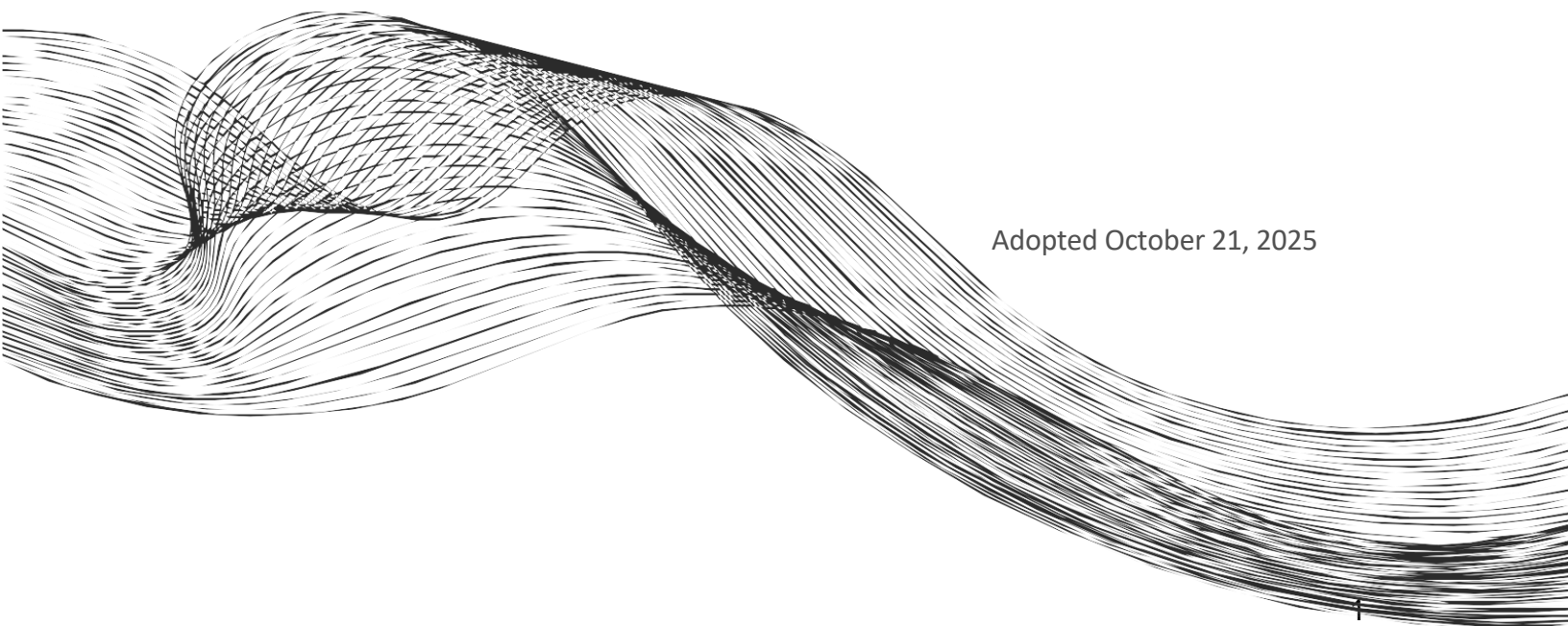




SOUTH CAROLINA MINISTRY NETWORK

BYLAWS *for Network Affiliated Assemblies*

Adopted October 21, 2025



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BYLAWS

Network Affiliated Assemblies of the South Carolina Ministry Network

PREAMBLE

WE BEAR WITNESS AND DECLARE ourselves to be constituted by, affiliated with and governed by the South Carolina District Council of the Assemblies of God, hereafter referred to as the South Carolina Ministry Network. As such, we shall be in compliance with and governed by its Bylaws. Through this charter affiliation, we shall enjoy the rights, privileges and benefits of being listed as an assembly of the General Council of the Assemblies of God, hereafter referred to as the General Council, a voluntary, cooperative fellowship, and shall be in compliance with and governed by its Constitution and Bylaws.

ARTICLE I. NAME

The corporate name of this assembly shall be _____

ARTICLE II. PURPOSE

Section 1. Reason-for-Being

WE SHALL BE AN AGENCY OF GOD for evangelizing and making disciples throughout the world, to be a corporate body in which man may worship God, to be a channel of God's purpose to build a body of believers, being perfected in the image of His Son, and to be a people who demonstrate God's love and compassion for all peoples of the world.

