

PART I: BASIC PRINCIPLES

Chapter I

HISTORY

A. The Origin of The Pilgrim Wesleyan Church of Zambia

1. The Pilgrim Wesleyan Church of Zambia had its origin in the missionary outreach of The Pilgrim Holiness Church in the United States of America. The Pilgrim Holiness Church came into being as a result of a revival of scriptural holiness that took place during the last part of the nineteenth century. Its first organisation began in 1897 in Cincinnati, Ohio. Its major emphases were holiness, evangelism, and foreign missions. The church grew both as a result of evangelism and the affiliation of several other church bodies of like faith.

2. The Wesleyan Methodist Connection had its origins in the early 1840's in America with the first organising convention held in 1843 in Utica, New York. Moral and social reform were strongly emphasised as well as equal ministerial and lay representation in all Church governing bodies.

3. The same revival which so dramatically affected The Pilgrim Holiness Church also affected The Wesleyan Methodist Connection. The Wesleyan Methodist Church was formed in similar ways as The Pilgrim Holiness Church, through evangelism and affiliation of other bodies of like faith.

4. In 1968, The Wesleyan Methodist Church of America merged with The Pilgrim Holiness Church. The merging conference was held in June at Anderson, Indiana, United States of America, as a result of several years of planning.

5. The Wesleyan Church was the name given to the new denomination formed by the merger of The Wesleyan Methodist Church of America and The Pilgrim Holiness Church. At the merging conference in 1968 the new denomination made provision for a world organisation to be known as The Wesleyan World Fellowship. Delegates from all mission units of The Wesleyan Church took part in the formation of The Wesleyan World Fellowship in 1972 following the holding of the Second General Conference of The Wesleyan Church.

6. The Zambian church, instead of registering under the name of The Wesleyan Church, decided to be called the Pilgrim Wesleyan Church. The reason for this was that the Zambian church wanted present and future Zambian Wesleyans to have something that would remind them of their spiritual heritage. In respect of this, they decided to use a word from each name of the merging denominations to create what is now known as The Pilgrim Wesleyan Church.

7. The Pilgrim Holiness Church had been working in South Africa since 1900. It was from here that missionaries began to look northward into new areas of advancing the gospel in Africa. The first missionaries sent out from America by the General Board of Administration of The Pilgrim Holiness Church, were Rev. and Mrs. Ray Miller in the year 1930. They first came to the Southern Province to Choma, to the Tonga people. Later that same year Miss Mary Lowe, a teacher, and Miss Ethel Jordan, an ordained minister joined them from South Africa.

8. In order for Rev. Miller to begin work among the Tonga people, he first had to gain permission to open a mission station from the Native Authority officials. He obtained this permission in the town of Mazabuka, 170 kilometres north of Choma. However, in 1931, because of illness the Millers had to cut short their missionary work and return to America. The result of their return was that the two single ladies remained alone to carry on the work. They resided temporarily at Sikalongo Mission with the Brethren in Christ Church missionaries.

9. Rev. and Mrs. Harry Reynolds were sent to take the place of the Millers. The Reynolds reached Choma in July, 1933 where they joined Miss Lowe and Miss Jordan. With permission granted to the church to open up a mission station, Rev. and Mrs. Reynolds, Miss Lowe and Miss Jordan moved to Pemba to an unofficial area.

10. Rev. P. W. Thomas, who was the Secretary of Foreign Missions from America, and Rev. G. A. Schoombie, who was Field Superintendent of the Missionary work in Africa, came to visit the new work of The Pilgrim Holiness church. Upon their visit they reached Pemba, and went eastwards together with Rev. Reynolds. Being unfamiliar with the area and the local language, they were escorted by Mr. William Kazoka, an African man from Mwaala village around Pemba. They surveyed the area for possible ministry there. The decision was made to visit the Sikwale village under the headmanship of Jacob Sikulale. The headman shared his heart of desiring the missionaries to concentrate their work in four areas: spiritual, educational, medical and agricultural. Ba Sikwale then decided to call for a meeting involving other headmen from villages around his village such as Jalila, Chijikwa, Sichibunde, Maambo, Matabwa, Mwengo and Bulanda. Often times before the area was developed, the people would meet at Sikwale's village under a Muumba tree for the preaching of the gospel.

11. Rev. Schoombie, being familiar with Africans, explained to the people about the vision of the church, which included building schools and a hospital. Ba Kazoka helped him to interpret. The headmen agreed to give the missionaries a place. This place was called Jembo.

12. Permission had now been granted to the missionaries to work in Pemba and Jembo. It should be noted even as the church was settling at Jembo, there were other church organisations who wanted the same area. However these churches were never really accepted in the Jembo area, mainly because the local people did not feel these churches were ministering to their needs. Even though they spoke out against the wrongs in the community, the Pilgrim Holiness Church was accepted, because they responded to people's needs of a church, schools, hospital, and a farm.

13. Rev. Reynolds, with the assistance of the local community, built his house, clinic and school at Jembo. He built his buildings using wooden walls mixed with mud. After completing building, his family, together with Miss Lowe and Miss Jordan, shifted from Pemba to start their work. Mrs. Reynolds, being a nurse, was assigned the duty of running the clinic. Miss Lowe taught at the school. Miss Jordan helped Rev. Reynolds in evangelising the villages.

14. Unfortunately Rev. Reynolds died in March 1937. It is alleged that he was stung by bees which brought on his death. Before his death, he had instructed his wife and family to leave for America. After his death, his family left per his instructions. The two single ladies once again remained alone as the only Pilgrim Holiness missionaries.

15. It was apparent following the death of Reynolds that a replacement was needed. Rev. Schoombie, being the Field Superintendent

for Africa, recommended Rev. R. E. Strickland to take over from Reynolds. Up to this time Rev. Strickland had been working in Chief Siachitema's area under a different mission called The Bible Class Mission. Consequently, Strickland and his family shifted to Jembo to work under the Pilgrim Holiness Church. After some time with the Stricklands at Jembo, Miss Jordan left for a holiday in America. She returned in 1940. It was during the period of her absence that Mrs. Schoombie died. She is buried at the present station of Jembo mission.

16. Despite many difficulties, Rev. Strickland accomplished much mission work. As such he was nicknamed "Singuze", meaning "a man with mighty power." It is Rev. Strickland who shifted the mission station from where Rev. Reynolds had established it to where it is located today.

17. Rev. Strickland started by building his house, hospital and some classroom blocks. Sunday services now could be conducted in the classrooms. The teachers who were Christians became the preachers.

18. The gospel was first preached to the people at the hospital, in school and on Sundays. Revs. Strickland and Reynolds also did intensive village to village evangelism. This usually meant walking long distances because roads were not yet passable. Occasionally they would use bicycles. When they had covered a reasonable area, they would call for camp meetings. It was during these times that many souls were won to the Lord. Of course missionaries could not do the work alone. As a result they were assisted by the first converts, most often by interpreting.

19. Among the first people to respond to the gospel were Mr. Jack Munsaka, Mr. Anderson Mwiikisa, Mr. Amos Walubita, Mr. William Kazoka, Mr. Nelson Chitenge, Mr. Simon Syabbamba, Miss Julia Munsanje (Mrs. Munsaka) and Mr. Moses Mweetwa. These people, after their conversion, were taught Christian principles for living. Later they were baptised in a small stream called "Jordan." Some of these people were even sent out to preaching points. Mr. Nelson Chitenge, for example, went to the valley at Chiyabi. Mr. Jack Munsaka went to Ibbwe Munyama.

B. Development Of The Church

20. The first mission station by the Pilgrim Holiness Church was Jembo. The establishment of the mission took place after the land was leased to the church by the government authorities. Apart from getting a lease from the government over mission land, Rev. Strickland also purchased 3,200 acres of land from a local farmer. With an abundance of land at his disposal, he began building, first his house and then a clinic. Following this, the classroom blocks which were used as worship places on Sundays, were constructed. Again, many people were won to the Lord, to the point that some people could be assigned to establish various preaching points. God was using the local people to preach the gospel. In 1946, a permanent church building was officially opened at Jembo. People now could worship from their own church building. By this time Rev. Strickland was the District Superintendent for Jembo District.

21. As the gospel was being eagerly received by the Tonga people, the church began to look to another area to cover. This was Siachitema in Chief Siachitema's area. In the beginning days the missionaries were Rev. Strickland, Miss Claudie Peyton and Miss Hattie Simpson. They reached the area in 1930 under the Bible Class Mission. By 1938, Miss Simpson had left, leaving the Stricklands and Miss Peyton alone. After Rev. Strickland went to serve the Pilgrim Holiness church at Jembo, he was able to influence Miss Peyton to join the Pilgrim Holiness Church. Earlier

Miss Peyton had begun ministry to orphan children with The Bible Class Mission. In 1944, the orphanage was officially opened at Siachitema. In August, 1961, this ministry to motherless children was officially registered by the government.

22. The District Superintendent for Jembo was also Superintendent for Siachitema. In 1949, Rev. F. B. Gray was appointed District Superintendent for the area. Similar to Jembo, some houses and a hospital were constructed. Later on a church building was erected. From here, the missionaries, under the direction of Rev. Gray, were able to preach the gospel. People repented of wrong doings. With much revival in place, many preaching points were established. Some of the first converts, such as Mr. Alfred Luckena, Mr. Simon Mukubaani and Mr. Anderson K. Mwiikisa, were appointed to lead the new preaching points.

23. Out of a realisation that the Pilgrim Holiness Church required trained pastors, a Bible Seminary(School) was opened. Rev. C. G. Keith was the first missionary to be involved in training men for ministry in a residence programme. The Seminary was opened officially in 1951 at Siachitema. Future influential leaders of the church received their training here, such as Rev. Simon C. Syabbamba and Rev. A. K. Mwiikisa. Due to lack of space for expansion, the Seminary was shifted to Jembo in 1960, where it is still located.

24. The growth of the church progressed on to the Gwembe Valley. The initiative to have the station there was made by Rev. Thomas and Rev. Reynolds during one of their evangelism trips. A desire to meet the needs of the valley people grew. As a result a station was opened at Chabbobboma in Chief Chipepo's area. Located near the Zambezi river, the place was exposed to a lot of danger, such as flooding, hot temperatures and wild animals. Despite all this God put a burden upon His people never to give up but to go out to take the gospel. When Lake Kariba was constructed on the Zambezi river, some people were displaced and settled in Chief Chipepo's area. The original site of the mission was also affected by the building of Lake Kariba. Hence it was shifted to higher grounds where it is presently located. Chabbobboma Mission was officially opened in 1950 by Rev. and Mrs. John Blann and Miss Ruth Miller.

25. Following their suggestions, the District Superintendent for Jembo, who by this time was Rev. John Ault, made extensive visits to Chief Chipepo in the company of the District Commissioner. After being successful in their visits with Chief Chipepo, construction began on houses for teachers and missionaries, a school, a dispensary. A church was erected. Transport was very difficult to Chabbobboma due to the poor roads, so Mr. Roger Bassett would fly in supplies from Jembo. With the expanding of the work at Chabbobboma, other missionaries were reassigned from Jembo to Chabbobboma, such as the Bassetts and Rev. and Mrs. Robert Duda. From Chabbobboma more preaching points in the valley were opened. Some these are now churches that are officially identified by the Zambian church.

26. The fourth mission station to be opened was Zimba mission 80 kilometres north of Livingstone. The desire to open up a station at Zimba was initiated by Rev. C. G. Keith who contacted Rev. R. G. Flexon, Pilgrim Holiness church leader in America. In 1958, Rev. Keith began building in Zimba. He built a hospital and school buildings, and even extended his work to building a few schools in the surrounding area. Having finished the main construction work, he endeavoured to evangelise the area. Preaching points were established.

27. In the early 1960s, the church began to expand out of the Southern Province and into Lusaka Province. The initiative to build a church in Lusaka was made by a group of former students of the mission schools, such as Choma Secondary. These people saw it good to have a place of worship of their own denomination. Later on a church was built at Kabwata. This was the first church in Lusaka and out of the Southern Province.

28. However, God still wanted his church to extend to non-Tonga speaking people. As a result, in 1975, the church moved to the Eastern Province under the leadership of Rev. E. K. Wissbroecker. It was here that an English speaking church was planted. In 1980, the church moved to the Copperbelt, particularly Ndola. From Ndola, the church expanded to the North Western Province to Mwinilunga. Between 1985 and 1986, the church moved to the Western Province, particularly Mongu.

29. In January 1995 the National Superintendent was visited in Choma by Christians from Zaire formerly belonging to The United Methodist Church. Their purpose for coming was to explore the possibility of uniting with The Wesleyan Church. In response to their visit, the National Superintendent made a visit to Zaire for fellowship and evaluation. Other Zambian church leaders who accompanied Rev. Kalembo were Mrs. Muumbe Kalembo, Miss Frevia Hatyoka, Rev. Aaron Simanyanga, Rev. Noah Bulongo, Pastor Andrew Lungu and Mr. Genesis Katowa. In October the same year, Rev. Kalembo, Rev. Peed, Mission Director, and Mr. Devison Mwiinde, Lusaka District Superintendent, went for further evaluations. At the 1996 National Conference, this group, called The Wesleyan Church of Zaire and led by Rev. Kasweshi Buta-Mukomo, was officially approved by the General Department of World Missions to be affiliated with the Zambia National Church as a district. As such, it falls under the administration of the Pilgrim Wesleyan Church of Zambia as any other district in the national conference.

C. Changes In The Administration Of The Church From 1972 To present

30. The history of national leadership of The Pilgrim Wesleyan Church has been the following:

Rev. J. Munsaka	Field Superintendent	1972-1982
Rev. S. Syabbamba	National Superintendent	1982-1992
Rev. A. Kalembo	National Superintendent	1992-1998
Rev. J. Sikwiilala	National Superintendent	1998-present

31. As the church matured and developed spiritually and in other ways, leadership responsibilities became more the domain of Zambians rather than missionaries. In 1965, Mr. Jack Munsaka was ordained. He would move on to become District Superintendent for Jembo, and later Assistant Field Superintendent. As time passed, other qualified Zambians

would take up responsibilities of leadership which had previously been shouldered by missionaries.

32. On 24 October, 1964, Northern Rhodesia gained its independence from the British and became Zambia,. This tremendous step forward for the country was also another step forward in mission to church leadership roles. Policies put forward by the new government would affect the history of The Pilgrim Holiness Church. The ruling party at the time of independence was the United National Independence Party(UNIP). Certain ideals propounded by UNIP were made to become government policy. One of these was the government taking over schools that had earlier been run by churches or missions. At one point The Pilgrim Holiness Church operated 74 primary and secondary schools. All of these were now run by the government.

33. In this period of nationalisation Zambians and missionaries worked as equal partners. Leadership development continued in the lives of Zambian church leaders. Rev. Munsaka became the first Zambian national Field Superintendent in 1972. He operated his office, the first national church office, from Jembo until it shifted to Choma in 1975. Rev. Munsaka trained in South Africa at Emmanuel Mission. With the Lord's help and his ministerial training, he was able to expand the church into the Eastern and Western provinces. Rev. Munsaka was Field Superintendent from 1972 until his death in 1982. His grave is at Jembo near Pilgrim Wesleyan Bible College. He was the last Field Superintendent of the Pilgrim Wesleyan Church.

34. After Rev. Munsaka's death and at the 1982 National Conference, Rev. Simon C. Syabbamba was elected and became the first National Superintendent of The Pilgrim Wesleyan Church of Zambia. Zambia had already been recognised as a national Conference by the General Department of World Missions. In terms of church operations, the church was now independent of the mission.

35. The ruling government, by this time 18 years in office, desired for the church to turn over the church medical work at Zimba, Siachitema, Jembo and Chabbobboma. However Rev. Syabbamba was able to influence the government not to follow through on these plans. He also led the church to further expansion into the Western Province. Rev. Syabbamba retired from National Superintendency in 1992.

36. Following the retirement of Rev. Syabbamba in 1992 at the National Conference, Rev. Alfred Kalembo was elected as the second National Superintendent of The Pilgrim Wesleyan Church. He was 32 years of age at the time of his election. Rev. Kalembo attended Pilgrim Wesleyan Seminary in Jembo and later on went to Kenya where he obtained his Bachelor's degree in Theology at Kenya Highlands Bible College. Rev. Kalembo has helped to encourage younger men, many of whom attended the church schools, to be more actively involved in church leadership and spiritual development.

37. It was under Rev. Kalembo's leadership that the church headquarters moved from Choma to Lusaka on 12th December, 1995. The reason for shifting was that the church required centrality due to its expansion and to facilitate the idea that the Pilgrim Wesleyan Church was a church for all the people of Zambia. In June, 1995, God in His providence gave the Wesleyan Mission the opportunity to acquire a seven hectare plot in Lusaka West. The Mission Director approached Rev. Kalembo to see how the possible purchase of this property might advance the development of the church. The church was offered the choice of using the property at Lusaka West or the property in Lusaka which is situated at the corner of Makishi and Broads Road. The national church chose the property

in town. Long term plans for the use of the new property are still to be decided.

38. In 1990, Parliament approved the legal existence of various political parties. In 1991, general elections were held and political administration of Zambia was shifted from UNIP to the Movement for Multiparty Democracy(MMD). Once again, policies put forward by the ruling government affected the ministries of the church. One such policy of MMD was(and still remains) to encourage churches to take back schools which were previously operated by missions or churches.

39. Since 1991, the church has repossessed five schools out of the 74 taken over by the government due to nationalisation. The schools that were given back to the church are Chabbobboma Primary School, Jembo Primary and Secondary School, Nakowa Basic and Siachitema Basic.

Chapter II

MISSION OF THE PILGRIM WESLEYAN CHURCH

51. The Wesleyan Church was formed by the merger of The Pilgrim Holiness Church and The Wesleyan Methodist Church of America on 26 June, 1968. Both of the former denominations had their origins in the Wesleyan movement which centers around the scriptural truth concerning the doctrine and experience of holiness, which declares that the atonement in Christ provides not only for the regeneration of sinners but for the entire sanctification of believers. A revival of these scriptural truths concerning Christian perfection and scriptural holiness took place under the leadership of John Wesley in the eighteenth century and continues in various ways until the present.

52. The Pilgrim Wesleyan Church is a member of the Wesleyan World Fellowship (see 804), and is an established district sponsored by the North American General Conference of The Wesleyan Church through its General Department of World Missions with headquarters at Indianapolis, Indiana, U.S.A. The general director of world missions is the chief administrative officer of the General Department of World Missions, with the General Board of Administration serving as the chief governing body in the interim of General Conference Sessions. The General Conference is the supreme governing body, and the general superintendents are the general spiritual and administrative leaders of the Church. The Discipline of The Pilgrim Wesleyan Church is authorised by the General Board of Administration of The Wesleyan Church.

53. The ultimate objective of The Pilgrim Wesleyan Church is to fulfill the Great Commission of the Lord Jesus Christ by sharing with all humankind the good news of salvation and scriptural holiness. This is the primary mission of the church.

54. The Pilgrim Wesleyan Church lives to exalt Jesus Christ by calling, equipping and mobilizing its entire membership to Evangelism and Discipleship, the spread of scriptural holiness, church planting, leadership development and training and ministries of compassion both within and outside Zambia. By the grace of God, The Pilgrim Wesleyan Church shall endeavour:

(1) To use every opportunity to share the divine revelation of full salvation through Jesus Christ as recorded in the Holy Scriptures in order to evangelise the lost both within and outside Zambia.

Matthew 28:19-20; Acts 1:8

(2) To incorporate these new converts into local churches and provide them with Spirit-filled and well trained pastors/ministers.

Ephesians 4:11-16; 2 Timothy 2:2

(3) To cultivate and develop in these converts biblical patterns of worship to God and fellowship with other Christians.

John 4:23-24; Hebrews 10:25

(4) To disciple these new believers so that they in turn become witnesses for their Lord both within and outside their cultural setting.

Matthew 28:20; 2 Timothy 2:2; Acts 1:8

(5) To guide these believers to experience entire sanctification so that they can individually and corporately live victorious and holy lives in the Spirit-filled life.

Acts 2; Ephesians 5:18; Galatians 5:16, 21-22; Romans 8;
1 Thessalonians 5:23; Matthew 3:11; Mark 1:8; John 1:33;
Luke 24:49

(6) To provide the believers of all age groups with a lifelong Christian education which shall nurture, instruct and encourage them to grow toward spiritual maturity in Christ Jesus.

Ephesians 4:12-14; Deuteronomy 6:4-9; Acts 2:42-47

(7) To help these maturing Christians develop a Christian interpretation of life and the universe and train them to be good and faithful stewards of their possessions, natural resources, spiritual gifts, time, opportunities in life and other resources with which Christ has entrusted them.

Genesis 1,2; Matthew 25:14-30; Romans 12;
1 Corinthians 12; Ephesians 4:11-16;
1 Corinthians 4:1, 10:31; Titus 3:14;
2 Thessalonians 3:6-12

(8) To guide and equip these Christians to live lives of dynamic service toward God and humanity so that they can realise the full potential God has designed for each one of them.

Mark 12:30-31; Luke 2:52; Deuteronomy 10:12

(9) To design and administer an effective church planting ministry both within and outside Zambia which shall produce strong Pilgrim Wesleyan Churches with the following distinctives:

- (1) Self-propagating: Spiritually growing and expanding congregations that are missionary minded locally and internationally.
- (2) Self-supporting: Materially and financially sustaining congregations with capacity and vision to meet local, district and national needs.
- (3) Self-governing: Congregations that produce spiritually and practically qualified leadership that relates the Christian faith to their native cultural setting.
(See Acts chapters 2, 13-14, 16-20.)

(10) To minister redemptively to human society and its institutions both within and outside Zambia by promoting and administering ministries of compassion (as a practical expression of the Christian faith) in health/medical, education, agriculture, nutrition, relief and development programmes and activities, social care programmes for widows, orphans, AIDS patients, disabled, refugees, prisoners and the aged, especially ministers at retirement.

Matthew 25:31-46; James 1:27, 2:14-26; 1 Timothy 5:9-18;
Numbers 8:23-26, 34:1-5

Chapter III

CLASSIFICATION OF CHURCH LAW

Definitions

61. Definitions. The following definitions shall apply to terms used in The Discipline of The Pilgrim Wesleyan Church:

(1) The General Conference. Wherever the term "the General Conference" is used in The Discipline of The Pilgrim Wesleyan Church it is understood to refer to the North American General Conference of The Wesleyan Church, which is the sponsoring general conference of The Pilgrim Wesleyan Church of Zambia.

(2) General Board of Administration. Wherever the term "General Board of Administration" is used in The Discipline of The Pilgrim Wesleyan Church it is understood to refer to the North American General Board of Administration which is the governing body over units of The Wesleyan Church under the administration of the General Department of World Missions, one of which is The Pilgrim Wesleyan Church.

(3) The General Superintendent. Wherever the term "the general superintendent" is used in The Discipline of The Pilgrim Wesleyan Church it is understood to refer to the general superintendent of the North American General Conference who has been assigned the administrative responsibility of the area of the Wesleyan Church of which Zambia is a part. The Board of General Superintendents refers to the cooperative functioning of all the general superintendents of the North American General Conference.

(4) General Department of World Missions. Wherever the term "General Department of World Missions" is used in The Discipline of The Pilgrim Wesleyan Church it is understood to refer to the General Department of World Missions of the North American General Conference of which The Pilgrim Wesleyan Church is one administrative unit, functioning presently as a National Conference.

(5) General Director of World Missions. Wherever the term "general director of world missions" is used in The Discipline of The Pilgrim Wesleyan Church it is understood to refer to the General Director of World Missions of the North American General Conference. This person is the chief administrative officer having direct supervision of The Pilgrim Wesleyan Church. All communication and administrative supervision between the North American General Board of Administration and The Pilgrim Wesleyan Church of Zambia is channeled through his office.

(6) The Discipline. Unless otherwise specifically indicated The Discipline is understood to refer to The Discipline of The Pilgrim Wesleyan Church as currently approved and authorised by the General Board of Administration.

(7) The Pilgrim Wesleyan Church. Wherever the term "The Pilgrim Wesleyan Church" is used it is understood to refer to The Pilgrim Wesleyan Church of Zambia.

62. The Discipline of The Pilgrim Wesleyan Church is composed of four parts as follows:

The Articles of Incorporation
The Constitution
Statutory Law,

and Ritual.

These are more fully indicated in the following paragraphs.

63. The Articles of Incorporation. Paragraphs 71 to 100 of The Discipline of The Pilgrim Wesleyan Church comprise the Articles of Incorporation of The Pilgrim Wesleyan Church of Zambia. They are the legal charter for The Pilgrim Wesleyan Church and as such are registered with the appropriate office of the government of The Republic of Zambia. As indicated in paragraph 82, amendments to The Articles of Incorporation are subject to the approval of the North American General Board of Administration.

64. The Constitution. Paragraphs 101 to 150 of The Discipline of The Pilgrim Wesleyan Church comprise the Constitution. These paragraphs include the doctrines, principles and rules which are basic to membership in The Pilgrim Wesleyan Church.

(1) Relationship to Essentials. The Essentials of The Wesleyan Church consist of an historic statement of faith and practice and are set forth in the Charter of the Wesleyan World Fellowship. Each member of the Wesleyan World Fellowship must subscribe to the Essentials pronouncements and must not contravene any of its provisions in its Constitution, Articles of Religion or Discipline. The Pilgrim Wesleyan Church does so subscribe. The Articles of Religion and other statements of faith and practice which are a part of the Constitution of The Pilgrim Wesleyan Church are in accord with the Essentials of The Wesleyan Church and are not intended to contravene or contradict them at any point.

(2) Identification. The Constitution of The Pilgrim Wesleyan Church consists of Articles I through VII, including the Name, Articles of Religion, Membership Commitments, First Principles, Powers and Restrictions of the National Conference, The Supreme Judiciary and Amendments to the Constitution.

65. Statutory Law. The remaining portions of The Discipline of The Pilgrim Wesleyan Church other than the Articles of Incorporation and Constitution shall be considered Statutory Law for the government of the National, District, and local churches of The Pilgrim Wesleyan Church. Amendments to Statutory Law sections may be submitted from the Zambia National Conference for approval by the North America General Board of Administration through the general director of world missions. Amendments to The Discipline shall be implemented only after approval by the General Board of Administration.

66. Ritual. The ritual of The Pilgrim Wesleyan Church consists of those rites and ceremonies contained in The Discipline of The Pilgrim Wesleyan Church (cf. 1421), officially approved by the National Conference by a majority of those present and voting. The "Reception of Covenant Members" in the ritual for the "Reception of Members" (1431), and the "Examination of Candidates" in the rituals for the "Ordination of Ministers" (1463) and the "Commissioning of Deaconesses" (1480) have the authority of statutory law and must be followed as prescribed. In the remainder of the Ritual, a measure of flexibility is permitted as long as nothing contradicts the Articles of Religion or any other part of the Constitution.

Chapter IV

ARTICLES OF INCORPORATION

THE PILGRIM WESLEYAN CHURCH

Article I.

71. Name.

The corporation is called The Pilgrim Wesleyan Church of Zambia with National Headquarters located at 90 Makishi Road, Lusaka, Lusaka Urban District, Lusaka Province. It is a member of the Wesleyan World Fellowship (804) with international headquarters in Indianapolis, state of Indiana, United States of America.

Article II.

72. Seat.

The registered office of the corporation is situated at Farm V/350a, Choma, Choma District, Southern Province, Zambia.

Article III.

73. Purpose.

The primary purposes for which the corporation is formed are religious, benevolent, charitable, and educational in keeping with the purposes of The Pilgrim Wesleyan Church as set forth in The Discipline, and is not for the pecuniary gain of the members thereof.

Article IV.

74. Means.

The Pilgrim Wesleyan Church endeavours to accomplish its stated purpose by preaching Christ, by instructing believers in the Faith, by establishing churches, by encouraging these churches to self-propagation, self-government, and self-support, by serving the church and nation in education and medicine, by acquiring and holding property (real or personal), and by collecting and disbursing funds.

Article V.

75. Membership.

The membership of the corporation are the members of the National Conference which is composed of ministerial and lay delegates duly representing each organised district, and National officers of The Pilgrim Wesleyan Church (602).

Article VI.

76. Directors.

The Board of Directors is the National Board of Administration duly constituted and organised as required in The Discipline. It is composed of the National Superintendent, the assistant National Superintendent, the National Secretary, the National Treasurer, the Mission Director of The Wesleyan Mission of Zambia, the National Director of Evangelism, Church

Growth, and Crosscultural Ministries, the National Director of Christian Education, the National Director of Educational Institutions, the National Women's Organisation Leader, the National Youth Organisation Leader, the Medical Administrator, the Principals of National ministerial training institutions, and members-at-large(four Zambian, one missionary) (642).

Article VII.

77. Powers and Duties of Directors.

Section 1. The Board of Directors is authorised and empowered to institute all necessary legal and equitable actions in the name of The Pilgrim Wesleyan Church and to protect the interests and rights of The Pilgrim Wesleyan Church, including all matters relating to property held by the corporation or any of its local churches.

Section 2. The Board of Directors shall carry out the duties assigned to it by The Discipline and shall be amenable to the National Conference, the General Board of Administration of The Wesleyan Church, and the Wesleyan World Fellowship Council.

Section 3. A director shall not be personally liable for the debts, liabilities, or obligations of the corporation.

Article VIII.

78. Officers.

Section 1. The officers of The Pilgrim Wesleyan Church are the National Superintendent, the Assistant National Superintendent, the National Secretary, and the National Treasurer. These officers shall perform the duties prescribed by The Discipline for their offices.

Section 2. The officers shall be elected at the regular meeting of the National Conference in the manner prescribed and for the term required in the provisions of The Discipline.

Article IX.

79. Meetings.

The members of the Corporation will meet biennially at a National Conference to transact the business of the Corporation. The Board of Directors will meet four times a year to transact business in behalf of the Corporation. Special meetings of the Board of Directors may be called by the chairperson. The minimum notice of such meetings shall not be less than seven days. A quorum at any meeting shall consist of a simple majority of the members.

Article X.

80. Property.

The Pilgrim Wesleyan Church shall acquire, purchase, manage, sell, exchange, mortgage, deed in trust, pledge, rent, lease, and convey any property real, personal, or mixed, as may be necessary or convenient for the purposes of the Corporation; provided that all such property shall be held in trust, in the corporate name, for the benefit and use of the members and pastors of The Pilgrim Wesleyan Church as set forth in The Discipline. The Board of Directors shall see that all properties which

are purchased for The Pilgrim Wesleyan Church shall be properly titled so that said properties are held in trust for The Pilgrim Wesleyan Church.

Article XI.

81. Bylaws.

The Bylaws of the Corporation shall include The Discipline as legislated from time to time. No bylaws shall be adopted that are inconsistent with the provisions of The Discipline.

Article XII.

82. Amendments.

These articles may be amended or repealed by a two-thirds majority vote of the members of the corporation at any regular biennial meeting subject to the approval of the North American General Board of Administration of The Wesleyan Church with international offices at P. O. Box 50434, Indianapolis, Indiana, U.S.A.

Chapter V

THE CONSTITUTION OF

THE PILGRIM WESLEYAN CHURCH

INTRODUCTION

101. In order that we may wisely keep and pass on to our children the right teaching of doctrine and principles of Christian living which have been passed down to us in The Pilgrim Wesleyan Church, and to make sure that the church is organised in a proper way, and to promote effective cooperation with other branches of the church of Christ in all things that make for the advancement of God's kingdom among all men, we, the ministers and lay members of The Pilgrim Wesleyan Church meeting in official conference, do hereby establish and set forth as the fundamental law the Constitution of The Pilgrim Wesleyan Church.

Article I. Name

102. The name of this denomination is *The Pilgrim Wesleyan Church*. Wherever the use of this name is impossible or impractical, adaptation may be approved by the National Conference in cooperation with the General Board of Administration.

Article II. Articles of Religion

Faith in the Holy Trinity

103. We believe in the one living and true God, both holy and loving. He has all power, wisdom, and goodness. He is the One who created, watches over, and keeps all things. In the unity of God there are three Persons who are one in being, power, and eternity--the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit.

Gen. 1:1; 17:1; Ex. 3:13-15; 33:20; Deut. 6:4; Ps. 90:2;
Isa. 40:28-29; Matt. 3:16-17; 28:19; John 1:1-2; 4:24; 16:13;
17:3; Acts 5:3-4; 17:24-25; 1 Cor. 8:4, 6; Eph. 2:18; Phil.
2:6; Col. 1:16-17; 1 Tim. 1:17; Heb. 1:8; 1 John 5:20.

The Father

104. We believe the Father is the Source of all that exists, whether of matter or spirit. With the Son and the Holy Spirit, He made man in His image. By intention He relates to man and woman as Father, thereby forever declaring His goodwill toward mankind. In love, He both seeks and receives penitent sinners.

Ps. 68:5; Isa. 64:8; Matt. 7:11; John 3:17; Rom. 8:15; 1
Peter 1:17.

The Son of God

105. We believe in Jesus Christ, the only begotten Son of God. He was conceived by the Holy Spirit and born of the Virgin Mary, completely God and completely man. He died on the cross and was buried, to be a sacrifice both for original (or birth) sin and for all the acquired (or actual) sins of men, and to make us right with God. Christ rose bodily from the dead, and ascended into heaven, and there intercedes for us at the Father's right hand until He returns to judge all men at the last day.

Ps. 16:8-10; Matt. 1:21, 23; 11:27; 16:28; 27:62-66; 28:5-9, 16-17; Mark 10:45; 15; 16:6-7; Luke 1:27, 31, 35; 24:4-8, 23; John 1:1, 14, 18; 3:16-17; 20:26-29; 21; Acts 1:2-3; 2:24-31; 4:12; 10:40; Rom. 5:10, 18; 8:34; 14:9; 1 Cor. 15:3-8, 14; 2 Cor. 5:18-19; Gal. 1:4; 2:20; 4:4-5; Eph. 5:2; 1 Tim. 1:15; Heb 2:17; 7:27; 9:14, 28; 10:12; 13:20; 1 Peter 2:24; 1 John 2:2; 4:14.

The Holy Spirit

106. We believe in the Holy Spirit who comes from the Father and the Son, and is the same in being, majesty, and glory, as the Father and the Son, completely and eternally God. He is the Administrator of grace to all mankind, and is particularly the One who convicts of sin, regenerates, sanctifies, and glorifies. He is always present, to assure, preserve, guide, and enable the believer.

Job 33:4; Matt. 28:19; John 4:24; 14:16-17; 15:26; 16:13-15; Acts 5:3-4; Rom. 8:9; 2 Cor. 3:17; Gal. 4:6.

The Adequacy and Full Authority of the Holy Scriptures for Salvation

107. We believe that the books of the Old and New Testaments are the Holy Scriptures. They are the inspired and infallible Word of God, written without error in their original form. They are superior to all human authority, and have been passed along to the present without corruption of any essential doctrine. We believe that they contain all things necessary to salvation; so that whatever is not in them, nor may be proved by them, are not to be required of any person that it should be believed as an article of faith, or be a qualification for, or necessary to salvation. Both in the Old and New Testaments life is offered to mankind ultimately through Christ, who is the only Mediator between God and man. The New Testament teaches Christians how to fulfill the moral principles of the Old Testament, calling for loving obedience to God made possible by the indwelling presence of His Holy Spirit.

108. The canonical books of the Old Testament are:

Genesis, Exodus, Leviticus, Numbers, Deuteronomy, Joshua, Judges, Ruth, 1 Samuel, 2 Samuel, 1 Kings, 2 Kings, 1 Chronicles, 2 Chronicles, Ezra, Nehemiah, Esther, Job, Psalms, Proverbs, Ecclesiastes, The Song of Solomon, Isaiah, Jeremiah, Lamentations, Ezekiel, Daniel, Hosea, Joel, Amos, Obadiah, Jonah, Micah, Nahum, Habakkuk, Zephaniah, Haggai, Zechariah, and Malachi.

109. The canonical books of the New Testament are:

Matthew, Mark, Luke, John, Acts, Romans, 1 Corinthians, 2 Corinthians, Galatians, Ephesians, Philippians, Colossians, 1 Thessalonians, 2 Thessalonians, 1 Timothy, 2 Timothy, Titus, Philemon, Hebrews, James, 1 Peter, 2 Peter, 1 John, 2 John, 3 John, Jude, and Revelation.

Ps. 19:7; Matt. 5:17-19; 22:37-40; Luke 24:27, 44; John 1:45; 5:46; 17:17; Acts 17:2, 11; Rom. 1:2; 15:4, 8; 16:26; 2 Cor. 1:20; Gal. 1:8; Eph. 2:15-16; 1 Tim. 2:5; 2 Tim. 3:15-17; Heb. 4:12; 10:1; 11:39; James 1:21; 1 Peter 1:23; 2 Peter 1:19-21; 1 John 2:3-7; Rev. 22:18-19.

God's Purpose for Man

110. We believe that the two great commandments which require us to love the Lord our God with all the heart, and our neighbors as ourselves, summarise God's law as it is revealed in the Scriptures. They are the perfect measure and standard of human duty, both for the ordering and directing of families and nations, and all other social bodies, and for individual acts, by which we are required to acknowledge God as our only Supreme Ruler, and all men as created by Him, equal in all natural rights. Therefore all men should so arrange all their individual, social, and political acts as to give to God entire and absolute obedience, and to assure to all men the enjoyment of every natural right. Everyone who obeys these laws will have God's blessings.

Lev. 19:18, 34; Deut. 1:16-17; Job 31:13-14; Jer. 21:12; 22:3; Micah 6:8; Matt. 5:44-48; 7:12; Mark 12:28-31; Luke 6:27-29, 35; John 13:34-35; Acts 10:34-35; 17:26; Rom. 12:9; 13:1, 7-8, 10; Gal. 5:14; 6:10; Titus 3:1; James 2:8; 1 Peter 2:17; 1 John 2:5; 4:12-13; 2 John 6.

Marriage and the Family

111. We believe that man is created in the image of God, that human sexuality reflects that image in terms of intimate love, communication, fellowship, subordination of the self to the larger whole, and fulfillment. God's Word makes use of the marriage relationship as the supreme illustration of His relationship with His covenant people and for revealing the truth that, that relationship is of one God with one people. Therefore God's plan for human sexuality is to be expressed only in a monogamous lifelong relationship between one man and one woman within the framework of marriage. This is the only relationship which is designed by God for the birth and rearing of children and is a covenant union made in the sight of God, taking priority over every other human relationship.

Gen. 1:27-28; 2:18, 20, 23, 24; Isa. 54:4-8; 62:5b; Jer. 3:14; Ezek. 16:3ff.; Hosea 2; Mal. 2:14; Matt. 19:4-6; Mark 10:9; John 2:1-2, 11; 1 Tim. 5:14; 1 Cor. 9:5; Eph. 5:23-32; Heb. 13:4; Rev. 19:7-8.

Man's Choice

112. We believe that when God created man in His image this included the ability to choose between right and wrong. Man was made morally responsible for his choices. But since Adam fell into sin, man is unable in his own strength to do right, because of original sin. Original sin is the corruption of the nature of every man, and is the sin with which we are born as a result of Adam's sin. Because of this sin, which is in the nature of man at birth, man is far from the righteousness in which God created him and is continually pulled toward evil by his own nature. He cannot call upon God or have faith for salvation by himself. But through Jesus Christ, God provides grace which begins to work in the heart of man to make man able to do what he cannot do alone. This special grace of God is given freely to all men, enabling all who will to turn and be saved.

Gen. 6:5; 8:21; Deut. 30:19; Josh. 24:15; 1 Kings 20:40; Ps. 51:5; Isa. 64:6; Jer. 17:9; Mark 7:21-23; Luke 16:15; John 7:17; Rom. 3:10-12; 5:12-21; 1 Cor. 15:22; Eph. 2:1-3; 1 Tim. 2:5; Titus 3:5; Heb. 11:6; Rev. 22:17.

The Atonement

113. We believe that Christ offered himself as the perfect sacrifice for the sins of the whole world, both original sin and acquired sin. Through His single act of suffering and death on the cross all men have the possibility of salvation. There is no other way of salvation from sin. This single act of sacrifice was enough to provide a way of salvation for every person who will ever live. The effect of this sacrifice in the salvation of persons who are mentally incompetent from birth, or converted persons who have become mentally incompetent, or of babies and children before they are responsible for acts of sin is without any condition, they will be saved. But it is effective for the salvation of those who reach an age when they are responsible for sin only when they repent and put their faith in Christ.

Isa. 52:13-53:12; Luke 24:46-47; John 3:16; Acts 3:18; 4:12; Rom. 3:20, 24-26; 5:8-11, 13, 18-20; 7:7; 8:34; 1 Cor. 6:11; 15:22; Gal. 2:16; 3:2-3; Eph. 1:7; 2:13, 16; 1 Tim. 2:5-6; Heb. 7:23-27; 9:11-15, 24-28; 10:14; 1 John 2:2; 4:10.

Repentance and Faith

114. We believe that for man to put to use what God's grace has made possible, he must voluntarily respond in repentance and faith. The ability comes from God, but the act is man's. Repentance is prompted by the convicting ministry of the Holy Spirit. It involves a willful change of mind that renounces sin and longs for righteousness, a godly sorrow for and a confession of past sins, proper restitution for wrongdoings, and a resolution to reform the life. Repentance always accompanies saving faith, and without it saving faith is impossible. Faith is the only condition of salvation. It begins in the agreement of the mind and the consent of the will to the truth of the gospel, but grows into a complete reliance by the whole person in the saving ability of Jesus Christ and a complete trusting of oneself to Him as Savior and Lord. Saving faith is expressed in a public acknowledgment of His Lordship and an identification with His church.

Mark 1:15; Luke 5:32; 13:3; 24:47; John 3:16; 17:20; 20:31; Acts 5:31; 10:43; 11:18; 16:31; 20:21; 26:20; Rom. 1:16; Rom. 2:4; 10:8-10, 17; Gal. 3:26; Eph. 2:8; 4:4-6; Phil. 3:9; 2 Thess. 2:13; 2 Tim. 2:25; Heb. 11:6; 12:2; 1 Peter 1:9; 2 Peter 3:9.

Justification and Regeneration

115. We believe that when man repents of his sin and believes on the Lord Jesus Christ, he in the same moment is justified, regenerated, adopted into the family of God, and assured of his salvation through the witness of the Spirit.

We believe that we are considered righteous before God only because of what our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ has done for us, being justified by faith alone, and not on the basis of our own works.

We believe that regeneration is that work of the Holy Spirit by which the forgiven sinner becomes a child of God. This new life is received through faith in Jesus Christ, and by it the regenerate is delivered from the power of sin which rules over all unregenerate persons. The regenerate person is able to love God and through grace serve Him with the will and affections of the heart, receiving the Spirit of Adoption.

Justification: Hab. 2:4; Acts 13:38-39; 15:11; 16:31; Rom. 1:17; 3:28; 4:2-5; 5:1-2; Gal. 3:6-14; Eph. 2:8-9; Phil 3:9; Heb. 10:38.

Regeneration: John 1:12-13; 3:3, 5-8; 2 Cor. 5:17; Gal. 3:26; Eph. 2:5, 10, 19; 4:24; Col. 3:10; Titus 3:5; James 1:18; 1 Peter 1:3-4; 2 Peter 1:4; 1 John 3:1.

Adoption: Rom. 8:15; Gal. 4:5, 7; Eph. 1:5.

Witness of the Spirit: Rom. 8:16-17; Gal. 4:6; 1 John 2:3; 3:14, 18-19.

Good Works

116. We believe that good works are the fruit of faith and follow after regeneration. Good works cannot put away our sins, and they will not keep us from God's judgment. But they are pleasing and acceptable to God in Christ, and come from a true heart of faith. Just as a tree is known by its fruit, so faith in God is seen by the fruit of good works.

Matt. 5:16; 7:16-20; John 15:8; Rom 3:20; 4:2, 4, 6; Gal. 2:16; 5:6; Eph. 2:10; Phil. 1:11; Col. 1:10; 1 Thess. 1:3; Titus 2:14; 3:5; James 2:18, 22; 1 Peter 2:9, 12.

Sin After Regeneration

117. We believe that after we have experienced regeneration, it is possible to fall into sin. In this life there is no such height or strength of holiness from which it is impossible to fall. But by the grace of God one who has fallen into sin may by true repentance and faith find forgiveness and restoration.

Mal. 3:7; Matt. 18:21-22; John 15:4-6; 1 Tim. 4:1, 16; Heb. 10:35-39; 1 John 1:9; 2:1, 24-25.

Sanctification: Initial, Progressive, Entire

118. We believe that sanctification is that work of the Holy Spirit by which the child of God is separated from sin unto God and is made able to love God with all his heart and to walk blameless in all His holy commandments. Sanctification begins at the moment of justification and regeneration. From that moment there is a gradual or progressive sanctification as the believer walks with God and daily grows in grace and in a more perfect obedience to God. This prepares for the crisis of entire sanctification which happens instantaneously when the believer presents himself a living sacrifice, holy and acceptable to God, through faith in Jesus Christ. It is brought into effect by the baptism with the Holy Spirit who cleanses the heart from all birth or inbred sin. The crisis of entire sanctification perfects the believer in love and empowers him for effective service. It is followed by lifelong growth in grace and the knowledge of our Lord and Saviour, Jesus Christ. The life of holiness continues through faith in the sanctifying blood of Christ and is shown by loving obedience to God's revealed will.

Gen. 17:1; Deut. 30:6; Ps. 130:8; Isa. 6:1-6; Ezek. 36:25-29; Matt. 5:8, 48; Luke 1:74-75; 3:16-17; 24:49; John 17:1-26; Acts 1:4-5, 8; 2:1-4; 15:8-9; 26:18; Rom. 8:3-4; 1 Cor. 1:2; 6:11; 2 Cor. 7:1; Eph. 4:13, 24; 5:25-27; 1 Thess. 3:10, 12-13; 4:3, 7-8; 5:23-24; 2 Thess. 2:13; Titus 2:11-14; Heb. 10:14; 12:14; 13:12; James 3:17-18; 4:8; 1 Peter 1:2; 2 Peter 1:4; 1 John 1:7, 9; 3:8-9; 4:17-18; Jude 24.

The Gifts of the Spirit

119. We believe that the Gift of the Spirit is the Holy Spirit himself. He is to be desired more than the gifts of the Spirit which He in His wisdom gives to individual members of the Church so that they are able to properly fulfill their function as members of the body of Christ. The gifts of the Spirit, although not the same as natural abilities, work through them for the benefit of the whole church. These gifts are to be used in love under the guidance and direction of the Lord of the church, not through human choice. The relative value of the gifts of the Spirit are to be tested by their usefulness in the church and not by the wonderful feelings produced in the ones receiving them.

Luke 11:13; 24:49; Acts 1:4; 2:38-39; 8:19-20; 10:45; 11:17; Rom. 12:4-8; 1 Cor. 12:1-14:40; Eph. 4:7-8, 11-16; Heb. 2:4; 13:20-21; 1 Peter 4:8-11.

The Church

120. We believe that the Christian church is the complete body of believers in Jesus Christ, who is the founder and only Head of the church. The church includes both those believers who have gone to be with the Lord and those who remain on the earth, having given up the world, the flesh, and the devil. They are dedicated to the work which Christ committed unto His church until He comes. The church on earth is to preach the pure Word of God, properly administer the sacraments according to Christ's instructions, and live in obedience to all that Christ commands. A local church is a body of believers formally organised on gospel principles, meeting regularly for the purposes of evangelism, teaching and growth, fellowship, and worship. The Pilgrim Wesleyan Church is a denomination made up of those members within District Conferences and local churches who, as members of the body of Christ, hold the faith set forth in these Articles of Religion and acknowledge the ecclesiastical authority of its governing bodies.

Matt. 16:18; 18:17; Acts 2:41-47; 9:31; 11:22; 12:5; 14:23; 15:22; 20:28; 1 Cor. 1:2; 12:28; 16:1; 2 Cor. 1:1; Gal. 1:2; Eph. 1:22-23; 2:19-22; 3:9-10, 21; 5:22-33; Col. 1:18, 24; 1 Thess. 1:1; 2 Thess. 1:1; 1 Tim. 3:15; Heb. 12:23; James 5:14.

The Sacraments: Baptism and the Lord's Supper

121. We believe that water baptism and the Lord's Supper are the sacraments of the church commanded by Christ and established as a channel of grace when received through faith. They are signs of our profession of Christian faith and signs of God's gracious ministry toward us. By them, He works within us to strengthen, and confirm our faith.

We believe that water baptism is a sacrament of the church, commanded by our Lord and to be given to believers. It is a symbol of the new covenant of grace and shows that the believer accepts the benefits of the atonement of Jesus Christ. By way of this sacrament, believers declare their faith in Jesus Christ as Saviour.

Matt. 3:13-17; 28:19; Mark 1:9-11; John 3:5, 22, 26; 4:1-2; Acts 2:38-39, 41; 8:12-17, 36-38; 9:18; 16:15, 33; 18:8; 19:5; 22:16; Rom 2:28-29; 4:11; 6:3-4; 1 Cor. 12:13; Gal. 3:27-29; Col. 2:11-12; Titus 3:5.

122. We believe that the Lord's Supper is a sacrament of our redemption by Christ's death and of our hope in His victorious return, as well as a sign of the love that Christians have for each other. To those

who receive it humbly, with a proper spirit and by faith, the Lord's Supper is made a way through which God communicates grace to the heart.

Matt. 26:26-28; Mark 14:22-24; Luke 22:19-20; John 6:48-58; 1 Cor. 5:7-8; 10:3-4, 16-17; 11:23-29.

The Second Coming of Christ

123. We believe that the certainty of the personal and soon return of Christ encourages holy living and enthusiasm for the evangelisation of the world. At His return He will fulfill all prophecies made concerning His final and complete triumph over evil.

Job 19:25-27; Isa. 11:1-12; Zech. 14:1-11; Matt. 24:1-51; 25; 26:64; Mark 13:1-37; Luke 17:22-37; 21:5-36; John 14:1-3; Acts 1:6-11; 1 Cor. 1:7-8; 1 Thess. 1:10; 2:19; 3:13; 4:13-18; 5:1-11, 23; 2 Thess. 1:6-10; 2:1-12; Titus 2:11-14; Heb. 9:27-28; James 5:7-8; 2 Peter 3:1-14; 1 John 3:2-3; Rev. 1:7; 19:11-16; 22:6-7, 12, 20.

The Resurrection of the Dead

124. We believe in the bodily resurrection from the dead of all mankind--of the just unto the resurrection of life, and of the unjust unto the resurrection of damnation. The resurrection of the righteous dead will take place at Christ's Second Coming, and the resurrection of the wicked will take place at a later time. The resurrection of Christ is the guarantee of the resurrection of those who are in Christ. The raised body will be a spiritual body, but the person will be complete and recognisable.

Job 19:25-27; Dan. 12:2; Matt. 22:30-32; 28:1-20; Mark 16:1-8; Luke 14:14; 24:1-53; John 5:28-29; 11:21-27; 20:1--21:25; Acts 1:3; Rom. 8:11; 1 Cor. 6:14; 15:1-58; 2 Cor. 4:14; 5:1-11; 1 Thess. 4:13-17; Rev. 20:4-6, 11-13.

The Judgment of Mankind

125. We believe that the Scriptures reveal God as the Judge of all mankind and the acts of His judgment are based on His absolute knowledge and eternal justice. His judgment will be completed in the last meeting of mankind before His throne of great majesty and power, where records will be examined and final rewards and punishments will be given.

Ecc1. 12:14; Matt. 10:15; 25:31-46; Luke 11:31-32; Acts 10:42; 17:31; Rom. 2:16; 14:10-12; 2 Cor. 5:10; 2 Tim. 4:1; Heb. 9:27; 2 Peter 3:7; Rev. 20:11-13.

Destiny

126. We believe that the Scriptures clearly teach that there is a conscious personal existence after death. The place where man will spend eternity is determined by God's grace and man's response to that grace. Where a person will spend eternity will be determined by his moral character and the choices which result in the kind of life he lives. Destiny is not determined by any arbitrary decree of God. Heaven with its eternal glory and the blessedness of Christ's presence is the final home of those who choose the salvation which God provides through Jesus Christ. Hell with its everlasting misery and separation from God is the final home of those who neglect this great salvation.

Dan. 12:2; Matt. 25:34-46; Mark 9:43-48; Luke 13:3; John 8:21-23; 14:2-3; 2 Cor. 5:6, 8, 10; Heb. 2:1-3; 9:27-28; 10:26-31; Rev. 20:14-15; 21:1-22:5, 14-15.

Article III. Membership Commitments.

127. To be a part of an organised church is the blessed privilege and sacred duty of all who are saved from their sins, and are seeking completeness in Christ Jesus. From the church's beginnings in the New Testament age, it has been understood that such participation involves putting off the old ways of conduct and putting on Christ's ways. In keeping this Christian concept of a changed life, The Pilgrim Wesleyan Church tries to bring together timeless biblical principles with the conditions of contemporary society in such a way as to respect the integrity of the individual believer, yet keep the purity of the church and the effectiveness of its witness. This is done in the conviction that there is validity in the concept of the collective Christian conscience as illuminated and guided by the Holy Spirit. The following items represent standards of conduct practiced by members of The Pilgrim Wesleyan Church for many years. We hope our people will earnestly seek the help of the Holy Spirit in recognising evil, which will be more than just memorising a law. However, it is expected that those who enter into covenant membership shall follow carefully and conscientiously these guides and helps to holy living. Disregard of the principles found in these Membership Commitments may result in Church discipline for a member (1211:2; 1301).

128. Those admitted to covenant membership in our churches commit themselves to demonstrate their new life in Christ in such ways as:

Toward God

(1) To show reverence and respect for the name of God and to keep the Lord's Day holy by worshipping God and doing things which help them spiritually, by avoiding all unnecessary buying and selling, labours, travels, and pleasures which do not add to the moral and spiritual purposes of this Day.

Gen. 2:3; Ex. 20:3, 7-11; Deut. 5:11-15; Isa. 58:13-14; Mark 2:27; Acts 20:7; Heb. 4:9.

(2) To take no part in any form of spirit worship, ancestor worship, witchcraft, astrology, fortune telling, or any other practice of pagan worship.

Lev. 19:31; 20:6; Deut. 18:10-14; Acts 19:18-19; Gal. 5:19-20.

Toward Self

(3) To run with patience the race which is set before them, denying themselves, and taking up their cross daily, submitting to scorn for Christ.

Luke 9:23; Heb. 11:26; 12:1; 1 Peter 4:14.

(4) To recognise their responsibility to God and the Church by careful use of their time, doing only such activities as may add to their spiritual, moral, intellectual, and physical well-being.

Eph. 5:16; Col. 3:17.

(5) To make wise use of their material resources, keeping in mind their obligation to Christ's church (remembering the principle of tithing which is basic to the New Testament standard of stewardship), and the needs of their fellowmen, using strict self-discipline in the things they do for themselves and showing a Christian attitude of generosity toward those whose hardship they may make easier, in this way laying up treasure in heaven.

Prov. 3:9; Mal. 3:10; Matt. 25:34-40; Acts 20:35; 1 Cor. 16:2; 2 Cor. 9:7; James 2:15-16; 1 John 3:17.

(6) To dress in such a way to honour the gospel, giving clear testimony to Christian purity and modesty by properly clothing the body and not wearing unnecessary adornments.

1 Tim. 2:9-10; 1 Peter 3:3-4.

(7) To refuse to participate in any form of gambling.

Ex. 20:17; Rom. 14:21; 1 Cor. 6:12. Gambling violates the principle of Christian stewardship and the tenth commandment, is harmful to the individual because it is emotionally addictive, is a poor example to others, and spoils the moral atmosphere of society.

(8) To refuse to produce, sell, or use any substances known to be destructive of physical and mental well-being, such as alcoholic drinks and tobacco, and to refuse to use drugs for anything except proper medical purposes.

Prov. 20:1; Rom. 6:12; 14:21; 1 Cor. 6:12-20; 10:23; 2 Cor. 7:1 Eph. 5:18; 1 Thess. 5:22. Christians are to regard their bodies as temples of the Holy Spirit. While no "thing" of itself is sinful, the Christian should avoid the use of anything which would not help build the fellowship of the church, would not help the believer to realise his full potential in Christ, or which would enslave him. In the light of the scientific knowledge of our day concerning the actual and potential harm of these substances, total abstinence (to completely refuse) is more in keeping with these biblical principles than to use them moderately.

Toward Family

(9) To respect all rightly appointed authority in the home, the church, and the state, except when to do so violates the clear teaching of the Scriptures.

Ex. 20:12; Rom. 13:1-7; Eph. 5:21-25; 6:1-3; 1 Tim. 5:1; Titus 3:1; Heb. 13:17; 1 Peter 2:13-14.

(10) To observe the teachings of the Scriptures regarding marriage and divorce. We affirm that God's plan for marriage is that man should have only one wife (monogamy), and we regard sexual sin of the spouse, such as adultery, homosexual behavior, bestiality, or incest, as the only biblical grounds for considering divorce, and then only when Christian counseling has failed to restore the relationship.

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Ex. 20:14, 17; 22:19; Lev. 20:10-16; Matt. 5:32; 19:19; Mark 10:11-12; Luke 16:18.

(11) To keep the home holy by honouring Christ in every part of family life, encouraging the nurture and education of the children in the Christian faith so as to bring them early to the saving knowledge of Christ, and to encourage their Christian education in every possible way.

Prov. 22:6; Mark 10:9; Eph. 5:28; 6:4.

Toward the Church

(12) To work together for the advancement of God's kingdom and for the spiritual benefit of fellow believers, in holiness, knowledge, and love. To walk together in Christian fellowship, in carefulness, giving and receiving spiritual advice and correction with meekness and affection. To pray one for the other; to help each other in sickness and distress; to develop Christian sympathy, and to demonstrate purity, charity, and courtesy in all parts of life.

Rom. 15:1-2; Eph. 4; 1 Thess. 5.

(13) To grow in the knowledge and love of God by being faithful in all the resources of grace, such as the public worship of God, the ministry of the Word either read or preached, the Supper of the Lord, family and private prayer, searching the scriptures, and fasting.

Mark 2:18-20; Acts 13:2-3; 14:23; Rom. 12:12; 1 Cor. 11:23-28; Eph. 6:18; Phil. 4:6; 1 Tim. 2:1-2; 2 Tim. 3:16-17; Heb. 10:25; 1 Peter 2:2; 2 Peter 3:18.

(14) To take no part in nor to become a member of secret societies and lodges which are oath bound. We believe that the near religious nature of such organisations divides the Christian's loyalty, and their secret nature is against the Christian's open witness, and the secret nature of their oaths is not acceptable to the Christian conscience.

Ex. 20:3; Matt. 5:34-36; John 18:20; Acts 4:12; James 5:12.

These prohibitions do not restrict membership in labour, civic, political, or other organisations which do not contradict loyalty to Christ and the Church. When in these relationships Christian principles are violated, members shall be dealt with because of such violations and not because of the membership itself.

