Executive
752 Board.
753

754 **THE CHURCHES OF GOD WOMEN'S MINISTRIES (CGWM)**
755

756 The CGWM is the organizational agency for the women's ministries department of the GLC. Its
757 purpose is to further the work of the Churches of God by uniting the women of the Churches of
758 God in spiritual fellowship with a program of prayer, education, giving and service.
759

760 It shall effect its own organizations, elect officers, and conduct its affairs as provided in its code
761 of regulations.
762

763 **THE CHURCHES OF GOD YOUTH ADVANCE (CGYA)**
764

765 The CGYA, Churches of God Youth Advance is the organizational agency for the youth ministry
766 of the Churches of God. It is the channel through which the concerns of the church and
767 educational program can be related to young people.
768

769 It shall effect its own organization, elect officers, and conduct its affairs as provided for in its
770 code of regulations.
771

772
773
774 **THE PASTORS' SPOUSES ASSOCIATION**
775

776 The Pastors' Spouses Association is an organization committed to strengthening the relationship
777 with fellow pastors and spouses through prayer, fellowship, and promotion of common goals and
778 projects.
779

780 It shall effect its own organizations, elect officers, and conduct its affairs as provided for in its
781 code of regulations.
782

783 **THE SENIOR LIFE FELLOWSHIP**

784
785 The Senior Life Fellowship is an organization of the senior life department of the GLC. Its
786 purpose shall be to further the growth of the older adults for their continued spiritual growth
787 through programs of prayer, worship, fellowship and service to the local church, conference and
788 the world.

789
790 It shall effect its own organization, elect officers, and conduct its affairs as provided for in its
791 code of regulations.

792
793 **SECTION 2 -- CHURCHES OF GOD, GENERAL CONFERENCE**

794
795 Opportunity shall be given during each annual conference to receive a report of the Churches of
796 God, General Conference. Such report may be given by a person(s) designated or assigned by
797 the General Conference. The report shall provide information of benefit, interest or concern to
798 members and friends of the Churches of God.

799
800 **SECTION 3 -- THE UNIVERSITY OF FINDLAY**

801
802 Opportunity shall be given during each annual conference to receive a report of the University of
803 Findlay. Such report may be given by a person(s) designated by the administration of the
804 university. The report shall provide information of benefit, interest or concern to members and
805 friends of the Churches of God.

806
807
808 **SECTION 4 -- WINEBRENNER THEOLOGICAL SEMINARY**

809
810 Opportunity shall be given during each annual conference to receive a report of Winebrenner
811 Theological Seminary. Such report may be given by a person(s) designated by the
812 administration of the seminary. The report shall provide information of benefit, interest or
813 concern to members and friends of the Churches of God.

814
815
816 **ARTICLE XI**
817 **PASTORS**

818
819 **Section 1** – All pastors in the GLC will follow the credentialing guidelines as established in the
820 Ministerial Standards of the General Conference.

821
822 **Section 2** -- Any pastor not serving a congregation of the Churches of God in the GLC but
823 holding ordination papers from this Conference, unless incapacitated, shall make contact
824 annually with the Conference IN SESSION. Failure to contact the Conference will precipitate
825 contact from the Student and Pastoral Life Council and may result in removal of credentials.

826
827 **Section 3** -- Pastors appointed to churches shall be responsible for worship services and
828 ceremonies of the local church and they shall otherwise faithfully fulfill the call of a pastor.
829 Each pastor shall faithfully support through attendance and promotion all Conference activities
830 and ministries. Neglect of these obligations shall subject a pastor to discipline by the
831 Conference.

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Section 4-- No pastor shall be permitted to go into another’s ministry area to hold special meetings, collect money for himself, or for any other purpose, without the consent of the pastor in charge and the church or churches in that particular area, except by permission of the Conference or the Executive Board.

Section 5 - All pastors are amenable for their conduct and may be tried, censured or expelled when found guilty of criminal, unethical or immoral conduct.

Section 6 -- Each pastor serving a congregation shall be responsible for the completion of the statistical report that is required by the Executive Board of the GLC.

ARTICLE XII CHURCHES

Section 1 – Member Churches

Any number of believers united together to form a local church holding the principles and doctrines of this Conference may become a part of the Conference by applying to the Executive Board according to the following procedures:

- A. Any newly-formed group of thirty or more believers united together as a religious body or church, subscribing to the polity, principles and doctrines of the GLC and adopting its own code of regulations as approved by the Conference upon request to and approval by the Conference shall be received as a member Church of God in full standing in the Conference. The church shall be entitled to all the privileges granted by the code of regulations, including representation in the Conference and the service of a minister of this Conference. All mission churches established under the auspices of the Conference are considered member churches.