Section 2. Organizational Goal

- A. The organizational goal of this assembly of believers shall be to become an affiliated assembly of the General Council of the Assemblies of God, having complied fully with and satisfied all requirements of the General Council Constitution, Article XI, and its Bylaws, Article VI.
- B. General Council affiliated assembly is one that has applied for and has received a Certificate of Affiliation from The General Council of the Assemblies of God.

Section 3. Network Governance, Oversight, and Guiding Principles

The purpose of these Bylaws is to establish the authority of the Network's Executive Leadership Team to exercise governance, oversight, and guidance with respect to the appointed pastor, the Official Board, and the Support Team/Advisory Council.

ARTICLE III. AFFILIATION

Section 1. Affiliation and Assistance

- A. In matters of biblical doctrine and conduct in conformity to the established doctrine and principles of conduct of the General Council of the Assemblies of God, this body of leaders, members and associates is in affiliation with and under the oversight and assistance of the South Carolina Ministry Network of the Assemblies of God with its office in West Columbia, South Carolina, or at such location it may relocate.
- B. The assembly, in whole or part, shall not have the right or prerogative to alter, amend or replace these bylaws. These bylaws shall be updated and edited automatically by the Network Presbytery to bring them into conformity and compliance with the General Council Constitution and Bylaws and SC Ministry Network Bylaws when amendments or other changes may be made.

Section 2. Basic Terms for General Council Affiliation

This assembly may apply for a change of status to General Council affiliation as an autonomous, indigenous assembly when it meets the basic qualifications established by the General Council Constitution and Bylaws and the South Carolina Ministry Network Bylaws.

- A. Before requesting an official application for change of status from the South Carolina Ministry Network for recognition and endorsement, this assembly must first demonstrate, through its required reports to the Network Presbytery, that it is:
 - 1. Self-supporting and financially independent of the Network's financial backing for operations and mission, and insured adequately against normal risks;
 - 2. Self-governing under pastoral leadership credentialed by and in good standing with the General Council of the Assemblies of God;
 - 3. Self-propagating of the gospel of the kingdom of God in evangelism, Network-sponsored missions, U.S. Missions, and Assemblies of God World Missions;
 - 4. Cooperative in support of the South Carolina Ministry Network with one percent of gross income designated for the Unified Fund to support South Carolina Ministry Network departments and an additional one percent of gross income designated for the Advance Fund for planting new churches and revitalizing older assemblies; and
 - 5. Shall have been under Network oversight and assistance for at least one year as defined and prescribed in the South Carolina Ministry Network Bylaws.
- B. In consideration of General Council affiliation requirements, this assembly shall:
 - 1. Accept the tenets of faith of the Assemblies of God;
 - 2. Adopt a standard of membership that may be determined either by the local assembly or by agreement with the South Carolina Ministry Network;
 - 3. Have a minimum active voting membership of 20 persons who shall accept responsibility to maintain scriptural order in the local body;
 - 4. Adopt Articles of Incorporation, a constitution or bylaws compatible with models recommended by the South Carolina Ministry Network, or Network approved governance models that provide for adequate accountability, amenability, and

- safeguards so that a pastor and/or governing body cannot directly or indirectly exert dictatorial control over a church;
5. Have an adequate number of spiritually qualified members to fill the offices of the assembly called for in its constitution or bylaws;
 6. Make provision for a pastor who is a credentialed minister in good standing with the General Council and the South Carolina Ministry Network; and
 7. Participate in and support Network-sponsored missions, U.S. Missions, and Assemblies of God World Missions.
- C. Upon the Network Presbytery's acceptance of the application, it shall act in accordance with the South Carolina Ministry Network's Bylaws and General Council's Bylaws to initiate the application process for General Council status.
- D. Upon qualifying, the Advisory Council of the assembly shall express its desire for a change of status to General Council affiliation at a duly called special business meeting by a two-thirds majority of votes cast.
- E. Upon acceptance, the South Carolina Ministry Network Presbytery shall recommend this assembly to become a General Council assembly.