(15) To preserve the fellowship and witness of the Church with reference to the use of languages. The Pilgrim Wesleyan Church believes in the miraculous use of languages and the interpretation of languages in its biblical and historical setting. But it is contrary to the explicit teaching of the Word of God as understood by The Pilgrim Wesleyan Church to teach that speaking in an unknown tongue or the gift of tongues is the evidence of the baptism of the Holy Spirit, or of that entire sanctification which the baptism accomplishes (117-118); therefore only a language easily understood by the congregation is to be used in public worship. Furthermore, the use of a so-called ecstatic prayer language has no clear scriptural sanction, but tends rather to be controversial and divisive; therefore there should be no seeking for, promoting of, or witnessing to a possession of such a prayer language among us.

Acts 8:14-17; 1 Cor. 12:1-14:40; Gal. 5:22-24.

Toward Others

(16) To do every kind of good as far as is possible to all men, especially to fellow Christians: to their bodies, of the ability which God gives, by giving food to the hungry, by clothing the naked, by visiting or helping those who are sick or in prison; to their souls, by instructing, reproofing, or persuading them in love with all possible diligence, so that the gospel will not be blamed.

Matt. 25:31-46; Eph. 5:11; 1 Thess. 5:14; Heb. 3:13; 10:23-25.

(17) To respect the basic individual rights of all persons, regardless of race, tribe, colour, or sex.

1 Cor. 8:13; 12:13; Gal. 3:28; 1 Tim. 5:21.

(18) To live honestly, be just in all our dealings and faithful to all our commitments.

Eccl. 5:4-5; Rom. 12:17; Phil. 4:8-9; 1 Peter 2:12.

129. These are the Membership Commitments of our Church. If any among us does not observe them, and/or habitually breaks any of them, we will admonish him in love with the hope of restoring him to a life of harmony with the above Membership Commitments. If such efforts of restoration continue to prove fruitless, official action should be taken toward termination of that person's church membership. However, the church members are encouraged to continue efforts toward the spiritual restoration of this person.

Matt. 18:15-17; 1 Cor. 5:6-7, 9-13; 2 Cor. 2:5-7; 5:18-20; 6:14-18; Gal. 6:1-10; Eph. 4:25-32; Titus 3:10-11.

Article IV. The First Principles of the Church

130. Christ is the only Head of the Church, and the Word of God the only rule of faith and conduct.

131. No person who loves the Lord Jesus Christ, and obeys the gospel of God our Savior, ought to be deprived of Church membership.

132. Every person has the right to private judgment in matters of religion, and an equal right to express his opinion in any way which will not violate the laws of God or the rights of his fellowman.

133. All church trials should be conducted on gospel principles only; and no minister or members should have church membership taken from him except for immorality, the teaching and spreading of false doctrines, or for neglect of duties commanded by the Word of God.

134. The pastoral or ministerial office and duties are appointed by God, and all ordained ministers in the church of God are equal; but ministers are not to be bosses over the Church, or to have power over the faith of the Christians.

135. The Church has a right to make and enforce only such rules and regulations as are in accordance with the Holy Scriptures, and may be necessary or which help to put into effect the Christian way of living.

136. Whatever power may be necessary to the formation of rules and regulations is to come from the ministers and members of the Church; but some of that power may be given to small groups or conferences from time to time, based on a plan of representation which they feel is necessary and proper.

137. It is the duty of all ministers and members of the Church to live holy lives and oppose all moral evil.

138. It is required that all ministers of the gospel to be faithful to carry out their pastoral and ministerial duties, and it is also required of members to respect ministers because of their work, and to pay them properly for their labours.

Article V. Powers and Restrictions of the National Conference

139. The National Conference of Zambia is authorised by the North American General Conference of The Wesleyan Church and is under jurisdiction of the General Conference and in the interim of its sessions its General Board of Administration. The National Conference shall have power:

(1) To recommend to the General Board of Administration by a two-thirds majority vote of those present and voting an amendment to the Essentials or the Constitution.

(2) To recommend by a majority vote of those present and voting to the General Board of Administration any proposed alteration or change in the statutory section of The Discipline.

(3) To designate a criteria for parliamentary procedure for itself.

(4) To elect its officers and National officials as provided for in The Discipline and to define their duties and responsibilities, and these National officers so designated together with the District Superintendents shall be amenable to the National Board of Administration for their official duties.

(5) To make rules and regulations for The Pilgrim Wesleyan Church subject to the Constitution and the following restrictions:

a) It shall not have power to revoke, alter, or change the Articles of Religion, Elementary Principles, or any General Rule or the conditions of membership, or to establish any standards of doctrine contrary to the present existing and established standards of doctrine.

b) It shall make no rule that shall deny any church the right to receive, discontinue, or expel its own members subject to their right of appeal; or to elect and remove its own officers; or that shall deny to the District Conference the final disposition of all pastoral arrangements, except those districts in which the District Conference had delegated its right to the District Board of Administration.

c) It shall make no rule that will discriminate against any member or minister on account of ancestry, tribe, or colour.

d) It shall not have the power to deprive any member or minister of the right of trial by an impartial committee, or of the right of appeal.

e) It shall make no rule that will interfere with the supervision of established districts (in distinction from

provisional districts) over the ministers and churches within the bounds, unless said district is under discipline.

Article VI. The Supreme Judiciary

140. There shall be a judicial council to be known as the National Board of Review whose number of members, qualifications, terms of office, and method of election shall be determined by the National Conference.

141. The Board of Review shall have authority:

(1) To determine the constitutionality of any act of the National Conference upon appeal of the National Superintendent, or one-fifth of the members of the National Conference.

(2) To hear and determine any appeal from the decisions of the National Superintendent as to the constitutionality of an action by a district or upon a point of Church law.

(3) To hear and determine the legality of any action by any National church board upon appeal of one-third the members thereof, or by request of the National Superintendent.

(4) To settle questions in dispute between districts upon appeal by a two-thirds vote of a district that claims it has a grievance against another district.

(5) To determine the validity of any complaints against books used in the course of study or in our schools.

(6) To settle and determine the legality of issues arising between a district and the National Conference.

142. A decision of the Board of Review shall be final unless the National Conference votes to appeal the same to the General Board of Administration by a two-thirds vote of those present and voting.

Article VII. Amendments to the Constitution

143. Amendments to the Constitution (101-143) may be recommended to the General Board of Administration by a two-thirds majority vote of the National Conference. Amendments shall become effective when approved by the General Board of Administration.

Chapter VI

SPECIAL DIRECTIONS

151. Because of the many evils in the world today and because the Christian is faced with many temptations to do wrong, The Pilgrim Wesleyan Church makes the following statements concerning moral issues (matters of right and wrong) of the day. These statements are for the purpose of guiding members in correct Christian living.

Christian Social Concern

152. The Pilgrim Wesleyan Church seeks to help the society which surrounds it to understand the authority of Almighty God, and the authority of the Lord Jesus Christ, in civil, political, and physical as well as spiritual matters, and to change that society into the image of Christ as much as is possible. It believes that such a change in society shall primarily be accomplished by the work of God through faith in Christ of the individuals of the society, but that Christians ought also to show social concern in every way that is keeping with their Christian testimony. In keeping with this The Pilgrim Wesleyan Church agrees to the following:

153. Equal Rights. The Pilgrim Wesleyan Church upholds the right of all individuals to equal opportunity politically, economically, and religiously, and pledges itself to an active effort to bring about the possession of dignity and happiness by all people everywhere (cf. 128:16,17).

154. Gender Sensitivity. Men and women are created equal in the eyes of God and both have been given His gifts in the body of Christ. The Pilgrim Wesleyan Church urges holy men and women seek by every legitimate means to further these beliefs by using language which will promote gender sensitivity, recognising the presence and needs of both sexes, and using forms of addresses which will represent both genders and which will build up rather than offend.

155. Peace. The Pilgrim Wesleyan Church, knowing that war results in great suffering for the bodies, minds, and souls of men, great economic loss and debt for future generations, and the releasing of the worst elements of life, urges that men and nations seek by every legitimate means to avoid armed conflict among the peoples and nations of the world. The Pilgrim Wesleyan Church also urges that holy men everywhere pray earnestly for those in authority, so that peace may prevail (1 Tim. 2:2), and for the quick return of the Prince of Peace.

156. Military Service. The Pilgrim Wesleyan Church teaches respect for properly constituted civil authority and the proper loyalty to one's country. It recognises the responsibility of the individual to answer the call of his government and to enter into military service. However, there are those within the fellowship of The Pilgrim Wesleyan Church who believe that military service is contrary to the teaching of the New Testament and that their consciences are violated by being forced to take part in the military. The Pilgrim Wesleyan Church will therefore lend moral support to any member who asks and claims exemption by legal processes from military service as a sincere matter of conscience and who asks to serve his country as a noncombatant.

157. Buying and Selling on the Lord's Day. The Pilgrim Wesleyan Church opposes buying and selling on the Lord's Day. (cf. 128:1).

158. Religion in Public Life. The Pilgrim Wesleyan Church encourages the enactment of suitable laws which will strengthen provision for the free exercise of religion in national life and allow reference to, or the asking of the aid of God, in any governmental or public document, meeting, activity, ceremony, or institution. The Pilgrim Wesleyan Church believes that the Bible is an appropriate book for reading in the public schools and that the right of students to pray should not be restricted.

159. Abortion. The Pilgrim Wesleyan Church seeks to recognise and preserve the sanctity of human life from conception to natural death and is opposed to the use of abortion. However, it recognises that there may be rare pregnancies where there are grave medical conditions threatening the life of the mother, which could raise a serious question about taking the life of the unborn child. In such a case, a decision should be made only after very prayerful consideration following medical and spiritual counseling.

160. Use of Leisure Time. The Pilgrim Wesleyan Church believes that its members should exercise responsible stewardship of their leisure time. This will include careful regulation of the use in the home of mass media, such as current literature, radio, and television, guarding the home against the attack of evil (cf. 128:11). It will also involve witnessing against social evils by appropriate forms of influence, the refusal to participate in pagan dancing, the refusal to patronise the motion picture theater (cinema), together with other commercial ventures as they feature the violent, or the sensual and pornographic, and the refusal to engage in playing games which tend to be addictive or conducive to gambling (cf. 128:7).

161. Statements on Marriage. The Pilgrim Wesleyan Church detests the trend to ignore God's laws of chastity and purity, and vigorously opposes public acceptance of sexual promiscuity and all factors and practices which promote it. The Pilgrim Wesleyan Church maintains a biblical view of human sexuality which makes the sexual experience, within the framework of marriage, a gift of God to be enjoyed as communion of a man and woman, as well as for the purpose of procreation. Sexual relationships outside of marriage, sexual relationships between persons of the same sex and bestiality are immoral and sinful. The church expects the Christian man and woman to undergo pre-marital counseling before being united in matrimony. The following are the guidelines for marriage as it relates to membership in The Pilgrim Wesleyan Church:

(1) The Pilgrim Wesleyan Church believes that Christian Marriage is God's plan for beginning the Christian home, and affirms the Scriptural teaching that the Christian should take only a fellow believer as a marriage partner (2 Cor. 6:14).

(2) The Church expects the Christian man and woman to be united by a Christian marriage ceremony. Christian Marriage includes recognition under the civil laws of the land as well as the customary arrangements between the families of both parties which are not in conflict with the teachings of God's Word. A pastor should not perform a marriage ceremony until he is satisfied that proper arrangements have been completed with the families involved. Those who have already been married by civil, traditional or common law marriage prior to conversion are encouraged to have a Christian marriage ceremony.

(3) No Christian man and woman shall be permitted to live together as husband and wife until properly married. The Church shall consider sexual relations between a man and woman before marriage as the sin of

fornication or adultery and an offense against God, His Word and the Church, and if not repented of, Church membership shall be terminated. In the case of a divorce for such cause, the innocent party may marry again, but the guilty party has by his or her act, forfeited membership in the church.

(4) The Pilgrim Wesleyan Church believes the Scriptural teaching regarding divorce--that the man and wife are bound together in marriage for life, no matter which ceremony brought them together--civil, traditional or church. Only biblical grounds may be considered for divorce (128:10).

(5) The Pilgrim Wesleyan Church believes that monogamy (having one wife) is God's plan for Christian marriage as taught in the Scriptures (Gen. 2:18, 24; Matt. 19:4-5; 1 Tim. 3:2, 12; Titus 1:5, 6;) (111). A Christian who is a covenant member of the Church who enters into a polygamous marriage commits an offense against God, His Word and the rules of the Church. Such a person who continues with a polygamous marriage and does not repent shall have his/her membership terminated.

(6) A Christian first wife who is included in a polygamous marriage against her will because of her husband taking another wife and not because of her own desire, may be eligible for covenant membership if she meets all other requirements.

(7) A polygamous man shall not be eligible for covenant or community membership but shall be free to attend church.

162. Statements on Drunkenness and Harmful Drugs. The Pilgrim Wesleyan Church believes the Scriptures plainly teach that drunkenness and the use of other drugs that harm the body are sins against God (Prov. 20:1; Prov. 23:29-35; Isa. 5:11; Luke 21:34; Rom. 13:13; 1 Cor. 5:11; Gal. 5:19-20; Eph. 5:17, 18). Persons who use any kind of strong drink which causes drunkenness or harmful drugs commit an offense against God, His Word and the rules of the Church (128:8; 222:4), and such persons are not eligible for Church membership. Church members who are found guilty of using strong drink or harmful drugs shall be warned of the error of their ways; and if there is not repentance and evidence of a changed life, their Church membership shall be terminated.

163. The Pilgrim Wesleyan Church affirms the power of the Holy Spirit to provide joy, peace and happiness in life so that strong drinks or harmful drugs are not needed (Eph. 5:18; Gal. 5:22).

164. Statements on Pagan Religious Practices. The Pilgrim Wesleyan Church believes the Scriptures plainly teach that the Christian is to worship God only and to put his faith in Jesus Christ alone for salvation (Ex. 20:3-6; Deut. 18:9-12; Acts 4:12; 1 Cor. 3:11; 10:21). The Church strongly condemns all forms of pagan religious practices, believing that they come from Satan. Such pagan religious practices include but are not limited to the holding or use of fetishes and charms, making sacrifices to spirits of ancestors, using sorcery to "put a curse on" people or things, consulting diviners, using "medicine" purchased from a sorcerer or spirit medium, and the communication with, worship of or giving of respect to idols, demons, or ancestral spirits or other false gods.

165. The Pilgrim Wesleyan Church affirms God's protection and provision for Christians in personal and family situations dealing with health, land, and welfare (Isa. 41:10; Luke 12:4; Phil. 4:6, 7, 19).

166. No person can be a Christian and also hold to any form of pagan religious belief or practice; therefore a person is not eligible for covenant membership in the Church who holds any form of pagan belief or practice. Church members who return to any kind of pagan religious beliefs or practices commit an offense against God, His Word and the rules of the Church (128:2), and they shall be warned of the error of their ways; and if there is no repentance and evidence of a changed life, their Church membership shall be terminated.

167. Statement on Societies and Organisations. The Church recognises that there are societies and organisations that are not necessarily pagan or evil in nature and to which Christians may belong. Where there is a question as to whether it is wrong for Church members to join a particular society or organisation, the District Board of Administration shall have the right to make a decision as to the rightness or wrongness of joining such society or organisation, and Church members shall abide by the ruling of the District Board of Administration. A Christian's first loyalty shall be to God and the Church, and membership in a society or organisation must not interfere with Christian worship or living.

168. Statements on Dancing.

(1) The Pilgrim Wesleyan Church believes that Christians who desire to please God and live holy lives will not take part in non-Christian modern dancing. Drunkenness, drug use, immorality, and other forms of evil usually take place at these dances and these evils are against the plain teaching of Scripture.

(2) The Pilgrim Wesleyan Church affirms that the Christian is to glorify and represent Christ in all activities. It also affirms that the Christian life is full of wholesome joy and fellowship (John 10:10; Col. 3:17).

(3) The Church does not condemn traditional dancing, such as games or non-demonic cultural dancing, but does strongly condemn any form of dancing which includes drunkenness, immorality, pagan practices, or temptation toward the same.

169. Statement on Property Grabbing. The Pilgrim Wesleyan Church believes the practice of property grabbing is both unbiblical and sinful. When a spouse dies and such practices occur against the family members left behind, the local Pilgrim Wesleyan Church is encouraged to give moral and spiritual support, and to lend its influence to doing away with this practice in the community.

170. Statement on Cleansing Rituals. The Pilgrim Wesleyan Church condemns any form of cleansing of the widow or widower involving sex or any substitute means. The church further condemns "forced marriages" of the widow or widower.

171. Statement on Practical Integrity.

(1) The Pilgrim Wesleyan Church believes that its members must have the Christian characteristics of honesty, truthfulness, and respect for the property of other persons. This follows the teaching of the Ten Commandments and the example and teaching of Jesus. It must be known that any Christian can be trusted, both in word and deed. This includes holding carefully property that belongs to others and keeping of promises

to return property or pay debts. God will bless strict honesty in the smallest things. Jesus said to the faithful servant, "You have been faithful over a few things and I will make you ruler over many things" (Matt. 25:23.) (Ex. 20:15, 17; Deut. 25:15; Rom. 12:17, 13:8; 1 Cor. 4:2).

(2) The Pilgrim Wesleyan Church opposes all forms of taking and receiving bribes as totally unscriptural and unchristian. God hates all forms of corruption and injustices, and warns that such things bring ruin to a nation. On the other hand, God promises to bring good to those who do what is honest, right, just, and pleasing to Him. God will supply all the needs of those who seek His kingdom above earthly things (Ex. 23:8; 1 Sam. 8:3; Ps. 26:10, 37:1-6, 84:11; Isa. 33:15; Amos 5:12-15; Matt. 6:33; Rom. 8:28).

172. Statements on Baptism.

(1) Those persons who have been saved from sin by putting their faith in Jesus Christ as their only Saviour and show their repentance by a new life in Christ shall be eligible for baptism. No person should be denied Christian baptism who has become a true Christian and agrees to obey God's will and commandments.

(2) Candidates for baptism shall first receive instruction in the basic Christian beliefs (baptism classes) (224). Candidates for baptism may be baptised as soon as they meet the requirements of 1416 and have completed the course of Christian instruction.

Christian Worship and Fellowship

173. Rites and Ceremonies of Churches. True religion is not contained in any ritual observances such as forms or ceremonies, even of the most excellent kind. The religion of Christ rises infinitely higher and lies infinitely deeper than all these. Therefore, it is not necessary that rites and ceremonies should be the same or exactly alike, and they may be changed according to the different needs of countries, times, and customs, provided that nothing is included which is against God's Word.

Acts 15:10,28-29; Romans 14:2-6,15,17,21; 1. Cor. 1:10; 12:25; 14:26; 2 Cor. 13:11; Gal. 5:1-13; Col. 2:16-17; 2 Thess. 3:6,14; 1 Tim. 1:4,6; 1 Pet. 2:16.

174. Language and Worship. Only a language readily understood by the congregation is to be used in public worship. Furthermore, to teach that speaking in an unknown tongue or that the gift of tongues is the necessary proof of the baptism with the Holy Spirit, or of entire sanctification (which the baptism with the Holy Spirit accomplishes), is contrary to the clear teaching of the Word of God as understood by The Pilgrim Wesleyan Church (cf. 128:15).

175. Healing. The truth that Jesus is both able and willing to heal the bodies as well as the souls of men, whenever the healing is for His glory, is clearly set forth in God's Word and witnessed to by the experience of many of His people at the present day. Prayer for healing according to the pattern set forth in the Scriptures shall be encouraged.

Jas. 5:14-16; Matt. 10:8; Luke 9:2; 10:9; Acts 4:10,14; 1 Cor. 12:9,28.

Christian Stewardship

176. Meaning of Stewardship. The Scriptures teach that God is the owner of all persons and all things, that men and women are His stewards of both life and possessions, that God's ownership and their stewardship ought to be acknowledged, and that men and women shall be held personally accountable to God for the exercise of their stewardship (cf. 128:3,4,5). God, as a God of system and order is all of His ways, has established a system of giving which acknowledges His ownership and men and women's stewardship. All His children should faithfully tithe and present offerings for the support of His gospel.

177. Storehouse Tithing. Storehouse tithing is the Scriptural and practical act of faithfully and regularly placing the tithe into that church to which the member belongs. Storehouse tithing shall be viewed as the primary way of raising financial support for the church. The Pilgrim Wesleyan Church shall be regarded by all of its people as the storehouse. All who are a part of The Pilgrim Wesleyan Church are expected to contribute faithfully the tithe(one-tenth) of all their increase as a minimum obligation to the Lord.

Gen. 14:20; 28:22; Lev. 27:30-32; Deut. 14:22; Prov. 3:9-10; 11:24-25; Mal. 3:10-11; Matt. 23:23; Acts 4:34-35; 6:1-3; 1 Cor. 16:2; 2 Cor. 8:13-14; Heb. 7:1-2,6,9.

178. Freewill Offerings. Freewill offerings, such as pledges, faith promises, self-denial offerings and other type offerings, are offerings given above and beyond the tithe (177) to the church. All who are a part of The Pilgrim Wesleyan Church are encouraged to give freewill offerings as God has prospered them.

179. Methods of Fund Raising. In the light of the Scriptural teaching concerning the giving of tithes and offerings (cf. 177, 178), all other methods of fund raising for the support and advance of the gospel in the Pilgrim Wesleyan Church shall be viewed as supplementary in nature. No Pilgrim Wesleyan church should engage in any method of fund raising which would distract from these principles, hinder the gospel message, defile the name of the Church, discriminate against the poor, or misdirect the people's energies from promoting the gospel.

PART II: LOCAL CHURCH GOVERNMENT

Chapter I

LOCAL CHURCH ORGANISATION

A. Function of Local Churches

201. The local Pilgrim Wesleyan church is a group of Christian believers who hold the faith as written in the Articles of Religion of The Pilgrim Wesleyan Church, and who obey the authority of The Pilgrim Wesleyan Church. The members of the local Pilgrim Wesleyan Church meet together regularly for the purpose of worship, spiritual growth, teaching the Word of God, and evangelism and mission.

B. Kinds of Churches

202. Pastoral Charge: A pastoral charge shall consist of a single church designated by the District Conference as an organised church at Stage 1, 2, or 3 (458:18). A pastoral charge is a church supplied as a regular pastoral appointment by the District Conference; and transacts business through a local conference of the covenant members. If the

District Conference desires to appoint a minister to serve two or more churches that shall continue as separate pastoral charges, it may appoint him as pastor of one church and supply pastor of the other (458:19).

203. Official Designations.

(1) The official designation of any local Pilgrim Wesleyan Church shall be either preaching point or organised church(Stage 1, 2 or 3) (458:18; 482:22).

(2) The official designation of any church shall be designated by the District Board of Administration at each annual district conference (458:18), or by the National Board of Administration (651:22) at any given meeting of the National Board of Administration.

1. Preaching Point

204. A special evangelistic or outreach group/meeting which cannot appropriately be designated as an organised church shall be carried on as a preaching point. A preaching point may be conducted by an organised church as long as it has the approval of the District Board of Administration (270:14), a district (458:18, 482:22), or by the National Board of Administration. Membership rolls shall be kept by the district secretary and authorisation for membership must be approved by the District Superintendent. In the case of a preaching point started by an organised church, membership rolls for that preaching point shall be kept by the local church secretary of the organised church. Until that preaching point becomes an organised church (206), membership shall be approved by the pastor of the organised church. A preaching point has no official district duty or standing.

205. A preaching point, where a pastor holds regular services, shall help pay some part of the pastor's salary. The amount shall be agreed upon by both the mother church and the preaching point.

206. A preaching point may become an organised church when it meets the requirements for such (207).

2. Organised church

207. Consideration For Organisation. A preaching point may be considered for organised church status (Stage 1, 2 or 3) by the District Board of Administration or National Board of Administration when:

(1) it meets the following membership level:

- (a) Stage 1: 12-14 members
- (b) Stage 2: 15-19 members
- (c) Stage 3: 20 or more members

(2) it shows evidence of: material and financial strength(self-supporting); local spiritual and administrative leadership(self-governing); and an outreach programme within the local community(self-propagating). This evidence shall be seen when the church meets the following conditions:

- (a) Being capable of paying a pastor the minimum salary the district sets for full-time pastors.

(b) Being capable of meeting all current expenses.

(c) Being capable of providing for all maintenance and building needs.

(d) Being capable of meeting district and National obligations.

(e) The holding of all property in trust for The Pilgrim Wesleyan Church as required in (1121-1126), or steps taken to accomplish the same.

(f) Being capable of carrying out the duties of the local board of administration(Stage 1, 2 or 3) (332-334).

208. Reclassification.

(1) An organised church may be reclassified as to its Stage by the District Board of Administration or National Board of Administration when the membership falls below that of its current Stage designation (482:22).

(2) An organised church may be reclassified to preaching point by the District Board of Administration or National Board of Administration when it no longer meets the requirements of an organised church (482:22).

209. Procedure of Organisation. When the organisation of a preaching point has been authorised by the District Board of Administration, the District Superintendent shall consult with the pastor or lay leader (559:11) and the local advisory council, or board, or if there are none, with those interested in forming the church, and appoint a time for an organisational meeting. The organisational meeting shall be conducted by the District Superintendent or his representative as follows:

(1) The reading of the Articles of Religion, Membership Commitments, First Principles and the Special Directions of The Pilgrim Wesleyan Church by the presiding officer.

(2) An examination of any new candidates for membership, conducted by the presiding officer, using the questions commonly addressed to such candidates (1434-1437), and the baptism of those candidates for membership who have previously not been baptised (1416). When the organisation involves a church previously designated as a preaching point or organised church, those who have been accepted as members of the preaching point or organised church need not be reexamined.

(3) A mutual pledge of purpose and fellowship on the part of all covenant members, including those being received. The presiding officer shall ask each one:

Question 1. "Are you in Christian fellowship with all those who present themselves for membership in this church organisation?"

Answer. "I am".

Question 2. "Will you receive each other as brothers and sisters in the faith and promise to walk with each other in Christian sympathy, tenderly to instruct, counsel, admonish, and cherish each other with all longsuffering, gentleness, and love?"

Answer. "I will."

(4) A declaration made by the presiding officer
"On the basis of these pledges in the presence of God, I proceed to give you each the right hand of fellowship, and declare by this act that

LOCAL CHURCH ORGANISATION

you are a Christian church organised on the basis of The Discipline of The Pilgrim Wesleyan Church, and are invested with all the rights, powers, and duties assigned to an organised church by The Discipline."

(5) Upon completion of (1-4), the first session of the local church conference, with the election of officers who shall serve for the remainder of the year, or until the time specified, and the installation of the officers (1488) by the person presiding over the organisational service may then take place. In the case of a preaching point which has had an advisory board, the advisory board may continue in office until the appointed time of district church conferences, at the District Superintendent's discretion.

(6) The report of the organisation by the District Superintendent to the next regular session of the District Board of Administration, and to the next regular session of the District Conference (458:18; 482:22).

(7) The taking of steps to provide for the pastoral oversight and care of the new church, if such is not already done.

Chapter II

MEMBERSHIP

A. Categories of Membership

1. Covenant Membership

221. Those persons may be admitted to covenant membership in The Pilgrim Wesleyan Church who meet the following conditions:

(1) Candidates for covenant membership shall be examined as provided for by the local board of administration (330:7), to determine whether they meet the requirements concerning their experience of regeneration, sanctification, Christian baptism, their acceptance of the Articles of Religion, Membership Commitments, First Principles, and the authority of The Discipline in matters of church government, and their willingness to enter into covenant with the Church (1434).

(2) Candidates for covenant membership who have satisfactorily passed the local board of administration's examination, shall be voted upon by the local church conference unless the local church conference has delegated this right to the local board of administration (270:1).

(3) Persons who have been duly accepted for covenant membership as explained in 222, should be formally received into covenant membership in a public service, in which they shall make their confession and vows public, according to the manner given in 1434, and be given the right hand of fellowship by the pastor or his representative. This service may take place any time during the conference year.

222. The conditions of covenant membership are:

(1) Confession of a personal experience of regeneration, and a pledge to seek diligently until sanctified wholly if that grace has not been obtained.

(2) Christian baptism

(3) Preparatory class attendance using materials approved by the National Board of Administration (651:28).

(4) Acceptance of the Articles of Religion, the Membership Commitments, the First Principles, and the authority of The Discipline in matters of church government.

(5) An agreement to support the Church by faithful attendance, prayer, witnessing and giving of tithes and offerings.

(6) The approving vote of a majority of the members of the receiving church who are present and voting, unless the church by vote shall delegate this right to the church board. If any objections are urged against the reception of a member, it shall require a vote of three-fourths of those present and voting to receive.

(7) At least fifteen(15) years old.

223. In the case of a preaching point started by the District, Christians who want to become covenant members shall be examined by the District Superintendent, to see if they meet the requirements for covenant membership (222). In the case of a preaching point started by an

organised church, Christians who want to become covenant members shall be examined by the pastor of the organised church (304:12).

224. Candidates for membership in The Pilgrim Wesleyan Church shall have two separate training sessions: First, they shall attend baptism classes prior to baptism, using materials approved by the National Board of Administration. Secondly, they shall attend membership classes, preferably after baptism, using materials approved by the National Board of Administration.

225. Candidates for covenant membership shall declare their agreement with the following summary of the Articles of Religion:

We believe in God the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit.

We believe that Jesus Christ the Son suffered in our place on the cross, that He died but rose again, that He now sits at the Father's right hand until He returns to judge all men at the last day.

We believe in the Holy Scriptures as the inspired and inerrant Word of God.

We believe that by the grace of God every person has the ability and responsibility to choose between right and wrong, and that those who repent of their sin and believe in the Lord Jesus Christ are justified by faith.

We believe that God not only counts the believer as righteous, but that He makes him righteous, freeing him of sin's dominion at conversion, purifying his heart by faith and perfecting him in love at entire sanctification, and providing for his growth in grace at every stage of his spiritual life, enabling him through the presence and power of the Holy Spirit to live a victorious life.

226. The rights of covenant membership are:

(1) The fellowship of the other Christians and the encouragement, admonition, and spiritual guidance of the pastor.

(2) May partake of the sacraments and ordinances of the Church.

(3) The right to vote and the eligibility to hold any office for which a person in covenant membership is eligible, if not under discipline (see restrictions in 1211 which may apply).

(4) The right to trial and appeal if charged with failure to maintain the conditions of membership, with the specific provision that joining another religious body shall of itself sever membership in the Church.

(5) A member in good standing in any Pilgrim Wesleyan Church may transfer membership to another Pilgrim Wesleyan Church, subject to the guidelines established in 235 - 237.

(6) No covenant member shall be transferred to any other category of membership except at the specific written request for, or written agreement to such relationship, by the person involved. Any covenant member charged with failure to uphold the Articles of Religion or to observe the Membership Commitments must be dealt with by judiciary process as given in The Discipline (1221).

2. Community Membership

227. Those new converts, who because of spiritual immaturity are not able to take up the responsibilities of covenant membership, shall be received promptly after their conversion as community members. The local

board of administration, having provided for their examination concerning their Christian experience and their willingness to study diligently the doctrines and standards of the Church so as to prepare for covenant membership, may, if satisfied, receive them by majority vote. Persons who have been approved for community membership shall be formally received according to the manner given in 1436.

228. A community member shall have all the rights of a covenant member except to vote and to hold office. Community membership shall be for not less than three months nor for more than one year. It shall be the duty of the pastor and the local board of administration to assist community members in qualifying for covenant membership. At the end of a year, the community member must either qualify for covenant membership, being received into covenant membership as given in 1434 or be dropped from the roll, unless the local board of administration shall extend the time.

3. Junior Membership

229. Those children and youth fourteen years of age and under, who have been saved from their sins, shall be received promptly after their conversion as junior members. The local board of administration, having provided for their examination concerning their Christian experience and their intention to develop toward spiritual maturity, may, if satisfied, receive them by majority vote. Junior members shall be formally received according to the manner given in 1437.

230. A junior member shall have all the rights of a community member. He/she may become a community member at any time he/she is qualified and received as given in 1436. If a junior member has not qualified for community membership by his/her fifteenth birthday, every effort shall be made by the pastor and the local board of administration during the following year to prepare him/her for community membership. When he/she is sixteen, he/she should become a covenant member or a community member or be dropped from the roll.

B. Reception of Members

231. Church membership shall be held in the local church.

232. Members may be received in any category of membership by confession of faith, or by letter at any time during the year upon the recommendation of the church board(330:8,9). A pocket certificate of standing (1506) shall be available upon request from the local board of administration.

233. Those who are received as covenant members after having been community or junior members, shall be considered as having joined on confession of faith. The pastor and the local board of administration shall be responsible to provide membership training classes for all community and junior members, training them in the biblical doctrines and standards of the Church, acquainting them with the history and organisation of The Pilgrim Wesleyan Church, and explaining to them the meaning of the vows and covenant of covenant membership (222).

234. Those who present letters of recommendation from other denominations shall be examined by the pastor and the local board of administration and received as by letter (330:7). If it is discovered that the person involved has been previously converted and baptised, he or she will not be required to be baptised again. They shall be required to complete membership training classes using materials approved by the

National Board of Administration. But if it is discovered that he/she has only now given his/her heart to Christ and is seeking after a full knowledge of the truth, he/she shall be encouraged to become a community member by confession of faith, and to prepare for covenant membership like any other convert.

C. Transfer of Membership

235. When any covenant member, community member, or junior member shall request a letter of transfer to another Pilgrim Wesleyan church, the pastor and local church secretary shall grant it on the proper form as given in 1501, providing the member is neither under discipline nor under charges. Both pastor and secretary shall sign the letter, and shall send it by registered or certified mail to the pastor and local church secretary of the church to which the member is transferring. The letter shall be presented to the local board of administration of the receiving church at its next session and acted upon in the manner indicated in 1502. The date the return letter is received shall mark the expiration of membership in the church granting the letter, and in the official membership record the local church secretary shall enter opposite the member's name the date and 'Withdrawn by letter of transfer'.

236. The receiving church shall handle transfers as follows:

(1) Community and junior members shall be received without action by the receiving local board of administration or local church conference.

(2) Covenant members shall be received, subject to the approving vote of the local church conference, unless the local church conference shall have delegated this right to the local board of administration. The transfer of covenant membership may be questioned by the receiving church if it is evident that the person involved is not in a state of grace or is living in open violation of the Articles of Religion or the Membership Commitments.

(3) The membership of a pastor, and of such members of his/her family as so desire and have the proper credentials, shall be automatically transferred to the church to which he/she is appointed, or if the pastoral charge consists of more than one church, to the church of his/her choice.

237. A member of The Pilgrim Wesleyan Church transferring from one local church to another shall not be required to be involved in a public service of reception.

D. Termination of Membership

238. Covenant membership in The Pilgrim Wesleyan Church may be terminated only by one or more of the following:

(1) Voluntary withdrawal.

(2) Joining another religious body, or joining a secret order.

(3) Expulsion after proper trial and conviction (1301:5)

(4) Persistent neglect of church relationship as defined in the Membership Commitments, First Principles and Special Directions.

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- (5) Death.
- (6) Suing a fellow Christian or church to court before exhausting church channels.

239. Membership in The Pilgrim Wesleyan Church in the community and junior categories may be terminated in any of the above ways or by simple majority vote of the local board of administration.

240. When any member requests a letter of recommendation to some other denomination, the pastor and the local board of administration and local church secretary shall grant it on the proper form provided in 1504, if the member is neither under discipline nor under charges. Such a person's membership in the local church granting the letter shall cease immediately, and the secretary shall enter opposite the member's name, the date and 'Withdrawn by letter of recommendation'.

241. When any member requests a letter of withdrawal, the pastor and local church secretary shall grant it on the proper form provided in 1505. The secretary shall enter on the record book (351:2), opposite the member's name, the date the letter was granted and 'Withdrawn by letter of withdrawal'. If the member's withdrawal occurs during the course of a judicial investigation, the secretary shall note on the membership record, 'Withdrawn under accusation'; and if withdrawal occurs during the course of a trial, 'Withdrawn under charges' (1283).

242. When any member joins another denomination, or another religious body exercising the functions of a church, or a secret society, no trial is necessary to remove such a member. The pastor, having investigated and ascertained the facts, shall report the same to the next session of the local board of administration, and upon the board's order the local church secretary shall enter opposite the member's name the date of the session and 'Withdrawn through having joined another body'.

243. When any member moves away from the church of which he/she is a member, and it is evident that distance will not permit his/her full and regular participation in the life of the church, the pastor shall encourage him/her to transfer his/her membership to the Pilgrim Wesleyan church nearest his/her new residence. The pastor shall notify the National Secretary of the name and address of the member who has moved to where there is no Pilgrim Wesleyan church (304:13).

244. When any member moves away from the church of which he/she is a member, and does not have a forwarding address, or fails to report his/her spiritual standing or to send his/her financial support, or to transfer his/her membership to the nearest Pilgrim Wesleyan church, after six months he/she may be dropped from the roll provided that every effort has been made to contact him/her and notify him/her of such an intention. His/her name shall be dropped upon the recommendation of the local church conference, unless the local church conference shall have delegated full responsibility in such matters to the local board of administration. The secretary shall enter opposite the member's name the date of the vote and 'Discontinued by vote for persistent neglect'.

245. When any member fails to attend the services of his/her church for six months without a reason deemed justifiable by the local board of administration, or to support his/her church financially as he/she is able, the pastor and local board of administration shall seek to restore him/her to active fellowship, but if unable to do so, his/her name may be dropped upon the recommendation of the local board of administration and the majority vote of the local church conference, unless the local church

conference shall have delegated full responsibility in such matters to the local board of administration. The secretary shall enter opposite the member's name the date of the vote and 'Discontinued by vote for persistent neglect'.

E. Record of Membership

246. Each local church shall have a book of records kept by the church secretary (351:2) in which shall be written all the names of the members, the date received, the date and manner of termination of membership, whether by some manner of withdrawal, or by removal for neglect, or death. The local board of administration shall review its membership annually (330:10). All baptisms, marriages, pastoral terms, and other important information of the life and ministry of the local church shall be kept in the record of membership book.

F. Urban Outreach Ministries

247. Due to an ever increasing movement of people from rural areas to urban areas, the spiritual needs and the challenge of evangelising the urban areas of Zambia must not be neglected.

248. It shall be the purpose of The Pilgrim Wesleyan Church in her urban church ministries:

(1) To continue ministry to Pilgrim Wesleyan Church members and others who have been reached by our church in rural areas, and who have moved to urban areas.

(2) To evangelise and win new people in these areas with the gospel of Jesus Christ and The Pilgrim Wesleyan Church.

249. The policy of The Pilgrim Wesleyan Church for local urban churches shall be:

(1) Insofar as possible, following our people to urban areas, showing a personal interest in them and providing spiritual leadership and worship services for them.

(2) City evangelism through personal contacts with the unsaved in their homes, distributing literature, and holding evangelistic campaigns.

(3) Establishing local churches in accordance with The Discipline.

(4) Teaching the Scriptural method of supporting the Lord's work.

(5) Encouraging and giving guidance in erecting their own church buildings.

(6) Establishing a district organisation of the proper level when a sufficient number of churches are organised in the same urban area (cf. 401).

250. Procedure for Urban Outreach Ministries.

(1) Urban projects shall be chosen by the National Board of Administration and shall be under the direct leadership and supervision of the National Superintendent or his representative, as directed by the National Board of Administration, unless there is a district organisation, in which case the District Board of Administration shall have this responsibility. The churches shall then be under the direct leadership and supervision of the District Superintendent (559:1).

MEMBERSHIP

(2) Pastors for these projects shall be chosen by the National Board of Administration or the District Board of Administration, as guided and recommended by the National Committee on Evangelism, Church Growth and Cross-Cultural Ministries (722).

(3) Local board of administrations shall be appointed by the National Superintendent or the District Superintendent at their annual meeting or elected as provided for in The Discipline (322:2).

(4) Local board of administrations shall appoint the teachers and officers of the Sunday School (373-376, 378).

(5) The pastor and his/her local board of administration shall be responsible for developing a programme of evangelism (304:2; 330:5). Approval of the National Superintendent or the District Superintendent must be obtained before inviting anyone who is not an active minister of the Pilgrim Wesleyan Church to conduct evangelistic services.

(6) Where there is no district organisation the local board of administration shall be empowered to sit with the National Superintendent or his representative to examine and recommend candidates for baptism and church membership and for ministerial license (330:7-9; 332:8).

(7) Where there is no district organisation the pastor and treasurer shall give their reports at the annual local church conference (269:2,3).

(8) In addition to the annual report to the church, the pastor shall submit quarterly reports to the National Superintendent or the District Superintendent (304:29).

(9) A copy of the minutes of the local board of administration meetings shall be sent to the National Superintendent.

DISTRICT MEMBERSHIP

251. Where there is no urban district organisation, provision may be made for a city church to join a rural district.

REPRESENTATION AT NATIONAL CONFERENCE

252. Where there is no district organisation, local urban churches shall be represented at the biennial National Conference by their pastor and one lay delegate.

Chapter III

LOCAL CHURCH CONFERENCE

A. Composition and Function

261. The local church conference is the highest governing authority in the local church. The members of an organised local church who assemble together to do business when the meeting has been properly called, make up the local church conference and constitute a quorum. Only covenant members (226:3) have the right to vote in the local church conference.

B. Sessions

262. Sessions. A local church conference shall be held in each organised church at least once each year, within six weeks of the annual District Conference, with at least two weeks advance public announcement. Election of church officers shall take place in the annual local church conference. Local church conferences may be called at other times for general or special church business or to take in members or vote on members, with one weeks notice.

263. Jurisdiction in Pastoral Voting. In the case of a preaching point, voting shall take place after consultation with the local advisory board and the District Superintendent. In the case of an organised church, voting shall take place after consultation with the local church conference and the District Superintendent (292).

C. Organisation and Procedure

1. Officers

264. Chairperson. The District Superintendent or his/her representative shall be the chairperson of the local church conference whenever present. In their absence, the pastor shall chair the meeting, except over sessions dealing with the securing or retaining of a pastor. The vice-chairperson of the local board of administration (326) shall chair sessions dealing with the securing or retaining of a pastor, if the District Superintendent or his/her representative is not present, and may chair, at the pastor's option, over sessions or portions of sessions dealing with salary for the pastor. In emergencies, when the pastor is absent or physically unable, the vice-chairperson may chair other sessions with the written permission of the District Superintendent.

265. Secretary. The local church secretary, elected annually by the local church conference, shall serve as secretary of the local church conference by virtue of his/her office (351).

2. Procedure

266. Quorum. Those covenant members who come together for a meeting of the local church conference when it has been properly called shall be a quorum.

267. Voting. A majority vote of those present and voting in the local church conference will be enough to pass all items of business unless otherwise required by The Discipline or by local laws when dealing with legal matters.

268. Rules of Order. The business of the local church conference shall be conducted according to Robert's Rules of Order, except when formally suspended or otherwise ordered by The Discipline.

269. Order of Business. The local church conference, in all regular sessions shall give special attention to the spiritual, numerical, and financial progress of the church, including the following items:

- (1) Reading of minutes of last session.
- (2) Receiving the reports of the pastor(s), Sunday School director, auxiliary leader of Pilgrim Wesleyan Men, auxiliary leader of Pilgrim Wesleyan Women's Organisation, leader of Children In Missions, auxiliary leader of Pilgrim Wesleyan Youth, and any others the local church conference shall order.
- (3) Receiving the reports of the various treasurers (352:3; 375; 1019:5:b).
- (4) Receiving and acting upon the reports of boards and committees.
- (5) Receiving the reports of the local preachers, local deacons, and deaconesses.
- (6) Granting or renewing of licenses for local preachers, local deacons, and deaconesses.
- (7) Recommending suitable local licentiates to the District Conference for study under the direction of the district board of ministerial development, and for district licenses.
- (8) Electing of officers, trustees, and delegates (at annual sessions only).
- (9) Miscellaneous business.

D. Duties and Powers

270. The local church conference duties and powers are:

- (1) To approve by vote the reception of covenant members and to expel or to discontinue covenant members unless it gives authority concerning membership to the local board of administration. This authority may be withdrawn from the local board of administration at any annual session of the local church conference.
- (2) In the case of an organised church, to call or recall a pastor (297, 302), or to terminate a recall (303).
- (3) To authorise a nominating committee, which shall be chaired by the pastor, to which the local board of administration shall elect three members, and to which the local church conference may, at its option, elect three additional members (361).
- (4) To elect the church officers, which shall consist of the church secretary, the church treasurer, the Sunday School director, the trustees, the members at large of the local board of administration, and the lay delegates to the District Conference.

(5) To receive reports from the pastor(s), church officers, local preachers, local deacons and deaconesses, and other persons, boards, and committees as desired, and as listed in 269:2-5.

(6) To remove, when it is in the best interests of the church, by a majority vote of those present and voting, any church officer, trustee, or delegate mentioned in Chapter VI or Part II.

(7) To license local preachers, exhorters, deacons and deaconesses, and to renew or revoke such licenses (269:6).

(8) To recommend local licentiates to the District Conference for study under the direction of the district board of ministerial development (269:7), and for district license (269:7).

(9) To adopt petitions or resolutions to the District Conference, including memorials proposed for recommendation to the National Conference (454).

(10) To adopt financial policies which shall be administered by the local board of administration (330:26).

(11) To authorise the enlargement or decrease of the employed staff (330:15).

(12) To adopt an annual budget (330:26), and to authorise all expenditures not provided for in the annual budget.

(13) To recommend to the District Board of Administration where applicable the purchase or sale of property, the erection or major remodeling of buildings, and all mortgages or other indebtedness which encumbers the property, according to the procedure set forth in 1121 - 1126.

(14) To authorise, subject to the approval of the District Board of Administration, the establishment and operation of a preaching point (482:22) in order to share the benefits of the gospel with others.

(15) To adopt an annual calendar of events (330:6).

(16) To give any responsibilities as it shall choose to the local board of administration.

E. Lay Delegates to District Conference

271. The local church conference of an organised church, at its annual session (262), shall elect by ballot from among its covenant members, one delegate for every fifty covenant members or less, and one additional delegate for each additional fifty members or major fraction thereof to attend the District Conference. A sufficient number of alternate delegates shall be chosen and the delegates shall serve for the regular annual session and for any reconvened session of the District Conference.

Chapter IV

PASTORS

A. Function

291. The pastor is a man or woman called of God to serve as the spiritual shepherd and administrative overseer of the local church. The pastor is to preach the Word of God, lead the people in worship and church services, take the gospel to people in sin, and help those who are sick and in trouble. The pastor may be an ordained minister, a licensed minister, evangelist, local preacher or lay person.

B. Manner of Pastoral Voting

1. Jurisdiction in Pastoral Voting

292. In an organised church all matters related to voting on securing or retaining a pastor are the concern of the church in consultation with the District Superintendent. In a preaching point responsibility for pastoral appointments rests with the District Board of Administration in consultation with the local church advisory board (322:1).

2. Regulations for All Pastoral Voting

293. Procedure for Pastoral Voting. In all matters relating to voting on securing or retaining a pastor, the following regulations shall be observed:

(1) All pastoral votes shall be taken at a properly announced session of the local church conference (262).

(2) The District Superintendent or his/her representative shall chair the local church conference for the taking of the pastoral vote. If neither can be present, the vice-chairperson of the local board of administration (326) shall chair the meeting.

(3) All pastoral votes shall be taken by secret ballot.

(4) A favourable vote by a majority of the local church conference present and voting is a call, recall, or vote of confidence, as the case may be.

(5) The minister shall be notified in writing by the local church secretary of the results of the vote, and, if the vote is favourable, of the support (including salary, expense allowances, housing, fringe benefits, moving expenses) and related matters which the church proposes to maintain.

(6) If the vote is favourable, the minister shall notify the local board of administration and the District Superintendent in writing of his/her decision within two weeks.

294. District Approval of Pastoral Agreement. In the case of a preaching point, pastoral care shall be arranged by the District Board of Administration. In the case of an organised church, a pastoral agreement, whether for an initial call or renewal of call, must be reviewed and recommended by the District Board of Administration, and becomes final upon the approval of the District Conference. Each year the District

Board of Administration shall review those pastoral agreements which are continuing before making its report to the District Conference (482:24).

295. Time of Pastoral Changes. Except for such emergencies as resignations, removals, or deaths, pastoral changes shall take place at the close of the session of the district conference or at such time as the District Conference shall determine.

296. Annual Review of Pastoral Support. The pastor's financial support and related matters shall be reviewed annually by the local board of administration before the annual session of the local church conference, whether or not a vote is being taken on the securing or retaining of a pastor. A report of the final action, whether by the local board of administration or by the local church conference, shall be sent by the local church secretary in writing to both the pastor (or pastor-elect) (293:5), and the District Superintendent.

3. Regulations for Initial Call of Pastor

297. Procedure for Initial Call of Pastor. Whenever it is necessary for a pastoral charge to secure a new pastor, the following regulations shall be observed:

(1) The vote shall be for a two-year call, subject to any adjustment the District Superintendent shall approve, so that the term shall expire at the uniform time set by the District Conference (295).

(2) In an organized church, the local board of administration, under the leadership of its vice-chairperson, shall counsel with the District Superintendent concerning possible candidates. If the church desires to call a minister from another district, the local board of administration shall first secure from its own District Superintendent and National Superintendent assurance that his/her transfer would be approved. When a candidate has been approved by a majority vote of the local board of administration, his/her name shall be presented as a nomination to the local church conference, and the vote shall be taken in keeping with the regulations governing all pastoral voting (293).

(3) In a preaching point, pastoral care assignments are made by the District Board of Administration in consultation with the advisory board and as approved by the District Conference (322:1; 458:8). In between conference sessions and when there is no advisory board these assignments shall be made in consultation with the District Board of Administration.

298. Waiver of Local Church Rights. If a pastoral charge has been unable to secure a pastor thirty days before the annual session of the District Conference, the local church conference may, at any time thereafter, by majority vote, delegate full authority for the employment of a pastor to the local board of administration, or it may waive its rights and leave the selection of a pastor to the nomination of the District Board of Administration and appointment by the District Conference. If a pastoral charge waives its rights, or if neither local church conference nor local board of administration shall have secured a pastor by the time the annual session of the District Conference convenes, the District Board of Administration shall nominate a pastor, for appointment by the District Conference. A pastor so appointed shall be received and supported by the pastoral charge the same as if he/she had been employed in the usual manner.

299. First-Year Resignations. If a pastor resigns during his/her first year of service to a church, he/she must notify the local board of administration and the District Superintendent sixty days in advance. If the District Superintendent and the local board of administration believe it is wise, he/she may be released sooner.

300. First-Year Removal. If during the first year of a pastor's service, a meeting of the local board of administration chaired by the District Superintendent shall request by a two-thirds majority vote, or if, upon the recommendation of the District Superintendent, the District Board of Administration thinks it is in the best interests of the work, the District Board of Administration may remove a pastor by a two-thirds majority vote.

301. Interim Procedures. If a church is left without a pastor between sessions of the District Conference due to death, resignation, or removal, the District Board of Administration shall fill the vacancy for the remainder of the conference year.

4. Regulations for Renewal of Call

302. Procedure for Renewal of Call of a Pastor. Whenever the term of service of the pastor of an organised church is expiring, the matter of a recall shall be governed by the following regulations:

(1) Unless the pastor whose term of service is expiring, shall give notice otherwise to the vice-chairperson of the local board of administration (326) and the District Superintendent, in writing and at least sixty days prior to the convening of the District Conference, he/she shall be considered as available for renewal of call, and a vote on recall shall be taken in keeping with the regulations for all pastoral voting (293).

(2) Every call after the initial call shall be for a four year period. Before the vote on renewal of the call, the local board of administration shall recommend and the local church conference shall determine by majority vote that the renewal of call shall be for a four year period.

303. Termination of Renewed Call. The service of a pastor ministering under recall may be terminated before the end of his/her term in one of three ways:

(1) The pastor may resign. Notification of the pastor's resignation shall be given at least ninety days in advance of the time set by the district for pastoral changes (295).

(2) If one-third of the members of the local board of administration request a pastoral vote of confidence by the local church conference to the District Superintendent in writing, a special session of the local board of administration may be called. If the local board of administration by majority vote calls for the taking of such a pastoral vote, and the District Board of Administration approves, it shall be taken in keeping with 330:13. If less than a majority are favourable to retaining the pastor, his/her service shall be terminated at a time set by the district for pastoral changes (295) or at a time agreed upon by the pastor, the local board of administration, and the District Superintendent.

(3) The District Board of Administration may, by a majority vote, order the District Superintendent to conduct a pastoral vote of confidence in keeping with 303:2. Or, the District Board of Administration, for the

sake of the pastoral charge involved, may remove the pastor by a two-thirds majority vote (482:27), with his/her services terminating in ninety days unless ordered otherwise by the District Board of Administration. If at any time the District Board of Administration shall consider it to be in the interests of the district as a whole that the pastor be free to serve in another pastorate, it may by majority vote request him/her to resign.

C. Duties and Powers

304. The pastor shall take care of the spiritual and physical work of the church under his/her care in keeping with The Discipline and other National and district regulations, and shall be responsible:

General

(1) To devote himself/herself to the study of the Scriptures, to prayer and to the work assigned to him/her.

(2) To seek the conversion of sinners, the sanctification of believers, and the strengthening of God's people in the faith.

(3) To pray to God for and with his/her people.

(4) To give spiritual food to the Christians by reading, teaching, and preaching the Word.

(5) To lead the Sunday and midweek church services, helping the Christians to worship God.

(6) To administer, if an ordained minister (925), a licensed minister (919), local preacher (912) or lay person (936) as approved by the National Board of Administration(651:29), the sacraments of baptism and the Lord's Supper.

(7) To conduct a Christian marriage service if an ordained minister.

(8) To bury the dead and comfort those in sorrow.

(9) To visit from house to house in order to give pastoral help to the members of the church, and to others in need of a pastor's help.

(10) To read and explain the Membership Commitments (127 - 129) of The Pilgrim Wesleyan Church of Zambia at least once a year, and to see that all covenant members keep all the rules of the church.

(11) To teach baptism and membership training classes, preparing new Christians for church membership.

(12) To accept new members into the church after proper approval (222:6).

(13) To report the names and addresses of members who have moved away to the National Secretary (697; 699:19).

(14) To sign with the local church secretary, letters of transfer, recommendation, or withdrawal (1501, 1504, 1505); to receive accusations against a lay member (1221:1).

Administrative

PASTORS

(15) To be chairperson of the local church conference and the local board of administration except as otherwise provided (264, 325), and to oversee and direct all departments and local church organisations.

(16) To serve as a voting member of boards and committees established by the local board of administration, and to meet with all boards and committees as time will permit.

(17) To meet with Pilgrim Wesleyan Men, Pilgrim Wesleyan Women, and Pilgrim Wesleyan Youth as he thinks necessary, or to call a special meeting of an auxiliary or any of its committees; to serve as an ex officio member of the executive committees of the auxiliaries (1018:1), and as chairperson of the nominating committees of the auxiliaries (1018:5).

(18) To give leadership to the missionary, evangelistic, educational, and devotional programmes of the local church in harmony with objectives and programmes of the district and the National church.

(19) To announce to the church all the plans for the local church which have been made by the District Board of Administration, the District Conference, or the National Board of Administration.

(20) To promote tithing and good stewardship by faithful example and clear teaching.

(21) To instruct his people concerning the financial plans of the National Church and of the district, and to see, together with the local board of administration, that the National Conference Support and all other obligations are met in full; and to protect his church from solicitations not authorised by the national church or district.

(22) To see that trustees are elected and all church property is properly secured according to The Discipline and the local laws, with all legal papers submitted to the District Superintendent for approval (559*, 1101 ff.).

(23) To help and promote the Sunday School.

(24) To enlist youth for the gospel ministry, and for missionary, deacon and deaconess, and other special work, encouraging and helping them to prepare for their God appointed task at educational institutions provided by The Pilgrim Wesleyan Church; to sign, in conjunction with the local church secretary (351), licenses for local preachers, deacons and deaconesses, granted by the local church conference (351:3); and to have oversight over all local preachers, deacons and deaconesses, using their services as much and as effectively as possible.

(25) To approve the designation of an associate or assistant pastor (305, 306); to nominate to the local board of administration an assistant pastor (306) or a lay assistant to the pastor (308); to nominate to the local board of administration all members of the employed office staff; and to supervise, in conjunction with the local board of administration, the services of all employed staff members, including the custodians.

(26) To see that up-to-date files are kept on people who attend the church, membership, deacons and deaconesses, Sunday School enrollment, membership of subsidiary organisations, and subscriptions to the various National church and district publications, and to be ready to give these lists to the pastor who succeeds him/her.

(27) To see that adequate historical records and financial records are kept (351:2; 352:2).

(28) To give reports to the local board of administration and to the local church conference.

(29) To give quarterly reports to the District Superintendent.

(30) To submit an annual service report to the district board of ministerial development and an annual statistical report to the district statistical committee.

(31) To attend District Conference sessions, institutes, and conventions planned by the district or the National Conference.

D. Associate and Assistant Pastors

305. Associate Pastor. If two ministers are appointed to one pastoral charge, whether a husband and wife or other co-labourers, one shall be designated as the pastor and the other as the associate pastor. Or if a local church calls a minister to assist its pastor, and the minister being called has training, experience, and ministerial standing comparable to those of pastor, it may choose to call him/her as an associate pastor and ask the District Conference to appoint him/her as such. An associate pastor shall be called and recalled in the same manner as a pastor (297, 302), and shall assist the pastor in carrying out his/her duties as the pastor and the local board of administration shall determine.

306. Assistant Pastor. A local church may employ such ministers as assistant pastors as are necessary and as it can properly support. The employment of an assistant pastor shall be authorised by the local church conference, and the selection shall be made and the terms of work determined, upon the recommendation of the pastor, by the local board of administration. The agreement of the local church with the assistant pastor, like all pastoral agreements, is subject to the review and recommendation of the District Board of Administration, and becomes final upon the approval of the District Conference (482:24). An assistant pastor shall not be employed for more than one year at a time, and may be reemployed upon the renewed recommendation of the pastor, the majority vote of the local board of administration, and the approval of the District Conference.

307. Duties of an Assistant Pastor. An assistant pastor shall assist the pastor in carrying out his/her duties as the pastor and the local board of administration shall determine. He/she may be called assistant pastor, or bear a title descriptive of his/her major field of service, such as minister of Christian education, minister of music, etc.

308. Lay Assistant. Lay men may also serve as paid assistants. The employment of such a lay assistant to the pastor shall be authorised by the local church conference, and the selection shall be made and the terms of work determined, upon the recommendation of the pastor, by the local board of administration. Employment shall be for one year at a time. The lay assistant shall bear such a title as director of Christian education, director of music, etc.