- B. Any pre-existing group of believers united together as a religious body or church willing to support and affirm the polity, principles and doctrines of the GLC upon approval by the Executive Board shall be received as an associate member congregation in the Conference. The church shall be entitled to the privileges granted by the code of regulations with the exception of voting at conference in session. Members of an associated church body are not eligible for election to Conference offices. The church may be served by a minister of the Conference. Associate membership may continue for five years during which time a request for membership in full standing needs to be made or this status will be discontinued.

Section 2 -- The government of the churches of this Conference shall conform to the polity of the Churches of God, General Conference.

Section 3 -- In all matters of securing or releasing pastors, the Conference shall have final authority.

Section 4 -- Each local church of the GLC shall hold an annual congregational meeting, composed of all members of the church, for the purpose of electing church officers, electing

881 delegates to the Conference as needed, (the names of those delegates shall be forwarded at once,
882 with their credentials, to the GLC Administrative Office) and transacting such other business as
883 may be necessary.

884
885 **Section 5 --** In the matter of discipline, any person disciplined by a local church shall have the
886 right to appeal to the Executive Board of the conference. A person expelled from one church of
887 this body shall be treated as such by all other churches until reconciled.

888
889 **Section 6 -- Church Circuits**

890
891 Each Circuit, having two or more appointments or churches within its boundaries, is urged to
892 organize an Official Board consisting of all the officers of the churches within its bound, with the
893 circuit pastor, for the purpose of creating harmony of action and cooperation of all the churches.
894 Said board to meet quarterly, or more frequently, if deemed advisable.

895
896 The duty of said board shall be to take such measures, and devise such means, as may be
897 necessary to raise the pastor's salary and other monies assessed, and to consider and act upon all
898 matters pertaining to the spiritual interest of the charge in every way not conflicting with the
899 rules of the Conference.

900
901 Such board may send petitions, requests, and messages to the Conference. All such requests,
902 messages, and petitions, must be signed by the Chairman and Clerk of said board.

903
904

905 **ARTICLE XIII**
906 **POLITY**

907
908 **Section 1.** Subject to action by the Conference in Session, the Executive Board or its designated
909 representative(s) shall have power and authority to:

- 910
- 911 A. Receive and consider appeals from the church commissions of local churches, and to
912 examine and approve or censure the doctrinal statements, actions or conduct of said
913 commissions.
 - 914 B. Condemn erroneous opinions which injure the peace of the Church.
 - 915 C. Visit particular churches for the purpose of evaluating their spiritual condition
 - 916 D. Examine and license candidates for the ministry
 - 917 E. Ordain, install, judge and remove ministers
 - 918 F. Resolve questions of doctrine and discipline
 - 919 G. Unite or divide congregations to promote ministry needs
 - 920 H. Form or receive new congregations
 - 921 I. Dissolve congregations or close churches as necessary
 - 922 J. Order in general whatever pertains to the spiritual and material welfare of the
923 churches under its care

924
925 **Section 2. Church Property**

- 926
- 927 A. In accordance with our presbyterial form of polity, the property of Member Churches
928 of the GLC is subject to the code of regulations, laws and authority of the GLC, and
929 to the code of regulations, laws and authority of the larger ecclesiastical body,

930 namely, the Churches of God, General Conference. Consequently, all church
931 property shall be held by the elders or trustees of the local church or by the local
932 church corporation, if such should be the case, in trust for the GLC. The existence of
933 this trust, however, shall in no way limit the power and authority of such elders or
934 trustees otherwise existing over such property, so long as the local church remains a
935 part of the GLC and subject to this Code of Regulations. (See also the Code of
936 regulations of the Churches of God, General Conference, Article XII, Section 3 and
937 Article XIX.
938

939 B. In the event a church shall become extinct or cease to maintain an organization in
940 harmony with the doctrine, customs, or polity of the Churches of God, all of its
941 property and assets shall become the property of the GLC.
942

943 C. In the case of extinction by reason of the dispersal of its members, the abandonment
944 of its work, or other cause, a local church, working with the GLC Executive Board,
945 shall provide for the disposal of all of its assets to appropriate ministries and/or
946 agencies of this GLC and/or the Churches of God, General Conference.
947

948 D. When a church ceases to be in harmony with the doctrines, customs or polity of the
949 Churches of God, General Conference this GLC may at its discretion dissolve that
950 church. An appeal of such a decree of dissolution may be taken within thirty-days to
951 the Administrative Council of the Churches of God, General Conference. Whenever
952 a church is formally dissolved by this Conference such property as it may have shall
953 become the property of this GLC and shall be used for such purposes or may be sold
954 or disposed of as this GLC may direct. (See Article V, Sec. 2, Para. 3)
955
956