ARTICLE IV. TENETS OF FAITH

This assembly shall adhere to a uniform set of beliefs (*Tenets of Faith*), known as the "Statement of Fundamental Truths" as stated in the General Council's Constitution. (GC Constitution ARTICLE V), which include the following:

1. The Scriptures Inspired (2 Timothy 3:15- 17; 1 Thessalonians 2:13; 2 Peter 1:21)
2. The One True God (Deuteronomy 6:4; Isaiah 43:10, 11; Mathew 28:19)
3. The Deity of the Lord Jesus Christ (Mathew 1:23; 1 Peter 2:22; Philippians 2:9-11)
4. The Fall of Man (Genesis 1:26, 27, 2:17; 3:6; Romans 5:12-19)
5. The Salvation of Man (Luke 24:47; John 3:3; Romans 10:13-15)
6. Ordinances of the Church — Water Baptism and Holy Communion (Mathew 28:19; Acts 10:47-48; 1 Corinthians 11:26)
7. The Baptism in the Holy Spirit (Luke 24:49; Acts 1:4, 8; 1 Corinthians 12:1-31)
8. The Evidence of the Baptism in the Holy Spirit (Acts 2:4; 1 Corinthians 12:4-10, 28)
9. Sanctification (Romans 12:1-2; 1 Peter 1:15-16; Romans 6:1-11, 13)
10. The Church and its Mission (Ephesians 1:22-23; Acts 1:8; Galatians 5:22-26; Ephesians 4:11-12)
11. The Ministry (Mark 16:15-20; John 4:23, 24; Ephesians 4:11-16)
12. Divine Healing (Isaiah 53:4, 5; Mathew 8:16, 17; James 5:14-16)
13. The Blessed Hope (1 Thessalonians 4:16, 17; Romans 8:23; Titus 2:13; 1 Corinthians 15:51, 52)
14. The Millennial Reign of Christ (Zechariah 14:5; Mathew 24:27, 30; Revelation 1:7; 19:11-14)
15. The Final Judgment (Mathew 25:46; Mark 13:43-48; Revelation 19:20; 20:11-15; 21:8)
16. The New Heavens and the New Earth (2 Peter 3:13; Revelation 21, 22).

ARTICLE V. PASTORAL CARE

Section 1. Pastoral Appointment

The Network Executive Presbytery shall appoint the pastor at its discretion in consultation with the Advisory Council of the local assembly. Pastoral assistants selected by the pastor shall be subject to ratification by the official board.

Section 2. Pastoral Leadership and Care of the Assembly

The pastor shall lead the assembly and be responsible for pastoral leadership and care for the congregation. He or she shall oversee and supervise all executive, administrative and sacerdotal functions, including weekly services and meetings. He or she shall be directly responsible to and amenable to the Network Executive Leadership Team (ELT), the Network Executive Presbytery and the Network Presbytery. The pastor shall be an ex-officio member of all committees, groups, and departments of the assembly. He shall appoint the assembly's committees, groups department and ministry leaders to be ratified by the official board.

Section 3. Annual Review of List of Network Affiliated Pastors

The Network's Executive Leadership Team shall review the list of pastors of Network Affiliated Assemblies on an annual basis. If a change should be determined as needed in pastoral leadership, the Network's Executive Leadership Team shall make such a recommendation to the Network Presbytery which serves as the Home Missions and Church Planting Committee whose decision shall be final.

ARTICLE VI. ORDINANCES

Section 1.

The ordinances of Baptism by immersion in water (Matt. 28:19) shall be administered to all those who have repented of their sins and who have believed on the Lord Jesus Christ to the saving of their souls and who give clear evidence of their salvation. (Romans 6:3-5; Col. 2:12)

Section 2.

The ordinances of the Lord's Supper shall be observed regularly as enjoined in the Scriptures. (Luke 22:19; 1 Corinthians 11:23-26)

ARTICLE VII. OFFICERS

Section 1. Official Board

The Official Board of the Network Affiliated Assembly shall be the pastor, the Regional Presbyter, and the Executive Leadership Team of the Network. A quorum shall consist of a majority in attendance at a duly called meeting.

Section 2. Support Committee/Advisory Council

The official board shall appoint the members of the Support Committee, also known as the Advisory Council. They shall be selected from ministry leaders. They shall serve in a supportive role to the pastor in the ministries and functions of the assembly. They shall not constitute, infer, or act as the legal and official board of the assembly. Dates and times of meetings shall be set by the pastor.

ARTICLE VIII. DUTIES OF OFFICERS

Section 1. The Pastor

The pastor shall serve as the overseer of the Network Affiliated Assembly, providing for all services and meetings. He or she shall supervise the routine business of the assembly and ensure the orderly care and maintenance of the property, as authorized by the Network Presbytery. The pastor shall call and chair meetings of the board. However, any member of the Network's Executive Leadership Team (ELT) or the Regional Presbyter may also call and/or chair any meeting of the assembly. The pastor shall submit reports to the South Carolina Ministry Network in the approved format—monthly if the assembly carries an outstanding debt to the Network, or quarterly if the assembly is debt-free. Each report shall include monthly financial statements. No individual may be invited to preach or speak without the pastor's prior approval.