Chapter V

LOCAL BOARD OF ADMINISTRATION

A. Function

321. The local board of administration carries out the will of the local church conference, serving as the chief governing and coordinating body of the local church between local church conference sessions.

B. Membership

322. Local board of administrations shall be two according to the development of the church.

(1) **Advisory Board.** In preaching points where there are not enough members to form a full church board, an advisory board of three to five people may be appointed by the District Superintendent. If possible, this should include people who will act as pastor, Sunday School Director, and church treasurer. A husband and wife could both serve on such a board if other qualified persons are not available (323).

(2) **Full Board.** In churches where there are enough qualified local members of the church, a church board of seven or nine members shall be formed. This board shall consist of the pastor as chairperson, the associate pastor (except when the pastor's spouse), the church secretary, the church treasurer, the Sunday School Director, women's organisation leader, youth organisation leader, evangelism director, and at least one member of the board of trustees designated by the local church conferences (269:8). In addition, local church conferences which have fewer than 50 covenant members may elect two members at large to the local board of administration. Larger church conferences may elect up to ten members at large and may designate their assistant pastor and lay leader as members of the local board of administration.

323. It is recommended that no two persons of the same household be elected to serve on the same local board of administration when other qualified persons are available.

C. Sessions

324. The local board of administration shall meet once each month, and it may be called for special meetings by the pastor, or the District Superintendent or his/her representative.

D. Organisation and Procedure

1. Officers

325. Chairperson. The pastor shall be chairperson of the local board of administration, ex officio, chairing all sessions except as noted in 324.

326. Vice-Chairperson. The local board of administration shall elect one of its members as vice-chairperson. The vice-chairperson may chair meetings of the local board of administration when the pastor's support or the calling or renewing of the call of a pastor is under discussion (for exceptions, see 264). He/she may chair sessions or

portions of sessions of the local church conference dealing with the pastor's support, call or renewal of call, when neither the District Superintendent nor his/her representative is present (269:12). He/she may chair sessions of the local board of administration or of the local church conference in times of emergency when the pastor is absent or physically unable, with the written permission of the District Superintendent. The District Superintendent or his/her representative shall chair all sessions of the local board of administration considering the termination of a pastoral agreement (303), and in times of emergency.

327. Secretary. The local church secretary shall be secretary of the local board of administration, ex officio (351). If he/she is absent, the local board of administration may elect a secretary for that meeting.

328. Quorum. A majority of the members of the local board of administration is a quorum.

329. Voting. A majority vote of those present and voting shall be sufficient in all items of business except when voting on the reception of a covenant member against whom an objection has been made, which shall require a three-fourths majority vote of those present and voting (222:6); and when petitioning the District Board of Administration to remove a pastor during his/her initial call, which shall require a two-thirds majority vote of those present and voting (482:27).

E. Duties and Powers

330. The local board of administration shall administer the affairs of the church in keeping with the directions of the local church conference, The Discipline, and other district and National regulations, according to its stage of development as listed in 207: 1,2. It shall be responsible:

General

(1) To direct all activities of the church relative to the spiritual growth of its people.

(2) To provide a place of worship, see that the place is kept clean and in good repair and ensure that all facilities are used in ways that maintain respect towards the house of God.

(3) To give advice and direction to the pastor and to others who work in the church.

(4) To receive and hear the reports of the pastor (304:28), church treasurer (352:3) and other church officers and committees which they may request.

(5) To help the pastor in the evangelistic outreach of the church.

(6) To recommend to the local church conference an annual calendar of events (270:15).

Membership

(7) To provide for the instruction and examination of all candidates for baptism and church membership (221).

(8) To make recommendations concerning the reception of covenant members to the local church conference, unless full authority concerning

such reception has been delegated by the local church conference to the local board of administration (270:1). When authority has been given to it, it may authorise the reception of covenant members by a majority vote. When an objection is raised against the reception of a member it shall require a three-fourths majority vote (222:6).

(9) To approve the reception of community and junior members; or to drop community or junior members from the roll (227 - 230).

(10) To examine the church membership list each year and to make necessary changes (246).

(11) To appoint a local judicial committee to hear and settle all cases between Christians in the church, to hold a trial for any member charged with an offense (1222); to suspend or terminate the membership of those found guilty of a serious offense and who do not repent and change their lives, and to refer to the District Superintendent any case which cannot be settled in the local church (559:23).

Pastors, Staff, and Licensed Workers

(12) In the case of an organised church, to nominate pastor and associate pastor to the local church conference; to assume full responsibility for securing a pastor when such duty has been given to it by the local church conference (270:2); and to recommend to the District Board of Administration by two-thirds majority vote the termination of a pastoral agreement if it becomes necessary during the initial call of a pastor's service (303:2).

(13) In the case of an organised church, to recommend to the local church conference the length of a pastoral renewal of call (303:2); to meet, at the request of one-third of its members and under the chairpersonship of the District Superintendent or his/her representative, to consider the possibility of ordering a pastoral vote of confidence before the expiration of a recall period, and to call for such a vote by a majority vote (303:3).

(14) To review the pastor's support and related matters each year (296).

(15) To approve the pastor's recommendation and send to the local church conference the number of employed church staff positions, and then after approval to hire and supervise the staff.

(16) To employ evangelists, evangelistic singers, and other workers as needed.

(17) To provide, in cooperation with the pastor, for the supply of the pulpit during the pastor's absence; and to provide, in cooperation with the District Superintendent, for the supply of the pulpit during temporary vacancies.

(18) To recommend after nomination to the local church conference the licensing, and the renewing or revoking of licenses, of a licensed minister, evangelist, local preacher, deacon and deaconess (270:7).

(19) To recommend local preachers and local deaconesses to the local church conference for their approval and recommendation to the District Conference for study under the direction of the district board of ministerial development, and for district license (458:22:b). To recommend local deacons to the local church conference for their approval for study

in the course of study for local deacons (987). To hear the reports of local deacons, local preachers and local deaconesses.

Officers, Boards, Committees, and Auxiliaries

(20) To elect, when authorised by the local church conference (270:3), three members of a nominating committee to serve as set forth in 361 - 362.

(21) To elect each year an auditing committee (363); all Sunday School officers except the director, and all departmental supervisors and teachers (376, 378) and other church positions as are necessary.

(22) To review each local auxiliary's nominating committee's report of nominees for leaders of the auxiliaries by approving, substituting, or adding to the nominations before the presentation of the nominees to the annual business meetings of the auxiliaries (1018:5; 1017:2).

(23) To organise and give final approval of all actions of boards or empower to so any boards and committees that are needed such as: building committee, finance committee, evangelism committee, auditing committee, etc.

(24) To fill all vacancies by a majority vote of the local board of administration occurring in those offices elected by the local church conference, between annual sessions, and all vacancies occurring in offices elected by the local board of administration; and to provide for the filling of vacancies in the auxiliaries as it thinks best (1018:7).

Property and Finance

(25) To give direction to the local board of trustees concerning the maintenance of church property and legal matters connected with the church, in keeping with the requirements of local laws (1101), and The Discipline (1122).

(26) To make a financial plan for the church, and to direct the church treasurer how the church money should be spent through the development and implementation of an annual budget (352:1). Guidelines for church finances shall be:

(a) All special offerings which the church may desire to give shall be in addition to its annual budget. All monies collected in excess of the annual budget and special offerings shall be used as deemed necessary by the church board.

(b) Financial records shall be audited annually and a written report of the audit forwarded to the District Office.

(c) Local churches may not open bank accounts without authority from their District Board of Administration.

(d) A church that does not pay its district support for the current conference year, and which has money remaining in its local treasury, shall be required to pay the balance (or as much as possible) of its district support for the current conference year from their local church treasury. Such debts shall not be accumulated beyond one financial year.

(e) Any local church who fails to pay one hundred percent of their support will not be allowed to have their delegates vote in the district conference.

331. As the organised church matures and develops, it will move from Stage 1 to Stage 2 to Stage 3. The duties and power of the local board of administration shall vary according to the stage of development of the church. Its duties shall increase as the church matures.

332. The specific duties of the church board of a Stage 1 organised church are:

(1) To provide a place of worship, see that the place is kept clean and in good repair and ensure that all facilities are used in ways that maintain respect towards the house of God.

(2) To provide a place for their pastor to live.

(3) To encourage the local church to support all programmes promoted by the National Conference.

(4) To promote a programme of evangelism in the local church.

(5) To approve or disapprove candidates for membership into the church after examining them with the District Superintendent being present.

(6) To review its membership roll annually.

(7) To hear and settle all cases between Christians in the church (1221:1).

(8) To recommend to the District Board of Administration candidates for local preachers' license (330:19).

(9) To encourage the formation of the Women's Organisation (384), Men's Organisation (383), and the Youth Organisation (381).

333. When an organised church reaches Stage 2, its specified duties shall be those outlined in 332 and 207:1:b, 2, with the exception of electing its pastor and pastoral staff (270:2,11).

334. When an organised church reaches Stage 3, its specified duties shall be those outlined in 270.

Chapter VI

LOCAL CHURCH OFFICERS AND COMMITTEES

A. Officers

1. Church Secretary

351. The local church at its annual local church conference , shall elect a church secretary from among its covenant members. He/she shall be a member of the local board of administration (327). The duties and powers of the local church secretary shall be:

(1) To write the minutes of the local church conference meeting and the meetings of the local board of administration.

(2) To help the pastor keep the church record book up to date (304:26; 330:10), and to safely keep any records directed by the pastor and local board of administration.

(3) To write and sign with the pastor any letters which need to be sent by the church, and to give and sign with the pastor local church licenses given by the local church conference (304:14, 24).

(4) To immediately send to the district secretary a list of lay delegates to the District Conference elected by the local church conference (271).

(5) To report to the local church conference and to the local board of administration as required.

2. Church Treasurer

352. The local church at its annual local church conference , shall elect a church treasurer from among its covenant members. He/she shall be a member of the local board of administration (322:2). The duties and powers of the local church treasurer shall be:

(1) To receive, hold, and pay out all money of the local church, as ordered by the local church conference or the local board of administration.

(2) To help the pastor keep complete and accurate records of all money taken in and of the way in which they are paid out.

(3) To make monthly reports to the local board of administration and to make reports to all regular sessions of the local church conference about the finances of the church.

(4) To give his/her books for audit by the auditing committee at least once a year (363) as ordered by the local board of administration.

353. No local church money may be borrowed by an individual. The exception to this would be loans to church employees.

354. When a local church has not been authorised by the District Board of Administration to have its own bank account (482:25), funds from that church shall be banked with the district treasurer. Such money shall be immediately available to be used by the local church as decided by the local board of administration or advisory board.

355. Any church authorised by the District Board of Administration to have a banking account shall safeguard their account by requiring the signatures of two people on all cheques written against the account.

3. Board of Trustees

356. Election. The local church conference shall elect by ballot from among its covenant members a board of trustees, three to seven in number, one or more being elected at a given annual session for a term of three years, so that the terms of all shall not end at the same time, or they may be elected to serve until their successors are elected; provided that the manner and conditions of election may be altered to conform to the local laws. At least one of the trustees shall be designated annually by the local church conference as a member of the local board of administration (322:2).

357. Organisation and Procedure. The board of trustees shall meet following the annual session of the local church conference to elect a chairperson, vice-chairperson, and secretary, and shall meet at other times as ordered by the local board of administration or as made necessary by their duties.

358. Duties and Powers. The local board of trustees shall carry out their duties as required by The Discipline (207:2:c; 270:13) and shall be responsible:

(1) To carry out the instructions of the local church conference and the local board of administration in taking care of all church property (270:13; 330:2, 25).

(2) To supervise repairs and improvements that have been approved by the local church conference or the local board of administration.

(3) To take care of all legal matters related to the local church, as authorised and directed by the local church conference or the local board of administration.

(4) To make recommendations to the local board of administration concerning sufficient property and liability insurance on the property and for any vehicles owned and operated by the local church, and to carry out the instructions of the local board of administration in securing such insurance.

(5) To make such reports as are requested by the local church conference or the local board of administration.

359. Restrictions. The local board of trustees shall be subject to the following restrictions:

(1) The local board of trustees must carry out the instructions of the local board of administration, the local church conference, and the District Board of Administration. If a local trustee refuses to carry out such instructions when the instructions meet all the requirements of local laws and of The Discipline, he/she may be removed from office (1124).

(2) The local board of trustees cannot deny the use of the parsonage, church building, or other local church buildings, to the pastor who has been appointed by the District Conference or District Board of Administration.

(3) The local board of trustees cannot divert church property from The Pilgrim Wesleyan Church (1126).

(4) When a church is reclassified as a preaching point (208:2), the office and power of the local board of trustees shall cease, and all property shall pass directly under the control of the District Board of Administration.

B. Committees

360. The local board of administration may create committees, which shall be under its authority, according to the needs of the local church conference, from the covenant members of the local church, including the following:

1. Nominating Committee

361. Each organised church may have a nominating committee consisting of the pastor as chairperson and three members elected by the local board of administration from its membership (330:20). The local church conference may, at its option, elect three additional members (270:3).

362. When a nominating committee has been established, it shall present to the local church conference, at its annual session, nominations for each of the following officers: local church secretary, local church treasurer, the Sunday School Director, one or more trustees (269:8), and delegates to the District Conference. Two or more names shall be presented for each office as is possible (323). The nominating committee may be used for other nominations as ordered by the local church conference, or as ordered by the local board of administration for positions elected by the board.

2. Auditing Committee

363. The local board of administration shall, at the time of its annual election for positions other than church officers (269:18), elect an auditing committee of one to three persons, who shall audit the books of the local church treasurer and of all departmental and auxiliary treasurers, certify the results to the local board of administration, sign approval on the records, make any necessary recommendations to the pastor and the local board of administration, and make a report to the local church conference at its annual session prior to the election of the local church treasurer (352).

3. Committee on Finance and Stewardship

364. The local board of administration may establish a committee on finance and stewardship, composed of the pastor, the local church treasurer, the chairperson of the board of trustees, and such other members as the local board of administration shall elect. The local board of administration shall name a board member as chairperson of the committee, and the committee shall choose its own vice-chairperson and secretary.

365. The local board of administration shall assign such duties to the committee on finance and stewardship as it views best, including any or all of the following:

(1) To study the financial needs and programmes of the church and of its various departments and auxiliaries, and to make recommendations to the local board of administration concerning all financial matters, including financial policies and salary schedules, the annual budget, the erection, of buildings, the purchase of major items of equipment, and remodeling programmes.

(2) To promote the understanding and practice of total stewardship and the tithing plan (177).

(3) To promote the raising of the National Budget, other National church offerings, and such support as the district shall require.

4. Judicial Committees

366. The local board of administration shall elect, when it views it necessary and in accord with the regulations of the Judiciary, a committee of investigation (1207) or a local judicial committee (1222). Complete regulations concerning the qualifications, procedures, and duties of such committees are given in 1221, 1222.

Chapter VII

DEPARTMENTS AND AUXILIARIES

A. Sunday School

1. Function

371. Each local church shall maintain a Sunday School as the basic agency for the study of the Bible on the local level.

2. Administration

372. General. The Sunday School shall be governed by the local church conference and the local board of administration under the general supervision of the pastor and the immediate administration of the director and the Sunday School committee. They shall carry out their assignment in keeping with The Discipline, and as approved by the National Board of Administration.

373. Sunday School Director. The local church conference, at its annual session, shall elect by ballot, from among its covenant members, a Sunday School director (270:4). He/she shall be a member of the local board of administration (322:2) unless the local church conference by prior action has voted to eliminate the Sunday School Director as an ex-officio member of the local board of administration. The duties and powers of the Sunday School Director shall be:

- (1) To have supervision of the Sunday School.
- (2) To consult with the pastor and the Sunday School committee on all major decisions.
- (3) To promote interest in and attendance in the Sunday School.
- (4) To have immediate supervision of each session of the Sunday School, seeing that each department and class has the necessary leaders and that order is maintained.
- (5) To counsel with the teachers about their work.
- (6) To conduct the assembly periods, unless such are assigned to departmental supervisors, and to maintain variety and interest in the assembly periods.
- (7) To make a full report of statistics and general information to the local board of administration quarterly, to the local church conference at each regular session.

374. Sunday School Secretary. The local board of administration shall elect, at the time of its annual election (330:21), a Sunday School secretary. He/she shall keep complete and correct minutes of all sessions of the Sunday School committee, maintain complete records of enrollment, attendance, absentees, visitors, and such other items as shall be required, and assist the pastor and the Sunday School director in the preparation of reports involving Sunday School statistics. The Sunday School committee shall appoint such assistants as the Sunday School secretary shall require.

375. Sunday School Treasurer. The local board of administration may, at the time of its annual election (330:21), elect a Sunday School

treasurer. Sunday School funds received may be kept by the local church treasurer as part of a common treasury or may be kept separate in an account under the authority of the Sunday School committee. If there is a separate Sunday School treasurer elected, he/she shall receive and pay out the Sunday School funds as ordered by the Sunday School committee. He/she shall report, as required, concerning all receipts and expenditures to the Sunday School committee and the local board of administration.

376. Sunday School Departmental Supervisors. The local board of administration shall, at the time of its annual election, elect a supervisor for each department (330:21). The departmental supervisor shall assist the Sunday School director, being responsible for the general operation of the department including the assembly period of the department, and the immediate supervision of each session of the department. The Sunday School committee shall appoint such other departmental officers as may be needed.

377. Sunday School Committee. The immediate administration of the Sunday School will be the duty of the Sunday School committee, subject to the approval of and correlated with the plans of the local board of administration. It shall be composed of the Sunday School director as chairperson, the pastor (or if the pastor prefers, the associate or assistant pastor), secretary (who shall serve as secretary of the committee), treasurer, and the departmental supervisors.

378. Sunday School Teachers. The local board of administration shall, at the time of its annual election (330:21), elect any Sunday School teachers and assistants that are needed, to serve for one year or until their successors are elected.

379. Amenability. All regulation concerning the amenability, removal, and filling of vacancies for Sunday School officers, departmental supervisors, and teachers are under the local board of administration. All others appointed by the Sunday School committee are amenable to the Sunday School committee and can be replaced as it sees fit.

380. Extension Department. The Sunday School committee may recommend, and the local board of administration may establish an extension department of the Sunday School, for the operation of a class or classes in places other than at church, or at other times than the Sunday session, for groups who cannot attend the Sunday sessions.

B. Pilgrim Wesleyan Youth

381. Each local church may, whenever possible, maintain a local chapter of Pilgrim Wesleyan Youth, the denominational auxiliary organising youth and young adults from ages 12 to 30 inclusive, for the development of Christian character, training, service, and fellowship. Complete regulations for the organisation of Pilgrim Wesleyan Youth are given in 1003 and 1013 - 1020.

C. Junior Youth

382. Each local church may, whenever possible, maintain a local chapter of Junior Youth, the denominational programme of training activity, and fellowship for children and youth, ages 6 to 12. The local JY shall be conducted in keeping with The Discipline and the regulations adopted by the National Board of Administration and promoted through the National Youth Auxiliary.

D. Pilgrim Wesleyan Men

383. Each local church may, whenever possible, may maintain a chapter of Pilgrim Wesleyan Men, the denominational auxiliary organising men for soul-winning, service, stewardship, and fellowship. Complete regulations for the organisation of Pilgrim Wesleyan Men are given in 1003 and 1013 - 1020.

E. Pilgrim Wesleyan Women's Organisation

384. Each local church may, whenever possible, maintain a local chapter of Pilgrim Wesleyan Women's Organisation, the denominational auxiliary organising women for missionary promotion, education, support, and fellowship. Complete regulations for the organisation of the Pilgrim Wesleyan Women's Organisation are given in 1003 and 1013 - 1020.

F. Pilgrim Wesleyan Children In Missions Organisation

385. Each local church may maintain a local Pilgrim Wesleyan Children In Missions Organisation, the denominational auxiliary of the Pilgrim Wesleyan Women's Organisation organising children thirteen years of age and younger for missionary education and support.

G. Evangelism And Missions Committee

386. Each local church may maintain a local Evangelism and Missions committee to assist in promoting interest in soul-winning and evangelism in all of its forms and phases, and in promoting the interests of general evangelism and missions.

PART III

DISTRICT CHURCH GOVERNMENT

Chapter I

DISTRICT ORGANISATION

A. Definition

401. A district is a specified geographical area created by the authority of the National Conference, within which the churches, ministers, and members of The Pilgrim Wesleyan Church of Zambia are organised according to The Discipline and are under its governing authority.

B. Outreach area

402. **Purpose.** New work, or other work which does not meet the requirements for a pioneer district (403), shall be provided for by designating it an outreach area.

C. Pioneer District

403. A new work or other work which does not meet the requirements for a mission district, shall be provided by establishing a pioneer district.

404. Authorisation. A pioneer district shall be under the authority of the National Director of Evangelism, Church Growth, and Crosscultural Ministries and shall be organised and administered by the National Director of Evangelism, Church Growth, and Crosscultural Ministries in accord with The Discipline, the Policy of the National Board of Administration or its Executive Committee (652). The National Director of Evangelism, Church Growth, and Crosscultural Ministries shall be responsible for developing the work as rapidly as possible, in harmony with the missionary objectives of The Pilgrim Wesleyan Church to the status of a mission district (407).

405. Organisation. The superintendent, other officers, and assigned workers shall be appointed by the National Board of Administration or its Executive Committee for which recommendations shall be submitted by the National Director of Evangelism, Church Growth, and Crosscultural Ministries (724:4).

406. National Conference Representation. The pioneer district shall be represented at the National Conference by the District Superintendent and a lay delegate appointed on his/her behalf. They shall be appointed by the National Board of Administration (651:24) or its Executive Committee for which recommendation shall be submitted by the National Director of Evangelism, Church Growth, and Crosscultural Ministries (742:9).

D. Mission District

1. Authorisation

407. Authorisation. A mission district is created by the National Conference, upon recommendation of the National Board of Administration, or, between National Conference sessions, by the National Board of Administration, subject to the approval of the next National Conference. The authorising act shall define the boundaries of the mission district and assign to it an official name. Any proposed boundaries that will alter the existing bounds of an established district in between National Conference sessions must have the approval of that district (413).

408. Requirements. The minimum requirements for a mission district are:

(1) A minimum of five fully organised churches and 200 covenant members.

(2) A sufficient number(at least two) of ordained ministers for the creation of a District Board of Administration.

(3) The holding of all property in trust for The Pilgrim Wesleyan Church, or steps taken to accomplish the same.

(4) A recommendation by the National Superintendent for recognition as a mission district.

2. Organisation and Government

409. A mission district shall be under the authority of the National Board of Administration, and shall be supervised by the National Superintendent in accord with The Discipline, and any directives of the National Board of Administration or its Executive Committee (652). The National Superintendent shall be responsible for the developing of a

mission district to meet the requirements of an established district as soon as possible (694:24).

410. Organisation. A mission district shall be organised in the same manner as an organised district as set forth in The Discipline, insofar as possible, but with the following restrictions on its duties and powers:

(1) **District Superintendent.** The District Superintendent of a mission district shall be elected by the District Conference (557:1). The National Board of Administration may, however, at its discretion, present two or more nominations, from which the District Conference shall elect the District Superintendent. The mission District Superintendent shall confer with the National Superintendent concerning the important plans of the district, including the location of property, the erection of buildings, and financial matters.

(2) **District Officers, Boards, and Committees.** A mission district shall first be concerned with the election of its district officials (551:1) and District Board of Administration (472). Other district departmental officers, boards, and committees shall be established as qualified personnel are available. It shall be the goal of the officials of a mission district, in cooperation with the National Superintendent (694:24), to meet the requirements for a complete district organisation as soon as possible (cf.441).

(3) **Appointments.** The appointment of pastors and evangelists for a mission district shall be subject to the approval of the National Board of Administration.

(4) **Amenability.** The minutes of a mission District Conference and its District Board of Administration shall be reviewed by the National Superintendent and shall be subject to the approval of the National Board of Administration or its Executive Committee.

3. National Conference Representation

411. Each mission district shall be represented at the National Conference by the District Superintendent and an elected lay delegate; plus one ministerial and one lay delegate for the first two hundred covenant members, and an additional ministerial and lay delegate for every additional two hundred covenant members or major fraction thereof (602:1:c).

4. Reclassification

412. Whenever a mission district falls below the minimum requirements in 408, it may be reclassified as a pioneer district by the National Conference (623:9), or, in the interim of its sessions, by the National Board of Administration, subject to review and approval of the National Conference at its next session.

E. Established District

1. Authorisation

413. An established district is created by the National Conference (623:9), upon recommendation by the National Board of Administration, or, in the interim of National Conference sessions, may be created by the

DISTRICT ORGANISATION

National Board of Administration, subject to the approval of the next National Conference. The authorising act shall define the boundaries of the district and assign to it an official name.

414. The minimum requirements for an established district are:

- (1) Twelve fully organised churches.
- (2) Five hundred covenant members
- (3) The holding of all property in trust for The Pilgrim Wesleyan Church, or steps taken to accomplish the same (1125).
- (4) A reasonable degree of spiritual, organisational, and financial stability.
- (5) A recommendation by the National Board of Administration in concurrence with the National Superintendent (694:16).

2. Organising Conference

415. When an established district has been authorised (413), an organising session of the District Conference shall be convened by the National Superintendent. The presiding officer shall declare it to be an established district of The Pilgrim Wesleyan Church, vested with all the authority and power as properly belong to it according to The Discipline. After this has been declared, the District Conference shall proceed to do business and elect its officials.

3. Reclassification

416. If a district no longer meets the requirements for an established district (408), it may be reclassified as a mission district by the National Conference (623:9), or the National Board of Administration (651).

4. Amenability

417. An established district is amenable to the National Board of Administration. It may be placed under discipline for cause as set forth in the Judiciary (1252:4).

5. National Conference Representation

418. Each established district shall be represented at the National Conference by the District Superintendent and an elected lay delegate; plus one ministerial and one lay delegate for the first two hundred covenant members, and an additional ministerial and lay delegate for every additional two hundred covenant members or major fraction thereof (602:1:c).

F. Interdistrict Cooperation

419. Two or more neighbouring districts may unite their resources and personnel in cooperative programmes in such matters as church extension, camp meeting or camping programmes, an exchange of ministers, or Christian education. Such a cooperative programme shall be administered by an interdistrict board or committee composed of members from each of the involved districts. The plan for a cooperative effort shall be worked out with the National Superintendent and the district boards of administration involved.

G. Merger or Realignment of Districts

420. The National Conference shall have the authority to approve the merger or division of districts, or the realignment of any district boundaries. Negotiations for such a merger, division, or realignment of districts shall be under the supervision of the Executive Committee of the National Board of Administration (659:5).

421. Whenever each District Conference involved in a merger, division, or other realignment of districts shall approve the proposed plan, the National Board of Administration shall have the authority to grant approval in the interim of National Conference sessions (651:33).

422. All actions regarding the merger or realignment of districts shall be subject to final approval by the National Board of Administration.

Chapter II

DISTRICT CONFERENCE

A. Function

441. A District Conference is the chief governing body of a district, exercising such powers as are delegated to it in the Constitution and by the National Conference as set forth in The Discipline of The Pilgrim Wesleyan Church of Zambia.

B. Membership

1. Plan of Representation

442. The District Conference shall be composed of ministerial and lay voting members, and other nonvoting members as listed below.

a. Voting Members

- (1) All ordained ministers who are either stationed or retired.
- (2) All licensed ministers, licensed deaconesses, commissioned deaconesses, and supply pastors appointed to pastoral charges, except for students in ministerial training.
- (3) Lay delegates elected by organised churches at the rate of one delegate for the first fifty covenant members or less and one additional delegate for each additional fifty covenant members or major fraction thereof (271).
- (4) All members of the District Board of Administration who are not voting members by some other right.
- (5) Ministerial students under pastoral charge while in ministerial training.
- (6) The district auxiliary leaders of Pilgrim Wesleyan Men, Pilgrim Wesleyan Women, and Pilgrim Wesleyan Youth.
- (7) The district director of education, the district TEE director, the director of evangelism, church growth, and crosscultural Ministries.
- (8) The appointed district missionary

b. Nonvoting Members

443. The nonvoting members of the District Conference, with a voice but without a vote, are:

- (1) Ordained ministers in process of transfer (971:8).
- (2) Licensed ministers or licensed deaconesses who are not on the stationing list (971:7).
- (3) Commissioned deaconesses not appointed to pastoral charges (971:7).
- (4) Supply pastors not appointed to pastoral charges (971:7).

(5) Ministerial students from the district not appointed to pastoral charges while in school (911).

(6) Delegates(non-ordained ministerial and lay) from churches who did not pay 100% of their district budget by the end of the fiscal year into the office of the district treasurer (330:26:e).

2. Forfeiture of Representation

444. A local church which is under discipline as provided for in the Judiciary shall forfeit all rights to representation by a lay delegate in the District Conference (1240:3).

3. The Election of Lay Delegates

445. Election. The delegates to the District Conference shall be elected at the annual session of the local church conference, by ballot, and a majority vote of those covenant members present and voting. A person who accepts election as a delegate obligates himself/herself to attend faithfully the entire District Conference session unless hindered by unforeseen and justifiable circumstances. The local church secretary shall promptly forward a certified list of the elected delegates to the district secretary.

446. Alternate Delegates. A sufficient number of alternate lay delegates having the same qualifications (271) shall be elected in the same manner and at the same session as the delegates (271), and shall fill any vacancies in the order of their election. Whenever an alternate delegate is required to serve, the local church secretary shall also certify his/her appointment to the district secretary.

447. Qualifications. A lay delegate must be a covenant member and in good standing of the local church he/she represents, both at the time of election and at the time of the District Conference.

C. Sessions

448. Annual Session. The District Conference shall meet annually at a place of its own choosing and at a time as decided upon by the National Board of Administration in cooperation with the District Board of Administration and the National Superintendent (694:14). The District Conference may, by vote, refer the decision concerning the place to the District Board of Administration. The district secretary shall notify in writing all ministerial voting members and local churches of the time and the place not less than sixty days before the scheduled opening.

449. Reconvened Session. The District Conference may be reconvened at any time during the year by a two-thirds majority vote of the District Board of Administration and the approval of the Executive Committee of the National Board of Administration (659:8). The district secretary shall notify in writing all ministerial voting members and local churches of the time, place, and purpose of the reconvened session (563:8).

D. Organisation and Procedure

1. Officers

450. The Chairperson. The National Superintendent or his/her representative shall chair the District Conference. When the National Superintendent or his/her representative is unable to attend the District

Superintendent shall chair the meeting. The District Superintendent shall also serve as vicechairpeson of the District Conference (559:4).

451. The Secretary. The district secretary shall be the secretary of the District Conference. He/she shall accurately record the proceedings and preserve them in permanent form as prescribed by The Discipline (482:11; 563:1), and perform any other duties as shall be required of him/her by the District Conference.

2. Procedure

452. Quorum. A majority of all the voting delegates (ministerial and lay) (442:a:1-7) shall constitute a quorum for the transaction of business.

453. Rules of Order. District Conference business shall be conducted according to the parliamentary procedure in Robert's Rules of Order except when otherwise ordered by The Discipline. The District Conference business shall be published in due time in a District Conference Journal.

454. Resolutions. Resolutions may be submitted to the District Conference by a local church conference, the District Board of Administration, the annual district convention of Pilgrim Wesleyan Men, the Pilgrim Wesleyan Women, Pilgrim Wesleyan Youth, a district board or committee concerning the work assigned to it, or any three voting members of the District Conference with their signatures. The District Board of Administration may act as a resolutions committee. Resolutions shall be presented to this committee at least one week before the convening of the conference.

456. All resolutions that would change The Discipline must go to the National Conference for consideration (621). Anyone authorised to submit a resolution may also submit such an item.

457. Procedure. All resolutions shall be submitted as directed by the District Conference and within a time limit as set by the District Conference (454). The appropriate District Conference committee (454) shall be responsible to review each resolution as to its origin (454), clarity, relationship to The Discipline and other existing legislation of the National Conference or District Conference, and shall report them to the District Conference with their recommendations. A properly submitted resolution cannot be withheld from the conference body by a committee unless withdrawn by its authors or declared out of order by the chairperson of the District Conference as contravening The Discipline. The committee chairperson shall present any resolutions in question to the District Conference chairperson for a ruling before presenting them on the conference floor.

E. Duties and Powers

458. The duties and powers of the District Conference are:

Relating to The Discipline

(1) To propose an amendment to the Constitution, by a two-thirds vote, to be submitted to the National Conference (622; 623:1).

(2) To propose an amendment to the Statutory Law sections of The Discipline by a majority vote, to be submitted to the National Conference (139:2).

Relating to the National Conference

(3) To elect delegates to the National Conference as assigned by the National Board of Administration (602:1:c,d,e).

(4) To review all standing rules of the district and bring them into harmony with The Discipline as currently revised and amended, and with other National Conference legislation that relates to the district (623:2,5,7-9).

Relating to the District Conference

(5) To receive a report concerning the interests and progress of the denomination from the National Superintendent.

(6) To authorise, if desired, a District Conference resolutions committee (502).

(7) To authorise, if desired, a District Conference nominating committee (504).

Relating to District Administration

(8) To take charge of all ministers, commissioned and licensed deaconesses, preaching points, organised churches, auxiliaries (1022 - 1028), and other district work within its bounds, except when the district is under discipline, and except for those members of the district who are elected as National officials (671:2), missionaries appointed under the National Department of Missions and others who are amenable only to the National Board of Administration for their official duties (674).

(9) To receive a report concerning their official duties from the following: the District Superintendent (559:22), the assistant District Superintendent (561:6), and the district missionary, and the district treasurer (565:4); and any others whose duties are related to The Pilgrim Wesleyan Church of Zambia, as desired by the District Conference.

(10) To receive reports for other district boards, committees, auxiliary organisations, and institutions related to the church; to establish a format for the District Conference Journal (453).

(11) To consider the numerical and financial progress of the district by receiving a complete statistical and financial report prepared and submitted by the district statistical committee (511:1) and the auditing committee.

(12) To take such actions and adopt such rules as it shall judge necessary to promote the interests and growth of The Pilgrim Wesleyan Church of Zambia.

(13) To adopt financial plans which will provide for the support of the district work, and for the payment of the district obligation to the National treasury.

(14) To set the minimum salary to be paid a full time pastor.

(15) To set the salaries, allowances, and other related matters for the district officials and other workers paid by the district through the District Board of Administration.

(16) To create, if so desired, a camp meeting board and define its duties, or to delegate this to the District Board of Administration.

(17) To authorise any legal steps necessary for holding of district and local church property in the name and under the authority of The Pilgrim Wesleyan Church of Zambia.

Relating to Churches, Ministers

(18) To authorise the establishment of a preaching point (204), an organised church, Stage 1, 2, or 3 (207), the reclassification of an organised church as to its stage or reclassification as a preaching point (208:1,2), to declare a church as discontinued or abandoned, and to hear a report from the District Superintendent of the organisation of new churches (559:11).

(19) To approve the stationing of all ordained ministers, licensed ministers, licensed deaconesses, commissioned deaconesses and lay supply pastors as recommended by the District Board of Administration.

(20) To set the date for pastoral changes within the district (295).

(21) To elect for ordination a candidate the District Conference judges is qualified (925:5), after receiving a report from the district board of ministerial development (523:4) which shall be acted upon as a separate item of business.

(22) To grant a license, commission, recognition, or restoration, in keeping with the requirements of The Discipline, after receiving the report and recommendations from the district board of ministerial development (523), as follows:

(a) To grant recognition as ordained minister in process of transfer to an ordained minister being received from another denomination (523:2), and a recognition as an ordained minister of The Pilgrim Wesleyan Church in full standing when all requirements have been met (523:1,4).

(b) To grant district ministerial license or district deaconess's license which shall become effective when the candidate shall receive appointment as set forth in 971:3 (52:5).

(c) To grant recognition as a ministerial student for those so qualified (523:5).

(d) To grant commissioned deaconess, a licensed minister or licensed deaconess (523:2), or a recognition of a commissioned deaconess or licensed minister or deaconess in process of transfer from another denomination, and subsequent recognition of full standing when all requirements have been met (cf. 917).

(e) Any other license or commission as shall be authorised by The Discipline.

(f) The restoration to full standing those who are qualified after receiving the report of the district board of ministerial development (523:5).

(23) To receive and submit to the National Office a written annual service report, through the district board of ministerial development as set forth in 523:7-9, from each ordained minister, commissioned deaconess, licensed minister, and licensed deaconess. It shall receive an explanation from each person whose report has been found unsatisfactory, and to vote on the continuation of such person for appointment, which shall require a two-thirds vote of confidence for approval (523:9).

**Relating to the Election of
Officials and Committees**

(24) To elect, by ballot and majority vote, an ordained minister to the office of District Superintendent for a term of one year. Reelection thereafter shall be for a term of two years (557:2).

(25) To elect, by ballot and by majority vote, an ordained minister as assistant District Superintendent (560).

(26) To elect, by ballot and by majority vote, a district secretary (562), a district treasurer (564), and members-at-large of the District Board of Administration (472).

(27) To elect, for a term of four years, the members required to fill vacancies on the district board of ministerial development (521). The ordained ministers of this board are the council of ordination (516).

(28) To elect (507) two or more members for the district auditing committee; to elect (509) one or more members of the district building committee, or to delegate the election of this committee to the District Board of Administration (509); to elect (510) members, in such number as desired, for the district statistical committee (510); to elect members to the district board of trustees in such numbers as it desires (517).

(29) To elect, (566) a district director of evangelism, church growth, and crosscultural ministries (566), and at least two members at large for the district board of evangelism, church growth, and crosscultural ministries (513).

(30) To elect, if desired, a district director of Christian education (527) to authorise the District Board of Administration to fill this position (527).

(31) To elect members-at-large for the district board of Christian education (527).

(32) To exercise judicial powers according to the provisions of the judiciary.

Chapter III

DISTRICT BOARD OF ADMINISTRATION

A. Function

471. The District Board of Administration carries out the will of the District Conference, promotes the interests of The Pilgrim Wesleyan Church of Zambia within the district, and serves as the chief governing body of the district in between District Conference sessions.

B. Membership

472. Members. The District Board of Administration is made up of the District Superintendent, the assistant District Superintendent, the district secretary, the district treasurer, the district director of evangelism, church growth and cross-cultural ministries, the district women's organisation leader, the district men's organisation leader, the district youth organisation leader, the district christian education director, the district missionary, church institutional heads who are covenant church members, appointed by the district board to members of the district board and members-at-large according to the size of the district:

(1) When a district has thirty organised churches or less, the District Conference shall elect at least three members-at-large to the District Board of Administration, making a total of not less than twelve members.

(2) When a district has more than thirty organised churches, but less than fifty, the District Conference shall elect at least five members-at-large to the District Board of Administration, making a total board of not less than fourteen members.

(3) When a district has fifty or more organised churches, the District Conference shall elect at least seven members-at-large to the District Board of Administration, making a total of not less than sixteen members.

473. Regulations for a Member-at-Large. Each member-at-large of a District Board of Administration shall be a covenant member of a local Pilgrim Wesleyan church within the district which he/she serves, both at the time of election and throughout the time he/she serves. The term of office shall be for one year, and he/she shall serve from the close of the District Conference at which he/she is elected until the close of the next regular session of the District Conference. The filling of a vacancy of a member-at-large position shall be by a two-thirds majority vote of the District Board of Administration.

474. Amenability. The District Board of Administration is amenable to the District Conference and to the National Board of Administration.

C. Meetings

475. Organising Meeting. The District Board of Administration shall meet immediately after the close of the District Conference for an organising session:

(1) To care for any business delegated to it by the District Conference which requires immediate attention.

(2) To elect those departmental officers and members of boards or committees, and to elect or ratify the election of those officers of auxiliaries, whose terms expire at the time of the district board's organising session (475).

(3) To determine the boundaries of the zones as given in 482:9.

(4) To make plans for the year and to care for any other business as deemed necessary.

476. Regular Meetings. The District Board of Administration shall meet at least four times a year on dates announced within 30 days of the close of conference.

477. Special Meetings. The District Board of Administration may be called for special meetings by the District Superintendent or National Superintendent when he/she feels it is necessary. All members shall be notified at least one week in advance of a special meeting, unless all members are able to meet on shorter notice.

D. Organisation and Procedures

478. Chairperson. The District Superintendent shall preside as chairperson over the District Board of Administration. The assistant District Superintendent shall preside in the absence of the District Superintendent, or when requested to do so by the District Superintendent. If neither is present, the board shall elect from among its members a temporary chairperson.

479. Secretary. The district secretary is the secretary of the District Board of Administration by virtue of his/her office.

480. Quorum. A majority of all members of the board shall be a quorum.

481. Voting. A majority vote of those present and voting shall be sufficient except for those matters for which a larger majority is required by The Discipline or for legal requirements.

E. Duties and Powers

482. The duties and powers of the District Board of Administration are:

General Duties

(1) To serve as the chief governing body of the district in between District Conference sessions, caring for all the interests of The Pilgrim Wesleyan Church of Zambia.

(2) To promote the interests of The Pilgrim Wesleyan Church of Zambia through cooperation with the other districts and with the National church programmes and policies.

(3) To take a special interest and responsibility for developing, supervising, and promoting an active programme of church extension and evangelism.

Related to the District Conference

DISTRICT BOARD OF ADMINISTRATION

(4) To carry out the plans and objectives of the District Conference.

(5) To cooperate with the National Board of Administration in fixing the date for the annual session of the District Conference (651:36) and to call for a reconvened session of the District Conference subject to the approval of the Executive Committee of the National Board of Administration (659:8).

(6) To submit resolutions to the District Conference that will provide for a more efficient administration, better correlation, and advancement of the district work, and to submit proposed resolutions for the National Conference for adoption (621).

(7) To serve the District Conference as a committee on pastoral relations, ministerial appointments, and stationing, subject to the approval of the District Conference. This shall be done after review and approval of recommendations from the district board of ministerial development and shall include ordination, licensing, and the restoration of ministers or deaconesses when appropriate (523).

**Duties Relating to District
Officers, Committees, and Societies**

(8) To have the general oversight of all district officials (551:1), district department officers (551:2), boards, committees, employees, auxiliaries of the district; to approve their plans and to coordinate their work; and to see that the work is administered according to The Discipline and the directives of the District Conference (458).

(9) To divide the district into zones which shall be the same for all district organisations (475:3).

(10) To cooperate fully with both the District Conference and the National Conference in order to properly and legally hold and manage all property in the name of and under the authority of The Pilgrim Wesleyan Church of Zambia.

(11) To provide for the preservation and security of all district records.

(12) To employ an auditor when so authorised by the District Conference and to assign his/her duties (507); to direct an audit of the records and funds in the custody of the district treasurer, the district treasurers of the auxiliaries, or any other treasurers of the district, whenever such is necessary.

(13) To elect district departmental officers and members of the district boards or committees as required by The Discipline or as given by the District Conference (458:27-31).

(14) To elect (566) from among its members, one to serve as director of the district committee of evangelism, church growth, and crosscultural ministries (566).

(15) To appoint a District TEE Director in consultation with the National TEE programme director (532).

(16) To approve and coordinate all plans of the district board of evangelism, church growth, and crosscultural ministries (512), the district board of Christian education (524), and the theological education by extension programme.

(17) To approve, alter, or add to the nominations submitted by the nominating committee of Pilgrim Wesleyan Men, Pilgrim Wesleyan Women, and Pilgrim Wesleyan Youth, and to ratify the election of all officers and committees (1026:1,2; 1025:3).

(18) To approve the time and place of the district conventions of Pilgrim Wesleyan Men, Pilgrim Wesleyan Women, and Pilgrim Wesleyan Youth, to approve all plans of the respective auxiliaries, and to fill all vacancies (1026:6).

(19) To request a ruling on a point of church law or an interpretation of The Discipline from the National Board of Administration and to appeal the same to the General Board of Administration when necessary.

(20) To remove for cause or whenever the best interests of the Church and the district so require by a two-thirds majority vote of all its members, any of its own members, any member of a board, committee, officer of an auxiliary organisation, or an employee of the district (554).

Related to Churches and Ministers

(21) To organise and supervise all pastoral charges of the district in accord with The Discipline and other district directives so that each one may be an effective unit of The Pilgrim Wesleyan Church of Zambia.

(22) To authorise the establishment of a preaching point (204), and an organised church, Stage 1, 2, or 3 (207:1:a-c), and to receive a report from the District Superintendent about it (559:1,6,22); to reclassify an organised church as to its stage or to a preaching point when its number of covenant members drops to twelve or fewer (208:1,2); and to recommend that the District Conference declare a church as discontinued or abandoned (458:18).

(23) To review the actions of the local advisory council or church board if so authorised, of each preaching point (204).

(24) To approve all pastoral assignments in between District Conference sessions.

(25) To approve in writing the proposal of a local church conference for the acquisition, purchase, sale, mortgage, transfer, or other disposal of real property, after first receiving a written report and recommendation from the district board of trustees (517); to approve in writing the establishment of a bank account for a local church (354).

(26) To grant temporary recognition (cf. 458:22) to ordained ministers, licensed ministers, licensed or commissioned deaconesses, or persons with equivalent standing, from other denominations, as being in process of transfer, subject to the action of the next District Conference.

(27) To consider and pass on the proposed resignation by, or to remove a pastor by a two-thirds majority vote (329).

(28) To take charge of any complaints or accusations against a local church within the district and to carry out disciplinary proceedings as deemed necessary in accord with the Judiciary (1231:4, 1233); to intervene and protect the property rights of The Pilgrim Wesleyan Church

and the district; and to authorise the District Superintendent to call for an affirmation of loyalty and to reorganise a local church as set forth in 1241.

(29) To take charge of judicial proceedings, the ordering of investigation (1233) or trial, for any ordained minister, licensed minister, commissioned or licensed deaconess, or other worker under the jurisdiction of the district (1231), in accord with the provisions of the Judiciary (1231 ff.).

(30) To review and approve applications for equivalency credits for the academic requirements for ordination (984; cf. 985) as recommended by the district board of ministerial development (520) which are to be submitted to the National Committee on Christian Education for evaluation (731). The application must conform to the specifics required in 985.

**Related to Missionaries of the
North American General Conference**

(31) To work with missionaries within the district by advising and cooperating with them. To advise the National Board of Administration and Mission Council of Zambia, making sure that missionaries are assigned to those tasks that will be in the best interest of the district and will best promote the growth of the church.

F. Executive Committee

483. A District Board of Administration with nine or more members may establish an executive committee which shall consist of the District Superintendent, the assistant District Superintendent, the district missionary, the district secretary, and the district treasurer. Additional members may be elected at the discretion of the District Board of Administration. The executive committee may act for the District Board of Administration as that board shall authorise.

Chapter IV

DISTRICT BOARDS AND COMMITTEES

A. District Committees

501. The District Conference shall have such committees as are required by The Discipline, and may create and define the duties of such other committees as are necessary.

1. District Conference Resolutions Committee

502. A District Conference may establish a District Conference resolutions committee (458:6), or the District Board of Administration may carry out the functions of this committee. It shall consist of the District Superintendent, the district treasurer, and from three to nine other members elected by the conference with due consideration for lay representation (136). The District Superintendent shall be the chairperson or shall appoint another to serve in his/her place, and the committee shall elect a secretary and other officers as necessary. The chairperson shall convene the committee at least fifteen days before the scheduled opening of the District Conference and at other times as deemed necessary.

503. The duties of the District Conference resolutions committee are:

(1) To receive all resolutions for the District Conference, to review them, and to report them to the District Conference with the committee's recommendations and in such order as the committee shall determine (458:10).

(2) To conduct and report on any research or investigation regarding the merits of proposed district legislation as requested by the District Conference or District Board of Administration, or as seen as necessary by the committee.

(3) To review the standing rules of the district in order to make recommendations to the District Conference concerning the alignment of rules with National Conference legislation, and concerning any other necessary amendments (458:2).

(4) To provide, if possible, all delegates to the District Conference with copies of resolutions, properly classified, at least ten days before the opening of the District Conference.

2. District Conference Nominating Committee

504. Each district may have a District Conference nominating committee consisting of the District Superintendent as chairperson, and four additional members. Two of these four shall be appointed from the District Board of Administration by the District Board of Administration. The remaining two shall be elected by the annual District Conference (458:7). Members of the nominating committee, except for the incumbent District Superintendent, shall not succeed themselves. The committee shall organize itself and elect a vice-chairperson and a secretary. It shall meet as called by the chairperson at a time as will provide for careful and thorough work before the District Conference. The District Conference shall also have the right to make nominations from the floor.

505. The duties of this committee are:

(1) To present nominations for the district secretary, district treasurer, and elected delegate/s to the National Conference.

(2) To present nominations for each of the following in accord with the requirements and regulations for each as set forth in The Discipline, and in keeping with the provisions of The Discipline, the District Conference resolutions committee (504), the district auditing committee (507), the district building committee (509), the district statistical committee (510), the district board of ministerial development (520), the district director of evangelism, church growth, and crosscultural ministries (566), the district board of Christian education (524), and the district board of review (519).

(3) To present any other nominations as shall be requested by the District Conference.

3. The District Conference Journal Committee

506. The District Conference journal shall contain the complete and accurate record of the proceedings of the District Conference, prepared by the district secretary who may co-opt two other persons and shall have the duty:

(1) To have it certified by the District Board of Administration.
(2) To arrange the journal as far as possible according to the table of contents and general format approved by the National Board of Administration.

(3) To see that it contains a complete directory for the district as set forth in 563:7.

(4) To have two copies of the journal forwarded to the National Superintendent, one of which will be directed by him/her to the General Director of World Missions.

4. District Auditing Committee

507. The District Conference shall provide for the auditing of all financial records and funds by the election of a district auditing committee, or by directing the District Board of Administration to employ an accountant for that purpose (508; 582:12). The district auditing committee shall be a standing committee and shall consist of two or more persons elected for a term of one year by the District Conference (458:28). The duties of the auditing committee are:

(1) To audit annually, after the close of the district fiscal year, and before the financial reports are presented to a District Conference or convention, the records and funds of the district treasurer (564), and any other treasurer of a district board, committee, or auxiliary having custody of district funds; and to perform such audits at other times as may be requested by the District Board of Administration.

(2) To submit a written report to the District Conference and to each of the district conventions of the auxiliaries concerning the results of the audit. A financial report may not be accepted as approved by any official body until certified as correct by the auditing committee or employed auditor.

(3) To perform such other duties as may be required by the District Conference or the District Board of Administration.

508. The District Conference may direct the District Board of Administration to employ an accountant to perform any part or all of the duties assigned to the district auditing committee, in which case the auditor's report shall be given to the District Conference by the district secretary.

5. District Building Committee

509. There shall be a district building committee elected by the District Conference (458:28), unless the District Conference shall delegate the election to the District Board of Administration. The committee shall consist of the District Superintendent as chairperson, and one or more ordained ministers as desired with an equal number of laymen. The elected members should be persons who are capable and experienced in property transactions and the construction of buildings. The duties of the district building committee are:

(1) To investigate the proposed sites for local church buildings, parsonages, or other units, in order to determine that such properties are properly located in the community to be served and big enough for future expansion; to consider also the plans and requirements of any city planning authority; to consider also the financial plans and liabilities involved; to review the proposal of the local church and to report its findings and recommendations in writing both to the District Board of Administration and the local church (482:25; 270:13).

(2) To consider the proposal of a local church (270:13) for the construction of a local church building, parsonage, educational unit, or the remodeling of such buildings when it amounts to ten percent or more of the value of the building; to advise them in detail concerning the architectural plans; to consider carefully the financial liability and the plans of the local church for meeting such liabilities; and to report its findings and recommendations in writing to the local church and the District Board of Administration (482:25; 270:13).

6. District Statistical Committee

510. Each District Conference shall elect a district statistical committee of the desired number (458:28), or the District Conference may delegate this responsibility to the District Board of Administration. General regulations for the membership of this committee are given in 511.

511. The duties of the district statistical committee are:

(1) To receive, on behalf of the District Conference, complete annual statistical and financial reports from such persons, units, and agencies as the District or National Board of Administration shall designate, and to annually compile and submit to the District Conference a comprehensive statistical and financial report for the district as a whole.

(2) To report to the District Board of Administration the name of each person who fails to submit his/her report in the proper manner and at the appointed time.

7. District Committee for Evangelism, Church Growth, and Crosscultural Ministries

512. **Function.** The District Board of Administration shall serve as or the District Conference shall establish a district committee for

evangelism, church growth, and crosscultural ministries to aid the District Superintendent and the District Board of Administration in developing, supervising, and promoting a programme of district evangelism, church growth, and crosscultural ministry (559:2; 482:3).

513. Membership. If a separate district committee of evangelism, church growth, and crosscultural ministry is established, it shall have as its chairperson the director of evangelism, church growth, and crosscultural ministries. In addition to the chairperson, the committee shall consist of two or more ordained ministers and an equal number of laymen elected by the District Board of Administration who are especially concerned and qualified for this phase of the church's mission. The term of office for the elected members shall be for two years, with the election so arranged that approximately one-half shall be elected each year. Other than the chairperson, the committee shall elect its own officers. General regulations governing the members of this board are set forth in 515.

514. Sessions. The district committee for evangelism, church growth, and crosscultural ministries shall meet soon after the close of the District Conference to make plans for the year and shall meet for regular sessions as it shall decide or the District Board of Administration shall order. Special sessions may be called by the chairperson as needed.

515. Duties. The duties of the district committee for evangelism, church growth, and crosscultural ministries shall be:

(1) To study potential fields for district extension work and report on and make recommendations to the District Board of Administration concerning the same.

(2) To stimulate interest in district evangelism and church growth throughout the district to help raise the funds needed for the district church growth programme and National crosscultural ministries.

(3) To make recommendations to the District Board of Administration concerning the establishment of a pioneer, mission, or established district.

(4) To assume direct supervision of the district church growth programme or a specific church growth project to the extent delegated by the District Board of Administration.

(5) To assist the District Superintendent in planning and conducting special services in the interests of world missions at the District Conference or campmeeting; to arrange for promotional displays and the distribution of literature at district or zone meetings.

(6) To perform other duties as may be required by the District Board of Administration in the interest of district evangelism, church growth, and crosscultural Ministries.

8. Council of Ordination

516. Each district shall provide for a Council of Ordination to assist the National Superintendent (694:28), or, in his/her absence, the District Superintendent (559:18), in carrying out the will of the District Conference for the ordination of ministers (458:22:a) and the commissioning of deaconesses (458:22:d). The Council of Ordination shall consist of the ordained ministers of the district board of ministerial

development (520). The Council of Ordination will be responsible to plan the ordination service.

B. District Standing Boards

1. District Board of Trustees

517. The District Conference of each district shall take steps, if not already legally established, to register The Pilgrim Wesleyan Church of Zambia in compliance with any local laws or customs, so that property and corporate structures have legal protection and are under the authority of The Pilgrim Wesleyan Church of Zambia National Conference. In places where local laws require property to be held by trustees, the District Conference shall elect from among the members of the District Board of Administration the members of the district board of trustees in such number as desired (458:28). The district trustees shall hold office until their term expires as members of the District Board of Administration or until their successors are elected and qualified. The district board of trustees shall be amenable to the District Board of Administration (482:8). A district trustee may be removed from office by a two-thirds majority vote of all the members of the District Board of Administration whenever it is thought necessary for the best interests of The Pilgrim Wesleyan Church of Zambia and the district or whenever a trustee shall refuse to carry out the directions of the District Board of Administration, except when such directions are contrary to local laws or to The Discipline (1124). The office of a district trustee may also become vacant by death, cessation of membership in The Pilgrim Wesleyan Church, or cessation of membership on the District Board of Administration. A vacancy on the district board of trustees shall be filled for the unexpired term by a majority vote of all the members of the District Board of Administration (472).

518. The district board of trustees shall administer its duties in accord with The Discipline , and as directed by the District Board of Administration. Its duties are:

(1) To hold all district property, and such local property as may be held by the district (458:17), in trust for The Pilgrim Wesleyan Church of Zambia.

(2) To attend to all legal matters pertaining to the district transactions for the purchase, sale, encumbrance, transfer, or other disposal of property, as ordered by the District Board of Administration.

(3) To fulfill such other duties as pertain to their office as trustees and as may be assigned to them by the District Board of Administration.

2. District Board of Review

519. Each organised district shall have a district board of review, which shall consist of three ordained ministers and two laymen elected annually by the District Conference (1234). Two ordained ministers and two laymen shall also be elected at the same time to serve as alternates and to fill vacancies in the order of their election (1234). The district board of review serves as an appellate body for lay members and local churches and has original jurisdiction over charges or complaints proffered against local churches. The duties and powers of the district board of review are set forth in the Judiciary (1235). General regulations governing the members of the district board of review are set forth in 1234.

3. District Board of Ministerial Development

520. Function. There shall be a district board of ministerial development which shall be responsible for the examination and recommendation to the District Conference of all candidates for ordination, license, commission, ministerial study, restoration, or transfer from another denomination.

521. Membership. The board shall consist of the District Superintendent as chairperson, the assistant District Superintendent, and six additional members, three shall be ordained ministers, three shall be laymen; nominations shall be presented by the nomination committee. The term of office for the elected members shall be for four years, with the election so arranged that two (one layman and one minister) will be elected each year.

522. Sessions. The board shall be convened by the chairperson in sufficient time before the opening of the District Conference to enable the board to complete its work in a careful and thorough manner, and shall meet at other times as deemed necessary upon the call of the chairperson. The district board of ministerial development, as early as possible after the date of the District Conference has been fixed, shall appoint the time for all candidates to meet with the board, subject to the approval of the District Board of Administration (482:8).

523. Duties. The duties of the district board of ministerial development shall be:

**Related to Ordination, Commissions,
Licenses, and Ministerial Students**

(1) To examine carefully (926:4) each candidate for ordination (925) or commissioned deaconess (947), the granting of a district ministerial license (920), district deaconess's license (942), a license as a ministerial student (911), and any other license as may be authorised by The Discipline. The examination shall include an interview with each candidate, making such investigation as is thought necessary to determine the individual's:

(a) Personal experience of salvation and entire sanctification;

(b) Full commitment to the Articles of Religion, Membership Commitments, Elementary Principles, and policies of The Pilgrim Wesleyan Church of Zambia, and acceptance of its authority;

(c) Evidence of having the qualifications for the ministry to which the candidate feels called.

(d) Academic completion of required courses of study (cf. 983) as approved by the National Committee on Christian Education (731) or to recommend to the District Board of Administration candidates for equivalency credits (482:30) for evaluation by the National Committee on Christian Education (cf. 731).

(2) To examine any person who desires to be received into the district from another denomination, and to be recognised as an ordained minister, commissioned deaconess, licensed minister, or licensed deaconess (cf. 919).

DISTRICT BOARDS AND COMMITTEES

(3) To consider and examine any person applying for restoration of ordained minister's status, commissioned deaconess, or license as minister or deaconess (cf. 955).