957 **ARTICLE XIV** 958 **Charges and Penalties** 959

960 **Section 1** -- No charge shall be preferred against a member of this body without notifying the
961 member at least twenty (20) days prior to the time such charge will be acted upon. Full
962 specifications of the offense must be given at the time of the notification. This rule shall also be
963 observed in preferring charges before the Executive Board.
964

965 **Section 2** -- A violation of the Rule by preferring charges in open Conference In Session shall
966 subject the person guilty of such offense to the discipline of the Conference.
967

968 **ARTICLE XV** 969 **Amendments** 970

971 This Code of Regulations, or any Article thereof, can only be altered by two-thirds (2/3) vote of
972 the Conference in Session at which a quorum is present. Upon approval, the change shall take
973 effect immediately.
974

975 Proposed amendments to this Code of Regulations shall be submitted to the Executive Board
976 before the GLC in Session. The proposed amendments shall be approved by the Executive
977 Board and circulated to the delegates of the GLC prior to the Conference in Session. The

978 proposed amendment shall be acted upon as the first item of business on the first day of the
979 Conference in Session.

980

981

982

ARTICLE XVI

983

984 This Code of Regulations shall become effective immediately upon adoption by the GLC in
985 Session.

986

987 Delegates to the General Conference in Session shall be selected according to the provisions as
988 stated in the General Conference Code of Regulations. These delegates shall be elected by the
989 GLC in Session, but need not be members of the GLC in Session. (See Article 5, Section 6,
990 Regional Conference Director)

991

992 Legal documents shall be kept on file in the GLC Office. Copies of these legal documents may
993 be made available to any Council as the need arises.

994

995

996

OPERATIONAL RULES

997

998 **RULE 1 --** The Conference shall hold two (2) sessions per day, as directed by the Executive
999 Board. Evening sessions may be held when directed by the GLC in Session and shall begin and
1000 end at times set by the body at the time such sessions are ordered.

1001

1002 **RULE 2 --** Devotional times shall be set by the Executive Board.

1003

1004 **RULE 3 --** The membership of the GLC in Session shall be established by appropriate measures
1005 as determined by the Executive Board.

1006

1007 **RULE 4 --** An Order of Business shall be established by the Executive Board prior to the
1008 Conference in Session.

1009

1010 **RULE 5 --** Any person desiring to address the GLC shall rise in his place, address the President,
1011 and wait for recognition. None can claim the floor before recognition by the President.

1012

1013 **RULE 6 --** No member shall speak more than twice on the same question, nor longer than fifteen
1014 minutes, without permission of the body.

1015

1016 **RULE 7 --** No member shall be interrupted while speaking, except by a call to order, or a motion
1017 to adjourn.

1018

1019 **RULE 8 --**The following motions shall not be debatable, via: a motion to adjourn, previous
1020 question, indefinite postponement, and reconsideration. However, reasons may be given by
1021 mover of the latter question for offering it.

1022

1023 **RULE 9 --** The previous question shall be called only when seconded by three members of the
1024 GLC. Its effect shall be, when decided in the affirmative, to stop debate. The main question
1025 shall be put to an immediate vote. A negative decision shall leave the question the same as
1026 though no vote were taken.