Section 2. Secretary-Treasurer

- A. A Secretary-Treasurer shall be appointed by the Official Board of the Assembly.
- B. Records and accurate minutes of all official meetings of the Official Board and the Assembly shall be kept in a secure location approved by the Official Board. Copies of minutes shall be submitted to both the pastor and Network office.
- C. All church funds shall be deposited in the name of the Assembly in an approved bank account weekly by the Pastor, Secretary-Treasurer, or another responsible person appointed by the Official Board.
- D. All authorized disbursements shall be made by check, bank draft, or electronic automatic payment method, and shall be countersigned by the Pastor. In the absence of a pastor, another person may be approved by the Official Board.
- E. Receipts and disbursements shall be properly recorded. A monthly financial report shall be sent to the pastor and Network office if the local assembly is not in full compliance with the required reporting items on the monthly report, and/or owes the Network for incurred debt. If the local assembly is in full compliance with the requirements of the financial report and owes no debt to the Network, it shall file a quarterly report with the Network office.
- F. All Assembly funds and records are the property of the Assembly and shall be available to the pastor, the Official Board, and/or any member of the Network Presbytery for review.

ARTICLE IX. VACANCIES

Section 1. Pastor

- A. A pastor wishing to resign should submit a written resignation to the Network Superintendent at least thirty (30) days in advance.
- B. A pastor may be removed or replaced by the Network Presbytery when deemed necessary for the best interest of the Assembly and the SC Ministry Network. The Network Presbytery shall endeavor to give such pastor a thirty-day (30) advance notice unless the situation is too acute to warrant the same.

Section 2. Other Officers

Any other office or position in the assembly may be declared vacant by the Network Presbytery when deemed necessary for the best interest of the Assembly and the SC Ministry Network. Offices, when vacated, will be filled by appointment of the pastor as approved by the Official Board.

ARTICLE X. MEMBERSHIP

Section 1. Qualification

Only those shall be eligible for membership in this assembly who:

- a. Have a clear testimony of the second birth (John 3:3-8).
- b. Have received the Holy Spirit according to Acts 2:4 or to be earnestly seeking for the same.
- c. Have been baptized in water by immersion or a candidate for baptism (Matt. 28:19, 20).
- d. Fully subscribe to our Tenets of Faith.
- e. Show a sincere desire to live a consistent Christian life and to honor the Messiah in every activity, in personal attitude and in association with others (2 Cor. 6:14-18; Romans 6:4).
- f. Support the local church regularly with tithes and offerings (Mal. 3:10; I Cor. 16:2).
- g. Who have reached the age of 18 years.

Section 2. Classification of Membership

- A. Active Members - Individuals who regularly participate in the services of the assembly, share in its financial responsibilities, and have been formally approved for membership by the Official Board, with such action recorded in the Board's official minutes.
- B. Inactive Members - Individuals who have moved from the community but have not yet transferred their membership, or who (for reasons other than physical disability or temporary absence) have been absent from regular services for ninety (90) days or more, or who no longer meet the standards of membership. Such persons shall be classified as inactive by the Official Board and shall not be eligible to participate in the business of the assembly. If an inactive member resumes regular attendance

and continues to meet membership standards, the Official Board may restore them to active status without requiring a new formal reception into membership.

- C. Junior Membership - Membership may be extended to qualified applicants up to seventeen (17) years of age.

Section 3. Membership

All active members 18 years of age or older shall constitute the membership of the Network Affiliated Assembly.

Section 4. Membership Roll

The pastor shall be responsible to see that the secretary maintains a current membership roll which shall be subject to revision by the Official Board of the assembly. The Official Board of the assembly shall revise the membership roll as deemed necessary.

ARTICLE IX. MEETINGS

Section 1. Public Worship

Congregational meetings for public worship shall be held on each Lord's Day and during the week as provided for under the direction of the pastor.

Section 2. Annual State of the Church Report

An annual State of the Church Report shall be presented to the Official Board by the Support Committee/Advisory Council in a joint meeting during the first quarter of each calendar year. In addition, a written financial report for the previous year shall be presented to the Official Board and submitted to the Network, subject to audit.

Section 3. Special-called Meetings

Special-called meetings of the Network Affiliated Assembly may be convened by the pastor, the Official Board, or the Network's Executive Leadership Team (ELT), provided the meeting has been announced at the assembly's regular services for two (2) consecutive Sundays in advance. The ELT shall appoint a presiding officer for such meetings. Such a meeting shall be called for the purpose of General Council affiliation.