(4) To present to the District Conference, as a separate report, a recommendation for the election of a candidate to ordination as an ordained minister (458:21).

(5) To present to the District Conference a combined report of all other recommendations concerning the commissioning, licensing, recognition, or restoration of ministers, and deaconesses, and the licensing of ministerial students (458:22:b-f).

(6) To serve, with the exception of the lay members, as a council of ordination (516); and to perform such other duties as may be assigned by the District Conference.

Related to the Annual Service Reports

(7) To receive, on behalf of the District Conference, a written annual service report (304:30; 458:23) from each ordained minister, commissioned deaconess, licensed minister, and licensed deaconess; to review such reports and pass on each one as follows:

(a) A report which shows that the work has been done according to The Discipline and that the annual statistical report (304:30; 511:1) has been properly submitted shall be marked as approved and returned to the person submitting it (cf. 919).

(b) A report in which there are unsatisfactory answers, or which shows that the work has not been done according to The Discipline, or that the annual statistical report (304:30; 511:1) has not been properly submitted, shall be reviewed with the person submitting the report. If reasons for such irregularities are not satisfactory to the district board of ministerial development, the report shall be marked as unsatisfactory and returned to the person submitting it (cf. 919).

(8) To investigate the reason for the failure to submit an annual service report on the part of those persons required to do so (458:23), and to take appropriate action as set forth in 458:23.

(9) To present a report to the District Conference concerning the results of the examination of the annual service reports, listing all members of the district responsible to submit such reports as to whether their reports were approved, unsatisfactory, or not received. A person whose annual service report has been found unsatisfactory (458:23) shall report to the District Conference why he/she has failed, and it shall require a two-thirds vote of confidence by the District Conference to approve such a person for continued appointment.

Related to Appointments and District Conference Relations

(10) To submit a report to the District Board of Administration concerning the availability for appointment, any desired changes in appointment or District Conference relations, as recorded on the annual service reports.

4. District Board of Christian Education

Membership and Duties

524. Purpose. The district board of Christian education shall be responsible to develop, supervise, correlate, and promote a programme of Christian education throughout the district.

525. Departments. The following are departments of responsibility for the board of Christian education.

- (1) Local Church Lay training programmes
- (2) Sunday School
- (3) Periodicals and Literature
- (4) TEE
- (5) Auxiliaries (as they relate to Christian education)

526. Membership. The board of Christian education shall consist of nine members, four of whom shall be elected by the District Conference. The members of the board shall be as follow:

- (1) Director of Christian Education
- (2) Assistant District Superintendent
- (3) District Director of TEE
- (4-6) Leaders of District Auxiliaries
- (7-9) Members-at-large

527. Election of the Members. The director of Christian education shall be appointed by the District Board of Administration according to qualification in Christian Education, whilst the director of the Sunday School, and the members-at-large are to be elected by the District Conference, or by the District Board of Administration if so authorised by the District Conference. The district director of TEE will also be appointed by the District Board of Administration at its organising session. The auxiliary leaders will be elected by their respective groups and shall serve, with the assistant District Superintendent, by virtue of their office.

528. Sessions. The district board of Christian education shall meet soon after the close of the District Conference to make plans for the year and shall meet for regular sessions as it shall determine, provided that not less than three sessions shall be held each year. Special sessions may be called by the chairperson as deemed necessary. The chairperson shall be the District Superintendent or his Assistant or any other Board member elected at the first meeting.

529. Amenability. The district board of Christian education shall be an advisory and coordinating body, and shall be amenable to the District Board of Administration. All plans of the board shall be approved by the District Board of Administration (482:16), or, in between its sessions, by the District Superintendent, before their implementation.

530. Duties. The duties and powers of the district board of Christian education are:

(1) To develop, supervise, and coordinate the work of Christian education within the district through its departments and auxiliary organisations.

(2) To receive reports from the various department directors for which the board is responsible and to coordinate, formulate, and implement their plans and programmes as approved by the District Board of Administration.

(3) To advise and assist the department directors and auxiliary leaders in implementing the plans and programmes of the National departments which they represent within the district.

(4) To be responsible for the planning and supervision of the camps for children and youth; to submit detailed plans for such camps to the District Board of Administration for their approval; and to carry out the approved plans.

(5) To promote the interests of the educational institutions of The Pilgrim Wesleyan Church of Zambia.

(6) To present recommendations to the District Board of Administration and to the District Conference for the growth of the work through the various ministries of Christian education, and for the financial plans and other interests of the work under their care.

(7) To be responsible for securing all necessary materials for Christian Education needs in the district.

(8) To perform such other duties related to Christian education as are assigned by the District Conference or the District Board of Administration.

Department Directors

District Director of Christian Education

531. District Director of Christian Education. The Christian Education Director shall be appointed by the District Board of Administration according to qualifications in Christian Education. The duties of a district director of Christian education shall be:

(1) To serve as chairperson of the district board of Christian education helping to coordinate the total programme of Christian education within the district, and serving as a resource person in advising and assisting the directors and leaders of the departments and auxiliaries.

(2) To assume the duty of coordinating and prompting local church Christian education in the following areas: Sunday School, TEE, literature, discipling, ministerial continuing education, Sunday School teacher training, lay leadership training, and other programmes which may be assigned by the District Board of Administration or the National Board of Administration.

(3) To submit an annual report to the District Conference regarding the accomplishments of each department directly under the board of Christian education.

District Director of TEE

532. District Director of TEE. The District TEE Director is to be appointed by the District Board of Administration (482:15) in consultation with the National TEE Programme Director.

533. Qualifications: He/she shall have completed the TEE teacher's training course successfully. He/she shall have taken at least seven TEE books, have experience as a pastor, and have administrative skills (cf. 291:15).

534. His/Her duties are:

- (1) Promotion: To promote the use of TEE within the district.
- (2) Starting New TEE Groups: To help establish new TEE study groups in the district after obtaining the agreement of local church leaders.
- (3) District TEE Teachers' Training Seminars: The District TEE director is to work in conjunction with the National TEE Programme Director in setting up TEE teacher's training seminars in the district. These seminars should be scheduled once a year.
- (4) Visiting Local TEE Study Centres: To visit the local TEE centres once or twice annually. During the visit the director is not to do the teaching, but to be an observer only, and a fellow participant in the class. The director is to give support, advice and encouragement to the local TEE class leader.
- (5) Registration: To hold records of all TEE groups in the district.
- (6) Presentation of Certificates: To present to TEE students TEE certificates which are received from the office of the National TEE Programme Director.
- (7) TEE Group Leading: To regularly lead at least one local TEE study group.

Chapter V

DISTRICT OFFICIALS

A. Regulations Governing District Officials

551. Identification.

(1) The district officials include the District Superintendent, the assistant District Superintendent, the district secretary, and the district treasurer.

(2) Department Directors and Auxiliary Leaders including district director of evangelism, church growth, and crosscultural ministries; district director of Christian education; district director of Sunday School; district director of TEE; auxiliary leader of Pilgrim Wesleyan Men; auxiliary leader of Pilgrim Wesleyan Women Organisation; auxiliary leader of Pilgrim Wesleyan Youth; district standing committee and board members.

552. Qualifications. A district official other than the District Superintendent (cf. 557) must be, at the time of election and throughout his/her term of service, a covenant member of a local Pilgrim Wesleyan church within the district, and, if a minister, a ministerial member of the district he/she serves and in active service for the Pilgrim Wesleyan Church of Zambia (cf. 971).

553. Term of Office. District officials other than the District Superintendent (cf. 557), trustees, and members of the district board of ministerial development, shall be elected for a term of one year. All district officials so elected shall assume office at the close of the conference session which elected them and which marks the end of their term or until their successors are elected and qualified.

554. Amenability. A district official shall administer his/her office according to The Discipline, and as directed by the National Conference, the National Board of Administration, the District Conference, and the District Board of Administration. District officials other than the District Superintendent shall serve under the general supervision of the District Superintendent, shall be amenable to the District Board of Administration, and may be removed for cause or when the best interests of The Pilgrim Wesleyan Church of Zambia and the district so require, upon a two-thirds majority vote of all members of the District Board of Administration. The amenability of the District Superintendent is set forth in 558.

555. Reports. A district official shall report to the District Conference concerning his/her official duties as required (458:9), and to the District Board of Administration as may be required of him, or to the board or committee which he/she serves, as required.

556. Vacancies. The office of a district official may become vacant by death, by cessation of membership in a local Pilgrim Wesleyan church within the district, by resignation, by removal (1239:4), or in the case of a minister, by ceasing to be a ministerial member of the district in active service for The Pilgrim Wesleyan Church of Zambia. In all cases other than that of the District Superintendent (557:3), the filling of a vacancy in the office of a district official on the District Board of Administration until the next session of the District Conference shall be by a two-thirds majority vote of all members of the District Board of

Administration (472). All other vacancies may be filled for the unexpired term by a majority vote.

B. District Superintendent

557. Regulations. The District Superintendent is to be the spiritual and administrative leader of the district. The regulations for a District Superintendent are:

(1) **Election.** The District Superintendent shall be elected by the District Conference, by ballot and by majority vote, from among the ordained ministers of The Pilgrim Wesleyan Church of Zambia (458:24).

(2) **Term of Office.** The first election of a District Superintendent shall be for a term of one year. Reelection after that shall be for a term of two years (cf. 458:24). The salary of a District Superintendent shall continue for one month beyond the date for the termination of service.

(3) **Vacancy.** Whenever the office of superintendent is vacated (556), the assistant District Superintendent shall become the District Superintendent and serve until the next session of the District Conference or until a successor shall be elected and qualified (458:24). Whenever a vacancy occurs in both the offices of the District Superintendent and the assistant District Superintendent, the National Superintendent is authorised to convene the District Board of Administration to fill the vacancies as set forth in 556.

558. Amenability. The District Superintendent is amenable, as provided in 554, to the National Board of Administration for his/her official duties and to the District Conference for both his/her official duties and moral character. He/she may be removed from office by the National Board of Administration, by a two-thirds majority vote of all its members, for cause or whenever the National Board finds it necessary for the best interests of the Church and the preservation of the district (554).

559. Duties. The District Superintendent shall administer his/her office in accord with The Discipline and any other official directives from the National Conference, the National Board of Administration, the District Conference, and the District Board of Administration. His/her duties are:

National

(1) To have the oversight of the Churches and pastors within the district.

(2) To give special attention to beginning and promoting programmes for evangelism and church growth, as approved by the District Conference or the District Board of Administration (458:12; 482:3).

(3) To carry on a spiritual ministry, teaching the people concerning the doctrines, purposes, interests and programmes of The Pilgrim Wesleyan Church of Zambia.

District Administration

(4) Ex Officio Duties. The District Superintendent is a member of the National Conference (602:1:d), vice-chairperson of the District Conference (450), chairperson of the District Board of Administration

(478), chairperson of the district board of ministerial development (521); chairperson of the district building committee (509), member and chairperson of the District Conference resolutions committee (502), chairperson of the District Conference nominating committee (504), and an ex officio member of the district conventions and the district executive committees of Pilgrim Wesleyan Men, Pilgrim Wesleyan Women Organisation, and Pilgrim Wesleyan Youth (1025:2).

(5) To submit recommendations to the District Board of Administration that will provide for a more efficient administration, correlation, and advancement of the district work.

(6) To exercise administrative supervision over all district officials, departmental officers, boards (cf. 501), committees, auxiliaries, (cf. 1022), preaching points, organised churches, ministers, deaconesses, and other workers (cf. 911) of the district with the exception of those who are amenable only to the National Board of Administration for their official duties (674), and to see that the plans and policies of the National church are carried out.

(7) To meet with any district board, committee, auxiliary, or other district agency at his/her discretion, and make such recommendations as he/she deems advisable; and to counsel with the various officers, directors, employees, and others serving the district concerning their work.

(8) To examine all legal papers for property acquired by local churches or the district and to approve them as to their conformity with the requirements of The Discipline. To have the custody, under the direction of the District Board of Administration, of property and legal records for both the district and the local churches (Cf. 458:17).

Local Churches

(9) To visit, or to appoint the assistant District Superintendent or other representative to visit, each church in the district at least once a year, making careful inquiry into the progress and administration of the church and seeking to advance its spiritual life.

(10) To investigate carefully concerning the support of pastors and to advise and encourage the local churches to provide for their adequate support.

(11) To recommend that the District Board of Administration authorise the establishment of a preaching point (204), an organised church, Stage 1, 2, or 3 (207:1:a-c), the reclassification of the stage of an organised church (208:1); the reclassification of a Stage 1 organised church to preaching point (208:2); and to preside over the organisation of a church or appoint a representative to do so, and to report the organisation of new churches to the District Board of Administration and to the District Conference (209).

(12) To arrange the date for the annual local church conference, to preside over a local church conference whenever present (264), to convene a local board of administration or a local church conference in times of emergency and preside over the same (324).

(13) To counsel with a local board of administration for the securing of a pastor (330:12), providing it with a list of names of those ministers available for a call, and to carry out the provisions of The Discipline concerning the renewal of a call, the review and termination

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of an extended call, the resignation and release of a pastor from the pastoral agreement, and other matters pertaining to pastoral relations for the pastoral charges under his/her care (330:13).

(14) To approve the transfer of any ordained minister, commissioned deaconess, licensed minister, or licensed deaconess from another district, in consultation with the National Superintendent (694:29), and, when objecting to such a transfer, to state his/her reasons.

(15) To recommend the removal of a pastor to the District Board of Administration, whenever the best interests of the church involved demand it, and to recommend to the District Board of Administration the appointment of a supply pastor, if necessary, until another pastor has been obtained (300 - 301).

(16) To perform all the functions of a pastor for a local church within the district when such church is without a pastor, or to recommend to the District Board of Administration the appointment of a supply pastor until the local church obtains a pastor (917).

(17) To approve the employment of an evangelist or workers of another denomination for revivals or other meetings by a local church or any district organisation, and, when objecting to such employment, to state his/her reasons (330:16).

(18) To conduct the ritual of ordination except when the National Superintendent is present; to sign with the district secretary ordination certificates, commissioned deaconess's certificate, and ministerial or deaconess's licenses, or other official form required by virtue of his/her office.

(19) To receive statistical reports from each church prepared by the pastor.

(20) To coordinate and conduct seminars and workshops in the district relative to local church development.

Missionaries

(21) To give advice to individual missionaries and to evaluate their work to see that it is in the best interest of the district, as well as to act as administrative consultant to the Mission Director of the Wesleyan Mission of Zambia, making sure that the plans and programmes of the mission are coordinated with those of the district.

Reports

(22) To report annually to the District Conference concerning his/her official duties and personal ministry (458:9), and to submit other reports to the National Board of Administration or its Executive Committee and the District Board of Administration as required.

Judicial

(23) To receive any complaint or accusation against any pastor, church worker, church member, or local church under the jurisdiction of the district (1233), and to give it his/her prompt and careful attention as required in the Judiciary (1231:4; 1233), and to refer any matter requiring official investigation or judicial proceedings to the District Board of Administration (482:28, 29).

C. Assistant District Superintendent

560. The assistant District Superintendent shall be elected, by ballot and by majority vote, by the District Conference from among the ordained ministers of the district. His/her qualifications, term of office, amenability, and other regulations are those of a district official as set forth in 552 ff.

561. The duties of the assistant District Superintendent are:

(1) To serve as member and vice-chairperson of the District Board of Administration, presiding over the board whenever the District Superintendent is not present or appoints him/her to do so (478).

(2) To convene the District Board of Administration in times of emergency when the District Superintendent is not able to act.

(3) To serve as member of the district board of ministerial development (521), and a member of district board of Christian education.

(4) To assist the District Superintendent and to serve as his/her representative to local churches or district organisations as the superintendent may request.

(5) To perform such other duties as may be required of him/her by the District Conference or the District Board of Administration.

(6) To report annually to the District Conference concerning his/her official duties (458:9), and to the District Board of Administration as required.

(7) To become District Superintendent in the event of a vacancy in that office (557:3).

D. District Secretary

562. The district secretary shall be elected by the District Conference by ballot and by majority vote (458:26). His/her qualifications, term of office, amenability, and other regulations are those of a district official as defined in 552 ff.

563. The duties of the district secretary are:

(1) To be the secretary of the District Conference, recording accurately and completely the proceedings of each session and preserving them in permanent form (451; 482:11).

(2) To serve as a member and as the secretary of the District Board of Administration (479), recording accurately and completely the proceedings of each session and preserving them in permanent form, forwarding a copy of the minutes of each session to each member of the board and to the National Superintendent.

(3) To issue official notices and communications from the District Conference and from the District Board of Administration; and to keep permanent copies of all correspondence, reports, and other records.

(4) To write and sign all certificates, licenses, and other official forms as properly authorised by the district and as prescribed for a district secretary by the National Conference or National Superintendent.

(5) To put in order and send to the National Superintendent statistical and financial reports of the District Conference as may be required by the National and general church, a copy of each resolution adopted for presentation to the National Board of Administration.

(6) To take care of the official district records, except as otherwise provided for in The Discipline. To coordinate all work on the District Conference Journal.

(7) To maintain a complete and up to date district directory, listing the district officials, each district board or committee with the names of its members and officers, the district departmental officers, the names and addresses of each ordained minister, commissioned deaconess, licensed minister, licensed deaconess and ministerial student, the address of each preaching point, organised church, and parsonage within the bounds of the district (cf. 458:18).

(8) To notify all churches and ministerial members of the district of the time and place of the next regular session of the District Conference at least thirty days in advance (448), and to notify them of any reconvened sessions as directed by the District Board of Administration (449).

(9) To perform such other duties as may be required by the District Conference or the District Board of Administration and as pertain to his/her office.

E. District Treasurer

564. The district treasurer shall be elected by the District Conference, by ballot and by majority vote (458:26). The election of the treasurer shall not take place until after the adoption of the audited report of the district treasurer for the previous year. His/her qualifications, term of office, amenability, and other regulations are those of a district official as defined in 552 ff.

565. The duties of a district treasurer are:

(1) To serve as a member of the District Board of Administration (472), and as a member of the District Conference resolutions committee (502).

(2) To have custody of all district funds, to receive, record, hold, and pay out funds in keeping with the financial plans of the National Conference and the District Conference and as directed by the District Board of Administration.

(3) To submit all records and funds for an annual audit, after the close of the fiscal year, as provided for in _____, and at any other time as may be requested by the District Board of Administration.

(4) To submit a complete financial report of all funds in his/her care to each regular session of the District Conference (458:9), to submit reports to the District Board of Administration (482:8), the District Superintendent, and the National Treasurer as they may require.

(5) To perform such other duties as may be required by the District Conference or the District Board of Administration and as pertain to his/her office.

F. District Director of Evangelism, Church Growth, and Crosscultural Ministries

566. A district director of evangelism, church growth, and crosscultural ministries shall be elected by the District Conference (458:29), and is chairperson of the district committee on evangelism, church growth, and crosscultural ministries (513). The term of office, amenability, and other requirements for him/her as a district departmental officer are set forth in 552 ff.

567. His/her duties are:

(1) To make a general plan of activities for the year and submit it for approval by the committee on evangelism, church growth, and crosscultural ministries and then to the District Board of Administration for final approval.

(2) To assist the District Superintendent in arranging for work within the district by representatives of the National Conference for church planting, evangelism, or crosscultural ministries.

(3) To assist the District Superintendent in planning and conducting special services in the interests of National or district evangelism, church growth, and crosscultural ministries at the various district meetings and conferences.

(4) To assist pastors in promoting evangelism, church growth, and crosscultural ministries in the local churches.

(5) To submit an annual report of his/her activities to the District Conference (458:9), including a financial report of his/her expenses and a report of what has been accomplished in the district for National and district evangelism, church growth, and crosscultural ministries, and to submit other reports as may be requested.

(6) To perform other duties in the interest of National and district evangelism, church growth, and crosscultural ministries, as may be required by the District Conference, the District Board of Administration, or the district committee on evangelism, church growth, and crosscultural ministries.

G. District Leader of Pilgrim Wesleyan Men

568. The district leader of Pilgrim Wesleyan Men (1026:1) is a voting member of the District Conference (442:6). He is a member of the district board of Christian education. He shall submit all plans for Pilgrim Wesleyan Men to the District Board of Administration for approval (482:8). In between District Board of Administration sessions, such plans shall be approved by the District Superintendent. He shall endeavor to guide the district activities of Pilgrim Wesleyan Men toward soul-winning, service, stewardship, and fellowship in a coordinated effort to forward the district programme.

H. District Leader of Pilgrim Wesleyan Women Organisation

569. The district leader of Pilgrim Wesleyan Women(1026:1) is a voting member of the District Conference(442:6). She is a member of the district board of Christian education. She shall submit all plans for Pilgrim Wesleyan Women Organisation to the District Board of Administration for approval (482:8). In between District Board of Administration sessions, such plans shall be approved by the District

Superintendent. She shall endeavor to guide the district activities of Pilgrim Wesleyan Women Organisation into soul-winning, evangelism, pioneer work, and concern for world outreach in a coordinated effort to forward the district programme.

I. District Leader of Pilgrim Wesleyan Youth

570. There may be a district leader of Pilgrim Wesleyan Youth (1026:1) who shall be a voting member of the District Conference (442:6). He/she is a member of the district board of Christian education. He/she shall coordinate all plans for WY with the district board of Christian education and submit them to the District Board of Administration for approval. In between District Board of Administration sessions, such plans shall be approved by the District Superintendent. He/she shall endeavor to guide the district activities of WY in accord with the purpose and mission of WY, and in a coordinated effort to forward the district programme of Christian education.

PART IV: NATIONAL CHURCH GOVERNMENT

Chapter I

NATIONAL CONFERENCE

A. Function

601. The National Conference is the supreme governing body of The Pilgrim Wesleyan Church of Zambia. The basic provisions, powers, and restrictions of this body are set forth in the Constitution (139).

B. Membership

1. Plan of Representation

602. The National Conference shall be composed of voting and nonvoting members as follows:

Voting Members

- (1) The voting members of the National Conference shall be:
 - (a) All National Board of Administration members(642:1-2).
 - (b) All ordained ministers who are members of The Pilgrim Wesleyan Church of Zambia.
 - (c) One ministerial and one lay delegate for each pioneer district for the first two hundred covenant members. There shall also be one ministerial and one lay delegate for each additional two hundred covenant members or part thereof.
 - (d) The District Superintendent of each established, mission and pioneer district, and an elected lay delegate at the same time and in the same manner as the other delegates (602:1:c).
 - (e) The district missionary of each established, mission, or pioneer district, and the mission director.
 - (f) The Principal and one other person from Pilgrim Wesleyan Bible College.

(g) National Superintendents Emeriti.

(h) Up to two delegates from each organised urban church that does not have district membership.

Nonvoting Members

(2) Other delegates as provided for by the National Board of Administration, when they are not voting members by some other right.

2. Forfeiture of Representation

603. A district which has been placed under discipline as provided for in the Judiciary (1212), and for non-payment of national support(651:18; 659:4), shall forfeit all rights to any representation in the National Conference. The delegates, including the District Superintendent and any delegate-at-large from that district, shall not be recognised or seated until the established district or mission district they represent is officially reinstated (1258).

3. Election of Delegates

a. Delegates

604. The delegates to the National Conference shall be elected by the District Conference, by ballot and by majority vote, at its last annual session preceding the National Conference. The statistical report for the annual session of the District Conference at which the delegates are elected shall be used for determining the number of covenant members, and consequently, the number of National Conference delegates (458:3). A certified list of all delegates to the National Conference shall be promptly forwarded by the district secretary to the National Secretary.

605. A person accepting election as a delegate obligates himself/herself to attend faithfully the entire National Conference session, unless hindered by unforeseen and justifiable circumstances.

b. Alternate Delegates

606. Each District Conference shall also at the same session (448) elect by ballot and by majority vote a sufficient number of alternate ministerial and lay delegates, not to exceed the number of delegates. Such alternates shall meet the same qualifications as the delegates (608-609) and shall fill vacancies in the order of their election.

607. Whenever the District Superintendent is unable to attend, his/her place shall be filled by the assistant District Superintendent. If the assistant District Superintendent is an elected delegate to the National Conference, his/her place shall then be filled like any other vacancy by an alternate ministerial delegate.

4. Qualifications of Delegates

a. Ministerial Delegates

608. A ministerial delegate must be an ordained minister, a licensed minister or licensed deaconess serving in an active capacity who is a member of the district he/she represents, both at the time of election and at the time of the National Conference.

b. Lay Delegates

609. A lay delegate must be a layman who is a covenant member of a local church in the district he/she represents, both at the time of election and at the time of the National Conference.

C. Sessions

1. Regular Sessions

610. The National Conference shall meet biennially (every two years) at a time and place selected by the National Board of Administration.

611. Whenever an emergency shall require a change in the plans of the National Conference for the time of the next regular session, the National Board of Administration may, by a two-thirds vote, declare that such an emergency exists and authorise the necessary changes (651:2).

2. Special Sessions

612. A special session of the National Conference shall be called by the National Superintendent (694:6) whenever authorised to do so by a two-thirds vote of the National Board of Administration. The time and place for the special session shall be decided by the National Board of Administration or by its Executive Committee. The time shall always be later than the next session of each District Conference.

613. Any properly called special session of the National Conference shall have full authority to transact any item of business which may be transacted at a regular session.

D. Organisation and Procedure

1. Officers

614. **The Chairperson.** The General Superintendent over the region shall preside over the National Conference if present. In his/her absence the General Director of World Missions (or his/her representative) shall preside. When neither the General Superintendent nor the General Director of World Missions or his/her representative is present, the National Superintendent shall preside. The National Superintendent shall be seated at the presiding table to assist in presiding over the conference.

615. **The Secretary.** The National Secretary shall be the secretary of the National Conference (699:1).

2. Procedure

616. **Delegates.** Once a delegate has been seated at the National Conference, an alternate delegate cannot thereafter be seated in his/her place (606).

617. **Quorum.** A majority of all the delegates shall constitute a quorum for the transaction of business.

618. **Rules of Order.** National Conference business shall be conducted according to the current edition of Robert's Rules of Order, Newly Revised, except when formally suspended by the National Conference or when other procedures are required by The Discipline (139:3).

619. Appeals on Questions of Order. The chairperson shall decide all questions of order, subject to an appeal to the National Conference. In case of such an appeal, the vote shall be taken without debate, except that the chairperson may state the grounds of his/her decision, and the appellant may state the grounds of his/her appeal.

620. Suspension of Rules. The National Conference may suspend for a particular session any statutory law set forth in The Discipline governing the procedures of the National Conference by a two-thirds majority vote.

3. Resolutions

621. Resolutions to the National Conference, including proposed changes in The Discipline other than the Constitution, may be submitted by a District Conference, a District Board of Administration, the Executive Committee of a pioneer area, the National Board of Administration, a National Conference Committee, the National Board of Educational Institutions or the board of management of a benevolent institution, the National Executive Committee of an auxiliary organisation, or any ten members of the National Conference.

622. Resolutions proposing an amendment to the Constitution may be submitted to the National Conference only by a District Conference (456) or the National Board of Administration (651:4), the Wesleyan World Fellowship, or the General Board of Administration through the General Department of World Missions.

4. Duties and Powers

623. The duties, powers, and restrictions of the National Conference set forth in the constitution (139:3), and as hereinafter provided are:

Related to the Constitution

(1) To propose an amendment to the Constitution by a two-thirds vote, said amendment to be presented to the General Department of World Missions for approval by the General Board of Administration, or by the Wesleyan World Fellowship as applicable.

General Legislation

(2) To have full power in keeping with the Constitution and by majority vote, and subject to the approval of the General Board of Administration, to enact statutory law and to adopt ritual for The Discipline, of The Pilgrim Wesleyan Church in Zambia, and to adopt other rules and regulations for the Church, all of which shall be the chief authority for The Pilgrim Wesleyan Church of Zambia and any or all of its component parts, including members, ministers, churches, districts, National officers and departments, official bodies, institutions, agencies, auxiliaries, and corporate bodies.

(3) To authorise a corporation to be formed and maintained for The Pilgrim Wesleyan Church in any country under its jurisdiction when directed to do so by the General Board of Administration, to facilitate the management of its legal and corporate affairs; and to approve its articles of incorporation and bylaws and any or all amendments thereto, by a two-thirds vote.

NATIONAL CONFERENCE

(4) To receive reports of the spiritual, numerical, and financial condition of The Pilgrim Wesleyan Church of Zambia, including reports concerning their official duties from the National officials and others designated by the National Conference (cf. 671).

(5) To adopt plans for the advancement of the Church in all phases of its ministry, including the financial plans for the National church.

(6) To define and approve the duties of the National officials.

(7) To organise the work in Zambia into districts and to determine their boundaries.

(8) To determine the dates for the fiscal year for the districts or to delegate this duty to the National Board of Administration if it so desires.

(9) To authorise the establishment of a pioneer, mission, or established district (404, 407, 413); to reclassify an established or mission district(416, 412).

(10) To authorise the establishment, merger, or dissolution of any educational or benevolent institution within the region; to define the purpose and adopt any regulations deemed necessary for the government of such institutions.

(11) To designate a criterion of parliamentary procedure for itself and other representative or official bodies of The Pilgrim Wesleyan Church of Zambia as desired (139:3).

Related to Elections

(12) To elect by ballot and by majority vote, from nominations presented by the nominating committee (747:1) a National Superintendent.

(13) To elect the National officials by ballot and by majority vote, from two or more nominees for each office presented by the nominating committee (747:2).

(14) To elect by majority vote from nominations presented by the nominating committee (747:3), five members to serve as members-at-large on the National Board of Administration.

(15) To appoint a layman and an ordained minister to the National Board of Educational Institutions.

(16) To elect, by ballot and by majority vote from nominations submitted by the nominating committee (747:4), four ordained ministers and three laymen as members of the Board of Review and three ordained ministers and two laymen as alternate members (747:4).

(17) To elect three members to the National Board of Trustees.

(18) To elect such further officials, committees, and boards as may be required by the National Conference or The Discipline ; to authorise national conventions of auxiliaries to elect members of national auxiliary executive committees..

Related to the Judiciary

(19) To place an established district under discipline for cause, as set forth in the Judiciary, and to authorise the National Board of Administration to appoint a National official to take charge of the district as provided for in the Constitution (139:5:e; 1251).

(20) To hear and determine appeals from decisions of the Board of Review, and to appeal such decisions to the General Board of Administration by a two-thirds majority vote (141, 142).

(21) To exercise authority in matters of judicial discipline as set forth in the Judiciary (1202:2; cf. 1205).

Chapter II

NATIONAL BOARD OF ADMINISTRATION

A. Function

641. The National Board of Administration carries out the will of the National Conference, promotes the interests of The Pilgrim Wesleyan Church, and serves as its chief governing body in the interim of National Conference sessions.

B. Membership

642. The National Board of Administration is composed of the following:

(1) **National Officials.** The National Superintendent, the assistant National Superintendent, the National Secretary, the National Treasurer, the Mission Director of The Wesleyan Mission of Zambia, the National Director of Evangelism, Church Growth, and Crosscultural Ministries, the National Director of Christian Education, the National Director of Educational Institutions, the National Women's Organisation Leader, the National Youth Organisation Leader, the Medical Administrator and the Principals of National ministerial training institutions, are members of the National Board of Administration by virtue of their office.

(2) **Members-at-large.** Five members-at-large (four Zambian, one missionary) shall be elected by the National Conference from the nominations submitted by the National Board of Administration to serve as members of the National Board of Administration. Whenever a vacancy occurs the National Board of Administration shall fill the vacancy by election on majority vote.

C. Sessions

643. Organising Session. The National Board of Administration shall meet immediately after the adjournment of the National Conference for an Organising session:

(1) To organise by electing officers and committees, as required by The Discipline, the National Conference, or the policies and bylaws of the National Board of Administration.

(2) To care for any business assigned to it by the National Conference which requires immediate attention.

(3) To appoint NBA members as required by the Discipline.

(4) To care for any other necessary business.

644. Regular Session. The National Board of Administration shall meet four times a year at a time and place designated by the National Board of Administration or as fixed in its bylaws. The Executive Committee may change the time and place of a National Board meeting by a two-thirds vote if circumstances so require (659:1). Notice of all sessions shall be sent in writing to all members at least two weeks in advance (cf. 699:2).

645. Special Session. A special session may be ordered by the Executive Committee (659:1). All members shall be notified at least 14 days before the convening of a special session (cf. 699:2).

D. Organisation and Procedure

646. The chairperson shall be the National Superintendent unless a General Superintendent or General Director of World Missions or his/her representative is present.

647. **Secretary.** The National Secretary is secretary of the National Board of Administration by virtue of his/her office (642:1).

648. **Quorum.** A majority of all the members of the National Board of Administration shall constitute a quorum.

649. **Voting.** A majority vote of those present and voting shall be sufficient except for those matters for which a larger majority is required by The Discipline , by legal or by corporate requirements.

650. **Standing Resolutions.** The National Board of Administration shall adopt its own bylaws and perfect all plans necessary for the performance of its own duties, in harmony with The Discipline and the instructions of the National Conference.

E. Duties and Powers

651. The National Board of Administration shall serve as the chief governing body of The Pilgrim Wesleyan Church in Zambia between National Conference sessions, caring for and promoting the general interests of the Church, with these specific duties and powers:

Related to National Conference

(1) To set the place at which the National Conference shall meet, and to set the hours for the sessions (610).

(2) To declare by a two-thirds vote that an emergency exists or that a situation exists requiring a change in the time of National Conference or a special session, and subsequently to alter the same (611;612).

(3) To serve as the National Conference Committee on resolutions, to receive all resolutions for the National Conference, classify them, take action on each of them, and submit such resolutions to the National Conference, together with the committee's recommendation, and in such order as the committee shall determine.

(4) To originate recommendations and resolutions to the National Conference, including proposed amendments to the Constitution (143).

(5) To care for any business delegated to the National Board of Administration through the General Department of World Missions.

Related to the National Board of Administration

(6) To fill, for the unexpired term, vacancies occurring among the National officials (676) or the members of the National Board of Administration, with the exception of the Mission Director who is appointed by the General Department of World Missions, by a two-thirds majority of the members of the National Board of Administration present and voting or by a majority of all the members of the National Board of Administration, whichever is greater (676), in such a manner as to fulfill all the requirements for such offices and positions (671:1,2).

(7) To refer such matters to the Executive Committee as shall be thought wise (659:1); to review such actions of the Executive Committee as are not final (659:7); and to receive and act upon its recommendations.

(8) To organise itself into committees, to direct their work, and to hear and act upon their recommendations.

(9) To prepare an annual budget of expense for submission to the Executive Committee for coordination with the other administrative offices.

Related to the Church in General

(10) To recommend to the National Conference all matters related to interdenominational relationships and cooperation; and, in the interim of National Conference sessions, to care for all such matters, appointing fraternal delegates and other representatives, and approving all interchurch or interagency relationships of the various National offices, departments, auxiliaries, and agencies.

Related to Legal Regulations

(11) To elect two members the National Board of Trustees which shall consist of five persons (three being elected by the National Conference) to serve in legal matters on behalf and under the authority of the National Board of Administration for The Pilgrim Wesleyan Church of Zambia. The chairperson of this board shall be elected from among the members of the National Board of Administration. This election shall be conducted two years prior to the National Conference and these members shall serve until two years prior to the next National Conference. If the chairperson is not elected to the National Board at the mid-term National Conference, he/she shall continue to serve as a member but will be replaced as Chair by a current NBA member appointed by the NBA.

(12) To give instructions to any Board of Trustees in regard to buying, owning, holding, managing, mortgaging, selling, conveying, donating, or otherwise acquiring, encumbering, and disposing of any National church property, whether real, personal, or mixed, in keeping with the trust provisions given in 730, and to provide for the proper care and maintenance of such property.

(13) To direct an annual audit, and at other times as necessary, of the accounts of all corporations, National departments, offices, agencies, auxiliaries, and institutions of the Church, and to take action required by the findings of such audit.

(14) To appoint a layman and an ordained minister to the National Board of Educational Institutions.

Related to National Officials and Departments

(15) To direct the National officials and those elected or employed by the National Board of Administration in their work, in keeping with the provisions of The Discipline (cf. 671:1-2), and assigning to them such special duties as shall be necessary (cf. 674); to receive reports annually and as needed from the National officials and others as The Discipline or the National Board of Administration shall require (675), and to review their work.

NATIONAL BOARD OF ADMINISTRATION

(16) To set the salaries and allowances of National officials (671:2), of those elected by the National Board of Administration, and of those employed by the National Board of Administration, and to approve personnel policies and salary and wage scales for all those employed by the National church.

(17) To adopt an annual budget for each of the National offices, departments, agencies, and auxiliaries, and to correlate all budgets and financial plans for the National church as recommended by the Executive Committee.

(18) To adopt official policies for the National departments, agencies, auxiliaries, and institutions of the Church, in keeping with the provisions of The Discipline, giving further definition of the duties of the various executive officers, regulating the administration of the work, and correlating each part with the whole.

(19) To receive, hold, and appropriate all National church funds, in accordance with the financial plans adopted by the National Conference and through the National Treasurer in the execution of its lawful purpose, subject to the limitations imposed by The Discipline.

(20) To appoint the National Director of Communications and to oversee the publishing operations of the Church, with sole authority to authorise publications, television or radio programmes, and to establish the policies which govern them.

(21) To assign, in the interim of National Conference sessions, fields of responsibility for the National committee of evangelism, church growth, and crosscultural ministries, authorising the entering of new fields, districts, or areas and the closing of old ones and to direct in its supervision of such fields, districts, and areas in keeping with the provisions of The Discipline.

(22) To take proper action upon the recommendation of the National committee of evangelism, church growth, and crosscultural ministries in the creation of a pioneer district or mission district (722:6).

(23) To elect the superintendent, other officers, and assigned workers in pioneer districts, nominees to mission District Conferences for District Superintendent when the National Board of Administration thinks it advisable (410:1), the pastors, evangelists, and other workers in a mission district, and to certify National evangelists (cf. 724:9).

(24) To act upon the appointment of candidates for missionary service recommended by the National Director of Evangelism, Church Growth, and Crosscultural Ministries (724:9).

(25) To authorise, in the interim of National Conference sessions, the establishment, merger, or dissolution of auxiliaries (1029 ff.); to adopt financial policies governing auxiliaries; to authorise handbooks; to supervise all auxiliary organisations at the national level (1004); to elect four persons to serve on the national auxiliary executive committees.

(26) To approve the time and place of the National PWWO, and PWY conventions and to approve all plans of the Executive Committees of the respective auxiliaries.

(27) To coordinate the total programme of ministerial training; to approve such theological schools/seminaries for the use of Pilgrim Wesleyan ministerial students as it judges to be sound doctrinally and

academically, and to approve courses of study (983) which will serve as the basis for the ministerial and lay worker training programmes, and which will also be available through correspondence courses, TEE, or other means; to approve materials for use in preparatory classes leading to baptism and church membership (222:3); to approve programmes of continuing education.

(28) To approve those who will serve the Sacraments (both ministerial and lay) who are not ordained; to approve procedures of acceptance of the same.

(29) To elect from nominations from the Committee on Christian Education a National TEE Programme Director.

(30) To adopt policies governing the establishment of elementary and secondary schools.

(31) To approve official forms for reports to district statistical committees (510), for the annual service reports (523:7; 304:30), and for personnel records; to approve the format for District Conference journals (458:10; 453); and to approve all certificates and credentials not provided for by the National Conference.

Related to Districts

(32) To make recommendation to the National Conference for the establishment or alteration of district boundaries (623:7); and, in the interim of National Conference sessions, to approve the merger, division, or other realignment of districts when each District Conference involved has approved the plan.

(33) To authorise the beginning of work in a pioneer district (404), and to appoint the District Superintendent (405).

(34) To appoint ministerial and lay delegates to National Conference on behalf of a pioneer district (406).

(35) To work with District Boards in the setting of dates for District Conferences (482:5); to request, as necessary, the reconvening of a District Conference (482:5), or a special session of a District Board of Administration (477); and to assist a District Board of Administration when it shall request assistance.

(36) To review annually the district budget allocations to the National treasury and to adjust the allocations as necessary, advising the districts accordingly prior to the beginning of the National fiscal year (623:8).

Related to the Judiciary

(37) To exercise administrative and judicial discipline as set forth in the Judiciary.

(38) To remove from office any person under its jurisdiction whenever the best interests and preservation of the Church require it, subject to the following conditions:

(a) To remove from office a National official (671:1, 2) or to remove from National Board membership any elected member on the National Board of Administration, or to remove from office a

District Superintendent shall require a two-thirds majority vote of all the members of the National Board of Administration (642:1,2).

(b) To remove from office a person elected or employed by the National Board of Administration shall require a majority vote of all the members of the National Board of Administration (642:1,2).

(39) To file charges against a district for an offense as set forth in the Judiciary (1251 ff.), and to administer discipline if found guilty (1251).

(40) To take whatever steps are necessary to preserve the interests of the Church within the bounds of a district under discipline.

(41) To end the state of discipline for a district, by a majority vote of all the members of the National Board of Administration, when the offense has been removed to the satisfaction of the majority (cf. 1257, 1258); or to authorise the reorganisation of a district (1260).

(42) To adopt additional rules of judicial procedure for such matters as evidence, testimony, and other technicalities as set forth in 1275.

F. The Executive Committee

1. Function

652. The Executive Committee carries out the will of the National Board of Administration, serving as necessary between National Board of Administration sessions.

2. Membership

653. The Executive Committee shall be composed of the National Officials (671): the National Superintendent, the assistant National Superintendent, the National Secretary, the National Treasurer and the Mission Director.

3. Sessions

654. The Executive Committee shall meet at the call of the chairperson.

4. Organisation

655. Chairperson. The chairperson and vice-chairperson of the National Board of Administration shall serve as chairperson and vice-chairperson, respectively, of the Executive Committee.

656. Secretary. The National Secretary is secretary of the Executive Committee by virtue of office (642:1).

657. Quorum. A majority of all members of the Executive Committee shall constitute a quorum.

658. Voting. A majority vote of all those present and voting shall be sufficient except for those matters for which a larger majority is required by The Discipline.

5. Duties, Powers, and Restrictions

659. In the interim of National Board of Administration sessions, the Executive Committee has charge of all National church matters. It has power:

(1) To transact all business referred to it by the National Board of Administration; and to order a special session of the National Board of Administration if necessary (644); to change the time and place of NBA meetings if situations require (644)..

(2) To serve as the National Conference Planning Committee. It shall work under the supervision of the National Superintendent, and shall be responsible to arrange all necessary matters for the National Conference such as lodging, meals, exhibits, space allotments, and whatever else may be necessary for the convenience and efficiency of the National Conference. They shall have the authority to carry out this responsibility and to enter into any necessary contracts, subject to the approval of the National Board of Administration.

(3) To serve as the Programme Committee for the National Conference, including any worship services, and other special features, all of which shall be subject to the approval of the National Board of Administration.

(4) To serve as the Budget Committee for the NBA; to study the general financial plan of the Church and to make recommendations to the National Board of Administration for its consideration and possible recommendation to the National Conference.

(5) To process requests and recommendations concerning changes in the boundaries of districts and to make recommendations to the National Board of Administration in the interim of National Conference.

(6) To coordinate the budgets of expense for the various administrative offices (691;697;701).

(7) To transact any and all other business the National Board of Administration may transact except that the Executive Committee shall not make recommendations directly to the National Conference, nor take final action on the adoption of the annual budgets (651:18) nor official policies (651:19), nor transact any business which requires more than a simple majority vote of the National Board of Administration).

(8) To approve a reconvened session of a District Conference (449).

660. Minutes of all Executive Committee action shall be forwarded promptly by the National Secretary to all members of the National Board of Administration for their information and review, and to the General Director of World Missions. At its next session, the National Board of Administration may rescind any action of the Executive Committee which has not already been effected.

G. National Budgeting Procedure

661. The income and expense of all the National departments, offices, committees, institutions, auxiliaries and agencies of the Church shall be governed by the adoption by the National Board of Administration

of annual budgets as recommended and coordinated by the Executive committee, in the following manner:

(1) The National official, director, committee chairperson, or person assigned responsibility shall prepare and submit a proposed annual budget of income and expense for the work under his/her care, to the committee, auxiliary, institutional board, or agency to which he/she is assigned, and when they approve, it shall be sent to the Executive Committee.

(2) The Executive Committee shall have power to co-opt for the purpose of analysis, analogising, and presentation of reports.

(3) The Executive Committee shall review each proposed budget and correlate it with overall budget for the National church, and shall present its complete recommendation to the National Board of Administration.

(4) The National Board of Administration shall make final decision concerning all budgets for the coming fiscal year and at the same time will inform each district the amount of budget they must pay.

(5) Special appeals and special offerings for institutional, committee, or auxiliary projects must be submitted as a plan by their various boards or committees, to the Executive Committee and approved before representatives may begin raising these funds in the district churches. District and local officials shall receive them and cooperate in their work after proper approval has been granted.

662. National Budget.

(1) The National Budget is a unified central fund for the support of the National Church Operations. It shall be collected from all established districts and organised churches which do not have district membership. The amount each district or church is to submit each year shall be determined by the National Board of Administration.

(2) The National Budget shall be presented to the National Board of Administration each year by the Executive Committee, which shall also serve as the Budget Committee (659:4). The National Budget shall be completed each year in time for the district to incorporate it into their annual budget planning for presentation to the annual district conference.

H. National Committees and Boards

663. Identification. The National Board of Administration shall organise itself into committees for Evangelism, Church Growth, and Crosscultural Ministries (721), Christian Education (731) and such others as the National Board of Administration thinks necessary, and, insofar as is not provided for in The Discipline. The National Board of Trustees (726) shall function as a committee of the National Board of Administration in legal matters and pertaining to National property. The Board of Educational Institutions (736) shall relate to the ministerial training institutions.

664. Function. Each committee shall serve as an advisory body to the National Board of Administration, or in the interim of its sessions, to the Executive Committee for the work assigned to it. Each committee shall consider all recommendations for the National officials and officers assigned to it, formulate such recommendations as it approves, including all matters relating to policies and budgets (cf. 651:19), for presentation to the National Board of Administration or its Executive

Committee, advise the various National officials and officers, and coordinate all programmes carried on within its area of concern. The special duties of each committee and standing board shall be as outlined in The Discipline, and as further defined by the National Board of Administration.

665. Membership. Each committee shall be composed of the National Superintendent or the Assistant National Superintendent, each National official whose work is part of the committee's assignment, and such other members of the National Board of Administration as the National Board shall assign. Each committee may also have such honorary members as The Discipline or the National Board of Administration may assign, such as departmental executives below the rank of National officials, and qualified advisors from the Church at large.

666. Sessions. The committees shall meet as many days prior to the convening of the National Board of Administration as may be necessary to transact their business. Due consideration must be given to the Executive Committee to be presented with and to assess annual budgets in this process. The National Board of Educational Institutions shall meet at least 30 days prior to a National Board of Administration meeting. Each committee may hold special sessions when called by its chairperson or by any two National officials who are members of the committee.

667. Organisation and Procedure.

(1) Each committee shall be chaired by the National Superintendent, or the Assistant National Superintendent, or at the appointment of the National Board of Administration, a department director, and shall elect a vice-chairperson and a secretary. The National Board of Administration shall appoint the chairperson of the Board of Trustees, and the National Director of education shall chair the committee on education.

(2) Each committee in the course of its duties may appoint committees, either standing or special, composed of committee members and/or other qualified persons, subject to the approval of the National Board of Administration, as it finds need.

668. Amenability. Each committee shall report all business transacted to the National Board of Administration, filing complete minutes of each meeting with the National Secretary, and the work of each committee shall be subject to the direction and approval of the National Board of Administration.

Chapter III

NATIONAL OFFICIALS OF THE CHURCH

A. Identification

671. Identification.

(1) **National Officers.** The National officers are elected by the National Conference (with the exception of the Mission Director who is appointed by the General Director of Wesleyan World Missions) whom it designates as *ex officio* members of the National Conference (602) and the National Board of Administration (642:1,2) and the Executive Committee (652). They are: the National Superintendent, the assistant National Superintendent, the National Secretary, the National Treasurer, the Mission Director.

(2) **National officials.** Besides the national officers, who are primarily identified by their seat on the executive committee, there are other officials such as the National Director of Evangelism, Church Growth, and Crosscultural Ministries, the National Director of Christian Education, and the National Director of Educational Institutions, National Director of Communications, principals of the ministerial training institutions, Medical Administrator, lay and ministerial members of the National Board of Administration, National committee members, and National standing board members who are also National officials of the Pilgrim Wesleyan Church of Zambia. All of the National Officials have some office or membership on a National board or committee, but all are not on the National Board of Administration.

B. Qualifications

672. A National official must be a member of The Pilgrim Wesleyan Church at the time of his/her election or appointment; and if at any time he/she ceases to be a member, his/her office shall be declared vacant as provided for in 676.

C. Term of Office

673. The National officers shall be elected by the National Conference (623:12-14) for a term of two years, (in exception of Christian Education Director whose is appointed by the National Board of Administration according to qualifications in Christian Education) and shall serve until the close of the next regular session of the National Conference or until their successors are elected and qualified. Other National officials terms may vary according to special regulations and requirements of office as explained in the Discipline for each office. A special session of the National Conference may, however, declare that the term is ended and order a new election or appointment.

D. Amenability

674. The National officials are amenable to the National Board of Administration for their official conduct, and to their districts for their moral character. They are subject to direction from the National Conference, the National Board of Administration, the Executive Committee, and the Director of World Missions. They may be removed from office for cause or when the best interests of the Church so require (1255) by a two-thirds majority vote of all members of the National Board of Administration for NBA members and majority vote of the NBA for committee or board members.

E. Reports

675. The National officers shall report to each session of the National Conference concerning their official duties, annually to the National Board of Administration concerning their official duties and personal ministry, and at other times as required by the General Conference, the General Board of Administration, or the General Director of World Missions. National officials not on the Executive Committee shall report to the National Board of Administration or to their respective committees as required.

F. Vacancies

676. The office of a National official may become vacant by death, by cessation of membership in The Pilgrim Wesleyan Church, by resignation from office, or by removal (1255). The vacancy shall be filled by a two-thirds majority vote of the members of the National Board of Administration (651:6) for NBA members, and by majority vote of the NBA for others.

G. Church and District Membership

677. An ordained minister who serves as a full time National official may hold his/her ministerial membership in any district he/she may choose, and his/her church membership in any local church. His responsibilities to the National church shall take precedence over his/her responsibilities to his/her district and local church (304 ff.).

Chapter IV

NATIONAL ADMINISTRATION

A. National Superintendent

1. Function

691. The National Superintendent is to be considered as the national spiritual and administrative leader of the Church in Zambia.

2. General Regulations

692. A National Superintendent is an ordained minister elected by the National Conference from the nomination(s) submitted by the nominating committee (747:1) and is an *ex officio* member of the National Conference, the National Board of Administration, the Executive Committee of the National Board of Administration, all district conferences, District Boards of Administration, and Pilgrim Wesleyan Bible College Board of Governors.

693. The term of service, amenability, and other regulations for a National Superintendent are those set forth for a National official in 672 ff. First election shall be for the period of two years and then subsequent re-election for a period of four years.

Duties of the National Superintendent

694. The National Superintendent shall devote his/her full time to supervising, coordinating, and promoting the work of The Pilgrim Wesleyan Church throughout Zambia in all its various branches. His duties are:

(1) To provide spiritual and administrative leadership for The Pilgrim Wesleyan Church.

(2) To encourage soul-winning and evangelism in all of its phases.

(3) To carry on a spiritual and inspirational ministry, both verbal and written, teaching the doctrines and furthering the spiritual purposes of the Church.

(4) To exercise general administrative supervision over The Pilgrim Wesleyan Church in Zambia in harmony with The Discipline, and to see that the plans and policies of the Church are carried out.

(5) To preside over the National Conference in the absence of a General Superintendent or the General Director of World Missions or his/her representative.

(6) To issue the call for a special session of the National Conference (612), or a special session of the National Board of Administration, or a special session of the Executive Committee (654).

(7) To make recommendations to the National Board of Administration and its Executive Committee concerning any part of the Church in order to provide for a more efficient administration.

(8) To arrange, in cooperation with the General Director of World Missions, for the visit of a General Superintendent over the region during the quadrennium, and for additional visits as authorised by the General Board of Administration or its Executive Council.

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(9) To report, to each session of the National Conference concerning his/her official duties (623:4); to report annually to the National Board of Administration concerning his/her official duties and personal ministry; and to make such other reports as may be required.

(10) To prepare an annual budget of expense of the office of National Superintendent for submission to the National Board of Administration.

(11) To appoint fraternal delegates and representatives for The Pilgrim Wesleyan Church of Zambia to other denominations or religious organisations unless otherwise provided for by the National Conference or the National Board of Administration (cf. 651:11).

(12) To carry out such special assignments as the National Conference, the National Board of Administration, the Executive Committee, and the General Director of World Missions may assign from time to time.

(13) To direct the National Secretary in his/her responsibility, defining his/her duties as desired.

(14) To arrange the dates for the District Conferences, in consultation with each District Board of Administration (482:5).

(15) To serve as chairperson of all district conferences and District Board of Administration meetings when present.

(16) To recommend a mission district for the status of an established district to the National Board of Administration.

(17) To counsel with district leaders and make recommendations for the advancement of the district work.

(18) To preside over the National Board of Administration and the Executive Committee.

(19) To travel throughout the country, giving spiritual leadership and inspirational ministry.

(20) To counsel with the National officials, and to see that such officials administer their work in harmony with The Discipline, and any other directives from the National Conference, the National Board of Administration, the Executive Committee, or the General Department of World Missions.

(21) To visit annually and conduct an administrative survey of each educational and benevolent institution, or any other agency or organisation of The Pilgrim Wesleyan Church in the region.

(22) To meet with any governing board, District Board of Administration, committee, or other official body at his/her discretion and make such recommendations necessary to uphold The Discipline and carry out the directives of the National Conference, the National Board of Administration, the Executive Committee, or the General Director of World Missions.

(23) To attend as a voting member, or delegate a representative to attend, each National auxiliary convention (Pilgrim Wesleyan Youth, Pilgrim Wesleyan Women, and Pilgrim Wesleyan Men) (1029 ff.).

(24) To exercise general supervision within his/her region, over each established, mission, and pioneer district and the work of its

superintendent, and to counsel with the director of evangelism, church growth, and crosscultural ministries whenever a mission area is concerned; to help mission districts become established districts as soon as possible (409).

(25) To work closely with the district officials in promoting evangelism and formulating plans for pioneer work and church extension (559:2; 567:3-4).

(26) To encourage and promote National programmes in each district and to support the financial plans of the region.

(27) To cooperate with each District Board of Administration in planning and conducting conventions, institutes, or seminars for pastors and other workers in the district.

(28) To preside, in the absence of the General Superintendent or the General Director of World Missions (or his/her representative), over the ordination of ministers or commissioning of deaconesses and to deliver the ordination and/or commissioning address and to sign all credentials, certificates, and other forms incidental to his/her office.

(29) To approve the transfer of any ordained minister, commissioned deaconess, licensed minister or licensed deaconess into a district under his/her jurisdiction, in concurrence with the District Superintendent of that district (559:14).

(30) To consult with a District Board of Administration concerning the purchase, location, encumbrance, sale, transfer, or other disposition of real property used for district purposes, such as a district parsonage, headquarters, or campground.

(31) To carry out judicial responsibilities (cf. 1256).

(32) To act as administrative consultant to the mission director of the Wesleyan Mission of Zambia, making sure that the plans and programmes of the mission and church are harmonised.

(33) To give advice to individual missionaries and to evaluate their work to see that it is in the best interest of the Pilgrim Wesleyan Church of Zambia.

(34) To serve as the first assigned delegate to Wesleyan World Fellowship and to the General Conference of The Wesleyan Church of North America.

B. The Assistant National Superintendent

695. The Assistant National Superintendent shall be elected by ballot and by majority vote by the National Conference from among the ordained ministers of the Pilgrim Wesleyan Church of Zambia. The term of service, amenability, and other regulations for an Assistant National Superintendent are those set forth for a National official in 673.

696. The specific duties of the Assistant National Superintendent shall be:

(1) To serve in the place of the National Superintendent as needed in the National Conference in the absence of the National Superintendent.

(2) To serve as a member and vice-chairperson of the National Board of Administration and the Executive Committee, presiding whenever the National Superintendent is not present or appoints him/her to do so.

(3) To convene the National Board of Administration in times of emergency when the National Superintendent is unable to act.

(4) To assist the National Superintendent, and to serve as his/her representative to district functions, institutional functions, and to churches as the National Superintendent shall request.

(5) To perform such duties as may be required of him/her by the National Conference or the National Board of Administration.

(6) To report to the National Conference concerning his/her official duties, and the National Board of Administration as may be required.

(7) To become the National Superintendent in the case of a vacancy in that office.

C. The National Secretary

697. Function. The National Secretary has custody of the official records, is responsible for legal documents, statistics, directory, and public relations for the National church.

698. Office. The National Secretary is elected by the National Conference as a National officer (623:13; 671:1), and is a member of the National Conference (602:1:a), the National Board of Administration (642:1), and the Executive Committee (653). The term of service, amenability, and other regulations for this office are provided for in 673.

699. Duties. The National Secretary shall administer his/her office as set forth in The Discipline, and other instructions as may be given by the National Conference, the National Board of Administration, or its Executive Committee. His duties are:

(1) To serve as secretary of the National Conference (615), the National Board of Administration (647), and the Executive Committee (656); to record accurately and completely the proceedings of each session and to preserve them in permanent form; to produce and distribute to the members of the National Board of Administration the minutes of the Executive Committee and National Board of Administration meetings within thirty days of each held meeting; to issue the official notices and communications on behalf of these governing bodies unless otherwise directed.

(2) To notify all members at least two weeks in advance of each regular and special session of the National Board of Administration (644, 645); and each regular and special session of the Executive Committee (654); and to issue the call for a special session of the National Conference (612).

(3) To keep all official records of The Pilgrim Wesleyan Church of Zambia, including the following:

(a) The minutes of each National church board, committee, and auxiliary organisation, including the trustee boards of National educational and benevolent institutions.

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(b) The minutes and other records for National church judicial bodies, including the Board of Review and a National Conference judicial committee (1321; 1331:6); and the credentials of a minister when such have been surrendered or removed by judicial process (1239:2; 1239:4).

(c) All legal documents and property records for The Pilgrim Wesleyan Church of Zambia.

(d) A certified and true copy of the articles of incorporation and bylaws, and any amendments thereto, for each corporation related to The Pilgrim Wesleyan Church of Zambia.

(e) All legal documents and property records of such corporations unless otherwise provided for by the bylaws of such corporations or other directives from the National Board of Administration.

(f) The minutes of each District Conference.

(4) To issue each official policy adopted by the National Board of Administration.

(5) To maintain the official Directory of district and National officials, ministers, churches, parsonages, and institutions, and to publish a National church directory.