1027
1028 **RULE 10** -- No motion shall be in order while another is pending except to amend, postpone,
1029 commit previous question, adjourn, or other questions of privilege. A motion to adjourn shall
1030 always be in order.
1031
1032 **RULE 11** -- When a subject is disposed by the body it cannot be called up again in any form
1033 during the session of the GLC deciding it, except by reconsideration.
1034
1035 **RULE 12** -- A motion can only be reconsidered by one who voted with the majority moving
1036 reconsideration. The one who seconds must also have voted in the majority. When a motion of
1037 reconsideration prevails, it shall leave the question open as though no vote had been taken. A
1038 motion to reconsider must be made during the same, or succeeding session, in which it was
1039 passed.
1040
1041 **RULE 13** -- All members of the GLC shall vote on all questions unless excused by a vote of the
1042 body. Those refusing to vote, when not excused, shall be counted with the majority.
1043
1044 **RULE 14** -- The President shall decide all disputed questions as to right of the floor, points of
1045 order, etc. When a member may not be satisfied with the decision he may demand the sense of
1046 the body. The question then shall be, "Shall the decision of the chair be sustained?"
1047
1048 **RULE 15** -- No Commissions, Task Forces, Committees, or groups shall be absent from the
1049 Conference room, nor do business during the session of the GLC, without permission of the
1050 same.
1051
1052 **RULE 16** -- These Operational Rules, or any part of them, may be amended or suspended by a
1053 two-thirds (2/3) vote of the members present at said sessions.
1054
1055 **RULE 17** -- Upon balloting for an election where more than one person is to be elected, a
1056 majority on the first ballot will constitute an election. In case of the necessity for a second ballot,
1057 all nominees receiving the fewest votes shall be stricken from the ballot so that not more than
1058 two nominees per position to be filled are left for the succeeding vote, except in the case of a tie.
1059 On each ballot a majority vote shall constitute an election. This policy shall continue on each
1060 ballot until all positions are filled.
1061
1062 **RULE 18** -- The President shall declare a recess during each session to enable the delegates to
1063 familiarize themselves with all printed reports and provide opportunities for boards and
1064 committees to meet and expedite Conference work.
1065 **RULE 19** -- When it becomes necessary, at the discretion of the presiding officer, for a church's
1066 delegate to leave the Conference in Session, that position may be filled by an alternate from the
1067 same church, with full privileges as the original delegate.
1068
1069 **RULE 20** -- Every attempt will be made to ensure that representation from each district of the
1070 GLC is placed on each Commission.
1071
1072 **RULE 21**- Districts in the GLC will be identified as Eastern, Central, Western, and Northern.
1073 The Eastern District churches are located in the Wooster area; The Central District churches are
1074 located in the Findlay area; the Western District churches are located in the Celina area; and the
1075 Northern District churches are located in Michigan.

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GENERAL INFORMATION
Hospitalization

Ministers and other employees of the several churches of the Conference may enroll in any medical insurance plan of the GLC. Each church is responsible for the cost of their Pastor's insurance. Application forms for enrollment may be obtained from the GLC Office.

CHURCH-WIDE PENSION PROGRAM

The Church-wide Pension Program was authorized by the General Conference Board of Pensions. The program offers opportunity for the church and pastor to work together in planning for an adequate retirement income. It is open to all pastors and employees of the church.

It is very simple to participate in the plan both by the church and the pastor. This is achieved by a monthly contribution of 12% (8% by the church, 4% by the individual or the total 12% by the church) of the base monthly salary. Where housing is provided one adds 10% to the base salary. All pastors will retain their deposit regardless of where they may serve in the Churches of God. The member's deposits cannot be lost, even if the pastor becomes inactive. Complete details of the plan are available in the Pension Manual which can be secured in the General Conference Office or by writing to the Board of Pensions, Churches of God, P.O. Box 926, Findlay, Ohio 45839.

TERMS OF IMPLEMENTATION

At the first election of officers after the Revised Code of Regulations is adopted, the President shall be elected for a three year term, the Vice President shall be elected for a 2 year term and the Secretary shall be elected for a one year term. Thereafter, there shall be an annual election of the officer whose term is then expiring.

At the first election of Members-at-Large after the Revised Code of Regulations is adopted, the two persons receiving the highest number of votes shall be the Members-at-Large elected for a three (3) year term, the persons receiving the third and fourth highest number of votes shall be the Members-at-Large elected for a two (2) year term, the persons receiving the fifth highest number of votes shall be the Member-at-Large elected for a one (1) year term. Thereafter, there shall be an annual election of the Member(s)-at-Large whose term(s) is/are expiring.

At the first appointment of members of the Commissions after the Revised Code of Regulations is adopted, two (2) persons will be appointed for a three (3) year term, two (2) shall be appointed for a two (2) year term, two (2) shall be appointed for one (1) year. Thereafter, an appointment will be made annually by the Executive Board to fill the expiring terms.

At the first appointment of the members of the Camp Otyokwah Board of Trustees after the Revised Code of Regulations is adopted, the Executive Board will select three classes of trustees, each class having three persons. Class I will serve a three (3) year term, Class II will serve a two (2) year term and Class III will serve for one (1) year. Thereafter, each class will be appointed for a three (3) year term.

1124
1125 At the first election of members to the Nominating Committee after the Revised Code of
1126 Regulations is adopted, the person receiving the highest number of votes shall serve a three (3)
1127 year term, the person receiving the second highest number of votes shall serve a two (2) year
1128 term and the person receiving the third highest number of votes shall serve a one (1) year term.
1129 Appointed members will be appointed initially to a two (2) year term and one (1) year term.
1130 Thereafter, there shall be an annual election and appointment of the members of the nominating
1131 committee whose terms are expiring.
1132
1133 The Board of Trustees of the Great Lakes Conference Foundation shall continue representation
1134 in accordance with the present Code of Regulations of the Foundation.