Section 4. Frequency of Meetings

The Official Board shall meet at least quarterly, either in person or through available real-time communication methods, including electronic platforms.

Section 5. Quorum

A majority of all active members shall constitute a quorum.

ARTICLE X. DISCIPLESHIP AND CARE

Section 1. Discipleship

The assembly shall provide intentional discipleship for converts, new members, and adherents. The pastor shall appoint and/or approve all teachers and workers involved in discipleship education.

Section 2. Ministries of the Assembly

All ministries of the assembly—including men’s, women’s, student, young adult, children’s, and any other ministries that may be formed—shall function in alignment with the vision and leadership of the assembly. Each ministry must also remain consistent with the doctrine, fellowship, and policies of the South Carolina Ministry Network and the General Council of the Assemblies of God.

ARTICLE XI. FINANCES

Section 1. Financial Support of Assembly

The assembly shall be supported through the faithful giving of tithes and offerings by its members, adherents, and friends, in keeping with the biblical pattern of stewardship.

Section 2. Limits on Expenditures and Debt

The spending limit for business and any other types of financial transaction by the assembly, including the acquiring of debt, by any method of payment or agreement shall not exceed ten percent of the average total monthly income of the previous six months without prior approval of the Official Board. Exceptions to the spending limit are mortgage or lease payments, utility payments and health and property-related insurance premiums.

Section 3. General Fund

All tithes and undesignated offerings received in the regular church services shall be placed in this fund. Offerings for operating expenses, property payments, etc., shall also be placed in this fund.

Section 4. Designated Funds

All offerings designated for Network Missions, U.S. Missions, Assemblies of God World Missions, BGMC, Speed-The-Light, Light-for-the-Lost and other board approved missions, ministries and projects shall be placed in the appropriate designated fund and strictly disbursed as designated.

Section 5. Pastor's Salary

The treasurer shall pay to the pastor weekly, bi-weekly or monthly an agreed upon percentage of the tithes, or a stipulated salary as agreed upon by the Official Board of the Assembly. His or her salary shall be reviewed at least annually.

Section 6. Network Departmental Support and Home Missions Giving

All Network Affiliated Assemblies shall contribute monthly two percent (2%) of their undesignated general fund income in support of the South Carolina Ministry Network. These contributions shall be disbursed as follows:

1. 1% of undesignated general fund income shall be contributed monthly to the Unified Ministries Fund, which finances Network departments and ministry initiatives.
2. 1% of undesignated general fund income shall be contributed monthly to the Advance Fund, which supports home missions and church planting.

Section 7. World Missions Giving

Each Network Affiliated Assembly is asked to support our national and world mission efforts, supporting missionaries and projects monthly.

ARTICLE XI. PROPERTY

Section 1. Realty

1. Acquisition of all real property shall require specific, prior approval by the Network Executive Leadership Team, and the title shall be in the name of the South Carolina Network of the Assemblies of God, a not-for-profit corporation. An approved abstract or title insurance policy is required.
2. In the event this local assembly shall at any time cease to function as an Assemblies of God church under the jurisdiction of the South Carolina Network, then the property belonging to said church, real, chattel, and personal, and all the interest of said church, real or equitable, in any and all property shall be and thereupon become the property of the South Carolina Ministry Network.

Section 2. Construction

All buildings constructed on said property shall be of such size and type specifically approved by the Official Board.

Section 3. Chattel

All chattel goods secured by or for the assembly shall be its corporate property.

Section 4. Maintenance

The pastor shall keep the Official Board and Advisory Council fully apprised of the maintenance needs of the church property and on their specific approval see that such maintenance is done.

Section 5. Insurance

The pastor shall be responsible to see that property and liability insurance adequately covers church property, facilities and contents, including vehicles, and a copy of the insurance policy is held by the Network office.

ARTICLE XII. ORDER OF BUSINESS

Any duly called business meeting of the Assembly shall follow the accepted rules of parliamentary procedure according to the current edition of *Robert's Rules of Order* and shall be conducted in the spirit of mutual love and respect. Financial reports shall be the business of the Official Board, including stipends, wages, and salaries and benefits (*cf.* Article IX, Section 2) and not that of the Assembly.

The order of business is shall be as follows:

1. Call to Order
2. Reading of Minutes
3. Report of Lead Pastor
4. Old Business
5. New Business
6. Adjournment

ARTICLE XIII. AMENDMENTS

These bylaws shall be amended only by the Network Presbytery of the South Carolina Network.