(6) To collect and to compile accurately all statistics for the National church and to report them to the National Conference, the National Board of Administration, and the Executive Committee as required; to coordinate the various statistical forms of the departments and auxiliaries with the approved report for the local churches and districts.

(7) To report to the National Conference concerning his/her official duties (623:4), annually to the National Board of Administration concerning his/her official duties and personal ministry (651:16), and at other times as required.

(8) To prepare the annual budget for the National Secretary's office for submission to the Executive Committee to be coordinated with the budgets of the other administrative offices.

(9) To receive from pastors and forward to pastors all names and addresses of church members moving from one location to another location (304:13)

(10) To surrender the permanent files to his/her successor.

D. The National Treasurer

700. The National Treasurer shall be elected by the National Conference upon recommendation of the nominating committee.

701. Function. The National Treasurer shall care for the National church funds and accounting records and is responsible for assigned fiscal management (661-662).

702. Office. The National Treasurer shall be a member of the National Conference (602:1:a), the National Board of Administration (642:1), and Executive Committee (653). The National Treasurer must be a member of The Pilgrim Wesleyan Church of Zambia and if at any one time

ceases to be a member, the office shall be declared vacant by the National Board of Administration (672; cf. 676).

703. Duties. The National Treasurer shall administer his/her office as set forth in The Discipline, and other directives as may be given by the National Board of Administration. His duties are:

(1) To serve as treasurer of funds as may be assigned to him/her by the National Conference or the National Board of Administration; to receive, to hold, to pay out, and to manage these funds; and to have a proper bookkeeping system for these funds.

(2) To report annually to the National Board of Administration concerning his/her official duties and personal ministry, and to each session of the National Conference, and at other times as required.

(3) To submit a complete financial report to the National Board of Administration annually and to each session of the National Conference.

(4) To submit all records and funds in his/her care for an annual audit which will be directed by the National Board of Administration and at any other time when requested to do so (651:14).

(5) To serve as National Director of stewardship under the direction of the Executive Committee promoting total stewardship and storehouse tithing on the National level and through district officers and local pastors (559:1,3; 304:20), and coordinating as directed the handling of all investments, bequests, trusts, annuities, and devises for the National church and its several offices, departments, and subsidiary bodies.

(6) With the assistance of the Budget committee (659:4), to draw and present to the National Board of Administration a proposed annual financial budget for The Pilgrim Wesleyan Church of Zambia.

(7) To prepare an annual budget of expense for the office of treasurer for submission to the Executive Committee for coordination with the other administrative offices as set forth in 651:10.

(8) To perform such other duties as may be required of him/her by the National Board of Administration or its Executive Committee.

E. National Director of Communications

704. The National Director of Communications is appointed by the National Board of Administration (651:21) as a National official of the Church, and is a member of the National Conference (602:1:a), the National Board of Administration (642:1) and any committee assigned by the National Board of Administration. The term of service, amenability, and other regulations for this office are given in 673.

705. The National Director of Communications shall carry out his/her duties according to directives received from the National Board of Administration. He/she shall be responsible:

(1) To serve as publisher of the official church publication and any other publication assigned to him/her by the National Board of Administration.

(2) To prepare an annual budget for submission to the Executive Committee.

(3) He/she shall be responsible for the promotion of holiness literature, Christian books, tracts, and denominational magazines, papers, or literature.

(4) The promotion of the Pilgrim Wesleyan Church of Zambia through mass media, including newspapers, radio, and television.

Chapter V

NATIONAL COMMITTEES AND BOARDS

A. Committee on Evangelism, Church Growth, and Crosscultural Ministries

1. The Committee

721. The Committee on Evangelism, Church Growth, and Crosscultural Ministries shall be composed of the National Superintendent or Assistant National Superintendent, as chairperson (691; 695), and the National Director of Evangelism, Church Growth, and Crosscultural Ministries (723). The National Board of Administration shall appoint three additional assistants as follows: an assistant for Evangelism, and assistant for Church Growth, and an assistant for Crosscultural Ministries to be members of this committee and who shall be accountable to the National Director of Evangelism, Church Growth, and Crosscultural Ministries for their respective areas of ministry.

722. The Committee on Evangelism, Church Growth, and Crosscultural Ministries duties shall be:

(1) To review the total programme of evangelism on the National, district, and local level, and to make recommendations to the National Board of Administration for increasing the evangelistic outreach of The Pilgrim Wesleyan Church.

(2) To prepare a budget for all the departments that fall under the responsibility of the Committee on Evangelism, Church Growth, and Crosscultural Ministries, including the expenses for the office and travel of the director and his/her assistants, to be submitted to the Executive Committee for approval and final review and approval by the NBA.

(3) To make recommendations to the National Board of Administration concerning those whose names are to be presented by the National Director of Evangelism, Church Growth, and Crosscultural Ministries for certification as National evangelists, missionaries, or special workers, and to interview them.

(4) To approve the employment of National evangelists and special workers for evangelistic work under the direction of the National Director of Evangelism, Church Growth, and Crosscultural Ministries (723).

(5) To coordinate the evangelistic work of radio, films, chaplaincies, literature distribution and publication and to see that each district has access to these ministries.

(6) To supervise work in pioneer districts, recommending to the Conference and the board of new areas of outreach, and supervising such work. To recommend to the National Board of Administration when a pioneer district should become a mission district.

(7) To supervise the work and support of any missionary who may be sent out by the National Conference.

2. National Director of Evangelism, Church Growth, and Crosscultural Ministries

723. The National Director of Evangelism, Church Growth, and Crosscultural Ministries is elected by the National Conference as a

National official (623:13; 671:1), and is a member of the National Conference (602:1:a), the National Board of Administration (642:1), the Committee on Evangelism, Church Growth, and Crosscultural Ministries (721). The term of service, amenability, and other regulations for this office are given in 673.

724. The National Director of Evangelism, Church Growth, and Crosscultural Ministries shall administer the National Department of Evangelism, Church Growth, and Crosscultural Ministries in accord with The Discipline, and other directives of the National Conference, the National Board of Administration, or the Committee on Evangelism, Church Growth, and Crosscultural Ministries. He/she shall be responsible:

(1) To the Committee on Evangelism, Church Growth, and Crosscultural Ministries (cf. 721)

(2) To promote a concern for soul-winning, evangelistic outreach, church extension, and crosscultural ministries throughout the region; to provide promotional materials to other departments, publications, or auxiliary organisations; and to visit local churches and districts in order to represent the work.

(3) To raise the necessary finances for the evangelistic outreach assigned to the Committee on Evangelism, Church Growth, and Crosscultural ministries (cf. 721) using all the means that the National Board of Administration put to his/her disposal, and to manage the department's financial affairs, all in keeping with the financial plans of the Church and the approved budget for the department (722:2).

(4) To enlist and recommend candidates approved by the Committee on Evangelism, Church Growth, and Crosscultural Ministries (721) to the National Board of Administration or its Executive Committee for appointment in special ministries projects, unless otherwise provided for in The Discipline.

(5) To advise mission and established districts in developing aggressive programmes of church extension; and to carry on cooperative programmes or projects with districts as approved by the National Board of Administration; cooperating in each case with the National Superintendent and the District Board of Administration over the involved district (482:3; 419; 694:25).

(6) To promote spiritual and financial aid to preaching points by organised churches.

(7) To make available promotional materials that will aid pastors and others in introducing The Pilgrim Wesleyan Church.

(8) To promote the witness and outreach of The Pilgrim Wesleyan Church through the various media of mass communication, television, radio, special evangelistic crusades, urban or rural evangelisation, and other evangelistic efforts as authorised by the National Board of Administration.

(9) To present to the Committee on Evangelism, Church Growth, and Crosscultural Ministries the names of those persons recommended by the District Conferences for certification as National evangelists, missionaries, and special workers by the National Board of Administration; to present to the National Board names of those who shall represent pioneer districts at National Conference (District Superintendent and lay delegate) (406).

(10) To employ, with the approval of the Committee on Evangelism, Church Growth, and Crosscultural Ministries, National evangelists and special workers for the work of evangelism.

(11) To present to the Council of Auxiliaries approved projects for assignment to the auxiliaries under its jurisdiction (1029 ff).

(12) To prepare a proposed annual budget for the National Department of Evangelism, Church Growth, and Crosscultural Ministries and submit it to the Committee on Evangelism, Church Growth, and Crosscultural Ministries (cf. 722:2).

(13) To report to each session of the National Conference concerning his/her official duties (623:4), annually to the National Board of Administration concerning his/her official duties and personal ministry (651:16), and at other times as required.

3. Missionaries

725. A missionary of the Pilgrim Wesleyan Church of Zambia appointed to serve under the National Committee on Evangelism, Church Growth, and Crosscultural Ministries may retain membership in his/her local church and district as of the time of his/her appointment by the National Board of Administration. He/she shall also relate himself/herself to the church where assigned and shall hold membership as set forth in The Discipline or other regulations adopted for the particular field to which he/she is assigned. He/she shall be amenable for his/her conduct to the proper authorities on the field where he/she serves, the Committee on Evangelism, Church Growth, and Crosscultural Ministries, and the National Board of Administration.

B. National Board of Trustees

726. Function. The National Board of Trustees shall be responsible to legally safeguard, manage, and maintain all National properties on behalf of and under the authorisation of the National Conference and the direction of the National Board of Administration.

727. Membership. The National Board of Trustees shall consist of five members. Three members shall be elected by the National Conference. Two members shall be appointed by the National Board of Administration two years prior to the National Conference to serve a four year term. The regulations for National officials including amenability are given in 673-674. Absence from properly called meetings of this board, for whatever reason, over the period of one year shall be considered cause for removal and replacement by the National Board of Administration.

728. Chairperson. The chairperson shall be appointed by the National Board of Administration in its annual meeting, and shall be a board of trustee member who is also a member of the National Board of Administration.

729. Procedure. The board shall elect from among its members a vice-chairperson and a secretary. Four members must be present to transact business of the board, which is subject to the approval of the National Board of Administration, or between sessions the Executive Committee. All records, minutes, and official documents shall be forwarded to the National Secretary. The board shall meet at the time when the other committees meet before the annual National Board of Administration meeting or at any other time set by the committee, when the

Chairperson or the National Superintendent shall call a special session, or as directed by the National Board of Administration, providing that 30 days notice is given or that all members can be present.

730. Duties:

(1) To serve as a legal body on behalf of, or to ascertain that legal authority has been thoroughly cared for on behalf of the National Conference of the Pilgrim Wesleyan Church of Zambia and under the direction of National Board of Administration for all legal matters pertaining to the National transactions for the purchase, sale, encumbrance, transfer, or other disposal of property, including the National ministerial training institutions.

(2) To supervise and investigate the legal status of all properties of the districts and local churches to ascertain that they comply with all directives and guidelines relating to real property under the Pilgrim Wesleyan Church of Zambia.

(3) To act as a building and planning committee for all National building projects, to make budgets for building projects, and to advise the National Board of Administration concerning building, relocation, or the purchase of properties for National church use.

(4) To act as an advisory panel when building projects or purchase of property within district jurisdiction will use funds from outside the district, or whenever a district shall request such advice.

(5) To seek legal advice from outside Pilgrim Wesleyan Church sources whenever it is necessary, upon approval of the NBA or the Executive committee.

(6) To oversee the maintenance and upkeep of all National property and to submit a budget for the same to the Executive Committee for the maintenance and upkeep of all National properties and national educational institutions.

(7) To appoint one member of the Board of Trustees to the National Board of Educational Institutions.

(8) The chairperson shall report on behalf of the Board of Trustees annually to the National Board of Administration and to the Executive Committee when requested to do so.

(9) To carry out any other duties assigned by the National Conference or the National Board of Administration.

C. Committee on Christian Education

1. Committee

731. The Committee on Christian Education shall consist of the National Director of Christian either the National Superintendent or the Assistant National Superintendent (who shall be the chairperson or any other elected person at the first meeting of the National Christian Education Board) (733), either the National Superintendent or the Assistant National Superintendent, the National leaders of the men, women, and youth auxiliaries (1033:2), and such other members of the National Board of Administration as the National Board shall assign. It shall also have as honorary members, with a right to speak but not to vote, such qualified advisors as the National Board of Administration shall designate (651:19). General regulations concerning the committee are given in 732.

732. Its duties shall be:

(1) To develop, supervise, and coordinate the work of Christian Education with the National Church through the work of the local churches, auxiliaries, and ministerial in-service training and/or TEE.

(2) To coordinate the following ministries:

a. Local church education - Sunday School, membership and discipleship training.

b. TEE and in-service training

c. Auxiliaries

(3) To act on behalf of the National church as the ministerial study course agency which is responsible:

a. To maintain or ascertain that they are being properly maintained, records on all students for the various ministerial training courses recognised by The Pilgrim Wesleyan Church. The records shall include transcripts, grades, courses finished, and current standing. The board of education shall be responsible to see that academic standing is reported to the district boards of ministerial development as needed.

b. To provide a list of the books and courses authorised from time to time by the National Board of Administration for each of the study courses (983).

c. To provide suitable transcripts and to issue certificates upon the satisfactory completion of the work assigned (984).

d. To evaluate any training taken outside the institutions and agencies of The Pilgrim Wesleyan Church by a student for one of the ministries recognised by The Pilgrim Wesleyan Church, to judge the equivalence of such outside training to the appropriate course of study, and to report its conclusions and recommendations to the appropriate district board of ministerial development (984).

e. To evaluate equivalency experience credits for pastors 35 years of age or older who are recommended for evaluation by their district board of ministerial development (520) through their District Board of Administration (482:30) and who are seeking district ordination (925). Pastors must have served faithfully under the appointment of a District Conference for not less than 12 years. Equivalency experience credits must be specific (e.g. "shall be accredited with the requirement for homiletics upon the completion of reading XXXXX text"; on the basis of having taught Wesleyan Doctrine Made Plain to new converts the requirement for Introduction to Theology shall be waived; in light of known experience and results in personal evangelism the course on personal evangelism may be waived").

f. To call for and interview pastors for whom equivalency experience credits are requested, as a part of the evaluation if such an interview is required.

g. To approve all courses of study used in the church.

(4) To receive reports from the National Director of Christian Education and the auxiliary leaders and to formulate plans and programmes which will advance the cause of Christian Education through these departments and agencies.

(5) To Submit a budget to the Executive Committee for the advancement of the responsibilities under its direction.

(6) To perform other duties related to Christian Education as are assigned by the National Conference or the National Board of Christian Education.

2. National Director of Christian Education

733. The National Director of Church Education shall be appointed by the National Board of Administration according to qualification in Christian Education (623:13; 671:1), and is a member of the National Conference (602:1:a), the National Board of Administration (642:1). The term of service, amenability, and other regulations for this office are given in 673.

734. The National Director of Christian Education shall administer the National Department of Christian Education in accord with The Discipline, and other directives from the National Board of Administration, the Executive Committee, and the Committee on Christian Education. His/her responsibilities shall be:

(1) To present all recommendations for the National Board of Administration or its Executive Committee from the Committee on Christian Education (733).

(2) To initiate the development of Sunday School programmes, organisation, administration, curriculum planning, and teaching techniques; and to serve as member of the Committee on Christian Education, seeking its counsel on all phases of his/her work (731).

(3) To initiate a complete programme for holiday Bible schools, and to promote the programme as approved by the National Board of Administration.

(4) To direct and promote a programme of lay leadership training.

(5) To direct and promote a programme of membership training to be administered by pastors and local boards of administration (304:7,9,10,11).

(6) To direct and promote all other phases of Christian Education carried on through local churches and districts not specifically assigned by The Discipline or the National Board of Administration to another National department or agency.

(7) To serve as educational consultant for all National departments, auxiliaries, and agencies of the Church which carry on educational activities through local churches and districts.

(8) To prepare an annual budget for submission to the Committee on Christian Education (732:5).

(9) To report to each session of the National Conference concerning his/her official duties (623:4), annually to the National Board

of Administration concerning his/her official duties and personal ministry (651:16), and at other times as required.

3. National Leaders of Men, Women, Youth

735. The National Leaders of Men, Women and youth auxiliaries shall be elected by the National Conference until such time as they are authorised by the National Conference to elect their own leaders in National conventions. Their duties shall be to assist the district auxiliary organisations through training, coordinating, and planning; to work with the Committee on Christian Education and the National Director of Christian Education; and to stimulate interest and growth in the district chapters of the auxiliaries.

D. National Board Of Educational Institutions

1. The Board and Its Function

736. The National Ministerial Training Institution as governed by its approved constitution shall be responsible to the National Board of Educational Institutions under the following regulations.

737. Membership of The National Board of Educational Institutions:

Chairperson: The National Superintendent shall be chairperson by virtue of office.

Vice-Chairperson: The National Director of Educational Institutions shall be Vice-Chairperson and member by virtue of office.

The National Director of Christian Education shall be a member by virtue of office.

The Principal of the National Institution shall be a member by virtue of office.

Two members at large (one layperson, one minister) shall be elected by the National Conference.

Two members at large (one layperson, one minister) shall be appointed by the National Board of Administration.

One member at large from the National Board of Trustees shall be appointed by the National Board of Trustees.

738. Sessions: The National Board of Educational Institutions shall meet at the call of the chairperson. It may be convened, if necessary, by the Vice-chairperson or by any three members of the National Board of Educational Institutions jointly in writing. Notice of meetings must be given at least one month in advance.

739. Duties and Powers:

(1) The National Board of Educational Institutions shall be responsible for all policy making not otherwise assigned to the National Conference or the National Board of Trustees, with the limitation that the college shall be governed by its constitution.

(2) The National Board of Educational Institutions shall elect its own Secretary.

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(3) The National Board of Educational Institutions shall appoint the Principal and Vice-Principal from nominations approved by the National Board of Administration.

(4) The National Board of Educational Institutions shall be ultimately responsible for the general administration of the College in accordance with its constitution.

(5) The National Board of Educational Institutions shall have the power to formulate and amend rules as necessary, in accordance with the Constitution of the college and subject to The Discipline of The Pilgrim Wesleyan Church, the National Board of Administration and the National Conference.

(6) The National Board of Educational Institutions shall have the power to co-opt non-voting members where necessary.

(7) The National Board of Educational Institutions shall appoint all teachers.

(8) The National Board of Educational Institutions shall approve the curriculum.

(9) The National Board of Educational Institutions may make recommendations to the National Board of Administration to acquire or dispose of College property in accordance with requirements set out in the Constitution and The Discipline of The Pilgrim Wesleyan Church.

(10) All property shall be held in trust by the National Board of Trustees in accordance with requirements of The Discipline.

(11) The National Board of Educational Institutions shall cause to be kept such accounts, records, registers, and entries as are essential for the proper and efficient functioning of the College. These items of record shall be closed at the end of each school year and shall be audited by an auditor appointed by the National Board of Educational Institutions. The National Board of Educational Institutions shall cause all legal documents, securities, and essential records to be maintained in a place of safe custody under the supervision of the National Board of Educational Institutions.

(12) To invest and deal with any monies of the College not immediately required for carrying on the business of the College, upon such securities and in such manner as from time to time it shall determine and to realise, vary, reinvest, or otherwise deal with such securities.

(13) To borrow, raise, or secure the payment of money for the College, subject to the approval of the National Board of Administration.

(14) To operate a banking or Building Society account, and to draw, make, accept, endorse, discount, execute, and insure promissory notes, bills, or exchange and other negotiable notes and other negotiable or transferable instrument.

(15) To oversee Development funds in accordance with guidelines in the Constitution and The Discipline or directions of the National Board of Administration.

(16) The College's Staff Council shall submit an annual budget to the National Board of Educational Institutions for approval and submission to the National Board of Administration in accordance with The Discipline.

740. Voting: A majority of The National Board of Educational Institutions voting members shall form a quorum. A simple majority vote of those present and voting shall be necessary to pass resolutions presented unless the constitution and/or bylaws specify otherwise.

741. Procedure: In matters of procedural order the Constitution, The Discipline of The Pilgrim Wesleyan Church, and the Robert's Rules of Order shall provide the guidelines, in that order of sequence.

742. Reports: An annual report shall be made to the National Board of Administration as to the state of the educational institutions.

743. Relationships. All local boards shall relate administratively to the National Board of Educational Institutions.

2. The National Director of Educational Institutions

744. The National Director of Educational Institutions is elected by the National Conference as a National official (623:13; 671:1), and is an *ex officio* member of the National Conference (602:1:a), the National Board of Administration (642:1), and the Executive Committee (653), and is a member of the National Board of Educational Institutions (737). The term of service, amenability, and other regulations for this office are given in 673.

745. The National Director of Educational Institutions shall administer the National Board of Educational Institutions in accord with The Discipline, the Policies of the National Board of Administration for Education and the Ministry, the Standards for Educational Institutions adopted by the National Board of Administration, and other directives of the National Board of Administration, and its Executive Board. His duties shall be:

(1) To present all recommendations for the National Board of Administration or its Executive Board in keeping with their approved policies and procedures.

(2) To serve as liaison between the National church and its Educational Institutions, representing the institutions on the National Board of Administration, informing the administrators of the schools concerning educational standards and programmes adopted by the National Board, interpreting to the administrators of the schools the place and function of the schools in the life of the Church, and promoting the best of spiritual climates and the highest degree of loyalty and service to the Church on the campuses of the institutions.

(3) To serve as coordinator of the National Educational Institutions, under the direction of the National Board of Administration, helping the schools to complement each other and assisting the institutions in each educational area to work out cooperative programmes in church visitation, financial campaigns, and student recruitment.

(4) To interpret to the membership of the Church the distinctive services rendered by the Educational Institutions and their function in the Church.

(5) To assist in the preparation of the constitutions and bylaws of the National Educational Institutions, and of amendments to the same.

(6) To attend such meetings of the institutional boards of management of the National Educational Institutions as time will permit,

and to receive a copy of the minutes of all meetings of the boards of management and executive staff meetings. He shall review the actions of the various boards in the light of the basic principles for the Educational Institutions of The Pilgrim Wesleyan Church, the constitutions of the institutions, and the Standards of the National Board of Administration for Educational Institutions adopted by the National Board of Administration, and make any necessary recommendations to the institutions or to the National Board of Administration.

(7) To receive annual reports from the National Educational Institutions and to prepare a digest of these reports for presentation to the National Board of Administration and the various institutions, and to carry on such other research and study projects as are ordered by the National Board.

(8) To serve as consultant to the various institutional administrators, visiting the campuses as needs require and time permits, holding workshops on individual campuses or leading conferences involving the institutions, providing for the sharing of educational resources and planning.

(9) To develop a placement service which will facilitate the finding and employment of qualified faculty members.

(10) To seek bequests, trusts, annuities, and other contributions from benevolent foundations and other donors for the financial support of the church's educational institutions.

(11) To administer all National church financial aid programmes for ministerial education.

(12) To promote the enlistment and preparation of candidates for the ministry; to develop basic courses of study (983); to develop questionnaires for use by district boards of ministerial development in examining candidates for licensing, ordaining, and commissioning (523:1:a-d); to develop varying programmes of continuing education for the ordained ministers, ordained ministers' spouses, and commissioned deaconesses, subject to the approval of the National Board of Administration.

(13) To serve as educational consultant for all National departments, auxiliaries, and agencies of the Church which carry on educational activities through organised Educational Institutions.

(14) To maintain denominational relationships with appropriate educational agencies outside the Church, as approved by the National Board of Administration (651:11).

(15) To prepare an annual budget for his department in keeping with the approved policies and procedures.

(16) To employ such personnel as are necessary to the carrying out of his duties, subject to the limitations of the annual budget and personnel policies adopted by the National Board of Administration.

(17) To report to each session of the National Conference concerning his official duties (623:4), annually to the National Board of Administration concerning his official duties and personal ministry (651:16), and at other times as required.

E. National Nominating Committee

746. There shall be a Nominating Committee consisting of three members of the National Board of Administration (642), which will include the National Superintendent, and four members from outside the NBA, to be elected by the National Conference (623:18). The National Board of Administration shall have the authority to remove and replace any member for just cause. At each National Conference, a new nominating committee shall be elected. Those elected shall not succeed themselves in the following nominating committee.

747. The duties of this committee are:

- (1) To present nominations for National Superintendent (691).
- (2) To present nominations for national officers and officials (671).
- (3) To present nominations for members-at-large on the NBA (642:2).
- (4) To present nominations for National Board of Review (1311:3).

F. National Theological Education Board (NTEB)

748 There shall be a National Theological Education Board comprising of the National Superintendent (the chairperson or any other elected at the first meeting), Mission Director, Principals of Church Theological Institutions, National Christian Education Director, National TEE Director, and TCCA PWC Lecturer or TCCA student or when there is no TCCA PWC Lecturer.

749 The National Theological Education Board is charged to formulate and implement all policies related to Theological Education at all levels in the Pilgrim Wesleyan Church.

Its specific functions include the following:

- (1) **Personnel needs Assessment:** Assess the needs of the PWC in terms of ministry personnel.
- (2) **Programme Needs Assessment:** Assess the institutions and programmes (e.g. in terms of progress toward accreditation and curriculum development) of the PWC in order to determine whether or not the needs of the church are being met.
- (3) **Programme Recommendation:** Make recommendations to such programmes and institutions as may be needed to assist them in enhancing their fulfillment of PWC needs.
- (4) **Financial Resources Development:** Locate and develop financial resources for the programmes and institutions that are connected to or affiliated with the PWC.
- (5) **Training for National Leadership:** Identify, assess, recommend and train individuals for leadership and teaching positions in Theological Education in the PWC (These individuals will be trained primarily for National positions)
- (6) **Training for Local Leadership:** Identify, assess, recommend and train individuals for ministerial or Christian service training (These individuals will be trained primarily for local District and Zone positions)
- (7) **Ministerial Qualification Assessment:** Develop criteria for assessing the qualifications of all candidates for ministerial or Christian service training.

- (8) **Ministerial Placement Recommendations:** Recommend placement of personnel according to strategic needs of the PWC.
- (9) **Financial Assistance Accountability:** Develop a means (e.g. contract) by which all leadership, teaching, ministerial or Christian service trainees may be held accountable for financial assistance from or through the PWC.
- (10) **Theological Education Policy Revision:** Periodically review and revise the general as well as particular Theological Education policies as the situation and needs of the church require.

PART V: WORLD ORGANISATION

Chapter I

A. Basic Principles

801. The Pilgrim Wesleyan Church of Zambia is a member of both the Wesleyan World Fellowship and The North American General Conference of The Wesleyan Church. In the fulfillment of its mission to spread scriptural holiness throughout the world (53), these bodies recognise the following as basic principles for its worldwide organisation:

(1) The objective of The Pilgrim Wesleyan Church is to establish an indigenous, contextualised, and fully functioning church which shall be a part of The Wesleyan Church worldwide.

(2) The Essentials of The Wesleyan Church (paragraphs 6520-6725 of the 1992 Discipline of the North American General Conference within the "Charter of Wesleyan World Fellowship") shall serve as a bond for all Wesleyan churches around the world. The Pilgrim Wesleyan Church of Zambia ascribes to these essentials (64:1).

(3) As a unit under the General Department of World Missions of the North American General Conference this Discipline of The Pilgrim Wesleyan Church as approved by the General Board of Administration is in keeping with policies stated in the North American Discipline.

B. General Conference

802. The Pilgrim Wesleyan Church of Zambia may be authorised by the North American General Conference to become a general conference when it meets the minimum requirements as provided for in 803.

803. The minimum requirements for a general conference are:

(1) An effective church organisation on the local, district, and/or National levels.

(2) Effective programmes for the nurture and training of members, new converts, children, young people, and lay workers.

(3) An effective programme for ministerial training.

(4) Evidence of responsible stewardship of life and possessions, including the proper management of funds and the provision for the support of its own pastors, workers, and officers.

(5) A definite programme of evangelism, church extension, and missionary outreach on an indigenous basis.

(6) A Discipline approved by the General Board of Administration.

(7) The existence of a property-holding body, or more than one such body, if required by local laws.

(8) Acceptance of the Essentials of The Wesleyan Church.

(9) A recommendation for such status from the General Director of World Missions.

- (10) A recommendation from the General Board of Administration.

C. Wesleyan World Fellowship

804. The Pilgrim Wesleyan Church of Zambia is a member of Wesleyan World Fellowship which was created for the purpose of promoting worldwide holiness evangelism, the coordinating of the activities of The Wesleyan Church worldwide, the promoting of a closer fellowship and mutual understanding, and the providing of means for joint planning and cooperative action among all units and general conferences of The Wesleyan Church.

805. The Wesleyan World Fellowship consists of those bodies which have originated in or which have affiliated with The Wesleyan Church and which adhere to the Essentials of The Wesleyan Church and subscribe to the provisions of its Charter.

806. The Wesleyan World Fellowship functions through its general council composed of representatives from each general conference and each mission unit functioning under the General Department of World Missions. The number of representatives to the Wesleyan World Fellowship is determined according to the number of members, with due regard to the principle of lay representation.

807. The Wesleyan World Fellowship is organised and governed in accord with its Charter.

PART VI: THE CHRISTIAN MINISTRY

CHAPTER 1

QUALIFICATIONS AND CALL OF THE MINISTER

901. While God, through the ministry of the Holy Spirit, assigns to each believer his part in dispensing the gospel message, He also calls some to official and public work of the ministry. As Christ called unto Him whom He would, and chose and ordained His twelve apostles "that they might be with him and that he might send them out to preach" (Mark 3:14), so He still calls and sends forth His messengers. And as the Holy Spirit impresses this call upon the individual involved, He also confirms the call through the Church. It is the responsibility of the Church both to recognise and endorse God's call, providing for the training and employment of those He selects, and to respect the sacred office of the ministry by refusing this office to those not called of God. The Church's endorsement may be limited to a probationary period, taking the form of a license, or it may be granted on a more permanent basis, taking the form of ordination.

902. The Pilgrim Wesleyan Church believes that four marks will concur in the man or woman whom God has called: grace, gifts, fruit, and an abiding sense of a divine call. Each candidate for license to preach or for ordination shall be examined concerning each of these marks:

- (1) Does he/she know God as a pardoning God? Has he/she the love of God abiding in him/her? Does he/she desire nothing but God? Is he/she

holy in life and conduct as well as in heart? Is he/she a worthy example to the Church and to the world?

(2) Does he/she have gifts as well as grace for the work? Does he/she have a clear, sound understanding? A right judgment in the things of God? A just conception of salvation by faith? Does he/she speak justly, readily, clearly?

(3) Has he/she any fruit? Have any been truly convinced of sin and converted to God, and are believers edified by his/her preaching?

(4) Has he/she an abiding sense of a divine call to work?

903. Any person who has a marriage relationship which is against the Scriptures and the Membership Commitments shall not be given a pastoral license or ordained in The Pilgrim Wesleyan Church of Zambia (111; 128:10; 920:5; 926:4).

Chapter II

CATEGORIES OF WORKERS

A. PASTORS

1. Ministerial Student

911. Identification. A ministerial student is a person pursuing ministerial studies under the direction of the district board of ministerial development.

(1) A covenant member of The Pilgrim Wesleyan Church who confesses a call of God to be a minister may be granted a license by the District Conference as a ministerial student by meeting the following requirements in order:

(a) Membership in a local Pilgrim Wesleyan Church within the district granting the license.

(b) Recommendation from the local church conference or the local board of administration to the District Board of Administration (330:18) that the candidate be accepted for ministerial studies.

(c) Readiness to pursue studies with all diligence until completed, to prepare for ordination, and to give himself/herself wholly to the ministry in The Pilgrim Wesleyan Church of Zambia when studies are completed.

(d) Examination by the district board of ministerial development (520) relative to qualifications (902-903) for ministry including a personal religious experience, ministerial call, and evidence of the call, and its recommendation to the District Conference for the granting of the license.

(e) Approval by the District Board of Administration for appointment as a ministerial student (482:7; 911).

(f) Issuance and signing of the license by the District Superintendent and the district secretary (563.4).

(2) Renewing a License for a Ministerial Student. The license for a ministerial student may be renewed annually if the reports from both the ministerial student and the ministerial training programme show that progress has been made in the course of study and if the reports to the District Conference have been made as requested by the district board of ministerial development.

2. Local Preacher

912. Identification. A local preacher is a lay member of The Pilgrim Wesleyan Church of Zambia whom the local church conference has licensed to minister (270:7), under the pastor's direction and as there is opportunity.

913. Granting a Local Preacher's License. A covenant member of a local Pilgrim Wesleyan church, who applies for a license as a local preacher, or who is presented as a candidate for such license by the pastor, shall be examined as provided for by the local church board in keeping with 902-903. If the local church board is satisfied that the candidate shows promise or ministerial gifts and usefulness, it shall

recommend to the local church conference the granting of a license (330:18). When the local church conference has approved such action (330:18), the pastor and local church secretary shall issue the license on the approved form (304:24; 351:3).

914. Renewing a Local Preacher's License. A local preacher's license is effective for one year only, and authority to minister under such a license shall cease unless it is renewed annually by the local church conference, until such time as the holder of the license is granted a district minister's license. The local church conference may renew the license if its holder has served satisfactorily under the pastor's direction, if his/her gifts and graces give promise of continued usefulness, and if the annual report of the Ministerial Study Course Agency shows that he/she has completed one course in the course of study for the local preacher (983) during the year, or if he/she holds a certificate from the Ministerial Study Course Agency showing that the course has been completed including all of the following subjects:

Introduction to the Old Testament
Introduction to the New Testament
Pilgrim Wesleyan History
Pilgrim Wesleyan Discipline

915. Duties of a Local Preacher. A person holding a local preacher's license shall be responsible:

(1) To enroll in the course of study for local preacher(983) under the National Committee for Christian Education, and to pursue it with all diligence until completed either through a programme of ministerial training at one of the Pilgrim Wesleyan educational institutions, through approved correspondence courses, or TEE courses approved by the National Committee on Christian Education, which shall have authority to determine to what extent it may be credited toward the prescribed course. Once the course of study for the local preacher has been completed, he/she shall either seek a recommendation from his/her local church conference to the District Conference for listing as a ministerial student (911), or a recommendation for a district ministerial license(919), or he/she may continue his/her ministry on a local level as long as the local church conference shall renew his/her license (269:6).

(2) To assist the pastor as he/she shall direct (912), preaching as often as opportunity affords, including the holding of evangelistic services in neighboring churches with his/her pastor's approval.

(3) To report the progress of his/her studies and the nature and extent of his/her labours to his/her pastor and the local church board as they require (330:19), and to the local church conference annually (269:5).

(4) To serve as a supply pastor (917)if appointed by the District Superintendent and the District Board of Administration (559:15, 16; 917), and when so employed to make reports as required by the District Superintendent and annually to the District Conference.

916. Regulations for a Local Preacher.

(1) A local preacher has no authority to solemnize marriages. He/she may administer the sacraments after the approval of the National Board of Administration has been given to him/her (651:29); neither has he/she any vote in the local church board nor in the District Conference unless elected to it.

(2) A local preacher is amenable to the local church conference, and his/her license may be revoked for cause or when the best interests of the church so require, upon recommendation of the local church board and a majority vote of the local church conference (330:18; 270:7).

(3) A local preacher who transfers his/her membership may also ask for a letter of standing as a local preacher(912), and present it to the pastor of the church to which he/she is transferring for consideration by the local church board there in issuing a new license.

3. Supply Pastor

917. Identification. A supply pastor is a layman who is a covenant member of a Pilgrim Wesleyan church, who serves under appointment of the District Board of Administration and district conference in a local church (458:19).

918. Regulations for a Supply Pastor.

(1) A supply pastor is amenable to the District Board of Administration of the district he is serving.

(2) A supply pastor may administer the sacraments after the approval of the National Board of Administration has been given to him/her (651:29).

(3) A supply pastor has a vote in the District Conference as long as he is stationed under appointment by the District Conference (442:2).

(4) A supply pastor must enroll in the course of study for supply pastors (983).

4. Licensed Minister

919. Identification. A licensed minister is one whose ministerial calling and gifts have been formally recognised by a District Conference, through the granting of a district ministerial license, authorising him/her for and appointing him/her to a larger area of service and greater rights and responsibilities than those pertaining to a local preacher, as a step toward ordination as an ordained minister.

920. Granting a District Ministerial License. A covenant member of The Pilgrim Wesleyan Church who believes that he/she is called of God (cf. 901), may be granted a district ministerial license by meeting the following requirements in order:

(1) Membership in a local Pilgrim Wesleyan church within the district granting the license.

(2) Satisfactory service under a local preacher's license or as a ministerial student in The Pilgrim Wesleyan Church for at least one year or until the course of study for the local preacher has been completed (see 983).

(3) Certificate from the National Committee on Christian Education showing completion of the course of study for the local preacher (731; cf. 732:3:c) or completion of the ministerial course of an approved educational institution.

(4) Readiness to accept the District Conference's appointment to active service in one of the categories listed in 971:3:1-7.

(5) Examination by the district board of ministerial development (523:1) relative to the qualifications for the ministry and for a district license (cf. 523:1:a-d), including his/her personal religious experience, ministerial call and evidence thereof, matters of education, doctrine, and practice, and circumstances of personal, family, and business life which bear upon the ministry; and subsequent recommendation by the district board of ministerial development to the District Conference for the granting of a district ministerial license (523:5).

(6) Recommendation by the District Board of Administration for his/her immediate appointment to one of the categories of service.

(7) Adoption by the District Conference of the separate recommendations of the district board of ministerial development (458:22:a-e) and of the District Board of Administration (482:7).

(8) Issuance and signing of the license by the District Superintendent and the district secretary (559:18; 563:4).

921. Renewing a District Ministerial License. A district ministerial license is effective for one year only, and authority to carry on the office and work of a minister under such a license shall cease unless it is renewed annually by the District Conference until such time as the holder of the license is ordained to the ministry. A minister may be granted renewal of his/her ministerial license by meeting the following requirements:

(1) Satisfactory service under his/her appointment, including keeping the rules of The Pilgrim Wesleyan Church and of the district, and including the proper filing of reports. If a licensed minister fails to file his/her annual service report (458:23), unless such failure is due to illness, injury, or a similar emergency, his/her license shall not be renewed (458:23).

(2) Confirmation through the annual report of the National Committee on Christian Education that he/she has completed at least one course in the pre-ordination study course. The pre-ordination study course must be completed within ten years of service under a ministerial license, and the ministerial license shall not be renewed beyond the tenth year.

(3) Agreement to continue under district appointment to one of the categories of service listed in 971:3:1-7, should a vacancy be available and if recommended by the District Board of Ministerial Development.

922. Rights of a Licensed Minister. As long as a minister qualifies for and receives a district license, he/she shall have the right:

(1) To preach the gospel and, when approved by the National Board of Administration (651:29), to administer baptism and the Lord's Supper, and to perform all parts of divine worship.

(2) To contract the pastoral relationship with local Pilgrim Wesleyan churches subject to the approval of the District Conference and other regulations of The Discipline.

(3) To enjoy, if appointed as a pastor, the use for religious meetings of the church building or buildings of the local church to which he/she has been assigned by the District Conference; and to serve his/her

church without interference by unauthorised activities of another minister of The Pilgrim Wesleyan Church (cf. 139:5:b).

(4) To be a voting member of the District Conference if pastoring a Pilgrim Wesleyan Church, or a nonvoting member of the District Conference if appointed to some other category of service (442:2; 443:2).

(5) To transfer in the manner prescribed by The Discipline from one district to another, subject to the concurrence of the District Superintendent and the National Superintendent over the district to which he/she seeks a transfer (559:14; 694:29).

(6) To have recourse, even if under discipline, to a proper court of jurisdiction in any matters involving complaint against his/her character or ministerial conduct and to appeal the decision of such court (1237; 1238:5).

923. Duties of a Licensed Minister. A person holding a ministerial license shall be responsible:

(1) To enroll in the pre-ordination study course determined by the National Committee on Christian Education and his/her district board of ministerial development, and to pursue the study course with all diligence until completed, either through a programme of ministerial training at one of the approved educational institutions, or through a course of study approved by the National Committee on Christian Education and the District Board of Administration (732:3:a, d).

(2) To serve his/her district faithfully under whatever appointment he/she may receive, seeking to complete the service requirements for ordination.

(3) To report annually to the District Conference on the appropriate service report form (cf. 458:23), and to the District Superintendent and the board of ministerial development as required (cf. 523:7).

924. Regulations for a Licensed Minister.

(1) A licensed minister is amenable to the district which grants his/her license, and his/her license may be revoked between sessions of the District Conference by judicial process as set forth in 1233.

(2) A licensed minister's credentials shall consist of his/her license, signed annually by the District Superintendent and the district secretary (559:18; 563:4), and an annual pocket certificate of standing, issued and signed by the District Superintendent and secretary (559:18).

(3) A minister from another denomination who has been licensed or authorised in some manner equivalent to the licensing of a Pilgrim Wesleyan minister by a District Conference, may present his/her letter of standing, license, other credentials and transcripts, or other records of ministerial training, to the District Superintendent for consideration of reception as a minister into The Pilgrim Wesleyan Church. He/she must join a local Pilgrim Wesleyan Church and seek and qualify for a local preacher's license, and shall serve under that license for one year before being recommended for district license. Such a minister may serve as a supply pastor during his/her first year of membership in The Pilgrim Wesleyan Church (cf. 458:22:d).

**5. Ordained minister
(Male or Female)**

925. Identification. An ordained minister is a minister (male or female) whose calling, gifts, and usefulness have been demonstrated and enhanced by proper training and experience, and who has been separated to the service of Christ by the vote of a District Conference and by the solemn act of ordination (1456 ff.), and thus has been fully invested with all the functions of the Christian ministry.

926. Qualifications for Ordination: (Male or Female). A licensed minister of The Pilgrim Wesleyan Church who has an abiding conviction of God's call to be a minister (cf. 901) may be ordained as an ordained minister by meeting the following requirements in order:

(1) Membership in a local Pilgrim Wesleyan church within the district granting ordination.

(2) Satisfactory service for two years as a licensed minister or licensed deaconess under appointment to one of the categories of service listed in 971:3:1-7, at least one of which years must have been in The Pilgrim Wesleyan Church in the case of a minister or deaconess transferring from another denomination (cf. 458:22:b,d).

(3) Certificate or letter from the National Committee on Christian Education showing completion of the pre-ordination course of study or of its equivalent (732:3:a,d). [Note: A minister with at least 12 years of service under the appointment of The Pilgrim Wesleyan Church of Zambia who is 35 years of age or older, may be evaluated for equivalency experience credits to be taken into consideration for credit toward the academic requirements for ordination. Application for this evaluation must come through the District Board of Ministerial Development with the approval of the District Board of Administration (cf. 523:1:d; 482:30) with specific recommendations to the National Committee on Christian Education (731). Compliance may require a written report and a personal interview and will generally require some further study or written work to meet the qualifications. The decision of the National Committee on Christian Education regarding equivalency experience credits cannot be appealed.]

(4) Examination by the district board of ministerial development relative to his/her qualifications for the ministry and for ordination (cf. 523:1:c; 925), including his/her personal religious experience, ministerial call and evidence thereof, matters of education, doctrine, and practice, particularly his/her personal commitment without reservation to each of the Articles of Religion and the Membership Commitments and his/her loyalty to The Pilgrim Wesleyan Church, and circumstances of personal, family, and business life which bear upon the ministry; and a subsequent report by the district board of ministerial development to the District Conference (523:5).

(5) Election by the District Conference to ordained minister's orders (458:21).

(6) Public service of ordination (1458 ff.), in which the minister shall witness to a Christian experience, affirm his/her conviction of a divine call to the ministry, his/her commitment to the doctrines and principles of The Pilgrim Wesleyan Church, and his/her loyalty to The Pilgrim Wesleyan Church, after which the minister shall be separated to the Christian ministry through the laying on of hands in the person of the National Superintendent, the District Superintendent, and the Council of Ordination (1466).

(7) Issuance and signing of a certificate of ordination by the National Superintendent, the District Superintendent, and the district secretary (694:28; 559:18; 563:4).

927. Reception of an Ordained minister from Another Denomination. An ordained minister from another denomination may present his/her letter of standing or other credentials, and transcripts or other records of ministerial standing, to the District Superintendent, and seek reception as an ordained minister into The Pilgrim Wesleyan Church (cf. 523:2; 559:18), according to the following procedures:

(1) He/she shall join a local Pilgrim Wesleyan church within the district.

(2) He shall be examined by the district board of ministerial development relative to his/her Christian experience, call, and qualifications for the ministry as given in 523:1:a,c (cf. 523:2), and relative to the nature of the ordination which he/she received.

(3) He/she shall be examined by the National Committee on Christian Education relative to the equivalence of his/her training to the Pilgrim Wesleyan course of study (cf. 732:3:d) If the district board of ministerial development so recommends (523:5), the District Conference may appoint him/her as an ordained minister in process of transfer (458:22:a; cf. 927), which relation shall continue for one year unless the District Conference shall by vote extend it. While serving under this relation, he/she shall be a nonvoting member of the District Conference (443:1), may serve as a supply pastor (917), and shall seek to correct any deficiencies in his/her ministerial training, particularly in Pilgrim Wesleyan doctrine, history, and The Discipline. If at any time the District Board of Administration shall determine that it is not in the best interests of the district to continue the relation, they may by majority vote terminate the relation and any supply assignment, and thus dismiss him/her from all ministerial relations to The Pilgrim Wesleyan Church.

(4) If his/her year of service is satisfactory and all deficiencies in his/her ministerial training are corrected, the district board of ministerial development may recommend to the District Conference that he/she be recognised as an ordained minister of The Pilgrim Wesleyan Church of Zambia and received as a ministerial member of the district (523:2).

(5) When he/she has been received, by a vote of the conference (458:21), a certificate validating his/her certificate of ordination shall be issued (1515), and signed by the National Superintendent presiding over the District Conference, by the District Superintendent, and the district secretary.

928. Rights of an Ordained minister. As long as an ordained minister maintains spiritual life, moral character, and faithful ministry which first qualified him/her for ordination, and as long as he/she is neither under discipline nor expelled from the ministry, the ordained minister shall have the right:

(1) To preach the gospel and to administer baptism and the Lord's Supper, to perform all parts of divine worship, and to solemnise the rite of matrimony, in keeping with the laws of the country.

(2) To be eligible for election to any office in the Pilgrim Wesleyan Church of Zambia for which ordained ministers are eligible.

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(3) To contract the pastoral relationship with local Pilgrim Wesleyan churches subject to the other provisions of The Discipline.

(4) To wear, if he/she so desires, the Protestant minister's clerical apparel.

(5) To enjoy, if appointed as a pastor, the use for religious meetings of the church building or buildings of the pastoral charge to which assigned by the District Conference; and to serve his/her assigned church without interference by unauthorised activities of another minister of The Pilgrim Wesleyan Church (cf. 953).

(6) To be a voting member of the District Conference.

(7) To transfer in the manner prescribed by The Discipline from one district to another, subject to the concurrence of the District Superintendent and the National Superintendent over the district to which he/she seeks to transfer (559:14).

(8) To have recourse, even if under discipline, to a proper court of jurisdiction in any matters involving complaint against character or ministerial conduct and to appeal the decision of such court (1237; 1238:5).

929. Duties of an Ordained minister. An ordained minister shall be responsible:

(1) To be devoted without reservation to the Christian ministry, following the leadership of the Holy Spirit and the appointment of the District Conference in determining and occupying this field of service.

(2) To report annually to the District Conference on the appropriate service report form (458:23), and to the District Superintendent as required (cf. 559:1).

(3) To voluntarily file all credentials with the District Superintendent if service in one of the categories of ministry listed in 971:1:1-10 ceases for an extended period of time.

(4) To voluntarily surrender credentials if guilty of an offense which would disqualify service as an ordained minister (cf. 1239:2; 925).

930. Regulations for an Ordained minister.

(1) An ordained minister is amenable to the district where membership is held, and may be deposed from the ministry and ordered to surrender credentials by judicial process as set forth in 1239:2,4.

(2) An ordained minister's credentials shall consist of the certificate of ordination (1515), and an annual pocket certificate of standing, issued and signed by the District Superintendent and district secretary (1521).

(3) An ordained minister who fails to file his/her annual service report (972) for two successive years, shall be notified by the district board of ministerial development, and requested to report at the next session of the District Conference. If the ordained minister then fails

to report, the district shall declare the ordained minister withdrawn and shall record the action upon the minutes of the District Conference.

(4) When an ordained minister surrenders the certificate of ordination because he/she is guilty of an offense (1211), or is ordered to surrender it after due judicial process (1237), it shall be lawful to publish such fact in the columns of the National church periodical.

B. OTHER WORKERS

1. Local Deacon

931. Identification. A local deacon is a lay member of The Pilgrim Wesleyan Church of Zambia whom the local church conference has licensed to minister as a deacon(270:7), under the pastor's direction and as there is opportunity (304:24). The category of local deacon in The Pilgrim Wesleyan Church of Zambia is for men who wish to serve in the local church but who sense no call to pursue ordination (925).

932. Granting a Local Deacon's License. A covenant member of a local Pilgrim Wesleyan church, who applies for a license as a local deacon, or who is presented as a candidate for such license by the pastor, shall be examined as provided for by the local church board in keeping with 330:18. If the local church board is satisfied that the candidate is willing to serve as there is opportunity, it shall recommend to the local church conference the granting of a license (330:18). When the local church conference has approved such action (270:7), the pastor and local church secretary shall issue the license on the approved form (1507; 351:3).

933. Renewing a Local Deacon's License. A local deacon's license is effective for one year only, and authority to minister under such a license shall cease unless it is renewed annually by the local church conference. The local church conference may renew the license if its holder has served satisfactorily under the pastor's direction and has completed at least one of the courses in the Local Deacon's Course of Study Program (987).

934. Duty of a Local Deacon. A person holding a local deacon's license shall be responsible:

(1) To assist the pastor as he/she shall direct(304:24).

(2) To enroll in the course of study for local deacons (987) and to complete at least one course per year (987). The local deacon may transfer courses taken in the local deacon's course of study programme to another authorised course of study programme as long as all approvals and procedures are obtained and followed.

935. Regulations for a Local Deacon.

(1) A local deacon has no authority to solemnise marriages. He may administer the sacraments after the approval of the National Board of Administration has been given to him (651:29); neither has he any vote in the local church board nor in the District Conference unless elected to it.

(2) A local deacon is amenable to the local church conference, and his license may be revoked for cause or when the best interests of the church so require, upon recommendation of the local church board and a majority vote of the local church conference (330:18; 269:6).

(3) A local deacon who transfers his membership may also ask for a letter of standing as a local deacon (1512), and present it to the pastor of the church to which he is transferring for consideration by the local church board there in issuing a new license.

2. Local Deaconess

936. Identification. A local deaconess is a lay member of The Pilgrim Wesleyan Church of Zambia whom the local church conference has licensed to minister as a deaconess(269:6), under the pastor's direction and as there is opportunity (304:24).

937. Granting a Local Deaconess's License. A covenant member of a local Pilgrim Wesleyan church, who applies for a license as a local deaconess, or who is presented as a candidate for such license by the pastor, shall be examined as provided for by the local church board in keeping with 330:18. If the local church board is satisfied that the candidate shows promise or ministerial gifts and usefulness, it shall recommend to the local church conference the granting of a license (330:18). When the local church conference has approved such action (270:7), the pastor and local church secretary shall issue the license on the approved form (1511; 351:13).

938. Renewing a Local Deaconess's License. A local deaconess's license is effective for one year only, and authority to minister under such a license shall cease unless it is renewed annually by the local church conference, until such time as the holder of the license is granted a commissioned deaconess's license. The local church conference may renew the license if its holder has served satisfactorily under the pastor's direction, if her gifts and graces give promise of continued usefulness, and if the annual report of the Ministerial Study Course Agency shows that she has completed one course in the course of study for the local deaconess(972; 983) during the year, or if she holds a certificate from the Ministerial Study Course Agency showing that the course has been completed including all of the following subjects:

Introduction to the Old Testament
Introduction to the New Testament
Pilgrim Wesleyan History
Pilgrim Wesleyan Discipline

939. Duties of a Local Deaconess. A person holding a local deaconess's license shall be responsible:

(1) To enroll in the course of study for local deaconesses(983; 936) under the National Committee for Christian Education, and to pursue it with all diligence until completed either through a programme of ministerial training at one of the Pilgrim Wesleyan educational institutions, through approved correspondence courses, or TEE courses approved by the National Committee on Christian Education, which shall have authority to determine to what extent it may be credited toward the prescribed course. Once the course of study for the local deaconess has been completed, she shall either seek a recommendation from her local church conference to the District Conference for listing as a ministerial student (911), or a recommendation for a commissioned deaconess license(1518; cf. 947), or she may continue her ministry on a local level as long as the local church conference shall renew her license (330:18).

(2) To assist the pastor as he/she shall direct (304:24), preaching as often as opportunity affords, including the holding of evangelistic services in neighboring churches with her pastor's approval.

(3) To report the progress of her studies and the nature and extent of her labours to her pastor and the local church board as they require (304:24), and to the local church conference annually (269:5).

(4) To serve as a supply pastor (917) if appointed by the District Superintendent and the District Board of Administration (559:6; 482:24), and when so employed to make reports as required by the District Superintendent and annually to the District Conference.

940. Regulations for a Local Deaconess.

(1) A local deaconess has no authority to solemnise marriages. She may administer the sacraments after the approval of the National Board of Administration has been given to her (651:29); neither has she any vote in the local church board nor in the District Conference unless elected to it.

(2) A local deaconess is amenable to the local church conference, and her license may be revoked for cause or when the best interests of the church so require, upon recommendation of the local church board and a majority vote of the local church conference (330:18; 269:6).

(3) A local deaconess who transfers her membership may also ask for a letter of standing as a local deaconess (1512), and present it to the pastor of the church to which she is transferring for consideration by the local church board there in issuing a new license.

3. Licensed Deaconess

941. Identification. A licensed deaconess is one whose calling and gifts have been formally recognised by a District Conference, through the granting of a district deaconess's license, authorising her for and appointing her to a larger area of service and greater rights and responsibilities than those pertaining to a local deaconess, as a step either towards licensing as a commissioned deaconess or ordination.

942. Granting a District Deaconess's License. A covenant member of The Pilgrim Wesleyan Church who believes that she is called of God (cf. 902), may be granted a district deaconess's license by meeting the following requirements in order:

(1) Membership in a local Pilgrim Wesleyan church within the district granting the license.

(2) Satisfactory service under a local deaconess's license or as a ministerial student in The Pilgrim Wesleyan Church for at least one year or until the course of study for the local deaconess has been completed (see 983).

(3) Certificate from the National Committee on Christian Education showing completion of the course of study for the local deaconess (732:3:c; 983) or completion of the ministerial course of an approved educational institution.

(4) Readiness to accept the District Conference's appointment to active service in one of the categories listed in 971:3:1-7.

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(5) Examination by the district board of ministerial development (523:1) relative to the qualifications for the ministry and for a district license (cf. 902:1-4; 942), including her personal religious experience, ministerial call and evidence thereof, matters of education, doctrine, and practice, and circumstances of personal, family, and business life which bear upon the ministry; and subsequent recommendation by the district board of ministerial development to the District Conference for the granting of a district ministerial license (523:5).

(6) Recommendation by the District Board of Administration for her immediate appointment to one of the categories of service.

(7) Adoption by the District Conference of the separate recommendations of the district board of ministerial development (523:5) and of the District Board of Administration (482:7).

(8) Issuance and signing of the license by the District Superintendent and the district secretary (559:18; 563:4; cf. 1514).

943. Renewing a District Deaconess's License. A district deaconess's license is effective for one year only, and authority to carry on the office and work of a deaconess under such a license shall cease unless it is renewed annually by the District Conference until such time as the holder of the license is ordained to the ministry. A deaconess may be granted renewal of her deaconess's license by meeting the following requirements:

(1) Satisfactory service under her appointment, including keeping the rules of The Pilgrim Wesleyan Church and of the district, and including the proper filing of reports. If a licensed deaconess fails to file her annual service report (972), unless such failure is due to illness, injury, or a similar emergency, her license shall not be renewed.

(2) Confirmation through the annual report of the National Committee on Christian Education that she has completed at least one course in the pre-ordination study course. The pre-ordination study course must be completed within ten years of service under a district deaconess's license, and the license shall not be renewed beyond the tenth year.

(3) Agreement to continue under district appointment to one of the categories of service listed in 970:3:1-7, should a vacancy be available and if recommended by the District Board of Ministerial Development.

944. Rights of a Licensed Deaconess. As long as a deaconess qualifies for and receives a district license, she shall have the right:

(1) To preach the gospel and, when approved by the National Board of Administration (651:29), to administer baptism and the Lord's Supper, and to perform all parts of divine worship.

(2) To contract the pastoral relationship with local Pilgrim Wesleyan churches subject to the approval of the District Conference and other regulations of The Discipline.

(3) To enjoy, if appointed as a pastor, the use for religious meetings of the church building or buildings of the local church to which she has been assigned by the District Conference; and to serve her church without interference by unauthorised activities of another deaconess of The Pilgrim Wesleyan Church (cf. 953).

(4) To be a voting member of the District Conference if pastoring a Pilgrim Wesleyan Church, or a nonvoting member of the District Conference if appointed to some other category of service (442:2; 443:2).

(5) To transfer in the manner prescribed by The Discipline from one district to another, subject to the concurrence of the District Superintendent and the National Superintendent over the district to which she seeks a transfer (cf. 559:14).

(6) To have recourse, even if under discipline, to a proper court of jurisdiction in any matters involving complaint against her character or ministerial conduct and to appeal the decision of such court (1237; 1238:5).

945. Duties of a Licensed Deaconess. A person holding a deaconess's license shall be responsible:

(1) To enroll in the pre-ordination study course determined by the National Committee on Christian Education and her district board of ministerial development, and to pursue the study course with all diligence until completed, either through a programme of ministerial training at one of the approved educational institutions, or through a course of study approved by the National Committee on Christian Education and the District Board of Administration (983; 482:8).

(2) To serve her district faithfully under whatever appointment she may receive, seeking to complete the service requirements for ordination.

(3) To report annually to the District Conference on the appropriate service report form (cf. 458:23; 972), and to the District Superintendent and the board of ministerial development as required (cf. 559:6).

946. Regulations for a Licensed Deaconess.

(1) A licensed deaconess is amenable to the district which grants her license. Her license may be revoked between sessions of the District Conference by judicial process as set forth in 1237.

(2) A licensed deaconess's credentials shall consist of her license, signed annually by the District Superintendent and the district secretary (559:18; 563:4), and an annual pocket certificate of standing, issued and signed by the District Superintendent and secretary (1521).

(3) A deaconess from another denomination who has been licensed or authorised in some manner equivalent to the licensing of a Pilgrim Wesleyan deaconess by a District Conference, may present her letter of standing, license, other credentials and transcripts, or other records of ministerial training, to the District Superintendent for consideration of reception as a deaconess into The Pilgrim Wesleyan Church. She must join a local Pilgrim Wesleyan Church and seek and qualify for a local deaconess's license, and shall serve under that license for one year before being recommended for district license. Such a deaconess may serve as a supply pastor during her first year of membership in The Pilgrim Wesleyan Church (cf. 917).

4. Commissioned Deaconess

947. Commissioned Deaconess. A licensed deaconess may be commissioned by the District Conference provided that she has completed the local preacher's or local deaconess's course of study (983) or its

equivalent as certified by the National Committee on Christian Education (732:3:d), has served satisfactorily under a district deaconess's license for at least two years, and has been recommended for commissioning by the district board of ministerial development after careful examination concerning Christian experience, gifts, and calling (523:2; 902:1-4). The commissioning shall include the affirmative vote of the District Conference (458:22:d), a solemn act of consecration as set forth in 1482 (cf. 1476), and the issuance of a commission signed by the National Superintendent, the District Superintendent, and the district secretary (694:28; cf. 1518; 559:18; 563:4). The commission shall be continuous until such time as the worker ceases to be active in the particular field of service and files the commission with the District Superintendent, or unless deprived of the commission by judicial process (1237). A commissioned deaconess who fails to file the annual service report (972) for two successive years, shall be notified by the district board of ministerial development, and requested to report at the next session of the District Conference. A commissioned deaconess who then fails to report, shall be declared withdrawn from the district, and the deaconess's name shall be so entered upon the minutes of the District Conference (cf. 563:1, 6). A person from another denomination holding a commission as a deaconess or its equivalent may be received into The Pilgrim Wesleyan Church subject to the regulations which govern the reception of an ordained minister (927).

948. General Regulations for a Commissioned Deaconess. A commissioned deaconess shall be a member of a local church within the district which authorises the service, and shall serve under the direction of the pastor, or upon the call of local churches, or under a district or National agency, as the case may be. The commissioned deaconess shall be a nonvoting member of the District Conference (442:2), and shall report annually to the District Conference (458:8). The commissioned deaconess may be granted a letter of transfer or standing (1523, 1524). A former commissioned deaconess may be restored her commission only in keeping with the provisions of 957.

**C. General Regulations for
Ordained Ministers, Commissioned Deaconesses, Licensed Ministers and
Deaconesses**

1. Membership of Ministers

949. Local Church Membership. Each Pilgrim Wesleyan minister, whether ordained, commissioned, or licensed, must be a covenant member of a local Pilgrim Wesleyan church (1221) within the district in which he/she holds his/her ministerial membership. If serving as a pastor, his/her membership is automatically transferred to the church of service. If serving in some capacity other than that of a pastor, the holding and transfer of local church membership shall occur in the same manner as a layman. If he/she takes a letter of withdrawal from his/her local church (1505), such will not affect his/her standing in the district, unless he/she fails to use it in joining another Pilgrim Wesleyan church within the district.

950. District Membership. Each Pilgrim Wesleyan ordained minister or commissioned deaconess shall be a member of the District Conference which appoints him/her to service, and each licensed minister or licensed deaconess of the District Conference which issues his/her license (cf. 442:1,2).

2. Minister and Marriage

951. Any minister who enters into a marriage relation contrary to the Scriptures, and to those expositions of Scripture as set forth in the Membership Commitments (128:10; cf. 523:1:a), after having been ordained, commissioned, or licensed, shall be dismissed from his/her ministerial standing, provided that guilt shall be established in accord with the judicial processes set forth in The Discipline (1237).

952. In performing marriages, Pilgrim Wesleyan ministers shall not unite in marriage any person who is divorced and whose former companion is still living, unless such divorce and remarriage is in keeping with the Scriptures and the Membership Commitments (128:10) as explained by the following regulations:

(1) When one spouse is guilty of adultery and a divorce has been granted by a court of law on those grounds, the innocent spouse shall have the right to remarry.

(2) When a divorce has been granted by a court of law on other than scriptural grounds and one spouse remarries after the divorce has been granted, scriptural grounds for divorce for the other spouse shall be established. He/she shall then have the right to marry.

(3) When a divorce, although granted by a court of law on other than scriptural grounds, does in fact involve adultery, the minister shall be free to unite in marriage the innocent spouse.

3. Relationship to Other Ministers and Churches

953. Each minister of The Pilgrim Wesleyan Church shall respect the rights of each of his/her brethren within his/her field of labor, and shall not interfere with the work of, nor influence anyone against any pastor, district official, or other minister of The Pilgrim Wesleyan Church. In the event of any such violation of ministerial ethics, the aggrieved person may file a complaint with the District Superintendent (559:23; cf. 953).

954. If a Pilgrim Wesleyan minister shall engage to serve another denomination, or an interdenominational or independent work, as a pastor or in some other regular capacity, except by permission of his/her District Conference, or in the interim of its sessions, by permission of his/her District Board of Administration, the District Board of Administration may recommend and the District Conference may order that the minister be declared withdrawn. If serving within the territory of a district other than the one to which the minister belongs, the minister must have not only the permission of the district to which he/she belongs, but also the permission of the District Superintendent over the territory where such labor is proposed(419). An ordained minister serving outside The Pilgrim Wesleyan Church with the permission of his/her district, shall be placed either on the stationed or unstationed lists as set forth in 971:1, 7.

4. Restoration of Ministers

955. If a licensed minister or licensed deaconess ceases to be licensed or is declared withdrawn from his/her District Conference, and he/she was neither under charges nor under discipline, the minister may at a later time again be recommended by his/her local church conference and qualify for and be granted a district license.

956. If an ordained minister or commissioned deaconess has filed his/her credentials with the District Superintendent (929:3), or if

he/she has voluntarily surrendered (929:4), or been required to surrender them because of guilt in an offense which disqualifies him/her from being an ordained minister or commissioned deaconess, his/her credentials shall be forwarded to the National Secretary, to be filed and preserved, subject to the order of the District Conference having original jurisdiction (cf. 930:4).

957. An ordained minister or commissioned deaconess who has voluntarily filed his/her credentials with his/her District Superintendent (929:4), or who has taken a letter of standing and has not used the same within the prescribed time (1524), or who has been declared withdrawn when neither under charges nor under discipline (cf. 955), may be restored to the office of an ordained minister or commissioned deaconess in The Pilgrim Wesleyan Church, if such is approved by the District Conference from which he/she withdrew, or in the interim of its sessions, by the District Board of Administration, and if it is recommended by the local church conference where he/she now holds his/her membership and by the district board of ministerial development of the district in which he/she seeks ministerial membership, and if such restoration is voted by the District Conference in which he/she seeks ministerial membership (cf. 458:22:f).

958. An ordained minister, commissioned deaconess, licensed minister, or licensed deaconess, who has been expelled from the ministry of The Pilgrim Wesleyan Church, either through voluntary surrender of his/her credentials because of guilt (956) or through judicial process and disciplinary action, other than that considered in 956, may be restored to the office and work of a minister in The Pilgrim Wesleyan Church, provided there has been sincere repentance, confession of the offense and restitution (where needed), and provided that such is approved, recommended, and voted by the various bodies designated in 458:22:f; 523:5. In no case may restoration after expulsion be initiated before the stated period of suspension and before evidence of repentance and amendment of life. The suspension period for licensed ministers, licensed or commissioned deaconesses shall be two years. The suspension period for ordained ministers shall be three years. After the suspension, such a person may be reinstated to membership and may be given an appointment, but he cannot be ordained again. In the case of immorality, to which the minister has confessed guilt or for which guilt was declared by judicial process, such restoration and reinstatement may be accomplished only with the additional approval of the National Board of Administration.

959. An ordained minister, commissioned deaconess, licensed minister, or licensed deaconess who has been disqualified for the ministry through a marriage contrary to the Scriptures and the Membership Commitments (903; 128:10), shall not be restored to the office and work of a minister as long as both his/her former and latter spouse are living, and then only if he/she has manifested repentance and been approved, recommended, and voted restoration by the various bodies designated in 458:22:f; 523:5.

CHAPTER III

RELATIONS AND APPOINTMENTS IN THE MINISTRY

A. The Listing of District Conference Relations and Appointments

971. The ordained ministers, commissioned deaconesses, licensed ministers, licensed deaconesses, ministerial students of the district and supply pastors without district license shall be listed in the following order as appointed by the District Conference (458:19). This listing shall be included in the District Conference journal (563:6) as an official district directory (563:7).

1. Appointed Ordained Minister (cf. 925).

(1) National Official or other full-time officer of the Region.

(2) Full-time District Official.

(3) Pastor of a local church.

(4) Staff member of a National ministerial training institution or approved seminary.

(5) District or National Evangelist

(6) Missionary employed and sent out by the National Church.

(7) Institutional full-time Chaplains (military, hospital, or school).

(8) Full-time student in an approved graduate school preparing for further denominational service.

(9) Interchurch Service

(10) Supply Pastor

2. Commissioned Deaconess (cf. 947)

(1) Pastor of a local Church

(2) Missionary employed and sent by the National Church.

(3) Full-time Chaplain (hospital or school).

(4) Staff member of a National ministerial training institution or approved seminary.

(5) Supply Pastor

(6) Interchurch service

3. Appointed Licensed Minister or Licensed Deaconess (cf. 919, 941)

(1) Pastor of a local Church

(2) Missionary employed and sent by the National Church.

(3) Full-time Chaplain (hospital or school).

(4) Staff member of a National ministerial training institution or approved seminary.

- (5) Full-time student in approved ministerial training institution.
 - (6) Interchurch service
 - (7) Supply Pastor
4. **Ministerial Student (cf. 911).**
Full-time student in ministerial training Institute.
5. **Appointed Local Preacher or Local Deaconess (cf. 912, 939).**
Supply pastor of a local church.
6. **Retired Ministers.**
Ordained ministers, Commissioned Deaconesses, Licensed Ministers or Licensed Deaconesses retired because of age or sickness and no longer able to continue with ministry duties.
7. **Ministers Without Appointment.**
Ordained Ministers, Commissioned Deaconesses, Licensed Ministers, Licensed Deaconesses, or Supply Pastors not available for appointment. Licensed Ministers and Licensed Deaconesses can not remain on the list for longer than two years, after which they must accept appointment or be declared withdrawn.
8. **Ministers In Process Of Transfer.**
Ordained ministers, Commissioned Deaconesses, or Licensed Ministers or Licensed Deaconesses from another denomination who have been granted recognition as ministers in process of transfer (927; 523:2).

B. Annual Service Reports

972. Annual Service Reports. The District Conference shall receive an annual service report from each ordained minister, commissioned deaconesses, licensed minister or licensed deaconess, ministerial student, and local pastor or local deaconess under district appointment. All such reports shall be submitted to the district board of ministerial development, serving on behalf of the District Conference, as directed by the District Board of Administration or the District Superintendent (523:7).

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CHAPTER IV

MINISTERIAL EDUCATION

A. Priority of Ministerial Education

981. Primary purpose: The primary purpose of any ministerial training course, whether an institution (Bible College or Seminary), theological education by extension (TEE), or correspondence courses shall be the upgrading and enhancement of the ministry. The basis of these ministerial training courses shall be the requirements for ordination and the steps and levels of ministry leading up to ordination. While other courses of continuing education may be offered from time to time, the primary objective in all developed programmes in the ministerial training course shall be ordination(except in the case of local deacon. See 987).

B. Special Situations

982. It is recognised that some are called to preach when they are at an advanced age, when the normal opportunities for educational preparation have passed them by. While the Church shall make possible every opportunity for educational advancement within its power, and shall expect all those called to the work of the ministry within its ranks to meet the stipulated requirements, it must also stand prepared to make exceptions to its requirements when a particular situation merits, so that no person whose personal testimony, graces, gifts, and fruits evidence the call of God upon him/her shall be prevented from fulfilling this call because of educational limitations. Therefore the National Committee on Christian Education may, upon its discretion, waive certain academic requirements on the basis of experience equivalency or on the basis of academic equivalency. In the case of experience equivalency credits, the person making application must have served under the appointment of The Pilgrim Wesleyan Church for a period of not less than 12 years and be not less than 35 years of age.

C. Types of Ministerial Education

1. Courses of Study

983. The National Board of Educational Institutions shall develop and the National Board of Administration shall approve courses of study for commissioned deaconess, local preachers, local deacons, local deaconesses, licensed ministers, licensed deaconesses, supply pastors and ordination. All candidates for licenses, commission, and ordination in such categories must either have completed, or be enrolled in such courses of study as applicable.

2. Training Outside The Pilgrim Wesleyan Church

984. Some candidates for the ministry will have secured some or all of their college and/or seminary training outside the institutions and agencies of The Pilgrim Wesleyan Church. In such a case, the district board of ministerial development shall forward copies of transcripts or other records of study to the National Committee on Christian Education so that it can carefully evaluate such work in terms of its equivalence to the ministerial courses of study of The Pilgrim Wesleyan Church of Zambia, giving particular attention to the candidate's qualifications in the areas of Pilgrim Wesleyan doctrine, history, and The Discipline (523:1:b; 1-50; 61:6; 62). Before the evaluation and the report of the National Committee on Christian Education, the district board of ministerial development shall have the right to require additional work. When the district board

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of ministerial development is satisfied and the National Committee on Christian Education is fully satisfied that all requirements for the Pilgrim Wesleyan ministry have been met recommendation of the same may be forwarded to the District Board of Administration (Cf. 927:3).

D. Steps to Ordination:

(Male or Female)

985. The following are the general steps to ordination. Portions may be waived or substituted by the appropriate committees or boards as specifically stated in the Discipline. Typically, experience may be determined by the district board of ministerial development. Academic waivers or substitutions if appropriate may be made by the National Committee on Christian Education.

(1) Covenant membership in a local Pilgrim Wesleyan church within the district in which ordination is sought.

(2) Licensed as a local preacher, local deaconess, or ministerial student for at least one year of satisfactory work and completion of the following minimum academic requirements (the local preacher's or local deaconess's course):

Introduction to the Old Testament
Introduction to the New Testament
Pilgrim Wesleyan History
Pilgrim Wesleyan Discipline

(3) Completion of the following additional academic requirements for the district ministerial license or the district deaconess's license as certified by the National Committee on Christian Education:

Introduction to Pilgrim Wesleyan Doctrine
One course in practical ministry (from list in #8 below)

(4) Recommendation by a local church conference for district license as a minister or deaconess.

No candidate shall be recommended by a local church conference to the District Conference for the district ministerial or deaconess's license, who has not satisfactorily completed the above (#2 & #3) listed courses of study, and served for at least one year as a local preacher, a local deaconess, or a ministerial student.

(5) Examination by the district board of ministerial development and recommendation for district license to the District Board of Administration.

(6) Recommendation by the District Board of Administration for appointment to one of the listings of ministerial service.

(7) Approval by the District Conference of both the recommendation for district license and appointment to ministerial service.

(8) Completion of all academic requirements included in the pre-ordination course of study as certified by the National Committee on Christian Education or an authorized ministerial training institution, which shall include:

Four additional courses in Bible, one of which must be in the New Testament and one of which must be in the Old Testament.
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Systematic Theology (or Biblical Theology)
Introduction to Missions
Christian Education
Doctrine of Holiness
Evangelism
Homiletics
Methods of Bible Study
Pastoral Work
Church management
Bookkeeping and record management

At least four general education courses (such as - sociology, psychology, philosophy, typing, computer, health & hygiene, personal development, general carpentry, etc.)

(9) Licensed as a district ministerial license or district deaconess license holder. Completion of additional service requirements of two years of satisfactory service.

(10) Examination by the District Board of Administration with the national superintendent or his appointed representative in attendance.

(11) Approval by the District Conference of the District Board of Administration recommendation for ordination, followed by a public service of ordination and the issuance and signing of a certificate of ordination by the National Superintendent, District Superintendent, and district secretary.

E. Commissioned Deaconess's Course of Study

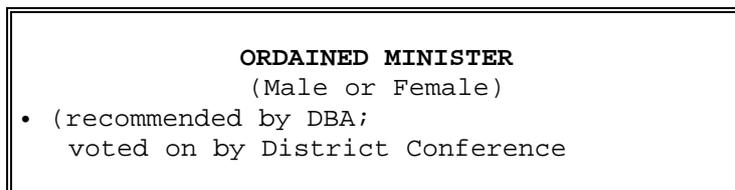
986. The commissioned deaconess's course of study shall include five courses of the pre-ordination course (#8 above), which will be beneficial for the ministry of a commissioned deaconess, in addition to the six courses required for the completion of the academic requirements to be a licensed deaconess (a total of 11 courses).

987. Local Deacon's Course of Study

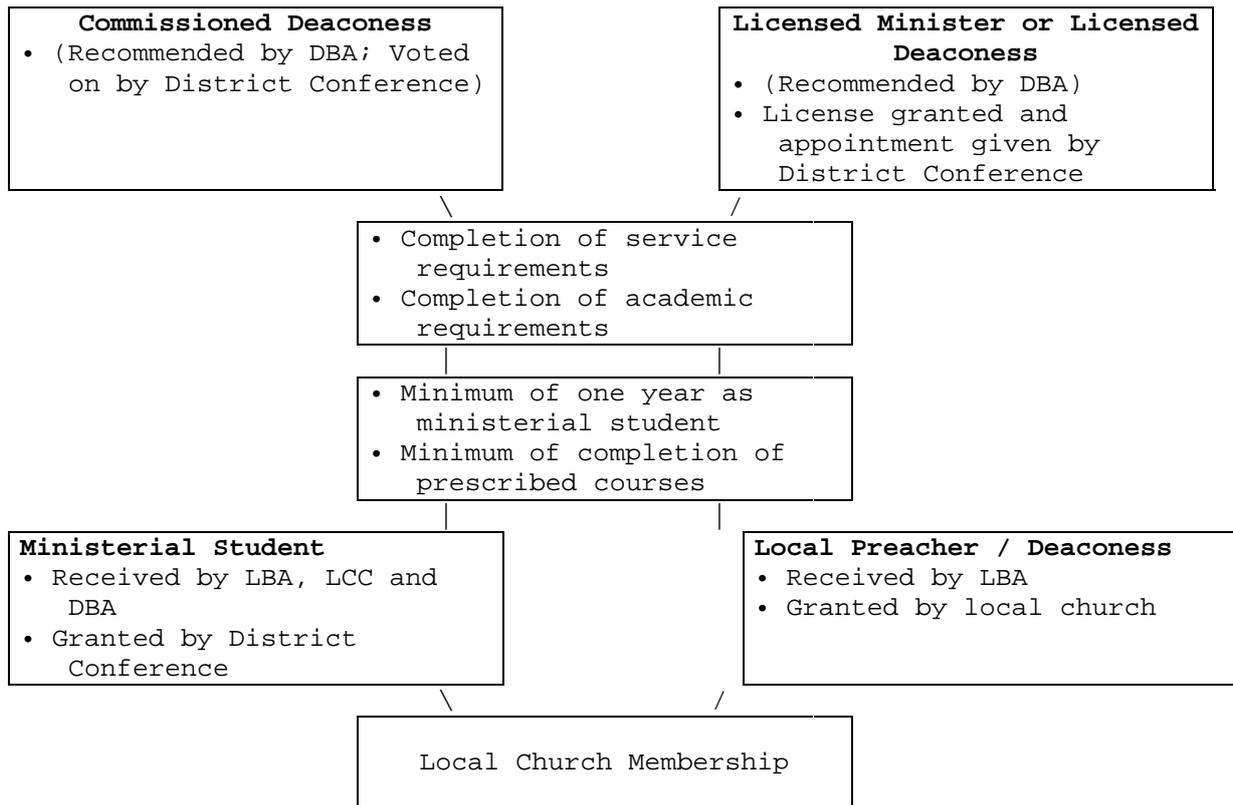
The local deacon's course of study is designed to assist men to receive basic Christian training and practical training as they serve in the church under the pastor's direction and as there is opportunity. The local deacon's course of study shall include a variety of courses which the deacon may choose from depending on his interests and the needs of the church. Approval for studies shall come from the local church conference (330:19). Courses to be included in this course of study shall be approved by the National Committee on Christian Education (731; 732:3:g). The local deacon is required to complete at least one course per year if he is to maintain his license as a local deacon (931). Recognition for completed courses shall be under the local board of administration's direction and with the approval of the National Committee on Christian Education (731).

F. Chart of Steps to Ordination and Commission

988.



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PART VII: AUXILIARIES

Chapter I

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1001. Other organisations (called auxiliaries) may be established within The Pilgrim Wesleyan Church of Zambia at the local, district and national levels. All such organisations shall be established according to The Discipline.

1002. Other organisations (auxiliaries) within The Pilgrim Wesleyan Church of Zambia may be: Pilgrim Wesleyan Men, Pilgrim Wesleyan Women, and Pilgrim Wesleyan Youth. Other groups wishing to organise as an auxiliary of The Pilgrim Wesleyan Church of Zambia, both on the local church or district levels, shall first obtain approval from the district board of administration for such organisation.

1003. All organisations within the local church shall be subject to the supervision of the pastor and the local board of administration (304:15).

1004. All auxiliary organisations established at the district level shall be subject to the supervision of the district superintendent and the district board of administration (482:8).

1005. All auxiliary organisations established at the national level shall be subject to the supervision of the national superintendent and the national board of administration (651:26).

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1006. Handbooks/By-laws/Standing Resolutions necessary for the performance of an auxiliary may be developed by that auxiliary organisation (cf. 1020, 1028, 1036). They shall be in harmony with The Discipline and the instructions of the National Conference. They shall be approved for use by the National Conference (623:5) or National Board of Administration (651:26) before being implemented in the auxiliary.

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Chapter II

PILGRIM WESLEYAN MEN, WOMEN, AND YOUTH AUXILIARIES

1011. Note on Constitutional Formats for Auxiliaries: The following constitutional format will apply to all auxiliaries of the Pilgrim Wesleyan Church of Zambia, including Pilgrim Wesleyan Men, Pilgrim Wesleyan Women, and Pilgrim Wesleyan Youth. All National activities of the auxiliaries shall be supervised by the National Committee on Christian Education, of which the National Leaders of the Auxiliaries shall be members, and subject to the National Board of Administration. District auxiliaries shall be amenable to the District Boards of Administration, and the local chapters shall be amenable to the Local Boards of Administration and pastors.

1012. Auxiliary Leaders: The National and district auxiliary leaders shall be elected by the National Conference or the District Conferences (as applicable) until such time as the National Conference shall authorise district or National auxiliary conferences, at which time the auxiliary shall elect the respective leaders, with the exception of the youth leaders who shall in any case be elected by the District Conference or the National Conference as applicable. A district auxiliary leader who accepts position as leader on the National level shall vacate the district position upon taking the National office. The vacancy shall be filled by District Board of Administration appointment until the next district or auxiliary conference, as applicable.

A. Constitution of Local Auxiliaries

1013. Article 1. Name. The name of this organisation shall be (Name of Auxiliary) of _____ Pilgrim Wesleyan Church. (If the chapter serves more than one local church, the name of the area may be used.)

1014. Article 2. Purpose. (Name of Auxiliary) shall seek to extend the kingdom of God through the ministries of The Pilgrim Wesleyan Church through soul-winning, service, stewardship, and fellowship.

1015. Article 3. Relationship. The local chapter of (Name of Auxiliary) shall function as a part of the local Pilgrim Wesleyan church, shall be subject to the supervision of the pastor (304:17), and shall be amenable to the local board of administration (330:1). If the chapter serves more than one local church, it shall be amenable to the District Superintendent and the District Board of Administration (559:6; 482:8).

1016. Article 4. Membership. Membership in (Name of Auxiliary) shall be open to all (men, women or youth under the age of 35, as applicable to the auxiliary) of good character.

1017. Article 5. Meetings

(1) The chapter should meet monthly for inspiration, instruction, business, fellowship, and the receiving of offerings.

(2) The annual meeting for the election of officers shall be held during the month preceding the close of the district fiscal year.

1018. Article 6. Local Auxiliary Officers.

(1) **Executive Officers.** The executive officers of the local Auxiliary shall be the leader, assistant leader, secretary, and treasurer,

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who, together with the pastor (304:17), shall constitute the local PWM, PWWO, or PWY executive committee.

(2) **Other Officers.** Each local PWM, PWWO, or PWY may also have such other officers and such committees as it shall deem necessary, subject to the approval of the local board of administration (330:1, 22).

(3) **Delegates.** In addition to the leader of each PWM, PWWO, or PWY chapter, who is a member of the district PWM, PWWO, or PWY convention by virtue of his/her office (1025:2), each PWM, PWWO, or PWY chapter shall be entitled to at least one delegate to the district PWM, PWWO, or PWY convention. The district PWM, PWWO, or PWY convention may establish a system of multiple representation from larger chapters.

(4) **Qualifications.** The executive officers and delegates of the local PWM, PWWO, or PWY shall be laymen and members of The Pilgrim Wesleyan Church, except that the membership requirement may be waived in the case of a preaching point. All officers and committee members must be members of the local PWM, PWWO, or PWY and in harmony with the doctrines and standards of The Pilgrim Wesleyan Church.

(5) **Election Procedure.** Executive officers, delegates, and such other officers and committee members as the bylaws shall require, shall be elected by the local PWM, PWWO, or PWY at its annual business meeting (1017:2). Preceding the annual PWM, PWWO, or PWY election, the local PWM, PWWO, or PWY shall elect, or the local PWM, PWWO, or PWY executive committee shall appoint, a nominating committee consisting of three to five members, over which the pastor or his/her representative shall preside (304:17). The nominating committee shall select two or more nominations for the local PWM, PWWO, or PWY leader, to be approved by the local board of administration and elected at the annual PWM, PWWO, or PWY business meeting, provided that the local board of administration may make such other nominations as desired. The nominating committee shall present nominations to the local PWM, PWWO, or PWY for all other officers, committee members, and delegates. Executive officers shall be elected by ballot, and other officers, delegates, and committee members may be elected in any manner desired. In all cases, election shall be by majority vote of the members of the local PWM, PWWO, or PWY present and voting. The election must be ratified by the local board of administration before becoming final (330:23).

(6) **Term of Service.** Local PWM, PWWO, or PWY officers shall take office at the beginning of the district fiscal year, and shall serve until the end of the district fiscal year or until their successors are elected and qualified.

(7) **Amenability and Vacancies.** All officers and committee members of the local PWM, PWWO, or PWY shall be amenable for their official duties to the local board of administration, and may be removed for cause or whenever the best interests of the church or the local PWM, PWWO, or PWY so require by a majority vote of the local board of administration (304:24). The local board of administration shall have authority to see that all vacancies are filled in the manner it deems best (330:24).

1019. Article 7. Duties of Local PWM, PWWO, or PWY Officers.

(1) **Criteria.** All officers shall carry out their duties in keeping with The Discipline, the constitution of The Auxiliary, and the official PWM, PWWO, or PWY handbook authorised by the National Board of

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Administration and issued by the National PWM, PWWO, or PWY executive committee (cf. 1020).

(2) **Local PWM, PWWO, or PWY Leader.** The leader shall cooperate with the district PWM, PWWO, or PWY leader, exercise general leadership of the local Auxiliary under the general oversight of the pastor (304:1 ff.), preside over business meetings and meetings of the local PWM, PWWO, or PWY executive committee (1018:1), serve as an *ex officio* member of all local PWM, PWWO, or PWY committees, report to each regular session of the local church conference (262) and to the local board of administration as it shall order (350:4), and shall serve as an *ex officio* member of the district PWM, PWWO, or PWY convention (1025:2).

(3) **Local PWM, PWWO, or PWY Assistant leader.** The assistant leader shall assist the leader as the leader shall request, and shall assume the duties of the leader in case the leader is unable to serve.

(4) **Local PWM, PWWO, or PWY Secretary.** The secretary shall keep a record of members, and shall record the minutes of all meetings, including those of the local PWM, PWWO, or PWY executive committee (1018:1).

(5) **Local PWM, PWWO, or PWY Treasurer.**

(a) **Fiscal Procedures.** The treasurer shall receive, record, hold, and disburse all funds of the chapter in keeping with the financial plans of the National and district organisations of The Auxiliary, and as ordered by the chapter or its executive committee subject to the approval of the local board of administration (330:23), remitting monthly all funds intended for the district or National church to the district PWM, PWWO, or PWY treasurer (1026:1).

(b) **Reports.** The treasurer shall make a financial report to all regular meetings of the chapter, to the local PWM, PWWO, or PWY executive committee and to the monthly session of the local board of administration as requested (330:4), and to all regular sessions of the local church conference (262; 270:5). He/she shall submit an annual statistical report of the local PWM, PWWO, or PWY to the district PWM, PWWO, or PWY convention and shall assist the pastor and the local PWM, PWWO, or PWY leader as they shall request in the preparation of their reports. His/her books shall be submitted to the local church auditing committee annually (363), and as ordered by the local board of administration (330:1).

(6) **Local PWM, PWWO, or PWY Executive Committee** (1018:1). The local PWM, PWWO, or PWY leader shall be chairperson *ex officio* of the local PWM, PWWO, or PWY executive committee (1018:1), and the local PWM, PWWO, or PWY secretary shall be secretary *ex officio* (1018:1). The local PWM, PWWO, or PWY executive committee shall direct the affairs of the local PWM, PWWO, or PWY between business meetings of the chapter, shall make recommendations to the chapter, and shall appoint all committee members not elected by the chapter. All plans and actions of the local PWM, PWWO, or PWY executive committee may be reviewed by the local board of administration, which may veto any of the committee's plans or actions (330:23).

1020. Article 8. Local Bylaws. The local PWM, PWWO, or PWY chapter may adopt such bylaws as it deems necessary, provided that they do not conflict with The Discipline or other directives of the National church and district, and provided they are approved by the local board of administration (330:23).

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1021. Article 9. Children In Missions Organisation. The Children In Missions Organisation (CIM) is an auxiliary of PWWO which seeks to lead boys and girls to Christ, to train them for Christian service by the study of the Bible and missions, to promote among them a true interest in Christian missions, and to raise funds for worldwide evangelism. If there is no local PWWO, the local board of administration may elect a local CIM coordinator and carry on the CIM programme. CIM shall be administered as any other auxiliary of The Pilgrim Wesleyan Church.

B. Constitution of District Auxiliaries

1022. Article 1. Name. All local Auxiliary chapters within the bounds of a district shall be known collectively as (Name of Auxiliary) of the District of The Pilgrim Wesleyan Church.

1023. Article 2. Purpose. The district Auxiliary shall carry out the basic purpose of The Auxiliary (1014) within the bounds of the district, organising chapters and securing their cooperation as an effective district unit of The Auxiliary.

1024. Article 3. Relationship. The district PWM, PWWO, or PWY shall function as a part of the district of The Pilgrim Wesleyan Church to which it belongs, shall be subject to the supervision of the District Superintendent (559:6), and shall be amenable to the District Board of Administration (482:8, 18).

1025. Article 4. District Auxiliary Convention.

(1) **Purpose and Organisation.** There shall be an annual district (Name of Auxiliary) convention in each district at such a time and place as the District Board of Administration shall approve (482:18), to receive reports (1027:2), to elect district PWM, PWWO, or PWY officers (1026:4), to make recommendations to the District Board of Administration and/or the National PWM, PWWO, or PWY executive committee, to carry on all other business pertaining to the district PWM, PWWO, or PWY, and to provide the members of the convention with a time of inspiration, fellowship, and Christian challenge. The National Leader of The Auxiliary shall preside over the district PWM, PWWO, or PWY convention when present (1032:1). When he/she is absent, the district PWM, PWWO, or PWY leader shall preside (1027:2).

(2) **Membership.** The district PWM, PWWO, or PWY convention shall be composed of the District Superintendent (559:4), the district PWM, PWWO, or PWY officers (1026), the leaders of all local chapters (1018:1), and delegates from the local chapters (1018:3). Delegates shall be members of The Pilgrim Wesleyan Church, and shall be elected by the chapters at the annual meeting for the election of officers (1017:2).

(3) **Committees.** There shall be a nominating committee as set forth in 1026:4. The district PWM, PWWO, or PWY convention may elect such other committees as it may deem necessary, and shall define the duties of the same.

(4) **Approval.** All plans and actions of the district PWM, PWWO, or PWY convention shall be subject to the approval of the District Board of Administration (482:8).

1026. Article 5. District PWM, PWWO, or PWY Officers.

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(1) **Executive Officers.** The executive officers shall be the leader, assistant leader, secretary, and treasurer, who together with the District Superintendent (559:4) shall constitute the district PWM, PWWO, or PWY executive committee.

(2) **Other Officers.** Each district PWM, PWWO, or PWY may also have such other officers and standing committees as the district PWM, PWWO, or PWY convention shall deem necessary.

(3) **Qualifications.** All officers and committee members must be covenant members of The Pilgrim Wesleyan Church, and wherever practicable, members of a local chapter of The Auxiliary within the district. Executive officers shall be laymen.

(4) **Election Procedure.** The executive officers of the district PWM, PWWO, or PWY and such other officers and committee members as the bylaws shall require shall be elected by the district PWM, PWWO, or PWY convention (1025). The district PWM, PWWO, or PWY convention shall elect or the district PWM, PWWO, or PWY executive committee shall appoint a nominating committee, over which the District Superintendent or his/her representative shall preside. Preceding the district PWM, PWWO, or PWY convention, the nominating committee shall select two or more nominees for district PWM or PWWO leader, for approval by the District Board of Administration and election by the district PWM or PWWO convention, provided that the District Board of Administration may make such other nominations as desired. The nominating committee shall present nominations to the district PWM, PWWO, or PWY convention for all other officers and positions as requested (1026:2). Executive officers shall be elected by ballot and other officers may be elected in any manner desired. All offices and positions shall be filled by majority vote of the district PWM, PWWO, or PWY convention present and voting. The election must be ratified by the District Board of Administration before becoming final (482:8).

(5) **Term of Service.** District PWM, PWWO, or PWY officers shall assume office at the close of the district convention at which they are elected and shall serve for two years or until their successors are elected and qualified with the exception of the PWY leader who shall serve from the close of the District Conference.

(6) **Amenability and Vacancies.** All officers and committee members of the district PWM, PWWO, or PWY shall be amenable to the District Board of Administration, and may be removed for cause or when the best interests of the PWM, PWWO, or PWY or the district so require by a majority vote of the District Board of Administration. The District Board of Administration shall fill all vacancies from nominations by the district PWM, PWWO, or PWY Executive Committee (1026:4), provided that the District Board of Administration may make such other nominations as desired.

1027. Article 6. Duties of District PWM, PWWO, or PWY Officers.

(1) **Criteria.** All officers shall carry out their duties in keeping with The Discipline, the constitution of The Auxiliary and the official handbook authorised by the National Board of Administration and issued by the National PWM, PWWO, or PWY executive committee (cf. 1028; 1022 ff.).

(2) **District PWM, PWWO, or PWY Leader.** The leader shall be responsible to cooperate with the National Leader of The Auxiliary and the National PWM, PWWO, or PWY executive committee; to exercise general leadership of the district PWM, PWWO, or PWY under the general oversight of the District Superintendent (559:6); to preside over meetings of the

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district PWM, PWWO, or PWY executive committee (1026:1); to preside over sessions of the district PWM, PWWO, or PWY convention except when the National Leader of The Auxiliary is present and presiding (1025:1); to seek to organise chapters of The Auxiliary so as to serve each local church, whether through local, zone, area or National chapters; to visit the local chapters as time and funds shall permit; and to report annually to the District Conference (458:9) and to the district PWM, PWWO, or PWY convention, and at other times as ordered by the District Board of Administration (482:8). He/she shall be a voting member of the District Conference (442:6) unless he/she is elected as a lay delegate by his/her local church and shall be a member of the district board of Christian Education.

(3) **District PWM, PWWO, or PWY Assistant leader.** The assistant leader shall assist the leader as the leader shall request and shall assume the duties of the leader in case the leader is unable to serve.

(4) **District PWM, PWWO, or PWY Secretary.** The secretary shall record the minutes of the district PWM, PWWO, or PWY convention (1025:1) and of the meetings of the district PWM, PWWO, or PWY executive committee (1026:1) and shall perform such other duties as the district PWM, PWWO, or PWY convention shall determine.

(5) **District PWM, PWWO, or PWY Treasurer.** The district PWM, PWWO, or PWY treasurer shall receive, record, and hold all funds remitted by local PWM, PWWO, or PWY treasurers or raised by the district PWM, PWWO, or PWY itself, forwarding specified funds and disbursing other funds in keeping with the financial plans of the National PWM, PWWO, or PWY executive committee and the district PWM, PWWO, or PWY convention, and as directed by the district PWM, PWWO, or PWY executive committee. All funds intended for the National church shall be transferred monthly to the district treasurer so they can be forwarded to their intended destination (565:2). The district PWM, PWWO, or PWY treasurer shall report to the district PWM, PWWO, or PWY executive committee as required, to the District Board of Administration quarterly (482:8) and to the District Conference (458:9) and the district PWM, PWWO, or PWY convention (1025:1) annually. His/her books shall be submitted to the district auditing committee annually (507:1), and as ordered by the District Board of Administration (482:12).

(6) **District PWM, PWWO, or PWY Executive Committee (1026:1).** The district PWM, PWWO, or PWY leader shall be chairperson *ex officio* of the district PWM, PWWO, or PWY executive committee (1026:1), and the district PWM, PWWO, or PWY secretary shall be secretary *ex officio* (1026:1). The district PWM, PWWO, or PWY executive committee shall direct the affairs of the district PWM, PWWO, or PWY between the annual district PWM, PWWO, or PWY conventions, subject to the approval of the District Board of Administration (482:8).

1028. Article 7. District Bylaws. The district convention of The Auxiliary may adopt such bylaws as it thinks necessary, providing that they are in accord with The Discipline, the constitution and purpose of PWM, PWWO, or PWY, and other directives of the National church and district, and subject to the approval of the District Board of Administration (482:8).

C. Constitution of National Auxiliary

1029. Article 1. Name. All local and district PWM, PWWO, or PWY organisations shall be known collectively as (Name of Auxiliary), an auxiliary of The Pilgrim Wesleyan Church.

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1030. Article 2. Purpose. National (Name of Auxiliary) shall carry out the basic purpose of The Auxiliary (1014) throughout the Church, securing the cooperation of the local and district PWM, PWWO, or PWY organisations and coordinating them as an effective arm of the Church.

1031. Article 3. Relationship. The Auxiliary shall function as a part of The Pilgrim Wesleyan Church, and shall be amenable to the National Board of Administration through the National Committee on Christian Education.

1032. Article 4. National PWM, PWWO, or PWY Officers.

(1) **Identification.** The National officers of The Auxiliary shall include the National Leader of The Auxiliary and four persons elected by the National Board of Administration (651:26) to serve with him/her as the National PWM, PWWO, or PWY executive committee.

(2) **Qualifications.** The National PWM, PWWO, or PWY officers shall be covenant members of The Pilgrim Wesleyan Church and members of a local chapter of The Auxiliary at the time of their election and during their term of service.

(3) **Election Procedures.** The National Leader of The Auxiliary and the members of the National PWM, PWWO, or PWY executive committee shall be elected by the National Convention of the Auxiliary, when it has been so authorised by the National Conference (623:18) selecting one executive committee member from each representative area insofar as is practicable.

(4) **Term of Service.** The National officers of The Auxiliary shall take office at such time as the National Board of Administration shall determine (651:19), and shall serve for two years or until their successors are elected and qualified.

(5) **Amenability and Vacancies.** The National Leader of The Auxiliary, and the other members of the National PWM, PWWO, or PWY executive committee shall be amenable to the National Board of Administration and may be removed by a majority vote of all its members. The National Board of Administration shall fill all vacancies.

1033. Article 5. Duties of National PWM, PWWO, or PWY Officers.

(1) **Criteria.** The National Leader of The Auxiliary and the National PWM, PWWO, or PWY executive committee shall perform their duties in keeping with The Discipline, the constitution of The Auxiliary, and the Policy of the National Board of Administration.

(2) **National Leader of The Auxiliary.** The National Leader of The Auxiliary shall exercise general leadership of The Auxiliary; preside over district conventions of The Auxiliary whenever present (1025:1); publicise and promote the interests of the organisation; promote the organisation of The Auxiliary on the district and local levels, devoting as much time as possible to the work; and shall report annually to the National Board of Administration (651:16), and biennially to the National Conference (623:4). He/she shall be a voting member of the National Conference and shall also be a member of the National Committee on Christian Education.

(3) **National PWM, PWWO, or PWY Executive Committee.** The National PWM, PWWO, or PWY executive committee shall advise the National Leader of The Auxiliary in all phases of his/her work, and shall prepare and issue the official PWM, PWWO, or PWY handbook. It shall cooperate with the National Secretary in developing procedures for the compiling of

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statistics on the local, district, and National levels, so that a record of the work may be readily maintained.

1034. Article 6. National Treasurer of The Auxiliary. The National Church Treasurer shall be the National treasurer of The Auxiliary (703:1), receiving, holding, and disbursing all funds in keeping with the financial policies adopted by the National Board of Administration for the support of auxiliaries, and the recommendations of the National PWM, PWWO, or PWY executive committee.

1035. Article 7. National Bylaws. The national convention of The Auxiliary may adopt such bylaws as it thinks necessary, providing that they are in accord with The Discipline, the constitution and purpose of PWM, PWWO, or PWY, and other directives of the National church, and subject to the approval of the National Conference or National Board of Administration (651:26).

D. Amendments to The Auxiliary Constitutions

1036. The local, district, or National constitutions of The Auxiliary may be amended by majority vote of the National Conference at any regular or special session (651:26).

GENERAL REGULATIONS

PART VIII: CORPORATIONS AND PROPERTIES

Chapter I

General Regulations

1101. The Pilgrim Wesleyan Church shall be incorporated or otherwise legally registered according to the laws of the Republic of Zambia. The authorisation for each incorporation or legal registration shall be recommended by the National Conference or the National Board of Administration. Where it is necessary the National Board of Trustees shall act on behalf of and under the direction of the National Board of Administration to see that registration or incorporation is accomplished.

1102. The purpose of the corporation or registration shall be to enable The Pilgrim Wesleyan Church of Zambia National Conference to receive, own, encumber, sell, transfer, and otherwise dispose of property, and facilitate the management of its legal and corporate affairs in harmony with its primary objective as a religious, benevolent, charitable institution, and shall not be for the financial gain or profit of the members thereof.

1103. The governing board (whether a district board of administration, a board of trustee, or other legal entity) of each corporation shall in all instances be the servant of The Pilgrim Wesleyan Church of Zambia and shall administer the affairs of the corporation in keeping with the National church leadership and the authority of The Pilgrim Wesleyan Church of Zambia as provided for in The Discipline.

Chapter II

Properties

1121. The general regulations set forth herewith shall be binding on all trustees, boards, and governing corporate bodies of The Pilgrim Wesleyan Church of Zambia.

1122. All provisions of The Discipline relating to property, both real and personal, and relating to the formation and operation of any corporation, are conditioned upon their being in conformity with the local laws of the country; and in the event of conflict therewith, the provisions of The Discipline shall be modified to the extent required to conform to such local laws.

1123. Any person who is a trustee or sits on a legal board which holds title to Pilgrim Wesleyan Church property or holds corporate authority in The Pilgrim Wesleyan Church of Zambia (hereafter called "trustee"), must be a covenant member of The Pilgrim Wesleyan Church. Whenever a trustee ceases to be a member of The Pilgrim Wesleyan Church for any reason, his/her office of trustee shall be declared vacant and his/her successor shall be elected for the unexpired term by the National Board of Administration.

1124. All trustees shall administer their duties in accord with The Discipline as from time to time amended, as directed by the governing body in which they are amenable, and as subject to local laws as set forth in 1122. Whenever a trustee refuses to carry out properly given orders and instructions and submit to the authority to which he/she is amenable, he/she may be removed from office and a successor shall be elected for the unexpired term as provided for in The Discipline.

1125. A board of trustees shall have and hold in trust for the use and benefit of the members and ministers of The Pilgrim Wesleyan Church of Zambia any and all property committed to it; shall see that titles are good, that deeds and all written instrumentalities are in harmony with The Discipline and with local laws as set forth in 1122, that all property deeds and titles are properly and promptly recorded, and that abstracts and all other legal papers are properly stored and secured; and shall perform such other duties as are required of them in The Discipline or by the governing body to which they are amenable, and, in the case of incorporated bodies, as set forth in the articles of incorporation and bylaws or charter of the corporation.

1126. A trustee or board of trustees and/or its governing body may not divert property from the ownership and use of The Pilgrim Wesleyan Church except as provided for in The Discipline and/or authorised by the National Conference.

PART IX: JUDICIARY

Chapter I

GENERAL PRINCIPLES

A. Meaning and Purpose of Church Discipline

1201. Definition. Church discipline is the orderly exercise of that authority, and the application of those principles and laws, which the Church has derived from the Word of God and has appointed for the governing of its members, ministers, congregations, and official bodies.

1202. Classification. Church discipline may be referred to in the general sense of administrative discipline and in the more restricted sense of judicial discipline:

(1) **Administrative Discipline.** Administrative discipline is the general and orderly exercise of church authority for the government and preservation of the Church. The purpose of administrative discipline is to provide for the purity, effectiveness, and spiritual influence of the church organisation and the protection of the rights of its members, ministers, congregations, and official bodies.

(2) **Judicial Discipline.** Judicial discipline is the proper exercise of the authority which Christ has given to his/her church for the prevention and correction of offenses and the removal of scandal (cf. Matt. 18:15-18; 1 Cor. 5:1-5). The purpose of judicial discipline is to bring out the truth, the preservation of the integrity of the body, the restoration and salvation of the guilty, and the warning of the careless.

1203. Subjects of Discipline. All members and ministers of The Pilgrim Wesleyan Church are subject to its administrative discipline, and, if charged with an offense, are subject to its judicial discipline.

B. The Administration of Judicial Discipline

1204. In order that the purposes of church discipline may be realised, judicial discipline for The Pilgrim Wesleyan Church of Zambia shall be administered in accord with the following principles:

(1) A prayerful and Christlike spirit shall be maintained at all times by all parties (Eph. 4:15; 2 Tim. 4:2; 1 Cor. 13:4-7).

(2) The restoration and salvation of the member shall ever be kept in view. Every effort that love can suggest shall be made to bring back to the Lord one who, while under the Church's care, has wandered from Him.

(3) A sincere and reasonable effort shall be made to clear up an accusation or to deal with an offending person without the formality of a church trial, in keeping with what the scripture says (Matt. 18:15-18; Gal. 6:1-2; James 5:16).

(4) Each accusation and all judicial proceedings shall receive prompt and careful attention by the proper authorities.

(5) The doctrines and standards of The Pilgrim Wesleyan Church shall be maintained without respect of persons. Any offending person shall be dealt with kindly, yet faithfully, according to the seriousness of the offense and as provided for in this Judiciary and in The Discipline.

(6) Legal technicalities shall not be permitted to obstruct the sincere search for truth, while at the same time the fundamental principles and procedures of justice shall be upheld. There shall be no attempt to confuse or entangle anyone in the process of an investigation or a trial.

(7) The accused person shall be presumed innocent until proven guilty. However, the moral conviction of the truth of the charge is all that is necessary in church discipline (1277).

C. Fundamental Rights and Duties for Judicial Discipline

1205. Right of Trial and Appeal. The right to a fair and impartial trial and the right to appeal shall not be denied to any member, minister, local church, district, or official body of The Pilgrim Wesleyan Church. No one shall be set aside without careful consideration for both his/her spiritual welfare and his/her rights as a member of The Pilgrim Wesleyan Church. He/she shall always have the right to request a trial or to appeal, even when placed under discipline (cf. 226:4).

1206. Rights of the Accused. Any member or minister who is accused shall have the following rights:

(1) **Counsel.** The accused shall always have the right to be represented at a church trial by counsel of his/her own choosing, provided such counsel is a covenant member in good standing in The Pilgrim Wesleyan Church, or to present his/her own defense. Any covenant member against whom there are no charges shall be considered to be in good standing.

(2) **Examination.** The accused, or his/her counsel, shall have the right to meet his/her accuser(s) face to face and to cross-examine any witnesses for the prosecution.

(3) **Objection.** The accused shall have the right to challenge the qualifications of any member of the judiciary if he/she has a good reason. Whether it is a good reason or not shall be determined by the presiding officer.

(4) **Limitation.** A minister or member shall not be required to answer charges for any act which occurred more than five years before the filing of such charges.

1207. Right of Investigation. The Church has a right to investigate the character of its members and ministers in order to maintain the purity of its doctrines and practices, and can, therefore, through its own officers, official bodies, and judicatures, require any member or minister under investigation to testify, under penalty of dismissal if they refuse.

1208. Duty of Cooperation. It shall be the duty of every member, minister, and church body to cooperate and to witness when properly requested to do so for an official investigation or trial.

Chapter II

OFFENSES

A. Individual

1211. Any member or minister, or district or National official of The Pilgrim Wesleyan Church shall be liable to disciplinary proceedings and trial for any of the following offenses:

(1) Holding or teaching any doctrine contrary to the doctrine of The Pilgrim Wesleyan Church as stated in The Discipline.

(2) Disobedience to the provisions of The Discipline or tolerating such disobedience.

(3) Insubordination or willful refusal to recognise Church authority.

(4) Conduct unbecoming a member or minister of The Pilgrim Wesleyan Church.

(5) Immorality or crime.

(6) Serious or persistent neglect of duty.

B. Local Church, District, or Official Body

1212. Any local church, district, official body, or other agency of The Pilgrim Wesleyan Church shall be liable to disciplinary proceedings and trial for any of the following offenses:

(1) Disseminating or tolerating the teaching of any doctrine contrary to the doctrines of The Pilgrim Wesleyan Church as stated in The Discipline.

(2) Disobedience to the provisions of The Discipline or tolerating such disobedience.

(3) Insubordination of willful refusal to recognise Church authority.

Chapter III

LOCAL CHURCH JURISDICTION

1221. Jurisdiction. Original jurisdiction over a lay member belongs to the local church of which he/she is a member.

(1) Accusations against a lay member shall be submitted to the pastor (304:14). If there is no pastor, or if the pastor does not attend to the matter, the accusation shall be submitted to a member of the local board of administration who shall present it to the local board of administration. Inquiry shall be made (1273), and the local board of administration shall have charge of ordering an investigation or trial (1273), if necessary, as set forth in this Judiciary (1271 ff.). Any charge against a lay member must be sustained by two or more responsible members of The Pilgrim Wesleyan Church of Zambia. Whenever a trial is ordered, the District Superintendent shall be notified.

(2) The authority of a local board of administration for a pioneer church shall be exercised by the District Superintendent (559).

(3) The District Superintendent, when requested to do so by the local board of administration, shall have authority to provide for any unusual circumstances not provided for in The Discipline, and to appoint, when necessary, any members from another Pilgrim Wesleyan church or from the district to a local judicial committee (1222).

(4) When a lay member, who resides away from the church in which he/she holds membership and attends another Pilgrim Wesleyan church, is accused of improper or immoral conduct, the pastor and the local board of administration where he/she attends shall have authority to make an official investigation of such accusation (1272; 1331:1). If, in the course of such an investigation, a written charge is drawn up against a member, it shall be presented to the pastor of the local church where the accused holds membership.

1222. Local Judicial Committee. Charges against a lay member shall be heard and determined by a local judicial committee:

(1) A local judicial committee shall consist of not less than three covenant members, which shall be selected by the local board of administration, as the occasion may arise, from its own membership or the covenant membership of the local church (322). The committee shall serve from the time of its appointment until it shall hear and determine the case, including any reopening (1290).

(2) The local board of administration shall designate the chairperson or may request the District Superintendent to do so. The chairperson of the local judicial committee shall be the presiding officer and shall conduct the proceedings in accord with this Judiciary, and shall notify the accused of his/her rights (1206).

(3) It shall be the duty of the local judicial committee to hear and determine the charges, to render a verdict concerning the guilt or innocence of the accused, and to recommend to the body having authority over the accused the penalty, if any, to be imposed (1301). A two-thirds majority vote of all members of the committee shall be required to render a verdict of guilty. Discipline, if required, shall be administered by the body having authority over the accused, and may take the form of warning, rebuke, suspension, removal, or dismissal, and said body may require repentance, apology, or restitution as thought necessary (1302).

(4) Whenever the accused lay member is serving the Church under the jurisdiction of the National Board of Administration (1252:4), a certified copy of the findings of the local judicial committee shall be

forwarded to the chairperson of the National Board of Administration (694:31); and whenever the accused is licensed by the district, a certified copy of the findings shall be forwarded to the District Superintendent (cf. 1559:23).

(5) An appeal may be taken by the accused concerning the verdict and/or penalty to the district board of review, within thirty days (1236; 1234).

1223. Restrictions Under Discipline. Whenever a lay member has been found guilty by a judiciary, and has been placed under discipline by being suspended from the rights and privileges of membership, he/she shall not vote, hold or exercise any office, and shall not be eligible for a local license or a district license or commission for the duration of such suspension. If the suspension has been for an indefinite period, the local board of administration shall be responsible to declare an end to the suspension (1301:3:b). If the person suspended shows the desired repentance and the offense has ceased, the suspension shall be terminated. If the offense has not ceased, in due time, the local board of administration shall recommend the dismissal of the accused from the Church or vote for such dismissal itself if such power has been delegated (cf. 1301:5; 330:11).

1224. Reinstatement. After being dismissed from the Church, a lay member may be reinstated by the local church when such a person evidences a genuine repentance and amendment of life, and meets the requirements for membership.

Chapter IV

DISTRICT JURISDICTION

A. Jurisdiction

1231. The District Conference shall have original jurisdiction as set forth in 1232 over the following members and local units of the district:

(1) An ordained minister, commissioned deaconess, licensed minister or licensed deaconess.

(2) A ministerial student.

(3) A supply pastor.

(4) A preaching point or organised church(Stage 1 or 2 or 3).

1232. The jurisdiction of the District Conference (458:32), and, in the interim of its sessions, the District Board of Administration (482:29), over those persons listed in 1231 shall be over their standing in the ministry or as a ministerial student, as the case may be, and their District Conference relations and appointments (971 ff.) with the exception of those who are first amenable to the National Board of Administration for their official duties (674). The judicial authority of the District Conference and/or its District Board of Administration is limited to standing, District Conference relations, and appointments and does not extend to local church membership, but the District Conference or District Board of Administration may also decide upon the submission of charges to the local church having jurisdiction over the membership of the accused.

1233. The District Conference, when in session, shall receive any complaint or accusation (458:32; cf. 1235:3) against any person or local unit under its jurisdiction, appointing an investigative committee (1278), and, if necessary, referring charges against a person to a district judicial committee appointed by the District Conference (1238), and referring charges against a local unit to the district board of review (1234). If the judiciary is able to complete its work while the District Conference is still in session, it shall report its findings to the conference which shall fix the penalty, if any, to be imposed (1302). If the investigative committee or the judiciary completes its work after the close of the District Conference session, it shall report its findings to the District Board of Administration which shall exercise the authority of the District Conference over those under its jurisdiction and shall take charge of all judicial proceedings necessary in the interim of District Conference sessions (1232; 475:1).

B. District Board of Review

1234. Each established district shall have a district board of review consisting of three ordained ministers and two lay members, elected annually by the District Conference (519). They shall be members of The Pilgrim Wesleyan Church and of the district. They may be members of the District Board of Administration, where no other ordained ministers are available. The District Conference shall also elect two ordained ministers and two lay members as reserves who shall serve in the order of their election whenever a member is disqualified for a particular case (1287) and shall also fill any vacancies in the order of their election. The district board of review shall organise itself and elect its own officers, and shall see that complete records of all proceedings and cases are kept (cf. 1288). The board shall meet annually at the time of the regular District Conference session and at other times and places as

thought necessary. The chairperson shall see that proceedings are conducted in keeping with the rules of procedure (1271 ff.) and other provisions of The Discipline. The board shall also be authorized to cite any member, minister, or local church(es) through their officials to appear and to testify concerning matters brought before the district board of review (519). The records of the district board of review shall be in the custody of the district secretary (563:6, 9).

1235. The duties and powers of the district board of review are:

(1) To hear and determine the appeal of a lay member or of a local board of administration concerning the results of a local church trial (1289, 1291); to sustain, modify, or revoke, in whole or in part, the verdict and/or the penalty as set forth in 1302, by a majority vote of all members of the district board of review (519), provided that if the accused has been previously found innocent, it shall require a two-thirds majority of all members of the district board of review to find him/her guilty.

(2) To hear and determine the appeal of a member concerning an action of a local church conference or a local board of administration when such member is aggrieved or adversely affected by such action, to determine the legality of such an action in regard to The Discipline and district regulations, and to report their findings to the District Board of Administration for appropriate action.

(3) To hear any charges against a local church alleging an offense as set forth in 1212 presented by the District Conference (458:10) or the District Board of Administration (482:28); to determine the guilt or innocence of the local church with reference to such charges, with a two-thirds vote of the district board of review required for a verdict of guilty; and to report its findings and recommendations to the District Conference, or in the interim of its sessions, to the District Board of Administration. (458:10; 482:1)

(4) To hear and decide any complaint by a local church against another local church within the district, provided that such a complaint shall be sustained by a two-thirds majority vote of the local church conference, and further provided that sincere efforts have been made for an amicable settlement through the District Board of Administration; to report its findings and recommendations to the District Conference, or in the interim of its sessions, to the District Board of Administration. (Cf. 482:29; 458:10; 482:1)

(5) To hear and decide any other cases as shall be referred to it by the District Conference (458:32) or the District Board of Administration (482:29).

1236. Appeals. Appeals concerning a decision of the district board of review shall be made to the National Board of Review (1311 ff.; 1320:7).

C. Ministers and Licensed Deaconesses, and Ministerial Students

1. Procedure

1237. Accusations or complaints against those under the jurisdiction of the district as set forth in 1232 shall be cared for as follows:

(1) Accusations shall be submitted to the District Superintendent who shall make inquiry (569:23), and the District Conference, or in the interim of its sessions, the District Board of Administration shall decide on any official investigation (482:28) or trial, if necessary, as set forth in the rules of procedure (1278). Any charges alleging an offense as set forth in 1211 shall be heard and determined by a district judicial

committee (1238). If guilt has been confessed by the accused, a trial is unnecessary and the District Conference or the District Board of Administration shall proceed to fix the penalty, if any, to be imposed, which may consist of warning, rebuke, suspension, or removal (1301).

(2) If the accused is the District Superintendent, a National official, or other person amenable to the National Board of Administration (674), the accusation shall be given to the National Superintendent and handled as set forth in 1254:1, 2.

(3) If an accusation alleges an offense committed by a person under the jurisdiction of the district (1232) in a district other than that in which the accused holds membership, the District Superintendent and the District Board of Administration of the district in which the offense was allegedly committed shall have jurisdiction over the official investigation (1278). If a bill of charges is to be drawn up, it shall be submitted through the National Superintendent to the district in which the accused holds membership.

2. District Judicial Committee

1238. A district judicial committee shall be constituted and shall carry out such duties as provided herewith:

(1) A district judicial committee shall consist of four ordained ministers and three lay members, selected by the District Conference, or in the interim of its sessions, by the District Board of Administration (482:1), as the occasion may arise, from among its own members or the members of the district, and the appointing body may request that one member shall be a National official. The National Superintendent shall be notified of the trial. The committee shall serve from the time of its appointment until it shall hear and determine the case.

(2) The appointing body shall appoint the chairperson or may request the National Superintendent to do so. The chairperson of the district judicial committee shall preside over the trial and shall conduct it according to the rules of procedure (1289) and The Discipline, shall notify the accused of his/her rights (1206), and shall decide on the admissibility of evidence (1275).

(3) It shall be the duty of the district judicial committee to hear and determine the charges, to render a verdict concerning the guilt or innocence of the accused, and to recommend the penalty, if any, to be imposed by the body having jurisdiction over the accused (cf. 1232). A two-thirds majority vote of all members of the district judicial committee shall be required for a verdict of guilty. The penalty may take the form of warning, rebuke, suspension, or removal as set forth in 1301, and the body having jurisdiction, or removal may also require repentance, apology, or restitution as thought necessary.

(4) The records of a district judicial committee shall be filed with the district secretary (563:9). Whenever the accused is a District Superintendent, a National official, or one who is serving under the National Board of Administration (cf. 674), a copy of the findings of the committee shall be forwarded to the chairperson of the National Board of Administration (646).

(5) An appeal may be taken by the accused concerning the verdict and/or penalty to the National Board of Review within thirty days (1291, 1292).

3. Special Regulations for Ministers, Commissioned Deaconesses, Licensed Ministers and Deaconesses and Ministerial Students

DISTRICT JURISDICTION

1239. The administration of judicial discipline and penalties to those persons under the jurisdiction of the district (1232) shall be in accord with the following regulations:

(1) **Indiscreet Conduct.** Whenever a minister, commissioned deaconess, licensed deaconess or ministerial student has been charged with an offense alleging immorality or crime and is not found guilty of such actions but rather of "high imprudence or indiscreet conduct," the offender shall be subject to warning, rebuke, suspension, or removal, according to the seriousness of the offense.

(2) **Suspension.** Whenever a minister, commissioned deaconess or licensed deaconess shall be suspended from the ministry, or a ministerial student shall be suspended from such office, his/her credentials shall be surrendered to the custody of the District Superintendent. Whenever such a person shall furnish the District Superintendent a written apology acknowledging his/her guilt and pledging to correct the matter, and gives evidence that the offense has ceased and that he/she is repentant, the District Board of Administration may end the suspension, reinstate the person, and authorize the return of his/her credentials. If the written apology and assurance are not given, and the accused does not exercise his/her right of appeal, the District Board of Administration shall declare that the said person has withdrawn from the district, and his/her credentials shall be forwarded to the National Secretary (cf. 929:4; 482:29).

(3) **Immorality and Crime.** Whenever a minister, commissioned or licensed deaconess, or ministerial student shall have been convicted by a judiciary of such immoral acts as fornication or adultery, or has confessed to such acts to the official body having jurisdiction over him/her, he/she shall be deposed from the ministry or from the office of a ministerial student, as the case may be. This shall not prohibit membership in a Pilgrim Wesleyan church when the guilty person repents and demonstrates a Christian life according to the standards of The Pilgrim Wesleyan Church. Anyone who has been deposed for such an offense may be reinstated as provided for in 1242.

(4) **Removal.** (1301:4). A minister, commissioned deaconess, or licensed deaconess that has been removed from the ministry, or a ministerial student that has been removed, shall immediately surrender his/her credentials to the District Superintendent (929:4), shall cease to exercise any of the functions of the ministry, shall not occupy any pulpit in The Pilgrim Wesleyan Church, shall cease to draw any salary, and, if a pastor, shall vacate the parsonage within thirty days. Whenever anyone who has been expelled from the ministry shall appeal, the penalty may be deferred with the exception that such a person shall be suspended from the exercise of any office or of his/her particular service while the appeal is pending.

(5) **Reinstatement.** Provisions for the reinstatement of an ordained minister, commissioned deaconess, licensed minister, or licensed deaconess are set forth in 1242.

D. Local Churches

1. Procedure

1240. The procedure for the discipline of a local church shall be:

(1) Any complaint against a local church by a lay member, minister, or another local church shall be submitted in writing to the District Superintendent (559:23), who, together with the District Board of

Administration (482:28) shall endeavour to make a friendly settlement. If such a settlement cannot be realised, the complaint shall be referred to the district board of review who shall hear and decide the complaint (1235:3).

(2) Whenever a local church shall be charged with an offense as set forth in 1212:1-3, the District Superintendent (559:23) and the District Board of Administration (482:29) shall make every effort to bring about a friendly settlement. The District Board of Administration shall have the authority to call the offending church, in the person of its pastor and local officials or local board of administration, to appear before it to settle the matter or to show reason why it shall not be placed under discipline. Such a call shall contain a clear and definite statement of the charges and any supporting evidence so that the accused local church may be properly informed of the grounds of the accusation. The order shall be given to the pastor and the local church secretary. Whenever a settlement cannot be effected, a bill of charges and specifications against the local church shall be submitted to the district board of review who shall hear and determine the case (1235:3).

(3) Whenever a local church has been declared guilty of an offense as set forth in 1212:1-3 by the district board of review (1234), it shall be suspended by the District Conference (458:32), or, in the interim of its sessions, by the District Board of Administration (482:1), from all the rights and privileges of a local church as set forth in The Discipline. The suspension shall end when the local church, through its officials, shall make a written apology acknowledging its guilt and pledging loyalty to the district and the denomination, and when, in the opinion of the District Board of Administration, the offense has ceased. Whenever a local church does not offer such a written apology and assurance, and if it continues to offend, it shall be reorganised (1241).

(4) An appeal may be taken by the accused church concerning the verdict and/or penalty to the National Board of Review (1320:7).

2. Reorganisation

1241. Whenever a local church, through its pastor and/or local church officials or local board of administration, shall refuse to answer the citations of the District Board of Administration to appear for a settlement (482:28) or the citation of the district board of review to appear for the hearing of the case (cf. 1271), or whenever a local church that has been placed under discipline refuses to offer a written apology and assurance as set forth in 1240:3 and does not exercise the right of appeal, the District Board of Administration shall authorise the District Superintendent and any two of its other board members to reorganise the local church. The District Superintendent and the appointed representatives shall ask the members of the local church for an affirmation of loyalty to The Pilgrim Wesleyan Church, its Discipline as currently revised and amended, and its duly elected officials. Those members who affirm such loyalty shall be the members of that local church, and those members who refuse to affirm such loyalty shall be declared as having withdrawn from The Pilgrim Wesleyan Church and from that local church and all offices held by such persons shall thereby be vacated. The loyal members shall be entitled to hold and use the property as provided for by The Discipline and to carry on the functions of the local church. Whenever such members are ten or fewer, the church shall be automatically classified as a preaching point and shall be under the supervision of the District Superintendent and the District Board of Administration (cf. 559:6; 482:22;).

1242. Any person who has been declared as withdrawn from The Pilgrim Wesleyan Church during the reorganisation of a local church may be reinstated when he/she gives evidence of a change of attitude, and when he/she is thought to meet the requirements for membership.

Chapter V

NATIONAL CHURCH JURISDICTION

A. National Conference

1251. The National Conference, as the chief governing body, exercises supreme judicial authority within The Pilgrim Wesleyan Church of Zambia. The National Conference shall hear appeals from rulings of the National Board of Review (623:20; 1320), and may, at its own pleasure, hear and determine such appeals, or appoint special committees to do so as desired who shall report their findings to the National Conference for final action (623:2); shall appoint investigative committees to consider accusations against the various units under its jurisdiction, hear the reports of such committees, file charges, if necessary, against such units before the National Board of Review (1253; 1320 ff.), and upon hearing the findings and recommendations of the National Board of Review fix the penalty, if any, to be imposed (1301). In the interim of National Conference sessions, the National Board of Administration shall hear the findings and recommendations of the National Board of Review and fix the penalty, if any, to be imposed (651; 1301).

B. Officials

1. Jurisdiction

1252. The National Board of Administration shall have jurisdiction over the following persons in regard to their official duties:

(1) A National official (671; cf. 671:2).

(2) A member-at-large of the National Board of Administration (cf. 642:3).

(3) A District Superintendent (557).

(4) A member or minister of The Pilgrim Wesleyan Church of Zambia who is serving under the jurisdiction of the National Board of Administration, including any who are elected or employed by the National Board of Administration for full time service for the National church, missionaries or workers under the National Committee on Evangelism, Church Growth, and Crosscultural Ministries (721), members of boards elected by the National Board of Administration, and any others amenable to the National Board of Administration.

1253. The National Board of Administration shall have the authority to remove from office, for reason, any persons under its jurisdiction (cf. 1252), but shall not have authority to depose anyone from the ministry (cf. 1301:4) or to dismiss anyone from the Church (cf. 1301:5). The purpose of any disciplinary or judicial proceedings, such as an official investigation or the hearing of any complaints or charges by a judicial committee, shall be to clear up any accusations or charges, or to determine the official standing and relationship of an accused person to the National church, or to decide upon the submission of charges to the official body having jurisdiction over the ministerial standing or membership of the accused, as the case may be.

2. Procedure

1254. Administrative or judicial discipline against persons listed in 1252 shall be administered as follows:

(1) If the accused is a National official, member of the National Board of Administration, or a District Superintendent, any accusation

alleging an offense set forth in 1211 shall be submitted in writing (1272) to the chairperson of the National Board of Administration (1272; 694:31) and must be sustained by at least three responsible members of The Pilgrim Wesleyan Church. If the accused is a National Superintendent, the Assistant National Superintendent shall have charge of the matter. The secretary shall make inquiry as required in 699:1. The National Board of Administration shall dispose of any charges or accusations as set forth in 1271 ff. Whenever it is thought necessary, the National Board of Administration may remove a National official, member of the National Board of Administration, or a District Superintendent from office by a two-thirds majority vote of all its members (642), and shall also decide whether charges shall be submitted to the official body having jurisdiction over the accused concerning his/her ministerial standing or membership in the Church.

(2) If the accused is a member or minister under the jurisdiction of the National Board of Administration (1253), an accusation or complaint shall be submitted to the National official to which the accused is amenable or to a National Superintendent. The National Board of Administration or its Executive Committee shall decide on the quality of such accusations or charges as set forth in 1211. If it is thought necessary, the National Board of Administration may remove such a person from office by a majority vote of all members of the National Board (642).

3. Power of Removal

1255. The National Board of Administration, National Board of Educational Institutions, trustees of benevolent institutions, and other such governing boards shall have full power and authority to discharge at their discretion any officer or employee thereof (with the exception of those in 1253 which shall be limited to the National Board of Administration) who shall be guilty of any immoral conduct or breach of trust, or who for any reason is unable, or who fails to perform the duties of his/her office, or for other misconduct which any of said boards may deem sufficient to warrant discharge. The action of such board in removing such officer or employee in the circumstances above set forth shall be final. Any governing board of a subsidiary corporation, or of any educational or benevolent institution, shall have the right to recommend the removal of any of its members to the National Board of Administration, who shall have power to sustain or reject such a recommendation (cf. 651:39).

C. Districts

1. Procedure

1256. Any charge or complaint against an established district alleging an offense set forth in 1212:1-3 shall be heard and determined by the National Board of Review (1320:3). The National Superintendent, together with the National Board of Administration or its Executive Committee shall make every effort to clear up such accusations or charges or to effect a friendly settlement (1273) before any district, through its officials or District Board of Administration, shall be brought to trial before the National Board of Review, unless a hearing is requested by the accused district.

1257. The National Board of Administration, or, in the interim of its sessions, the Executive Committee, shall have the authority to call a district, through its officials or its District Board of Administration, to appear before it to show reason, if any it has, why it should not be brought to trial or declared to be in a state of disobedience or insubordination for an offense as set forth in 1212:1-3. Such a citation shall set forth a clear and definite statement of the charges and any supporting facts or evidence and shall be signed by the chairperson and secretary of the National Board of Administration, so that the accused

district may be properly informed of the grounds of the accusation. The order shall be served upon both the superintendent and the secretary of the accused district. Should the hearing before the National Board of Administration or the Executive Committee result in a satisfactory adjustment of the charges, with the accused district pledging its loyalty to the denomination, no further steps shall be taken. When it is impossible to reach a friendly settlement, in the opinion of the National Board of Administration, or should the cited district officials fail or refuse to appear, a bill of charges and specifications for offenses as listed in 1212:1-3 shall be prepared and submitted to the National Board of Review. (cf. 1320:3)

1258. After receiving the report of the findings of the National Board of Review, the National Board of Administration, by a two-thirds majority vote of all its members, may place a district found guilty under discipline and suspend all its rights and privileges as a district under the Constitution, or other provisions of The Discipline, and may thereupon appoint a National Superintendent or National official to have charge of the district (651:40; 651:41; cf. 623:19). Such suspension shall continue until the district under discipline shall, through its officials, offer a written apology acknowledging its guilt and giving assurance of its loyalty to the denomination and shall also give evidence that the offense has ceased, whereupon the National Board of Administration shall end the suspension and reinstate the district (cf. 603). A district under discipline shall also be suspended from all rights to acquire, purchase, mortgage, sell, transfer, or otherwise dispose of any real property, unless approved by the National official appointed to have charge of the district.

1259. An appeal may be taken by the accused district concerning the verdict and/or penalty to the National Conference. All appeals must be filed in the office of the National Secretary within sixty days after the date of the official decision on the matter.

2. Reorganisation

1260. Whenever a district under discipline refuses to offer a written apology and assurance of loyalty, or whenever the district officials refuse to answer a citation to appear (1285), the National Board of Administration or its Executive Committee may authorise the National Superintendent to reorganise the district (694:31). The National Superintendent shall ask for an affirmation of loyalty. Those members and ministers of the district who affirm their loyalty to The Pilgrim Wesleyan Church of Zambia and to its Discipline as currently revised and amended and to its duly elected officials shall be and shall constitute the district. Those members of the district who refuse to affirm such loyalty to The Pilgrim Wesleyan Church shall be declared by the National Superintendent as having withdrawn from the district and from The Pilgrim Wesleyan Church, and all offices held by such persons shall thereupon be vacated. Those who are thus declared to be the members of the district shall be entitled to hold and to use all the district property in the manner as set forth in The Discipline and shall be organised to carry on the work of the district. Should the number of loyal ministers and members be fewer than that required for an established district, the district shall be reclassified by the National Board of Administration as a mission or pioneer district as the case may be (cf. 408:1-4; 651:24).

1261. If a minister that has been declared withdrawn from the district shall desire to be reinstated, he/she may be reinstated as provided for in 1242.

Chapter VI

RULES OF PROCEDURE

A. Procedure

1271. The procedure for handling accusations or complaints, investigations, and trials by the various official bodies and judicatures of The Pilgrim Wesleyan Church shall be as hereinafter provided, with the exception of the Board of Review which shall provide its own rules of procedure (1316-1319). Additional rules of procedure for such matters as evidence, testimony, and other technicalities shall be issued with the approval of the National Board of Administration (651:43) and be available upon request from the National Secretary (699:3:b).

B. Accusation

1272. Accusations must be in writing, dated, signed by the accuser and handed to the official having jurisdiction over the accused before official action shall be taken. Whenever, in the opinion of the accuser, proper action has not been taken, appeal may be made to the next higher Church authority.

C. Preliminary Settlement

1273. A sincere effort shall be made in each case to meet with the accused personally in order to clear up the accusation or to avoid the necessity of a trial. Whenever an alleged offense involves an error in doctrine, disobedience to the order and Discipline of the Church, the indulging in sinful tempers or words, the sowing of dissension, or other similar matters, the official having jurisdiction, or other designated representative, shall privately inquire, and, if necessary, instruct and admonish an offending person. If there is an acknowledgment of the fault and correction is made, the case shall be dropped. If the offense continues, the official in charge shall take with him/her two or three other discreet members or ministers of The Pilgrim Wesleyan Church of Zambia and give further instruction and reproof. If the offense continues, the offending members shall be brought to trial.

1274. If the person making the accusation shall allege a personal offense, he/she shall be first required to follow the Lord's directions in Matthew 18:15-17 before filing accusations or charges against the offending party.

D. Evidence

1275. Rules of Evidence. An investigation committee, judiciary, or other official body shall not be bound by any technical rules of evidence but shall adopt such rules as shall, in its opinion, be best adapted to ascertain the truth and determine accurately the substantial rights of the parties involved (1205-1207). The presiding officer of the judiciary shall decide on the admissibility of evidence.

1276. Testimony. No one may be barred as a witness on the grounds that he/she is not a member of The Pilgrim Wesleyan Church. Whenever circumstances make it impossible for a witness to appear, a proper certificate or affidavit from such a person may be presented, provided that the party against whom it is sought to be introduced has had a proper opportunity to see the certificate or affidavit and to question before witnesses the person signing the affidavit regarding the contents thereof. Witnesses shall be examined first, by the party producing them, then cross-examined by the opposite party, after which any member of the judiciary or either party may put additional questions.

1277. Proof of Charges. The accused shall be presumed innocent until the contrary is proved (1204:7). However, the moral conviction of the truth of the charge is all that is necessary to find the accused guilty of the charges.* In all cases the accused may be questioned relative to the charges made.

* "In acting upon the case, it must be borne in mind that there is a vast distinction between the evidence necessary to convict in a civil court and that required to convict in an ordinary society or church body. A notorious pickpocket could not even be arrested, much less convicted by a civil court, simply on the ground of being commonly known as a pickpocket; while such evidence would convict and expel him/her from ordinary society. The moral conviction of the truth of the charge is all that is necessary in a church or other deliberative body to find the accused guilty of the charges." --Robert's Rules of Order. Revised, Seventy-Fifth Anniversary Edition.

E. Committee of Investigation

1278. A trial may not be ordered until a proper inquiry is made by a committee of investigation.

(1) Such a committee shall be appointed by the official body having jurisdiction, and shall consist of two or more members or ministers of The Pilgrim Wesleyan Church in good standing who can be relied on for impartial judgment, who are not involved in the case, and who are not closely related to the accuser or the accused. A member of the committee of investigation may not thereafter be a member of the judiciary that will hear the case.

(2) The committee shall make a careful and thorough inquiry into the matter, meet with the accuser and the accused, endeavour to bring the accuser and the accused together in the presence of the committee, appoint a secretary to keep an accurate record of all committee proceedings, testimonies, and evidence, and shall make a written report to the appointing body of its findings and recommendation. If the committee believes no reasonable grounds for such accusations exist or that there is insufficient evidence, it shall so report; and if its findings are otherwise, the committee shall draw up charges and specifications accordingly.

(3) The appointing body shall receive and pass on the report and recommendations of the committee of investigation. If there is insufficient evidence or if guilt is confessed, a trial shall not be ordered, and in no case shall a trial be ordered unless a charge is sustained by two responsible members or ministers of The Pilgrim Wesleyan Church. When guilt is confessed, the official body may pass on the offense and decide on the penalty to be imposed, if any, without further trial unless such is requested by the accused. If the official body decides that a trial shall be conducted for the hearing and determination of charges, it shall so order, setting the date and place for such trial; appointing the members of the judiciary and the prosecutor, unless otherwise provided for in this Judiciary. The date of the trial shall not be less than ten days from the date that notice shall be given to the accused or more than thirty days (cf. 1292).

F. Charges

1279. It is not required that the charges be written in any particular legal form, but it is recommended that they be written in the standard form as provided in Robert's Rules of Order, Newly Revised. Every charge must be in writing, dated, signed by the accuser or by those

members or ministers of The Pilgrim Wesleyan Church sustaining the charge, and must clearly define the alleged offense by its proper term as stated in 1211-1212, and shall be accompanied by the specifications of the facts relied on to sustain the charge:

(1) A charge shall not allege more than one offense. However, more than one charge against the same person, with the specifications for each charge, may be presented to the judiciary at the same time and heard at the same time, provided that the vote on each charge shall be taken separately.

(2) The specifications shall declare as far as possible, the time, place, and circumstances of the alleged offense, and shall be accompanied with the names of the witnesses and the title of each record or document to be cited for its support.

(3) No charge shall be entertained for any alleged offense committed more than five years before the filing of such charge (1206:4).

G. Counsel

1280. The official body ordering a trial shall, at the same time, appoint a prosecutor, whose duty it shall be to prepare in final form the bill of charges and specifications, present them at the proper time and place to the judiciary, and represent the Church during the hearing. The accused shall have the right to choose his/her own counsel (1206:1), or to present his/her own defense; but where this right is not exercised, a defense counsel may be appointed by the chairperson of the judiciary. Both the prosecutor and the counsel for the accused shall be members or ministers of The Pilgrim Wesleyan Church of Zambia in good standing.

H. Notices

1281. All notices and citations to appear shall be given as directed by the chairperson of the judiciary and shall be in writing, in the name of the Church, and signed by the chairperson. An official notice of the date, time, and place of the trial, together with an official copy of the bill of charges and specifications, and a citation to appear shall be delivered to the accused not less than ten days prior to the date set for the trial. No subsequent changes in such charges and specifications shall be permitted. Notices to appear shall be given to such witnesses as either party may name, and shall also be served at least ten days before the trial. Members or ministers of The Pilgrim Wesleyan Church shall be cited to appear, but others may only be requested to appear.

I. Participants

1282. Only those who are members or ministers of The Pilgrim Wesleyan Church shall be allowed to participate in a trial, except as witnesses, and only those participating in the trial shall be permitted to attend the hearing of the trial. All deliberations of a judiciary shall be considered confidential, and members of a judiciary shall not discuss the case with anyone outside the judiciary during the hearing of the case.

J. Request for Withdrawal

1283. Whenever in the course of an investigation or trial, the accused person shall request a letter of withdrawal from the Church, the same shall be granted and the case shall end. It shall be noted on the membership records of the local church, and, when the accused is a minister, on the membership record of the district, as "withdrawn under accusation" whenever such request is during the investigation, and "withdrawn under charges" when such request is during the trial. (cf. 239)

K. Postponements

1284. The prosecutor, or the accused, shall have the right to petition the chairperson of the judiciary for a postponement of the trial date, and the chairperson may grant such a petition if thought essential for proper preparation or other necessary reasons, provided that the other party shall be notified before the postponement is granted. A postponement shall not be granted for more than thirty days.

L. Failure or Refusal to Appear

1285. Whenever an accused member or minister refuses to obey a properly issued citation to appear for trial, or fails to appear except for unavoidable circumstances, he/she shall be considered guilty of contempt and shall be reprimanded by the chairperson of the judiciary. If such an accused person refuses or fails to appear after a second citation, it shall be considered as sufficient reason for admission of guilt with subsequent immediate dismissal from the Church (1301:5). A church or district of The Pilgrim Wesleyan Church of Zambia who refuses a properly issued call to appear as a witness shall likewise be thought guilty of contempt and shall be liable to reprimand.

M. Status of the Accused

1286. After the official notice of the date, time, and place of the trial, together with a copy of the bill of charges and specifications, is delivered to the accused and until after judgment is rendered by the judiciary, the accused may be temporarily suspended from the exercise of any office by the judiciary at its discretion.

N. Grounds for Challenge

1287. A person is disqualified to serve as a member of any judiciary who is personally interested in the case, closely related to either the accused or the accuser, has been active for or against either party in the matter referred to in the charges, is at personal variance with either party, or who has prejudged the case. Any member of a judiciary may, on such grounds, be challenged by either party, provided that such challenge shall be made not later than the opening of any trial hearing, and the allowance of such challenge shall be decided by the remaining members of the judiciary.

O. Records

1288. The chairperson of the judiciary shall appoint a secretary, who need not be a member of the judiciary, and shall see that complete and accurate records are kept by the secretary of all proceedings, testimonies, evidence, documents admitted, together with copies of the charges, specifications, notices, citations, and findings of the judiciary. The records shall be attested to by both the chairperson and the secretary. The chairperson shall be the custodian of such records until the case is finished and shall then deliver such records to the proper secretary for permanent filing. Whenever the decision of the judiciary is appealed, the person having custody of the official records shall forward such records promptly to the chairperson of the appellate body, or a transcript of the same, when requested to do so by the chairperson of the appellate body.

P. The Order of a Church Trial

1289. The following order should be observed in conducting a church trial:

- (1) Devotional exercises.

(2) Statement of purpose, the reading of the official action ordering the trial, and the announcement of the members of the judiciary, by the chairperson of the judiciary.

(3) Challenges by either party of the members of the judiciary (1222:1; 1238:1), if any.

(4) Reading of the charges and specifications by the secretary.

(5) Answer by the accused or his/her counsel with a plea of "guilty" or "not guilty." If guilt is confessed, the judiciary may thereupon consider the penalty to be imposed, if any, and terminate the hearing, or it may request to hear the evidence in order to make a more proper determination of the reason and the penalties to be imposed.

(6) Statement of the case and line of evidence by the prosecutor.

(7) Evidence for the prosecution and cross-examination by the defense.

(8) Statement of the case and line of defense by the defense.

(9) Evidence for the defense and cross-examination by the prosecution.

(10) Rebuttal by the prosecution.

(11) Rebuttal by the defense.

(12) Summary of the case by the prosecution.

(13) Summary of the case by the defense.

(14) Should it be thought proper to allow the prosecutor to reply, the defense shall also be permitted to reply.

(15) Instructions by the chairperson to the judiciary concerning the duties assigned to it as set forth in this Judiciary and especially to render a verdict in not more than three days, and to vote separately on each charge and by secret ballot, with a two-thirds vote of all the members required to render a verdict of guilty. Members of the judiciary who have been absent from more than one sitting shall not be permitted to vote on the verdict.

(16) The verdict.

(17) Announcement by chairperson of the verdict, and the recommendations, if any, being made to the official body having jurisdiction over the accused.

Q. Motion to Reopen the Case

1290. If within thirty days after his/her conviction under the foregoing provisions, the accused shall make application in writing to the chairperson of the official body having jurisdiction over him/her for a reopening of the case on the ground of newly discovered evidence, and shall submit a written statement of the same, and if it shall appear that such evidence is material to the issue involved, the case may be reopened. In no case, however, shall a reopening of the case be granted when the failure to submit such evidence at the original hearing was the result of neglect or carelessness on the part of the accused. The judiciary may thereupon reopen the case or may refuse to do so. Upon such refusal, if it appears that the failure to submit such evidence was not the result of

neglect or carelessness on the part of the accused, such additional evidence may become a part of the record of the appeal. The judiciary shall be considered to continue for a period of thirty days in order to receive and consider a petition for a reopening of the case and until the matter shall be decided upon, or a new judiciary may be constituted.

R. Appeals

1291. Right of Appeal. The accused, if found guilty, shall have the right to appeal the verdict and/or the penalty unless such right has been forfeited for misconduct. Misconduct shall consist of withdrawing from the Church, publicly discrediting or slandering the members of the judiciary, refusing to abide by the decision of the judiciary, or by refusing to appear in person or by counsel if cited to appear by the appellate body, or by resorting to a suit in a civil court concerning the matter involved in the charges. Misconduct shall be decided upon by the appellate body, which is defined here to mean the next highest administrative board or committee. If, on the other hand, the accused was found innocent, the official body which ordered his/her trial has the right to appeal the verdict.

1292. Procedure of Appeal. The appellant or his/her counsel, within thirty days after being notified of the verdict and/or penalty, shall submit his/her request in writing and shall set forth the grounds of the appeal. The chairperson of the appellate body shall ask for a transfer of all the official records of the case, or a transcript of the same, which shall be forwarded promptly by the person having custody of such records. The appellant shall be responsible to pay the cost of the appeal, including the cost of preparing a transcript of the records. Upon modification or reversal of the verdict and/or penalty, such cost of the appeal shall be paid by the church or district from which such appeal is taken by the appellant.

1293. Status of the Accused During Appeal. While the appeal is pending, the penalty shall be deferred. Whenever the accused is a church or a district, it may continue to function but shall have the status of being under discipline and shall not be entitled to any representatives in a conference body and, in the case of a district, shall not have authority to buy, sell, or transfer any real property, except with the approval of the National Superintendent.

1294. Judgment of the Appellate Body. The appellate body shall promptly consider the case and the grounds for appeal and shall render judgment within thirty days, with the exception of the Board of Review. The appellate body, by a majority vote, may affirm, modify, or reverse the findings of the lower judiciary in whole or in part, or may remand the case for a new trial, provided that if the accused has been previously found innocent, it shall require a two-thirds majority vote of the appellate body to find him/her guilty. In all cases the right to present evidence shall be exhausted when the case has been heard once on its merits in the proper court. The appellate body shall also have the right to call the accused or his/her counsel to appear. Whenever a case is remanded for a new trial, a new judiciary shall be constituted if necessary, to provide for a fair and proper hearing of the case. When any appellate court shall reverse, in whole or in part, the findings of a trial court, or change the penalty imposed by the official body having jurisdiction, it shall return to the official body having jurisdiction, or to the judiciary, a statement of the grounds of its action.

Chapter VII

PENALTIES

A. Definition of Penalties

1301. There shall be five degrees of penalty for the administration of discipline which are:

(1) **Warning.** Warning is the mildest penalty and consists of a general reproof, a warning, and an exhortation to greater watchfulness by the offender.

(2) **Rebuke.** Rebuke is a stronger penalty for a more serious offense and consists in setting forth the offense, an official rebuke and correction, and a warning to the offender.

(3) **Suspension.** Suspension is that penalty by which the accused is placed "under discipline" and is deprived of certain rights and privileges for a period of probation.

(a) Suspension may be applied to the rights and privileges of membership, the rights and privileges of the ministry, or the exercise of an office. A local church or a district may be suspended from the rights and privileges of a church and a district, respectively, as set forth in the Constitution and The Discipline.

(b) Suspension may be definite or indefinite as to duration. Definite suspension is administered when the name of Christ, the integrity of the Church, and the good of the offender demand it, even though the offender may have given evidence of repentance. Indefinite suspension is required when the offender is to be placed on probation until demonstrating a genuine repentance and reformation of life to the proper authorities. The official body having jurisdiction over the party placed "under discipline" for an indefinite suspension shall have the authority to end such suspension or, if necessary, to impose a stronger penalty when the accused continues to offend.

(4) **Removal.** Removal is that penalty by which a person is removed from an official position or appointment, or expelled from the ministry, or removed from the office of a ministerial student, as the case may be.

(5) **Dismissal.** Dismissal is the strongest penalty and is the expulsion of the offender from membership in the Church (238:3), which automatically includes all lesser penalties. Dismissal should be imposed only for the most serious offenses, or for obstinate persistence in a serious offense and can only be imposed by the local church (239). The purpose of dismissal is to awaken the offender, deliver the Church from scandal, and to warn others.

B. Assignment of Penalties.

1302. Official bodies shall be governed by the seriousness of the offense and by the following regulations in the assignment of penalties:

(1) Anyone declared guilty of holding or teaching any doctrine contrary to the doctrines of The Pilgrim Wesleyan Church as stated in The Discipline (64) shall be punished with removal and/or dismissal (1301:4,5), unless the official body is of the opinion that the offense has ceased, in which case the penalty shall be either that of warning, rebuke, or suspension.

PENALTIES

(2) Disobedience to The Discipline, or tolerating such disobedience (1211:2, 1212:2), shall be punished with such penalty as thought advisable.

(3) Insubordination or willful refusal to recognise properly constituted church authority (1211:3; 1212:3) shall be punished by such penalty as thought advisable.

(4) Conduct unbecoming a member or minister (1211:4), such as dishonesty, or sowing dissension by disparaging the officials or ministers of the Church, shall be punished with removal and/or dismissal (1301:4, 5), unless the official body believes the offender is truly penitent, in which case he/she shall be rebuked or indefinitely suspended (1301:3:b) until such time as the proper authorities are satisfied that the accused has reasonably demonstrated genuine Christian character in accord with the standards of The Pilgrim Wesleyan Church.

(5) Immorality, such as adultery, fornication, or other acts involving moral depravity, or crime, may be punished by immediate dismissal from the Church (1301:5).

(6) Serious or persistent neglect of duties (1211:6) shall be punished by suspension or removal, unless corrected, in which case a lesser penalty may be imposed.

Chapter VIII

NATIONAL BOARD OF REVIEW

A. Membership

1311. Members. The National Board of Review shall consist of seven members, four of whom shall be ordained ministers and three of whom shall be laymen who are covenant members of The Pilgrim Wesleyan Church:

(1) Their term of office shall be for two years. They shall serve from the close of the session of the National Conference at which they are elected until the close of the next session of the National Conference or until their successors are elected and qualified.

(2) Only when deemed necessary shall a member of the Board of Review be at the same time, a member of the National Board of Administration.

(3) The National Conference shall elect by majority vote the members of the Board of Review, from nominations presented by the Nominations Committee. Additional nominations may be made from the floor of the National Conference.

(4) A member of the Board of Review shall be disqualified for a particular case, when he/she is personally interested or involved in the case, closely related to any parties involved, or has been active for or against either party in the matter to be heard and determined by the Board of Review. Any member of the Board of Review may be challenged for such reasons or for other reasons, and the allowance of such challenge shall be decided by the remaining members of the Board of Review. Whenever a member is disqualified, the chairperson shall appoint an alternate for the hearing of that particular case (1312), provided that such appointment shall maintain the membership of the Board as five ordained ministers and four laymen.

1312. Alternates. The National Conference shall elect, in the same manner described in 1311:3, two ordained ministers and one laymen to serve as alternate members of the Board of Review, with the same qualifications (608, 609) and term of office (1311:1) as the members (cf. 623:16).

1313. Vacancies. A vacancy in the membership of the Board of Review shall be filled by an alternate, who shall be appointed by the chairperson of the Board of Review in such manner as to maintain the representation of ordained ministers and laymen as set forth in 1311. Whenever a vacancy occurs in the interim of National Conference sessions, an alternate shall be appointed to serve until the close of the next National Conference. An alternate shall also be appointed to serve for a particular case whenever a member of the Board of Review is disqualified (1311:4), or for a temporary vacancy created by the absence of a member of the session of the Board of Review held during the National Conference.

B. Sessions

1314. Regular Sessions. The Board of Review shall meet at the time and place of the National Conference and shall continue in session until the adjournment of that body. In the interim of National Conferences, the Board shall meet in annual session at a time and place of its own choosing, unless the chairperson of the Board shall certify in writing to all members that there is no pending business for the Board.

1315. Special Sessions. The Board of Review shall meet at other times and places of its own choosing as thought necessary, or as requested by the National Board of Administration or its Executive Committee.

C. Organisation and Procedure

1316. Organisation and procedure for the Board of Review shall be:

(1) **Organisation.** The Board of Review shall organise itself and shall elect, from among its own members, a chairperson, vice-chairperson, secretary, and such other officers as thought necessary.

(2) **Procedure.** The Board of Review shall decide on its own methods and rules of procedure and shall adopt such bylaws as thought necessary, provided such do not contravene any provisions of The Discipline. All parties shall file their briefs and arguments and shall present evidence under such rules as the Board of Review shall adopt from time to time (cf. 1275).

(3) **Quorum.** Five members shall constitute a quorum. A decision of the Board of Review on the constitutionality of an act by the National Conference shall require a two-thirds majority vote of all members of the Board, and on all other matters a majority vote of all members of the Board shall be sufficient.

1317. **Records.** The Board of Review shall see that complete and accurate minutes are kept of all proceedings, testimonies, evidence, documents, and findings, certified copies of which shall be forwarded promptly after each session to the National Secretary (699:3:b).

1318. **Notification.** After each session of the Board of Review, an official summary of the Board's decisions on points of Church law or interpretations of The Discipline, as prepared by the secretary and attested to by the chairperson, shall be published in the official church publication. A decision of the Board of Review which is not overruled by the National Conference shall be incorporated in The Discipline.

1319. **Finances.** Expense allowances for members of the Board of Review shall be the same as for members of the National Board of Administration, when the members of the Board of Review are engaged in official business, and payment therefore shall be made by the National Treasurer. The party making appeal shall be responsible for the expenses involved in attending to the appeal.

D. Duties and Powers

1320. The jurisdiction and duties of the Board of Review are:

(1) To determine the constitutionality of any act of the National Conference, upon the appeal of the National Board of Administration or one-fifth of the members of the National Conference. An act of the National Conference that is declared as unconstitutional by the Board of Review shall be null and void.

(2) To render a judgment on the constitutionality of any memorial or proposed legislation to be acted upon by the National Conference, when the National Conference shall so request, by a majority vote, and to notify the National Conference immediately of such judgment.

(3) To hear and determine any appeal from a ruling of the National Board of Administration on a point or an interpretation of church law, or the validity of an action by a district.

(4) To hear and determine any appeal concerning the legality of any action by any National church board upon appeal of one-third of the members thereof or by request of the National Board of Administration (651:38, 41, 43).

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(5) To have jurisdiction over the issues arising between a district and the National Conference, or, in the interim of National Conference sessions, between a district and the National Board of Administration, as follows:

(a) To hear and determine a complaint by a district against the National Conference, provided that such a complaint shall be sustained by a two-thirds vote of the District Conference (458:32).

(b) To hear and determine a complaint by a district against the National Board of Administration in the interim of National Conference sessions, provided that such a complaint shall be sustained by a majority vote of the District Conference (458:32) or by a two-thirds vote of the District Board of Administration (482:1), and further provided that the subject of the complaint concerns the district by which it is presented.

(c) To hear and determine any charges against a district, alleging an offense as set forth in 1212:1-3, provided that such charges are preferred by the National Conference or the National Board of Administration; to determine the guilt or innocence of the accused district; and, if necessary, to recommend to the National Conference, or in the interim of National Conference session, to the National Board of Administration, the placing of the district under discipline (651: 1258).

(6) To have jurisdiction over any complaints between districts, to hear and determine such complaints or charges, provided that such are sustained by a two-thirds vote of the District Conference presenting the complaint (482:1).

(7) To hear and determine any appeal from the judgment of a district judicial committee or district board of review (1236; 1234; 1238).

(8) To hear and determine the validity of complaints against books used in the correspondence courses of study, TEE, and by the approved educational institutions of and for use by The Pilgrim Wesleyan Church of Zambia.

(9) To hear and determine such cases as shall be referred to it by the National Conference or the National Board of Administration.

E. Appeals

1321. A decision of the Board of Review shall be final until overruled by the National Conference by a two-thirds majority of those present and voting. An appeal may be presented to the National Conference by either party involved in the judgment. The National Conference may hear and determine such appeals or may create a special judicial committee to hear the appeals and present its recommendations to the National Conference for final determination. This special judicial committee shall be expected to follow all procedures as outlined in 1256-1258. All appeals must be filed with the National Secretary within sixty days after the date of the official decision on the matter.

Chapter IX

DEFINITION OF TERMS FOR THE JUDICIARY

1331. The terms used in this Judiciary are defined as follows:

(1) **Accusation.** A written representation alleging an offense by a member or minister of The Pilgrim Wesleyan Church (221; 227; cf. 925).

(2) **Charge.** A written statement alleging an offense as set forth in 1211-1212, accompanied by specifications, for which a trial may be conducted.

(3) **Church.** The Pilgrim Wesleyan Church of Zambia

(4) **Complaint.** A written representation of a grievance by a member or minister against the local church or higher authority; a written grievance by one unit against a unit of equal authority, or of a lower church body against a higher church body.

(5) **Discipline.** The Discipline of The Pilgrim Wesleyan Church of Zambia as currently legislated and declared from time to time (61:6; 139:2).

(6) **Judiciary.** An officially constituted board or committee for the hearing of charges or appeals. The Judicatures of The Pilgrim Wesleyan Church are local judicial committee, district judicial committee, district board of review, National Conference judicial committee, and the National Board of Review.

(7) **Local Preacher or Local Deaconess.** A member of The Pilgrim Wesleyan Church of Zambia who has been licensed as a local preacher or local deaconess by a local Pilgrim Wesleyan church (201; 270:7).

(8) **Member.** A covenant member of The Pilgrim Wesleyan Church, and unless otherwise specified includes all ordained ministers, commissioned deaconesses, licensed ministers, licensed deaconesses, ministerial students, local preachers, local deaconesses, and others licensed by a district or a local church.

(9) **Minister.** An ordained minister (925), commissioned deaconess (947), licensed minister (919) or licensed deaconess (941) of The Pilgrim Wesleyan Church of Zambia.

(10) **Ministerial Student.** A member of The Pilgrim Wesleyan Church who has been granted a license as a ministerial student by a district (911).

(11) **Official Body.** A conference or board having jurisdiction over members or ministers of The Pilgrim Wesleyan Church of Zambia in matters of administrative or judicial discipline. The official bodies having jurisdiction over disciplinary proceedings are the local church conference and the local board of administration, the District Conference and the District Board of Administration, and the National Conference and the National Board of Administration.

PART X: THE RITUALS

1401. These forms of service have been prepared for the use of The Pilgrim Wesleyan Church of Zambia. It must not be thought that there is here any attempt to discourage the practice of free form in any of the services. It is to be hoped rather that the use of these services will greatly help and give guidance to the pastor as he leads his people in both the form and spirit of each service. The danger of formality is present in every kind of worship. Let us bring, by the grace of God, to these services and to every act of worship, a sense of living faith that lays hold of God and ever seeks to worship Him, in spirit and in truth.

* Throughout the ritual, whenever a word may change form due to the sex or number of persons to whom the ritual is being administered on a given occasion, that word(s) is printed in italics to alert the minister who reads. "This child" may become "these children," "he" may become "she" or "they," etc.

Chapter I

CHURCH SERVICES

1402. To establish a guideline for our churches, in public worship on the Lord's Day, the following order could be observed:

- | | |
|-----------------------------|-----------------|
| 1. Prayer (call to worship) | 7. Singing |
| 2. Singing | 8. Preaching |
| 3. Reading the Scripture | 9. Singing |
| 4. Prayer | 10. Prayer |
| 5. Announcements | 11. Benediction |
| 6. Tithes and Offerings | |

1403. The songs used should be of the language of the people. The tunes should be those with which the people are familiar.

1404. The Scriptures should be read in every worship service and in the language of the people.

1405. Some scriptures that may be used for Call to Worship are: Ps. 24:3-4, 33:12, 46:1-3, 84:1-2,4; 92:1-2, 95:1-3, 6-7, 95:6-7, 96:2-4, 121:1-2; Isa. 40:31, 55:6-7; Micah 6:6-8; John 4:23-24.

1406. Some scriptures that may be used for the Benediction are: Num. 6:24-26; Ps. 67:1-2; Luke 2:29-32; Rom. 15:5-6; 2 Cor. 13:14; Gal. 6:18; Eph. 3:20-21; 2 Thess. 3:16; Heb. 13:20-21; Jude 24-25; Rev. 1:5b-6, 5:13, 15:13

CHAPTER II

DEDICATION OF BABIES

1411. *(When the parents or guardians or other sponsors have presented themselves with the child before the minister at this call, the minister shall say:)*

Dearly beloved, you have brought this **child** * whom God has given you to be dedicated to God and to His service. By this act you therefore signify your faith in the Christian religion, and also your desire that he/she shall receive the benefits of consecration to God, and of the prayers of the church, and may early learn to know and follow the will of God; and thus doing may live and die a Christian, attaining in the end of this earthly life to everlasting life in the kingdom of God.

But in order that this may be accomplished, it will be your duty as parents to teach this child early the fear of the Lord; to watch over his/her education, that he/she may not be led astray by false teachings or doctrines, to direct his/her mind to the Holy Scriptures as expressing the will and authority of God for all humankind, and to direct his/her feet to the sanctuary, to restrain him/her from evil associates and habits; and, as much as you are able, to "bring him up in the nurture and admonition of the Lord." Will you endeavor to do so, by the help of the Lord?

(Then the parents or guardians shall answer:)

We will.

(Then the minister shall read the following Scripture lesson:)

"People were bringing little children to Jesus to have him touch them, but the disciples rebuked them. When Jesus saw this, he was indignant. He said to them, 'Let the little children come to me, and do not hinder them, for the kingdom of God belongs to such as these. I tell you the truth, anyone who will not receive the kingdom of God like a little child will never enter it.' And he took the children in his arms, put his hands on them and blessed them." (Mark 10:13-16).

(Then the minister shall ask the parents or guardians of each child to be dedicated the name of the child, take him/her in his/her arms, place his/her right hand upon the child's head, and say:)

In behalf of the parents and of this congregation, I dedicate _____ unto the Father, and the Son, and the Holy Spirit.
Amen.

Chapter III

BAPTISM OF BELIEVERS

1416. *(When the candidate for baptism has presented himself/herself before the minister, the minister shall say:)*

Dear friends, in keeping with the example of Jesus, you have presented yourself this day that you might receive the sacrament of baptism. Baptism is not itself the door to salvation, but rather is an outward sign of the new birth which God has wrought in your heart. It proclaims to all the world that you have taken Christ Jesus as the Lord of your life, and that it is your purpose always to obey Him. In order that we may hear your testimony of what God has done for you, and that we may know that you understand the significance of the step you are taking, we want to ask you these questions:

Do you believe in God the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit? That Jesus Christ the Son suffered in your place on the cross, that He died but rose again, that He now sits at the Father's right hand until He returns to judge all men at the last day? And do you believe in the Holy Scriptures as the inspired Word of God? That by the grace of God every person has the ability and responsibility to choose between right and wrong, and that those who repent of their sin and believe in the Lord Jesus Christ are justified by faith?

Answer: All this I steadfastly believe.

Do you intend by this act to testify to all the world that you are a Christian and will be a loyal follower of Christ?

Answer: I do.

(Then the minister shall ask each candidate to state his/her name, and baptise him/her, saying:)

_____, I baptise you in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit. Amen.

(Then the minister shall pray:)

Our Heavenly Father, the Author of life eternal, we ask that You continue the work of grace which You have begun in this life. Watch over Your child, protect him/her from sin and wrong, and hold him/her fast in the way of righteousness. Grant him/her that greater baptism of the Holy Spirit which will free him/her from carnal affections and cause every Christian grace and virtue to grow in his/her heart. We ask it through Jesus Christ, our Lord. Amen.

Chapter IV

THE LORD'S SUPPER

A. General Directions

1421. The Lord's Supper shall be observed in each local Pilgrim Wesleyan church at least once every three months.

1422. It is expected that Pilgrim Wesleyan ministers shall carefully admonish the people that only those who are in right relationships with God and with their fellowmen should come to the Lord's table, and that others should come only if in so doing they are expressing repentance and seeking forgiveness.

1423. Only unfermented drink shall be used in observing the Lord's Supper. It is recommended that unleavened bread be used where available.

B. Order of the Lord's Supper--Longer Form

1424. *(The elements of the Lord's Supper shall be placed upon a table and covered with a white linen cloth. The minister shall address the congregation saying:)*

Call to Worship

The Lord Jesus himself instituted the holy sacrament we call the Lord's Supper, giving it to the disciples as a means of remembering Him until He comes again, and as a seal of the new covenant between God and man. This service is therefore a time of special sacredness and we can only be properly prepared by having our hearts and minds inclined to reverent worship, and by being freed of all things contrary to the divine nature and purpose. Therefore let us bow in a period of silent prayer, asking the Holy Spirit to search our hearts and to bring us into conformity with the holy God we serve.

(The minister shall allow sufficient time for each to prepare himself/herself for the service, and then shall pray:)

Invocation

Almighty God, unto whom all hearts are opened, all desires known, and from whom no secrets are hid: cleanse the thoughts of our hearts, by the inspiration of the Holy Spirit, that we may perfectly love you, and worthily magnify your holy name, through Christ our Lord. Amen.

Hymns

(Then the congregation shall sing a hymn, such as one of the following: "Alas! and Did My Saviour Bleed," "Man of Sorrows, What a Name," "When I Survey the Wondrous Cross," "Arise, My Soul, Arise," "My Faith Looks Up to Thee," "Rock of Ages," "There Is a Fountain Filled with Blood.")

Scripture Readings

(Then the minister shall read a Scripture lesson, such as one of the following: Isa. 53; Matt. 26:26-29; Luke 22:14-20; Rom. 5:1-2, 6-12, 18-21; 1 Cor. 10:16-17; 11:23-29; Eph. 1:3-12; 2:1-10, 12-22; Heb. 9:11-17, 22-28; 1 Peter 1:18-23; 2:21-25.)

Prayer

(Then the minister shall pray:)

Almighty God, father of our Lord Jesus Christ, maker of all things, judge of all men, we acknowledge that in Your sight all our righteousness is as filthy rags. Outside of Christ we are sinners, and it is only through His atonement that we are forgiven and cleansed. Whatever there is of purity and virtue in our hearts or in our lives is the product of Your grace. We come today to remember once again how Christ procured our salvation. And as we do, we ask that the Holy Spirit shall search our hearts. If we have committed any act which is displeasing unto You, or neglected any duty which would have honoured You, reveal it and forgive, we pray. Or if there is any tendency to disobedience, to the love of the world, or to the exaltation of self, reveal it and purge it from our hearts, we pray. You have told us that if any person sin, we have an advocate with the Father, Jesus Christ the righteous. Our hope, our trust, our righteousness are in Him alone. Have mercy upon us for His sake, and grant that we may serve and please You in newness of life and purity of heart, world without end, in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ. Amen.

Sermon, Hymn, Instructions

(Then the minister may preach a sermon on some phase of the Lord's Supper. Afterwards the congregation may sing another hymn such as one of those listed above. Then the minister shall direct the people as to the plan for distribution of the elements of the Supper, either directing them to come and kneel at the altar or to be served while seated, in either instance using this invitation:)

Invitation

You who are walking in fellowship with God, and are in love and charity with your neighbors; and you who do truly and earnestly repent of your sin and intend to lead a new life, following the commandments of God, and walking henceforth in His holy ways, draw near with faith, and take this holy sacrament to your comfort; and meekly (kneeling) make your humble confession to Almighty God.

(When all are in place, the minister shall remove the cloth, folding it neatly, and laying it to one side. Then the minister shall pray the prayer of consecration:)

Consecration of Bread and Juice

Almighty God, our heavenly Father, who of Your tender mercy did give Your only Son, Jesus Christ, to suffer death upon the cross for our redemption: accept our praise, we pray. We thank You for Your love, for the gift of Your Son, for the sacrifice He made in our behalf, for the forgiveness of our sins and the cleansing of our hearts, for the present witness of Your Holy Spirit to our hearts that we are Your children. Grant that, as we receive these Your creatures of bread and juice, in remembrance of Christ's death and passion, in communion with You and with Your children, we may be made partakers of His most blessed body and blood; who, in the same night that He was betrayed, took bread;

(Here the minister may take the plate of bread into his/her hand.)

and when He had given thanks, He broke it and gave it to His disciples, saying, Take, eat; this is my body which is given for you: do this in remembrance of me. Likewise after supper He took the cup;

(Here he/she may take in his/her hand the vessel from which the juice is to be poured, or the tray of individual cups.)

and when He had given thanks, He gave it to them, saying, Drink all of this; for this is my blood of the new testament, which is shed for you and for many, for the remission of sins; do this as often as ye shall drink it, in remembrance of me. Amen.

Distribution of Bread and Juice

(Then the minister shall direct the distribution of the elements. He/she may either first kneel at the table himself/herself and partake, then serve other ministers who may be assisting him/her, and then serve the people; or he/she may direct first the distribution of the bread with all holding their portion until he/she joins them in simultaneous participation, and then the distribution of the juice in the same manner.)

(In either instance, either before or during the distribution, or immediately before the simultaneous partaking of the bread, he/she shall read the following:)

The body of our Lord Jesus Christ, which was given for you, preserve your soul and body unto everlasting life. Take and eat this in remembrance that Christ died for you, and feed on Him in your heart, by faith, with thanksgiving.

(And in like manner, either before or during the distribution, or immediately before the simultaneous partaking of the juice, he/she shall read the following:)

The blood of our Lord Jesus Christ, which was shed for you, preserve your soul and body unto everlasting life. Drink this in remembrance that Christ's blood was shed for you, and be thankful.

(After all have partaken, let that which remains of the consecrated elements be returned to the table, and covered with the white linen cloth. Then let the minister and congregation join in saying:)

Lord's Prayer

Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name, your kingdom come, your will be done in earth, as it is in heaven. Give us today our daily bread. Forgive us our debts, as we also have forgiven our debtors. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from the evil one. For yours is the kingdom and the power and the glory forever. Amen.

Benediction

(Then the minister shall conclude the service with the benediction:)

May the peace of God, which passes all understanding, keep your hearts and minds in the knowledge and love of God, and of His Son, Jesus Christ, our Lord; and the blessings of God Almighty, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, be among you and remain with you always. Amen.

C. Order of the Lord's Supper--Shorter Form

1425. *(The elements of the Lord's Supper shall be placed upon a table and covered with a white linen cloth. The minister shall read a Scripture lesson, such as one of the following: Isa. 53; Matt. 26:26-29; Luke 22:14-20; Rom. 5:1-2, 6-12, 18-21; 1 Cor. 10:16-17; 11:23-29; Eph. 1:3-12; 2:1-10, 12-22; Heb. 9:11-17, 22-28; 1 Peter 1:18-23; 2:21-25.)*

(Then the congregation shall sing a hymn, such as one of the following: "Alas! and Did My Saviour Bleed," "Man of Sorrows, What a Name," "When I Survey the Wondrous Cross," "Arise, My Soul, Arise," "My Faith Looks Up to Thee," "Rock of Ages," "There Is a Fountain Filled with Blood.")

(Then the minister shall call the congregation to kneel at the altar, using this invitation:)

You who are walking in fellowship with God, and are in love and charity with your neighbors; and you who do truly and earnestly repent of your sin and intend to lead a new life, following the commandments of God, and walking henceforth in His holy ways, draw near with faith, and take this holy sacrament to your comfort; and meekly make your humble confession to Almighty God.

(When the people have knelt at the altar, the minister shall remove the cloth, folding it neatly, and laying it to one side. Then the minister shall pray the prayer of consecration:)

O God of grace and mercy, we thank You that You did ever love us and provide for our redemption. We thank You for Your Son who died to save us, and for Your Spirit who invites us to draw near. Guide us now as we commemorate the passion of our Lord. Help us to remember the cost of our salvation. Help us to commune with You and with each other. And so consecrate the bread and juice which are here prepared, that as we partake of them we may receive the spiritual benefits of Christ's broken body and shed blood. In His name we pray. Amen.

(Then the minister shall first serve himself/herself the bread, and then distribute it to the people, saying:)

The body of our Lord Jesus Christ, which was given for you, preserve your soul and body unto everlasting life. Take and eat this in remembrance that Christ died for you, and feed on Him in thy heart, by faith, with thanksgiving.

(Then the minister shall serve himself/herself the juice, and then distribute it to the people, saying:)

The blood of our Lord Jesus Christ, which was shed for you, preserve your soul and body unto everlasting life. Drink this in remembrance that Christ's blood was shed for you, and be thankful.

(After all have partaken, let that which remains of the consecrated elements be returned to the table, and covered with the white linen cloth. Then let the minister pronounce the benediction:)

May the peace of God, which passes all understanding, keep your hearts and minds in the knowledge and love of God, and of His Son, Jesus Christ, our Lord; and the blessings of God Almighty, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit be among you and remain with you always. Amen.

Chapter V

RECEPTION OF MEMBERS

1431. When candidates for covenant, community, or junior membership have been approved for reception as given in 232-234, the pastor shall appoint a time during a regular worship service for their public reception, and he/she or his/her representative shall preside over the service of reception. In those churches in which the local churches must vote on the reception of covenant members, such vote should be taken at a meeting prior to the service of reception. Paragraph 1434, "Reception of Covenant Members" must be followed as prescribed.

1432. The service of reception may begin with a hymn and scripture reading such as one of those listed below, and with the administration of the sacrament of baptism to any who have not previously received it.

Hymn. "The Church's One Foundation," "I Love Thy Kingdom, Lord," "Glorious Things of Thee Are Spoken," "A Mighty Fortress Is Our God."

Scripture Lesson. Romans 12:1-8; 1 Corinthians 12:4-27; Ephesians 4:1-7, 11-16; 5:25b-27.

1433. Introductory Remarks.

Minister: Dear Friends, the privileges and blessings which we have in association together in the church of Jesus Christ are very sacred and precious. Christ so loved the church that He gave himself for it, sanctifying himself that the church might be sanctified. He chose to speak of himself as the Head of the church and of the church as His body; and again He spoke of himself as the husband and of the church as His bride. As Christ gave himself unselfishly, He asked the church to share its glorious relationship with all humankind, and sent it into the world to preach the Scriptures, to save the lost, to administer the sacraments, to maintain Christian fellowship and discipline, and to edify the believer until He comes again. All of us, whatever our age or position, stand in need of Christ's church and of those means of grace which it alone makes available.

It is in keeping with Christ's commission to the church, that we meet together now. There are some among us who testify to having been received already into the spiritual fellowship of the universal church, and who come now to be received into the official and visible fellowship of this local unit of the body of Christ.

1434. Reception of Covenant Members.

(The minister shall call before him/her those who are being received as covenant members.)

These are they who come to enter into a relationship as members in covenant relation of The Pilgrim Wesleyan Church, with all of the rights, privileges, and responsibilities of such membership. They testify to having been born again. They have received the sacrament of baptism, have been instructed in and have accepted the doctrines and polity of The Pilgrim Wesleyan Church, and have been approved by vote as manifesting in spirit and practice God's work of grace within their hearts. We now propose, in the fear of God, to question them as to their experience, faith, and purpose, that you may know that they are proper persons to be admitted into this Church.

Minister: Beloved in the Lord, you are come seeking union with the church of Jesus Christ. We rejoice that you have chosen to undertake the

RECEPTION OF MEMBERS

privileges and the duties of membership in The Pilgrim Wesleyan Church. Before you are fully admitted thereto, you should here publicly and individually make your vows, confess your faith, and declare your purpose, by answering the following questions:

Minister: Do you believe in God the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit? That Jesus Christ the Son suffered in your place on the cross, that He died but rose again, that He now sits at the Father's right hand until He returns to judge all men at the last day? And do you believe in the Holy Scriptures as the inspired and inerrant Word of God? That by the grace of God every person has the ability and responsibility to choose between right and wrong, and that those who repent of their sin and believe in the Lord Jesus Christ are justified by faith? And do you believe that God not only counts the believer as righteous, but that He makes him righteous, perfecting him in love at entire sanctification, and providing for his growth in grace at every stage of his spiritual life, enabling him through the presence and power of the Holy Spirit to live a victorious life?

Candidate: This I believe.

Minister: Have you the witness of the Spirit that you are a child of God?

Candidate: I do.

Minister: Have you the witness of the Spirit that you have been sanctified wholly? If not, will you diligently seek this grace?

Candidate: I do (or) I will.

Minister: Do you cordially accept our Membership Commitments and First Principles as biblical guidelines for your conduct, and do you accept the authority of The Discipline of The Pilgrim Wesleyan Church in matters of Church government?

Candidate: These I cordially accept.

Minister: Do you recognise your obligation to God and the Church, and will you contribute your resources as the Lord has prospered you for the support of the gospel as the Church fulfills its mission in the world?

Candidate: Yes, I will.

Minister: You sincerely and individually confess the Lord Jehovah, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, to be your God and the object of your highest love. You accept the Lord Jesus to be your Redeemer, and the Holy Spirit to be your Sanctifier, Comforter, and Guide. You joyfully dedicate yourselves to God that within the everlasting covenant of His grace you might be used in His service to glorify and honour Him. And you promise to hold to Him as the highest good of your life; that you will give diligent attention to the commandments and principles of His Word; that you will seek the honour and advancement of His kingdom; and that forsaking all ungodliness and worldly desires, you will live soberly, righteously, and godly in this present world.

You do also join yourselves to this church, submitting yourselves to its principles of government; and by walking in love and fellowship with all its members, seek its peace, purity, and growth in grace.

Do you thus freely and sincerely devote yourselves to be the Lord's within the fellowship of this church?

Candidate: I do.

1435. Reception of Transfers from Other Denominations.

Minister: There are those who have found Christ in some other branch of His church, but who now desire to transfer their membership to The Pilgrim Wesleyan Church, and who have presented themselves for reception as covenant members by transfer. To them we address this question:

Minister: Beloved, in transferring your membership to this branch of Christ's church, you again renew your vows of church fellowship. Relying upon the grace of God, you promise to walk in all His commandments and ordinances, and to seek His service as your highest joy. You promise to submit to the rules and The Discipline of The Pilgrim Wesleyan Church; to strive earnestly for its peace, purity, and prosperity, and to walk with all its members in love and Christian fidelity. Do you thus unreservedly, freely, and solemnly devote yourselves to be the Lord's?

Transferee: I do.

1436. Reception of Community Members.

Minister: The church of Jesus Christ is not only for those who are spiritually strong and mature, but it is intended by its Head and Master for all who know Him as Savior and who love and serve Him as Lord. There are those who are not yet ready for covenant membership in The Pilgrim Wesleyan Church because they are new in their relationship to Christ. For these, the Church has provided the category of community membership, that they may enjoy its pastoral care and spiritual nurture, and that they may grow in grace and knowledge until they take their place in covenant relation to the Church. These have come now that they may be questioned and received as their experience makes fitting.

To you who have so recently been converted to Christ, who desire to study and grow toward spiritual maturity, and who have here presented yourselves for reception as community members, we address these questions:

Minister: Has the Lord forgiven your sins?

Candidate: Yes, He has.

Minister: Is it your purpose to grow spiritually, to study daily in private devotions and regularly at the church, to become acquainted with the Scriptures and The Discipline of our Church, and to prepare to be received at the proper time in covenant membership?

Candidate: Yes, it is.

1437. Reception of Junior Members.

Minister. To these who have been converted to Christ quite early in life, who desire to know about Jesus and His will for them so that at the proper time they too may assume a place of responsibility and leadership in the Church, and who have presented themselves for reception as Junior members, we address these questions.

Minister. Has the Lord forgiven your sins?

Candidate. Yes he has.

Minister. Is it your purpose that you shall grow spiritually as well as physically, and that you shall study daily in private devotions and regularly at the church so as to prepare for a fuller place of service?

Candidate. Yes, it is.

1438. Response of the Church.

Minister: May the members of the church now stand and join me in welcoming these new ones to our fellowship, assuring them of our love, of our prayers, of our care over them in days to come.

Congregations: We, the members of this church, do cordially receive you as brothers and sisters beloved to our communion and fellowship, and promise to walk with you in love, and watch over you, to instruct, counsel, admonish, and cherish you, with all long-suffering, gentleness, and love.

1439. Prayer.

Minister: O God of the church, we thank You for the blessing of Christian fellowship, for joining together in one body all those who truly believe in Jesus Christ, Your Son. We thank You for these who this day are becoming a part of this local church, this branch of Christ's body. Grant to them the grace and strength they shall need to fulfill their vows, and bind our hearts together in Your holy love, that we may aid each other and that together we may share Your gospel with the world for which Christ died. In His name we pray. Amen.

1440. Right Hand of Fellowship.

Minister: And now, in behalf of The Pilgrim Wesleyan Church and of this local congregation, I extend to you the right hand of fellowship, welcoming you as members with us of the body of Christ.

1441. The service of reception may close with a hymn and a benediction such as the following:

Hymn. "Blest Be the Tie That Binds," "Onward, Christian Soldiers," "Lead On, O King Eternal," "Soldiers of Christ, Arise."

Benediction. Now unto him that is able to do exceeding abundantly above all that we ask or think, according to the power that works in us, unto him be glory in the church by Christ Jesus throughout all ages, world without end. Amen.

Chapter VI

MARRIAGE

A. Marriage Ceremony--Long Form

1446. *(At the day and time appointed for the solemnising of matrimony, the persons to be married standing together, the man on the right hand of the woman, the minister shall say:)*

Dearly beloved, we are gathered together in the sight of God, and in the presence of these witnesses, to join together this man and this woman in holy matrimony, which is an honourable estate, instituted of God, and signifying unto us the mystical union which exists between Christ and His church. This holy estate Christ adorned and beautified with His presence in Cana of Galilee, and the Apostle Paul commended as honourable among all men. It is not therefore to be entered into unadvisedly, but reverently, discreetly, and in the fear of God.

(Speaking to the persons to be married, the minister shall say:)

I require and charge you both, as you stand in the presence of God, to remember that love and loyalty alone will avail as the foundation of a happy and enduring home. No other human ties are more tender, no other vows more sacred than those you now assume. If these solemn vows be faithfully kept, and if steadfastly you endeavor to do the will of your heavenly Father, your life will be full of joy, and the home you are establishing will abide in peace.

(Then shall the minister address the man by name, and ask:)

Will you have this woman to be your wedded wife, to live together after God's ordinance in the holy estate of matrimony? Will you love her, comfort her, honour, and keep her, in sickness and in health; and forsaking all others keep yourself only unto her, so long as you both shall live?

(The man shall answer:)

I will.

(Then shall the minister address the woman by name, and ask:)

Will you have this man to be your wedded husband, to live together after God's ordinance in the holy estate of matrimony? Will you love him, comfort him, honour, and keep him, in sickness and in health; and forsaking all others, keep yourself only unto him, so long as you both shall live?

(The woman shall answer:)

I will.

(Then shall the minister ask:)

Who gives this woman to be married to this man?

(The father of the woman, or whoever gives her in marriage, shall answer:)

I do (or Her mother and I).

[*** Alternate form: Who authorises this marriage? A family member (Uncle or Father) from each family may each answer. I do.]

MARRIAGE

(Then the minister shall ask the man and woman to join right hands and shall ask the man, using his given name, to say after him/her:)

I, _____, take you, _____, to be my wedded wife, to have and to hold, from this day forward, for better, for worse, for richer, for poorer, in sickness and in health, to love and to cherish, till death do us part, according to God's holy law; and thereto I pledge you my faith.

(Then shall the minister ask the woman, using her given name to say after him/her:)

I, _____, take you, _____, to be my wedded husband, to have and to hold, from this day forward, for better, for worse, for richer, for poorer, in sickness and in health, to love and to cherish, till death do us part, according to God's holy law; and thereto I pledge you my faith.

(Then shall the minister say:)

By seeking the ministry of the church, you have expressed your conviction that marriage is more than a legal contract, but rather a bond of union sealed in heaven. Henceforth, you shall no longer be two but one. Your paths will be united; your responsibilities will increase, but your strength and your joys will be multiplied if you are sincere and earnest in your relations one to the other, and with God who has witnessed and sealed this covenant. Let us pray.

(Here may be offered the following prayer, or an extemporaneous prayer closing with the Lord's Prayer.)

O eternal God, creator and preserver of all humankind, giver of all spiritual grace, the author of life everlasting, let Your blessing descend and rest upon these Your children, whom we bless in Your name. Bless this marriage and make it to them the source of abundant and enduring good. Look graciously upon them that they may love, honour, and cherish each other. May their mutual affection never know change, doubt, nor decay. Direct and strengthen them in the discharge of all their duties. Bless the home which they establish. Teach them to order their household wisely and well, and to regard all their possessions as Your gifts to be employed in Your service. May they so live together in faithfulness and patience, in wisdom and true godliness, that their home may be a haven of blessing and a place of peace, through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

(Then shall the minister ask the man and woman to join right hands and placing his/her hand on top of theirs shall say:)

Forasmuch, as _____ and _____ have consented together in holy wedlock, and have witnessed the same before God, and this company, and thereto have pledged their faith each to the other, and have declared the same by joining hands; I pronounce that they are husband and wife together, in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit. Those whom God has joined together let not anyone put asunder. Amen.

God the Father, God the Son, God the Holy Spirit, bless, preserve, and keep you; the Lord mercifully with His favour look upon you, and so fill you with all spiritual benediction and grace, that you may so live together in this life, that in the world to come you may have life everlasting. Amen.

B. Marriage Ceremony--Shorter Form

MARRIAGE

1447. *(At the day and time appointed for the solemnising of matrimony, the persons to be married standing together, the man on the right hand of the woman, the minister shall say:)*

My friends, the ordinance of marriage was instituted by God himself in the garden of Eden, and is one of the most solemn and binding of obligations, because it involves the sacred relations of the home and the family. Your happiness for the future will largely depend upon the fidelity with which the marriage vows are cherished and kept. There must be mutual affection the one for the other, and the marriage covenant must be kept in purity of spirit, as well as in actual word and deed, if you would reap the full fruition of happiness in your marriage.

If, with full and free consent, and thoughtful determination to keep the marriage covenant, you desire to enter the holy estate of marriage, you will acknowledge the same by taking the other by the right hand.

(With their hands joined, the minister shall address the man by name, and ask:)

Will you have this woman to be your wedded wife, to live together after God's ordinance in the holy estate of matrimony? Will you love her, comfort her, honour, and keep her, in sickness and in health; and forsaking all others, keep yourself only unto her, so long as you both shall live?

(The man shall answer:)

I will.

(Then the minister shall address the woman by name, and ask:)

Will you have this man to be your wedded husband, to live together after God's ordinance in the holy estate of matrimony? Will you love him, comfort him, honour, and keep him, in sickness and in health; and forsaking all others, keep yourself only unto him, so long as you both shall live?

(The woman shall answer:)

I will.

(Then the minister shall place his/her right hand upon their joined hands and say:)

Since they have taken the marriage covenant before God, and in the presence of these witnesses, by the authority committed unto me as a minister of the church of Jesus Christ, I declare that _____ and _____ are now husband and wife, according to the ordinance of God and the law of the state, in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit. Those whom God has joined together let not anyone put asunder. Amen.

(Then the minister shall offer an appropriate prayer.)

Chapter VII

BURIAL OF THE DEAD

1451. At the House, Church, or Funeral Chapel.

Opening Sentences

(The minister shall open the service with an opening sentence, such as one of the following:)

"I know that my Redeemer lives, and that in the end he will stand upon the earth. And after my skin has been destroyed, yet in my flesh I will see God; I myself will see him with my own eyes - I, and not another" (Job 19:25-27a).

"God is our refuge and strength, an ever present help in trouble. Therefore we will not fear, though the earth give way and the mountains fall into the heart of the sea, though its waters roar and foam and the mountains quake with their surging" (Ps. 46:1-3).

"I tell you the truth, a time is coming and has now come when the dead will hear the voice of the Son of God and those who hear will live" (John 5:25).

"I am the resurrection and the life. He who believes in me will live, even though he dies, and whoever lives and believes in me will never die" (John 11:25-26a).

"Praise be to the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of compassion and the God of all comfort, who comforts us in all our troubles, so that we can comfort those in any trouble with the comfort we ourselves have received from God" (2 Cor. 1:3-4).

"For our light and momentary troubles are achieving for us an eternal glory that far outweighs them all. So we fix our eyes not on what is seen, but on what is unseen. For what is seen is temporary, but what is unseen is eternal" (2 Cor. 4:17-18).

"For I am already being poured out like a drink offering, and the time has come for my departure. I have the fought the good fight, I have finished the race, I have kept the faith. Now there is in store for me the crown of righteousness, which the Lord, the righteous Judge, will award to me on that day - and not only to me, but also to all who have longed for his appearing." (2 Tim. 4:6-8).

Hymn

(Then a hymn shall be sung, or played. Then the minister shall read a scripture lesson, such as one of the following:)

Scripture Readings

"Show me, O lord, my life's end and the number of my days; let me know how fleeting is my life. You have made my days a mere handbreadth; the span of my years is as nothing before you. Each man's life is but a breath. Man is a mere phantom as he goes to and fro: He bustles about, but only in vain; he heaps up wealth, not knowing who will get it. But now, Lord, what do I look for? My hope is in you" (Ps. 39:4-7).

"Lord, you have been our dwelling place throughout all generations. Before the mountains were born or you brought forth the earth and the world, from everlasting to everlasting you are God...For a thousand years in your sight are like a day that has just gone by, or like a watch in the night...we finish our years with a moan. The length of our days is seventy years--or

eighty, if we have the strength; yet their span is but trouble and sorrow, for they quickly pass, and we fly away...Teach us to number our days aright, that we may gain a heart of wisdom" (Ps. 90:1-2, 4, 9b-10, 12).

"But Christ has indeed been raised from the dead, the firstfruits of those who have fallen asleep. For since death came through a man, the resurrection of the dead comes also through a man. For as in Adam all die, so in Christ all will be made alive. But each in his own turn: Christ, the firstfruits; then, when he comes, those who belong to him. Then the end will come, when he hands over the kingdom to God the Father after he has destroyed all dominion, authority and power. For he must reign until he has put all his enemies under his feet. The last enemy to be destroyed is death...Listen, I tell you a mystery: We will not all sleep, but we will all be changed--in a flash, in the twinkling of an eye, at the last trumpet. For the trumpet will sound, the dead will be raised imperishable, and we will be changed...When the perishable has been clothed with the imperishable, and the mortal with immortality, then the saying that is written will come true: 'Death has been swallowed up in victory. Where, O death, is your victory? Where, O death, is your sting?' The sting of death is sin, and the power of sin is the law. But thanks be to God! He gives us the victory through our Lord Jesus Christ. Therefore, my dear brothers, stand firm. Let nothing move you. Always give yourselves fully to the work of the Lord, because you know that your labour in the Lord is not in vain" (1 Cor. 15:20-26, 51-52, 54-58).

"After this I looked and there before me was a great multitude that no one could count, from every nation, tribe, people and language, standing before the throne and in front of the Lamb. They were wearing white robes and were holding palm branches in their hands. And they cried out in a loud voice: 'Salvation belongs to our God, who sits on the throne, and to the Lamb.' All the angels were standing around the throne and around the elders and the four living creatures. They fell down on their faces before the throne and worshipped God, saying: 'Amen! Praise and glory and wisdom and thanks and honor and power and strength be to our God for ever and ever. Amen!' Then one of the elders asked me, 'These in white robes--who are they and where did they come from?' I answered, 'Sir, you know.' And he said, 'These are they who have come out of the great tribulation; they have washed their robes and made them white in the blood of the Lamb. Therefore, 'they are before the throne of God and serve him day and night in his temple; and he who sits on the throne will spread his tent over them. Never again will they hunger; never again will they thirst. The sun will not beat upon them, nor any scorching heat. For the Lamb at the center of the throne will be their shepherd; he will lead them to springs of living water. And God will wipe away every tear from their eyes.'" (Rev. 7:9-17).

Prayer

(Then the minister shall pray an extemporaneous prayer or use the following prayer:)

O God of life, as we have learned to do in all our experiences, we come to You in the hour of death. We know that You love us, and that You can turn even the shadow of death into the light of morning. Help us now to wait before You with reverent and submissive hearts. Make this a time of opening our eyes and our understanding, and a time of admonition to our hearts and souls. Bless those who feel this sorrow most keenly, and cause the bonds of Christian love to bind us closer together, so that we may share with them that spiritual strength and that faith in God which is ours through the love of Christ, in whose name we pray. Amen.

Message and Prayer

(Then the minister shall preach a funeral message. He/she may close with an extemporaneous prayer, and the following benediction:)

Benediction

May the grace of the Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God the Father, and the communion of the Holy Spirit abide with us now and evermore. Amen.

1452. At the Graveside

Scripture Readings

(The minister shall read a brief scripture lesson, such as one of the following:)

"I lift up my eyes to the hills--where does my help come from? My help comes from the Lord, the Maker of heaven and earth. He will not let your foot slip--he who watches over you will not slumber; indeed, he who watches over Israel will neither slumber nor sleep. The Lord watches over you--the Lord is your shade at your right hand; the sun will not harm you by day, nor the moon by night. The Lord will keep you from all harm--he will watch over your life; the Lord will watch over your coming and going both now and forevermore." (Ps. 121).

"Do not let your hearts be troubled. Trust in God; trust also in me. In my Father's house are many rooms; if it were not so, I would have told you. I am going there to prepare a place for you. And if I go and prepare a place for you, I will come back and take you to be with me that you also may be where I am. You know the way to the place where I am going. Thomas said to him, 'Lord, we don't know where you are going, so how can we know the way?' Jesus answered, 'I am the way and the truth and the life. No one comes to the Father except through me. If you really knew me, you would know my Father as well. From now on, you do know him and have seen him.'" (John 14:1-6).

Committals

(Then the minister shall read one of the following committals:)

"Forasmuch as it has pleased Almighty God, in His wise providence, to take out of the world the soul of the departed, we therefore commit (his/her) body to the ground; earth to earth, ashes to ashes, dust to dust; looking for the resurrection and the life of the world to come, through our Lord Jesus Christ, at whose second coming the corruptible bodies of those who sleep in Him shall be changed, and shall be made like unto His glorious body according to the mighty working whereby He is able to subdue all things unto himself."

"And now, as we stand beside this open grave, in this silent city of the dead, we commit this body to the ground; and we commit the spirit, O our Father, together with every sacred interest of our hearts, into Your keeping; praying that You will deal graciously and mercifully with each of us, until we too shall come to You in glory, through the riches of grace in Jesus our Lord."

Prayer and Benediction

Chapter VIII

ORDINATION OF MINISTERS

A. Regulations

1456. That portion of the ritual of ordination entitled, "Examination of Candidates" must be followed as prescribed.

1457. The ordination service shall be planned by the Council of Ordination (516) and shall be presided over by the National Superintendent, or in his/her absence by the District Superintendent (516). They shall be assisted in the various parts of the service and in the act of ordination by the Council of Ordination (516).

B. The Order of the Ordination of Ministers

Call to Worship

1458. *(The National Superintendent, or in his/her absence, the District Superintendent, shall commence the service with a Call to Worship, such as Isa. 52:7; 1 Cor. 1:21-24; 2 Cor. 4:5-6).*

Hymn

(Then the congregation shall join in singing a hymn, such as: "Lord, Speak to Me, That I May Speak," "A Charge to Keep I Have," "Lead on, O King Eternal," "Soldiers of Christ, Arise," "Conquering Now and Still to Conquer.")

Invocation

(Then the minister appointed shall give the invocation:)

Almighty God, giver of all good things, who by the Holy Spirit has appointed ministers in the church, grant us Your assistance in this service given to the ordination of such ministers, and mercifully behold these Your servants, now called to this office, and replenish them so with the truth of Your doctrine, and adorn them with innocency of life, that both by word and good example they may faithfully serve You in this office to the glory of Your name and the edification of Your church, through the merits of our Savior, Jesus Christ, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, world without end. Amen.

Sermon

(Then the minister appointed shall preach the ordination sermon)

Presentation of Candidates

1459. *(Then the District Superintendent or his/her appointee shall present to the National Superintendent those who are to be ordained, saying:)*

I present *(read names aloud)* to be ordained as ministers in The Pilgrim Wesleyan Church of Zambia and in the church universal.

Acceptance of Candidates

(Then the National Superintendent, or in his/her absence the District Superintendent, shall say unto the people:)

Brethren, these are they whom we purpose, God willing, this day to ordain ministers. For, after due examination, we find that they are lawfully called to this function and ministry, and that they are qualified for the same. If any here know any impediment for which any one of them ought not to be received into this holy ministry, let him come forth in the name of God, and show what that impediment is.

(Then the appointed ministers shall read the Epistle and the Gospel, respectively:)

The Epistle

1460. "I was made a minister, according to the gift of the grace of God given unto me by the effectual working of his power. Unto me, who am less than the least of all saints, is this grace given, that I should preach . . . the unsearchable riches of Christ; and to make all men see what is the fellowship of the mystery, which from the beginning of the world has been hid in God, who created all things by Jesus Christ. . . . And he gave some, apostles; and some, prophets; and some, evangelists; and some, pastors and teachers; for the perfecting of the saints, for the work of the ministry, for the edifying of the body of Christ: till we all come in the unity of the faith, and the knowledge of the Son of God, unto a perfect man, unto the measure of the stature of the fullness of Christ" (Eph. 3:7-9; 4:11-13).

The Gospel

1461. "Therefore Jesus said again...I am the gate; whoever enters through me will be saved. He will come in and go out, and find pasture. The thief comes only to steal and kill and destroy; I have come that they may have life, and have it to the full. I am the good shepherd. The good shepherd lays down his life for the sheep. The hired hand is not the shepherd who owns the sheep. So when he sees the wolf coming, he abandons the sheep and runs away. Then the wolf attacks the flock and scatters it. The man runs away because he is a hired hand and cares nothing for the sheep. I am the good shepherd; I know my sheep and my sheep know me--just as the Father knows me and I know the Father--and I lay down my life for the sheep. I have other sheep that are not of this sheep pen. I must bring them also. They too will listen to my voice, and there shall be one flock and one shepherd" (John 10:7a, 9-16).

The Charge

1462. *(Then the National Superintendent, or in his/her absence the District Superintendent, shall address the candidates, giving the charge:)*

Dear Servants of God:

You have been instructed out of the gospel and the epistles concerning the dignity and importance of the office to which you are called. You are chosen to be messengers, watchmen, and stewards of the Lord; to teach, admonish, feed, and provide for the Lord's family. You are called to seek for erring sheep that are lost, and to bring those enslaved through sin to freedom in Christ.

Always remember how great a treasure is committed to your charge. You have in your care persons Christ bought with His death. Those committed to your care are His body and His spouse. If they are hurt or hindered by your neglect, the gravity of your failure will be a serious matter before God. Therefore, purpose that you shall never cease your labor, care, and diligence until you have done all within your power to bring those committed to you to maturity in Christ.

We hope you have weighed and pondered these things before this, and have determined by God's grace to give yourself wholly to the office and work of an ordained minister in the Church. Since it pleased God to call you, it must be your intention to apply yourself totally, studying, and improving as you serve, and always praying for the heavenly assistance of the Holy Spirit. Your pursuit must be to become ever more fruitful and strong in your ministry for the sake of your own soul and the souls of those to whom you minister.

Examination of Candidates

1463. *(Then the National Superintendent, or in his/her absence the District Superintendent, shall administer the examination to the candidates:)*

This assembled congregation may represent the church of Jesus Christ everywhere as they witness your responses to the inquiries we shall make of you. In this way we shall understand your mind and will in these things, and you may also be moved to greater faithfulness in doing your duties.

Question: Is it your sincere conviction that you have been called of God to the office and work of a minister, and are you persuaded that you ought to fulfill that call by serving as an ordained minister in The Pilgrim Wesleyan Church and among God's people everywhere?

Answer: That is my sincere conviction.

Question: Do you believe the Holy Scriptures are the fully inspired and inerrant written word of God containing sufficiently all doctrine necessary for eternal salvation through faith in Christ Jesus? Further, are you determined to instruct people from the Scriptures in order that they may be born again in Christ, become committed to holy living, and be prepared to serve for the upbuilding of the Christian community in this present age?

Answer: All of this I affirm as my belief and embrace as my duty.

Question: Have you carefully considered the Articles of Religion and the Membership Commitments of The Pilgrim Wesleyan Church of Zambia and do you agree wholeheartedly to declare and defend them? And do you recognise your responsibility and cheerfully accept your obligation to promote and support The Pilgrim Wesleyan Church and all its institutions and ministries approved by The Pilgrim Wesleyan Church?

Answer: I accept the teachings of my Church and take all its endeavors as my own.

Question: Will you with diligence minister the doctrines, sacraments, and disciplines of Christ, always ready to challenge strange doctrine which is contrary to God's Word wherever it may arise?

Answer: I will faithfully seek to teach and defend Truth as God enables me.

Question: Do you intend to make reading of the Word and effectual prayer your earnest pursuit, and will you seek to make your lifestyle and family government exemplary so far as is possible for you?

Answer: I commit myself to these pursuits, with the Lord's help.

Question: Believing that accountability and submission to authority is God's design for His church, will you agree to render submission to those who may be placed over you?

Answer: Under God, I shall submit to those placed over me.

Covenant with Candidate's Spouse

1464. *(Then, if it is so desired, the National Superintendent, or in his/her absence the District Superintendent, may call the spouses of the candidates to come and stand beside them, each one with the spouse at the candidate's left side, and shall address them saying:)*

It is the teaching of Scripture that a spouse shall be a loving companion in the ministry of a mate. You have witnessed the examination of your marriage partner in which commitment to the work and responsibilities of ministry has been stated. Your participation in God's purposes for ministry through your marriage partner is important also. You will be needed to share in prayer, to extend love and compassion to all, to carry forward the example of marriage harmony and family wholesomeness. As the companion of your loved one who is now entering the ranks of ordained ministers in the Church, will you dedicate yourself to complement and embrace that ministry as God enables you?

Answer: I will, by God's grace.

Prayer

1465. *(Then shall the National Superintendent, or in his/her absence the District Superintendent, or other appointed minister, pray the Prayer of Thanksgiving:)*

Almighty God, our heavenly Father, we bless and magnify Your holy name for the gift of Your most dearly beloved Son, Jesus Christ our Redeemer, and for all His apostles, prophets, evangelists, teachers, and pastors, whom He has sent abroad into the world. For these here present, whom Thou hast called to the same holy office and ministry, we render unto You our most hearty thanks. And now, O Lord, we humbly beseech You to grant that by these Your ministers, and by those over whom they shall be appointed, Your holy name may be forever glorified, and Your blessed kingdom enlarged; through Your Son Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with You in the unity of the Holy Spirit, world without end. Amen.

Act of Ordination

1466. *(Then the candidates for ordination shall kneel, and, if so desired, their wives or husbands may kneel at their sides, and the National Superintendent, or in his/her absence the District Superintendent, and the Council of Ordination shall lay their hands severally upon the head of each one, and the National Superintendent, or in his/her absence the District Superintendent, shall say:)*

(name), as we lay our hands upon you we ask the Lord to give the unusual outpouring of the Holy Spirit needed for your service as an ordained minister in the Church. May God's anointing enable you to be a faithful exponent of His Word, and an instrument for His holy sacraments.

(name), take authority to preach the Word of God, to administer the holy sacraments, and to perform the duties of an ordained minister in the Church, in the name of the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit. Amen!

Prayer for Enduement

ORDINATION OF MINISTERS

1467. *(Then the National Superintendent, or in his/her absence the District Superintendent, or other appointed minister shall pray the Prayer of Enduement:)*

Most merciful Father, we beseech You to send upon these Your servants Your heavenly blessings: that they may be clothed with righteousness, that Your Word spoken in their mouths may have success and that it may never be spoken in vain. Grant also that we may have grace to hear and to receive what they shall deliver out of Your most holy Word, or what agrees to the same, as the means of our salvation; and that in all our words and deeds we may seek Your glory, and the increase of Your kingdom, through Jesus Christ our Lord. Assist us, O Lord, in all our doings, with Your most gracious favour, and further us with Your continual help, that in all our works begun, continued, and ended in You, we may glorify Your holy name, and finally by Your mercy obtain everlasting life through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Right Hand of Fellowship

1468. *(The newly ordained ministers shall then arise, and the National Superintendent, or in his/her absence the District Superintendent, and the members of the Council of Ordination shall extend to each the right hand of fellowship, welcoming him/her to the work and labors of the ministry. Then the presiding minister may direct the congregation to file by and greet the new ministers, or he/she or other appointed minister shall close the service with the benediction:)*

Benediction

Chapter IX

COMMISSIONING OF DEACONESSES

1476. The commissioning service shall be planned by the Council of Ordination (516) and shall be presided over by the National Superintendent when present (516), or, in his/her absence, by the district superintendent (516).

Invocation

1477. *(The presiding minister or other appointed minister shall give an extemporaneous invocation.)*

Hymn

(Then the congregation shall join in singing a hymn, such as one of the following: "Take My Life, and Let It Be," "Hear Ye the Master's Call," "Give of Your Best to the Master," "Hark! The Voice of Jesus Calling.")

Scripture Reading

(Then the presiding minister or other appointed minister shall read a scripture lesson, such as one of the following: Acts 2:41-44 and 6:1-8; Rom. 12:4-15; 1 Cor. 12:4-12.)

Sermon

(Then the presiding minister or other appointed minister may give a sermon or address declaring the need and function of deaconesses.)

Presentation of Candidate

1478. *(Then the District Superintendent shall present the candidates individually to the National Superintendent, saying:)*

I present _____ unto you to be commissioned as a Deaconess.

(Then the National Superintendent, or in his/her absence the District Superintendent, shall address the congregation, saying:)

Dearly beloved, *this is she* whom we purpose this day to commission as a Deaconess in The Pilgrim Wesleyan Church. After inquiry and examination, we discover that *she* has met the stated requirements of the Church, and we believe her to be a worthy and proper person for this service.

Address to Candidate

1479. *(Then the National Superintendent, or in his/her absence the District Superintendent, shall address the candidate, saying:)*

Dearly beloved, we rejoice that in the providence of God a door of usefulness has been opened to you in the service of the Church. It is with infinite wisdom that God has provided diversities of gifts for His workers, distributing and administering them according to His good pleasure through the Holy Spirit. It is with joy that the church has watched God's will revealed in your life, and your own resolve grow firm to use your gift for His glory. Turning aside from worldly interests and pursuits, you are

devoting *yourself* to the Lord's work, and to being a helper of the ministry. You will be pouring out of your talent, your time, your possessions, your strength, your very *self* in a living sacrifice to Christ. You have not entered upon this solemn responsibility lightly, and doubtless already in the sacred stillness of the sanctuary of your heart you have consecrated *yourself* to this service. What you have done alone with God, you do now formally and publicly in the presence of the Church.

Questioning of Candidate

1480. *(Then the National Superintendent, or in his/her absence the District Superintendent, shall question the candidate:)*

Do you believe that you have been led by the Spirit and the providences of God to engage in this work and to assume the duties of this service?

Answer: I do.

Do you, in the presence of God and of this congregation, promise faithfully to perform the duties of the Commissioned Deaconess in The Pilgrim Wesleyan Church?

Answer: I do.

Do you accept the Bible as God's Word, and will you make it a lamp to your feet, and a light unto your path?

Answer: I so accept it, and will so walk in its light.

Will you be diligent in prayer, in the study of the Holy Scriptures, and in such other devotions as will help you to grow in the knowledge and love of God?

Answer: I will.

Will you cheerfully accept the direction of those whom the Church may place over you in the doing of your work?

Answer: I will cheerfully do so.

Consecration of Candidate

1481. *(Then the candidate shall kneel for a brief season of silent prayer, after which the presiding minister or other appointed minister shall pray:)*

(Then the presiding minister shall address the candidates, saying:)

May the Spirit of the living God descend upon you and abide with you always. May His holy anointing impart to you the grace for every trial, and gifts for every duty. May His presence be to you a pillar of cloud by day, and pillar of fire by night, all along the journey of life. And may the blessing of the Triune God, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, be with you now and evermore. Amen.

Act of Commissioning

1482. *(Then the candidate shall rise, and the presiding minister shall take her by the hand and say:)*

I commission you to service as a Deaconess in The Pilgrim Wesleyan Church, in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit. Amen.

COMMISSIONING OF DEACONESSES

Hymn

(Then the congregation shall join in singing a hymn, such as one of the following: "O Master, Let Me Walk with Thee," "O Jesus, I Have Promised," "Work, for the Night Is Coming," "I'll Go Where You Want Me to Go.")

Benediction

(Then the presiding minister or other appointed minister shall pronounce the benediction:)

The peace of God, which passes all understanding, keep your hearts and minds in the knowledge and love of God, and of His Son, Jesus Christ our Lord; and the blessing of God Almighty, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, be among you and remain with you always. Amen.

Chapter X

INSTALLATION CEREMONIES

A. General Regulations

1486. The installation ceremonies provided herewith shall normally be used as a part of some general service of worship, and in most instances the other parts of the service, such as hymns, scripture readings, and prayers, will need to be supplied, being chosen in such a manner as to give the entire service unity and dignity.

B. Installation of a Pastor

1487. Order of Installation of a Pastor.

(The District Superintendent or his/her representative shall preside over the installation of a pastor [291]. The presiding minister or other appointed minister shall give the invocation:)

O Lord, merciful God, who hast made known to us Your will that we should pray to You to send forth laborers into Your harvest, we earnestly ask of You to send forth into the world continually true teachers and ministers of Your Word, and so to enlighten their minds with the knowledge of Your truth, that they may faithfully make known the whole counsel of God unto salvation, to the glory of Your name and the saving of souls; through Jesus Christ, our Lord and Savior. Amen.

(The presiding minister or other appointed minister may read a scripture lesson such as John 15:1-8. The presiding minister or other appointed minister may deliver an appropriate message. At the proper time, the presiding minister shall address the congregation, saying:)

Dearly beloved, we are here assembled in the sight of God to install the Reverend _____, who has heeded your call to become the pastor of this church, and whose installation has been duly authorized by the _____ District of The Pilgrim Wesleyan Church.

(The pastor shall come and stand before the presiding minister, who shall address him/her, saying:)

Dear brother/sister, the duties of your holy office are clearly set forth in the Word of God. As an ambassador of our Lord Jesus Christ, you are first of all to preach both Law and Gospel, as they are comprehended in the Holy Scriptures and defined in The Discipline of The Pilgrim Wesleyan Church. This you are to do without the addition of private opinion, as the apostle admonishes, "If anyone speaks, he should do it as one speaking the very words of God" (1 Peter 4:11).

Whatever is contrary to sound doctrine shall be refuted with all restraint as the Scripture warns, "And the Lord's servant must not quarrel; instead, he must be kind to everyone, able to teach, not resentful. Those who oppose him he must gently instruct" (2 Timothy 2:24-25a).

Those who are committed to your pastoral care are to be diligently admonished to walk in the commandments of the Lord blamelessly. The erring are to be warned with the fidelity which the Word of the Lord demands of faithful pastors, as the Prophet Ezekiel was instructed, "Son of Man, I have made you a watchman for the house of Israel; so hear the word I speak and give them warning from me" (Ezek. 3:17).

You are also to be the steward of the holy sacraments which you are to administer to the comfort of troubled souls.

INSTALLATION CEREMONIES

In view of the Savior's gracious words, "Let the little children come to me" (Mark 10:14), the children and youth of the church must in a special sense be the object of your pastoral instruction and care.

The measure of faithfulness with which you are to seek the erring is set forth in the Holy Scriptures in the words of the Apostle Paul who said, "I never stopped warning each of you night and day with tears" (Acts 20:31).

The example of holy men of God will impel you to pray diligently for your people and to be a pattern unto them in faith and good works.

Do you therefore earnestly purpose to fulfill with all diligence these duties, and thus be able in this life to answer before The Pilgrim Wesleyan Church and the church universal, and in the life to come to give an account before the judgment seat of Christ?

Answer: Yes, I do so purpose, by the help of God.

"In the presence of God and of Christ Jesus, who will judge the living and the dead, and in view of his appearing and his kingdom, I give you this charge: Preach the Word; be prepared in season and out season; correct, rebuke and encourage--with great patience and careful instruction...keep your head in all situations, endure hardship, do the work of an evangelist, discharge all the duties of your ministry" (2 Timothy 4:1-2, 5).

(The congregation shall rise, and the presiding minister shall address them, saying:)

And now, dearly beloved, I admonish you to receive as your pastor, the Reverend _____, whom God has given you. Accept the Word of God as preached by *him/her*, whether it be for your comfort, your admonition, or your instruction, even as Christ has said, "Therefore consider carefully how you listen" (Luke 8:18).

Use all diligence that your children receive instruction in the Christian faith and are present with you in the services at God's house, in accordance with the counsel of the Apostle Paul to Christian parents to bring children "up in the training and instruction of the Lord" (Ephesians 6:4).

Pray for your pastor that *his/her* ministry may tend to the salvation of many souls, and that through *his/her* labors, you, together with *him/her*, may be saved.

Honour and esteem *him/her* who is to minister to your souls. As the Apostle Paul exhorts, "Now we ask you, brothers, to respect those who work hard among you, who are over you in the Lord and who admonish you. Hold them in the highest regard in love because of their work. Live in peace with each other" (1 Thessalonians 5:12-13).

Do you now, as becomes a Christian church, accept these obligations?

Answer: Yes, by the help of God.

(Then the presiding minister shall address the pastor, saying:)

Upon these, your solemn mutual promises, I now install you, the Reverend _____, as pastor of the _____ Pilgrim Wesleyan Church, in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit. Amen.

(Then the presiding minister shall lead in prayer, concluding by leading the congregation in the Lord's Prayer. Then he/she shall address the congregation and the pastor, saying:)

The Lord bless you that you may bring forth much fruit and that your fruit may remain.

(Then the congregation shall join in singing a hymn such as, "A Charge to Keep I Have." Then the congregation may come forward to greet the pastor and his/her family at the altar. The pastor shall pronounce the benediction.)

C. Installation of Local Church Officers

1488. Order of Installation of Local Church Officers.

(This installation may be held during a Sunday morning service or other appropriate service just prior to the time when the newly elected officers shall assume their duties. The congregation may join in singing a hymn, such as: "A Charge to Keep I Have," or "I'll Live for Him Who Died for Me." The pastor may read a scripture lesson such as Acts 2:41-44 and 6:1-8. Depending upon the number of officers involved, he/she may wish to read something concerning their duties from The Discipline. At the proper time, he/she shall call the newly elected officers before the congregation, and shall address them, saying:)

Dearly beloved, it is recorded in the Acts of the Apostles that when the early church was growing and the number of disciples was multiplying, and the duties of the church so increased, and so became diversified, that the church called its members together and chose men of good report, full of the Holy Spirit and wisdom, to assist in the administering of the affairs of the church; and that the officers thus chosen by the church were set before the apostles, who laid hands on them and prayed, thus setting them apart in the presence of the church to the duties of their honourable office.

In like manner this church, having first sought the guidance of the divine Spirit, has chosen you to similar offices to be associated with the brethren already in office and with the pastor before whom you have now come for public consecration.

Therefore, we, the pastor and the people of this church, call upon you to hear and join in this pledge of trust to Christ and His church.

The Officer's Pledge

1489. Trusting in Jesus Christ, the great Head of the church, I humbly promise Him and His church that I will be faithful to the extent of my ability to all known duties and responsibilities devolving upon me as an officer of this church. I will endeavor to be regular in my attendance, cheerful in my service, wholehearted in my giving, open-minded in my planning, patient in the face of trials, persistent in the face of difficulty, and Christlike in my fidelity to His service. I will seek by example and precept the promotion of Christian fellowship among all our members and the spreading of the message of full salvation at home and abroad. Do you cheerfully and yet solemnly accept the obligations of this pledge?

Answer: I do.

(Then the pastor shall address the congregation, asking them to stand, and saying:)

We, the pastor and officers of this church, call upon the members and friends of this church to hear and join in this pledge of loyalty to those called of God and elected by the church as its leaders.

The Church's Pledge

1490. Having chosen these officers to guide us in the administration of the church, we, its members and friends, do now pledge our loyalty to its work and promise our consideration of the plans and our friendly cooperation in the service suggested to us. We acknowledge our duty and declare our determination to pray for all our leaders and to share with them in the glorious responsibility of spreading the good news, thus hastening the coming of Christ. Do you cheerfully and yet solemnly accept the obligations of this pledge?

Answer: We do.

(The officers shall then kneel at the altar while the pastor and people offer prayer in their behalf.)

D. Installation of District Superintendent

1491. Order of Installation of a District Superintendent.

(The National Superintendent or his/her representative shall be in charge of installing the District Superintendent before the adjournment of the District Conference in which he/she is elected (458:24). The newly elected District Superintendent, assistant District Superintendent, secretary, and treasurer, and such other district officers as are desired, shall be called before the National Superintendent, who shall first address the District Superintendent, saying:)

District Superintendent _____, today you stand before us along with the other duly elected officers of the district. You have been prayerfully selected by this District Conference to serve as leader of the _____ District of The Pilgrim Wesleyan Church. It is in you that the ministers and members of the various churches within the bounds of this district are investing their confidence and trust. Yours is indeed a position of significant honour and responsibility, and it is only as God is with you that you will be enabled to fill it.

Many will be the problems faced, many the responsibilities carried, many the difficulties encountered, yet with Paul it will be your privilege to know that you may be "troubled . . . yet not distressed; . . . perplexed, but not in despair." And, alongside these graver experiences, there will also be the satisfying reward of steady progress under the smile of God and glorious victories because He has led the way through.

In counseling, may He grant needed grace; in decisions, may He impart of His wisdom; in labors, may your secret be His all-sufficient strength; in administration's numerous phases, may He be your "very present help." The support and cooperation of this body are assured you in the days that lie ahead. Together may you build a district that knows its best days spiritually, numerically, and materially as well.

And now, that we may hear publicly your intentions to accept this charge with proper regard for all that is therewith involved, we ask you in the presence of God and of these witnesses, do accept the office of superintendent of the _____ District, and do you hereby solemnly covenant to discharge your duties to God, to The Pilgrim Wesleyan Church, and to all the members of the _____ District, according to The Discipline and in the fear of God?

Answer: I do, God being my helper.

(Then the National Superintendent shall address the other district officers, saying:)

Do you, as officers representing the _____ District, covenant to support the District Superintendent, and to discharge your several duties to God, to The Pilgrim Wesleyan Church, and to all the members of this district, according to The Discipline and in the fear of God?

Answer: We do, God being our helper.

(Then the National Superintendent shall address the District Superintendent, saying:)

As representative of The Pilgrim Wesleyan Church, I charge you with this responsibility and declare you to be formally installed as superintendent of the _____ District, entitled to the rights and privileges thereunto pertaining.

(Then the National Superintendent shall lead in prayer.)

E. Installation of National Officials

1492. Order of Installation of National Officials.

(In the parts of the service prior to the actual installation, a scripture lesson such as 1 Corinthians 12:14-28 shall be read. The person appointed to preside over the service shall be responsible for giving the various charges, and shall address the congregation, saying:)

According to Acts, chapter 6, the Holy Spirit led the first-century church to select men for positions of service according to gifts bestowed upon them. So the Holy Spirit has led The Pilgrim Wesleyan Church to choose men believed to be blameless in heart as well as in life, possessing in measure the qualifications for the offices to which they are called. These men we now come to set apart as National Officials and members of the National Board of Administration.

(The then chairperson shall address those elected as National Superintendent, saying:)

Will the elected National Superintendent please stand.

_____*(Name)*_____, the Church has called you to its most honoured and responsible place of leadership, to the office of National Superintendent. This high office is one of great importance and dignity, imposing weighty responsibilities and demanding earnest, arduous, and self-sacrificing labor. In assuming your duties, you become a steward over the spiritual and temporal affairs of the Church worldwide.

You have been chosen for the office of National Superintendent because the Church recognises in you the leadership abilities to carry spiritual and administrative authority in humility that is born of love. Further, you exemplify the high standard for Christian leadership set forth in the Word of God by Paul in the first chapter of his epistle to Titus, when he said, "For a bishop must be blameless, as the steward of God; not self-willed, not soon angry, not given to wine, no striker, not given to filthy lucre; but a lover of hospitality, a lover of good men, sober, just, holy, temperate; holding fast the faithful word as he has been taught, that he may be able by sound doctrine both to exhort and to convince the gainsayers" (Titus 1:7-9).

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Do you accept the office of National Superintendent, and promise that you will faithfully endeavor to discharge your duties as set forth in The Discipline of The Pilgrim Wesleyan Church of Zambia?

Answer: I do.

Inasmuch as the Church has elected you to this highest office, and you have declared your willingness to accept it and your sincere purpose to discharge faithfully your duties as a National Superintendent, you are hereby set apart to this service in the Church.

May faith and courage and knowledge and temperance and patience and godliness and brotherly kindness and charity be in you and abound, so that you shall neither be barren nor unfruitful in your leadership of the Church. Amen.

(Then the National Superintendent shall be seated, and the chairperson shall address those others elected as National Officials, saying:)

Will _____, elected as Assistant National Superintendent; _____, elected as National Secretary; _____, elected as National Treasurer; _____, elected as Chairperson of the Board of Educational Institutions; _____, elected as National Director of Christian Education; and _____, elected as National Director of Evangelism, Church Growth, and Crosscultural Ministries please stand.

Brethren, The Pilgrim Wesleyan Church has honoured you by electing you to stand with the National Superintendent as the National officials of the Church. These are highly esteemed places of leadership. In assuming these offices, you become the recipients of respect and deference from faithful Pilgrim Wesleyans around the world.

In connection with your respective offices, The Discipline charges you under the direction of the National Board of Administration with the responsibility of the secretarial and corporate affairs of the Church, the editorship of *The Pilgrim Voice*, the development and promotion of the work of Christian Education, the promotion and administration of the outreach of the Church into new areas, the promotion and correlation of the Church's educational institutions, and the development and promotion of the work of the Church. Your service in these offices will impose duties which cannot be faithfully performed without self-denial and self-sacrifice. You must spend and be spent for the Church in the spirit of joyful service. Your election to this office is evidence of the confidence the Church has in you as Christian leaders. May your leadership always inspire such confidence, to the glory of God.

Do you accept the office to which the Church has elected you, and do you promise to discharge your duties as God may help you?

Answer: I do.

Inasmuch as the Church has elected you to these high offices, and you have declared your willingness to accept them and your sincere purpose to discharge faithfully your several duties, you are now set apart to this service in the Church.

May you be strong to do God's will and have great joy in your labors. Amen.

(Then the other National officials shall be seated, and the chairperson shall address the District Superintendents, the principals of the ministerial training institutions, the mission director, and district lay representatives of the National Board of Administration, saying:)

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Will the District Superintendents, the principals of the ministerial training institutions, the mission director and other representatives of the National Board of Administration please stand.

Brethren, having carefully considered the responsibilities and obligations of service as a member of the National Board of Administration as set forth in The Discipline of The Pilgrim Wesleyan Church of Zambia, will you, with just appreciation of these responsibilities and obligations, accept this service to which you are called?

Answer: I will.

Will you promise that, always seeking divine help, you will faithfully serve as a member of the National Board of Administration of The Pilgrim Wesleyan Church of Zambia, assisting to govern and direct its affairs in a manner which will make for peace, purity, and spiritual growth throughout the denomination?

Answer: I will.

(The National Superintendent and other National officials shall stand once again, and the chairperson shall address all of the National Board of Administration collectively, saying:)

Forasmuch as you have been chosen by your brethren and have declared your willingness to accept the service to which they have elected you, you are hereby formally recognised as the National Board of Administration of The Pilgrim Wesleyan Church of Zambia. May you always be worthy of the honour conferred upon you and the trust given in you by your brethren. And may God, by whose providence you have been set apart to this service, grant that "the whole body, joined and held together by every supporting ligament," may "grow and build itself up in love, as each part does its work." Amen.

(Then the chairperson shall address the congregation, saying:)

Have you, members and representatives of The Pilgrim Wesleyan Church of Zambia, seeking the guidance of divine wisdom, chosen the brethren who now stand before you to take charge of your denominational activities and interests as National officials and members of the National Board of Administration?

Answer: We have.

Will you pledge to honour, encourage, and cooperate with them in all things consistent with the will of God, and will you zealously aid them in the discharge of their official duties?

Answer: We will.

(Then the chairperson shall address the National Superintendent, other National officials, District Superintendents and representatives of the National Board of Administration, saying:)

Brethren, take to yourselves the office to which you have been called, in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit. Amen.

(Then the chairperson shall pray:)

Set apart, we ask You, O Lord, these Your servants to the work whereunto You have called them by the voice of the Church.

Provide them with heavenly vision. Grant to them Your grace that they may serve You well, being full of the Holy Spirit and of faith, administering the work of their office in the fear of the Lord.

Give these Your servants favour and influence throughout Your Church. May Your work increase and advance because of Your blessings and their diligence.

Equip these officers for their respective duties and enable them to be faithful in all things, so that when the Great Shepherd shall appear, each may receive a crown of glory that fades not away.

Through Christ we bring this petition. Amen.

F. Installation of a Ministerial Training Institute Principal

1493. Order of Installation of a Ministerial Training Institute Principal.

(The chairperson of the National Board of Educational Institutions shall formally and officially install a Ministerial Training Institute Principal at the proper time during the convocation of inauguration. He/she shall address the principal, saying:)

(Name) _____, you have been chosen as the leader of _____ . The Pilgrim Wesleyan Church of Zambia is placing under your guidance and leadership not only the physical plant which is about us, the loyal faculty which serves therein, but also the sons and daughters from our homes who are to be nurtured in the Christian tradition. They are the foundation both for tomorrow's Church and for your future constituency.

As principal of _____, yours is both a priceless heritage and a grave responsibility. You are to be the one to whom all institutional personnel are responsible. It will be your task to interpret the programme to the faculty, the student body, the board of management, the constituency, and the general public. Yours is one of many educational institutions which through an unending stream of trained youth constantly condition the thought life of our age. The heritage, the doctrines, and the ideals of The Pilgrim Wesleyan Church of Zambia will be projected to succeeding generations only as you dedicate yourself to their preservation in the present. And if free institutions are to endure in the society of which we are a part, you must carry a flaming torch of democratic idealism.

In the discharge of these responsibilities, you will need, in some measure at least, the calm spirit of a Moses, the physical strength of a Samson, the patience of a Job, the wisdom of a Solomon, the prophetic vision of an Isaiah, the resoluteness of a Paul, and the constant abiding presence of the matchless Christ, whose Great Commission closed with the words, "Lo, I am with you always, even unto the end of the world."

You have been called to this important task because we have confidence in your leadership, in your ability, in your Christian integrity, and in your consecration to the sacred task before you. We pledge to you our cooperation, our financial support, and our prayers for the days which are ahead.

By the authority invested in me as chairperson of the board of management of _____, I hereby place in your hands the official seal of the institution as the insignia of your authority and declare you formally installed as principal of _____.

Chapter XI

DEDICATION SERVICES

A. Dedication of a Church Building

1496. Order of Dedication of a Church Building.

Call to Worship

(The pastor or other appointed minister shall give the call to worship:)

"Serve the Lord with gladness; come before him with joyful songs. Know that the Lord is God. It is he who made us, and we are his; we are his people, the sheep of his pasture. Enter his gates with thanksgiving and his courts with praise; give thanks to him and praise his name" (Ps. 100:2-4).

Invocation

(Then the pastor or other appointed minister shall give the invocation:)

O God, eternal and ever blessed, who delights in the assembling of Your people in the sanctuary; receive us graciously as we come into Your house, and grant us Heavenly Father, that peace and prosperity may be found within its walls, that the glory of God may be the light thereof, and that we may be satisfied with the goodness of Your house; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Hymns

(Then the congregation shall join in singing a hymn, such as one of the following: "All Hail the Power of Jesus' Name," "O Worship the King," "The Church's One Foundation," "I Love Thy Kingdom, Lord.")

Scripture Readings

(Then the pastor or other appointed minister shall read a scripture lesson, such as one of the following: 2 Chron. 6:1-2, 18-21, 40-42; 7:1-4; Ps. 24; Ps. 84; Heb. 10:19-25.)

Sermon

(The District Superintendent or a representative of the National church or district or other Pilgrim Wesleyan minister may be asked to deliver a message on the nature and task of the church.)

Offering

(It is much to be desired that all money required for the erection and completion of a house in which to worship God shall be fully provided before the day of dedication; but where this is not done, appeals may be made either just before or following the sermon. No building shall be dedicated to God until approved as financially secure and properly deeded as specified in The Discipline.)

Presentation of Building for Dedication

(Then the District Superintendent or his/her representative shall take his/her place at the pulpit and the board of the church shall stand before him/her. The pastor of the church shall address the District Superintendent, saying:)

On behalf of the local board of administration, the members, and this congregation, I present you this building to be dedicated to God as a place of worship and of service in His kingdom.

Acceptance of Building for Dedication

(Then the District Superintendent shall respond, saying:)

Dearly beloved, for countless centuries men have erected buildings for the public worship of God, and have separated them from all unhallowed uses in order to increase man's reverence for God and for those places in which he communes with Him. We rejoice that God has put it into the hearts of His people to build this house in this place to the glory of His name. I now accept this building, to be known as the _____ Pilgrim Wesleyan Church, to dedicate it, and to set it apart for the worship of Almighty God and the service of all men. Let us therefore, as we are assembled, solemnly dedicate this place to its proper and sacred uses.

Litany of Dedication

(Then the District Superintendent shall ask the congregation to stand and to join him/her in the responsive litany of dedication:)

Leader: To the glory of God the Father, who has called us by His grace; to the honour of His Son, who loved us and gave himself for us; to the praise of the Holy Spirit, who illumines and sanctifies us;

Congregation: We dedicate this house.

Leader: For the worship of God in prayer and praise; for the preaching of the everlasting gospel; for the celebration of the holy sacraments;

Congregation: We dedicate this house.

Leader: For the comfort of all who mourn; for strength to those who are tempted; for light to those who seek the way;

Congregation: We dedicate this house.

Leader: For the hallowing of family life; for teaching and guiding the young; for the perfecting of the saints;

Congregation: We dedicate this house.

Leader: For the conversion of sinners; for the sanctification of believers; for the promotion of righteousness; for the extension of the kingdom of God;

Congregation: We dedicate this house.

Leader: In the unity of the faith; in the bond of Christian brotherhood; in charity and goodwill to all;

Congregation: We dedicate this house.

Leader: In gratitude for the labors of all who love and serve this church; in loving remembrance of those who have finished their course; in the hope of a blessed immortality through Jesus Christ our Lord;

Congregation: We dedicate this house.

All in Unison: We now, the people of this church and congregation, surrounded with a great cloud of witnesses, grateful for our heritage, sensible of the sacrifice of our fathers in the faith, confessing that apart from us their work cannot be made perfect, do dedicate ourselves anew to the worship and service of Almighty God; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Prayer of Dedication

(Then the District Superintendent shall give an extemporaneous prayer of dedication, or he/she may use the following:)

Almighty God, we are not worthy to offer unto You anything belonging unto us. We humbly acknowledge that "unless the Lord builds the house, its builders labour in vain." Yet we ask You, in Your great goodness, accept the dedication of this place to Your service. Prosper this our undertaking. Receive the prayers and intercessions of all these Your servants who shall call upon You in this house. Give them grace to prepare their hearts to serve You with reverence and godly fear. Affect them with a solemn apprehension of Your divine majesty, and a deep sense of their own unworthiness. May they always approach Your sanctuary with lowliness and devotion. May they always come before You with clean thoughts and pure hearts, with bodies undefiled, and minds sanctified. May they always perform a service acceptable to You, through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Hymn

(Then the congregation shall join in singing a hymn, such as: "Lead On, O King Eternal.")

Benediction

(Then the pastor or other appointed minister shall pronounce the benediction:)

May You, O Lord our God, make this house Your abiding place from this day forth, and let Your ministers be clothed with salvation, let Your saints rejoice in goodness all their days, as the blessings of God the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit rest and abide upon them. Amen.

B. Dedication of Pastor's House

1497. Order of Dedication of a Pastor's House.

(At the time appointed for the dedication service, an appropriate hymn may be sung by the congregation or by a soloist or choir. Suitable numbers include: "Happy the Home When God Is There," and "Bless This House." Then the pastor or other appointed minister shall give an extemporaneous prayer. Then the pastor or other appointed minister shall give a scripture reading, such as 1 Cor. 9:7-10, 13-14. Then the District

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Superintendent [cf. 559:18] or his/her representative shall address the congregation, saying:)

The Scriptures clearly teach that as Aaron was divinely appointed to the priesthood, even so today men are called to the ministry for the purpose of preaching the Word and otherwise giving aid and comfort to the spiritually needy. In the same divine programme it is also "commanded that those who preach the gospel should receive their living from the gospel" (1 Cor. 9:14). Providing a house for the pastor is a recognition of his/her high office and great value to the church. It is a wise provision contributing to his/her temporal support. This house about to be dedicated as a pastor's home has been made possible by the generous gifts of those who are interested in the ministry and the church he/she represents.

(Then the board of the church shall come and stand before the District Superintendent, and the pastor shall address the District Superintendent, saying:)

On behalf of the church board, the members, and this congregation, I present this house to be dedicated to God as the home for the one whom He has appointed to pastor this people.

(Then the District Superintendent may give an appropriate discourse, gratefully commending the people for providing this house and charging the pastor to live here in the fear of God and as a faithful servant of the people. Then he/she shall offer a prayer of dedication, such as the following:)

O most gracious Lord, we acknowledge that we are not worthy to offer unto You anything belonging to us. Yet we ask You that You will accept the dedication of this home to Your service, and that You will prosper this our undertaking.

Grant that whosoever shall dwell in this house shall be so yielded and dedicated to Your service as "instruments for noble purposes, made holy, useful to the Master and prepared to do any good work," that their ministry shall be a heavenly benediction to all they meet.

Grant, O Lord, that whosoever shall enter this the home of Your ministering servants shall be made to sense Your presence, and as they depart shall be strengthened to walk in Your holy commandments, and that all who minister to the material comforts of Your servants in this home shall by You be richly rewarded.

Grant, O Lord, that all who come to this home for spiritual counsel and comfort, shall by Your blessings be made both to perceive and know what things they ought to do, and may have power and strength to fulfill the same.

Grant, O Lord, that whosoever shall be joined together in the holy estate of matrimony in this home may faithfully perform and keep the vow and covenant between them made, and may remain in perfect love together unto their lives' end.

Grant, O Lord, we ask You, that at the family altar of this home, when prayer with thanksgiving and supplication shall be offered, that they may receive from Your hand such things as are necessary. Also, that as Your servants study and search Your Word, that divine illumination for life and duty may be given as in Your infinite wisdom You shall see to be most expedient for them.

All of this we ask in the name of Jesus Christ, our most blessed Lord and Savior. Amen.

(Then the District Superintendent shall address the congregation, saying:)

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I now declare this house duly set apart as the residence of the pastor of the _____ Pilgrim Wesleyan Church.

(Then the District Superintendent or other appointed minister shall pronounce the benediction:)

The Lord bless you, and keep you: the Lord make His face to shine upon you, and be gracious unto you: the Lord lift up His countenance upon you, and gave you peace. Amen.

